



BETHEL BEACON

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

5232 Irvine Avenue NW

Bemidji, MN 56601

October 2012

Bethel Lutheran Church

5232 Irvine Avenue NW,
Bemidji, MN 56601

218-444-4746

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Rev. Mark Kindem
Pastor

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Patti VanCamp
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LaVon Johnson
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Abe Hanson
Custodian

Prayer Chain
- Day -

Darrel & Lillian Lauderbaugh
@ 751-2230

- Evening -
Judy Thorson @ 444-6944

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 AM
Contemporary Service
10:00 AM
Fellowship Hour
10:30 AM
Traditional Service



Later this month four confirmation students will be affirming their faith. I will ask them this: "You have made public profession of your faith. Do you intend to continue in the covenant God made with you in Holy Baptism?" Good question. But not just for our confirmation students. No, this question

is addressed to all of us. What does it mean to say, "I Believe"? The Apostle Paul encourages us to follow the example of Jesus: **"Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus"** Philippians 2:5, and in the book of Hebrews we are called to: **"...run with perseverance the race that is set before us, Looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith."** As disciples of Jesus, who gave the most anyone could give, we follow the path that Jesus walked. Our world is constantly changing, and daily we are reminded of uncertainties. St. Paul was no stranger to adversity, and his call to follow Christ rings true for us just as it did then. We won't always know the places to which that may lead us; nor will we know what dangers will be waiting for us. All we need to know is that the one who leads us on that path, is with us! And because of that, our future is secure.

"Come Christians, follow were our captain trod; our king, victorious: Christ the son of God!" LBW # 377

Pastor Mark Kindem



86th annual Concordia Christmas Concert Attend Friday's concert on Dec. 7 at 7 p.m.!

Please join us for a bus trip
leaving Bethel at 2:00 p.m.,

eating supper at the dining service at Concordia College
(on your own) and then the concert.

We will leave for Bemidji after the concert.

Tickets for the motor coach and concert will be \$25.00 each.
Please sign up in the office. Pastor Kindem will order the tickets
on October 15th when they go on sale.

From the Council President

On September 13th, the Executive Board of the Church Council traveled to Erskine, Minnesota to hear Pastor Lundeen of Grace Lutheran Church describe his experiences with leaving

the ELCA. It was a very informative and supportive session. Pastor Lundeen firmly believes in dual synod membership. This is particularly true when over half the congregation believes supporting the ELCA is not a good idea. Many of us at Bethel believe the ELCA **left us** when they supported Pastors in a same-sex relationship, which is contrary to earlier ELCA guidelines set forth when the ELCA came into existence in the 1980's. The ELCA is nothing more than a merger of the ALC and LCA, two synods which had strong traditional Biblical values. I remember back in the 1950's my church, St. John's Lutheran, was in the old LCA and Pastor Miller would not marry divorced couples nor give communion to individuals who were in adulterous relationships. Church membership in those days was something you did not enter into lightly. When you reached the ripe old age of twelve you became a member of the church after passing your confirmation exams, usually by memorizing Luther's Small Catechism and going before the congregation with your "expertise." Were we any better for it? Maybe, or maybe not, but it gave us a foundation to build on all our lives. After all, it was a challenge and a positive, rather than a negative, influence on the community.

Speaking of challenges, we have Consecration Sunday coming up on October 7. When we come to church on that day the church council will ask us to fill out a pledge card for the coming year, 2013. Some say the church has plenty of money -- it's just that it is still in our wallets and purses (or in the bank). Several of us on the Council have taken up the challenge to give ten percent of our disposable income to Bethel. After the big bills get paid, there doesn't seem to be a great deal left. But consider carefully what you can give. Maybe you can't quite reach ten percent and maybe five may seem too much, but please make a commitment and fill out a pledge card in October. After all, it is part of church membership.

