

AUG/SEP 2020



**Bethel Lutheran Church**  
5232 Irvine Avenue NW,  
Bemidji, MN 56601

**Church Office**  
**Closed until further notice**  
218-444-4746  
bethelbemidji.org

**Bethel Child Care Center**  
218-444-4789

**Rev. Mark Kindem**  
Pastor  
Home Phone # 444-8545  
pastorkindem@hotmail.com

**Sally McIntyre**  
Office  
adminsec@bethelbemidji.org  
Home Phone # 751-0759

**Randy McKain**  
Youth Director

**Jessica Powell**  
BCCC Manager  
bccc@bethelbemidji.org

**PRAYER CHAIN**  
Karen Tank – 586-2544  
or  
Church Office – 444-4746

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 a.m. Worship  
(max. 150 people)  
10:00 a.m. Fellowship

# BETHEL BEACON

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 5232 Irvine Avenue NW, Bemidji, MN 56601



Near the end of his life, the apostle Paul said, “I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances, I have learned the secret...” What secret? Paul is referring to something that every human being would like to know. It is a secret that Paul

says sustained him through life when he was well-fed, and when he was hungry; when he was prosperous, and when he was in need. Here is the secret: “I have learned to be content with whatever I have”. Now some will argue that it’s harder to be content with a lot, while others will argue the opposite. I don’t know which is harder, both may be impossible apart from the secret Paul knew. He knew that God was in charge, and that God would sustain him with whatever was the right amount for him to have the life God wanted him to have. May we who have been blessed with so much from God, continue to trust that God will continue to provide for us and to teach us the secret of being content.

-Pastor Mark Kindem



Starting July 25, Minnesotans are required to wear a face mask in public indoor areas (including churches) and public outdoor areas if it is impossible to maintain 6ft of distance. There are exceptions for medical and mental health conditions. Failure to comply

can lead to a misdemeanor charge and a fine up to \$100.

The BCCC remains open, as it has done since the beginning of the pandemic. Fortunately, children are the least at-risk group and are half as likely to spread the disease as adults. <https://www.nytimes.com/2020/07/18/health/coronavirus-children-schools.html>

The Church Office (i.e. Sally) remains closed except for once or twice a week. Sally telecommutes from home preparing the bulletins, answering email, etc. The Congregation is encouraged to email or call her home phone with information, questions, and concerns.



**Council  
President**

I did not intend to write anything about the current “Health Care Crisis” in this issue of the Beacon, *but* the number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Beltrami County have now exceeded 110 and our weekly church attendance hovered around 40 in July. Every Sunday morning at church we get the same message in our bulletin and on the big screen in the sanctuary about the state of our health—do you have a sore throat, a new

headache, etc. If you do, please stay at home. I would rather encourage people to come back to church, please. But I may be too cavalier in my thinking and should adopt a more prudent approach to our current situation. I am old, rather heavy in appearance and harbor those nasty diabetes symptoms--a great candidate for the Grim Reaper. So, the question remains, do I step out of my social world for this brief time in 2020 or do I plow ahead fulfilling commitments, schedules, and social gatherings. Yes, to both options. Cut back on exposure by limiting, or removing, my presence in the big box stores and no coffee after church. I really hate to do that. Now unto the real message in this issue of the Beacon—Martin Luther and the ELCA.

When Martin Luther nailed his 95 theses to the church door in Wittenberg, Germany way back in 1517, he hoped the Church (Catholic) would change its ways and become more Biblical and stop its wrongful practices such as indulgences. His logic and truths were based on the Bible and were so persuasive that any learned person could see that Martin was 100% correct. But the Church did not change, and labeled Luther a heretic instead. However, other men and women of influence and even many of the common people saw the real truth and importance of Luther’s logic and started the Reformation.

Likewise, I thought Bethel had exposed the fallacy of the ELCA position on same sex marriage. In my own lifetime this one concept of marriage has been one of the most disappointing developments in our society today. How the general public and many Christian churches have been hoodwinked into accepting this as a normal and uplifting practice has me completely baffled. It is not Biblical, it is not logical, and it goes against all past historical norms. It is completely insane to hold such a position. My discussions (not always nice) with those in the ELCA have resulted in broken friendships and wounded egos over the past ten years. ‘Yes’, they say, ‘but we don’t practice that stuff in our church.’ Maybe so but they do hold allegiance to the ELCA and its offices. You win the argument but lose a friend. What did Jesus say? I have not come to bring peace but enmity to the world. (Matt. 10:34, Luke 12:51) So what can we do but hold firm to the Bible and our faith in Jesus Christ, never neglecting our Bible reading or our prayer time. Amen.

