

# Bethel *beacon*

**BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON, WI**  
**MARCH 2023 – VOLUME 38**

## **Pastor's Pen**

### Why is Jesus So Controversial?

We are living in a time when it seems our culture has gone off the rails. While the American culture has been deteriorating for years, even decades perhaps, the pace of decay these past three years seem to accelerate every month. Because of this, Jesus seems to more controversial than ever. Jesus said in John 14:6, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father but through Me." His exclusive claim is so outrageous to the present cultural mentality, to a world of tolerance, and to a world with a plethora of religions that most people cannot accept Him as presented in the Bible. Jesus said, "You either believe in Me or you're on your way to eternal punishment—eternal hell." That's what He says. "If you do not believe in Me, you will die in your sins" (John 8:24). Radical? Yes. Narrow? Very. Exclusive? By all means. This statement is the offense of Christianity. If Christians put this statement away, then they can allow for a multitude of religions to be acceptable to God. They can only say nice things about Jesus and tolerate other gods, philosophies, and belief systems. If they say, however, "He is the way, the truth, the life, and anyone who does not put trust in Jesus Christ will perish forever in hell," the offense to the world is massive...and dangerous. As we look forward to the Christ's death on the cross and His resurrection, let us be bold and brave to say that Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. Nothing else matters.

Pastor John

## Renaë's Thoughts

Lately I feel like all I do is constantly watch the clock. Checking it to see how much time I have left before I need to start the bus, checking the clock to make sure I leave on time, take another glance to make sure I am on schedule to arrive at school when I need to be, arrive at work and watch the clock and checking the calendar to make sure I am covering all the appointments and meetings I need to attend. You get the point. So many of us spend so much time watching the time with anticipation. Why are we all striving to do things in our perfect time?

Time is so precious to us and we often become anxious or impatient when things don't happen in what we think is OUR perfect time. Lately I have been reading and listening to songs that remind me that everything is in God's perfect time.

Many years ago, Lynelle Pearce visited our church and I remember her singing this song.

In His Time

In his time, in his time He makes all things beautiful

In his time

Lord please show me everyday as you're teaching me your way

That you do just what you say In your time

In your time, in your time

You make all things beautiful In your time

Lord my life to you I bring may each song I have to sing

Be to you a lovely thing In your time

Lord please show me everyday as you teaching me your way

That you do just what you say In your time

You make all things beautiful In your time

Lord my life to you I bring

May each song I have to sing

Be to you a lovely thing In your time

Be to you a lovely thing In your time

We can sit and watch the clock as minutes go by, we can sit and watch the months of the year go by, and we can sit and watch the New Year's Eve ball drop as another year has come and gone. We may become frustrated because the things and events that we thought should have happened have not. But is it for us to decide when things should take place?

God has a perfect plan and with that perfect plan comes His perfect timing. Proverbs 16:9 says, "In their hearts humans plan their course, but the Lord establishes their steps."

Many of us, if not all of us, are so busy planning out the next steps of our lives that we lose focus on the path that God is taking us down. If things don't happen in our time, we become discouraged and often upset and disappointed. We need to confide in God and let Him bring us to the perfect place we need to be. When we allow Him to lead us, we will enjoy the path He is taking us on.

Remember: He is never early, he is never late, he has perfect timing for all situations in our life.

Renaë Lind, Youth Director

## Consistory Information February 19, 2023

**Maintenance Items:** basement light fixed; south wall in entry being redesigned; new storage unit being purchased for rarely used items; sign redesigned and getting variance from village; new call system being purchased.

**Worship Pillar:** nursery speaker being purchased

**Education Pillar:** VBS June 12-16 from 1:30-4:00 p.m.; 22 senior high to Silver Birch (February 24-26); 9 children to Camp Manitoqua in June; March 18 Men's Ministry Brat Fry; free community meal prior to Maundy Thursday service (April 6); new Sunday School Curriculum for next year is "Answers from Genesis"; Christmas program will be taken over by 5th grade parents; Adventure Club starts March 6.

## Mission/Outreach Pillar

The Mission/Outreach Pillar alongside with Renae Lind are planning a mission trip this summer, July 16-21 to Benton Harbor, Michigan. We are coordinating with Youth Works and have 12 spots reserved. You must be 16 years or older. The cost is \$390 per person which will be covered by the Mission/Outreach Pillar. We will be partnering with local organizations to meet ongoing needs in the community serving Benton Harbor. We will be serving all or part of the week at a food shelf, clothing distribution center, or assisting with painting, cleaning, or simple repair projects. If you are interested or have any questions or want more details, contact Renae.

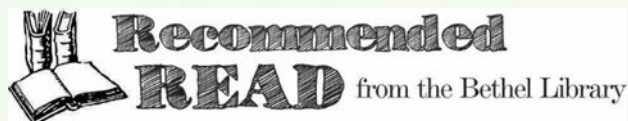
Some of our recent commitments are supporting financially to help pay \$50 per senior high young people attending Silver Birch retreat in Feb. and second to help pay 2/3's of \$390 per person attending Camp Manitoqua.

