

Bethel *Beacon*

BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON, WI

OCTOBER 2024 – VOLUME 38

GOD OF ALL
Seasons
Celebrate *Fall* with us!

Pastor's Pen

The following article was written by Robert Rothwell, published in *Tabletalk*, Ligonier Ministries, October 2023.

On October 31, much of the culture will be focused on candy and things that go bump in the night. Protestants, however, have something far more significant to celebrate on October 31. It's Reformation Day, which commemorates what was perhaps the greatest move of God's Spirit since the days of the Apostles. But what is the significance of Reformation Day, and how should we consider the events it commemorates?

At the time, few would have suspected that the sound of a hammer striking the castle church door in Wittenberg, Germany, would soon be heard around the world and lead ultimately to the greatest transformation of Western society since the apostles first preached the Gospel throughout the Roman empire. Martin Luther's nailing of his Ninety-Five Theses to the church door on October 31, 1517, provoked a debate that culminated finally in what we now call the Protestant Reformation.

Martin Luther is one of the most significant figures God has raised up since that time. This law student turned Augustinian monk became the center of a great controversy after his theses were copied and distributed throughout Europe. Initially protesting the pope's attempt to sell salvation, Luther's study of Scripture soon led him to oppose the church of Rome on issues including the primacy of the Bible over church tradition and how we are found righteous in the sight of God.

This last issue is probably Luther's most significant contribution to Christian theology. Though preached clearly in the New Testament, the medieval bishops and priests had largely forgotten the truth that our own good works cannot merit God's favor. Salvation is by grace alone through faith alone, and good works result from our faith, they are not added to it as the grounds for our right standing in the Lord's eyes (Eph. 2:8-10).

Justification, God's declaration that we are not guilty, forgiven of sin, and righteous in His sight comes because through our faith alone in Christ alone, the Father imputes, or reckons to our account, the perfect righteousness of Christ (2 Cor. 5:21).

Martin Luther's rediscovery of this truth led to a whole host of other church and societal reforms and much of what we take for granted in the West would have likely been impossible had he never graced the scene. Luther's translation of the Bible into German put the Word of God in the hands of the people, and today Scripture is available in the vernacular language of many countries, enabling lay people to study it with profit. He reformed the Latin mass by putting the liturgy in the common tongue so that non-scholars could hear and understand the preached word of God and worship the Lord with clarity. Luther lifted the unbiblical ban on marriage for the clergy and by his own teaching and example radically transformed the institution itself. He recaptured the biblical view of the priesthood of all believers, showing all people that their work had purpose and dignity because in it they can serve their Creator.

Today, Luther's legacy lives on in the creeds and confessions of Protestant bodies worldwide. As we consider his importance this Reformation Day, let us equip ourselves to be knowledgeable proclaimers and defenders of biblical truth. May we be eager to preach the gospel of God to the world and thereby spark a new reformation of church and culture.

Pastor John

Renae's Thoughts

"Harmony is as refreshing as the dew."
Psalm 133:3

In a recent devotional that I read, the title was "Better Together in Christ." In this devotional the psalmist David reminds us that it is so good when God's people work together in unity. David actually stated that harmony is refreshing.

Sharing our faith together as Christians is so unifying. We should not be divided by our own selfish ambitions but instead to have a goal of believers uniting in one. When we work together as one, it is such a beautiful thing.

As our youth activities are well under way, we as a church have the responsibility to unite and create a bond with the youth of this church and community. Our youth have seen so much division in our country and our world. That's why we as a church need to continue to thrive for harmony. We need to be the safe and calm place where others come to relieve some of the stress, anxiety, fear, and their questions of the unknown. As different as we may be individually, we can unite as a church congregation and show the youth what a group that works in harmony for our Lord Jesus Christ looks and feels like. Yeah, we may all not agree all the time, but we need to remember that we all agree on one Lord and Savior that we have.

We want our youth to feel refreshed and reminded that we are here for them through thick and thin. We need to unite and wrap our arms around them and give them the comfort and understanding that they need. Please continue to pray for our students.

We have been blessed by so many that have stepped up to help with Sunday School, Adventures Club, Bible School, and our Youth Groups. We all need to pray for these individuals who have answered the call to be disciples of God and show our students the importance of Jesus Christ in their lives.

Harmony truly is a beautiful gift. A gift that can change the lives of so many, especially our youth who are seeking to find Him. Better together in Christ is something we all need to continue to work for.

Renae Lind
Youth Director



Seniors Fall Trip

The Bethel Care Team would like to invite all church and community members, ages 55 and over, to join us on Wednesday, October 9th for our Fall Outing! The luncheon will be at Langford's Pub on the Golf Courses of Lawsonia at the Green Lake Conference Center at 11:45 a.m. We will be meeting at the church parking lot at 11:00 a.m. and transportation will be provided as needed.

