

# BEACON Newsletter

Monthly Publication  
Volume # 2010 Issue #05

JUNE 2010

## Bethel Lutheran Church

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Prayer Chain

Day - Bob & Vi Swanson @ 444-3745  
Evening - Mikky McCullough @ 751-4668



**May 30<sup>th</sup> thru September 5<sup>th</sup>**

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

## FOOD SHELF

**A**t our May meeting of the board we got the statistics for April. They were down just a bit with 519 families, 4 that had never used the Food Shelf before and 185 in for their first visit this year. When school is out we always see an increase in families due to more children eating at home. 29 families have already had their 5th visit for this year. Pounds of food distributed was 33,815 pounds.

The Postal Workers food drive was very successful this year. We sorted and stored food at Fist Lutheran church. We had a lot of helping hands to sort the food we received - 5,300 pounds. Boy Scout troops 25 and 82 were part of the sorting and help again this year and their help is greatly appreciated. Thanks to everyone that took part.

The garden is continuing this year and has already had some planting. If you are a gardener, and want to plant an extra row in your own garden, we appreciate that too. If you are interested in helping us in the food shelf garden and have not called to volunteer already, Marge Danielson (759-9514) is again coordinating the garden for us. Call her to volunteer your time and she will let you know when you are needed. Her email address is [gdaniels@paulbunyan.net](mailto:gdaniels@paulbunyan.net).

The Bemidji Lions Club is sponsoring an auction this summer to raise money for the non-profits in our area. The BCFS will be part of that project and is looking for items that you may wish to donate. We would be able to provide a receipt for such items that you could use for tax purposes. 65% of the funds generated for items donated especially for the Food Shelf will come directly to us. Check out our website for more information later this month. Our newsletter will be out soon and on our web page.

Hot items this month are: crackers, cold cereal, pancake mix and PLASTIC BAGS.

There are always exciting things going on at the food shelf and as your church representative on the board, if you have any questions, don't hesitate to ask. Thank you all for your continued support for your local food shelf.

Nancy Streightiff  
218-444-8809

4<sup>th</sup> of 10

## *Stewardship* Principles

*As baptized members of the body of Christ, we gratefully confess Jesus as our Lord and Savior. We boldly proclaim the gospel as the Word of God. We clearly recognize the gifts that God has first given us through grace, and we joyfully accept our role and responsibility as stewards. The following principle provides a foundation for the life of a faithful and generous steward.*

**4**

### **Give Willingly**

as moved by the Holy Spirit. We have been prepared to give of ourselves. We give our time, talents, and resources freely,

*"For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave ..."*

**2 Corinthians 8:3**

### **We walk together as stewards in God's church.**

*Our role as God's stewards is one of many dimensions - grateful, responsible, self-sacrificing, willing, sharing, proportionate, committed, regular, genuine, and challenged. By generously giving of ourselves, we discover joy in Christ.*

*"... you must give as you have made up your mind,*

*not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver."*

**2 Corinthians 9:7**

## **"Rejoice and Remember Service"**

**A worship and Prayer service for Cancer survivors.**

Those who lost their lives to cancer and families and friends of those who have been touched by cancer.

**Bethel Lutheran Church  
Saturday, July 17, 2010  
@ 7:00 p.m.**

**Everyone is welcome!**

Fund raiser after service.  
Slices of pie and beverages available.  
Whole pie auction will take place.



**Mark  
Your  
Calendar!**

*The Bethel Bazaar*

*Date is:*

*Saturday, October 23, 2010*

RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:  
**TURN IN YOUR ARTICLES**

**EARLY!**

R E M I N D E R:

**DEADLINE**

**FOR ELECTRONIC  
 NEWSLETTER ARTICLES**  
 IS THE 20<sup>th</sup>  
 OF EACH MONTH!

**[bethelbemidji.org](http://bethelbemidji.org)**

Due to staff cuts, the Beacon Newsletter will only be published electronically on Bethel's website during the summer months! We apologize for the inconvenience this may cause you.

Only electronic submissions for the newsletter will be accepted and they will be inserted as submitted.



*August 9-12, 2010*

*5:30 - 8:30 p.m.*

**W**e are busy planning VBS for this summer and will need your help!

There are many volunteer options from cooking meals, helping with crafts, games, music, drama and decorating! Any amount of time you could help would be appreciated! Please check out the volunteer sign-up list in the Narthex. We need all the help we can get! Keep an eye out for a list of donations that will be needed! Thanks for helping make VBS one of our best outreach programs again this year!

Call Sarah at 751-0051, Anna at 243-2359, Missy at 243-2350 to find out more ways to help!

