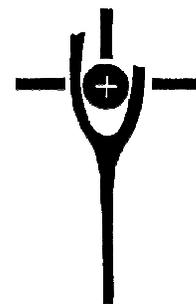


BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

BETHEL BANNER



"... making disciples for Jesus Christ in our church, neighborhood and world..."

SEPTEMBER 2012

Sunday School Rally Sunday, September 9

Sunday School for ALL Bethel kids (age 0-18) begins Sunday September 9 in the downstairs fellowship hall at 11:00 am!
Come and learn about Jesus!



In Spring of 2010, a decision was made for Sunday School offerings to go for supporting a child through Compassion International. Bethel's Sunday School child is Pranto Mollick who is 8 years old and lives in Bangladesh. He attends school and is in the second grade. He likes to play soccer/football, cricket and likes to run and sing. He lives with his mother and father and his father is a rickshaw van puller. The \$38 a month from Sunday School offerings makes possible a church-based program that provides food and clean water, medical care, educational opportunities, a Bible in his native language & life-skills training. Most important, Pranto hears about Jesus and is encouraged to develop a lifelong relationship with God.

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GERMAN DINNER—FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21



BETHEL'S ANNUAL GERMAN DINNER: Friday, September 21st from 5:30 to 7:00. Tickets are priced at \$10.00 for adults and \$5.00 for 10 and under and will be on sale at the church on Sundays, September 2, 9 & 16 - or you can call the church office and reserve your tickets. The menu includes: pork chops, famous German potato salad, sauerkraut, green beans, rye bread, applesauce and homemade dessert bars. The children's menu consists of tater tots, hot dogs, corn, and the same dessert bars.

All proceeds will be used for church improvement projects.
Come and enjoy this fabulous food and good fellowship.

A god by any other name...

FROM PASTOR SEABAUGH

"You shall have no other gods before me." Those are the first words of instruction on how God wants His people to live. Closely following that instruction is some explanation. "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments."

At that time the gods of men were images made of stone, metal or wood whom they felt compelled to worship and serve. They were easy to spot, kind of like that Buddha you pass by going into the Asian restaurant. You can see them, touch them, make them and destroy them. Our God is distinct. He's the creator of everything and is located everywhere. He has all power and might and has quite the jealous streak when His creation starts worshipping rocks and trees.

It took him a while, but the devil finally wised up and took the brand name off his idols. Luther was on the scent when he wrote his explanation to the 1st Commandment. "We should fear, love and trust in God above all things." "All things" expands the category of idol to just about anything. What kinds of things do we fear or respect above God? What kinds of things do we love or are committed to above God? What kinds of things do we trust or rely upon above God? Hate to say it, but our "carved image" days are largely over. It's time to look in the mirror to find the gods of our age.

Oh, how we have been deceived! How many times have we justified our idol-worshipping behavior while appealing to our faith in Jesus! I say "we" because this is coming in the form of a confession. There seems to be a disconnect between *knowing* I'm a believer and actually having the *heart* of one. When there's a big football game, I want nothing more than my TV, my couch and a bag of junk food. That's not unusual! But if that big football game is on a Sunday I find myself distracted all the way through worship and somewhat relieved when it's done. But... that's ok, right... at least I believe in Jesus! What's wrong with me?

It's an idol, idiot!

Just look at the way devout worshippers treat their gods. They build sanctuaries and gather to worship. They devote time, energy and money to their god. The god becomes an integral part of the culture, something the people can't seem to live without. Not to pick on football, but we just approved public funding for a \$1 billion sanctuary for the Minnesota Vikings! The prospects of the team moving to California were met with fervent, city-wide opposition. It seems the mood of the entire state is either up or down with a Vikings win or loss. Is the team a god for everyone? No. But I would contend for many people it's one of the more powerful gods of our time and place.

