



Bethel *beacon*

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON, WI VOLUME 38/2023

Renae's Thoughts

Are you stuck in a rut?

It's easy for Christians to find themselves caught up in the life of cluttered schedules, rhythms, and routines dictated by our culture. Many feel stuck in the routine of life—their jobs, relationships, and daily circumstances. They know it's not the life they dreamed of. And they feel stuck in a life yearning for deeper meaning.

"And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Mark 16:15. This verse sums up the series "Unstuck" that the Senior High Youth Group just got done with. This whole series talked about how we get so wrapped up in our daily routines and our own agendas that we become complacent and satisfied where we stand in our walk with God.

We sometimes allow the world to drag us down and give us doubts and fears of where and what we as Christians should be doing. We get into a mode of just being and going along our daily routines that we forget what our purpose on earth truly is.

Did you know that the word "Christianity" is an action word. That's what God intended us to do. Go spread the good news that our world so desperately needs. What is holding us back?

Doubting that we can make a change?

Fear?

Rejection?

Lack of self confidence?

Lack of motivation?

No matter what is holding us back, we need to remember that God will equip us with what we need to be a disciple for Him. Just like the old song, "It Only Takes a Spark to Get a Fire Going." Shouldn't we be that spark. Shouldn't we be on fire for the Lord and let the Holy Spirit move through us and get us unstuck. We all need to get involved in the work of the Lord.

God wants to use us in ways that we can't even imagine. We just need to let Him guide and direct us. We need to become UNSTUCK and let the Holy Spirit move. Be the Spark!!! Go tell the world about Jesus!

Renae Lind
Youth Director

Pastor's Pen

True Community

After you have read the following article written by Burk Parsons, ask yourself, “Is this the community we experience at Bethel? Why or why not?”

The love language of all marriages is self-denial. When both husband and wife are consumed not with their own immediate happiness but with the happiness of one another, they will enjoy a happy marriage. The same is true for enduring friendships and for authentic community.

With the disintegration of marriage has come the dissolution of community. As such, community has fallen on hard times. What every generation in every society in all of history has enjoyed, the rising generation will have to fight for. With the rise of online communities, online church, and online everything, face-to-face, eye-to-eye, shoulder-to-shoulder community has become increasingly difficult to find. Moreover, many don't know what real community is and thus don't know what to look for. Real community doesn't happen on its own—it takes time, patience, repentance, forgiveness, and love that covers a multitude of sins. The church community is not just a crowd of people on a Sunday morning; it is the gathered, worshiping people of God in a congregation where masks aren't needed and where real friends help bear the real burdens of one another. Community is not just getting together; it is living together, suffering together, rejoicing together, and dying together.

Although many Christians claim a desire for genuine community, many want it only on their own terms, when it's convenient, and when it demands nothing from them. What they want isn't the church community, but a country club where they pay their dues for services rendered. They want to be served without having to serve anyone else. Real community forces us to die to ourselves and get over ourselves so that we might love one another as ourselves. Francis Schaeffer observed that “the early church practiced two things simultaneously: orthodoxy of doctrine and orthodoxy of visible community.” Such orthodoxy of visible community is grounded in the “one another” passages of Scripture, which provide us with the essential elements of authentic community. They strike at the root of our self-centeredness, and they lead us to take our eyes off ourselves and to deny ourselves so that we might love one another, encourage one another, confess our sins to one another, forgive one another, and not slander one another, gossip about one another, devour one another, or envy one another. In so doing, our Father in heaven is glorified as we manifest the beauty of the gospel of Christ through the power of the Spirit, who has united a bunch of repentant sinners like us.

Please consider these words! We are called to community as God's chosen and redeemed. We are family!

Pastor John

Church Schedule

Tue., 2nd	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Wed., 3rd	6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Sun., 7th	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 6:30 p.m. Bestway Drivers Ed Class
Tue, 9th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 12:00 p.m. Senior Gathering Potluck & Fellowship
Wed., 10th	8:30 a.m. Care Team Meeting 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:45 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Sun., 14th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship Following the service: Last Sunday School for 3k-12th grade Fellowship
Mon., 15th	Beacon Items Due 6:30 Elders Meeting
Tue., 16th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Wed., 17th	6:00 p.m. Last Junior High Youth Group 7:45 p.m. Last Senior High Youth Group
Thu., 18th	6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting
Sat., 20th	4:30-7:30 p.m. Youth Sponsored Car Hop Fry
Sun., 21st	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship Special Offering for CHARIS Following the service: VBS Meeting Adult Sunday School Fellowship 1:00 p.m. Senior Recognition Service 6:00 p.m. Men's Ministry
Tue., 23rd	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
25th-June 6	Pastor Vacation
Sun., 28th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship Following the service: Adult Sunday School Fellowship 2:00 p.m. Laconia High School Graduation
Mon., 29th	Offices Closed
Tue., 30th	1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering



- 1st Miles Turner
Floyd & Mary Ann Smit
- 2nd Mary Ann Smit
Brady Theyerl
- 3rd Glen Kamphuis (85)
- 5th Rich Buteyn
- 6th Alex Zabel
- 7th RJ & Kristin Jurjens
- 9th Byron & Linda Navis
Bryana Smit
- 10th Cody & Michelle Farrell
- 10th Sophie Newbury
- 11th Briggs Hiemstra
Briana Sauer
Khale Hansen
- 13th Denise Hiemstra
- 14th Evyn VandeBerg
Robert & Lori Coehoorn
Randi & Ian Turner
- 15th Judi Post
Doug Kamphuis
Jersi Laper
- 16th Derek Whelan
Terra Mattheis
- 18th Allison Ward
Carter Farrell
- 20th Darlene Kamphuis
Keeton Grade
- 21st Rick Pluim
Pam Sauer
Glen & Samantha Belmer
- 22nd Byron Navis
John Tilstra
LaRae Vander Plas
Faaris Turner
Mark & Brittany DeBoer
- 23rd Kevin Kamphuis
Randy TerBeest
- 24th Shaun Hiemstra
- 25th Maci Grade
Olivia Miller
Briggs Hiemstra
- 26th Merwin & Mary Kimble
- 27th Bree Gunnink
Izley Stanczyk
- 28th Karl & Cathy Rens
- 29th Alisa Zabel
- 30th Helen Little (94)



Lift

- 7th Ken Beekman
- 14th Ed Montsma
- 21st Floyd Smit
- 28th Harley Coehoorn

Sound

- 7th Merwin Kimble
- 14th Kelly VandeZande
- 21st Harley Coehoorn
- 28th Merwin Kimble

Liturgy

- 7th Karen Redeker
- 14th Jen Post
- 21st Amanda Hiemstra
- 28th Mark Kastein

Greeters

- 7th Harley Coehoorn
- 14th Shaun Hiemstra
- 21st Ed Montsma
- 28th Nick Kamphuis

Fellowship

- 7th Torrie Grade
- 14th Jon Post
- 21st Lynn DeBoer
- 28th Randi Turner

Nursery

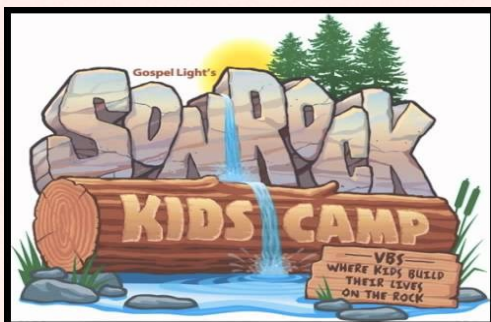
- 7th Danica Riedeman
- 14th Lori Coehoorn
- 21st Mac Mattheis
- 28th Angela Arndt

DVD

- 7th Shelly Hiemstra
- 14th Karen Redeker
- 21st Charlene Kamphuis
- 28th Shelly Hiemstra



Bethel Church Family Fishing Retreat will be held June 2-4, 2023 at Camp Luther, Three Lakes. Registration deadline by May 8. Individual cost is \$30 and the Men's Ministry will be covering the remaining cost. Contact Ed Montsma for more information at 920-948-4578.



Bethel Church of Brandon
June 12-16 from 1:30-4:00 p.m.

Need Volunteers: teachers, craft helpers, classroom helpers, and playground helpers. Contact Geri Buteyn or Renae Lind if interested. Meeting for all volunteers on May 21 following morning service. Hope to see you there.



Has missionary work been on your bucket list? Well if it has, I have good news for you. As of right now, we have 7 available spots. We are heading to Benton Harbor, MI on July 16-21st and would love for you to join us. Once in Benton Harbor we will be partnering with local organizations to meet ongoing needs in the community. We will serve all or part of the week at a food shelf, clothing distribution center, or by assisting with painting, cleaning or simple repair projects. Would love for you to join us in being the hands and feet of Jesus. If interested, please see Renae Lind.



SUPPORT FAMILIES BY HELPING CHARIS

Charis Pregnancy and Family Help Center is looking for supplies to stock their baby boutique. These items are earned by clients with points after their weekly attendance, completing lessons and in some cases learning memory verses (Earn while you learn). The NEW items are appreciated by the clients, the mentors and the Charis Board in helping meet their yearly budget. Monetary donations are also accepted towards this cause.

ITEMS INCLUDE:

Backpack Style Diaper Bags
 Teethers, Bibs, Pacifiers, Burp Cloths
 Crib Sheets
 Baby Toys, Stuffed Animals (all ages)
 Frida Postpartum Kit/Kit supplies (Target)
 Frida Brand Nail Clippers
 Baby Thermometers
 Baby Humidifiers
 Boppy Nursing Pillows
 Bouncer, Swings
 Travel Diaper Mat
 Changing pad and covers
 Bumby and/or other baby seat
 Carseat Cover, Nursing cover
 Diaper Caddy/Organizer
 Bottles/Sippy cups/snack cups
 Breastmilk storage bags
 Disposable/reusable nursing pads
 Lansinoh Lanolin Salve
 Lansinoh breastfeeding products
 Haakaa silicone breast pump
 Swaddles/starfish-style Swaddles
 Baby/Toddler socks, tights, leggings

A basket will be in the information center for your donation. Thank you!!



Enjoy a blast from the past
Car Hop Fry/Old Car & Motorcycle Show
50s Diner Type Menu

May 20, 2023

4:30-7:30 p.m.

Change of Address: *Brandon Park*

150 N West Street

Brandon, WI

Sponsored by:

Senior High Youth Group of Bethel Church of Brandon

If you would like to display your car/motorcycle please bring them to the park by 3:00 that day. Prizes will be awarded to the top three cars and motorcycles.

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
Sally Kok
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.
Renae Lind
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

305 W Main St

Brandon, WI 53919

920-346-5810

www.bethelbrandon.org

Find us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram

John Tilstra, Pastor

pastor@bethelbrandon.org

Office: 920-346-5810 Ext. 12

Home/Cell 815-238-8514

Renae Lind, Youth Director

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

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

Jason Smit Home/Cell 920-858-1739

Danelle Smit Home/Cell 920-851-8624