-Paul McIntyre, Council President

### **Report on Special Congregational Meeting June 21, 2020**

For the sole purpose to discuss and vote on the recommendation of the Finance Committee Church Council to increase the 2020 budget by \$50,000 to pay to repair and replace the roof.

A quorum (15) was reached with 29 voting members signing in. Andy Powell, employee of Wagner Builders, spoke to remind the congregation that the bid was submitted in March and is only valid for 30 days. A new bid will need to be done and will likely be higher than \$150,000. In fact, steel prices have increased 5%.

The final cost also could be higher, or lower, than the bid. **The Motion Passed.**

[Expenses in excess of 5% of the budget must be approved by a Congregational Meeting. For 2020 that value is now \$27,754.95. See page 31 of the Annual Report and add 50,000, then multiply by 0.05. Thus, if a new bid exceeds \$177,754.95 another meeting will need to be called.]



**Mission Statement:** “The Bemidji Food Shelf is a faith-based, caring place that listens to those who are experiencing food insecurity. We work with our partners to be inclusive and to provide fresh, nourishing foods for those living in Beltrami County and the Bemidji School District.”

**Thank You:** Thank you for your continued support for the Food Shelf during this difficult time. The need for food has increased in the last two months with 3,542 people using Food Shelf services in May and June.

**Current Operation:** Currently volunteers pack food boxes on Tuesdays and Fridays and clients pick up their boxes on Mondays and Wednesdays.

**Tentative Plans for the Food Shelf that will take place October 1st:** Volunteers are asked to sign COVID-19 Agreement Forms consenting to new safety procedures (having their temperature taken when coming to work, washing hands frequently, wearing a mask, and maintaining a six-foot distance, and not coming to work when they are not feeling well).

Customers will take a number and then wait in their car until their number is called. Only a limited number of clients will be in the building at one time to meet with an interviewer and then shop for their food. Shoppers will assist clients at a distance.

**Safety Concerns:** When the seriousness of the pandemic started, the Food Shelf’s first concern was keeping volunteers, staff, and customers safe. The proposed changes that are planned for October will also continue that focus.

**Ice Cream Social:** Volunteers are invited to an Appreciation Ice Cream Social on Sunday, August 16<sup>th</sup> from 2 to 4 p.m. outside at the Food Shelf so people can practice social distancing.

-Anita Spangler, Food Shelf Representative

**Mission Statement:** Churches United is a non-profit organization of Bemidji Area Churches, led by the Spirit of Christ, working together to meet the emergency needs of the homeless and low-income people in a prayerful way.

**Motto:** Welcoming the stranger as Jesus

**Services MAY Include:** Basic emergency needs (food, gas, bus tokens, clothing, laundry, and rent/utility assistance) plus referrals to area agencies and businesses.

Churches United is primarily a church-led ministry and emergency program organized to provide short-term assistance for those persons who 'fall through the cracks', need help immediately, and have nowhere else to turn in the short-run.

**Needs:** Food safe gloves, hand sanitizer, hygiene items (any size), dish soap, laundry soap, blankets, and quilts

**COVID 19 RESPONSE:** Churches United continues to assist individuals and families in the community. Applicants are asked to call the office at 218-444-1380 to complete an application with one of the staff. Then guests will pick up their assistance at the door.

**Anyone dropping off donations are asked to phone ahead. All donations will be quarantined for 72 hours before inventory or distribution.**

*“For I was hungry, and you gave me meat; I was thirsty, and you gave me drink; I was a stranger, and you took me in; I was naked, and you clothed me; I was sick, and you visited me; I was in prison, and you came unto me. Verily I say unto you, inasmuch as you did it for one of the least of these, you did it for me.” (Matthew 25)*

**Office hours are 12-4 pm Mondays, Tuesday, Thursdays, & Fridays.**

414 Lincoln Ave SE, Bemidji, MN 56601, 218-444-1380

Thanks to Bethel for their continued financial support!

-Char Espe, Bethel representative to Churches United





- 01 Richard Hoff
- 04 Cyndi Fenske
- 06 Helen Kohl-Swedmark
- 09 Gunner Powell (8)
- 10 Kirt Dreyer
- 14 Amaya Copsiskey (8)  
Janelle Lundeen
- 22 Abigail Hopke
- 23 Gary Pederson
- 24 Renee Mostoller
- 26 Brandon Pond  
Rocky Copsiskey
- 29 Sally McIntyre
- 30 Laurie Pommerening

- 03 Nancy Streightiff
- 09 Shirley Worth  
Ben Rock
- 14 Verlie Geror
- 15 Jaramie Wood
- 22 Adam Lundeen

- Ron and Marilyn Vietor**  
August 11, 1956 (64)
- Keith and Laurie Pommerening**  
August 12, 1978 (42)
- Ray and Vi Suther**  
August 23, 1958 (62)
- Gordon and Sara Franks**  
August 28, 1964 (56)



### BETHEL BAPTISMS

*Annabel Lee Faye Case,*

daughter of Andrew and Emily Case,  
was welcomed into God's family  
through the Sacrament of Baptism on  
Sunday, July 5, 2020.