Continued on next page

A god by any other name... - continued

FROM PASTOR SEABAUGH

The gods of our age are all around us and they draw us away from the exclusive worship and service of the only true God. Sure, sports teams qualify, but so do politics, technology, the internet, the entertainment industry, and so many others that we would never otherwise identify as gods. Sure, they're only gods if we treat them like gods. We're just really good at treating them like gods while convincing ourselves they're not.

So take this as the wake-up call it's intended to be. Jesus instructs us to be *in* the world yet not *of* the world. Sorry to cut down your ego, but I'm convinced it's harder to accomplish than we think it is. I also don't feel like it's an overstatement to say our nameless gods are an all-out demonic assault on Christianity. How do we handle this? How do we stay true to Jesus and His gospel while living *in* our culture? What do we keep and what do we give up? Obviously I don't have it all figured out. I was actually hoping we could figure it out... together.

MY EIIT EXPERIENCE

VICAR LUSIENIE FOFANA

Before starting the EIIT (Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology) program to become an ordained Pastor, I had to answer two hundred questions from the Old Testament and the New Testament, to qualify to enter the main program. By the grace of the Almighty I was able to pass.

The EIIT program itself contains 16 classes—Module 1-16. For four years, I have been learning about God's Word.

We have mentor discussions, online discussions, test, quizzes and assignments to be turned in every week. At the end of each class you must write a paper. It was not an easy task for me, it was very tough and challenging. Pastor Seabaugh and I stay at the church for hours talking and helping me understand.

Theology is not just one day things, you must learn with understanding and be able to teach and preach what you have learned.

Some of the theological words I came across were so difficult for me to understand, but God blessed me with a wonderful and smart mentor who was always willing to help me understand what I need to know. Thank you Pastor Seabaugh. I am very happy to be finished with this program. Thank you Jesus. I believe that it was all about Him, so I have to say thanks to Him.

Thank you to Bethel for your support and encouragement and thank you Lynne & Pastor. Many thanks for you prayers.

Remember God is good all the time. Amen



Please pray for Fofana! His final Seminary Interview is Wednesday, September 5

Pray for safety for travel to his interview at the Seminary in St Louis MO
and peace and calm for Fofana before and during the interview

GRADUATION!! October 26 at 11 am in St Louis MO

FROM JORDAN RAY, DIRECTOR OF CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Sunday School - Deuteronomy 6

"Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the door frames of your houses and on your gates."



It's that time of year again! The young people are heading back to school for another year of education. Here at Bethel that means that Sunday School is also starting up again. Anyone who knows me knows that I like to ask "the why question", especially when it comes to things we do as a church.

Why do we send the children of Bethel to Sunday School?

Do we send them so that they can bring back cool arts and crafts projects? Do we send them so that we can get a break from our kids? Do we send them so that they can make friends? We might say yes to some of these things, but there is a deeper reason that Sunday School is a priority here at Bethel and that is to teach the faith to the young people.

Sunday School can be a part of a balanced approach to discipling our youth. In Deuteronomy 6 the people of Israel are encouraged to talk about God's commands and promises "when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up." We are to remember God and share his truth every day of the week, not just on Sundays. God has blessed us here at Bethel with a wonderful group of Sunday School teachers, but children need to learn the faith from their parents as well.

Continue to ask your children what they learned in Sunday School this week. Let's look for opportunities to share the faith with our youth. Let them know that Jesus is the center of our lives every day of the week!

Dear Lord, give us eyes to see the opportunities you've placed before us to share the truth about you with the children here at Bethel, Amen.

A Stewardship Moment



God is extravagantly generous. Think about it. God could have created a purely functional universe. The only plants would be ones that animals and humans need to eat. There wouldn't be any need for flowers for example. Roses and hydrangeas are examples of God's extravagant generosity. They are totally unnecessary – their beauty is an extravagantly generous gift. All the birds migrating south stopping by on Cape Cod to rest and feed could all have looked alike, but they are beautifully diverse in color and size. There is no greater example of the Creator's generosity than the gift of Jesus Christ. God has given us the most extravagantly generous gift – that of the Son who lived, died, and rose again for our sake. God is hoping we will be extravagantly generous in giving of our love, time, and resources, just as the Lord has been with us.

