



# Bethel *beacon*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER  
BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON, WISCONSIN  
NOVEMBER 2022 – VOLUME 37

## Renae's Thoughts

The youth groups just began a series on RightNow Media entitled: Jesus in the Secular World. We are living in uncertain times. We have seen more hostility to the things of God. People are leaving their Christian roots behind. We are seeing the death of religion and the death of truth. The Bible is no longer looked to for guidance and truth. Many young people view the church as a thing of the past, something that their grandparents did and something they no longer need. People are deciding for themselves what is right and wrong.

The secular world is using songs, video games, and movies to tell us that the things of the world are fine as long as it makes us feel good. Look around at some of the tv commercials that we see. Where are the morals behind this and many other things that we are viewing and listening too?

We have become such a plugged in society that we are becoming unplugged. People are becoming incredibly lonely. We spend so much time creating our own platforms and concentrating on "me" that we are becoming self centered. We are becoming more confused of who and whose we really are. Truth is becoming clouded with the preference that all ideas and values are equal.

We learned that Nehemiah had a good life. He was a cupbearer to the King and because of this he had comfort, security, and success but when some people came over and told them what was going on in the world, it changed everything. "They said to him, "Those who survived the exile and are back in the province are in great trouble and disgrace. The wall of Jerusalem is broken down, and its gates have been burned with fire." Nehemiah 1:3. This changed Nehemiah's life. He knew he had to do something to change the world.

Like Nehemiah, we need to be aware of the world around us. The world is desperate. We need to take the first step and lead the world to Jesus. Through this series we are and are going to learn how to use the gifts God has given us to help us reach the secular world and lead them back to Jesus.

Renae Lind, Youth Director

# Pastor's Pen

With November upon us, many of us turn our attention to our national holiday of Thanksgiving. The following article, Rev. Ken Jones, pastor of Glendale Missionary Baptist Church, highlights the importance of gratitude.

Our Protestant forefathers understood the importance of gratitude in the Christian life. The Heidelberg Catechism (1563), one of the great catechisms of the sixteenth century, is divided along three lines. Questions 1–11 articulate “the misery of man,” questions 12–85 outline “man’s deliverance,” and questions 86–129 emphasize “thankfulness.” This threefold division is commonly summarized as “Guilt, Grace, and Gratitude.” Question 86 asks, “Since then we are delivered from our misery, merely of grace, through Christ, without any merits of ours, why must we still do good works?” The answer:

Because Christ, having redeemed and delivered us by His blood also renews us by His Holy Spirit after His own image; that we may, testify by the whole of our conduct, our gratitude to God for His blessings, and that He may be praised by us.

With this question and answer in view, let us take a closer look at gratitude, laying out four aspects and applying them to the catechism’s answer.

First, gratitude is initiated by an act of kindness, and the act of kindness that initiates Christian gratitude is God’s gracious blessings in the person and work of Christ.

Second, receiving God’s grace in Christ breeds thanksgiving in the heart of the recipient. This is reflected throughout the Psalms, and especially in Psalm 103:1-4:

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name!  
Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits, who forgives all  
your iniquity, who heals all your diseases, who redeems your life from the pit,  
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

Third, thankfulness engenders appreciation, which means to highly esteem the act of kindness. Psalm 63:3-4 says:

Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you. So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

Fourth, appreciation prompts action on the part of the recipient of the act of kindness to show how he values and esteems the act of kindness toward him. This is the point of the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 5:2: “And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.”

In short, Christian gratitude is grounded in the knowledge of God’s grace toward us in Christ, and that knowledge manifests itself in high esteem and awe of that grace, which propels us to serve and please Him.

May you be grateful, not only on Thanksgiving Day, but on every day of your life.

Pastor John





1st 1:00 –3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering  
 2nd 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group  
 7:00 p.m. Choir  
 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth  
 6th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time Youth Room  
 9:30 p.m. Worship\*  
 Following the service:  
     Sunday School for all ages  
     Executive Meeting  
     Fellowship  
 6:00 p.m. Church & Culture Discussion  
 6:30 p.m. Bestway Driving Class  
 7th 5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club  
 8th 12:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering  
     Potluck & Fellowship  
 9th 9:10 a.m. 55+ Bible Study  
 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group  
 7:00 p.m. Choir  
 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group  
 11th 6:30 p.m. The Garms Family Concert,  
     Pella Lutheran, Waupun  
 12th Fellowship Hall in use  
 13th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time Youth Room  
 9:30 p.m. Worship\*  
 Following the service:  
     Congregational Meeting  
     Sunday School for all ages  
     Fellowship  
 6:00 p.m. Church & Culture Discussion  
 6:30 p.m. Bestway Driving Class  
 14th Beacon Items Due  
 5:30 p.m. Adventure Club  
 6:30 p.m. Elders Meeting