### BETHEL FUNERALS

#### HELEN (JUDIN) THOMPSON

**BIRTH: APRIL 14, 1926**

**DEATH: JUNE 8, 2020**

**FUNERAL: TBD**

*"For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His."*



#### "GO THE EXTRA MILE"

ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH BETHEL HAS A "GO THE EXTRA MILE" OFFERING TAKEN UP FOR LOCAL MISSIONS.

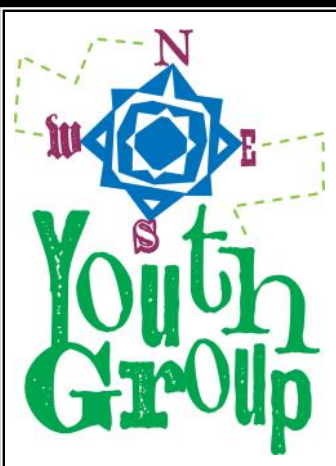
COLLECTED OFFERING FOR  
JUNE 14:  
**NW BATTERED WOMEN'S SHELTER – \$79.00**

JULY 12:  
**GIDEONS – \$100.00**

**Council Highlights**

The mission of the Church is to Glorify God.

The Bethel Church Council met via zoom teleconference on June 9. Highlights included scheduling a Special Congregational Meeting for Sunday, June 21 for the purpose of increasing the annual budget by \$50,000 to accommodate the bid for a new roof. COVID-19 Policies and Procedures were adopted. A copy was mailed out to regular worshippers. They can also be found on the church website, [www.bethelbemidji.org](http://www.bethelbemidji.org). The Council does not meet in July. The next meeting will be Tuesday, August 11.



We are planning a youth and family BBQ with lawn games in August 2nd at our house. I continue to meet with students for lunch as they are available. Come September, we will kick off Wednesday night activities on the 16th by grilling burgers and brats and cleaning the highway.

-Randy McKain, Youth Director



Jessica Powell is head of the Sunday School and hopes kids aged toddler through 5th grade can meet again in the fall after service. She wants to hear what parents think so please reach out by dropping her an email at [jlspinger2000@hotmail.com](mailto:jlspinger2000@hotmail.com) or call her cell phone, 218-368-8233.



Bethel is scheduled to deliver Meals-on-Wheels

October 5-9 and December 21-24.



Sadly, due to the epidemic, Bethel's Best Bazaar for 2020 has been cancelled.

Let's take this time to work on crafts for 2021!

# 2020 VISION | MISSION CONVOCATION

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the NALC will be hosting our first ever Virtual Mission Convocation. Join us virtually to hear from Bishop Dan Selbo on the 2020 Vision, participate in elections and voting, and hear updates from across the NALC.

**Friday, August 7, 6-9 p.m. ET**

**Saturday, August 8, 2-6 p.m. ET**

**Cost:** \$25 (voting delegates), \$0 (visitors)

It is easier than ever to attend the NALC Mission Convocation. With no need to travel, and minimal registration costs, we encourage all pastors and delegates to attend. Invite members of your congregation to join in as well! We're hoping to have more participants than ever before.



## Pre-Mission Convocation Discussion Forums

In order to answer any questions you may have prior to the Mission Convocation, NALC leaders are hosting the following discussion forums:

### Agenda & Rules of Procedure

Materials: To be released  
Forum: July 27, 7 p.m. ET

### Treasurer's Report & Proposed Budget

Materials: To be released  
Forum: July 29, 7 p.m. ET

### Proposed Constitutional Amendments

Materials: Proposed Constitutional Amendments & Explanation  
Forum: July 30, 7 p.m. ET

**Find more information and register at [lutheranweek.com](http://lutheranweek.com)!**



## Women of the NALC Annual Gathering

“God Creates Women of Purpose: Women Who Reflect the Heart of God” is the theme of this year’s Annual Gathering.

Join women from across the NALC!




