

TO BRING GOD'S GRACE AND LOVE TO EACH OTHER  
AND TO THE WORLD

# THE LIGHT



February 2018

## Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A Congregation of the North/West Lower  
Michigan Synod,  
Craig Satterlee, Bishop  
Elizabeth Eaton, Presiding Bishop*

**1101 S. Mears Avenue  
Whitehall, MI 49461  
(231) 893-5745**

**Rev. Douglas M. Ogden**

**Sunday Morning Worship**  
8:00 am & 10:15 am— Communion  
9:00am - Adult Forum

**Office Hours**  
9:00 am—1:00 pm M-F (Margaret)  
6:30 pm – 9:30 pm W, Th (Sue)

**Newsletter Editor &  
Bulletin Announcements**  
Margaret Everling

### Church Council

Terry Beekman	Curt Crouch
Virginia DeMumbrum	
Meg Eaton	Sheila Fretty
Frank Hollister	Scott Keller
Allan Hinks	Kay Snell
Al Wheeler	

**“We are baptized members of God’s  
Church, forgiven and set free by grace  
through faith.**

[www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com](http://www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com)

**Facebook: Lebanon Lutheran Church  
(ELCA)**

**Instagram—Twitter : #llesignsofgrace**

### Pastor’s Notes

Ash Wednesday  
February 14, 2018  
Potluck at 5:30 pm , Worship at 7:15 pm

Ash Wednesday worship at Lebanon uses the music of the Taize Community, an international, ecumenical worship-centered group in France. They typically set one short phrase from someone’s language, and allow the music to repeat it over and over until everyone can say it.

It is similar to our Maundy Thursday worship ( March 29) and forms musical frame around the season of Lent.

The use of Ashes is ancient - - they are made from previous years’ Palm Sunday palms - - they very personally remind us of our role to change our hearts, our minds, and our community “with new and honest hearts” in the face of all that kills both hope and life itself.

By the time you receive this, the first of two Taco Dinners will have happened, the February 6th one yet to come.

These events challenge us to raise \$250 / each for Abigail and Jonathon Bartlett, and Charles Schmalz, as our promise to them that when they and the funds mature, they will have some kind of global mission experience.

These will make six that we have accomplished for our youth!

Please come - Please donate - Please eat!

Pastor Ogden

**February 2018**  
Fund of the Month  
**Camp Scholarships**



**Websites of Interest**

[www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com](http://www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com)

[www.mittensynod.org](http://www.mittensynod.org)

[www.elca.org](http://www.elca.org)

[www.whitelakescouting.com](http://www.whitelakescouting.com)

[www.whitelakechorale.com](http://www.whitelakechorale.com)

[www.hopescarves.org](http://www.hopescarves.org)

[LivingLutheran.org](http://LivingLutheran.org).

**Scout Schedule— 2018**

**Lion Cubs** - 1st Monday - 5:30-6:30pm

**Tiger Cubs** - 1st and 3rd Monday - 6pm - 7pm

**Wolf Cubs** - 1st and 3rd Thursday 6:30pm - 7:30pm

**Bear Cubs** - 1st and 3rd Monday - 6pm - 7pm

**Webelo I** - 1st and 3rd Monday - 6pm—7 pm

**Webelos II** - 1st and 3rd Wednesday - 5pm—6pm

**Committee Meeting** - 2nd Monday - 7:30pm

**Troop 1048** meets each Sunday, 5:30pm—6:30pm

**Venture Crew** - 1st and 3rd Sunday at 3:30pm

# Prayer Concerns



It is an important part of our ministry to be praying constantly for one another. We add names to the prayer list with consent in order to maintain privacy and confidentiality. This month in your prayers, please remember:

