

Bethel *beacon*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON WI |
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Renae's Thoughts

As we say goodbye to summer, we say hello to the beginning of all of our Church programs. There is so much excitement and anticipation as the planning and scheduling that has already taken place. The church youth programs come to life as new students attend Sunday School, Adventures Club and our Youth Groups. It's always fun to see the excitement in the students' faces as they come to Sunday School, Adventures, or Youth Group for the very first time.

This year is no different than the rest. As the youth group leader, I am excited to see what this year brings. I am excited to be able to walk beside our students as they learn more about their Lord Jesus Christ. I am excited to see the relationships that will be built between the students and all the sponsors and Sunday School teachers.

With this excitement, I am also asking for prayers. I am asking that you pray for all of the volunteers that help with the teaching and growing of our students. I am asking that if you feel the calling to volunteer to help with Sunday School, Adventures Club, or one of the Youth Groups that you answer that call. I also ask that you pray that our students come with open hearts and minds, quiet mouths and listening ears so that they can absorb all that is being taught.

Here are a few of the dates for upcoming Events:

Sunday School Starts August 25
Youth Group Kick Off Night is August 28
Jr. High Soup Supper September 25
Jr. High Silver Birch October 11-13
Jr. & Sr. High Persecution Night October 23

Looking forward to a wonderful year.
Renae Lind, Youth Director

Pastor's Pen

As most of you know, a group of individuals from Bethel and other churches went on a week-long mission trip to Hazard, Kentucky through Thirst Missions. Our host partners were Twin Rocks Bible Camp and New Hope Church. We were asked to help with maintenance projects at the camp and with VBS and the food pantry at New Hope.

I realize that some of you reading this are not fans of short-term mission trips for various reasons, but these trips are important for both the ones being served and the ones serving. For those going on a short-term mission trip, the spiritual benefits are immense.

Praying Pelicans Mission, in their article, *Seven Reasons You Should Go on a Short-Term Mission Trip*, describe these benefits.

1. Connect with and support the global and local church. We believe that the local church is the hope of the world, because we carry the only real hope within us. We know the truth -- that Jesus is the only hope we have!
2. Broaden your spiritual horizons - go deep with Christ. Serving others and getting out of our comfort zones shapes us and molds our character in Christ immensely. It challenges us to speak more boldly about His Gospel and serve with abandon.
3. Experience a new worldview, gain a new perspective. One of the most widespread ways that a mission trip can change you, is by shaping and changing your worldview. Realizing that God is the King of the WORLD, not just the USA or your backyard, is a necessary part of growing spiritually.
4. Meet new people and make friendships. Go and serve alongside a community of believers and local staff members who will surprise you, help you grow in your faith and who are excited about developing friendships with you and your team!
5. Make an impact that lasts. Short-term missions often get a bad rap that they do more harm than good, because they are a one-week-and-done trip. We work to actively avoid that from happening. We pray your desire is to return year after year to develop long-term relationships with your partner, but we also believe in the power of partnering alongside local churches and ministries who are able to continue the work the other 51 weeks of the year. Your role is to help as much as you can while you are on the ground and serve with abandon, alongside your local leadership, and encourage and support them, so they have a little fuel added to their spiritual flames for the rest of the year.
6. Follow the Great Commission. Jesus commands us to go into all the world. Starting at home and moving towards the ends of the earth. Short-term missions is an excellent way to get a group of people together with a common goal, to make an impact and expand the Kingdom of God!
7. Share the Gospel. And lastly, of course, to share the Gospel with the nations. To tell people --from far and wide - about the saving grace of Christ!

Pastor John

Sunday School

Sunday School at Bethel will begin on Sunday, August 25.
It will run from 10:30-11:15.

Why go to Sunday School?

- Sunday school teaches the gospel of Jesus Christ and provides a foundation for understanding Christian teachings and the Bible.
- Sunday school can help with spiritual growth through small-group Bible study and examples from teachers and class members.
- Sunday school can help children develop important values like respect, honesty, kindness, and love. It can also help instill a sense of responsibility and service towards others, which can guide attendees in their daily lives.
- Sunday school can help develop a community of believers and provide a place to feel less alone.
- Sunday school can be a practical way to be involved with others and exercise gifts given by the Holy Spirit.

The curriculum we use here at Bethel is the Answers in Genesis. Below is a synopsis of what the curriculum is about.

Answers in Genesis is an apologetics ministry dedicated to enabling Christians to defend their faith and to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ effectively. The Bible—the “history book of the universe”—provides a reliable, eyewitness account of the beginning of all things and can be trusted to tell the truth in all areas as it touches on. Therefore, we are able to use it to help us make sense of this present world. When properly understood, the “evidence” confirms the biblical account.

Bethel is here to walk beside you as parents to help your students grow and develop their faith. Can't wait to fill our classrooms with students from ages 3K-adults.