Paul McIntyre
Council Chair, 2012

Bemidji Community FOOD SHELF

The new BCFS facility has been purchased!! Many thanks to all who have donated funds or time to make this a reality. We have had a couple cleaning days, with more to come as utilities are completed. Thank you to all those who have signed up to help. I will be contacting you when I am informed of definite dates and times. The tentative plan is to be in the facility by mid October. Bids have been received for new refrigeration units and coolers and plans are underway to purchase these.

There are copies of the September 2012 Food Shelf Newsletter for anyone interested in other food shelf happenings. For this month I will just say we are in constant need of Peanut Butter, and bonus items such as refried beans, canned carrots and pumpkin, baby food, raisins, and personal care items such as toothpaste and soap. Again, anyone interested in serving the community by

helping out at our food shelf please contact me at 218-751-1321, or you may contact the food shelf directly at 218-444-6580.



**FEED THE
HUNGRY**

Jan Beil

Consecration
Sunday

is scheduled for
Sunday, October 7,

*Spiritual Growth in the
area of Stewardship!*

What is stewardship? Some sample definitions

“Christian stewardship is the *practice* of the Christian religion. It is neither a department of life, nor a sphere of activity. It is the Christian conception of life as a whole, manifested in attitudes and actions.” W.H. Greever (1937)

Christian stewardship is the practice of systematic and proportionate giving of time, abilities, and material possessions, based upon the conviction that these are trusts from God to be used in his service for the benefit of all mankind in grateful acknowledgement of Christ’s redeeming love.”

National Council of Churches United Stewardship Council (1946)

“Stewardship is what we do after we say we believe.” Clarence C. Stoughton (1949)

“Stewardship is partnership with Christ, through the Holy Spirit, in fulfilling the purposes of God in the world.” A.C. Conrad (1955)

“Stewardship is the re-enactment of Christ’s life in Christ’s people.” T.A. Kantonen (1956)

“Stewardship is the management of life and all its resources for God and for the good of all.”

Robert Hastings (1961)

“Stewardship is receiving and sharing God’s bounteous gifts and managing them for the best promotion of God’s purposes in the world.” Milo Kauffman (1975)

“Stewardship is taking care of the bounty that God continually provides us.” L. David Brown (1978)

“Christian stewardship has come to mean ‘what we do with what we have, all the time.’”

John H. MacNaughton (1983)

“Stewardship is a philosophy of life and a theological form of self-management.” John Brackett (1988)

“Stewardship is God’s grace working God’s purpose out in the world, in, with and through us, who, in grateful response to God and through faith in Jesus Christ, enter into a covenant relationship with the empowering Spirit of God that blesses all of creation.” Rhodes Thompson (1990)

Questions:

Stewardship

Which of these do you like best?

Could you come up with a definition that would better suit us as a congregation?

What would that be?



All church and non-church events/ meetings have to be booked through the church office with Patti. This eliminates the conflict of two things being set for the same time in the same area.

Thank you!

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

September 11, 2012

Funeral Luncheons: Nancy Streightiff, Laurie Pommerening & Laurie Buehler met to organize and establish a standard set of guidelines for this function. Nancy Streightiff & Laurie Pommerening agreed to be the coordinators.

Senior Fellowship group: The Senior Fellowship group met on Sept. 11, 2012 at noon and enjoyed a potluck lunch, fellowship and music provided by Dennis Doeden, Jim Thompson, Dave Murphy and Pat Kembitsky. Twenty seven people were in attendance. Devotions were given by Ida Martinson.

Ione McIntyre proposed to set up a “yearbook” for Bethel. Included would be pictures of families, church activities and a short biographical sketch of each family. Ione would collect, layout and print the “yearbook”.

M/S Loren Hoyum/Laurie Buehler to authorize Ms. McIntyre to proceed with the Church “yearbook” and to provide \$500.00 for the project.

Consecration Sunday is the first Sunday in October (Oct. 7). Pr. Mark requested that three council members give “temple talks” on consecutive Sunday’s beginning on

Sept. 16, 2012. Volunteers were:

Sept. 16 - Duane Christensen

Sept. 23 - Paul McIntyre

Sept. 30 - Kirt Dreyer

Laurie Buehler will write a letter to the congregation and include a prayer.