I can imagine some different responses to the phrase "Extravagant generosity." The economy stinks. My net worth has shrunk. I don't have discretionary income. I can't pay all my bills. I am looking for work. Extravagant generosity, you've got to be kidding.

Virtually everyone has less financially than a couple of years ago; some people are frightened, scared, and worried. I understand that. However, one thing I have learned throughout my life though is that generosity has much more to do with a person's heart and values than what is in his or her bank account.

The Apostle Paul likely wrote the first nine chapters of 2 Corinthians from Macedonia. The Macedonians were dirt poor. They lived in what is now northern Greece – barren land with few opportunities for trade and industry. However, Paul took an offering from them for those in need at Jerusalem, and this is part of what he said about it to the church in Corinth:

"He who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work."

2 Corinthians 9:6-8

God has blessed us for one reason so that we can be generous for God's sake. Never give till it hurts, always give till it feels good!

In the service of our Lord,

Financial Stewardship Team

SEPTEMBER GODSPEAK READINGS

MIDWEEK GODSPEAK GROUPS

**August 27-September 1**

Monday	Acts 22:1-30
Tuesday	Acts 23:1-35
Wednesday	Matthew 12:22-37
Thursday	Psalms 40
Friday	Philippians 3:1-14
Saturday	Galatians 3:1-29

September 3-8

Monday	Acts 24:1-27
Tuesday	Acts 25:1-27
Wednesday	John 16:1-15
Thursday	Psalms 141
Friday	1 Corinthians 15:1-33
Saturday	2 Timothy 4:1-8

September 10-15

Monday	Acts 26:1-23
Tuesday	Acts 26:24-32
Wednesday	Mark 3:20-35
Thursday	Genesis 25:1-11
Friday	2 Timothy 2:1-13
Saturday	1 Peter 3:8-22

September 17-22

Monday	Acts 27:1-26
Tuesday	Acts 27:27-44
Wednesday	John 14:15-31
Thursday	Psalms 33
Friday	2 Peter 1:1-21
Saturday	Acts 14:21-28

September 24-29

Monday	Acts 28:1-16
Tuesday	Acts 28:17-30
Wednesday	John 9:1-12
Thursday	Isaiah 6:1-13
Friday	Romans 5:1-11
Saturday	Ephesians 6:10-20

GodSpeak Groups

Bethel is looking to form some new GodSpeak Groups with new leaders. Want to lead (is God nudging you?) or is there someone you know who would do a great job at leading a group? If so, contact the office.

Monday Evening 6:30 pm

at Bethel in the Youth Room (comfy chairs!)
Leader: Steve Moeller (651-487-0316)

**Tuesday Morning 6:30 am every other week
September 4 & 18**

at Suzie Norris' (1276 Dayton Ave)
Leaders: Bob Holst (651-645-7454)/Suzie Norris (651-645-3811)

Tuesday Morning 10 am

at Bethel in the Fellowship Hall
Leader: Pastor David Seabaugh (651-488-6681)

Wednesday Evening (African) 6:00 pm

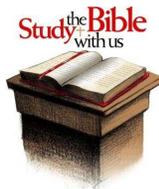
at ?? (rotates homes each week)
Leader: Lusienie Fofana (651-216-9242)

Wednesday Evening EPIC 6:30 pm

at Bethel in the Youth Room
Leader: Jordan Ray (651-271-5636)

Wednesday Evening 7 pm

at Caribou (Larpenteur & Lexington)
Leader: Steve Moeller (651-487-0316)



But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen — that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles."

