



Bethel

Beacon

NEWSLETTER OF BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON, WI

SEPTEMBER 2022 – VOLUME 37

Renae's Thoughts

As we begin and prepare for another year of youth programming, I can't help but feel the excitement of getting to know our youth better. Excited to see new faces and excited to see faces of those students from the previous years. The excitement of planning for the lessons and activities of the year. But I am most excited about walking beside each and everyone of these students as they are on the faith walk with Jesus.

The new year comes with the responsibility of telling these students about Jesus. What an amazing job that is. Telling them about Him paying the price of our sins and how He makes a way when there is no way and how His love is strong and grace is free. Telling them how Jesus can change their life.

Sharing and telling them all the wonderful things Jesus can do for them brings an excitement that can not even be described. But with all this excitement also comes uncertainty on what this year will bring and how the students will respond to the teachings. As we begin this new educational year, I ask that you pray for the students attending. Pray that they open their hearts and minds to the lessons being presented to them. Pray that they see the importance of having Jesus in their lives. I ask that you pray for all the sponsors and teachers that give so freely of their time and talents. They are such a huge part of being the hands and feet of Jesus. These programs could not take place without their commitment to the youth of this community.

Renae Lind, Youth Director

Pastor's Pen

Since Labor Day is just around the corner, I thought it appropriate that we focus on the biblical view of work. While there is much to say on the topic, we will start at the fundamental reason for work: to worship God.

If you listen to people talk about their businesses or their job, many of them will say that they do what they do is to make money and nothing else. For most people, including Christians, the purpose of work is to have enough money for daily living and, if managed well, to simply retire with a healthy nest egg so you didn't have to worry. This is Satan's familiar ploy to de-grade work.

Unfortunately, many Christians hold a skewed image of work. Some view it simply as a curse post-Genesis 3. Others make a false distinction between what they perceive as the sacred (God), and the secular (everything else), separating Sunday's worship from Monday's work.

These views of work, however, always disappoint. They force us to view God as an evil task-master, forcing you to do your work because "that's your lot in life." These views also say that my identity is not a reflection of God's character and design, that's because I'm choosing to run parts of my life on my own, without any consideration of God. I am the boss.

Both these approaches to work will leave you frustrated, for we are hungry for something more; we are hungry for God and His purpose for our work.

Work is God's gift to us. It's not a result of the fall into sin. In giving Adam and Eve the job of cultivating and caring for the garden before the fall, He not only made them the first landscapers, He designed their DNA so that whatever they put their head, heart and hands too doing, was a form of worship. The same is true for us. Made in His image, vocation is an extension of God's work of maintaining and providing for His creation, bringing Him glory and enjoying Him.

Hundreds of times in the Bible the Hebrew word "avodah" is used to mean both "to work" and "to worship." Our work is meant to serve God's purposes more than our own, which prevents us from seeing work to pad our bank accounts, set ourselves up for retirement, or just plod away because it's a necessary burden.

Simply put, work is worship. The Gospel gives us new lenses to see work through: *we work for God Himself!* Colossians 3:23 says: *Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as though you were working for the Lord and not for people.*

Why does it matter?

Martin Luther said that you can milk cows to the glory of God. Why? It's your attitude that says, "God, I'm doing it for you." So, whether you're cutting flagstone or someone's hair today, your handiwork, even with imperfection, is for God's glory. Our work is an expression of His creativity because we're made in His image. Your vocation, your work is a calling. That's worship!

(Continued)

(Pastor's Pen Continued)

So why does having the right understanding of work matter? Because it is only when we understand it rightly that we can best use it to:

1. GIVE GOD THE GLORY: a response of gratitude for what He did for us
2. REFLECT HIS CHARACTER: made in His image, we get to display this to others
3. SERVE PEOPLE: we are conduits for God's grace and kingdom to extend
4. GIVE: we earn so we can give to others
5. MEET OUR NEEDS AND INVEST OUR TALENTS: by exercising God-given gifts He provides for us

So, the next time you arrive in your office, on the plant floor, at your client's site, or in the barn to milk the cows, remember who you are, and then consider what you are doing. Your spiritual life is being expressed through your work. Your work is worship. It's life changing.

It's my prayer that you will see your work as significant and view that significance in the light of God's favor and plan. We are created to intimately know God, glorify Him, and enjoy Him forever. Let's do that in our work!

Pastor John



On the following Saturdays:

September 3 & 10; 9:00 a.m.– 1:00 p.m.

Come and go as you need to.

We will provide lunch from the Brat Stand.

Supplies will be provided.

We plan on landscaping, painting, and

cleaning. (Bring gloves for landscaping.)