Sun., 4th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room
 9:30 a.m. Worship– Communion
 Profession of Faith
 Covenant Partner Reception
 Following the service: Fellowship
 Sunday School meeting in the Cafe

6th-12th Renae Vacation
 Tue., 6th 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
 7th-8th Alto Fair
 7th-8th Offices Closed
 Judi Vacation

Sun., 11th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room
 9:30 a.m. Worship
 Following the service: Deacons Meeting
 Fellowship

Mon., 12th 8:30 a.m. Care Team Meeting
 Tue., 13th 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
 12:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Potluck
 Wed., 14th First day of school for Rosendale-Brandon
 15th-20th Pastor John & Leesa vacation

Sun., 18th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room
 9:30 a.m. Worship
 Special offering-Bible League
 Following the service: Fellowship
 6:00 p.m. Men's Ministry

Mon., 19th Beacon Items Due
 Tue., 20th 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
 Thu., 22nd 5:45 p.m. Executive Meeting
 6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting

Sun., 25th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room
 9:30 a.m. Worship
 Covenant Partner Reception
 Baptism
 Following the service: Sunday School Start
 Deacons Meeting
 Fellowship

Tue., 27th 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting
 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
 Wed., 28th 6:00 p.m. Jr High Youth Group
 7:00 p.m. Choir Kick Off
 7:30 p.m. Sr High Youth Group

Lift

4th Bob Winkel
 11th Floyd Smit
 18th Harley Coehoorn
 25th Ken Beekman

Sound

4th Harley Coehoorn
 11th Merwin Kimble
 18th Kelly VandeZande
 25th Harley Coehoorn

Greeters

4th Dan Brown
 11th Jack Theyerl
 18th Byron Navis
 25th Brian Brown

Liturgist

4th Sandy VandeZande
 11th Karen Redeker
 18th Jen Post
 25th Amanda Hiemstra

Nursery

4th Lena Arndt &
 Cameron Hiemstra
 11th Mac Mattheis
 18th Cole Arndt & Nariah Lind
 25th Danica Riedeman

Fellowship

4th Torrie Grade
 11th Jon Post
 18th Ed Montsma
 25th Lynn DeBoer

DVD Delivery

4th Karen Redeker
 11th Charlene Kamphuis
 18th Rosanne Bresser
 25th Jeanette Winkel



1st	Mason Lind	18th	Harley Jo Block
2nd	Connie Blank		Merwin Kimble
	Gerri Buteyn		Blaise Post
	Jacob Kamphuis		Kari Youngwirth
3rd	Willa Wiedeman		Tony & Pam Sauer
4th	Linda Sippel		Austin & Sammi Hiemstra
	Ardis Redeker	19th	Brian & Lori Madigan
5th	Avry Henning	20th	Kyle Leusink
6th	Mary Kimble		Phil & Carmen Laper
	Tammy Martinek		Pat & Teresa Schmuhl
7th	Keith Krohn	21st	Heidi Stanczyk
	Jayden Redeker		Troy & Toni Newbury
8th	John Vander Plas	22nd	Charlene Kamphuis
	Bruce & Marilyn Belmer		Steve Little
9th	Amanda Hiemstra	24th	Ken Kuik
	Kelly VandeZande		Brian & Torrie Grade
	Gerrit Mulder	25th	David Grade
	Rick & Karen Redeker		Orval & Pat Bronkhorst
10th	Nariah Lind		Dale & Dawn Henning
13th	Tim Wellhouse		Scott & Lori VandeBerg
14th	Nick & Jennifer Redeker	26th	Shannie Tank
15th	Logan Gunnink		Steve Beekman
	Ann Zabel		Jon & Jenni Post
	Dan & Emily Beekman	28th	Mike & Heather Wegner
16th	Carla Gunnink	29th	Rosemary Pike
	Ken Margers		Alvira Jurjens
		30th	Marilyn Belmer
		31st	Sharon Bos
			Shelly Hiemstra
			Parker Laper

New To Our Family

We have exciting news as our church family is growing.

On August 4, 2024, we will have three young people making their Profession of Faith after having gone through the mentoring program at Bethel. They are Kaiden Beltezore, and Lawson & Levi Phillips. We will also welcome into our church family through Covenant Partnership, Julie Brown.

On August 25, 2024 we will be welcoming Josh & Jennifer Erdahl through Covenant Partnership and also baptizing their son, Thomas Joshua.

This is a great time to have growth in God's church through commitment in belief in Jesus Christ. Welcome to all these new additions to our congregation.



"The God Who Sees"
A six session Bible study

Bethel Sr. Choir invites you to join us this fall as we bring joyful praises to God. All are welcome from high school to any "mature" age! We practice Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary and sing the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month during our worship service. In December we will perform a Christmas cantata on Sunday, December 15 at 3:00 p.m. along with the Sunday School Christmas program and again on Sunday, December 22 for the morning worship. Our first practices are Wednesday, August 28 and September 4.