We will be ordering lunch from a limited menu of 8-10 items. Cost of lunch (including meal, drink, tax and tip) will be \$20. Payment can be made on the day of the event.

Please sign up on the sheet in the information center at the back of church by Sunday, October 6th if you are able to join us or call Sharon Bos at 920-382-2615.



Meals and Messages Adventures Club

For 3K-5th Grade

**When: Oct. 14, Oct. 21, Oct. 28,
Nov. 4 & Nov. 11**

**Where: Bethel Church of
Brandon**

Time: 5:30 - 7:00 P.M.

**Come join us in tasting God's
goodness through the Bible.
Learn Bible Truths through skits,
food stations, art stations, game
stations and songs.**



**CONSISTORY &
COMMITTEES**

Consistory, August 22, 2024

- New members, Julie Brown, Josh & Jennifer Erdahl & baptism of Thomas Joshua Erdahl.
- Lawson & Levi Phillips Profession of Faith
- Sunday School start August 25, 2024
- Go & Tell Course starts September 8.
- Stained glass windows are installed.
- Looking into carpeting for the basement
- Looking into the purchase of the Christian Home from SSM
- Pastoral & Staff Scheduled in September
- Emergency Workers recognized and Sleep In Heavenly Peace on September 8
- Bible Study Led by Leesa Tilstra start on August 26
- Mission Pillar donated \$1000 to the Alto Fair for quartet
- Election/Selection asking for elder/deacon slates
- Outing for 75+ scheduled for October 9

 **OCTOBER**

Lift

- 6 Ken Beekman
- 13 Ed Montsma
- 20 Rick Redeker
- 27 Bob Winkel

Sound

- 6 Harley Coehoorn
- 13 Merwin Kimble
- 20 Kelly VandeZande
- 27 Harley Coehoorn

Greeter

- 6 Lynn DeBoer
- 13 Dallas VandeSlunt
- 20 Merwin Kimble
- 27 Dan Brown

Liturgy

- 6 Amanda Hiemstra
- 13 Mark Kastein
- 20 Shelly Hiemstra
- 27 Sandy VandeZande

Children's Message

- 6 Randi Turner
- 20 Heather Wegner

Nursery

- 6 Cole Arndt & Nariah Lind
- 13 Danica Riedeman
- 20 Sadie Newbury
- 27 Rosanne Bresser

Fellowship

- 6 Brian Brown
- 13 Jared Hoinacki
- 20 Jay Smit
- 27 Torrie Grade

DVD Delivery

- 6 Shelly Hiemstra
- 13 Karen Redeker
- 20 Charlene Kamphuis
- 27 Rosanne Bresser



Mission Statement:

To demonstrate God's love in a tangible way to children in need around the world, and together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ and make disciples of the nation.

Since 1993, over 220 million boys and girls in more than 170 countries and territories have experienced God's love through the power of simple shoebox gifts from Operation Christmas Child instead of Angel Tree. Samaritan's Purse works with local churches and ministry partners to deliver the gifts and share the life-changing Good News of Jesus Christ.

This year Bethel Church will be partnering with Operation Christmas Child. Our goal is to pack 50 shoeboxes (25 boy and 25 girl boxes) and we need your help. There are sign up sheets in the back of the church of supplies needed for this wonderful event. Please have items in church by October 27. There will be bins in the Information Center for your items.

We are planning a service project day to prepare these boxes, fellowship together, and show students how to share the love of Jesus with others around the world.

On November 3 during the Sunday School hour, we will be packing these boxes. As a church we need you to help our students in the assembling of these boxes, praying over these boxes, and fellowshiping with the students of our church. After the assembly we will be sharing a meal together, which will be provided.

This event will not only change the lives of those who will receive them but all those who help assemble these special gifts.

Hope to see you there!!!!



A big thank you to the helpers who served a meal at the MASA (Mission Aviation Support Association) tent on July 20th at the EAA convention grounds. Also a thank you to those who donated delicious bars and cookies. We served a total of 85 for the Saturday luncheon prior to the official start of the EAA Fly-in. We had beautiful weather for our 4th year of this mission outreach. If anyone is interested in learning about this outreach or helping next year, please contact a member of the Mission Pillar.



