

To Bring God's Grace and Love to Each other
And To The World



THE LIGHT

February 2019

Lebanon Evangelical Lutheran Church

*A Congregation of the North/West Lower
Michigan Synod, of the ELCA
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

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

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

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

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

Instagram—Twitter : #lcsignsofgrace

Pastors Notes

Adult Forum

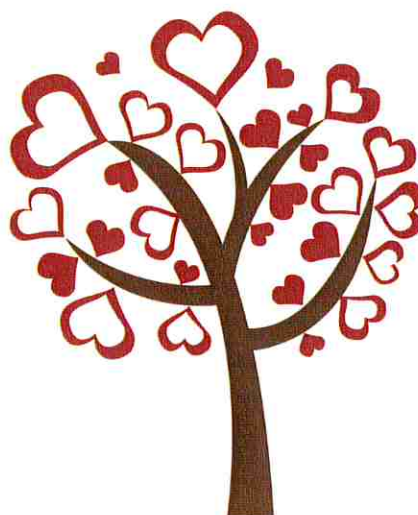
- 2/3 "Divided Worlds, Divided Lives" How the Church fails business people (and what can be done about it)
- 2/10 Pastor Larry Foster guest leader
- 2/17 "Is All Work God's Work?"
- 2/24 "Making Responsible Decisions" A Moral Theology At Work
- 3/3 "Welcoming Inquirers Into Membership Who Are We?"
- 3/10 Where do we belong? Synods and Agencies
- 3/17 God Always comes Down. Martin Luther and Us Sponsors
- 3/24 Where Do We Go From Here - Baptism Vocation Inclusion

We plan to receive new members April 14th.

Wednesday Nights:

- 2/6 Romans reading 1-4
- 2/13 Reading 4-8
- 2/20 Reading 9-12
- 2/27 Reading 13-16
- 3/6 Ash Wednesday Worship
- 3/13

Pastor Ogden



*Happy
Valentine's
Day*

Websites of Interest

www.lebanonlutheranchurch.com

www.mittensynod.org

www.elca.org

www.whitelakescouting.com

www.whitelakechorale.com

www.hopescarves.org

LivingLutheran.org

Scout Schedule— 2019

Each Sunday at 5:00 pm

Webelos II -	Mondays at 6:00 pm
Webelos I -	Mondays at 6:00 pm
Bears -	Tuesdays at 6:30 pm
Wolves -	Mondays at 6:00 pm
Tigers -	Mondays at 7:00 pm
Lions -	Every 3rd Monday at 6:00 pm

Girl Scouts : Each Thursday - 4:30pm-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

Helen Bartlett, at home. Recovering from a stroke
Mary Bernhardt, (Kay Snell)
Marcia Eyler, at home (of St. Alban Episcopal)
Vera Green, Green Acres Assisted Living, Mt. Pleasant
Lois Hildebrandt, at Bush Creek (Lora Swenson)
Rozella Holmstrom, at home .
Eileen Hovey, at home.
Nancy Peterson, at Heartland , Room #415
Velma Roesler, at White Lake Assisted Living Center, #4 (Donna Stacy)
Ruth Nurmi, at home
Bernie Weidner, at Sanctuary of the Oaks. (Danielle Johnson)
Mike Szczerbinski, with health concerns at home

Special Prayer Concerns:

