



Pastors:

Jake Dyrhaug

Erika Buller

Bethel Beacon

♥ B E . T H E . L o v e

B E . T H E . L i g h t

November 2020

Volume 56 Issue 10

Bethel Lutheran Mission Statement

Bethel Lutheran Church is a community of believers called by God to invite all people into a living relationship with Jesus Christ, build them up in the faith, and send them out to be witnesses in word and deed to the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Give Thanks

A major theme for November each year is giving thanks, or Thanksgiving. An article I once found put it well... "It has often been pointed out that thinking precedes thanking. When we are presented with a gift, it is because we think of its significance and meaning that we are led to express our appreciation." (The Prairie Overcomer) This reminds me of a poem, author unknown:

"Thank God for dirty dishes, They have a tale to tell;
While others may go hungry We've eaten very well.
With home, health and happiness I shouldn't want to fuss,
By the stack of evidence God's been very good to us!"

In a month when we feast with the amazing Thanksgiving dinners, generally leaving a few dirty dishes, some may not be able to gather this year in the same ways as previous years. But just in general, what are the thoughts that lead to thanks for you? Think of all God is—provider of all good gifts, gracious, merciful, forgiving of our sins who sent us Jesus and empowers us by the Holy Spirit. God is the giver of all blessings, material and spiritual. The spiritual gifts are greater even than the material.

In the book of Romans, the Apostle Paul traces the downside of where humankind went wrong somewhere back in our collective past, writing, "...When they knew God...(they) glorified him not as God, neither were they thankful." (Romans 1:21). A state of thankfulness does not always come so easily.

What are you thankful for today? Think of those things in life which give you joy. Maybe it's a sunrise, maybe the love of family, or healing of some kind in body, mind or spirit. Thank God for those things. Many times it has been said that we are not always thankful because we don't stop to think. As Psalm 105:1 says, "O give thanks to the Lord, who is good...whose steadfast love endures forever."

With all the construction and remodeling almost complete, many years in the making, there is so much we are thankful for at Bethel as a congregation as we envision what it means to be a faith community in Christ. With COVID, we have also found by necessity new ways to be in community, through the telephone and computer, through outdoor worship and other means.

And soon we will celebrate being together back in the church building, though some things will be a little different. Watch for a letter coming soon with the dates and times of worship and other details. Keep checking our website, newsletter and Facebook page for the latest about Wednesday School, Confirmation and Adult Classes.

Thank God for all the things that have a tale to tell in our lives. When we pause to think, we have cause to thank! That doesn't mean there won't be difficult days we journey through together. But let us thank God for all good gifts, material and spiritual today!

In Christ,

Pastor Jake Dyrhaug



Bethel's theme/word for November is "Giving". What does it bring to mind? In the month of November, there are many opportunities where we can "give". We "give" the clock a turn back because Daylight Savings Time ends. We are "given" the privilege to vote for the next U.S. President. We "give" Veterans our gratitude for their service. We "give" thanks for family and food as we celebrate Thanksgiving. We are given so much. Last Sunday, Guest Pastor Jessica Daum stated this abundance comes from God. So in return, thank God for what you have even in this difficult and trying time of COVID-19. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 states: "Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus".



Have a good November!

Board of Stewardship

We are in need of "Dollars for Jesus" to sustain food/gas vouchers. Donations are accepted anytime. Just put money in an envelope with the words "Dollars for Jesus" on it. You can drop it in the Sunday collection boxes, or drop it off in the church mailbox. Thank you!



- You are invited to beautify our church sanctuary for Christmas by sponsoring a Poinsettia plant in honor of your loved one(s). The cost is \$15 per plant.
- Complete the form online at www.bethelwahpeton.com/pof (there is a link on the Homepage of our website) or call the office at 642-4472, or mail in the attached order form to place your order.
- Payment can be sent in the mail, or drop off in the church mailbox.
- Orders need to be in prior to Wednesday, November 25, 2020.



You are invited to beautify our church sanctuary for Christmas by sponsoring a Poinsettia plant in honor of your loved one(s). The cost is \$15 per plant.