Pre-school program investigation at Bethel Lutheran.

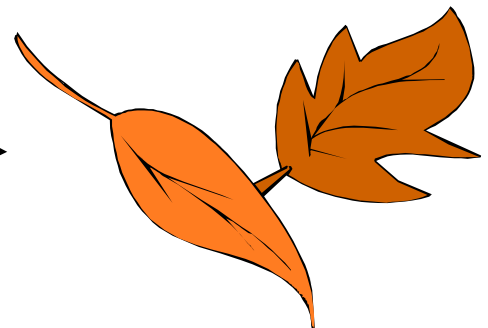
Duane Christensen has several contacts within the public school system and has been advised that there are at least forty (40) families that would like to enroll their children in pre-school programs but there is not room in existing programs. Duane asks for council approval to study the possibility of establishing a pre-school program at Bethel. This study could include but not necessarily be limited to:

- (1) determining if our facility would meet requirements;
- (2) what number of children could be served; and
- (3) financial conditions.

Calvary Lutheran Church has inquired if they could “borrow” twenty five (25) of our Sanctuary chairs to try out in their church.

Submitted by Laurie Buehler

Official minutes will be available in the narthex after they are approved.





OCTOBER

Birthdays

- 01 Jamie Eidsmoe
- 02 Francis Rogers
- 03 Kris Berndt
Caleb Schotzko
- 04 Jillian Clink
- 05 Mary Lu Oustad
Brian Rinkenberger
Laurie Wood
- 06 Carol Johnson
- 07 Ronald Vietor
Marilyn Workman
- 09 Herbert Peterson
- 12 Debra Larson
Allan Randt
- 13 Joseph Casper
- 14 Elmer Sand
- 15 Rick Berndt
Bruce Norrgard
Morgan Powell
- 17 Nickolas Seitz
- 18 Tim Johnson
- 22 Donna Neujahr
- 26 Dallas Anderson
Kathleen Eidsmoe
- 29 Megan Oustad
Lorraine Pemberton



October 01	Earl & Margaret McNea	1966
October 20	Ardella Lindseth	1951
October 25	Jan & Gloria Veiss	1978
October 27	Harlan & Violet Charon	1945
October 31	Hank & Patricia Moen	1965

Senior Fellowship Group

This group meets in the Fellowship Hall at Bethel on the second Tuesday of each month at 12:00 noon. Come join them and enjoy a potluck lunch followed by a short program. Their next meeting is scheduled for 10/9/12.



Calling All Seniors!

When emailing Pastor Mark Kindem please use the following new email address:



pastorkindem@hotmail.com

To view our October Calendar go to Bethel Lutheran's home page on the web and in the tab bar double click on MONTHLY CALENDARS. Then double click on OCTOBER 2012 down in the left hand corner of the screen. This will open a PDF of the OCTOBER calendar for you to view.



PRAY
for our
Students



The parishioners of Bethel need to be involved to help Bethel function and grow.

Working on Bethel committees is one way to help our church. Below are listed the current committees of our church. Make a check mark next to the committee (or committees) that you would want to be a part of. Then, please, write your name, address and phone number at the bottom of this card. A brief description of each committee’s work is listed on the bottom half of this form. Please leave your completed form in the Church office. Thanks, your Bethel Church Council.

_____ Christian Education and Youth

_____ Staff Support

_____ Property

_____ Finance and Stewardship

_____ Fellowship and Evangelism

_____ Church in Society

_____ Personnel

_____ Worship and Music

Your Name and address:

Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____

Phone Number: _____

Description of Bethel’s committees:

Christian Education and Youth: To provide a lifelong program of Christian Education for all ages.

Staff Support: To aid Church staff members confidentially with concerns, and with goals for their work.

Property: To help with maintaining and improving real and personal property of the Congregation.