## Prayers for those who are homebound: Our Minister

**Ken & Mary Bernhardt**, at home. Ken has a broken footbone.  
**Marcia Eyler**, at home ( of St. Alban Episcopal)  
**Bob and Vera Green**, Green Acres Assisted Living, Mt. Pleasant  
**Lois Hildebrandt**, at Bush Creek (Marlene Holmstrom)  
**Rozella Holmstrom**, at home .  
**Nancy Peterson**, at Heartland , Room #415  
**Velma Roesler**, at White Lake Assisted Living Center  
**Gini Kaines**, (Michele Wheeler's mother), at Heartland, (Donna Stacy)  
**Ruth Nurmi**, at home  
**Kathleen Wagner**, moved to Farmington Hills, MI on January 8.  
**Bernie Weidner**, at Sanctuary of the Oaks.  
**Mike Szczerbinski**, with health concerns

## Special Prayer Concerns:

**Jennifer Snowden Bossi**, 34, (Ardy Bulthouses' granddaughter) diagnosed with a rare form of cancer.  
**Paul & Khamsavang Chittisane**, (Savannhi's parents) with health and financial concerns.  
**Shirley Claeys**, with health concerns.  
**Danielle Johnson**, back surgery on February 13, at Blodgett Hospital, Grand Rapids.  
**Lauren Kerkstra**, (Darrel and Jeanette Otto's granddaughter), recovering slowly, able to walk and take commands. Remains non-verbal . Baby born healthy on June 5.  
**Jim Kienke**, aggressive cancer. (Rick Hughes' brother-in-law)  
**Amy Jean Knorr**, (Brian Holmblade's aunt) with health concerns. 101 years old in November.  
**Dick Knoth**, with health concerns  
**Lara MacGregor**, Living life over metastatic breast cancer.  
**Leah**, 42, (daughter-in-law of Barb Aardema's classmate) advanced colon cancer.  
**Lorraine** (Rick Hughes' mother) in hospital.  
**Ranna Majeed**, home in Whitehall suffered water damage from burst pipes.  
**Jeanette Otto**, at home recuperating after hip replacement surgery.  
**Jennie Palmer**, with health concerns.  
**Maurine Rea**, formerly of St. Alban Episcopal, turned 100 on October 24. in Poppin Hospice House.  
**Tim Schrand**, (Virginia DeMumbrum's brother), battling a very aggressive cancer, and her other brother in a car accident.  
**Roger Silk**, with health concerns  
**Dr. Cathy Tibbetts** of New Mexico ( Warren Tibbitts grand-niece); waiting for major eye surgery.  
**Ray and Bev Veeder**, Bev with health concerns and Bev's mother, **Margaret Mell** under Hospice Care.  
**John Wahr**, knee repair on January 17, 2018.  
**Our hearts grieve with Ray and Bev Veeder**, on the death of his mother, **Gladys Nygard** on January 15, and with **Pastor and Monica Ogden**, **Allie and Stephen** on the death of **Milton Ogden** ( Pastor Ogden's father); and family of **Karen Cloutier**.



## Worship Notes

**Sunday, February 4 - Epiphany 5**  
Musician: Monica Ogden

Green

**Readings**

Isaiah 40:21-31  
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c  
1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
Mark 1:29-39

**Color: Green**

**Prayer of the Day**

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

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**Sunday, February 11 - Transfiguration of Our Lord**  
Musician: Monica Ogden

**Readings**

2 Kings 2:1-12  
Psalm 50:1-6  
2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
Mark 9:2-9

**Color: White**

**Prayer of the Day**

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sunday, February 18 - Lent 1**

Musician: Ardy Bulthouse

**Readings**

**Color: Purple**

Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm 25:1-10  
1 Peter 3:18-22  
Mark 1:9-15

**Prayer of the Day**

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

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**Sunday, February 25 - Lent 2**

Musician: Monica Ogden

**Readings**

**Color: Purple**

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Psalm 22:23-31  
Romans 4:13-25  
Mark 8:31-38

**Prayer of the Day**

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Ash Wednesday, February 14**