## Pastoral Acts ~ MAY ~ 2010

### BAPTISMS

<b>Date:</b> 05/30/10	<b>Name</b> Kyra Mae Hovde
<b>Parents</b> Kristin Marie (Yaden) Hovde Jason Ray Hovde	<b>Sponsors:</b> Melissa Yaden

### WEDDINGS

<b>Date:</b> 05/15/10	<b>Name</b> Amanda Jean Sollund Jesse Raymond Molitor
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# ATTENTION

## ALL YOUTH

There will be a fellowship and fun event on Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. at Diamond Point Park. Activities, potluck and camp style worship to start off summer!

Any questions, contact Intern Kara  
[kwiechmann001@luthersem.edu](mailto:kwiechmann001@luthersem.edu) or  
 call Kara @ 218-308-0390.



**Saturday, June 5, 2010**  
**8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

*Cleaning out your attic, garage or office? If you find something you no longer use and would like to have it included in this sale, please bring it on Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup> to the church or contact any of the following for pickup and or storage.*

*All items large or small are welcome.  
 Please price to sell!*



**Len Bergstrom @ 243-3142**

**Kirt Dreyer @ 444-4641**

**Herb Peterson @ 444-3468**



Proceeds from this sale will go to the GENERAL FUND!

## BETHEL BAZAAR

**SAT., OCT. 23<sup>RD</sup> ~ 9AM-2PM**

This year's theme will be

### "IRISH EYES ARE SMILING"

Morning Coffee & Rolls and a  
 Noon Luncheon will be served.

Fresh Lefse & Rommegrot  
 will also be available.

"Bob & the Boys" will be back with  
 "Irish" songs this year.

**A LIVE AUCTION WILL BE AT 10:30 A.M.**

Please start thinking of items  
 you could add to the bazaar!

**Crafts    Theme Baskets**

**Farmer's Market Items    Baked Goods**

**Jams, Jellies & Preserves    Candy**

**Plants for our "New Plant Section"**



**Corey Huber**  
**Bemidji High School**  
 Son of  
 Mike and Kathy Huber

I plan to work at Enbridge all summer saving my money and beginning college at Bemidji State in the fall of 2010. I am currently looking at going into teaching in the Math Field and helping coach the Bemidji High School wrestling team on the side.

I have been student of the week, have an accumulative GPA of 3.75, was the captain of the cross country running and wrestling teams. I also played football and ran track.



**Brianna Gregory**  
**Cass Lake-Bena High School**  
 Daughter of  
 Sheila Masters &  
 John Gregory

I am a 2010 graduating senior at Cass Lake-Bena High School. I will be graduating with high honors on May 28th. I participated in National Honor Society, Choir, and

Extreme Club.

I am currently working in Walker, MN as a CNA (certified nursing assistant) at Maycreek Memory Care. This fall I am attending Northwest Technical College/Bemidji State University for my Nursing degree.

**Cyndi Fenske**  
**Bemidji State University**

Cyndi is the daughter of Gerald & Debbie Fenske. She graduated from Bemidji State University on Sunday, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010.



**Once forgotten. Now unforgettable.**

***Travel to the science museum  
to see the Dead Sea Scroll  
exhibit on Tuesday June 15<sup>th</sup>!***

Experience a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to witness one of the greatest archaeological finds of the 20th century—the Dead Sea Scrolls, which include the earliest known Biblical writings.

These 2,000-year-old, authentic text fragments are steeped in scientific, religious, and cultural significance. The Science Museum's one-of-a-kind exhibition, through October 24, 2010, invites visitors to learn about the science behind the Dead Sea Scrolls, and to reflect upon their significance.

The Dead Sea Scrolls tickets are timed and dated. Prices include the exhibition, admission to the museum's other exhibit galleries, and a Dead Sea Scrolls audio tour, which features adult and family versions.

At the conclusion of The Dead Sea Scrolls exhibition, which showcases the oldest-known hand-scribed record of the Hebrew Bible, you'll see The Saint John's Bible, which represents history's newest illustrated hand-written Bible. A work of art that illuminates the world today, it's the first complete, handwritten and illuminated Bible to be commissioned in 500 years. It uses ancient techniques—it's written on calf-skin vellum with quills, natural handmade inks, hand-ground pigments and gold leaf—to present themes, images and technology of the 21st century. The result is a project that has monumental artistic and spiritual significance for our time. And it originated right here in Minnesota.

