

PARISH ANNOUNCEMENTS

DECEMBER 1, 2024

About Bethel Lutheran Church

Bethel has been serving the Grove City community since 1968, ministering to its members and friends, supporting Lutheran Social Services programs like Faith Mission and LSS Food Pantry.

Bethel is in partnership with nearly 9,000 sister congregations, 26 Lutheran colleges (including Capital University, Bexley and Wittenberg, Springfield), 7 seminaries (including Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Bexley), 240+ world-wide missionaries in more than 40 countries and non-profit social services network, Lutheran World Relief...all ministries of the 4-million-member **Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (E.L.C.A.)**. Bethel Lutheran Church is also home to The Amazing Kids Academy Preschool, Stephen Ministries, AA groups, as well as other community organizations.

Bethel Lutheran Church is a member of Pride in Grove City.

An "Open and Affirming" Congregation

Welcome

We, the members of Bethel Lutheran Church, Grove City, Ohio, believe the following statement represents our commitment and desire to reach out and welcome those in need of and searching for God's love.

We believe we are all created in God's image and are all called to love our neighbors as Jesus loves us. We believe we are many members, but one body in Christ, and called to unite all people in God's love. We welcome and affirm all people. We invite those who are seeking God's presence in their lives to join us in our common journey. Our faith community seeks to unite persons of all ages, races, nationalities, ethnic background, sexual orientations, gender identities, mental and physical abilities, socioeconomic levels, and theological backgrounds. Together in our diversity, and being empowered and directed by the Holy Spirit, we will continually strive to "do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God." (Micah 6:8)

We proclaim the "good news" of the Gospel - that Jesus lived, died, and rose again to reunite us with God's plan for abundant life now, here in time, and for eternity. Despite our own sins and failings, we are **loved, forgiven, redeemed, and called** to be reflections of God's love in our dealings with all people. The free gift of God's love drives us into care for those most in need and who often subsist at the margins of our society. We work intentionally against racism homophobia, transphobia, misogyny, sexism and other attitudes or actions of prejudice and hate and for the care of creation. We seek to be an anti-racist community that seeks to stand up against the insidious power of white supremacy and Christian Nationalism.

As a church, we are liturgical and sacramental: that is, we follow rites and rituals for worship that connect us with those who have gone before and those who will come long after our time on earth is past. Our liturgy is a "to do" list for "the work of the people" in worship - confession, absolution (assurance of forgiveness), prayers, proclamation of the Gospel lessons and learning through scripture and preaching and celebrating the sacraments (Baptism and the Lord's Supper) acts of redemption instituted by Christ himself. Worship prepares us for our service to others in **lives of gratitude for what God has done for us** - for encountering Christ in the needs of others, and for loving our neighbors as ourselves. We rely on the Scriptures (both the Old and New Testaments of the Bible) as the source and guide of our teachings, knowing that the Holy Spirit can lead to new understands and applications of God's word in our lives.

MEMBERS AT HOME

John & Madge Triance
Helene Glenn
Rafi & Gloria Melendez
Cy & Linda Wolske
Dennise Hunt

HOSPICE

Roy Klaus (at home)
Candy Valentine (at home)

MEMBERS IN ASSISTED LIVING

Ann Schmidbauer & Bill Smith (Traditions)
Jean Spillman & Martha Massie (Ashford)
Gail Wilcox & Dianna Klaus (Carriage Court)

Carol Pozz, Marie Leitz & Dick Wirtz (Storypoint)

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK:

Brian Fletcher, Eric Evans, Samuel Linn, Tracy Morgan, Kay Olds, John Durban, Mike Mayers, Matt Shaul, Donovan Mangini, Nolan Seese

FLOWERS TODAY ARE GIVEN BY Janice Begoon in memory of her husband.

ADVENT SCHEDULE

Dec. 1 Advent I
Dec. 8 Advent II
Dec. 15 Advent III
Dec. 22 Advent IV

CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

4:00 p.m. Children/Family Service
7:00 p.m. Traditional Candle Lighting
11:00 p.m. Midnight Mass

FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

10:00 a.m. One Service Only

FOOD PANTRY MINISTRIES: We are packing each bag with the same items each month. Here is a list of the items that are needed:

1 box cereal 1 can/jar of pasta sauce 1 can of chicken/tuna 1 box pasta
1 can of soup 1 jar peanut butter 1 can of fruit 1 can of vegetables

DEC. SERVICE EMPHASIS: Angel Tree for Monterey Care Facility, Adapt-A-Family and Hat/Mitten Tree for Stiles Head Start.