Music is a collection of sounds that express ideas and emotions. Music brings people together to produce wonderful harmonies and expressions of joy and sorrow. Throughout Scripture, we are instructed to praise the Lord using our voices by singing, using harps, lyres, cymbals, and trumpets. We are to continuously praise God through music – showing Him our love, thanksgiving, and praise for all Jesus has done for us!

Ephesians 5:19-20 CEV 'When you meet together, sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, as you praise the Lord with all your heart. Always use the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to thank God the Father for everything'.

Please join the choir and keep singing, praising, rejoicing our Lord and Savior, Jesus!

LeesaTilstra

In the Bible, we read that Hagar gave God the name El Roi, "the God who sees," when she recognized that the Lord had seen her in her plight. In this six-session video Bible study, Kathie Lee Gifford and Joanne Moody delve into the lives of five people in the Bible who, like us, wondered if God saw them in their distress. Through the stories of Hagar, Ruth, Boaz, David, and Mary of Magdala, you will discover that even in the darkest times, God constantly watches over you. He has promised to never abandon you, and he empowers you to fulfill the purpose that he has for your life.

This Bible study will start on Tuesday, September 10 at 6:30 p.m. and run for the following 5 Tuesdays until October 15. We will meet at the home of Leesa Tilstra (the parsonage). Please join this study by signing up on the sign-up sheet on the information table or by letting Leesa know that you plan to come. The study guides will be \$10.00 each. Each week, we will watch a 20-minute video and discuss questions as a group. You will have 5 personal study days to continue reading and answer questions.

Please come, invite friends and family, and learn more about the God who really does see YOU!



Thank you to all the donors who came to the Red Cross Blood Drive on July 16th. Fifty-one units were collected. Also thanks to Ardis Redeker for assisting in the lunch area, and to Bethel Church for the use of the fellowship hall. Brandon's next drive will be Tuesday, November 19th, 2024 from 12:00-6:00 p.m. Rosendale's next drive is Tuesday, September 10th, 2024 from 1:00-6:00 p.m..

Judith Henker & Sue VandeKolk
Co-coordinators

Consistory 2024

Elders

Lynn DeBoer (24) 920-948-0380
Ed Montsma (24) 920-948-4578
Torrie Grade (25) 920-948-7419
Jon Post (25) 920-960-1402
Merwin Kimble (26) 920-517-1042
Dallas VandeSlunt (26) 920-229-2337

Deacons

Dan Brown (24) 920-204-2125
Jack Theyerl (24) 920-979-3918
Brian Brown (25) 920-204-2663
Jared Hoinacki (25) 920-948-0289
Byron Navis (26) 920-597-0203
Jay Smit (26) 920-858-1739

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

John Tilstra, President
Lynn DeBoer, VP
Ed Montsma, Clerk
Byron Navis, Deacon Chr.
Dan Brown, Treasurer

TREASURERS

Dan Brown, Main Account
Randi Turner, Mission

PASTORAL/STAFF

Lynn DeBoer
Byron Navis, Deacon Chair
Dan Brown, Treasurer
Ed Montsma, Clerk
Deanna Theyerl
Mary Kimble

BUILDING

Brian Brown, Chr.
Jared Hoinacki
Karl Rens
Phil Laper
Byron Navis
Jay Smit

ELECTION/SELECTION

Lynn DeBoer
Ed Montsma
Torrie Grade
Jon Post
Dan Brown
Jack Theyerl
Brian Brown
Jared Hoinacki

WORSHIP PILLAR

Jack Theyerl, Co-Chr.
Deanna Theyerl, Co-Chr.
Caleb Riedeman
Danica Riedeman
Leesa Tilstra
Gary Henker
Shelly Hiemstra
Dianne Kastein
Merwin Kimble

MISSION PILLAR

Ed Montsma, Chr.
Dallas VandeSlunt, Elder Rep
Dione Kimble
Ron Mulder
Cathy Rens
Rick DeBoer
Dan Brown

CARE TEAM

Sharon Bos, Chr.
Sally Kok
Darlene Kamphuis
Ann Mulder
Jane Brown
Mary Ann Smit
Connie Blank
Nancy DeBoer
Merwin Kimble, Elder Rep.

PULPIT SUPPLY

Lynn DeBoer
Ed Montsma, Clerk

EDUCATION PILLAR

Gerri Buteyn, Chr.
Torrie Grade, Elder Rep.
Jenni Post
Lori Coehoorn
Angela Arndt
Rena Lind
Jen Post
Jon Post
Nick Kamphuis

COMMUNICATION PILLAR

Pastor John, Chr
Judi Post
Rena Lind
Jon Post
Nick Kamphuis

YOUTH GROUP SPONSORS

Dallas VandeSlunt
Nick Kamphuis
Anna Lind
Bill Lind
Dawson Drews
Julie Brown
Brody Gerrits
Ruby Flegner

CARE ELDERS

Les Hiemstra
Shelly Hiemstra
Linda Smit
Herb Beekman
Lynn DeBoer, Liaison

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M, T, Th: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

W, F: 8 a.m. - Noon

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