

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

# THE LIGHT



March 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

This is the first real chance I’ve had to write something thanking you, Lebanon, many friends and our Bishop, for your kindness at the time of my father’s death. Thank you all.

Dad started chemotherapy for colon cancer about four years ago. He did amazingly well on it, carrying around a little pump he called “his buddy.” It sat on his lap when he drove and by his side when he was at home. Mom adjusted meals so that until just recently he was able to do just about whatever he wanted and go wherever he wanted. In the fall the pills that accompanied the pump were too much – and he said no thank you.

Your cards, calls and remembrances meant everything. There were friends from every stage of life at the visitation in January. It was head-spinning to move from one set of stories to another to another, and wonderful to see so many people.

Dad was an Air Force vet, Korean Conflict. As he described it, his job was to play ping pong until a coded message came in, then translate it into another code, and go back to ping pong. Truth is he knew a lot of codes and it was hard intellectual work to be in cryptography. Once as a kid I was really curious about that and asked him some questions. He got really quiet and wouldn’t talk about it, because upon discharge Harry Truman told them not to. He never did.

There were other stories involving the cat he smuggled into his college class, the years waltzing at the local roller skating rink (one of the hottest places in Springfield Ohio in 1950) tap dancing at the local theater, water skiing on the Ohio River. It was a life well-lived.

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**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

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**Girl Scouts** : 2nd and 4th Tuesday - 3:30—5pm  
Thursday - 5pm—7pm

# 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, surgery for leg injury. (Donna Stacy)  
**Ruth Nurmi**, at home  
**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  
**Mary Lewellen**, knee replacement surgery on February 20th.  
**Rick Lighten**, (Warren Tibbitts step-son) treated for cancer in Lansing.  
**Lara MacGregor**, Living life over metastatic breast cancer.  
**Rana Majeed**, home in Whitehall suffered damage after pipes burst.  
**Leah**, 42, (daughter-in-law of Barb Aardema's classmate) advanced colon cancer.  
**Jennie Palmer**, with health concerns.  
**Tim Schrand**, (Virginia DeMumbrum's brother), battling a very aggressive cancer, and her other brother in a car accident.  
**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.  
**Donna Will**, total shoulder replacement surgery, Feb 13 at Mercy.

Our hearts grieve with **Rick and Holly Hughes, Taylor and Morgan** on the death of Rick's mother, **Lorraine Hughes-Kosnick** on February 8th and with the family and friends of **Maurine Rea**, who passed away on February 5th at the age of 100, and **Ray Veeder family** on the death of his mother, **Gladys Nygard** .



## Worship Notes

**Sunday, March 4**  
Musician: Monica Ogden

### Readings

**Color: Purple**

Exodus 20:1-17  
Psalm 19  
1 Corinthians 1:18-25  
John 2:13-22

### Prayer of the Day

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only 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, March 11**  
Musician: Monica Ogden

### Readings

**Color: Purple**

Numbers 21:4-9  
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
John 3:14-21

### Prayer of the Day

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

**Sunday, March 18**

Musician: Ardy Bulthouse

**Readings**

**Color: Purple**

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Psalm 51:1-12  
Hebrews 5:5-10  
John 12:20-33

**Prayer of the Day**

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your son, 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, March 25 - Sunday of the Passion**

Musician: Monica Ogden

**Readings**

**Color: Gray**

Mark 11:1-11  
Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Philippians 2:11  
Mark 14:1-15:47

**Prayer of the Day**

O God of Mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, and preserve us until the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



March



3/1 Sheila Fretty	3/14 Sandy Robbins
3/1 Samantha Jo Hendrixon	3/15 Tom Palmer
3/1 Ray Richardson	3/16 Don Erwin
3/1 Roger Silk	3/17 Karl Glass
3/3 Karen Baker	3/19 Louis Hosticka
3/3 Lee Swenson	3/19 Heather Moss
3/4 Dakota King	3/23 Braxton Murphy
3/5 Mary Lewallen	3/23 Bryce Murphy
3/5 Mallory Gallihugh	3/25 Mallory Crouch
3/8 Thomas Civis	3/25 Anna DeNicolo
3/8 Kelsey Fretty	3/26 Brittney Roesler
3/8 Bernice Schuitema	3/28 Nathan Baker
3/10 Judith Brogren	3/29 Marty DeNicolo
3/10 Sarah (Lathrop) Hosta	3/29 Donna Knoth
3/10 James Will	3/29 Brian Lathrop
3/11 Tim DeMumbrum	3/29 Chuck Miller
3/13 Andy Green	3/30 Jane Blyth
3/13 Ethan Reynolds	3/30 Trey Gallihugh
	3/31 Eric Plewka



