



# BETHEL BEACON

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

5232 Irvine Avenue NW

Bemidji, MN 56601

July 2012

218-444-4746  
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bethelbemidji.org

**Rev. Mark Kindem**  
Pastor

[On sabbatical until 9/1/12]

**Rev. Mike Fiske**  
Summer Interim Pastor  
mike54@paulbunyan.net

**Patti VanCamp**  
Office Admin./Fin. Manager  
adminsec@bethelbemidji.org

**LaVon Johnson**  
Secretary/Receptionist  
lavon.johnson@yahoo.com

**Abe Hanson**  
Custodian

**Prayer Chain**  
- Day -  
Darrel & Lillian Lauderbaugh  
@ 751-2230  
- Evening -  
Judy Thorson @ 444-6944



*Grace and peace be to you from God our Father, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ in a Holy Spirit that calls, gathers, enlightens and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth. Amen.*

I am so happy to be with all of you at Bethel this summer, because you are a very blessing for me and the community of Bemidji at this time. During our time together I have come

to know more about you as a community in Jesus Christ and so Sue and I will ever be blessed by your Christian faith as we continue our journey. I am not a very profound person in the theological world, but rather my life awareness has always led me to simply live among people and be part of them.

Sue and I will want to drink coffee with you after worship because Christian worship is some of the world's most blessed times of existence. Invite your friends and come to Bethel with me and worship our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ since our time together is so very short. As we gather together in Prayer, Praise and Thanksgiving it will always be so very insightful beyond measure.

Here's to our "Christian Profundity".

Luv Ya,  
Pastor Mike

## \* Summer \* WORSHIP Schedule

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

## Church in Society

"You can't control what happens to a blessing after you give it," we were reminded in the June 17 devotion from Christ In Our Home. That desire often comes up when we work with or give to some of the organizations and people we give to. Sometimes we want to put strings on our blessings but our offertory prayer reminds us who is the giver and what our response is; we pray "Blessed are you oh Lord, our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts and with them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that

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## From the Council President

On one occasion, while driving north on Irvine Avenue I envisioned a very large sign placed on the front lawn of our church with two foot high letters reading, "Construction Zone" and beneath that "God at work", and in very small letters "be careful what you talk, not where you walk."

Humor, perhaps, but I do firmly believe that God is at work among our congregation healing, counseling, administering, forgiving, loving, serving, admonishing and correcting. And many, many other works we do not always see but we do have a sense that something is going on because there is a whole lot of goodness flowing out of Bethel these days.

I hear Him on Sunday morning, when the Word is read. I hear Him in the sermon, the music, the liturgy, the prayers, and meet Him at the foot of the cross during communion; yes, I feel God's presence at Bethel.

I see His presence in others, in the office, cutting the grass, sewing the quilts, administrating the food shelf, delivering meals, aiding the homeless, greeting the stranger, serving the coffee, administering the sacraments, ushering, playing the musical instruments, cleaning the kitchen or wiping down the tables in the fellowship hall. I see Him everywhere.

Before every council meeting, before every gathering, be it at Men's Group, Council or Committee meetings, I give God the praise that I can serve in some small way in His kingdom here on earth, asking for guidance in what I will do or say, knowing full well how imperfect it will be.

Pastor Mark has set the tone and drawn the proverbial line in the sand with his comments in the June Beacon, our church newsletter. You may wish to review them again. After all, this is a time for reflection. We as a congregation can choose to ignore Mark's words and turn aside and go down

another road such as proposed by the ELCA -- the road that leads to compromise and acceptance of behaviors that conflict with both the Old and New Testaments, or we can embrace the teachings of Lutheran Doctrine that places moral behavior as one of its highest callings. After all, Bethel is a Lutheran Church, not a Unitarian Church.

Well, will any of these issues be resolved at Bethel in the foreseeable future? Maybe. I would hope so, but for the present we are told to be patient and kind to one another, for God is at work -- here -- with us -- now.

Paul McIntyre  
Council Chair (2012)

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## News Brief About the Mission of China Ventures

This past week 7 counselors from Wapogasset Bible Camp in Wisconsin, together with CSV's China Program Coordinator, Rev. John Peterson and wife Valerie, spent two days with Paul and Ida Martinson in Bemidji talking about mission in China and the youth camp ministry in Henan Province. They will be working with some 200 young people from the poor rural areas in four camps during July.