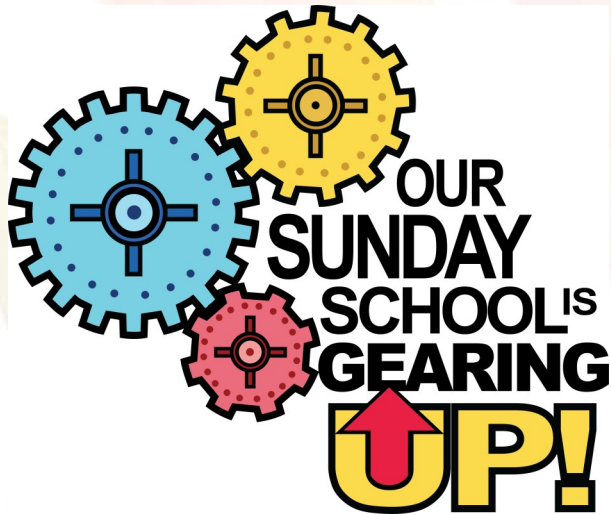
Job assignments will be made when you arrive.

Any and all help is appreciated.

Thank you from the Deacons

ATTENTION LADIES OF BETHEL

We are re-organizing our funeral lunch planning groups. If you are willing to bring food or help, please sign up in the Information Center.



Brandon Bethel,

We would like to thank you for your generous donations from VBS and from your special offering. Thanks to those donations we are able to provide an education and monthly food supplements for several families in Haiti.

Please keep Haiti in your prayers—there are so many evil forces that are at work there. Please also pray for our missionary family as they continue to administer the various programs they have instituted in Haiti.

God bless & Thank you! OH4F
Dan, Gladys & Bonnie

Upcoming High School/Adult Sunday School

Beginning Sept. 11 in the Youth Room following the service, we will start a new study called

'The Ruthless Elimination of Hurry'

JOHN MARK COMER

We are all busy. Some of us can't remember the last time we rested or even had free time. Our busyness can feel productive but it is a toxic distraction, sapping our spiritual, physical, and emotional vitality. It may seem like we have no choice but to live at a frantic pace, but God has a better path for us.

Join pastor and author John Mark Comer in this five-part series as he addresses one of the greatest threats to our spiritual lives: hurry. Instead of allowing our calendars and screens to control our lives, Jesus offers us a new rhythm of life, overflowing with grace, peace, and beauty.

All Sunday School classes for ages 3 years-8th grade will be starting on Sunday, Sept. 11 following the service



Thank you for all your caring thoughts, cards, and prayer in the passing of our sister-in-law, Micki Krohn.

Keith & Sharon Krohn

Craig & Rosanne Bresser



SEPTEMBER

4th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time in the Youth Room
9:30 a.m. Worship* Dennis Degner
Following the service:
Executive Meeting
Fellowship

5th Offices Closed

6th 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering

7th 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice

10th 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. Church Fix-up Repair

11th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time in the Youth Room
9:30 a.m. Worship* Emergency Workers Recognition
Following the service:
Sunday School for all ages
Fellowship

12:00 p.m. UIC Event

12th 6:30 p.m. Elders Meeting

13th 12:00 p.m. Senior Gathering Potluck & Fellowship
1:00-6:00 p.m. Rosendale Blood Drive
Peace Lutheran
6:00 p.m. Girl Scout Registration

14th 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group
7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

15th 6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting

18th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time in the Youth Room
9:30 a.m. Worship*
Special Offering Sunday School
Following the service:
Sunday School for all ages
Fellowship

19th Beacon Items Due

20th 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering

21st 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group
7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

25th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time in the Youth Room
9:30 a.m. Worship*
Following the service:
Sunday School for all Ages
Fellowship

27th 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering

28th 4:30-7:00 p.m. Junior High Soup Supper
7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

Lift

4th Ed Montsma
11th Floyd Smit
18th Harley Coehoorn
25th Ken Beekman

Sound

4th Kelly VandeZande
11th Harley Coehoorn
18th Merwin Kimble
25th Kelly VandeZande

Liturgy

4th Jen Post
11th Amanda Hiemstra
18th Mark Kastein
25th Shelly Hiemstra

Greeters

4th Jack Theyerl
11th Les Hiemstra
18th Randy Pinnow
25th Harley Coehoorn

Fellowship

4th Ed Montsma
11th Troy Newbury
18th Greg Smit
25th Nick Kamphuis

Nursery

4th Farris Turner
11th Bella Beltezore
18th Danica Riedeman
25th Lori Coehoorn

DVD Delivery

5th Danica Riedeman
12th Charlene Kamphuis
19th Shelly Hiemstra
26th Danica Riedeman