March 29, 2018

## Baptism Anniversaries



3/10 Beverly Statz	3/20 John Wahr	3/24 Hazel Palmer
3/10 David Hendrixon	3/21 Mitchell Clark	3/25 Ryan Anguilm
3/10 Dick Knoth	3/23 Braxton Murphy	3/28 Eric Plewka
3/17 Irene Parks	3/23 Bryce Murphy	3/29 Traci Murphy
3/18 Linda Everitt	3/24 Tom Palmer	
3/18 Charles Peabody		

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.”

March 30, 2018



# News & Notes



**On Wednesdays we collect Health Kits items for Samaritas Foster kids.**

**This week has been towels. Yes you may bring things on Sundays, or any item any time.**

**February 21 - toothpaste and toothbrushes**

**February 28 - nail clippers**

**March 7 - combs**

**March 14 - Soap**

**March 21 - assemble kits**

## St. James Knights of Columbus Fish Fry



**Friday's  
Feb.16-March23  
4:30 p.m.--7:00 p.m.**

Perch  
Walleye  
Shrimp  
Salmon

**Adult Meals  
\$12.00  
Salmon Meals \$13.00**

Perch ~ Shrimp Combo

All Meals include: Baked Potato or French Fries

Coleslaw or Applesauce

Garlic Bread & Dessert    Coffee and Juice

Extra Pieces:

Walleye \$3.00    Perch \$2.00    Shrimp \$2.00    Salmon \$3.00

Kids Meals (reduced portions) ages 5—12: \$7.00

Kids Mac & Cheese \$4.00

Children Under 4: Free

Carry Out Phone # 231-292-9005



**We are phasing out our Equal Exchange program** due to a dramatic decrease in sales. Get your supplies now while they last. Of course, we can always order items for you,

however there will be shipping charges added unless it is a bulk order.

### ATTENTION THRIVENT MEMBERS:

Have you Directed your 2017 Choice Dollars? Thrivent Choice gives members an opportunity to recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its charitable outreach funds each year. **You have until March 31, 2018** to designate where you wish your allocated amount of charitable contributions to go. **Visit [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com)** to make your choice

The Thrivent Committee meets next on April 9, 2018 at 7pm.



Pastor's Notes ( continued from page 1)

He retired three times from the International Harvester – and was very proud whenever he saw an IH school bus taking kids safely to school. And avid Wittenberg fan and supporter. And just looking at this list I see much in my own life that reflects these things also. I guess that's how it works. Thank you for Lebanon's gift of a tree, to be planted somewhere this spring.

In the meantime, Rick lost his mother, Ray and Bev kept watch over their mothers, Karen and Maurine passed away. The part about "we share our mutual woes" is exactly what church does. But also in the meantime our youth group has met, three babies baptized, and another two baptisms in the planning. A new members class has been meeting on Sunday mornings. Our personal care kits for foster kids are growing. We will make a hundred for Samaritas before Easter. And the tree you gave me is very green, eager to put roots into new soil. I guess that's how it works.

"The fellowship of kindred hearts is like to that above." Lent is with us through the month of March. It is good to spend some time with Lent, so that when we need to, we know how to remember what is truly important in our lives.

*Pastor Ogden*



WHEN: SATURDAY APRIL 21, 2018

WHERE: LEBANON LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1101 S. MEARS AVE WHITEHALL, 49461

TIME: 10AM TO 3PM



North/  
West Lower  
Michigan Synod

2900 N. Waverly Rd.  
Lansing, MI 48906

517-321-5066

## In this Issue:

Bishop's Letter

Lenten Reading Group

Scarcity to Abundance

Upcoming Events

Congregations in Transition

## More Than a Political Issue

I spent the summer of 1985 completing my first unit of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor. Like everyone who prepares for rostered ministry in the ELCA, I did a stint as a student chaplain. As part of my training, I was privileged to serve several evening and night shifts in the emergency room under the supervision of a very wise social worker.