It was a pleasure to hear their testimonies and the commitment in outreach to youth who do not yet know the Gospel. Typical of the affirmation of these seven are these words: "I can't think of a single student with whom I've worked (in 19 years of teaching) that I would recommend more highly ... She will be a gift to your program, and I know your students would love her."

Anthony, Amy, Abigail, Brittany, Chance, Jonathon, Rachel (4 women and 3 men) will join with up to 11 youth counselors from Hong Kong and 7 Chinese Christian college youth (trained by CVS for this summer) in this ministry. These 7 youth come 2 each from Indiana, Minnesota and Wisconsin and 1 from Missouri. They come from ELCA, LCMC, Evangelical Free and Methodist churches. Your prayers are eagerly awaited.

Paul & Ida Martinson



**SUMMER HOURS  
for  
CHURCH OFFICE**

**Monday**

Noon to 4:30 p.m.

**Tuesday thru Thursday**

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Friday**

8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon



- July 8 11:30 a.m. Sunday  
*Church picnic at OHCC*
- July 11 7:00 pm Wednesday  
*"Surrender" Youth Bible Study by Francis Chan at the church*
- July 14 *Possible Day Trip to Sonshine*
- July 18 7:00 pm Wednesday and  
July 25 7:00 pm Wednesday  
*"Surrender" Youth Bible Study by Francis Chan at the church*
- July 29 6:00 p.m. Sunday  
*Family BBQ & Yard Games at Bethel*
- Aug. 01 7:00 pm Wednesday  
*"Surrender" Youth Bible Study by Francis Chan at the church*



"Lutheran Campus Ministry in Bemidji has a new website address. You can view the latest newsletter IN COLOR at this website as well as see pictures of activities from the last several years. Go to "[www.LCMBemidji.org](http://www.LCMBemidji.org)" to access their website."



Serving and being a Marine for my Country has been an honor and fulfilled a dream I had since I was a small boy.

I would like to thank the Bethel Lutheran Church Congregation for all the prayers while I served with the Marines.

I thank the Bethel members, family and friends for the very much appreciated care packages, letters, cards and special prayers when I was deployed twice to Afghanistan.

Prayers are Powerful  
Cpl. Scott Michael Evans



## Birthdays

- 01 Jennifer Johnson
- 01 Ron Johnson
- 01 Jessica Powell
- 02 Kaia Sele
- 04 Douglas Sele
- 09 Barbara Brown
- 09 Adam Pederson
- 12 Colleen Mayer
- 13 Jacob Gregory
- 17 Martha Watts
- 17 Marilyn Zeman
- 18 Oscar Copiskey
- 21 Dorothy Mickelberg
- 22 Pearl Ledin
- 22 Cody Randt
- 22 Amity Steffen
- 23 Jesse Buehler-Blackwood
- 23 Ruth Graves
- 24 Eric (Brody) Dreyer
- 25 Jane Molitor
- 27 Linda Drees

- 28 Katelyn Jerdee
- 28 Ardella Lindseth
- 31 Ashley Paulus
- 31 Michael Urban



## Anniversaries

*Heather & Bryan Anderson, July 03, 2006*

*Paul & Ione McIntyre, July 12, 1964*

*Allen & Penny Evans, July 17, 1973*

*Elmer & June Sand, July 21, 1954*

*Paul & Linda Drees, July 22, 1967*



*Thank you, Bethel friends, for your prayers, telephone calls, cards sent and visits while Lillian was recovering from her home accident. Your friendship and concern meant so much to us.*

*Thank you, Pastor Mark, for your many hospital and home visits.*

*Darrel & Lillian Lauderbaugh*



# Serious Matter That Developed in Petrozavodsk

(Written June 14, 2012)



Dear friends and prayer warriors of EEMN,

We ask you to pray about a serious matter that has developed in Petrozavodsk. For many years we have called the existence of the Friendship English Language Camp and The Christian Center in a public school a miracle, and that it is. At the same time the forces of the enemy are about, and at times in years past there have been attempts of one form or another to close the camp and/or The Christian Center. It has been many years since anything serious has come up. Other than 2009 when there were rumors of an imminent investigation by authorities that actually never ended up taking place.

