



BETHEL BEACON

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Custodian

Prayer Chain
Day

Bob & Vi Swanson @ 444-3745

Evening

Judy Thorson @ 444-6944

**SUNDAY
WORSHIP**

9:00 AM

Contemporary Service

10:00 AM

Fellowship Hour

10:30 AM

Traditional Service



“God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him will not perish but will have eternal life.”

John 3:16

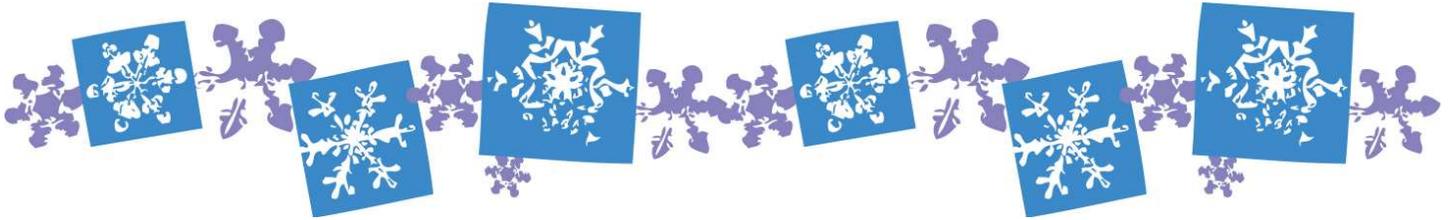
One of my favorite movie scenes comes from “Fiddler on the Roof.” In this scene, Tevye, the father has just given permission for his daughter to become engaged. He said he gave her permission because “She loves him” (He did this without telling his wife, Golde, and so they have a conversation. Of course, this is a musical, so it’s in a song.

“Golde...Do you love me?” She replies, “Do I what?”. He asks again, “Do you love me?”. She answers, “Do I love you? ...For twenty five years I washed your clothes, cooked your meals, cleaned your house, given you children, milked your cow, for twenty five years! Why talk about love right now?”. He explains why. “Golde, the first time I met you was on our wedding day! I was scared”. “I was shy”, she replied. “I was nervous”, he told her. “So was I!”, she added. He goes on to say: “...But my Father and my mother said we’d learn to love each other, and so I am asking... do you love me?”. “You’re a fool!”, she replies. “I know!” He adds. “but...do you love me?”. Then she asks herself: “Do I love him? ...For twenty-five years I’ve lived with him; fought with him starved with him; twenty-five years my bed is his... if that’s not love, what is?!” Then Tevye proclaims “...Then you love me!”. “I suppose I do!”. Golde responds. “Then, I suppose I love you to.”. He replies. (They both sing together), “It doesn’t change a thing, but even so, after twenty-five years, it’s nice to know.”

What is love without action? What is love without giving up something, or without sacrifice? Love is proven by what it does or does not do. In this the month of Valentines day and the beginning of Lent with Ash Wednesday, may we remember the great unending love that God has for us! He proved it in Jesus. Thanks be to God.

Pastor Mark Kindem

For February’s “Go the Extra Mile” we’re asking you to support the “Souper Bowl of Caring” that our youth will be collecting for on Sunday, February 5, 2012. There will not be a separate “Go the Extra Mile” the second Sunday of February! THANK YOU for supporting the Food Shelf!



On Sunday morning we sang that great gospel song, "I Love to Tell the Story." But how can we tell the story if we don't know the Bible? And how do we know the Bible? By reading and studying it every day.

When was the last time you attended a Bible Study? There is one at Bethel every Wednesday morning at 10:30 a.m. For the past several years, Ione and I have been attending this Bible Study. What a great opportunity it is to learn more about the Word of God! It is also a great opportunity to interact with other Bethel members.

One of my favorite discourses on the Bible comes from the Preamble to my own Gideon New Testament,

From the Council President

which I quote here:

"The Bible contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners, and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you.

It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's

sword, and the Christian's charter. Here paradise is restored, Heaven opened and the gates of hell disclosed.

CHRIST is its grand subject, our good the design, and the glory of God its end.

It should fill the memory, rule the heart, and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently, and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a paradise of glory, and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened at the judgment, and be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents."

Respectively,
Paul McIntyre
Council Chair 2012

Council Highlights

January, 2012 -- The big news from the council, it has chosen all new leadership with Paul McIntyre as president, Duane Christianson as vice president, Kirt Dreyer as secretary and Ray Brown as the treasurer. We are looking forward to these servants leading Bethel in new and exciting directions. Our prayers go to them for their willingness to serve in these challenging times.

In other action the council recommended a revised budget for the 2012 fiscal year. There was a significant increase in donations at the end of 2011 so we were able to restore some cuts, give some raises for employees and provide for additional programming.