Musician: Monica Ogden

**Readings**

**Color: Purple**

Joel 2:1-17  
Psalm 51  
2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10  
Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Almighty God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into the dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth the creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness; strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in your mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen**

February



2/1 Francis Litchfield	2/16 Amy Groessl
2/2 Sharon Ackerman	2/16 Sally Ferrentino
2/2 Karl Holmstrom	2/17 Lori Skinner
2/2 Debbie Jones	2/17 Ethen Wendell
2/2 Isaac Otterman	2/19 Gregory Civis
2/3 Eric Austermler	2/19 Dustin King
2/5 Marlene Erdman	2/19 Nancy Peterson
2/7 Wendy Shalifoe	2/22 Jeanne Berry
2/10 Saige Phelps	2/22 John Wahr
2/10 Holly Sorensen	2/23 Molly DeBolt
2/11 Claire O'Donnell	2/23 Kara Hanis
2/12 Ray Veeder	2/23 Daniel Stanhope
2/13 Tiffany Barnes	2/23 Donna Will
2/13 Marilyn Schmuker	2/24 Krysten Hosticka
2/14 Beverly Statz	2/26 Frank Hollister
2/15 Trevin Bernhardt	2/26 Allie Ogden
2/16 Mark Coddington	2/27 Dean Hewitt
2/16 Emma Greenwood	2/28 Zachariah Jones



2/10/10 Scott & Rebecca Veeder  
2/15/05 Richard & Carol (Riddle) Bonter  
2/22/02 Jim & Judy Kurtz

2/23/52 Bob & Vera Green  
2/17/51 Lois and Charles Fuller (4/16)



**Do you have Communion Cruets and cups at home? Baskets? If so, please return them to Lebanon when you are finished using them. We are missing a large amount of them. Thank you.**

## Baptism Anniversaries



2/1 Barb Brooks	2/15 Ray Veen	2/26 Lonna Anguilm
2/2 Amy DeBolt	2/16 Lorrie Santos	2/26 Brian Holmblade
2/5 Joseph Peters	2/16 Brian Peterson	2/26 Bruce Holmblade
2/8 Elly Hendrixon	2/16 Joni Will	2/27 Stephanie Honoré
2/9 Austin Decker	2/19 Nichole Page Farrar	
2/10 Larry Holmstrom	2/21 Brenton Will	
2/11 Julie Holmstrom	2/24 Steve Albert	
2/14 Franci Chamberlain	2/26 Barb Aardema	

Celebrate your baptism anniversary with a candle a meal or this prayer:

“Stir up within me the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and joy, on this day when I give thanks for my baptism in to Christ.”



**Taco Tuesday**  
**February 6th!**  
**5pm to 6:30 pm**  
**Free will donations**

**Come and enjoy a taco or two !**

**Proceeds will go to the Baptism Fund for Abigail and Jonathon Bartlett & Charles Schmalz. Our goal is to raise \$750!**





**North/  
West Lower  
Michigan Synod**

**2900 N. Waverly Rd.  
Lansing, MI 48906**

**517-321-5066**

## **In this Issue:**

**Bishop's Letter**

**We Are Church Together**

**Flint Water Crisis Updates**

**Upcoming Events**

**Congregations in Transition**

## **Shout from the Rooftops!**

As the most recent example of a pattern of inappropriate discourse, President Trump's reported Oval Office comments about Haiti, El Salvador, and countries in Africa—comments confirmed by others who were present—in the context of a discussion of immigration render impossible Christians and especially Christian leaders "staying out" of politics. As Presiding Bishop Eaton said, "Regardless of the context, references of that kind have no place in our civil discourse and, if true, reflect racist attitudes unbecoming any of us, but especially a president of the United States."