One night this social worker asked me to join her in meeting with a woman brought in after being beaten by her husband. Her face was bruised and her eyes black and swollen. When I was introduced as the chaplain, this woman immediately quoted Scripture to me, explaining that she'd not done as 1 Peter directs to "accept the authority of your husbands, so that, even if some of them do not obey the word, they may be won over without a word by their wives' conduct" (3:1) and so "deserved" what happened to her.

Another night, the social worker asked me to accompany her to visit an elementary school age girl who came in after being sexually assaulted. The girl explained to the social worker that, like women in the Bible, she tempted the man and so that this happened was her own fault. When she looked up at me for confirmation, I vigorously shook my head no.

I have not thought about this woman and girl for more than 30 years. In the last few days, both stepped out of my subconscious to remind me that they're still there. Even now I am shocked at the way

Scripture was used to justify domestic violence and sexual assault. And so, I feel compelled to say that domestic violence and the exploitation of children are contrary to God's will as it is revealed in Jesus who "reached out to heal the sick and suffering, to preach good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to us all." In Christ we know that all lives are precious to God. No one deserves to be beaten or assaulted. The church and its leaders need to stand up and say so because this is more than a political issue. This is a moral issue.

I never imagined writing this letter. I'd hoped to devote this space to Lent or the elimination of term limits for synod officers. But in recent days, there seems to be some ambiguity or lack of clarity in our culture surrounding these issues. So, I will talk about Lent on this week's video and save term limits for March.

Here and now, I feel compelled to say that our church takes allegations of domestic violence, sexual misconduct, and any form of abuse extremely seriously and our church investigates such allegations with deliberation, intention, and rigor. We provide boundary training and clear expectations for rostered ministers of our church and expect them to renew their training every three years. I am pleased that our rostered ministers take this expectation seriously. The next boundaries training will be April 26.

Continued on page 2

The ELCA is preparing a statement on women and justice. You can read more about this initiative, including the latest draft of the social statement at <http://www.elca.org/womenandjustice>.

A group in our synod is working with the deans to schedule hearings on the women and justice social statement. Contact your dean to find out when and where the hearing is scheduled in your conference.

May the peace of Christ surround and sustain you as we celebrate our Lenten season in a societal season of conflict and division.

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

### Lenten Reading Group

#### Blessed to Follow: The Beatitudes as a Compass for Discipleship

The Publicly Engaged Church Table invites you to read and discuss Dr. Martha Stortz's book on the Beatitudes during the weeks of Lent. Together we will explore what Jesus means when he says, "Blessed are..." And how our lives are changed by being blessed. This book is for anyone who would like to grow in living a faithful life and who would like to connect with fellow sojourners across the synod. The discussion will happen in a Facebook group titled Blessed To Follow. You can connect through our synod's Facebook page, North/West Lower Michigan Synod. Discussion will begin on February 15<sup>th</sup>, but you may join in anytime throughout Lent. I look forward to reading and discussing with you!

Pastor Sarah Friesen-Carper

Below is the book description from the Augsburg Fortress website:

In Matthew's Gospel, the Sermon on the Mount inaugurates Jesus' public ministry, and the first word out of Jesus' mouth is "blessed." He repeats this word throughout his first sermon. Jesus calls his disciples by blessing them, and as he speaks, Jesus introduces himself to us but also introduces disciples to themselves, for the Beatitudes offer a character sketch of who disciples will become if they follow him.

The Beatitudes, says Martha Stortz, function as a compass for the journey of Christian discipleship. The first group of Beatitudes target people in situations of suffering. The second group of Beatitudes target people who help those who suffer. Each chapter in *Blessed to Follow* is structured around a similar pattern: appeal to experience; biblical stories; Jesus: the one blessing and the one blessed; disciples: blessed to be a blessing; practice: the blessing made real. Includes questions for discussion and additional resources.

You can purchase the book from Augsburg Fortress (<http://bit.ly/2GeSUKB>) or Amazon.



## Lebanon Lutheran Church

1101 South Mears Avenue  
Whitehall, MI 49461

Living in God's Amazing Grace

*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*)