Finance/Stewardship: To manage the financial assets of Bethel, and provide a program of stewardship education. Also to challenge **ALL** members to offer their time and talents to the work of Bethel Church.

Fellowship/Evangelism: To lead Bethel in ministering to those who are not active members, and to seek out new members for Bethel.

Church in Society: To aid efforts to meet the needs of those within Bethel and those in the community.

Personnel: To provide leadership in all aspects of the hiring and supervision of Bethel’s employees.

Worship and Music: To assist the pastor and council in providing high quality worship services.

Comments: _____



3rd Grade Bible Class!

Congratulations to
Bernt Sorenson!

Bernt has complete the 3rd. Grade Bible Class and will be presented his bible this coming Sunday!

Sunday School SCHEDULE

Wednesday, October 03 @ 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 10 @ 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 17 - No Class

Wednesday, October 24 @ 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, October 31 - No Class



October 03 @ 6:30 p.m.

October 10 @ 6:30 p.m.

October 17 @ 6:30 p.m.

NO YOUTH GROUP (MEA)

October 24 @ 6:30 p.m.

October 31 @ 6:30 p.m.

Meeting with Confirmation Class

Confirmation Classes



7th - 9th
Grade

Oct. 03 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Theme Event #2
Hallowed be thy name

Oct. 10 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Fellowship Event

Oct. 17 MEA Week—NO CLASS

Oct. 12-13 Confirmation Faith Statement Retreat
@ Kohl's Resort

Oct. 24 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Theme Event #3
Thy Kingdom come

Oct 28 10:30 a.m. service
AFFIRMATION of BAPTISM

Oct. 31 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Students will meet
with Youth Leader Randy McKain



WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY!

--A Meditation--

The story of creation in Genesis 1-3 for me is one of the most powerful in all of scripture. Two wonderful things take place. One was the created world itself from the stars in heaven to the waters and the mountains, plants and creeping things, fish and animals. Humans today are still in the early stages of discovering its incomparable complexity, its beauty and order. The other wonderful thing was the creation of humankind—"in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them." (Gen 1:27) What a stunning declaration!

The story in chapter 2 complements the story in chapter 1. Here God "formed man from the dust of the ground." (Gen 2:7) What a contrast! "God's image?" "Dust of the ground?" What a marvel. We are dust, yet in God's image.

Then, of course, man needs "a helper as his partner." As he names all the animals no such partner is found. Then, in a deep sleep God forms woman from a rib of the man. The woman is designated *Ishab*. The man, *Ish*, is stunned and overwhelmed:

"This at last is bone of my bones
And flesh of my flesh."
(Gen 2:23)

And thus began the richest of all partnerships: "Therefore a man leaves his father and mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh." I think of my wife and nod my head, "Yes, this is the wonder of wonders." Perhaps she does the same. *What an OPPORTUNITY!* God created us, you and me, for relationship, for intimacy, for family, for service to others and care for God's incomparable gift of creation.

Now, of course, we know there is a sequel to this. Romans 1 speaks of it in two dramatic ways:

→First, "they exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images resembling a mortal human being." We humans can do strange things.

→Second, parallel to this, humans, "having exchanged the truth of God for a lie" (Rom 1:25-6) ignored their creation "in the image of God" as "male and female." By replacing God's gift with "degrading passions" (Rom 1:26-27) we humans "did not see fit to acknowledge God." God thus gave us "up to a debased mind and to things that should not be done." (Rom 1:28) A long list follows—envy, murder, inventors of evil and on and on—with the conclusion: "They know God's decree that those who practice such things deserve to die—yet they not only do them but even applaud others who practice them." (Rom 1:32)

How did such a turnaround ever come about? It came with a totally new and unexpected *OPPORTUNITY*. Genesis 3 tells us about that.

One day Ishab happened to encounter a serpent, a symbol of wisdom, fertility and immortality. The serpent asked: "Did God say you should not eat from any tree in the garden?" Ishab is surprised and says in effect: "Not at all. We can eat from all of them except one. If we eat from that we shall die."