15th 12:00-6:00 p.m. Community Blood Drive  
 16th 8:30 a.m. Care Team Meeting  
 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group  
 7:00 p.m. Choir  
 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group  
 17th 6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting  
 19th 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Bethel Quilters  
 20th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time Youth Room  
 9:30 p.m. Worship\* Thanksgiving Offering  
 Following the service:  
     Sunday School for all ages  
     Fellowship  
 6:00 p.m. Men's Ministry  
 22nd Bulletin Items Due  
 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering  
 23rd Bulletins Printed  
 9:10 a.m. 55+ Bible Study  
 7:00 p.m. Thanksgiving Service  
 24th-27th Pastor Vacation  
 24th Offices Closed  
 25th Offices Closed  
 27th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time Youth Room  
 9:30 p.m. Worship\*  
 Following the service:  
     Deacons Meeting  
     Sunday School for all ages  
     Fellowship  
 3:00 p.m. Season Kick Off Concert  
 6:00 p.m. Church & Culture Discussion  
 29th 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering  
 30th 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group  
 7:00 p.m. Choir  
 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group



The Christmas cantata for 2022 is "Unto Us a Child Is Born." We will be performing Sunday afternoon, December 11, along with the Children's Sunday School Christmas program and again, Christmas morning, December 25. If you have an interest in singing with the choir, please join us Wednesday evenings at 7:00. We will be practicing the cantata at the beginning of each choir practice. We need all voices!

Cantata practices will be:

November 2, November 9, November 16, November 30 & December 7.

"Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name; make known among the nations what he has done. Sing to him, sing praise to him; tell of all his wonderful acts." Psalm 105: 1-2

Blessings,  
Leesa



#### Building Bridges

When: November 23

Where: Church Basement

Time: 6:00-7:30p.m.

Who: All adults of the church and anyone else

Come and spend a night playing Bunco with the Youth Group. The students are excited to continue to get to know you better. We will top off the night with a sweet treat. So mark your calendars. Can't wait to see you there.





1st	Drew Gunnink Deb Pinnow Owen Miller
2nd	Randy TerBeest
3rd	Dan Kastein Anna Lind
4th	Jesse & Alex Tipton
5th	Parker Hiemstra Cheryl Leusink
6th	Landen Bos
8th	Brady Madigan Kaiden Beltezore Sydney Leusink Olivia Schliep
9th	Floyd Smit Emily Leusink Elliot Mulder Randy & Jean TerBeest John & LaRae Vander Plas
10th	Mallory Kastein Dan & Amy Redeker
11th	Michael Kastein Pat Schmuhl Stephanie Henning

12th	Jim Kamphuis Carmen Laper
13th	Emily Beekman Jaden Gosse Jeff & Kim Miller
15th	Mel Boomsma Bret Henning
16th	Jon Gunnink Tyler Hiemstra Chris & Ashley Wiedeman
18th	Casey Hiemstra Austin Hiemstra Brian Erickson Tiffany Derksen
22nd	Bill Lind
26th	Kathy Montsma
27th	Jon Post Karl Rens Casey Hiemstra John & Elizabeth Tilstra
28th	Kim Kamphuis
30th	Brian Madigan Bennett Slager Mel & Robin Gunnink



**YES**-It's time to think about ordering your Christmas cards! Order forms can be found in the Information Center or in the fellowship hall by the card rack. Orders need to be placed by Sunday, November 20th. Questions talk to Judy Henker (920-346-2966). Give payment for your order to Judy Henker.



### Lift

6th Floyd Smit  
13th Harley Coehoorn  
20th Ken Beekman  
27th Ed Montsma

### Sound

6th Kelly VandeZande  
13th Harley Coehoorn  
20th Merwin Kimble  
27th Kelly VandeZande

### Liturgy

6th Shelly Hiemstra  
13th Sandy VandeZande  
20th Karen Redeker  
27th Jen Post

### Greeters

6th Greg Smit  
13th Randi Turner  
20th Dan Brown  
27th Jack Theyerl

### Fellowship

6th Harley Coehoorn  
13th Shaun Hiemstra  
20th Lynn DeBoer  
27th Ed Montsma

### Nursery

6th Danica Riedeman  
13th Lori Coehoorn  
20th Mac Mattheis  
27th Rosanne Bresser

### DVD Delivery

7th Danica Riedeman  
14th Charlene Kamphuis  
21st Shelly Hiemstra  
28th Danica Riedeman

I wanted to take this precious opportunity to say thank you for the gift card that you gave to me recently. You don't know how much I was overwhelmed by your sincere gesture of kindness. I am blessed to be part of this wonderful family of God that supports not only me but also the youth of this community.

