

Bethel *beacon*

BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON, WI
MARCH 2024 – VOLUME 39

Pastor's Pen

The Necessity of Christ's Resurrection

"If the dead are not raised, not even Christ has been raised" (1 Corinthians 15:16).

In 1 Corinthians 15:1-11, Paul established the bodily resurrection of Christ as the common belief of both Paul and the people in the Corinthian church who denied the future resurrection of believers. Because of this Corinthian denial, the Apostle in 1 Corinthians 15:12-16 explores the necessary consequences of Christ's resurrection. As we will see, Christ's being raised bodily from the dead goes hand in hand with the bodily resurrection of His people. We cannot have one without the other.

Paul makes this essential point in 1 Corinthians 15:12–13, 16. He takes it for granted that the proclamation of Jesus' resurrection makes it logically impossible to conclude that we will not be resurrected as well (v. 12). In fact, if there is no resurrection of believers, then Christ, in fact, was not resurrected (vv. 13, 16). To understand why the resurrection of Jesus necessitates the resurrection of believers and why the resurrection of believers necessitates the resurrection of Jesus, we must keep in mind that everything Jesus did, He did for the sake of His people. Based on texts such as Galatians 2:20, we are familiar with the precious truth that Jesus died for those who believe in Him. If we are not careful, however, we can forget that Jesus rose again for us as well. Our Lord speaks of His people's being repaid at "the resurrection of the just" (Luke 14:14), but of course none of us is inherently righteous because of sin. Jesus, in fact, is the only truly just or righteous person who has ever lived. For the resurrection of the just to take place at all, He must be raised, and since He has been raised, all those who are united to Him by faith alone are accounted as righteous and will be raised as well. To deny our future bodily resurrection is to deny that Christ's resurrection has redeemed us body and soul, and if His resurrection has not redeemed us in the body—to be consummated at the resurrection of our bodies—His resurrection never happened. After all, Jesus is God Almighty incarnate (John 1:1–14), and everything He does must therefore come to fruition. Jesus rose again for our justification—our very salvation—and since He has been raised, those who trust in Him will be raised as well.

To deny that we will be raised entails saying that Jesus has not been raised, for Jesus came to give us abundant life—first spiritually, and then finally bodily as well. If Jesus has not been raised, then our preaching and faith are in vain, and perhaps even worse, we have lied about God when we have said that He raised Jesus from the dead (1 Cor. 15:14–15). In other words, we have blasphemed.

(Continued Next Page)

(Pastor's Pen Continued)

The future resurrection of the body is not a negotiable point of the Christian faith. If we deny it, we also deny the resurrection of Jesus. This is one reason that we must be insistent that Jesus has not yet returned, and that redemption will not be fully complete in our experience until we see Him and our bodies are raised from the dead. Being a Christian means affirming the resurrection of our bodies.

Pastor John

Renaë's Thoughts

How many of us have asked ourselves, "What is my purpose in life?" I think at one time or another or maybe we still are contemplating what our real goal in life should be. Ever since we were young children we were asked, "What are you going to be when you grow up?" Some adults still find themselves asking this same question.

We all should continue to set goals, dreams and aspirations. Even as we get older we should have some type of destination of what we want to do with our lives. Our God is not finished with us yet.

None of us knows what the future looks like and that can drive us crazy. It can cause a lot of stress in our lives. Some of our young people are really struggling with what their future plans should be. Matthew 6:25-27 reads, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life?"

In these verses we see that our God has everything in control. He knows what we need and when we need it. He knows what's going to happen in the future. The Bible says God knows the end from the beginning, which means he knows everything that is going to happen in our lives. We need to know that God handles the future of EVERYTHING. We may not know what our future holds but God does and it's all in His hands. We need to trust Him.

If we are worrying about what our future holds we need to stop and thank Him for everything he is doing for us right now. The Bible verses tell us that God takes care of the birds and God will take care of each and every day even if we don't realize it. Instead of worrying about what might happen in the future, thank God for what he is actively doing right now.

We need to also trust God with our future because he cares about us. We are so deeply loved by Him. Even when he seems distant and uncaring we need to remind ourselves that God cares about all His creation: plants, animals, and birds. But God has a special love for people who He made in His image. We are His children.

We also need to remember that God's plan for our lives might look a little different than what our plan looks like. We need to keep God close and let Him guide us down the path He wants to go. He sometimes put opportunities in our lives that we couldn't even fathom. No matter what we have gone through in our lives, God is not done with us yet.

Renaë Lind
Youth Director

MASA Volunteer Information

For over 20 years, Mission Aviation Association (MASA), has been engaged in serving the needs of aviation ministries who come to EAA AirAdventure. These missionaries and support personnel give sacrificial service to our Lord Jesus Christ to people in the most remote areas of the world. They come to Oshkosh each year for fellowship, outreach, ministry, and training.

MASA provides housing, meals, transportation, and opportunities for their missionaries to speak in area churches. The ministry depends on the faithful service of those in the local body of Christ. The involvement of people in our church and our support of them makes this ministry possible.