Mid-morning today, agents for the FSB (formerly known as KGB), arrived at our Friendship English Language Camp in Petrozavodsk, Russia and began to gather information about the camp and its activities at the school. Various interviews were held with a number of people, including an extensive one with Eric Debelak, one of our team leaders now that Pastor Bill & Sally are in St. Petersburg with the newly arrived SPEBC team. Later in the day, authorities from the Attorney General's Office and the Immigration Department came to meet with school leaders as well as our EEMN leadership. No one is at risk, but it is clear that there is a coordinated attempt to end the camp ministry by three different governmental agencies. We don't know what has precipitated this specific attack, but at the end of the day we know God's enemy is rearing his head. The camp ends tomorrow and the team is scheduled to leave by train Friday evening to St. Petersburg in preparation for the flight back to the US on Monday. We are praying that the last day of camp will go forward without incident and have no reason to think that the camp will be closed tomorrow. Again, no one on the American Team is at risk and everything is fine with them.

The major concern is for the future of The Christian Center, which is an EEMN-sponsored Christian ministry in a public school (Lyceum #1) in Petrozavodsk, Russia. Tomorrow morning FSB officials will return to the school to investigate more closely the role of the Center in the school and the camp. We have always known that some year the Friendship English Language Camp could cease to exist. Perhaps we are at that crossroads. But we are asking you to pray with us for protection & preservation of the ongoing ministry of the Center and it's staff and workers. Our EEMN team leaders (Erik Debelak, Bob & Donna Bogott, Bill & Sally Moberly) had a special tea time on Wednesday with the Christian Center Staff and workers. It was a marvelous testimony of the many ways God is using the Center in the lives of many people. We heard stories that went right back to the very earliest days of the Center. So we ask you to pray fervently with us as the ministry comes under scrutiny and attack especially over this next 24 hours. Please pray also for continued peace for the team as they carry out their week over this next day. We have an amazing group this year. One of the cafeteria workers heard today about the investigation. There is a new cafeteria team this year that is preparing meals for the camp for the first time. This person became very upset and said, 'There is much in our country that is in disarray, there is much crime and many problems. Yet they are spending time investigating something that is so wonderful for our children.

Please pray with us for God's miraculous intervention and deliverance for the future of the camp and The Christian Center, Director Marina Zincova and its staff and workers.

Sincerely in Christ,

Pastor Bill and Sally Moberly

EEMN Director and EEMN Short Term Missions Coordinator

[continued]

(Written June 15, 2012)

Dear Friends of EEMN, The Christian Center, and Friendship English Language Camp,

Thanks for the prayers of so many, and the notes of encouragement from across the country. The Lord has been answering your prayers so far, and for this we give thanks!!!

First, the team has a good last day at camp and the full camp week was completed. Praise the Lord!

Also, Christian Center Director Marina Zincova was visited by FSB officers and was questioned this morning. It went smoothly as of now, and she was told her papers were in order. The office showed Marina the report she had written and Marina was pleased with what it said. It is now being sent to her superiors, so we are praying for a full vindication and preservation of the center.

Part of the issue pursued by the FSB came to light. The team is serving on tourist visas this year. We were issued letters of invitation by the ministry of education for 2012, but the foreign offices across the country were closed for more than two months, until mid April, which made it impossible to get cultural visas which permit religious and educational work for this year. This explanation satisfied the immigration office. They fully understood the predicament after a visit from Tatiana Popyshkova and Eric Debelak. Tatiana was able to present all of the paperwork including the original invitations to each team member but the FSB pressured the immigration office into calling the team back to the immigration office and levying a fine totaling over \$1,000.00. for the entire team for teaching while on tourist visas. According to Eric they were very apologetic but had no way to avoid what the FSB was forcing them to do. EEMN will pass this fine and no marks will go on the record of any team member that will prevent future visas.