We are also supporting the two Haiti groups until September with \$200 per month unless we agree to go to go larger. We are going to revisit this around this time next year,

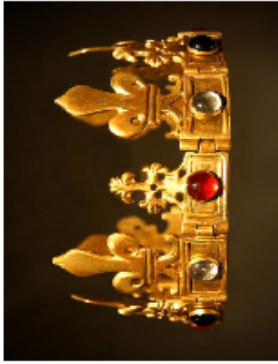
Also, we are planning on a 2023 mission crop this year growing corn on 47 acres. We would like to thank Ron & Ann Mulder, and Wilfred, Noel, Nathan and Derek VandeSlunt got the opportunity to rent their land for this project. We are currently working on securing corn seed donations.

The committee is always open to mission minded opportunities.

## Education Pillar



The Lie: Evolution by Ken Hamm is the recommended read for March. Ken Hamm points out the looming precipice too many church leaders are rushing towards a denial of the full authority and accuracy of the Bible from its very first verse. In addition, Ken powerfully shows how the unproven, unscientific philosophy of evolution is driving young people away from the Christian faith and provides solid, biblical solutions to turn things around.



**King Davey and the Royal Tunes**  
the story continues  
Adventure Club

**Where:** Bethel Church of Brandon  
**When:** March 6, 13, 20, 27 & April 3, & 10  
**Time:** 5:30-7:00 p.m.

As God's top choice, young David went from shepherd boy to sovereign ruler-and he loved to pluck the harp as well! Follow David as he is anointed King, fights Goliath, finds a friend in Jonathan, flees from a jealous Saul.

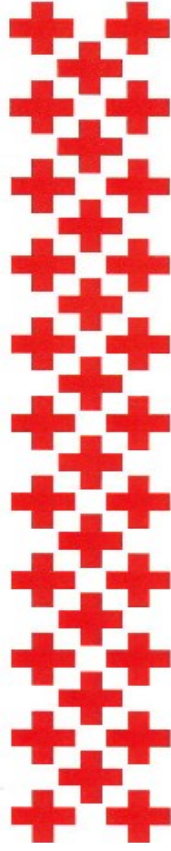
Student Information Sheet (fill out prior to attending the event)  
Information can be entered digitally or a paper copy can be printed out (click one).

[Digital](#)

[Paper Copy](#)

**American Red Cross**

*Give blood. Help save lives.*



**Brandon Community  
Blood Drive**

Bethel Reformed Church  
305 W Main St

**Tuesday, March 14, 2023  
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

For an appointment please call Judy Henker at 920-346-2966 or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)

Come give in March and get a \$10 Visa Prepaid Card by email. **PLUS**, get a chance to win a \$3,000 Visa Prepaid Card to help with gas or grocery expenses! You could be one of five lucky winners. Lend an arm; we'll lend a hand. Terms apply: [rcblood.org/help](http://rcblood.org/help).



# Monthly *Sneak Peek*

## SERVING THIS MONTH

### Volunteers

Wed., 1st	8:15 a.m. Care Team Meeting 10:00 a.m. 55+ Bible Study & Potluck 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Sun., 5th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship* Following the service: Executive Meeting Sunday School for all ages Fellowship 6:00 p.m. Church & Culture Discussion
Mon., 6th	5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue. 7th	1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Wed., 8th	6:00 Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Sat. 11th	Daylight Savings Time (Ahead 1 hour)
Sun., 12th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship* Following the service: Deacons Meeting Sunday School all ages Fellowship
Mon. 13th	Beacon Items Due 5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club 6:30 p.m. Elders Meeting
Tue., 14th	12:00-6:00 p.m. Community Blood Drive
Wed. 15th	6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Thu., 16th 17th & 18th	6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting 9:00 a.m. Men's Ministry Brat Fry 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Bethel Quilters
Sun., 19th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship* Offering Words of Hope Following the service: Sunday School for all ages Fellowship 6:00 p.m. Men's Ministry
Mon., 20th	5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue., 21st	1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Wed., 22nd	6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Sun., 26th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship* Following the service: Deacons Meeting Sunday School for all ages Fellowship
Mon., 27th	5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue., 28th	1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Wed., 29th	6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group

#### Lift

5th Harley Coehoorn  
12th Ken Beekman  
19th Ed Montsma  
26th Floyd Smit

#### Sound

5th Merwin Kimble  
12th Kelly VandeZande  
19th Harley Coehoorn  
26th Merwin Kimble

#### Greeter

5th Nick Kamphuis  
12th Dan Brown  
19th Brian Brown  
26th Harley Coehoorn

#### Nursery

5th Rosanne Bresser  
12th Farris Turner  
19th Danica Riedeman  
26th Lori Coehoorn