From Moses before Pharaoh to Nathan before King David to Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego before King Nebuchadnezzar to Jesus before Pilate, we have a biblical witness of religious leaders speaking into political realities when those realities conflict with God's will, purpose, and vision for the world. Bishop Eaton describes God's purpose and our participation in it this way:

...a world where each of us sees every person—regardless of race, origin, ethnicity, gender or economic status [and I would add disability]—in the image of God and, therefore, worthy of dignity and respect. Our church has relationships and partnerships with Christians and others on six continents. These are our sisters and brothers. We strive to accompany them and they us, across boundaries and cognizant of our diversity, yet all seeking the common good. (<http://bit.ly/2D3silo>)

When public policy and political reality blatantly conflict with God's intent for the world and its people, Christians and Christian leaders are not only obligated to speak God's will, purpose, and vision—what we might call gospel—into these realities, they are compelled to shout it from the rooftops. The question is not whether bishops and pastors and people of faith will speak about the realities of our society and nation. The question is how bishops and pastors and people of faith will do it.

Every year on this Martin Luther King, Jr. weekend, I make time to read Dr. King's "Letter from a Birmingham Jail" (<http://bit.ly/1PzYolh>). It speaks differently to me every year. This year, Dr. King guides me on how to shout the gospel from the rooftops into public policy and political reality in four ways.

First, Dr. King writes from jail in response to criticism from other clergy of his work and ideas. Dr. King knows firsthand that we pay a personal cost when we speak the gospel into political reality. In Michigan, 10,704 votes separated President Trump from Secretary Clinton. We live in a divided church in a divided state.



**Continued from page 1**

Jesus cautions us to count the cost (Luke 14:26-28). Whatever we say will offend someone and some will express their offense in ways that are heated, personal, and consequential. We need to be prepared to suffer and dare not be surprised by these reactions. As we count the cost, we do so in the awareness that remaining silent is a privilege of being white and Lutheran; some communities and Christian traditions expect and even demand that their pastors utter a word from the Lord that speaks directly to contemporary political reality. For us who are white and Lutheran, there comes a point when exercising the privilege of remaining silent makes us complicit with the political realities.

Dr. King reminds us that opposition is not only to be expected but welcomed when he writes, "I have earnestly opposed violent tension, but there is a type of constructive, nonviolent tension which is necessary for growth." And so, Dr. King reminds us of "the early Christians, who were willing to face hungry lions and the excruciating pain of chopping blocks rather than submit to certain unjust laws of the Roman Empire."

Second, Dr. King writes a letter. I find letter-writing to be slow, deliberate, and even laborious. Letter-writing takes time. It's so very different from almost instantaneously posting something on Facebook, tweeting, or writing an email and pressing send. Letter-writing takes work. I believe we need to consider not only what we say, but the best way of communicating it—a letter, a tweet, a Facebook post, an email, a sermon, a forum where people can talk back. Even when we choose to say something online, I have found it helpful to compose in a word processing program and then paste it in because writing when I cannot immediately push send slows me down, turns down my emotions, and leads me to edit myself and ask someone else to look it over.

Third, deciding what we will say and how to communicate depends on our intended audience. Dr. King writes to "Fellow Clergymen," whom he describes as "men of genuine good will... [whose] criticisms are sincerely set forth." Dr. King invites us both to name our intended audience and, in the language of Luther's Small Catechism, to endeavor

to put an Eighth-Commandment-construction on others' words and actions. So, who is our intended audience, really? If it truly is President Trump or a member of Congress, is Facebook really the best way to communicate? If our audience really is ourselves, venting and releasing our emotions, do we need to do that in a public way? If our audience is the church and world, our Christian witness compels us to communicate in ways that proclaim God's love in Jesus Christ for all people, including those we oppose.

Fourth, every year when I read Dr. King's letter, I am impressed that he does not ground his words and actions in his own convictions or moral standing. Dr. King grounds his words and actions in the work of God's people as recorded in Scripture—the eighth century prophets, the Apostle Paul, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego. And Dr. King describes his work using a biblical image: "the Macedonian call for aid." I cannot overstate the importance of grounding and clothing our convictions and proclamations in Scripture in ways that are undeniable so that they become statements of the faith and teaching of Lutheran and Christian theology. Our church's social statements are a great resource and I encourage you to turn to them: <http://bit.ly/2DfCrg>.