Acts 26:22-23

FROM THE OFFICE—LYNNE

Bethel Address Directory changes

Marian Laska

Cerenity Senior Care
514 Humbolt Ave #324 Saint Paul MN 55107
651-220-1700

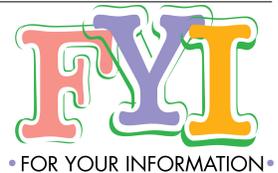
Paul & Lisa Atchison (Harper & Autumn)

1251 Oakcrest Ave Roseville MN 55113

Lucille Dahl

Cerenity Senior Care-Marian of St Paul
200 Earl Street Saint Paul MN 55106

Office hours:
Monday - Friday
9 am to 3 pm



Bulletin & e-news items are due to the office by Wednesday mornings
Banner information is due to the office by the 15th of the month

Curtains are needed for the closet space north of the fellowship hall for a new storage area—willing to sew or know someone who does?
Contact the office.



The first book in the trilogy by Kristen Eckhardt has arrived! Come to the library and check out "A New Chapter", the first of the three "Secrets of Mary's Bookshop" series. A page-turning mystery in the old fashioned "whodunit" sense.

EPIC — THE FUTURE CHURCH NOW! — WEDNESDAY EVENINGS

Spend Wednesday evenings at Bethel growing in faith with Bethel's Youth group (9th - 12th grade). Come for fellowship, Bible study and fun on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-9:00 pm. The Confirmation students are welcome to join us at 8 pm when they are released!



CENTRAL LUTHERAN SCHOOL WALK OF FAITH PATH



Over 60 years ago the cornerstone to Central Lutheran School was laid on Lexington Avenue in Saint Paul, MN. Since then thousands of eager young minds have received strong academic instruction from teachers who model Christian principles, personal encouragement and equipping to lead a balanced, fruitful, Christ-honoring life.

Today, a Walk of Faith Path walkway will be created with personalized, commemorative bricks purchased by individuals and located near the west entrance of CLS. These legacy bricks may be engraved in memory or honor of someone special, in recognition of a milestone, or given as a gift. This is a unique way to pay tribute to others and to show support for our glorious school. All proceeds will go to the Walk of Faith Scholarship Fund which has been established to help pave the way for more students to receive a Christ-centered education. Flyers are available in the church narthex. Questions? Contact Bryan Marshall at (651) 645-8649.

"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light for my path." - Psalm 119:105

"55" CLUB FELLOWSHIP— THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 13 — NOON



Fun for Seniors

Join Bethel's "55" Club on Thursday, September 13 for a meatloaf dinner catered by Magnolias Restaurant. Sign up on the lounge bulletin board and the cost of dinner of \$9 is payable to Betty Paulus by September 9, Come for dinner & fellowship!

5TH SUNDAY CELEBRATION — SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

Bethel's 5th Sunday celebration on Sunday, September 30 will be hosted by Bethel's EPIC Youth. Combined worship will be at 9:30 am, Bible Hour & Sunday School at 11:00 and a Potluck at noon. Bring your favorite item to share and fellowship at Bethel!



M&M Cookies — from Lynne Rustad

1 cup shortening	Mix shortening and sugars,
1 cup brown sugar	then beat in vanilla and eggs.
1/2 cup sugar	Add dry ingredients and blend
2 tsps vanilla	well. Stir in 1 cup M&M's.
2 eggs	Drop by spoonfuls on cookie sheet
2 1/4 cups flour	and decorate with M&M's.
1 tsp baking soda	Bake at 375° for 10 minutes.
1 tsp salt	Makes 6 dozen.
1 1/2 cups M&M's	



A recipe from...

Bethel's Coffee Hour has been always a time to share homemade goodies from members kitchens.

As requested by many members, these recipes are now being shared! Suzie Norris is collecting cookie and bar recipes that have used during the coffee hour to be included in the Bethel's banner. Be sure to submit and share your recipe!