- THE TEAM LEAVES BY TRAIN TONIGHT FOR ST PETERSBURG, AND MOST FLY BACK TO THE US ON MONDAY.
- WE ARE STILL PRAYING FOR THE LONG TERM PRESERVATION OF THE CHRISTIAN CENTER WHEN THE AUTHORITIES HIGHER UP IN FSB ACT ON THE REPORT THEY HAVE RECEIVED.
- WE ALSO HAVE NO WORD ON THE LONG TERM AFFECTS OF THE VISIT BY THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S OFFICE TO LYCEUM #1, OUR HOST SCHOOL.
- LOOKING AHEAD, WE HAVE TRIED UNSUCCESSFULLY TO OBTAIN CULTURAL VISAS IN 2011 AND 2012. THEY ARE NOW WATCHING US VERY CLOSELY. SO WE MUST PRAY FOR THE LORD'S WISDOM AND DIRECTION FOR THE FUTURE OF FRIENDSHIP ENGLISH LANGUAGE CAMP IN PETROZAVODSK AS WE LOOK AHEAD AT 2013.
- WE ARE PRAYING FOR THE LORD'S WISDOM AS WE LOOK AHEAD FOR HIS PLAN. WE ALSO THANK THE LORD AND ASK FOR CONTINUED MINISTRY THROUGH THE CHRISTIAN CENTER AT LYCEUM #1, AND FOR THE UPCOMING MINISTRY OF THE RETREAT CENTER. THE LORD HAS A PLAN!
- PLEASE PRAY FOR TATIANA POYSHKOVA, PRINCIPAL EMELIYA SLUBANOVA, AND CENTER DIRECTOR MARINA ZINCOVA AS WE SEE WHAT HAPPENS IN THE COMING DAYS AND WEEKS.

THANKS AGAIN FOR STANDING WITH US IN PRAYER! OUR GOD IS AN AWESOME GOD!

Thanks again for standing with us in prayer! Our God is an Awesome God!

IN CHRIST,

*Rev. Bill & Sally Moberly*

“When we know more we will share it.”

Nancy Streightiff  
444-8809

# Bemidji Community FOOD SHELF

This is an exciting time for our Food Shelf here in Bemidji. The executive board as well as the full board are all in relocation mode as we look forward to a move to a new facility. Food Shelf coordinator Jack Judkins stays busy with grant proposals, and reports that we are halfway to our goal of matching a grant from Neilson Foundation. We have been told that other significant grants are forthcoming

soon. Look for an announcement in the near future.

Congratulations to Edith Hoyum who recently received recognition from United Way representative, Tanya Hasbargan. Edith was awarded the "Someone Special" award for her many volunteer hours she gives to the Food Shelf preparing the financial statements. Food Shelf president, Bill Beyer, was also recognized. A huge THANK YOU to Edith.

Another request is going out for peanut



butter. Nearly all the peanut butter collected earlier is gone, and it continues to be difficult to find at a reasonable price for the Food Shelf.

As always, thank you to all the volunteers who help out at the Food Shelf. Your caring and dedication is evident.

Please take a look at the display board in the fellowship hall. There are pictures of the new facility, as well as pledge forms for anyone interested in making a donation.

Jan Beil

## Council Highlights

June 12, 2012

### Senior Fellowship group

Duane Christensen reported on the development of this group. Since there has been good response, this will be continued and will meet once a month. Suggestion was made, by Duane, that the meeting be held at a regular time each month.

### Funeral lunches

The congregational members will have the opportunity to volunteer to assist in the preparation and serving of funeral lunches. A card will be handed out with bulletins for each member to indicate how they can help.

### Scheduled office hours during the summer (until September)

Day/time	Office
<b>personnel on duty</b>	
Monday/AM	Office closed
Monday/PM	Patti
Tuesday/AM	LaVon
Tuesday/PM	Patti
Wednesday/AM	LaVon
Wednesday/PM	Patti
Thursday/AM	LaVon
Thursday/PM	LaVon
Friday/AM	LaVon
Friday/PM	Office closed

The summer schedule for worship services follows. All services at 9 am.

Date	Music by	Service
July 1	Carol Johnson	Contemporary
July 8	-	Traditional

Date	Music by	Service
July 15	Abby & Becky Crisman	Contemporary
July 22	Abby & Becky Crisman	Contemporary
July 29	-	Traditional
Aug. 5	-	Traditional
Aug. 12	Abby & Becky Crisman	Contemporary
Aug. 19	-	Traditional
Aug. 26	-	Traditional

### Habitat for Humanity

Faith Build project begins 6/14/12 Ten (10) churches take part.

Bethel is scheduled to work July 26, 27 & 28.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kirt Dreyer, Council Secretary



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





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you have made." It is quite a commitment. Bethel has always been mindful of "paying it forward" as the current saying goes. At our 75th anniversary the motto, "Blessed to be a blessing" was chosen and we often remind ourselves of that desire. The opportunities are there to add your hands to the work God is doing in caring for all creation. In July, you are invited to be part of the following:

**\*Habitat for Humanity Faith Build.** Bethel Builders will be on site July 26,27,28. More hands are welcome and volunteers are also needed to provide snacks and lunches for those three days. If you will help, take a sticky note from the HOUSE THAT FAITH BUILT and add your name to the list of volunteers.

