

Bethel *Beacon*

**BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON, WI
NOVEMBER 2024 – VOLUME 38**



Pastor's Pen

Psalm 106:1 says, O give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever! This is an amazing verse, because Psalm 106 is all about Israel's deliberate and constant rebellion against the Lord. The psalmist writes in verse 6, Both we and our fathers have sinned: we have committed iniquity; we have done wickedness. Verse 7 tells us how stubborn Israel has been in her rebellion. In the verses that follow, we see a baffled psalmist because Israel has witnessed the saving and sustaining power of God in their history; He has acted with grace and love towards them by rescuing them when they did remember Him at their many "eleventh hours." Verses 46 and 47 state, Nevertheless, he looked upon their distress, when he heard their cry. For their sake he remembered his covenant and relented according to the abundance of his steadfast love.

He relented from destroying Israel, because of His steadfast love for them. His steadfast love.

As often as God's people have rebelled against Him; as often as God's people have wandered into sin, God has never taken His love away from them. As stubborn as God's people have been in their sin, His love for them is even more stubborn. It is God's stubborn love that eventually conquers His people.

That stubborn love of God is ultimately found in Jesus Christ. His life, death, and resurrection is God's steadfast, stubborn love for you. Sin does not love you, but God does. Sin wants to destroy you, but God wants to give you an abundant and everlasting life. No matter how far you have fallen into sin, child of God, God's love will rescue you and conquer you.

This Thanksgiving when you gather with family and friends, give thanks to God for His steadfast, stubborn love for you.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, from everlasting to everlasting! And let all the people say, "Amen." Praise the Lord! - Psalm 106:48.

Pastor John

Renae's Thoughts

We sing about it and we say it often, but do we fully understand the goodness of our God? This was a topic that we covered in the Sr. High Youth Group.

There is not a single person who hasn't experienced outrageous, lavish, unexpected, underserved goodness from God. We experience His goodness every single day. They are poured out over us constantly. We should declare it with total confidence because of one unchanging truth: God is GOOD!!!

1 Chronicles 16:34, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good."

Psalms 34:8, "Taste and see that the Lord is good!"

Psalms 100:4-5, "Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise! Give thanks to Him and praise His name!!! For the Lord is good and His love is eternal, and His faithfulness endures to all generations."

God is the original definition of good. Goodness comes naturally for Him. God is not just the greatest being; He is the best.

Have you ever thought of God as generous toward you? Can you believe that when He looks at us with all of our baggage, all our junk, all of our hang-ups, He wants us to come to Him. He is running after us. He calls us His children.

God is for us. He has our back. We are the object of His affection, and because of His divine nature, all that He expresses comes from an expansive, overwhelming, God-sized generosity towards us.

But maybe we can't always go there. Maybe our circumstances are so mundane, our life is so hard, and our options so few that saying "God is good" feels hollow. Are parts of our life hard, messy, or unexpected? Of course! But the fact that we are here—we are tremendously blessed. We have shelter, food, and our needs are met. God has supplied us with everything we need and more.

Do we experience tough times? You betcha. God uses those hard times to teach us and to learn to trust Him. Hard times help us learn to give up trying to do things our way and start doing things God's way, which is the best way. Anything that brings us closer to God is always a good thing.

God is good to everyone. Every relationship, every job, every taste of food that pleases us, every birdsong, every friend, every flower and field are a reminder of His compassion for us. Look in every corner of the world and every part of your day and you will find the overflow of His generosity. We just need to stop and look for it.

Psalms 107 reads, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His faithful love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the Lord proclaim that He has redeemed them from the hand of the foe..."

God rescues those who are searching for something or someone that will satisfy their souls. When we cry to Him, He is there to help us. He's been there for you more than you will ever know. No matter the situation you may be facing, God is the one to take it to.

Our God is so good that He gave us an escape from hell. He sent His one and only Son to take our sins away. That is goodness. That is love.

When we feel like the world is crumbling apart and we question God's goodness. Stop. Everything that we are experiencing is leading us to have a better relationship with Christ so we can truly experience God's goodness.

Our God is truly GOOD!!!!

