

# Bethel Beacon

February  
Volume 59 Issue 2

**ANNUAL MEETING**

**JAN. 29  
HIGHLIGHTS**



## Important Events

Executive Meeting Feb 9th - 6:00 pm

Transition Team OPEN FORUM  
February 12th between Services

Feb. 15 - 8:30-10 am - Bethel  
Helping Hands

Feb 21st - 5:00 Planning Committee  
6:30 Board Meetings

Ash Wednesday - Lent begins  
February 22

Noon - 12:00 Service with Lunch  
(Soup and Bread) to follow

Evening - Supper 4: 45 to 6 PM

6:45 pm - Service

Wednesday school, Parenting Class  
and Confirmation Schedule is unchanged

Marriage Enrichment Night  
February 24 - 6:00 to 8 pm

World Day of Prayer - March 3rd

### Sunday Services

9am Traditional Service

10am Coffee Hour

11am Contemporary Service

### Wednesday Service

4:45pm Supper is Served

5:30pm Christian Education

6:45pm Worship Service - Youth Led

### Office Hours

Monday - Thursday - 8am - 5pm  
701-642-4472

1. New format - one worship service at 10:00, Annual meeting right after, potluck following. The new format allowed time for discussion.
2. The operating fund of the congregation rebounded from a balance of \$-53,260.00 on 12/23/2022 to a balance of \$622.00. Exciting!
3. Transition feedback from the congregation is helping gain insight for the Ministry Site Profile as we seek to fill our present Pastor vacancy. Nominations for the Call Committee are due by February 14 and their work will begin in late March.
4. Entering a Capital Campaign passed unanimously to reduce present mortgage debt of \$878,683.50. A thoughtful discussion about continuing to seek the goal of a \$100,000 for the outreach fund and using the Capital Campaign to reach that goal. Passed 42-36. Before the Capital Campaign begins (in the spring), logistics of how pledges and monies received will be properly designated and put into the correct funds will be fully explained.
5. Elections held. Staffing positions to be filled - secretary and custodian
6. Balanced budget passed. Solo pastor into the future.

### THE POWER OF VISION - Leads to Purpose & Mission: JESUS SHOWED US!

This year, for our mid-week Lenten services, we will, each week, use parts of the Holden Evening Prayer for worship, and deal with a message from Pastor Tom. The short scripture texts will come from Jesus' vision of God's challenging plan for our good and a thoughtful video vignette about the power of vision to influence individuals, organizations and nations.

It was the Old Testament prophet Jeremiah who wrote down the words, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11). Then Jesus would say, "I have come that you might have life and have it abundantly" (John 10:10) "and eternally" (John 14:1-5). He came on a rescue mission to save us and call us to reach out to a hurting world. There is a lot of depth to all these statements. God certainly has a plan for us personally and for His people, the Church.

Over the years, studying Jesus' teachings and his life and other biblical writers and scholars from different fields of study, each in their own way has convinced me that it is essential that we think about, intentionally pray about, dream about, and ultimately envision our own futures. Especially in the really tough times. In fact, I believe that having a hopeful, faith-filled, positive vision of the future is perhaps the most forceful motivator for change that you and I possess. If we decide to, those statements of belief can make our own organizations, our own families, our own lives richer and more fulfilling. This is the uplifting theme we are going to briefly highlight in each of the Wednesday mid-week Lenten services. To summarize Jesus' guidance: "A great commitment to the Great Commandment and the Great Commission will grow a great church."

Sincerely, in Christ - Pastor Tom



## Transition Team update

The transition team has been busy meeting since the middle of December. We have spent the past month in a period of reflection. We have evaluated who we are as a church and what we are great at. Thank you to everyone who took time to complete the questions we have asked.

For the next few weeks, we will be looking towards the future. We want to pinpoint what we are excited about and how our church is moving forward. We will have an open forum between services on February 12 to complete the congregational survey. Please join us for this event.

Following the open forum, we will get into the heavy work of writing the Mission Site Profile. We will be handing the Mission Site Profile off to the call committee by the end of March.

### Bethel Helping Hands - Wednesday, Feb. 15th - 8:30 - 10:00 AM

Join us for a morning of doing small jobs around Bethel. All are welcome! Many hands make the work go quick. We will be sharing brunch and fellowship to end our morning! Please sign up at the volunteer center so we know how much brunch we need.