Tue., 1st	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering 6:30 p.m. Bible Study, parsonage
Wed., 2nd	6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Sun., 6th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship-Communion 10:30 a.m. Fellowship: Sunday School all ages Adventure Club helpers meeting at the coffee bar 6:00 p.m. Go & Tell Course
Tue., 8th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 12:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering Potluck/Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Bible Study, parsonage
Wed., 9th	10:00 a.m. Care Team Meeting 11:00 a.m. 75+ Fall Outing 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
11th-13th	Junior High Silver Birch Retreat
Sun., 13th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fellowship; Sunday School all ages Deacon's Meeting 6:00 p.m. Go & Tell Course 6:30 p.m. Bestway Drivers Ed Class
Mon. 14th	5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue., 15th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering 6:30 p.m. Bible Study, Parsonage
Wed., 16th	6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Thu., 17th	5:45 p.m. Executive Meeting 6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting
Sun., 20th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship—Offering Gideons 10:30 a.m. Fellowship; Sunday School all ages 6:00 p.m. Men's Ministry 6:30 p.m. Bestway Drivers Ed Class
Mon., 21st	Beacon Items due 5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue., 22nd	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Wed., 23rd	9:10 a.m. 55+ Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Sun., 27th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fellowship; Sunday School all ages Deacon's Meeting 6:00 p.m. Go & Tell Course
Mon., 28th	5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue., 29th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering 6:00 p.m. Young Adults Bible Study
Wed., 30th	6:00 p.m. Jr & Sr High Persecution Night 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice



OCTOBER

Birthdays and Anniversaries

1st	Brian & Pam Beekman	12th	Danielle Schmuhl
2nd	Matilda Arndt		Kyle & Jamie VandeZande
	Rhett Beekman	13th	Janet DeBoer
	Mike Wegner	14th	Cathy Rens
	Jack & Deanna Theyerl		Justin & Nicole Beekman
3rd	Bill Post		Brian & Melissa Lavota
	Melody Coehoorn	15th	Josh & Jennifer Erdahl
	Jimmy & Kaelyn Huebschman	17th	Levin VandeBerg
	Jay & Danelle Smit	18th	Karen Redeker
4th	Rosanne Bresser	20th	Scott VandeBerg
	Art VandeBerg (90)		Charlie Blank
	Doralee Coehoorn		Duane & Sally Kok
5th	Craig & Jodi Mulder	21st	John Luczak III
6th	Donna Schmuhl	22nd	Judith Henker
8th	Justin Beekman		Ed & Kathy Montsma
	Dave Freiberg	23rd	Robin Gunnink
9th	Grayden Riedeman	25th	Mel Gunnink
	Mike & Kathy Owens		Corey & Lori Dahlke
10th	David Bresser	26th	Amy Redeker
	Bekah Hiemstra	27th	Ken Smit
	Kay Hiemstra		Brian Youngwirth
	Allen Coehoorn	28th	Kevin Beekman
	Jeanette Winkel	31st	Jordan Kastein
11th	Lisa Kamphuis		Jared Kok
			Melanie Brunsdon



Thank you for food, cards, phone calls, and rides to church. I really appreciated every one who helped me the last 10 weeks. Lorraine VandeZande

Bethel Church

Thank you so much for the \$50 Piggly Wiggly gift cards, milk, bread, peanut butter and jelly that was given to a local family who were in need of food. The family was very appreciative of this gift in their difficult times. Thank you for being a blessing in our community. Danica Riedeman

Thank you very much for the beautiful gray 'sunshine' blanket I received on my first chemo appointment. It looks very nice in my living room-matches my colors and will enjoy snuggling in it with the cool weather coming. Thank you for your thoughtfulness and your continued prayers are appreciated. Nancy Dille

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, VP
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
Mary Ann Smit
Connie Blank
Nancy DeBoer
Ann Zabel
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
Renae Lind
Jen Post
Jon Post
Nick Kamphuis

COMMUNICATION PILLAR

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

YOUTH GROUP SPONSORS

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

CARE ELDERS

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

Bethel Church

305 W Main St

Brandon, WI 53919

920-346-5810

www.bethelbrandon.org

Find us on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram

John Tilstra, Pastor

pastor@bethelbrandon.org

Office: 920-346-5810 Ext. 12

Cell 815-238-8514

Rena Lind, Youth Director

youthministry@bethelbrandon.org

Office: 920-346-5810 Ext. 16

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

W, F: 8 a.m. - Noon

Cell 920-960-2852

Judi Post, Secretary

secretary@bethelbrandon.org

Office 920-346-5810 Ext. 10

M - Th: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

F: 9 a.m. - Noon

Cell 920-979-3908

Cheryl Leusink, Accountant

leusinkcl@gmail.com

920-597-0636

Custodians

jasonssmit438@yahoo.com

Jason Smit Cell 920-858-1739

Danelle Smit Cell 920-851-8624

