

**Voters' Meeting** There will be a voters' meeting **TODAY** after late service in the fellowship hall. Included will be a review of the 2018 finances, among other things. There should be no problem getting everyone home for Superbowl festivities. Hope to see you all there! Thank you! ~ Church Council



**Sunday School** This week's lesson is about how John Prepares the Way from *Matthew chapter 3*. All of the prophets had come and gone, and John was the final link from the Old Testament prophetic line to Jesus Christ. He brought the same message as all the prophets before him, but his was made manifest in the person of Jesus. In Matthew's Gospel, John is introduced through his message: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (3:2). Many Pharisees and Sadducees also came to him; they, however, did not repent in their hearts and turn to God. John called these hypocrites a "brood of vipers" (Matthew 3:7). Although they came for his Baptism, they did not believe or continue in the message of repentance preached by John. Bloodlines do not get a person into the kingdom of God (Matthew 3:9), but only the succession of faith. That is how children of Abraham are born-not by flesh and blood, but through faith in the promises of God. The words of Matthew 3 seem harsh, but the greater message is that "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world", came for all humanity. That is the message for God's people today: the Lamb of God comes to us. He comes in Word and Sacrament, and by His grace and favor, we believe, repent, and are forgiven for Jesus' sake!



**Transportation Needs Within the Bethel Faith Community** As the staff of Bethel Lutheran, we receive multiple requests each week for help in finding a ride for a member/friend of the congregation. Many of the requests are for a ride to worship. Others involve a ride to a doctor's appointment, to pick up prescriptions or to the grocery store. Please consider allowing God to shine his light and glory upon you by volunteering to assist with transportation needs. Contact Linda Gifford, [linda@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:linda@bethelgurnee.org), with ???s or to assist.



**VBS Update** We're almost there! We are still in need of one more leader. Adult volunteer coordinator. This person would assist all of the committee leaders in finding enough volunteers to carry out their assigned tasks/goals. This position would be involved in decision making and in the success of this year's VBS. Please, we need all of our positions filled to make this year a go. Contact Carla Thompson: [carlajothompson@gmail.com](mailto:carlajothompson@gmail.com).



**COOL Needs** COOL Family Housing has a need for the following items: Twin sheet sets (teen boy and girl), pots/pans and cookware, and silverware. Please contact Amanda Williams, Family Housing Manager, 847-662-1230, ext 1 or email [awilliams@coolministries.org](mailto:awilliams@coolministries.org) if you are able to help with any of these items.



**Explore God Discussion Guides** If you are looking for Explore God discussion guides, they can be found in the plastic wall file outside of Equipping Coordinator, Katrina Johns' office. Please use these to continue to connect with your friends, neighbors, and co-workers.

**It's St. Baldrick's time again!!** Help raise funds to conquer children's cancer. Put a pledge on a head to get it shaved! Team Bethel will be represented at The Brat Stop in Kenosha, WI on Saturday, **March 2**. Funds from all St. Baldrick's events go to St. Baldrick's Foundation to help fund research to find a cure for children's cancer. A donation box will be available through **Sunday, March 3** to drop donations or you can donate online - just ask us how. Please make checks out to St. Baldrick's Foundation. If you would like to be a part of the team or volunteer at the event, please contact us at [patjolly@sbcglobal.net](mailto:patjolly@sbcglobal.net) or 847-219-4064. We thank you for your continued support. ~ Lance and Pat Rasmussen



**C.O.O.L. food of the month  
for February: Breakfast Items**

**Bethel Website:** [www.bethelgurnee.org](http://www.bethelgurnee.org) **Office:** 847-244-9647 **Preschool:** 847-244-9672 **Email:** [office@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:office@bethelgurnee.org)

**Pastor Ben Squires** Cell: 224-419-5519 / [pastor@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:pastor@bethelgurnee.org)

**Katrina Johns** - Equipping Coordinator Direct line: 224-623-0800 / [katrina@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:katrina@bethelgurnee.org)

**Linda Gifford** - Disciple Care and Property Coordinator [linda@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:linda@bethelgurnee.org)

**Lisa Schwarz** - Office Manager [lisa@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:lisa@bethelgurnee.org)

**Donna Stutzman** - Preschool Director [preschool@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:preschool@bethelgurnee.org)

**The Lutheran Witness** Deadline is Sunday, February 18.

Subscribe to the monthly news—and—feature color magazine of The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. It will help you to keep up, see what makes us Lutheran, be inspired, learn prominent names and hear from church leaders. Get a yearly subscription (11 issues) for \$15.96 per year beginning in May. Find forms to sign up on the Hub.



**LWML Quarterly** Our order for the 2019-2020 Quarterly is

due on **March 1**. If you would like to receive the 4 issues please sign up on the clipboard on the side of the Hub. Please pay \$5 to Kathy Schwartz or put it in the LWML mailbox in the workroom. There are mite boxes to support the mission projects of the NID and national LWML on the Hub. You may return your mites (coins/bills) anytime in the large mite box on the Hub.

**2019 Altar Flower Sign Up** There are many

dates in February and through out the year to sign up for altar flowers. The vases of fresh flowers placed on the altar every week are made possible by Bethel Members who sign up on the flower chart calendar (located on the wall to the right of Pastor's office). Church members may share birthdays, anniversaries, or remember loved ones through the gift of altar flowers. We ask a minimum donation of \$25 for each floral arrangement. Please place the donation in the collection plate, and clearly mark the envelope "Altar Flowers" or give donation to the Office. After second service you may take your flowers home to enjoy or leave them and the Altar Guild will give them to Kathy Schwartz to take to shut-ins for their enjoyment.



## This Week's Calendar

**Monday, February 4**

- 12:30 p.m.—Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m.—BOCE Meeting

**Tuesday, February 5**

- 5:30 p.m.—Uline Basketball

**Wednesday, February 6**

- 9:30 a.m.—Women's Bible Study
- 6:15 p.m.—Confirmation, FEET, Equipping Parents
- 6:15 p.m.—First Communion

**Thursday, February 7**

- 7:30 p.m.—Adult Vocal Choir

**Friday, February 8** Pastor & Katrina's Day Off

- 5:00-7:00 p.m.—Gym and Kitchen in use by CYT

**Saturday, February 9** Pastor & Katrina's Day Off

**Sunday, February 10**

- 8:00 a.m.—Communion in Gym
- 9:00 a.m.—Fellowship
- 9:30 a.m.—Sunday School & Bible Study
- 10:45 a.m.—Communion in Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m.—What it Means to Be...Class

### Worship Schedule

Sunday 8AM & 10:45PM

#### Communion

1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

#### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday 9AM—3PM

Friday 9AM - 12PM

#### Last Week's Attendance

Sunday 8:00 AM—106, 10:45 AM—94

Sunday School—97

### Serving Next Week

#### Sunday 8:00AM

- Elders:** JJ Jones
- Comm/Asst. Elder:** Mike Bandman
- Acolytes:** Ashley Plapp, Jacob Plapp
- Lay Readers:** Mike Bandman, Sue Bandman
- Ushers:** Bob Souza, Jay Souza
- Greeters:** Best Family, Diane Boehm
- Fellowship:** Rasmussen Family
- Feb. Altar Guild:** Margie Tatgenhorst
- Feb. Counters:** Chris Mason

#### Sunday 10:45AM

- David Ziegler
- Jack Warneke
- Annika Chudy, Jake Chudy
- Bill Schwartz, Monte Stoltzman
- Lance Rasmussen, John Schultz
- Peplow Family, Pipia Family
- Dawn Werfelmann
- Diane Sanders

**Wednesday Night Greeter:** (2/6) Kari Mulley