**\*Jan Beil** has set up a display of the building the **Food Shelf** hopes to be in by the end of August. They are currently seeking additional financial support from individuals to meet the \$100,000 match with the Nielson Foundation. Ask any of our first Wednesday of the month volunteers if this move is needed and you will get a rousing "YES" and possibly a story about tripping over one another or the worn carpeting or the food piled high. The larger facility will allow them to take advantage of more food that is available and will be a greater blessing to our community.

**\*Bike and Build-ers** will be in Bemidji July 29 on their way from New Hampshire to Vancouver. If you are available to help with the evening meal or breakfast call Laurie at 759-1923. This program introduces young people to the housing needs in the US and gives them the opportunity to fund-raise and participate in various housing projects as part of their trip.

**\*Look for the green 'child'** in the narthex with his short story about his bout with malaria. The ELCA joins other Lutheran groups and denominations in the effort to eradicate deaths due to malaria. The \$15 million by 2015 campaign is underway. One congregation estimated that if each congregation in the ELCA could give their share, about \$1400, the goal would be met. Some in our synod have set and met this goal. Please pick up a medication vial and fill it with your change for a noisy offering.

**\*We will deliver MEALS ON WHEELS** August 13-17. We are in a rotation with ten other churches to deliver meals so although we delivered at the end of May, our turn is coming up again soon. Thanks for remembering those that may not get out or be able to prepare food for themselves.

Let's proudly reaffirm our anniversary motto and strive to continue to be "Blessed to be a blessing"! Thank you for all you do in Jesus name.

# HELP WANTED

Someone to coordinate funeral luncheon arrangements and many to provide items for future funerals.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in serving as funeral coordinator. I will meet with the pastor or family to make arrangements and create a calling tree for volunteers.

\_\_\_\_\_ I am interested in helping with funeral luncheons - preparing, serving, cleaning up.

\_\_\_\_\_ I can provide something for a funeral luncheon - e.g. cake, cup cakes, bars, cookies, etc.

Thank you for being a part of this fellowship of support.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Best time to reach me: \_\_\_\_\_

Please put this sheet in the offering plate or turn it into the church office. Thanks!!

The Bethel Council



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5232 Irvine Avenue NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601

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# BETHEL BEACON

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JULY 2012

THE BEMIDJI AREA CHURCH MUSICIANS PRESENTS  
***THE 2012 SUMMER RECITAL SERIES***

Our 25th Season

WEDNESDAYS, NOON TO 12:30 P.M.

July 4	No recital – Happy July 4th	
July 11	Dr. Beverly Everett, organ	St Bartholomew's Episcopal Church 1800 Irvine Avenue NW
July 18	Glenn Seibel, euphonium	United Methodist Church 9th and Beltrami Avenue
July 25	Isaac Heath, tuba Jennifer Paquette, piano 2010 Scholarship Recipients	Calvary Lutheran Church 2508 Washington Avenue SE

FREE WILL OFFERING

Supports our Music Scholarships

LUNCH WILL BE AVAILABLE FOLLOWING EACH RECITAL – COSTS TO BE ANNOUNCED

FOR SEPTEMBER BEACON!!!!

Bemidji State University has commencement tomorrow (Friday, May 4) and we are hosting an Open House for several of our graduating seniors who have been peer ministers with us.....and this weekend several of our resident peer ministers will be moving out after living here and serving with us for a time, so we are in full transition mode!

I have a request for you.....when you put together your newsletters for this fall AND the one for September, if you have space, could you include the following 2 announcements for us?

"Lutheran Campus Ministry in Bemidji has a new website address. You can view the latest newsletter IN COLOR at this website as well as see pictures of activities from the last several years. Go to "[www.LCMBemidji.org](http://www.LCMBemidji.org)" to access their website."

"Lutheran Campus Ministry Bemidji is hosting their first-ever **Alumni Thank-You Dinner** during BSU Homecoming Weekend on Saturday, September 29 at 6:00 p.m. **at First Lutheran Church in Bemidji.** There is no charge for this event! It is a way for us to thank congregations, WELCA groups, alumni, friends, former board members and former residents and peer ministers for all their support of our ministry. Please let us know if you can join us at this event by calling the office at 751-5326."

THANKS SO MUCH for your assistance in helping us publicize this first-ever event!