***Dead Sea Scrolls = Museum Admission  
Omnitheater = Bus Fare***

**Adults (13-59) \$38, Child (4-12)  
\$24 Senior (60+) \$32**

**Food is on your own**

**Please sign up in the church office for this event!**

**Itinerary:**   **6:00 a.m.**   **Leave Bethel parking lot**  
                   **8:00 a.m.**   **Breakfast at McDonald's in  
Little Falls**  
                   **10:30 - 11:00 a.m.**   **Arrive at Science Museum**  
                   **1:00 p.m.**   **Omnitheater showing**  
                   **2:15 p.m.**   **Dead Sea Scroll Exhibit**  
                   **6:00 p.m.**   **Depart for Bemidji**



**2010 SUMMER RECITAL SERIES**

Free Will Offering  
Supports our Music Scholarships

**Bells of Bethel**

Directed by Carol L. Johnson & Vicki Stenerson

Bethel Lutheran Church  
5232 Irvine Avenue NW  
Bemidji, MN 56601

**June 2, 2010**

**12:00 noon to 12:20 p.m.**

Lunch will be available following the recital



The Nominating Committee is seeking two interested persons to serve on the Church Council through December 2010. If interested, please contact either Jeff Aas, Stacey Pfremer, Caleb Pfremer, or Carol Sele.

## HOPE CIRCLE



*Hope Circle* will be meeting at  
The Cabin Coffeehouse  
May through September.

Join Bethel women there on the  
first and third Thursdays of every month, from  
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Questions? Annette Drewes 368-5050.

## REMINDER!

DEADLINE FOR  
BETHEL FOUNDATION  
GRANT APPLICATIONS IS  
JULY 1, 2010.



There will be a free will offering **Father's Day Brunch** on Sunday, June 20, 2010 after the Worship service sponsored by the Relay for Life team, Bethel Joy Walkers; proceeds will go to the American Cancer Society. The menu will be scrambled eggs and ham, fruit salad, and muffins. Donations for the brunch food would be greatly appreciated: whether it is money for the purchase of eggs and ham or if you want you can bring some type of fruit prepared and ready to be added to the salad or a dozen muffins.

The task force is concluding its investigation and is preparing a report for the June 8 council meeting. We are thankful for the input of those who spoke at the "sounding board" sessions. I



join Pogo in recognizing that "We have met the enemy and he is us," but I rejoice in the knowledge that the Holy Spirit is available and with our congregation during these difficult times. The task force and the council have said that there is no magic wand to wave to get us back on track. It will take prayer, self examination and effort on the part of everyone to move Bethel in a positive direction. Unfortunately, some have grown weary of the conflict, some are tired of waiting for change, some have suffered personal hurts, and some have stepped away from Bethel. Each is a painful loss of a family member. Each loss pushes our financial crisis to the forefront. Our anxiety over money overtakes our anxiety over mission. As the people of God in this place we are called to remember God's great generosity to us, to inspire the many gifts of our members, and to be hopeful of our future and our mission together. When I taught confirmation, we would close with this blessing: As you go on your way may Christ go with you. May He go before you to show you the way; May He go behind you to encourage you, beside you to befriend you; above you to watch over you; within you to give you peace. Trust that Jesus can do this for each of us and for us as a congregation together. Go in peace, serve the Lord! Thanks be to God!

Council Chair, Laurie Buehler

## Treks and Travails of the Intern

I liked the title I came up with today because it sums up my life. I've been spending a lot of time traveling (and will spend more time on the road this summer). Hence the "Treks." And I've been keeping busy at work, which explains the "Travails."

Now I know that the word "travails" has bad connotations. It brought up not-so-pleasant memories of really hard or

strenuous work. Because that is the definition of travails. Hard labor that can be anguishing.

But I also think that there is a lot of blessing that comes after really hard work. I had been brought up to believe that nothing good comes easily. And I do believe that the best things in life often come with a very large price tag attached. There is sacrifice and pain that accompanies the ultimate joys.

I'm not sure exactly why that is. I don't understand the necessity of suffering leading to something far better. But I'm also pretty sure that God does. I mean, the Resurrection didn't follow a nice day of fishing or a pleasant walk through the woods. The reason we celebrate Christ is because of the good news that followed the suffering and death.

Life is truly a journey with its ups and downs, twists and turns. I've been trekking around the countryside (literally) within the last month. I've gone back and forth from Bemidji to my hometown of Parkston, SD as well a quick trip to St Paul. Lots of time spent in the car that is now in dire need of an oil change and brake replacement. But it's still running and so am I.

But this year I've also been on other journeys. And some of which have been and still are painful.

This week I lost a friend from back home. Someone I've known for 20 years. Someone who is my age, who is literally 6 months younger than me. And this is a major loss. A definite trial as I struggle to remain full of praise for God. The tough times, the times of doubt, the times we call out and question God, those are the times when our faith is tested. And those are the times when God blesses us. I'm learning this once again as I remember that our God is good. That our God is the God who raises people from the dead.

I'm reminded of a verse that I selected many years ago to be my confirmation verse. It's amazing how many years have gone and I'm finally starting to understand the significance of Psalm 71:20, which says "Though you have made me see troubles, many and bitter, you will restore my life again; from the depths of the earth you will again bring me up."

