



Bethel *beacon*

**BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON, WISCONSIN |
JANUARY 2023 – VOLUME 38**

Renae's Thoughts

Matthew 6:33, "But seek first His kingdom and His righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. This verse puts the pattern for Christian living in a nutshell. We need to see first the kingdom of God. We need to take time out of our busy lives and choose what needs to come first in our lives.

The start of a new year is a great time to reflect on where we spend most of our time. Is it where we as Christians should be putting most of our time and energy? God knows that things other than spiritual priorities tend to become the focus of our lives. If you look at your calendar, it will be an eye opening reminder of where the focus in our lives is.

As Christians, the desire to give Christ first place in every area of our lives must be our top priority. Saying Christ is first and actually living with Christ in first place are different matters. When we put Christ first in our lives, we will see change. You will start making decisions based on your new commitment. You will find time to spend with Him EACH and EVERY day. Not just when you have a little down time from all the other busyness in your life.

We all need to make time with God our first priority. We need to teach our children, grandchildren, our friends, co-workers through example that God has first place in our lives. By reprioritizing our daily lives and redirecting our thoughts and actions toward Christ and His Kingdom we will find a great peace and happiness that comes only through Him. Nothing is more important than seeking His Kingdom first.

Take time for Jesus daily. It will be the best way to not only start the New Year but an amazing way to start each and every day. Make Him a part of your daily routine.

Renae Lind
Youth Director

Pastor's Notes

Engaging With God through His Word and Prayer in 2023

Proverbs 7:2-3 - *"Keep my commandments and live, and my teaching as the apple of your eye. Bind them on your fingers; Write them on the tablet of your heart."*

Have you ever noticed how God's word is powerful in changing everything about your life? It aligns you more closely with the heart of God because He and His word are one!

Below are five ways you can engage more deeply with God's word this year so that your life will look, feel, and be more like Christ's. May this list help you in your personal pursuit of God's word. May you be encouraged to engage with it more deeply this year than ever before!

1. Prioritize Quiet Time

It is difficult to sustain a Christian lifestyle on bits and pieces of a Sunday sermon or a bible study. Being quiet before the Lord every day deepens your relationship with Him, and in turn, it strengthens your ear to hear Him speak to you. Engaging the Word of God is no good if you don't prioritize engaging the actual person of God and doing so daily.

2. Choose a Scripture a Day to Meditate On

After you completed your quiet time with the Lord, you will discover how easy it is to not meditate on what you've studied. To meditate means to think deeply or carefully upon, or to rehearse something for a period. The more you surround yourself with God's Word, the more it will become embedded in your heart and mind. This deep engagement will change your life!

3. Talk About the Word in Your Day to Day

This is a fascinating way to engage the Word of God! Incorporating it into the rhythms of your life is, essentially, what makes you more like Christ! Try weaving Scripture into your normal routine like cooking dinner or watching TV. There is a Scripture verse or passage for every part of your life! You don't need to be deep; it can be as simple as asking yourself, "Am I cooking food that will build my temple (body) and strengthen it, or is this meal hurt it or tear it down?" Do the same when watching television! It is much easier to live by God's word when you apply it to the regularities of your life.

4. Flip Moments of Frustration or Anger into Teachable Moments

God has given you emotions, and most of the time, but not all the time, you are justified in feeling the way you feel. What matters is how you interact with those emotions! So, when you feel frustrated or angry, take the emotion as a sign that God's word needs application into the situation. Be on guard! Scripture reminds us to engage Scripture in the hard moments. These hard, emotional moments test your ability to submit to Christ's lordship over your life!

5. Invite the Holy Spirit into Your Prayers

Prayer is your direct communication to your Heavenly Father. In prayer you understand who you are and what God wants of you. Through prayer you build a beautiful relationship with Him. Sometimes, your prayers are convoluted with your own desires verses God's desires. Asking for personal needs and desires in prayer is fine, but that shouldn't be the primary reason. Pray to know God's will and understand what He desires, so you can walk in His desires. Ask the Holy Spirit to be an active participant. Speak to Him, and then, be still and allow Him to speak to you. The Holy Spirit knows the secrets of Heaven, and He reveals all things to you as He is led by the Father (1 Cor. 2:10-12). He knows the mind of God and will help you to pray effectual prayers!

May you engage God's Word and prayer in 2023!

Pastor John



Lift

1st Floyd Smit
8th Harley Coehoorn
15th Ken Beekman
22nd Ed Montsma
29th Floyd Smit

Sound

1st Merwin Kimble
8th Kelly VandeZande
15th Harley Coehoorn
22nd Merwin Kimble
29th Kelly VandeZande

Greeters

1st Harley Coehoorn
8th Shaun Hiemstra
15th Ed Montsma
22nd Nick Kamphuis
29th Dan Brown

Liturgy

1st Karen Redeker
8th Jen Post
15th Amanda Hiemstra
22nd Mark Kastein
29th Shelly Hiemstra

Fellowship

1st Torrie Grade
8th Jon Post
15th Lynn DeBoer
22nd Randi Turner
29th Jack Theyerl

Nursery

1st Mac Mattheis
8th Angela Arndt
15th Sophie Newbury
22nd Farris Turner
29th Danica Riedeman

DVD Delivery

2nd Shelly Hiemstra
9th Charlene Kamphuis
16th Karen Redeker
23rd Shelly Hiemstra
30th Charlene Kamphuis

Winter Tree

The Angel tree in the entryway will be left up through January 15th 2023.

Please bring hats, socks, and mittens to hang on the tree and they will be distributed to various local service organizations as needed. All sizes will be accepted. Thank you for helping out with this outreach opportunity.