Thank you again from the bottom of my heart.  
Rena Lind, Youth Director

Many thanks to Bethel for all the cards and prayers during Roses' many years of cancer. We are grateful for all the gas cards she received. They were a big help for her many trips to Madison.

May God bless you all.

The family of Rose Dexter

Thank you Bethel Church for your cards and prayers and the choir for your gift with the passing of Ian's Mom, Pam. We feel very blessed from this congregation.

Ian Turner & Family

We would like to thank the congregation for their prayers, words of encouragement and showing Christ's love to us during Juniper's illness. To God be the glory.

Bob & Jeanette Winkel

Thank you Bethel for your prayers, calls, gifts, and care team for the blanket when I broke my hand. I'm doing better.

Miles Turner



## 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
Ed Montsma (24)	920-948-5926

### 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
Jack Theyerl (24)	920-979-3918

### 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



**Bethel Church**

305 W Main St

Brandon, WI 53919

920-346-5810

[www.bethelbrandon.org](http://www.bethelbrandon.org)

Find us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram

**John Tilstra, Pastor**

[pastor@bethelbrandon.org](mailto:pastor@bethelbrandon.org)

Office: 920-346-5810 Ext. 12

Home/Cell 815-238-8514

**Renae Lind, Youth Director**

[youthministry@bethelbrandon.org](mailto:youthministry@bethelbrandon.org)

Office: 920-346-5810 Ext. 16

M, T, Th: 8 a.m. - 3 p.m.

W, F: 8 a.m. - Noon

Home/Cell 920-960-2852

**Judi Post, Secretary**

[secretary@bethelbrandon.org](mailto:secretary@bethelbrandon.org)

Office 920-346-5810 Ext. 10

M - Th: 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

F: 9 a.m. - Noon

Cell 920-979-3908

**Custodians**

[jasonssmit438@yahoo.com](mailto:jasonssmit438@yahoo.com)

**Jason Smit** Home/Cell 920-858-1739

**Danelle Smit** Home/Cell 920-851-8624



## Funeral Groups Reorganized

### Funeral Group 1

Connie Dahlke, Co-Chr.	920-979-0315
Charlene Kamphuis, Co-Chr.	920-346-5334
Rena Lind	920-960-2852
LaRae Vander Plas	920-807-0049
Linda Smit	920-346-5774
Vanessa Slager	920-948-3463
LaVerne Kok	920-346-5572
Judi Post	920-346-5429
	920-979-3908
Lori Coehoorn	920-728-3817
Dione Kimble	920-346-5246
	920-948-3210
Deb Pinnow	920-517-5131
Connie Blank	920-960-9813
Betty DeBoer	920-346-2994
Tricia Weisnicht	920-428-6821
Dawn Henning	920-346-5744
Marilyn Belmer	920-539-3122
Renee Postotnik	920-346-8327

### Funeral Group 2

Mary Ann Smit Co-Chr.	920-346-5642
Judy Henker, Co-Chr.	920-346-2966
Ann Mulder	920-960-0872
Darlene Coehoorn	920-921-5541
Ardis Redeker	920-346-2766
Ann Zabel	920-979-4980
Leesa Tilstra	815-238-8513
Toni Newbury	920-346-5113
	920-539-1114
Karen Redeker	920-517-8670
Shelly Hiemstra	920-948-3548
Jeanette Winkel	920-324-2937
Rosanne Bresser	920-960-9418
Jenni Post	920-960-0659
Torrie Grade	920-948-7419
Cheryl Leusink	920-346-2638;
	920-597-0636
Shirley Margers	920-346-2468

### Funeral Group 3

Darlene Kamphuis, Co- Chr.	920-979-0315
Sharon Krohn, Co-Chr.	920-346-5650
	920-960-9660
Sandy VandeZande	920-219-0281
Nancy DeBoer	920-346-5938
Janet DeBoer	920-346-2523
	920-979-6013
Ann Kastein	920-346-5491
Lorraine VandeZande	920-345-1172
Angela Arndt	920-979-3424
Elaine Hiemstra	920-933-3327
Sharon Bos	920-382-2615
Deanna Theyerl	920-979-3919
Jen Post	920-382-0705
Shelly Freiberg	920-346-2611
Jane Brown	920-922-9408
Sally Kok	920-346-2259
Angie Smit	920-979-9927