In addition; on a divided vote, the council also recommended that the 50% of our benevolence that has been going to the Synod office be discontinued and the money be given to the food shelf and the China mission project for one year.

The Paulson foundation grant applications were reviewed and council recommendations were made to the Bethel Foundation Board.

The council acknowledged a \$1000 gift from the Keith Malmquist estate for the memorial garden and grounds.

Topics for the annual meeting were discussed and the council retreat was set for Saturday, Feb. 4, 2012 @ 9:00 AM to Noon. The

executive committee will do the agendas for both of these events.

The council decided that due to the smaller size of our congregation and low interest to combine several of the church committees. Namely Evangelism and Fellowship, Finance and Stewardship, the Executive committee will continue to serve as the Personnel committee and the Youth and Education committees were combined last year.

Various other committee reports were accepted and the meeting closed with prayer.

Submitted by: Loren Hoyum

These are not the official minutes.

With year's end we knew the increase in use has been major. We have been able to keep up with the need by the generous donations of money and foods from the church members of churches represented on our board and the community. We cannot say thank you enough for all the support.

Our church has volunteers to be proud of. They donate their time to serving at the food shelf on our church's designation service day which is the first Wednesday of each month. The work is not easy. Stocking shelves, filling orders, cleaning and anything else that is required is part of their service to the clients in the Lord's service. "Have you not done this unto the least of these as you have also done unto me."

Bemidji Community FOOD SHELF



The food shelf will have its annual meeting on February 9th, at noon, here at our church when a soup lunch will be served. The public is invited. Annual reports will be available and our coordinator, Jack Judkins, will be holding volunteer training for new volunteers.

Election of officers is also being held. These are the Vice President and Treasurer positions to be elected. Edith Hoyum will run for re-election

as Treasurer. I see no reason why she will not be re-elected. She is doing a fine job.

I will not run for re-election as Vice President, due to medical recommendation with ongoing health issues. I have enjoyed my many years with the food shelf and will miss it. I will still be doing RSVP representation for the food shelf which is less demanding. My replacement as your church representation on the food shelf board is Jan Biel. I know she will do a good job. Please continue to support Jan as you have me.

I hope your support of the food shelf moves forward, as we continue looking to relocate into a larger space that is so desperately needed.

Nancy Streightiff

Please

Take

Note!

Church web site is up and running again!

Bethel's church web site was down since Monday, January 23, 2012. On Friday, January 27, 2012 I managed to get it up and running.

My email address:
adminsec@bethelbemidji.org
is working again! Yeah!!!



February Birthdays

- 06 Bonnie Wurl
- 07 Judy Reese
- 09 Arlen Rinkenburger
Mike Sadek
- 16 Caleb Pfremer
Marian Blehm
Willis Stebleton
- 19 Cody Schlichting
- 21 Raymond Brown
- 26 Violet Swanson



Anniversaries

Feb. 02 Willis & Ruth
Stebleton
1969



Wednesday, February 22, 2012

12:00 noon service

with soup/sandwich following noon service

6:30 pm Evening service



Wednesdays

- February 29 @ 12:00 noon
- March 07 @ 12:00 noon
- March 14 @ 12:00 noon
- March 21 @ 12:00 noon
- March 28 @ 12:00 noon

with soup/sandwich following each service

Sunday School SCHEDULE

Wednesday, February 01 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, February 08 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, February 15 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Wednesday, February 22 @ 6:30 p.m.
 Ash Wednesday Service
 Wednesday, February 29—No Class

Confirmation Classes

**7th - 9th
Grade**

Feb. 01 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Theme Event
 Feb. 08 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Servant Event
 Feb. 15 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Theme Event
 Feb. 22 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday
 service then Theme Event
 Feb. 29 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Guide Meeting -
 Students with family tonight

February 1 (6:30 pm) Study Night: We will read the final chapter of the book “Jesus with Dirty Feet.”

February 5 (6:30 pm) Souper Bowl Sunday: The youth will collect cash and food donations for the Food Shelf after each service.

February 8 The Newlywed Game for Oldyweds: All are welcome to come to church to hear about married life from four couples in our church in a most unusual and unique way. There will be refreshments afterward.

February 15 (6:30 pm) Scavenger Hunt: Meet at the church for a fun and creative scavenger hunt.

February 22 (6:30 pm) Ash Wednesday Service. Study Night: We will study the topic “Your Compulsion for Completion” from the DVD series “Relationships” by Les and Leslie Parrot of the Seattle Pacific University Relationship Center.