2022 Distributed to: Brandon School, Youth for Christ Parent Life - Fond du Lac, Charis Family and Pregnancy Center - Fond du Lac, Pillar and Vine, Brandon Food Pantry, and Tiny Town.

Volunteer Opportunities Available

Consistory is once again putting into effect ushering and is requesting if there are person who would be interested in sharing their time in this ministry. There is a sign up sheet in the information center if you are interested.

There are also other areas that you can assist in and those sheets are also in the information center.

Sign up now and become a servant volunteer at Bethel.



JANUARY

Birthdays & Anniversaries



1st Keegan DeBoer
Henry DeBoer
Josh Schliep

4th Jason & Tiffany Derksen

5th Morgan Gunnink
Samantha Belmer

7th Camron DeBoer

8th Adrianna Wegner
Collins Farrell

9th Lorraine VandeZande (89)
Michael Mulder
Drew Henning
Wayne & Elaine Hiemstra

10th Pat Bronkhorst
Stan Harmsen
Kirstin Jurjens

12th Ed Montsma

14th Kinsley Huebschman

15th Cameron Hiemstra
Pearl Schicker (91)

17th Josie Slager

19th Bob DeBoer

18th Torrie Grade
Tricia Weisnicht

19th Pat VandeBerg
Jeff Henker
Jay Smit
Parker Leusink
Lexy Smit
Matthew Kastein

21st LaVerne Kok
Mason Coehoorn

22nd Jim Schmuhl

23rd Alex Tipton
Brian & Kari Youngwirth

24th Tate Kimble
Lukas Milder
Mac Mattheis

26th Robert Coehoorn
Cal & Judy Larson

27th Pam Beekman

28th Dustin Hiemstra
Mitch Vis
Charlie Farrell
Kaelyn Huebschman
Mark & Dianne Kastein

29th Wayne Hiemstra

30th Kim Miller
Madison Mulder

Sun., 1st 9:30 a.m. Worship*
Ordination/Installation Service
Following the service: Fellowship
Sunday School for all ages
12:30 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use

Tue., 3rd 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering

Wed., 4th 8:15 a.m. Care Team Meeting
9:10 a.m. 55+ Bible Study
6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group
7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

Sun., 8th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time in the Youth Room
9:30 a.m. Worship* Baptism
Ordination/Installation Service
Following the service: Deacons Meeting
Executive Meeting
Sunday School for all ages
Fellowship
6:00 p.m. Church & Culture Discussion

Mon., 9th 6:30 p.m. Elders Meeting

Tue., 10th 12:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering Potluck & Fellowship

Wed., 11th 6:00 Junior High Youth Group
7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

Thu., 12th 6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting

Sat., 14th 8:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Bethel Quilters

Sun., 15th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time in the Youth Room
9:30 a.m. Worship*
Special Offering for Food Pantries
Following the service: Fellowship
Sunday School for all ages
6:00 p.m. Men's Ministry

Mon. 16th Beacon Items Due

Tue., 17th 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering

Wed., 18th 9:10 a.m. 55+ Bible Study
6:00-7:30 p.m. "Building Bridges" with Jr High
7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

Sun., 22nd 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time in the Youth Room
9:30 a.m. Worship*
Following the service: Fellowship
Sunday School for all ages

Tue., 24th 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering

Wed., 25th 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group
7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

Sun., 29th 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time in the Youth Room
9:30 a.m. Worship*
Following the service: Deacons Meeting
Sunday School for all ages
Fellowship

Tue., 31st 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering



Building Bridges

Jan. 18

Where: Church Basement

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

Who: All adults of the church

Come and spend a night playing
Bunco with the Youth Group.

The students are excited 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.

New Year's Eve Game night

**Saturday December 31st
@7pm**

Come Join us for a game night at Pillar & Vine Event Center to party out 2022. The night will be filled with games, snacks, and fellowship. We will be having an alcohol free, kid friendly game night. Please bring a snack to share and your favorite game if you can. We will have the New Year's Eve ball drop on the TV. Need a ride? We have you covered. We are offering free rides if needed. Just call or text Jon Post 920-960-1402 or Jenni Post 920-960-0659 to set up a ride. Hope to see you there.

Consistory 2022

Elders

Harley Coehoorn (23)	920-229-6953
Shaun Hiemstra (23)	262-308-9266
Lynn DeBoer (24)	920-948-0380
Ed Montsma (24)	920-948-5926
Torrie Grade (25)	920-948-7419
Jon Post (25)	920-960-1402

Deacons

Nick Kamphuis (23)	920-597-0048
Randi Turner (23)	920-251-9697
Dan Brown (24)	920-204-2125
Jack Theyerl (24)	920-979-3918
Brian Brown (25)	920-204-2125
Jared Hoinacki (25)	920-948-0289

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

TREASURERS

, Main Account
Randi Turner, Mission

PASTORAL/STAFF

Lynn DeBoer
Nick Kamphuis

Shaun Hiemstra
Kelly VandeZande
Mary Kimble

BUILDING

, Chr.
Karl Rens
Phil Laper
Byron Navis

ELECTION/SELECTION

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
Denise Hiemstra
Ron Mulder
Kay Hiemstra
Cathy Rens
Jon Post
Rick DeBoer
Dan Brown

CARE TEAM

Sharon Bos, Chr.
Betty DeBoer
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
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

Bethel Church

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Find us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram

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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

Office 920-346-5810 Ext. 10

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

F: 9 a.m. - Noon

Cell 920-979-3908