Complete this form and return it (along with payment) to the church office prior to Wednesday, November 25, 2020.

of Poinsettia Plants: _____

Your Name: _____

Name(s) of people being honored:

Check one:

_____	<input type="checkbox"/> in memory	<input type="checkbox"/> in honor
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> in memory	<input type="checkbox"/> in honor
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> in memory	<input type="checkbox"/> in honor
_____	<input type="checkbox"/> in memory	<input type="checkbox"/> in honor

(Please write "Poinsettia Plant" in the memo section of your check.)



NO DRIVE-IN WORSHIP
Sunday, November 1st
November 8th

Worship will be
ONLINE ONLY
At 10:00 am

Welcome Home

November 15, 2020
In-Person Worship at 10:00 am
(Capacity-100)

November 18, 2020
In-Person Worship at 6:45 pm
(Capacity-100)

Bethel Lutheran Church
607 6th St N | Wahpeton | MN
701-642-4472
Bethelwahpeton.com



Bethel Lutheran Church

607 6th Street North
Wahpeton, North Dakota 58075
(701) 642-4472
<http://bethelwahpeton.com>

October 27, 2020

Greetings Bethel Lutheran Church family,

We greatly appreciate everyone's patience and adaptability during this time of construction and COVID. We are nearing the end of the construction! We wish we could say the same about COVID, but unfortunately, that is not the case. As construction wraps up in the sanctuary and cleaning is well underway, the leadership of Bethel has been hard at work reimagining what worship can and will look like as we reopen.

Here is the part you've been waiting for. **In-person worship will resume on Sunday, November 15 at 10:00 a.m., followed by a service on Wednesday, November 18 at 6:45 p.m.** Regular worship services on November 1st and 8th will be streamed online via Facebook and the church website at 10:00 a.m. On November 8th, a "virtual tour" of the entire church is being planned so everyone can see all the progress that has been made throughout the construction. Guided tours will also be offered beginning on November 9th. Starting November 4th, you can make your tour reservation by calling the church office or visiting the church website. On November 11th, there will be an instructional video to prepare those who are planning to attend in-person services as to what that will look like and how to enter and exit the church and sanctuary. Please continue to monitor Facebook and the church website for more details on these events. While we are excited to resume in-person worship, please bear in mind that our services will look and feel different, and many of our traditions cannot be done at this time.

Due to current guidelines from the ND Department of Health and the current Risk Level of Richland County, **all services at Bethel will be limited to 100 people and masks/face coverings will be required for anyone entering the building.** If you cannot wear a mask or face covering, please join us in worship online. The streaming of our services via Facebook Live and our website will continue after we resume in-person worship. Currently, we do not plan to take reservations, but we need to hold to the 100-person capacity. Sanitizing will be taking place prior to all services. For this reason, please do not arrive more than 20 minutes before the start of the service. As the county's Risk Level changes, our capacity will also change. For example, if Richland County moves into the high (orange) risk level, our capacity will drop to 50 people. This is a great reason to make sure the office has at least one email address for your household. Email is our quickest and least expensive way to communicate changes with our plans. Please call the office or email betheloffice@bethelwahpeton.com with your email address.

In following recommendations from the Eastern North Dakota Synod and others, the Planning Council has decided that the choir, bell choir, and praise band will not be practicing or participating in services until at least January 2021. There will also be no congregational singing of hymns or liturgy. Communion will be celebrated in a similar fashion to the parking lot services – individual communion cups and wafers will be available as you enter the sanctuary for communion services. The offering collection will be handled touchless, and paper bulletins will no longer be passed out. Bulletins will be available on your mobile device or on the overhead screens. There will be no coffee or fellowship hour between services. This is all subject to change as COVID conditions change in our region.

 **BE.THE.Love**

Bethel Lutheran Church 

As we resume worship in our newly remodeled sanctuary, please keep in mind that not all the construction will be finished by November 15. If doorways are closed or paths blocked, please respectfully stay out of those areas. The south entrance will not be finished yet, and the current plan is to have everyone enter via the north entrance and exit via the east doorway. When you enter the church, please proceed straight to the sanctuary and find your seat. Due to the delay in being able to order the new chairs and a couple of major hurricanes in the Galveston, TX area this summer, the chairs will not arrive in time for our initial reopening. One hundred other chairs will be setup in the sanctuary to allow for social distancing between parties. Hand sanitizer stations have been placed throughout the church.