"O, no, no, no; not at all," replies the serpent. "In fact God knows that . . . your eyes will be opened, and you shall be like God knowing good and evil." (Gen 3:1-5)

What an OPPORTUNITY, thought *Ishab* and *Ish*. How beautiful the tree, and such "a delight to the eyes!" It is also good for food. And see, "the tree is to be desired to make one wise," like God! Is that not just what God wants for us as we manage his marvelous creation? *What an opportunity*, to be "wise . . . like God!"

That cinched it, and *Ishab* and *Ish* partook of a bite from the tree. Now how could becoming "wise . . . like God" so tear everything apart as it has? Paul in Romans 1 comments again: "Claiming to be wise, they became fools." (Rom 1:22)

Such is our world. We affirm our desires, and truly becoming oneself, and affirm cultural trends shaped by society and the people about us. Together we take note that all these things that appeal to us “are a delight to the eyes” and the heart, and in living our lives in accordance with them, we seek to honor the gift we have of being “wise. . . like God.” But alas, it is inverted—we expect God to be “wise. . . like us.”

Just at this point, and precisely the opposite from what we expect, God gives to us *the GREATEST OPPORTUNITY of all*. These words spell out God’s true gift to us in the midst of our useless effort to remake God in our image. As Paul writes:

“We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.
For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin,
so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.” (II Cor 5:21)

What an *INCOMPARABLE OPPORTUNITY!* It is the daily *new* possibility for us all. Amen.

paul varo martinson/09-16-2012



5232 Irvine Avenue NW, Bemidji, MN

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Bethel Lutheran's BAZAAR

Sat., October 6, 2012

8:00 am—2:00 pm



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Scandinavian Goodies

Rommegrot

Lefse



Farmer's Market

Crafts ~ Plants

Bake Sale

**Warm Lefse fresh
off the grill through-
out the morning!**

Lunch

11:00 AM

Church in Society

I recently heard a pastor talk about the words disciple and apostle. I had assumed that they meant pretty much the same thing but if you go by the roots of the words disciple means pupil, and apostle means one who is sent or messenger. Is there a difference if you consider yourself a disciple of Jesus or an apostle of Jesus?

October 16 is **WORLD FOOD DAY**. Countries around the world are looking at the causes of rising food costs and what can be done to lessen the impact of these prices on the world's poorest people. Our Second mile offering will go to World Hunger. If everyone worshipping gave an additional \$5, our contribution would be nearly \$500!

The **Food Shelf** is getting closer to a move to their new location. When it's time for the final clean up, additional volunteers will be needed. If you are able to push a broom, wield a dust cloth or polish windows sign up in the narthex or talk to Jan Beil.



The dedication of a refurbished home on Park Avenue will take place September 29 at 10:00 am. Come and celebrate with the Iron Necklace family as they move into a decent, affordable home. Fund raising will be going on to do a **Women Build** next summer. A **Faith Build** may also be in the works,

SOS will begin providing shelter for homeless individuals and families on November 1. Bethel will take a turn November 25-Dec. 2. We will need lots of help so please consider what you can do. Pray for the program, the volunteers and the individuals seeking shelter. God is good and he has told us to ask.



Our turn delivering **MEALS ON WHEELS** is October 29-November 2. Look for the sign up sheet in the narthex.

Thank You again for the hours you volunteers dedicate to the well-being of the Bemidji community. What better witness to our commitment to Christ than our servant hood.



Bethel Lutheran Church
5232 Irvine Avenue NW
Bemidji, MN 56601

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BETHEL BEACON

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OCTOBER 2012



Bethel Bazaar
Saturday, October 6, 2012
8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Quilt Raffle

\$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00

Tickets will be sold at the bazaar

Drawing to be held on

Saturday, October 6th

Pieced & quilted by

Laurie Pommerening And Lona Kile