My friend, Bishop Tracie Bartholomew of New Jersey, reminds us that our hymnbook includes this prayer which seems appropriate these days:

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred that infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and, through our struggle and confusion, work to accomplish your purposes on earth; so that, in your good time, every people and nation may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.  
(Evangelical Lutheran Worship).

As you say amen, please join me in shouting it from the rooftops.

The Rev. Craig Alan Satterlee, Ph.D., Bishop

  
**WHITE LAKE GIVING TREE**  
5149 Dowling Street, Montague, MI 49437

December 29, 2017


***Parishioners of Lebanon Lutheran Church***  
1101 S. Mears Avenue  
Whitehall, MI 49461

***SUBJECT: Donation to the White Lake Giving Tree***

Thank you for your very generous donation of \$26 and many, many gifts for families to the White Lake Giving Tree this last Christmas. Your monetary donation was used towards the purchase of perishable foods (hams, potatoes, milk, cheese, oranges, etc.) for the 311 families who received assistance through the Giving Tree. Your gifts were wrapped and distributed amongst those same families.

It's hard to believe that the Giving Tree has been assisting families for about 30 years now. This ministry is only possible because of caring people like you. You helped make Christmas brighter this year for so many families.

Thank you for your generosity. May God bless you and your families throughout the New Year!



Sue Conroy  
White Lake Giving Tree Coordinator

To the congregation of  
Lebanon Lutheran Church,  
Church Council Members  
and Staff:

Thank you so much  
for the gorgeous basket  
of flowers you sent  
for my husband's  
funeral. Yours is the  
basket I chose to bring  
home this week, with  
Doug's approval. You are  
special people. Marti Ogden

During a time  
like this  
we realize how much  
our friends and relatives  
really mean  
to us . . . .  
Your expression  
of sympathy will always  
be remembered

The family of  
Milton Ogden

**WESCO**

*Putting You First, Keeps Us Going.*

To whom this may concern,

Thank you for working with Wesco Inc. this Holiday Season to Drive Hunger Out of Our Neighborhoods. From the warm hearts of our customers and great efforts of all our associates, Wesco was able to raise \$1,551.22 for your organization. Wesco appreciates everything Lebanon Lutheran Church does for the surrounding communities and is honored to partake in such a crucial topic effecting our neighborhoods.

Thank you again from all of us at Wesco and for Driving Hunger Out of Our Neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

  
Bryan Link  
Marketing Director

Wesco Inc.



Living in God's Amazing Grace

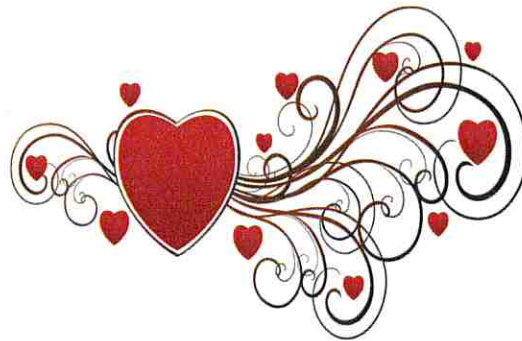
## Lebanon Lutheran Church

1101 South Mears Avenue  
Whitehall, MI 49461

*The Light* is published monthly by Lebanon Lutheran Church, 1101 S. Mears Avenue, Whitehall, MI 49461. Submissions are accepted through the 15th of each month. Submissions **MUST** include your name and a way to contact you in case of questions.

2 ways to submit your information:

- yellow folder in Margaret's office  
(better)
- [office@lebanonlutheranchurch.com](mailto:office@lebanonlutheranchurch.com)  
(best)



Happy  
Valentine's  
Day