Renae Lind, Youth Director

November

Sat., 2nd	Time Change, Fall Back
Sun., 3rd	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Sunday School Preparing Shoeboxes Fellowship 6:00 p.m. Go & Tell Course 6:30 p.m. Bestway Drivers Ed Class
Mon. 4th	5:30 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue., 5th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00 p.m. Senior Gathering 6:30 p.m. "The God Who Sees" Bible Study, Parsonage
Wed., 6th	9:10 a.m. 55+ Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Cantata/Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
7th-10th	Pastor John Midwest Network Conference
Sun., 10th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship— Ray Tilstra 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages Deacon's Meeting Fellowship 6:30 p.m. Bestway Drivers Ed Class
Mon., 11th	5:30 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue., 12th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 12:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering Potluck & Fellowship 6:30 p.m. "The God Who Sees" Bible Study, Parsonage
Wed., 13th	6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Cantata/Choir Practice 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Sat., 16th	Fellowship Hall in Use
Sun., 17th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship— Ray Tilstra 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages Fellowship
Mon., 18th	6:00 p.m. Men's Ministry Beacon Items due 6:30 p.m. Elder's Meeting
Tue., 19th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 12-6 p.m. Community Blood Drive
Wed., 20th	6:30 p.m. "The God Who Sees" Bible Study, Parsonage 9:10 a.m. 55+ Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Cantata/Choir Practice 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Thu., 21st	5:45 p.m. Executive Meeting 6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting
Sun., 24th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship -Thanksgiving Offering 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages 3k-5th Grade Christmas Practice Deacons Meeting Fellowship
Tue., 26th	6:00 p.m. Tribute Quartet Concert 10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00 p.m. Senior Gathering 6:30 p.m. "The God Who Sees" Bible Study, Parsonage
Wed., 27th	Bulletin Printed 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Eve Service
28th & 29th	Offices Closed
28th-Dec. 2nd	Pastor Vacation



November

1st Drew Gunnink
 Deb Pinnow
 Owen Miller
 2nd Randy TerBeest
 3rd Dan Kastein
 Anna Lind
 4th Jesse & Alex Tipton
 5th Parker Hiemstra
 Cheryl Leusink
 6th Landen Bos
 7th Glen Belmer
 8th Brady Madigan
 Kaiden Beltezore
 Sydney Leusink
 Olivia Schliep
 9th Floyd Smit
 Emily Leusink
 Elliot Mulder
 Randy & Jean TerBeest
 John & LaRae Vander Plas
 10th Mallory Kastein
 Dan & Amy Redeker
 11th Michael Kastein
 Pat Schmuhl
 Stephanie Henning

12th Jim Kamphuis
 Carmen Laper
 13th Emily Beekman
 Jaden Gosse
 Jeff & Kim Miller
 15th Mel Boomsma
 Bret Henning
 16th Tyler Hiemstra
 Chris & Ashley Weideman
 18th Austin Hiemstra
 Brian Erickson
 Tiffany Derksen
 26th Kathy Montsma
 27th Jon Post
 Karl Rens
 John & Elizabeth Tilstra
 28th Jon Gunnink
 Kim Kamphuis
 30th Brian Madigan
 Bennett Slager
 Bill Lind
 Mel & Robin Gunnink

Lift
 3 Floyd Smit
 10 Harley Coehoorn
 17 Ken Beekman
 24 Ed Montsma
Sound
 3 Merwin Kimble
 10 Kelly VandeZande
 17 Harley Coehoorn
 24 Merwin Kimble
Greeter
 3 Jack Theyerl
 10 Byron Navis
 17 Brian Brown
 24 Jared Hoinacki
Liturgy
 3 Karen Redeker
 10 Jen Post
 17 Amanda Hiemstra
 24 Mark Kastein
Children's Message
 3 Julie Brown
 17 Danica Riedeman
Nursery
 3 Lori Coehoorn
 10 Lena Arndt &
 Cameron Hiemstra
 17 Mac Mattheis
 24 Cole Arndt &
 Nariah Lind
Fellowship
 3 Jon Post
 10 Ed Montsma
 17 Lynn DeBoer
 24 Dallas VandeSlunt
DVD Delivery
 3 Jeanette Winkel
 10 Shelly Hiemstra
 17 Karen Redeker
 24 Charlene Kamphuis



THANK
YOU

I want to express my sincerest thanks for your lovely gift. Your generosity, thoughtfulness, prayers, and support are so very appreciated. I feel blessed to have you all in my life.

Renae Lind
Youth Director



Tuesday, November 19 will be the next Community Blood Drive at Bethel from 12:00-6:00 p.m. To make a reservation go to redcross.org/give-blood.html



Veterans Day salute

After fighting in World War II, Luther Bergeland wasn't done serving his country — or his God. The Minnesota farm boy, who "came back to faith" during combat, later served for decades as a military chaplain. For his actions in the field in Korea, Bergeland was awarded the Bronze Star. Then during Vietnam, he served in the Army Reserves in Colorado, tasked with informing family members about soldiers' deaths.

Despite the challenges, Bergeland embraces the special role he was able to play for four decades, sharing Jesus and his love with countless people. "That's what we did, preaching and reaching out to people," he told a reporter. "I always liked the military very much because it just did a lot for me, and I hope I did a lot for it."

On Veterans Day, we salute Bergeland and all the men and women who selflessly



Save the Date.

Invite Friends & Family.

Fellowship following the Concert.



SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2024 @ 6PM

Bethel Church

305 W. Main St, Brandon, WI 53919

Freewill Offering

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

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BETHEL CHURCH