Molasses Sugar Cookies — from Karen Bade

3/4 cup shortening (Crisco)	Cream together shortening
1 cup sugar	and sugar. Add molasses and
1/4 cup molasses	egg. Beat well. Sift together
1 egg	dry ingredients and add to
2 cups flour	mixture. Mix well (chill if
2 tsps baking soda	desired for better rolling). Roll
1 tsp cinnamon	in 1-inch balls, roll in sugar
1/2 tsp ground cloves	and place 2 inches apart on
1/2 tsp powdered ginger	GREASED cookie sheet. Bake
1/2 tsp salt	at 350° for 8-10 minutes until
Additional sugar for dipping	puffed and golden brown.
	Remove from oven, let stand
	for 1 minute & cool on wire
	rack. Makes 4 dozen.

Church of the Redeemer

Worship - Morning, Noon and Night



On September 2, the Bethel Lutheran Church facility will be filled with the worship of God from morning until evening. Not only will we have our own worship services at 9:30 and 11:00, but Church of the Redeemer will worship God in our facility at 4:30. Church of the Redeemer is a new church start with the Anglican Church of North America. This is a conservative Anglican church body formed out the splits in the Episcopal church a few years back. In fact, our church body, the Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod and the Anglican Church of North America have been talking about how we could partner in ministry! One suggestion happened to be sharing facilities with one another. Please pray that this rental arrangement will be a blessing to both churches as we seek to extend the Kingdom of God!

Thanks from Kent Kaiser for your support for LAMP Mission Trip!

The leader of our LAMP team was Janine Cain from Kitchener, Ontario. This was her 7th year at Little Grand Rapids and thus I had served with her when I went there three years ago. Another team member was Kathy Doherty from Shakespeare, Ontario. We also relied on the help of one local resident, Carmelita Keepere, who went to VBS for many years and is now an adult. Each day, we held VBS from 1-4 p.m. and then youth devotion from 8:30-10 p.m. Also in the afternoons, we usually went swimming with the kids (they're like fish) or visiting in the community. On the last day, we had a "banquet" for the kids and their families, which consisted of a hotdog roast and s'mores.

We each taught a Bible lesson during the week and in addition took charge of either recreation (me), crafts (Kathy), or signing (Janine). All of us took prayer requests at the end of each day, and it was remarkable to see how the kids really embrace putting forth prayer petitions. Our host for the week was Father Anthony Udengwu, and we held the VBS at the Roman Catholic mission. We are fortunate to have a nice facility.

The people of Little Grand Rapids have only sporadic church service available (whenever a priest is sent for a short period)--it can be months between visits from a priest. Our VBS is something the kids really look forward to.

Just the same, we have seen real spiritual growth in this community from just a few short years ago, when the mounties had to be called to break up a rock fight outside the church. Examples: When I brought out a snack after hours one day to a group of little kids, one of them started praying like an adult for the food. One rough teenager who was having girl troubles came up and sat next to me one evening on the steps of the house where we were staying; he put his head in his hands and said, "Only the love of Jesus lasts forever." One day someone called and asked to speak to the priest in order to have a single Bible verse interpreted--they really wanted to understand it.

Thank you, Kent

Check out the display board in the narthex!



SERVING AT BETHEL IN SEPTEMBER

Coffee Hour Servers

September 2
Becky Luger
Adrienne Vandercar

September 9
Cindy Pohl
Carolyn Weber

September 16
Faye Hayhurst

September 23
Ruth Seabaugh
Mary Martens
September 30
Kirsten Head
Karin Hagen

Pew Servicing

Betty Paulus

Sunday Drivers

September 2—Jim Nash
September 9—Ken Halverson
September 16—Tim Schmalz
September 23—Bruce Bairaktaris
September 30—Dave Rustad

Money Counting Team # 1

Betty Paulus
Dave Stueber
Karita Wienke



Dorothy Day

September 23—Group II

Sean Boll
Goodrich Family
Gary & Terri Glaeser
Sue Norris
Traci Matthes
Holly Fohrenkamm

Worship Teams

September 2—Praise Him/Proclaim Him
September 9—1 Timothy
September 16—Search 'n Rescue
September 23—Share the Joy
September 30—Praise Him/Proclaim Him