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|------|---|
| 1st | Greg Smit Jack Belmer |
| 2nd | Curt Franke Jim & Charlene Kamphuis Bret & Stephanie Henning |
| 4th | Greg & Angie Smit |
| 5th | Phil Laper John & Ruth Navis (Missionary) (35) |
| 6th | Jeff Gunnink Leesa Tilstra Vicki Luczak Bill & Judi Post Brian & Kristin Erickson |
| 7th | Eric & Katie Mulder |
| 8th | Vanessa Slager |
| 9th | Hollyn Gunnink |
| 10th | Ally Redeker |
| 11th | Dan VandeBerg Dennis & Sue Dahlke, Jr. |
| 12th | Logan Smit |
| 14th | Jeff & Melissa Henker |
| 15th | Sarah (Gunnink) Whelan Grady Vis Ken & Linda Smit (55) |
| 19th | Adam Kok John Peterson |

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|------|---|
| 19th | Jodi Mulder Kyle VandeZande |
| 20th | Doug & Kim Kamphuis |
| 21st | Judith Larson Lena Arndt Jacob Redeker Jimmy Huebschman Rich & Gerri Buteyn |
| 23rd | Carly Madigan Jon & Carla Gunnink Craig & Rosanne Bresser |
| 24th | Logan Sauer Ruth Navis (Missionary) Steve Weisnicht Cason Huebschman Lynn & Nancy DeBoer (45) Dan & Ann Kastein |
| 25th | Jen Kay Post |
| 26th | Nicole Schmuhl |
| 27th | Jenni Post Kevin & Lisa Kamphuis (25) |
| 28th | Les & Shelly Hiemstra |
| 29th | Cole Arndt Orrin & Dione Kimble |
| 30th | Jacob Rens |

Consistory 2022

Elders

| | |
|----------------------|--------------|
| Les Hiemstra (22) | 920-948-1942 |
| Randy Pinnow (22) | 920-904-7703 |
| Harley Coehoorn (23) | 920-229-6953 |
| Shaun Hiemstra (23) | 262-308-9266 |
| Lynn DeBoer (24) | 920-948-0380 |

Deacons

| | |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Troy Newbury (22) | 920-539-7048 |
| Greg Smit (22) | 920-229-7159 |
| Nick Kamphuis (23) | 920-597-0048 |
| Randi Turner (23) | 920-251-9697 |
| Dan Brown (24) | 920-204-2125 |

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

John Tilstra, President
Lynn DeBoer, VP
Shaun Hiemstra, Clerk
Nick Kamphuis, Deacon Chr.
Greg Smit, Treasurer

TREASURERS

Greg Smit, Main Account
Randi Turner, Mission

PASTORAL/STAFF

Lynn DeBoer
Nick Kamphuis
Greg Smit
Shaun Hiemstra
Kelly VandeZande
Mary Kimble

BUILDING

Troy Newbury, Chr.
Karl Rens
Phil Laper
Byron Navis

ELECTION/SELECTION

Dan Brown
Les Hiemstra

PULPIT SUPPLY

Lynn DeBoer
Shaun Hiemstra

WORSHIP PILLAR

Jack Theyerl, Co-Chr.
Deanna Theyerl, Co-Chr.
Caleb Riedeman
Danica Riedeman
Leesa Tilstra
Randi Turner
Shelly Hiemstra
Dianne Kastein

MISSION/OUTREACH PILLAR

Ed Montsma, Chr.
Dione Kimble
Rick Redeker
Randi Turner
Randy Pinnow
Denise Hiemstra
Ron Mulder
Kay Hiemstra
Cathy Rens
Jon Post
Rick DeBoer
Dan Brown

CARE TEAM

Betty DeBoer, Chr.
Sharon Bos
Shirley Margers
Carol Flegner
Darlene Kamphuis
Ann Mulder
Jane Brown
Mary Ann Smit
Connie Blank
Les Hiemstra, Elder Rep.

EDUCATION PILLAR

Gerri Buteyn, Chr.
Nick Kamphuis
Jenni Post
Lori Coehoorn
Kim Miller
Shelly Freiberg
Angela Arndt
Renae Lind
Jen Post

COMMUNICATIONS PILLAR

Angela Arndt, Co-Chr.
Jenni Post, Co-Chr.
LaRae Vander Plas
Greg Smit
Craig Bresser
Judi Post

YOUTH GROUP SPONSORS

Dallas VandeSlunt
Nick Kamphuis
Kenna Freiberg
Anna Lind
Bill Lind
Chase Hoinacki
Kylie Lichtenwald
Dawson Drews

CARE ELDERS

Les Hiemstra
Shelly Hiemstra
Linda Smit
Herb Beekman



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