Tracey Allen, (Roger Silk's cousin) diagnosed with terminal brain cancer
Jennifer Snowden Bossi, 34, (Ardy Bulthouses' granddaughter) diagnosed with a rare form of cancer.
Mike Crouch, (Curt Crouchs brother) diagnosed with cancer.
Jo Ellen Francis, (Laura Hollister's sister) testing for neurological issues.
Jake Z., (nephew of Penny Gorbach) on 2nd round of chemo & radiation for mass by an artery.
Barb Gelvin, recuperating from knee surgery in Florida.
Marie Hendrixon, recuperating from knee replacement surgery done January 17th.
Marlene Holmstrom, with back spasms
Lorin Jordahl, (Kristine Jordahl's father) with congestive heart failure
Lauren Kerkstra, (Darrel and Jeánette Otto's granddaughter), recovering slowly, able to walk and take commands. Remains non-verbal .
Amy Jean Knorr, (Brian Holmblade's aunt) with health concerns. 101 years old in November.
Dick Knoth, with health concerns in Washington State
Lara MacGregor, Living life over metastatic breast cancer. New cancer site found.
Tim Schrand, (Virginia DeMumbrum's brother), battling a very aggressive cancer. Virginia DeMumbrum with him this week.
Bev Statz, recuperating after a fall.
Kathleen Wagner, at home recuperating from pneumonia.
Brittany, Rob and Kennedy Wahr, Kennedy remains in the hospital but is improving and up to 9# .
Donna Will, at home, getting stronger every day.



Worship Notes

Sunday, February 3, Epiphany 4

Musician: Monica Ogden

Readings

Color: Green

Jeremiah 1:4-20

Psalm 71:1-6

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Luke 4:21-30

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope and love; and that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen**

Sunday, February 10, Epiphany 5

Musician: Monica Ogden

Readings

Color: Green

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13]

Psalm 138

1 Corinthian 15:1-11

Luke 5:1-11

Prayer of the Day

Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**



Sunday, February 17, Epiphany 6

Musician: Ardy Bulthouse

Color: Green

Readings

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:12-20
Luke 6:17-26

Prayer of the Day

Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, February 24, Epiphany 7

Musician: Monica Ogden

Color: Green

Readings

Genesis 43:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

Prayer of the Day

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



February



2/1 Francis Litchfield	2/17 Ethen Wendell
2/2 Sharon Ackerman	2/19 Gregory Cavis
2/2 Karl Holmstrom	2/19 Dustin King
2/2 Debbie Jones	2/19 Jen Peterson
2/2 Isaac Otterman	2/19 Nancy Peterson
2/3 Eric Austermler	2/22 Jeanne Berry
2/5 Marlene Erdman	2/22 John Wahr
2/7 Wendy Shalifoe	2/23 Molly DeBolt
2/8 Isac Chamberlain	2/23 Kara Hanis
2/10 Saige Phelps	2/23 Diane Ingalls
2/10 Holly Sorensen	2/23 Daniel Stanhope
2/11 Claire O'Donnell	2/23 Donna Will
2/12 Ray Veeder	2/24 Krysten Hosticka
2/13 Tiffany Barnes	2/26 Frank Hollister
2/13 Marilyn Schmucker	2/26 Allie Ogden
2/14 Beverly Statz	2/27 Dean Hewitt
2/15 Trevin Bernhardt	2/28 Nathan Aardema
2/16 Mark Coddington	2/28 Zachariah Jones
2/16 Emma Greenwood	
2/16 Amy Groessl	
2/16 Sally Ferrentino	
2/17 Lori Skinner	



2/10/10 Scott & Rebecca Veeder
2/15/05 Richard & Carol (Riddle) Bonter

2/22/02 Jim & Judy Kurtz

Baptism Anniversaries



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

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.”

Due to Margaret Everling’s surgery and recuperation, The Light will be combined for March and April. Please submit your information no later than February 10th to be included.

Please have your newsletter information in before the deadline.



North/
West Lower
Michigan Synod

2900 N. Waverly Rd.
Lansing, MI 48906

517-321-5066

In this Issue:

A Spiritual House Made of
Living Stones

Dear Parents of Young
Children in Church

Upcoming Events

Congregations in Transition

A Spiritual House Made of Living Stones

"As you come to him, a living stone rejected by mortals but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:4-5 ESV). First Peter was written to encourage people who were emotionally drained and disorientated by traumatic historical and social events. They were reeling from the destruction of the Jerusalem temple, the dwelling place of God, and they were experiencing alienation and suffering as outsiders of the social and political system.