Instead of ending on the negatives – what we can't do and what won't be available – please remember what we CAN do and what we DO have available. We are able to worship together! Through in-person and online, we are able to come together and worship our loving, grace-filled God, and we have a brand-new sanctuary to do it in!

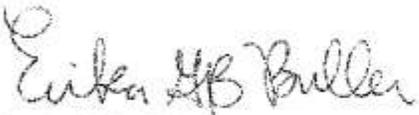
Thank you for your prayers and continued support throughout this entire endeavor.



Kelly J Voss
Executive Director



Pastor Jake Dyrhaug
Senior Pastor



Pastor Erika Buller
Associate Pastor



The Board of Stewardship would like to extend a special thank you to Pastor Jessica Daum for speaking Sunday October 18th. Also thank you to our Bethel Family: Pastors, Staff and Members for the support given during the Fall Campaign “Embracing New Beginnings”. Thank you for your generosity and willingness to give. This will help Bethel carry out its ministry. You definitely demonstrate what it means to BE.THE.Love!

Ruby’s Pantry is looking for volunteers to help set up and distribute food between 4 & 6 pm on the following dates:

November 23 December 28

If you are interested in helping, please contact Inspiration Church at 218-643-8610.

Wahpeton Deli Cards are still available for \$35. Proceeds will help fund the National Youth Gathering. If you would like to purchase one, please contact Lisa Bassingthwaite and she will get one to you.

Our abundance comes from God. Let’s share our abundance with others! The Stewardship Board invites you to participate in “Fill the Trunk” to benefit the Richland Wilkin Food Pantry. On November 15th and November 22nd, drive through Bethel’s North Parking between 11:00 am and 12:00 pm and drop off your donation. Thank you for making this happen!

Thank you to everyone who donated cloth masks for our “Mask Making Mission”. We were able to supply NDSCS with over 100 masks!



FILL THE TRUNK

(with Food and/or Funds)

WHO: All Bethel Members
WHERE: Bethel’s North Parking Lot
WHEN: November 15th and November 22nd
TIME: Between 11:00 am and 12:00 pm
WHY: To benefit the Food Pantry



8am-5pm Monday-Thursday
 8am-3pm Friday
 8am-11am Sunday

**The office will be closed on November 26 & 27.*

Contact Information:

Phone: 701-642-4472	Fax: 701-642-2477
Pastor Jake: 320-733-0257	email: jdyrhaug@bethelwahpeton.com
Pastor Erika: 952-454-6012	email: ebuller@bethelwahpeton.com
Lisa Bassingthwaite: 701-642-4472	email: wschool@bethelwahpeton.com
Lois Fenske: 701-642-4472	email: betheloffice@bethelwahpeton.com
Brian Finnie: 701-642-4472	email: bfinnie@bethelwahpeton.com
Joyce Johnson: 701-642-4472	email: jjohnson@bethelwahpeton.com



REMINDER: Bethel does not notify families of memorials given directly to the church.

The Memorial Committee's main objective is to be the resource for any one person or group of people that would like to give a memorial, honorarium, or commemorate an occasion to Bethel Lutheran Church. It is the committee's responsibility to formulate a catalog of specific items, keep a record of all memorials and to acknowledge those that have given gifts.

If you have any questions regarding memorial items or wish to give a memorial item or honorarium please contact committee members: Bev McRoberts @640-8876, Luther Sannes@642-5140; or Reeann Enderson@640-4230

Thank you to the members of Bethel for your continued support.