### Marriage Enrichment Evening - Friday, Feb. 24th

6:00 - 8:00 PM

Join us for a Couples Dinner with guest speaker:

**Pastor Gordy Lee.**

\$25 per couple.

Please sign up in the hallway.



## Be a BeFriender

A BeFriender is someone who listens with compassion, accepts people as they are, respects another's spiritual journey, and embodies the caring presence of God. BeFrienders provide pastoral care for people in all kinds of difficult and transitional situations. They are trained volunteers who extend the care of a faith community. BeFrienders provide pastoral care through a listening presence for anyone experiencing:

Hospitalization      Cancer or chronic illness      Families of deployed military      Resident of a skilled nursing facility  
Addiction      Post-partum depression      Stress of being a caregiver      Death of a loved one      Loneliness      Getting divorced  
Blending families      "Empty Nest" syndrome      Parenting challenges      Relocation      Major life decisions      Job loss or career changes      Financial worries      Trauma      Alzheimer's or other forms of dementia      Any other need for pastoral care

## ASH WEDNESDAY – FEBRUARY 22, 2023

We invite you to take part in the special mid-week services during the season of Lent. They begin with the Ash Wednesday services. **During the Season of Lent this year, we are offering two services each Wednesday – at noon, with a light lunch following; and at 6:45 in the evening, with a light meal being served from 4:45-6:00 and Church School/Confirmation running from 5:30-6:30.** We hope that by offering the two services, we may better accommodate the needs of all our members – from families to seniors. Leading up to Holy Week and Easter, this is a powerful season of the church year. Please come join us.

For Ash Wednesday, the Imposition of Ashes will be part of the services and Holy Communion will be served.

Draw from North Dakotan Hunter Pinke's experience of going from Division I football player to a chest-down paraplegic at age 22.  
May 21st  
**NO BAD DAYS Both Services**





# Bethel Children & Youth Ministries

By Lisa Bassingthwaite

## Youth Advisory Committee

Youth in grades 3<sup>rd</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> will meet every other month to help me plan and execute events and activities. Please let Lisa know, if you or someone you know is interested.

## 2024 National ELCA Youth

**Gathering** For students currently in 7<sup>th</sup>-11<sup>th</sup> grade. **It is not too late to get signed up to go!**

### First communion

**classes!** Will be held April 2 and 5 at 6:30 here at Bethel. Pre-registration is required! Contact Lisa or the church office to register! First communion will be received during the Maundy Thursday service, April 6 or during any of the Easter Sunday services April 9.

### Sunday School (Preschool–5th grade)

Classes February 5 and March 5.

## Wednesday School

No Wednesday School Feb 15 and April 5

**The following 3rd graders received their Bibles on January 18.**

**Congratulations!** Olie Babcock, Brody Bakewell, Parker Bertelsen, Ivan Braun, Caleb Brejcha, Ayden Dohman, Liam

Dohman, Clayton Floan, Chloe Haugen, Logan Jepsen, Cohen Lovik, Bailee Mohs, Rudy Opatril, Jaxon Pffingsten, Abigail Voss

### Ski Event

**SKIING February 25<sup>th</sup>** Bethel youth and families will be hitting the slopes! The cost if you are renting equipment is \$40.00 for skiing and \$50.00 for snowboarding. If you have your equipment the cost is \$30.00. We will need families to help with transportation. Everyone is on their own for meals. We will leave Bethel at 8:30 am sharp. Watch for more information

**Lisa's Office Hours**  
 Monday 8:30-5:00  
 Tuesday 8:30-5:00  
 Wednesday 8:30-7  
 Thursday 8:30-3:00

9th Grade Confirmation—Required Lock-In at church Feb.19-20. Regular classes March 1 and April 12. Co nfirmatio n rehearsal/meal is April 30. Co nfirmatio n is May 7.

Confirmation Mentor Events— March 15 -6<sup>th</sup> grade mentor event, March 22 - 7<sup>th</sup> grade mentor event, March 29 - 8<sup>th</sup> grade mentor event.



## Ways to Serve

### Lent starts

**Ash Wednesday is February 22 - Holden Evening Prayer + Sermon Series**

**NEW - Mid-Day Services - 12:10-12:35 with Soup and sandwich lunch after services**

**This time might be attractive to some of our seniors who don't like to come out in the evening and some of our business people over the noon hour and need to get back to work by 1:00.**

**Traditional Evening Services @ 6:45 preceded by a meal (from 4:45-6:00)**

### Worship Praise Band

**By Rick Hendrickson**

If you or someone you know is thinking about giving the praise band a try, then please contact Rick Hendrickson at (218) 671-0691 with your questions.