The gathering will be held

**August 4, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. ET**  
through GoToWebinar.



Gary and Laurie Pecuch, NALC youth & family ministry coaches, are offering a couple of online sessions. They have scheduled two GoToMeeting sessions on **Saturday, Aug. 15.**

The first session is on the topic of safeguarding from noon to 1:30 p.m. ET. The second session is a question-and-answer session on topics of your choice from 2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. ET.

| Sunday   | Monday   | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday                                | Saturday  |  |
|--|--|--|--|---|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| 2<br>Food Shelf Sunday<br>9:00am Worship Service<br>10:00am Fellowship Hour                                | 3<br>No Weight Watchers<br>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm                               | 4<br>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm   | 5<br>7:00am Men's Group<br>10:00am Finance Com. Mtg.<br>No Bible Study | 6<br>No Weight Watchers                               | 7<br>Lundgren/Hays Wedding Rehearsal  | 1/8<br>8- Lundgren/Hays Wedding & Reception<br> |  |
| 9<br>"Go the Extra Mile" for Great River Rescue<br>9:00am Worship Service<br>10:00am Fellowship Hour       | 10<br>BCCC Closed -staff training-<br>No Weight Watchers<br>6:30pm Council Meeting | 11<br>6:30pm Council Meeting   | 12<br>7:00am Men's Group<br>No Bible Study                             | 13<br>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm<br>No Weight Watchers | 14<br>Lundgren/Hays Wedding Rehearsal | 15  |  |
| 16<br>9:00am Worship Service<br>10:00am Fellowship Hour<br>2:00pm Volunteer Ice Cream Social at Food Shelf | 17<br>No Weight Watchers<br>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm                              | 18<br>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm<br>5:45pm BCCC Staff Meeting                         | 19<br>7:00am Men's Group<br>No Bible Study                             | 20<br>No Weight Watchers                              | 21                                    | 22  |  |
| 23<br>9:00am Worship Service w/Holy Baptism of Reagan Pond<br>10:00am Fellowship Hour                      | 24<br>No Weight Watchers<br>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm                              | 25<br>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm  | 26<br>7:00am Men's Group<br>No Bible Study                             | 27<br>No Weight Watchers                              | 28                                    | 29  |  |
| 30<br>9:00am Worship Service<br>10:00am Fellowship Hour  | 31<br>No Weight Watchers<br>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm                              |  |  |   |                                       |   |  <p>The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding.</p> <p><small>Psalms 111:10, 11:10</small></p> |

# AUGUST 2020

| Sunday  | Monday  | Tuesday  | Wednesday  | Thursday   | Friday   | Saturday  |
|---|---|--|--|--|--|-----------|
| <p>6</p> <p><b>Food Shelf Sunday</b><br/>9:00am Worship Service<br/>10:00am Fellowship Hour</p>  | <p>7</p> <p><b>BCCC and Church Closed</b></p>  | <p>8</p> <p>6:30pm Council Meeting</p>   | <p>9</p> <p><b>Bethel at Food Shelf 12-3</b><br/>7:00am Men's Group<br/>No Bible Study</p> | <p>10</p> <p>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm</p> <p>?? Weight Watchers</p> | <p>11</p> <p>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm</p>  <p>?? Weight Watchers</p> | <p>12</p> |
| <p>13</p> <p><b>"Go the Extra Mile" for Churches United</b></p> <p>9:00am Worship Service<br/>10:00am Fellowship Hour</p> <p><b>Grandparents' Day!</b></p>                          | <p>14</p> <p>?? Weight Watchers</p>   | <p>15</p> <p>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm</p> <p>5:45pm BCCC Staff Meeting</p>  | <p>16</p> <p>7:00am Men's Group<br/>No Bible Study</p>                                     | <p>17</p> <p>?? Weight Watchers</p>                                  | <p>18</p> <p>POW/MIA Recognition Day</p>   | <p>19</p> |
| <p>20</p> <p>9:00am Worship Service<br/>10:00am Fellowship Hour</p>   | <p>21</p> <p>?? Weight Watchers</p>   | <p>22</p> <p>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm</p> <p><i>First Day of Autumn</i></p>  | <p>23</p> <p>7:00am Men's Group<br/>No Bible Study</p>                                     | <p>24</p> <p>?? Weight Watchers</p>                                  | <p>25</p>  | <p>26</p> |
| <p>27</p> <p>9:00am Worship Service<br/>10:00am Fellowship Hour<br/>2:30pm Worship at Havenwood ??</p>  | <p>28</p> <p>?? Weight Watchers</p>   | <p>29</p> <p>BCCC Open 6:30am - 5:45pm</p> <p><b>Beacon Deadline</b></p>   | <p>30</p> <p>7:00am Men's Group<br/>No Bible Study</p>                                     | <p>?? Weight Watchers</p>  |  <p><b>SEPTEMBER 2020</b></p>  |           |