In memory of:	Given by:	In memory of:	Given by:
Bethel Choir		Faith Toolbox	
Fran Werre	Linda Johnson	Fran Werre	Duane & Diane Finnie
Bethel Youth		Fran Werre	Sonja Christensen
Yoshiko Tollefson	Blake & Tracy Peterson	Phillip Bjerkerager	Duane & Diane Finnie
Building		Yoshiko Tollefson	Duane & Diane Finnie
Fran Werre	Henry & Mary Ann Look	General Memorial	
Capital Campaign		Fran Werre	Doug & Judy Peterson
Fran Werre	Connie Sletten	Inez Lunde	PEO & Linda Thulen
Fran Werre	Clare Byron	Fran Werre	Jerry & Barb Mohs
Marilyn Benson	Keath & Cindy Borchert	Fran Werre	Judy McDaniel
Phillip Bjerkerager	Keath & Cindy Borchert	Yoshiko Tollefson	Ricky & Nancy Froemke
Yoshiko Tollefson	Keath & Cindy Borchert	Yoshiko Tollefson	Marlow & Ilene Tollefson
Fran Werre	Keath & Cindy Borchert	Yoshiko Tollefson	Donna Toso
Yoshiko Tollefson	Donna Marohl	Yoshiko Tollefson	Doug & Judy Peterson
Yoshiko Tollefson	Geri Coyne	Linda Azure	Marcia Pederson
Children's Library		Inez Lunde	Marcia Pederson
Fran Werre	Irene Mohn	Quilting	
Fran Werre	Linda Johnson	Fran Werre	Bev McRoberts
Endowment		Fran Werre	Joan Hardie
Phillip Bjerkerager	Perry & Denise Miller	Fran Werre	Ruth Larson



Our Daytime Book Club did not meet in October and will not meet in November. It is with hopeful anticipation that we can get together and meet as usual with breakfast at the Fry'n Pan for our December meeting. The time would be 9 a.m., the 14th of December. You can start thinking of your Christmas book of choice to share.

The books selected for the end of 2020 and into 2021 are as follows:

November	Children for Sale	Jasper West
December	Xmas book of choice	
January, 2021	Necessary Lies	Diane Chamberlain
February	Left to Tell	Immaculee Ilibagiza

When we can meet again, remember we have changed the date to the 2nd Monday of each month at 10 a.m. We would be happy to accept new members at any time.

*“Let's be reasonable and add an eighth day to the week that is devoted exclusively to reading.”
~ Lena Dunham~*



NOVEMBER

These are Bethel members known to have birthdays in November. If you have a birthday in November and your name is not listed, please contact the church office so we may update our church records.

Birthdays

11/01 Arlene Bakken	11/14 Dawn Kubela	Jason Filbert
Alivia Cvancara	Jake Pfaff	Madeline Miller
Kendall Rovig	Mikkol Smith	11/24 Brian Bernotas
Parker Sirek	11/15 Bailey Bernstein	Vivian Bernotas
Lincoln Thompson	Linda Christianson	Robb Dohman
11/02 Kristy Beto	Carter Long	Brenda Gjesdal
Lauren Beyer	Ronald McBeth	Janelle Johnson
Brett Goltz	Chase Moderow	11/25 Gerald Pulvermacher
11/03 Domanik Dammann	Ronald Teschner	11/26 Kelsie Edenborg
11/04 David Trangsrud	11/16 Paul Jacklitch	Diane Finnie
11/05 Nichole Richels	Lisa Renville	Michael Hoffert
Tony Smith	11/17 Holly Anderson	Stacy Owens
11/07 Kerry Anderson	VonDa Lee Grandalen	Adam Prochnow
Jan Bellmore	Jaden Hansen	11/27 Jana Berndt
Matthew Berndt	Cyndy Kolle	Duane Finnie
Dane Carlson	11/18 Chase Dimmer	Brett Gilbertson
Samantha Moderow	Julia Dohman	Teresa Hallquist
11/08 Jackson Burchill	Jean Hoerer	Shane Lee
Reagan Cory	Bridger Mohs	Gale Tollefson
Beverly McRoberts	Jeffrey Olson	11/28 Glen Enderson
Mary Jo Miller	Lukas Vosberg	Jacob Grueneich
11/09 Matt Lovik	Brooke Wixo	Rylan Gunnarson
11/10 Jack Ehlers	11/19 Kelly Finnie	11/29 Kristie Berg
Jordain Formanek	Colton Fliflet	Ryker Berndt
Elizabeth Graalum	Jean Mandt	Carol Manock
11/11 Bella Kompelien	11/20 Jerry Schmidt	11/30 Esther Braaten
11/12 Justin Azure	Brandon Thiel	Joel Sirek
Mary Anne Grosz	Coleen Thoe	Reese Wickoren
Steve Hendrickson	11/21 Carrie Bernstein	
11/13 Jocelyn Fisher	Ellie Miller	
Braxten Hoistad	Paige Palmer	
Kaitlin Kraft	Monica Zentgraf	
Darlene Manock	11/22 Jay Malme	
Carter Youngquist	11/23 Pam Broderick	

Bethel Youth & Families

ALL WEDNESDAY SCHOOL AND CONFIRMATION STUDENTS NEED TO FILL OUT AN ON-LINE REGISTRATION FORM FOUND ON OUR WEBSITE!