Like the first recipients of this epistle, we need encouragement as we also find ourselves emotionally drained and disorientated by a changing church in a changing culture and world. Many of our beloved brothers and sisters reel as they peer just a few years into the future and behold the loss of their church home and congregation. Where once our congregations stood at the center of people's lives and communities, we find ourselves outside the social and political system. Peter invited his readers to keep coming to Jesus and to allow themselves to be built up into a spiritual temple or household of God, good news for people experiencing homelessness and wondering where God was in all of this. Peter's invitation bids across the centuries to us.

Once we hoped to build a physical home for our Synod—a "synod house," a Center of Mission and Ministry. When that did not happen, we moved in the direction of growing as a spiritual house made of living stones by helping our people to grow spiritually, strengthening connectivity through technology, and raising up leaders with seminary scholarships. These days, many of our congregations grow as living stones through the accompaniment, coaching, guidance, instruction, and intervention of our Synod, often through the staff. Our rostered ministers and congregational leaders grow as living stones through inspiration, instruction, networking, and support provided by our synod.

Pastors Anderson, Sprang, Timm, and I further proposed, and Synod Council approved, inviting 100 people (or combinations of people) of our synod to make a three-year commitment of an annual designated "Living Stone" gift of \$500 each year to our synod for the Living Stone ministry initiatives. Together, the annual grant and Living Stone gifts will yield \$115,000 per year and will eliminate our annual deficit. Moreover, these efforts will help individuals appreciative of and committed to synodical ministry know they can give directly to the North/ West Lower Michigan Synod in the same way they give to Samaritas, Living Water Ministries, Trinity Lutheran Seminary, and the ELCA's Always Being Made New campaign.

Pastors Anderson, Sprang, Timm, and I therefore proposed, and Synod Council approved, that we continue to move in this direction— as a spiritual house made of living stones—by designating the approximately \$200,000 originally intended for the physical bricks and mortar of a synod building to support our strategic initiatives over a three-year period (2020/21-2022/23) through an annual grant to the general budget of \$65,000.

Pastors Anderson, Sprang, Timm, and I proposed—and Synod Council improved—"Living Stone" ministry initiatives to accompany this Living Stone financial initiative. These ministry initiatives will assist our congregations and leaders "to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ."

Our wish list includes:

- 18 congregations participating in REVIVE, a year-long vitality program developed by Pastor David Sprang and our vitality team.
- 75 congregational leaders over the three-year period complete a retooled Equipping Leaders for Mission and Ministry (ELMM) program in four tracks: (1) Lutheran Bible study leader; (2) stewardship specialist; (3) community evangelist/catalyst; (4) assisting minister.
- 20 candidates for rostered ministry are identified, accompanied, and supported.
- Rostered ministers are relieved of some measure of educational indebtedness.
- Congregations leading and growing in their mission support of our synod, together with individuals committed to the Living Stone financial initiative, are honored and thanked at Mission Support Dinners.
- Rostered and congregational leaders receive increased opportunities for inspiration and continuing education.
- Our synod makes a renewed commitment to discuss ways to welcome all God's people.
- Our youth, especially those in smaller congregations, are afforded an additional level of youth ministry, to build on the excellent events provided by Living Water Ministries, perhaps through a retreat in each conference over the three-year period.
- Struggling congregations receive accompaniment and assistance to realistically assess their sustainability and, where desirable, to partner with neighboring congregations, both ELCA and full communion partners.
- People outside the church are invited to "come to [Jesus], a living stone rejected by mortals but in the sight of God chosen and precious" because we remain vigilant to opportunities for synodically authorized worshipping communities.
- Latino and Native American communities on the territory of our Synod experience the love of Jesus through our listening to and learning from them.


In next month's newsletter, I'll put more flesh on these Living Stone ministry initiatives. For now, I invite you to spend some time praying over them. Which one do you and your congregation want to invest your heart and your energy in? The Holy Spirit may very well give you insights that will shape these directions.