They have begun a new service that will help them pay for their site at EAA, which costs several thousand of dollars every year. If they provide volunteers to work at the EAA entrance gate, they earn credit towards paying for the campground site. It is outdoor work, greeting folks as they arrive at EAA. They provide the volunteer training. Contact the Executive Director, Nevin Webster 920-344-7512 if you are interested.



Manitoqua Information

Camp Manitoqua has set up a special week for campers coming from Wisconsin. The week is June 17-21. We have information in the office if there is anyone who is interested. The ages are 3rd-5th grade. The cost is \$475 but the Mission Pillar has agreed to pay 2/3 of the cost therefore the cost for parents is \$158.33. If you want to check it out, go to their website at Manitoqua.org. There is a copy of the brochure in the office and we can make copies for anyone who is interested. The deadline for registration is March 4 and registration needs to be done online. You will need information from the church office in order to register. There might also be bussing to Manitoqua through Alto Reformed Church. Let us know ASAP.

March 28, 2024 Community Supper Bethel Church - Brandon

Bethel Church will be hosting a community supper on Thursday, March 28, 2024 prior to our Maundy Thursday service. Come and enjoy a free meal as we get to know each other. The meal starts at 6 pm prior to the service which starts at 7 pm. The Maundy Thursday service will include a skit and communion.

*INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND
NEIGHBORS!!*



I would like to thank you for the many prayers, cards, the prayer blanket from the care team, and encouraging words during these last few months. It has been a journey of many emotions and decisions, with an unexpected diagnosis after my last surgery. I have lifted my fears to the one who already has this figured out and am trusting in Him. I will be having another surgery on Monday, February 19th and would appreciate your continuing prayers.

Dianne & Mark Kastein

Consistory Information February 15, 2024

- Congregational Meeting date will be March 10.
- Financial accountant salary set at \$5,500. Will be reviewed after three months.
- Job description changes made to the accountant position.
- Next Elders Meeting March 18, 2024.
- Deacons getting quotes for narthex, lighting, and softener at parsonage.
- Go Tell Ministries June 23, 2024 with Alto Reformed.
- Worship Pillar working with Wis. Audio video.
- Communication Pillar next meeting March 4.
- Mission Pillar Maundy Thursday dinner 6-7 p.m. March 28 prior to the service.
- Mother's Day & Father's Day gifts.
- Pastoral/Staff will send out updated Job description to the Accountant candidates.
- Care Team: 75+ luncheon April 17.
- Next Consistory meeting March 21, 2024.



Sun. 3rd	8:30 a.m. Education Pillar Meeting with SS Teachers 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time , Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship Following the service: Sunday School, all ages Fellowship
Mon., 4th	5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club 7:00 p.m. Communications Pillar Meeting
Tue., 5th	1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Wed., 6th	8:30 a.m. Care Team Meeting 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth 7:30 p.m. Senior High Youth
Sun., 10th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship Following the service: Deacons Meeting Sunday School, all ages Fellowship 6:00 p.m. Roman's Bible Study
Mon., 11th	5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue., 12th	12:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering Potluck & Fellowship
Wed., 13th	10:00 a.m. 55+ Bible Study & Potluck 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Sun., 17th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship; Special Offering for Words of Hope Following the service: Sunday School, all ages Fellowship 6:00 p.m. Men's Ministry
Mon., 18th	5:30-7:00 p.m. Adventure Club
Tue., 19th	12:00-6:00 p.m. Brandon Community Blood Drive
Wed., 20th	6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Thu., 21st	9:00 a.m. Bethel Quilters 5:45 p.m. Executive Committee 6:30 p.m. Consistory
Sun., 24th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship Following the service: Sunday School, all ages Fellowship 6:00 p.m. Roman's Bible Study
Tue., 26th	1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Wed., 27th	9:10 a.m. 55+ Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Junior High Youth Group 7:00 p.m. Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. Senior High Youth Group
Thu., 28th	6:00 p.m. Community Supper 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service with Communion
Fri., 29th	1:00 p.m. Virtual Good Friday Service
Sun., 31st	7:30 a.m. Easter Sunrise service/Breakfast following 9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Easter Worship NO Sunday School or Fellowship 12:00-4:00 p.m. Fellowship Hall in use



MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

2nd Craig Bresser
Dale Henning

3rd Kristin Erickson
Amaya Gosse
Linda Smit
RJ Jurjens

4th Darlene Coehoorn

5th Deanna Theyerl
Rhett Coehoorn

7th Jeff Miller

8th Jeff Brown
Steve Slager
Linda Navis
Griffin Vis
Sharon VandeBerg

10th Brooks Bos

11th Jennifer Redeker

12th Melissa Lavota

13th Sadie Block
Nick & Shannie Tank

14th Dianne Kastein

15th Jason Bos
Colt Wiedeman
Brian Lavota

16th Izec Grade
Addison Grade
Savanna Newbury

17th Rick DeBoer

18th Lawson Phillips
Dan & Darlene Coehoorn

19th Holden Tipton
Zach Wegner

20th Ryan Arndt
Kelly & Sandy VandeZande

21st Danica Riedeman

24th Heather Wegner

26th Jane Brown
Orrin Kimble

27th Brian Brown
Dan Redeker
Millie Brunsdon
Art & Arlene VandeBerg

28th Dallas VandeSlunt

29th Cody Farrell

30th Reed Gunnink

31st Danelle Smit



SERVING THIS MONTH

Lift

3rd Harley Coehoorn
10th Ken Beekman
17th Ed Montsma
24th Rick Redeker
31st Bob Winkel

Sound

3rd Kelly VandeZande
10th Harley Coehoorn
17th Merwin Kimble
24th Kelly VandeZande
31st Harley Coehoorn

Greeter

3rd Shaun Hiemstra
10th Brian Brown
17th Mary Kimble
24th Jay Smit
31st Torrie Grade

Nursery

3rd Sadie Newbury
10th Rosanne Bresser
17th Danica Riedeman
24th Lori Coehoorn
31st Mac Mattheis

Fellowship

3rd Ed Montsma
10th Lynn DeBoer
17th Dallas VandeSlunt
24th Merwin Kimble
31st No Fellowship

Liturgy

3rd Jen Post
10th Amanda Hiemstra
17th Mark Kastein
24th Bert Leusink
31st Sandy VandeZande

DVD Delivery

3rd Jeanette Winkel
10th Shelly Hiemstra
17th Karen Redeker
24th Charlene Kamphuis
31st Rosanne Bresser

Children's Message

3rd Randi Turner
17th Amanda Hiemstra

Consistory 2024

Elders

Lynn DeBoer (24) 920-948-0380
Ed Montsma (24) 920-948-4578
Torrie Grade (25) 920-948-7419
Jon Post (25) 920-960-1402
Merwin Kimble (26) 920-517-1042
Dallas VandeSlunt (26) 920-229-2337

Deacons

Dan Brown (24) 920-204-2125
Jack Theyerl (24) 920-979-3918
Brian Brown (25) 920-204-2663
Jared Hoinacki (25) 920-517-8073
Byron Navis (26) 920-597-0203
Jay Smit (26) 920-858-1739

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

John Tilstra, President
Lynn DeBoer, VP
Ed Montsma, Clerk
Byron Navis, Deacon Chr.
Dan Brown, Treasurer

TREASURERS

Dan Brown, Main Account
Randi Turner, Mission

PASTORAL/STAFF

Lynn DeBoer
Ed Montsma
Dan Brown
Byron Navis
Deanna Theyerl
Mary Kimble

BUILDING

Brian Brown Chr.
Jared Hoinacki
Karl Rens
Jay Smit
Byron Navis

ELECTION/SELECTION

Lynn DeBoer
Ed Montsma
Dan Brown
Jack Theyerl
Jon Post
Torrie Grade
Brian Brown
Jared Hoinacki

WORSHIP PILLAR

Jack Theyerl, Co-Chr.
Deanna Theyerl, Co-Chr.
Caleb Riedeman
Danica Riedeman
Leesa Tilstra
Gary Henker
Shelly Hiemstra
Dianne Kastein
Merwin Kimble

MISSION PILLAR

Ed Montsma, Chr.
Dallas VandeSlunt, Elder
Rep.
Dione Kimble
Rick Redeker
Ron Mulder
Cathy Rens
Jon Post
Rick DeBoer
Dan Brown
Randi Turner, Treas.

CARE TEAM

Sharon Bos, Chr.
Darlene Kamphuis
Ann Mulder
Jane Brown
Mary Ann Smit
Connie Blank
Sally Kok
Nancy DeBoer
Merwin Kimble, Elder Rep.

PULPIT SUPPLY

Lynn DeBoer
Ed Montsma

EDUCATION PILLAR

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

COMMUNICATIONS PILLAR

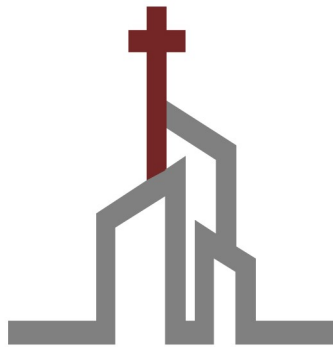
Pastor John, Chr.
Rena Lind
Judi Post
Nick Kamphuis
Jon Post, Elder Rep.

YOUTH GROUP SPONSORS

Dallas VandeSlunt
Nick Kamphuis
Kenna Freiberg
Anna Lind
Bill Lind
Dawson Drews
Julie Brown
Brody Gerrits
Ruby Flegner

CARE ELDERS

Les Hiemstra
Shelly Hiemstra
Linda Smit
Herb Beekman
Lynn DeBoer, Liaison



BETHEL CHURCH

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

Rena 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