Online streaming confirmation and Wednesday School lessons started October 21. If you have not filled out a registration form, please do so soon! You can find the form on our web site. Go to the drop down menu under ministries and click on children and youth.

We will attempt in person, in the church Wednesday programming once the church has finished its “day at the spa”, stay tuned.

National Youth Gathering Information!

Our next meeting is November 4, at 6:30 here at Bethel.

After much prayer and consideration, the team working on The ELCA Youth Gathering had decided to postpone next summer’s ELCA Youth Gathering to 2022 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The new date is July 24-28, 2022, in Minneapolis, MN. Youth who are in 8th to 12th grade at the time of registration.

Fundraising opportunities to support the youth of Bethel!

The youth going to the National Youth Gathering are willing to flamingo yards...what a great way to spread a little happiness when we are all stuck at home. Spend \$20 to flamingo someone else’s lawn.

We still have Wahpeton Deli Cards available for purchase. The cards are \$35!

Get your BE.THE.Love face mask \$12 a piece or two for \$20.

Contact Lisa on her cell phone, 701-899-2060 or at church if you would like to flamingo a yard, purchase a deli card or face mask.



**BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
PLANNING COUNCIL MINUTES
October 13, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER – Kelly Voss

Roll Call

Kelly Voss	x	Cyndy Kolle, Board of Lay	x
Kathy Johnson	x	Mike Bassingthwaite, Board of Property	x
Dee Jensen	x	Pastor Jake Dyrhaug	x
Cindy Borchert	x		
Pastor Erika Buller	x		
Blake Peterson, Board of Outreach	x	Guests:	
Dana Kasowski Board of Education		Brian Finnie	x
Linda Johnson , Board of Stewardship	x		

SPIRITUAL DIRECTION – Pastor Erika Buller

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Cyndy moved & Linda seconded to approve. Motion carried.

TREASURERS REPORT: Mike moved and Dee seconded to approve. Motion carried.

2019	January	February	March	April	May	June
<i>Envelope offering:</i>	\$36,498.48	\$33,928.50	\$30,378.50	\$31,087.00	\$26,194.00	\$26,002.34
<i>Income/Balance:</i>	(\$7,171.10)	(\$12,900.72)	(\$28,732.36)	(\$35,542.91)	(\$25,781.41)	(\$34,785.49)
<i>Checking acct balance:</i>	\$1,710.47	(\$4,019.15)	(\$19,850.79)		(\$32,746.00)	(\$25,903.92)
2019	July	August	September	October	November	December
<i>Envelope offering:</i>	\$27,759.00	\$23,724.00	\$40,032.21	\$34,791.00	\$28,390.00	\$64,524.05
<i>Income/Balance:</i>	(\$32,965.35)	(\$7,214.33)	\$21,380.28	\$21,169.19	\$1,666.92	\$33,872.80
<i>Checking acct balance:</i>	(\$24,083.73)	\$16,095.90)	\$30,261.85	\$29,061.42	\$10,548.49	\$42,754.37
2020	January	February	March	April	May	June
<i>Envelope offering:</i>	\$28,480.00	\$36,284.00	\$34,073.00	\$24,397.11	\$29,192.00	\$28,101.00
<i>Income/Balance :</i>	(\$13,438.91)	(\$19,336.94)	(\$20,267.87)	(\$28,689.78)	\$15,193.73	\$10,725.30
<i>Checking acct balance:</i>	\$29,315.46	\$23,417.43	\$22,486.50	\$14,064.59	\$57,948.10	\$53,479.67
2020	July	August	September	October	November	December
<i>Envelope offering:</i>	\$21,512.00	\$24,417.00	\$30,922.00			
<i>Income/Balance:</i>	(\$5,886.09)	(\$16,313.71)	(\$24,151.70)			
<i>Checking acct balance:</i>	\$36,868.28	\$26,440.66	\$18,602.67			