February 24-26 Ski Trip to Giant’s Ridge: This is for high school youth and the cost is approximately \$75 to \$100 for each student depending upon the final number of attendees. Call Randy at 766-8055 for more information or to sign up.

February 29 Area Youth Rally at the Evangelical Free Church – we will meet at Q’Doba’s / Burger King for dinner at 5:30 pm and then go to the rally which starts at 6:45 pm and ends at 8:45 pm. Parents can pick up their student from the Evangelical Free Church at 8:45 pm.

To view our February 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 FEBRUARY 2012 down in the left hand corner of the screen. This will open a PDF of the FEBRUARY calendar for you to view.



Church in Society

There are two programs coming up that Bethel can participate in that will benefit those in need and our community.

The Food Shelf is beginning a capital campaign called, Helping Hands. The goal of the drive is to purchase a site that better meets their needs and the needs of the population they serve. People are being asked to give \$50 toward the purchase of another space. The building being considered has enough storage to consolidate the food they have and put in walk in freezer space so that food will be at the facility when needed. The service area will be larger making it safer for those working, and there will be space for the gleanings as they come in. Please consider giving \$50 to this campaign. It will not take the place of the food drives or the Food Share effort on March.

The second somewhat new program is a Faith Build with Habitat for Humanity. This community wide gathering of church folk will build a house this summer. The families for this year's build have been chosen and they are working on their 100 hours needed before they can move on to site or plan selection. Habitat will provide the supervision, most of the tools and materials. What congregations can give is money, volunteers, meals and snacks, much prayer, and in-kind services. We need a congregational liaison to work with the other liaisons from the community. Look for more information on the poster in the fellowship hall.

Thanks to all the folks that adjusted their schedules for Meals on Wheels. We got the food to the folks on time! Thank you to those that helped with SOS at Missionary Fellowship Assembly of God. Churches are sharing the care when a church can provide the place but not all the needed coverage. If you can help, listen for announcements or let Pastor Mark or Laurie Buehler know.

We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be. All that we have is thine alone, a trust ob Lord from thee.

2012 COUNCIL MEMBERS

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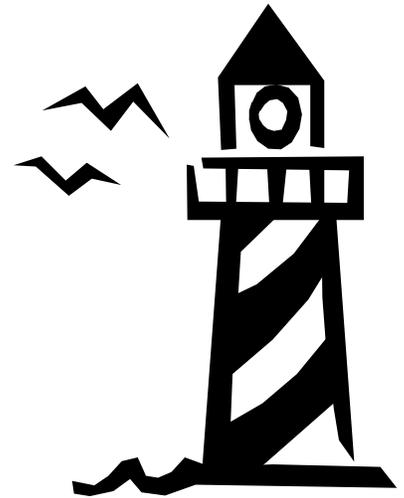
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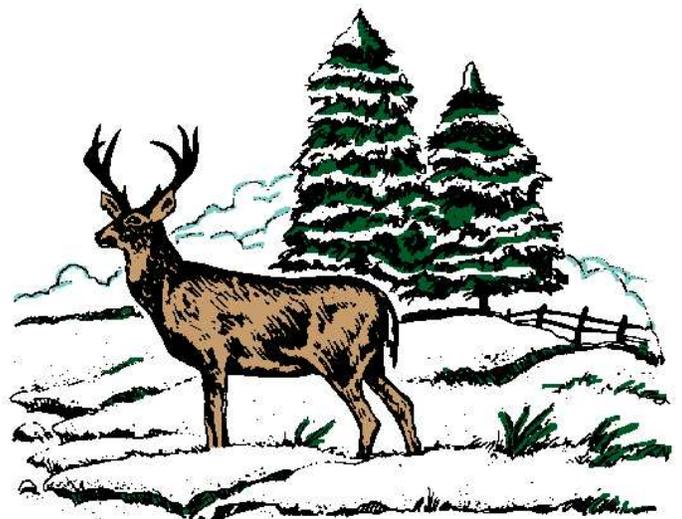
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FEBRUARY 2012

MT. CARMEL BIBLE CAMP

How about taking the family to Bible Camp next summer? Mt. Carmel is located on Lake Carlos north of Alexandria, MN, and is set up for families, couples, or singles of all ages to enjoy a great week of Christian fellowship, bible study, and recreation. Pastor and Mrs. Kindem would like you to join them at camp this summer June 30-July 6, 2012. There are family style cabins, or campsites for your tent or camper. It's a fun week ... the kids spend the morning in the youth programs, so the adults are free to listen to the morning bible study leaders. Then, of course, there's plenty of lake time and relaxing fun. If you are interested in going, please contact Miriam Kindem A.S.A.P. The camp fills up fast, so we want to make sure to get you in. Brochures and more information will be following.



FEBRUARY