I invite you to participate in the Living Stone financial initiative by making a three year \$500 annual commitment (\$1500) to our Synod. We are already receiving these commitments, starting with the Synod Staff. In a way, we're putting the cart before the horse by asking for money before we have pledge cards. If you are interested in making this commitment, send me an email at bishopcraigsatterlee@mittensynod.org. I also invite you to send me the names of people I should contact and invite to become Living Stone givers. I love our Synod, its leaders and congregations, and I am proud of the work we are doing. So, I am happy to talk to people about why they would enjoy financially supporting this ministry both in person or on the phone. If you have questions or would like me to talk to your congregation or council, please call me at 517-321-5066. I am also happy to have you join me in prayer for what I believe the Holy Spirit is leading us to do. "As you come to him, a living stone rejected by mortals but in the sight of God chosen and precious, you yourselves like living stones are being built as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ" (1 Peter 2:4-5).

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

We Welcome Finnegan Shaun Jeffery. Grandson of Steve and Cindy Albert. Born Wednesday, December 26, 2018.

Dear Lebanon,
Thank you for the Christmas Basket. I appreciate all the effort put into it. I really enjoyed it and thank you for thinking of me.
Bernie Weidner

 HOOKED ON FISHING will once again be presented by White Lake Area Sportsfishing on Saturday, February 9. Stay tuned to our website and our Facebook page for more details. Or you may contact the church office at : 231-893-5745.

The Chicago Scout Troop will arrive (weather and luge track permitting) on Friday, February 1st and be sleeping over at Lebanon through Sunday morning. Welcome Scouts!



Margaret is in need of someone (or several people) who are willing to cover the church office for 6-8 weeks if necessary.

If you are able to volunteer as primarily a back-up person to cover office hours, please let Margaret know as soon as possible.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Margaret Everling

Susan Louise Funderburg, 63, passed away Thursday, January 17, 2019. Susan was born on April 18, 1955, to William and Elanor Peterson.

Susan was blessed with 3 children in her life. On February 14, 1992, she married Ronald Funderburg and together they enjoyed 26 years of marriage. She worked at Howmet for many years. Susan attended Lebanon Lutheran Church and was a member of UAW 1243. She enjoyed raising German Shepherds, playing piano, cooking, gardening, fishing, camping and traveling. She was a cheerful, caring woman who was always full of life. She is survived by her husband Ron; children, Ronald Funderburg, Shane Beka Funderburg, Scott Funderburg; sister, Jane Johnson; brother, Brian Peterson.

from obituary Beacon Funeral Home

Nathaniel Richard Bernhardt, age 36, passed away Sunday, January 20, 2019, after a courageous battle with Brain Cancer. Nate was born on October 17, 1982, to Richard and Stephanie Bernhardt.

Nate graduated from Whitehall High School. On September 23, 2006, he married Jessica Lange. Together they were blessed with 3 boys. Nate worked for Chassix since he was 18 years old. He worked his way up to supervisor, enjoyed his work, and loved his work family. Nate was a member of Laketon Bethel Church. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, playing cards and camping. The greatest joy in his life was always his family. He was a friendly, funny, strong-willed, fearless, loving man who will be deeply missed.

Nate is survived by: his wife Jessica; sons, Trevin, Kamrin and Jaxson; his parents, Richard and Stephanie Bernhardt; sister, Shelly (Nick) Berry; brother, Jeremy (Karrie Noel) Bernhardt; aunts, JoAnne (Roger) Silk, Deborah (Scottie Dalziel) Wilks and Jani (Aaron Wiacek) Kesteloot; grandparents, Mary Bernhardt, Ed (Madalyn) Kesteloot; nieces, Hannah, Shelbie and Addy; nephews, Corbin and Rylan; and many cousins.

from obituary Beacon Funeral Home

On January 20th, we welcomed **Oliver Basil Wyatt** to our assembly by the celebration of Baptism.

Thanks be to God!

Oliver is the son of **Erica Koster and Corey Wyatt**. Corey will join us by transfer this spring.

Again, Rejoice!



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
(best)