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Implementation team update
 - a. We are moving towards the end, with a few hiccups along the way.
 - b. A letter to the congregation went out 10-13-20 urging them to continue giving to their pledges, to consider additional gifts to the project and to inform about the "Giving Tree" display.
 - c. Most of the carpet is in and the soundboard is in the sanctuary.
 - d. The South entrance is still being worked on.
 - e. The electrician will be coming in on Monday.
 - f. The rooftop units are ready for testing for heat.
 - g. Brian has received an email that we will be getting \$21,275 from the emergency resiliency fund for no-touch faucets and toilets and water fountains.

2. Worship discussion and communion possibilities:
 - a. We will continue using the parking lot at the NDSCS football field for worship through October
 - b. On October 25th, Confirmation is planned for confirmation students and their families only. The services will be at 9:00, 10:30 and 12:00 with 50 to 60 in attendance at each service.
 - c. November 1st and 8th worship will be on Facebook live and the Bethel website only from the sanctuary with a hymn leader and special music, similar to in the parking lot.
 - d. On November 8th there will be a virtual tour of the church on Facebook and on the Bethel website.
 - e. On November 11th, there will be an instructional video on how to enter the church and how to Communion will be served for the first service on November 15th. There will not be bulletins for the service, but they will be sent to the homebound members. Face coverings will be required along with social distancing. There will not be a coffee hour.
 - f. There was discussion about the maximum number of people allowed and that there will be room for some overflow.
 - g. Bells, choir, and praise band are on hold until after the first of the year.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. *Board Reports:*

Board of Stewardship: Linda Johnson

* Temple talks have been given by Cyndy Kolle and Hal Fisher. Pastor Jessica Daum is scheduled to preach on October 18th.

* Caramel Rolls will be handed out as you enter the parking lot on Sunday, October 18th. The method of delivery has been approved by Michelle Eberhardt and Joyce Johnson.

* They are working on ways to include stewardship in the coming months and to contact members to see how they are doing and let them know we are still here and we care.

Board of Property: Mike Bassingthwaite

* All Items have been covered in the Implementation Team report above.

Board of Education: Dana Kasowski

* Pastor Erika and Lisa are working on an entirely online learning experience for 9th graders who will be confirmed in the spring, seminar style. This will be open to older members too.

* They are discussing other ways to provide educational opportunities for the younger students at Bethel.

Board of Lay: Cyndy Kolle

* Worship and communion plans were discussed earlier in the meeting.

Board of Outreach: Blake Peterson

* Sonja Christensen attended and asked if the board would be willing to sponsor a card writing campaign to congregational members on special occasions. The board agreed to do this and provide the logistical and financial support.

* “God’s Work, Our Hands” will be moved to the spring.

* They are continuing to work on the details for the fire victims supply and fund. They have talked with WalMart about prices for items that might be needed. They may also have a donation box in the church for donations of clothing in good condition.

1. Staff and Volunteer Safety During COVID-19 draft discussion:

- a. Bethel Executive Committee had discussed Draft 1 of this policy sent out by Pastor Jake.
- b. Pastor Jake sent Draft 2 to the Planning Council for discussion at this meeting.
- c. Pastor Jake will send out Draft 3 to the Planning Council for final approval of this policy.

2. Other:

- a. No other business was brought forward.

Board Reports – each board email minutes to Bethel office to review prior to Planning Council meeting.

Dates and notables:

“Big Bethel Read” – check the Beacon or Facebook for information

Our new Bishop, Tessa Moon Leiseth will be installed on October 31, 2020

Pastor Jessica Daum is scheduled to preach on October 18, 2020 for Stewardship, “Embracing New Beginnings”.

Closing with the Lord’s Prayer

Spiritual Direction October – Cyndy Kolle

Next meeting November 10, 2020

Respectfully Submitted:

Cindy Borchert, Secretary/Treasurer