We practice at 10 AM each Sunday and lead the music for the 11 AM service.

Part timers are welcome!

### February Serving Group

**By Joyce Johnson**

Listed below is the serving group for February. If you would like to sign up for a volunteer area, please contact Joyce Johnson by emailing [jjohnson@bethelwahpeton.com](mailto:jjohnson@bethelwahpeton.com), texting Joyce @ (701)640-3599 or calling the Bethel office @ 642-4472.

Matt, Mary, Breckin  
 Mallory and Bryer Anderson  
 Tyler and Leah Baukol  
 Sherri Bernard  
 Larry Bethel  
 Bev Bollinger  
 Myron and Lisa Braun  
 Bob and Ginny Buck  
 Denise Colburn  
 Lance and Londa Darwin  
 Darci Eggen  
 Robin, Mandy and Lily Finke  
 Dale and Cheri Formanek  
 Brenda Gjesdal  
 Art Grochow  
 Carter and Kim Hansen  
 Ryan Hendrickson  
 Mike and Barb Hoffert  
 Rick and Deb Jacobson  
 Linda Johnson  
 Karen Kearns Lutz  
 Cyndy Kolle

Shane and Carla Lee  
 Tyler and Jenna Lovgren  
 Ron and Kate McBeth  
 Michelle Meyer  
 Travis and Jessica Miller  
 Roger Mund  
 Paul and Char Oehlke  
 Jay and April Pauly  
 Pat and Lori Pithey  
 Rod and Brenda Romereim  
 Carol Schmidt  
 Charles Shockley  
 Ryan and Judy Smith  
 Carol Sturdevant  
 Don and JoAnn Tobin  
 Ed Uhlich  
 Don and Marcie Wald  
 Draisey Wilson  
 Seth and McKenzie  
 Christopher  
 Curt, Alyssa, Cayden and  
 Kenidy Barth

### Bethel Music

**By Linda Palmer**

**Can you hear it? Come and Join the Bethel Choir and/or Bell Choir!!**

### Bethel Quilters

**Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month.—9am-4pm—Bring a bag lunch. All are welcome!**



## Ways to Connect

### Bethel Book Clubs

#### Daytime Book Club By Clare Byron

The Daytime Book Club met on January 9 at the Fry'n Pan for a brunch and discussion of the Christmas books our members had read. Time did not allow us to do any discussing on the January book. Therefore, the following list is new and revised:

February 13	The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek	Kim Richardson
March 13	The Mystery of Mrs. Christy	Marie Benedict
April 10	Your choice of an Agatha Christie book	
May 8	7 Husbands of Evelyn Hugo	Taylor Jenkins Reid
June 12	Whispering Pines	Kim Diede
July 10	The Personal Librarian	Marie Benedict
August 14	My Travels with Mrs. Kennedy	Clint Hill

### Book Clubs—All are Welcome

*Evening group - 1st Tuesdays of the month - 7pm*  
*Daytime group - 2nd Monday of the month - 10 am in*

#### Evening Book Club By Sheila Dolan

The evening book club meets the first Tuesday of every month at 7 pm. We meet at the church in the narthex by the windows. Everyone is welcome whether you attend on a regular basis or occasionally. Find us on Facebook at Bethel Lutheran Evening Book club

**\*\* We are looking** to fill a position/s on the Library Committee. It could take an afternoon of your time per month. If interested, please contact Jean Hoerer 238-8377 or Clare Byron 899-2055 for more information.

## Adult Discussion group between services by Connie Foster

Adult discussion group for January and February:

### *Everybody Always: Becoming Love in a World Full of Setbacks and Difficult People*

We will watch a video each week and then have a discussion. From “Love People Where You Are” to “Love Even the Difficult People,” this study discusses loving everybody the way Jesus loves. We will talk about experiences with loving neighbors and loving people who aren’t in our comfort zone. **Contact Connie Foster** (701-640-1334) if interested in joining this five-week session February 5, 12, 19, and 26.



## Memorial Gifts

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**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.