#### Fellowship

5th Randi Turner  
12th Jack Theyerl  
19th Jared Hoinacki  
26th Torrie Grade

#### Liturgy

5th Mark Kastein  
12th Shelly Hiemstra  
19th Sandy VandeZande  
26th Karen Redeker

#### DVD Delivery

6th Shelly Hiemstra  
13th Charlene Kamphuis  
20th Karen Redeker  
27th Shelly Hiemstra



# MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

2nd	Craig Bresser Dale Henning	16th	Izec Grade Addison Grade Savanna Newbury
3rd	Kirstin Erickson Amaya Gosse Linda Smit RJ Jurjens	17th	Rick DeBoer
4th	Darlene Coehoorn	18th	Lawson Phillips Dan & Darlene Coehoorn (45)
5th	Gary & Ann TerBeest (35) Deanna Theyerl Rhett Coehoorn	19th	Zach Wegner
7th	Jeff Miller	20th	Ryan Arndt Kelly & Sandy VandeZande
8th	Jeff Brown Steve Slager Linda Navis Griffin Vis Sharon VandeBerg Curt & Gwen DeHaan	21st	Danica Riedeman Ryan & Angela Arndt
10th	Brooks Bos	24th	Heather Wegner
11th	Jennifer Redeker	26th	Jane Brown Orrin Kimble
12th	Melissa Lavota	27th	Brian Brown Dan Redeker Mille Brunsdon Art & Arlene VandeBerg (70)
13th	Sadie Kimble Nick & Shannie Tank	28th	Dallas VandeSlunt
14th	Dianne Kastein	29th	Adam Brown Cody Farrell
15th	Jason Bos Colt Wiedeman Brian Lavota	30th	Reed Gunnink
		31st	Danelle Smit



**Thank You!**

Dear Bethel Church,  
Thank you for your generous donation of hats, gloves, and socks. Please know that these gifts will be greatly appreciated by the children on our care.  
With kind regards.

## Information Needed

We are in the process of setting up an automated calling system for cancellations and other items. I need to have a correct phone # in order for you to receive this information. There will be a card attached to Sunday, Feb 26 and Sunday, March 5 bulletins for you to forward copies of your phone numbers to the church office. You can also forward an email to [secretary@bethelbrandon.org](mailto:secretary@bethelbrandon.org) with the information. You can put the card in the offering box at the back of church. The card will also have a space for correct email addresses.

## Consistory 2023

### Elders

Harley Coehoorn (23) 920-229-6953  
Shaun Hiemstra (23) 262-308-9266  
Lynn DeBoer (24) 920-948-0380  
Ed Montsma (24) 920-948-4578  
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.  
Randi Turner, Treasurer

### TREASURERS

Randi Turner, Main Account  
Dan Brown, Mission

### PASTORAL/STAFF

Lynn DeBoer  
Nick Kamphuis  
Randi Turner  
Shaun Hiemstra  
Kelly VandeZande  
Mary Kimble

### BUILDING

Dan Brown, Chr.  
Brian Brown  
Jared Hoinacki  
Karl Rens  
Phil Laper  
Byron Navis

### ELECTION/SELECTION

Harley Coehoorn  
Shaun Hiemstra  
Lynn DeBoer  
Ed Montsma  
Nick Kamphuis  
Randi Turner  
Dan Brown  
Jack Theyerl

### WORSHIP PILLAR

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

### MISSION PILLAR

Ed Montsma, Chr.  
Jon Post, Elder Rep  
Dione Kimble  
Rick Redeker  
Randi Turner  
Denise Hiemstra  
Ron Mulder  
Kay Hiemstra  
Cathy Rens  
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  
Harley Coehoorn, Elder Rep.

### PULPIT SUPPLY

Lynn DeBoer  
Shaun Hiemstra

### EDUCATION PILLAR

Gerri Buteyn, Chr.  
Nick Kamphuis  
Jenni Post  
Lori Coehoorn  
Angela Arndt  
Renae Lind  
Jen Post  
Jon Post  
Torrie Grade

### COMMUNICATION PILLAR

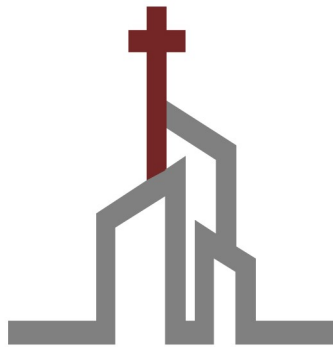
Pastor John, Interim Chr.  
Angela Arndt  
Jenni Post.  
LaRae Vander Plas  
Greg Smit  
Judi Post

### YOUTH GROUP SPONSORS

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

### CARE ELDERS

Les Hiemstra  
Shelly Hiemstra  
Linda Smit  
Herb Beekman  
Shaun Hiemstra, Liaison



## **BETHEL CHURCH**

### **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

### **Rena 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