And so in the midst of the Treks and Travails of life, I'm becoming more and more aware that God is great and good and the source of my strength.

Thanks be to God, Intern Kara

## Special Congregational Meeting

**Sunday, June 27, 2010**

following the 9:00 a.m. Service

### AGENDA:

Call to Order

Devotions

Voting on proposed by law amendment

Discussion of current financial affairs



*"Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things unseen."*  
*"When you come to a fork in the road, take it."*

June! The month that summer officially begins. Families often begin their vacation travels as well. Whenever our children were younger, often the question arising from the back seat was: "Are we there yet?" As you all know, the standard required response from parents is either: "Soon", or "We'll let you know when we get there." A similar question was asked by the disciples: "*Lord is this the time you are going to restore Israel?*" Acts 1:6 (Are we there yet?)

Jesus reminded them and all of us who are anxious about what God is up to, that the important thing is that God is not *going* to act in some distant, far off future; rather, God is *already acting* in our lives right now. Jesus' promise to his disciples then and now is that they will be empowered by God's very own Spirit: "*You will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you and you will be my witnesses...*" Acts 1:8

The result of Pentecost reminds us that the Holy Spirit is alive and well. It is "God in the present tense". Bethel Lutheran church is going to have to make some decisions this month; we have come to a fork in the road. In January, our congregation directed that we vote on a by-law amendment concerning the calling of pastor's who are in same-sex relationships. Our church wide assembly voted last August to allow such individuals to serve as pastor's of the church. This is an important special congregational meeting to

attend, for we will also be discussing the financial situation that Bethel is in. Please plan on attending this meeting on Sunday June 27<sup>th</sup> after our worship service. These are important decisions to be made as a congregation. And as members of the body of Christ, you are an important contributor to the conversations that will take place. The first disciples were anxious when they didn't know what God was going to do. But they trusted the Words of Jesus. Those words of Jesus are instructive for us: they remind us that God's promises have *never* been: "You'll know exactly where I am leading you in every moment of your life", rather, it will be as it was for Joshua, after Moses died and he was called to lead the people of Israel into the promised land: "*Be strong and courageous, do not be anxious or afraid, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go!*" Thanks be to God.

Pastor Kindem

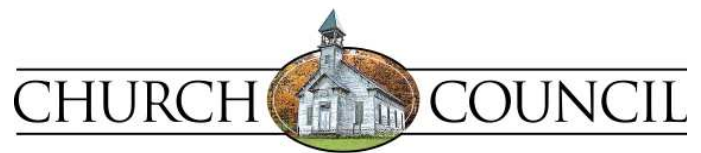


02 June Sand	Allen Evans
03 Judy Rinkenberger	15 Allison Koos
06 Sara Bronczyk	16 Liz Johnson
07 Amy Ihle	Alexa Lego
Yvonne Olson	17 Penny Evans
Bailey Harris	Donna Froyd
08 Cole Kindem	Sandy Norrgard
09 Annie B. Henry	18 Ben Nielsen
Stacey Pfremmer	Ellie Coons
10 Elaine Fenske	20 Ava Grinde
Doris Glime	21 Harold Ugelstad
Sandy Krohn	22 Jacob Kuznia
Carson Haefner	25 Debi Wentzel
Ella Walker	Isabelle Karvacko
11 Alice Sadek	26 Marion Hougard
13 Edward Beil	30 Tammy Schotzko

## CELEBRATING AN Anniversary

- 02 Jim & Cindy Bronczyk - 1982
- 03 Robert & Stacey Pfremmer - 1984
- 05 Ron & Carol Johnson - 1982
- 15 Albert & Alice Sadek - 1957
- 16 Ed & Janice Beil - 1967
- 25 Arlen & Judy Rinkenberger - 1983
- 28 Bob & Vi Swanson - 1941
- Jim & Cindy Bronczyk - 1980

**M**emorials ~ The Lund Family recently requested memorials in memory of Martha Lund be distributed as follows: \$300 to the Heritage Garden for a tree & perennials, \$525 to the kitchen for items needed, \$1,000 to the Quilters for a new sewing machine and supplies, and \$1,000 to the Bethel Foundation. A special thank you to the Lund family and all those who so generously gave memorials to Bethel Lutheran in memory of Martha!



### Council Person of the Month = Judy Rinkenberger

Although I am a new member of the Bethel Church Council as of January, 2010, our family has been active members since 1986. I was raised in Bemidji and graduated from both Bemidji High School and Bemidji AVTI with a degree in accounting. I married Arlen in 1983 (at old Bethel) and we have two sons - Brian, 22 and Joe, 16 and one granddaughter - Mollie who is 6 months old and adorable. Our family also includes two "full speed ahead" Brittney dogs. I am employed by Northwest Technical College for the past 18 years as the accounting supervisor.