### **General Memorial**

In memory of DeLores Ust (Mother of Judy Koppang/ Given by Ruth Larson

In memory of Arlen Ellingson/ Given by Chuck and Ione Muralt

In memory of DeLores Ust/ Given by Don and JoAnn Tobin

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Barry and Sue Hendrickson

In memory of Emily Bruvold/ Given by Barry and Sue Hendrickson

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by John and Marcia Richman

### **Bell Choir**

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Darlene Schuler

### **Bethel Library**

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Jean Hoerer

In memory of Emily Bruvold/ Given by Clare Byron

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Clare Byron

In memory of DeLores Ust/ Given by Clare Byron

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Phil and Bonnie MacIver

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Henry and Mary Ann Look

In memory of Greg Likness/ Given by Sylvia Likness

### **Quilting:**

In memory of Arlen Ellingson/ Given by Gary and Jody Friskop

In memory of Heidi Nantt/ Given by Geri Coyne

In memory of Arlen Ellingson/ Given by Janice Ellingson

### **Youth:**

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Ruth Larson

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Blake and Tracy Peterson

### **Debt Reduction:**

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Harvey and Gale Link

### **Capital Campaign:**

In memory of Arlen Ellingson/ Given by Judy McDaniel

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Paul and Char Oehlke

In memory of Jerry Lein/ Given by Paul and Char Oehlke

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Doug and Judy Peterson

In memory of Emily Bruvold/ Given by Geri Coyne

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Linda Miller and Larry Bethel

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Judy McDaniel

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Karen Kearns Lutz

In memory of Jim DeVries/ Given by Doug and Judy Peterson

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Neal and Phyllis Folstad

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Judy McDaniel

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Linda Miller

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Karen Kearns Lutz

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Unknown Donor

In memory of Arlen Ellingson/ Given by Linda Miller and Larry Bethel

In memory of Heidi Nantt/ Given by Judy McDaniel

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Elaine Sommers

### **Faith Toolboxes:**

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Sonja Christensen

In memory of David Hedrick/ Given by Gail Williams

In memory of Arlen Ellingson/ Given by Gail Williams

In memory of Norma Nosek/ Given by Duane and Diane Finnie

In memory of Greg Likness/ Given by Sonja Christensen

In memory of Arlen Ellingson/ Given by Sonja Christensen

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**Noisy Offering**—In February— **“Make a Wish”** Make-A-Wish North Dakota creates life-changing wishes for children fighting critical illnesses. Make-A-Wish serves children ages 2 ½ to 18 with a qualifying condition that is considered malignant, progressive or degenerative. A child can be referred by him/herself, a parent/legal guardian, a medical profession or a close family member with information on a child's condition. About 50 North Dakota children are diagnosed with a condition that would qualify them for a wish every year. Our vision is to grant the wish of every eligible child. Since our inception in 1985, Make-A-Wish North Dakota has granted over 1000 wishes across the state. Make-A-Wish does not only serve terminally ill children. In fact, with the advancements in medicine many wish recipients go on to live long and happy lives.



## February Birthdays

2/1 – Kari Cvancara, Emily DeVries, Sharon Humble, Linda Kocher, Holly Krump,  
Char Oehlke

2/2 – Jacob Goltz, Pam Hendrickson

2/3 – Rick Opoien

2/4 – Thomas Bernotas, Doug Skarp

2/5 – Kinslee Bladow,

2/6 – Bjorn Birkelo

2/7 – Parker Bratlie, Marie Hjelmstad, Tyler Mauch

2/8 – Kevin Berger, Harriet BJORKE, Laikyn Mauch

2/9 – Justin Birkelo, Kyler Flack

2/10 – Ryan Hoefs, Cohen Lovik

2/12 – Medora Good

2/14 – Kijia Homes

2/15 – Gianna Maas, Lauren Maas

2/16 – Alvin Eckre, Duane Smith

2/17 – Josh Berg, Tenley Hills, Brian Uhlich

2/18 – Lisa Bassingthwaite, Sonja Christensen, Caitlyn Pithey

2/19 – Deb Loberg, Felisa Mastel, Donna Sherven

2/20 – Carter Miller, Jeremy Wallender

2/23 – Corbin Cornelius

2/24 – Greg Buboltz, Corey Kratcha

2/25 – Alicia Cornelius, Joncy Mastel

2/26 – Johnica Bernotas, Myron Braun

2/27 – Matthew Berger, Jay Townsend

2/28 – Lori Meyer

## Eternal Candles

Sign up in the Chancel Area



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## Altar Flowers

Sign up in the Chancel Area