Banner Assembling

Thursday,

September 20

9:15 am

Bernice Ellmann
Holly Fohrenkamm
Betty Paulus
Marcy Tehle
Carolyn Westphal
Driver: Tim Schmalz



Meals on Wheels

August 31 (Friday)—Ray & Karen Bade
September 10—Tim Schmalz & Dave Stueber
September 17—Betty Paulus & Karita Wienke
September 24—Karen Bade Suzie Norris



1 PETER 4:10

Volunteers are needed at Central Lutheran School to share a special talent, pastime or craft with students in the afterschool Cougar Clubs Program, which runs from 3:00 - 3:55 pm each school day. Past clubs have included foreign languages, wood working, chess club, homework room, math workshops and craft clubs. Contact Jill Ferrell at 645-8649 to volunteer.



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS



Kent Kaiser 09/01
 Marcelane Tehle 09/01
 David Seabaugh 09/02
 Kristina Countz 09/04
 Bonnie Renner 09/05
 Lasana Kromah 09/08
 Todd Thies 09/09
 Gus Stefan 09/10
 Sandra Atchison 09/11
 Nyaket Dojiok 09/11
 Jessica Moeller 09/13
 Daniel Seabaugh 09/17
 Donald Glende 09/20
 Suzanne Norris 09/20
 Bernice Sandstrom 09/21

Tricia Bluhm 09/22
 David Rustad 09/22
 James Handt 09/23
 Hawa Woto 09/23
 Roxanne Thies 09/24
 Sharon Bartels 09/25
 Cara Wilson 09/26
 Richard Nitz 09/27
 Agnes Deverell 09/29

BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

Toni Dey 09/01
 Elijah Sorenson 09/01
 Bonnie Renner 09/05
 Larry Dahl 09/11
 Anna Lange 09/13
 Sonya Engen 09/14
 Sarah Atchison 09/16
 Taylor Krivanek 09/16
 Charles Fruhstuck 09/18
 Marcelane Tehle 09/18
 Alessandra Bartelme 09/19
 Caleb Ruis 09/19
 Christopher Meggitt 09/21
 David Rustad 09/22
 Nyadoar Dojiok 09/24
 Nyaket Dojiok 09/24
 Nyalat Dojiok 09/24
 Jessica Hoveland 09/24
 Karen Bade 09/25
 Christian Hoveland 09/25
 Bernice Sandstrom 09/26
 Nathan LeGreco 09/27
 Christopher Petersen 09/28
 Einar Nordstrom 09/29
 Lasana Kromah 09/30
 Lucky Kromah 09/30
 Solomon Kromah 09/30



ANNIVERSARIES

Scott & Wendy Knowlan
 10 years on 09/07
 Gregory & Sonya Engen
 11 years on 09/08
 Bruce & Sandra Bairaktaris 6 years on 09/09
 Michael & JoAnn Lange 28 years on 09/22
 Joe & Nancy Plumbo 22 years on 09/22
 Paul & Jean Beckman 41 years on 09/24
 Dale & Cynthia Pohl 35 years on 09/24
 Ed & Kim Krum 19 years on 09/26

"Then he said: 'The God of our fathers has chosen you to know his will and to see the Righteous One and to hear words from his mouth. You will be his witness to all men of what you have seen and heard. And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash your sins away, calling on his name.'
Acts 22:14-16

670 W Wheelock Parkway
Saint Paul MN 55117



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AUGUST 23, 2012

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670 W WHEELOCK PARKWAY

SAINT PAUL MN 55117

651-488-6681

BLC@BETHELSTPAUL.COM

BETHELSTPAUL.COM



Sunday Morning Worship 9:30 am
Sunday Morning Bible Hour 11:00 am
Sunday Morning African Worship 11:00 am
GodSpeak Midweek Bible Groups (See page 6)
Tuesday Morning Prayer 9:30 am