

Bethel

beacon

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF BETHEL CHURCH, BRANDON, WI
JUNE 2025 – VOLUME 39

Pastor's Pan

The following is an article written by Ken Jones for the devotional, Tabletalk, entitled, "Disciples Stumble." There is no ambiguity in what the Apostle John says in 1 John 1:8: "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us." So, any well-intended but misguided notions of Christian perfectionism can be put to rest. It seems that all of John's exhortations in this letter rest on three fundamental truths: we should not sin (2:1), we will sin (1:8, 10), and we have forgiveness and propitiation for our sins (1:9; 2:1–2). The focus here is on the fact that Christians do indeed sin. This truth is the logical and biblical outworking of the doctrine of justification by grace alone through faith alone in Christ alone, whose righteousness is imputed to us even as our guilt is imputed to Him. Our justification or right standing before God is not because in our regeneration, we are now intrinsically righteous or that we have righteousness infused within us. We stand righteous before God because He credits and covers us with what earlier Protestant theologians called an "alien" or "foreign" righteousness, which of course is the righteousness of Christ. The righteousness of Christ is complete, meaning that it satisfies all the demands of God's holy law.

Furthermore, the righteousness of Christ is of eternal value, meaning that it never expires. It is this complete, never-failing, objective righteousness to which our faith clings in the person and work of Christ. Genuine faith brings believers into union with Christ and therefore objectively covers them with His perfect obedience and purifying blood. Subjectively, we are awakened to at least three realities: (1) the depth of our fallenness (Romans 7:13-19); (2) a genuine desire to do what is pleasing to God (Phil. 2:13; it is the combination of consciousness of our fallen nature and this God-given desire to do what is pleasing to God that creates the tension that Paul speaks of in Romans 7:12-25); and (3) knowledge of the bounty of God's grace in Christ that saves sinners (1 Timothy 1:15).

Being grounded in these truths and fleshing them out should enable us not only to understand the truthfulness of John's assertion in 1 John 1:8, but to do so in a way that does not make us complacent in the fact that as Christians, we remain sinners. On the contrary, a true sense of our failures in thought, word, and deed magnifies the grace of God that saves sinners. When God's grace is magnified, it triggers gratitude that manifests itself in doing what pleases God. Yes, disciples stumble, but God uses their stumbling to show them more and more of the grace that is greater than all their sin.

Submitted by Pastor John

Renae's Thoughts

One of our last youth group nights of this year, the junior high students had a chance to do a Bible Scavenger Hunt. Clues were given, along with Scripture verses, where the answer to the questions could be found. It was exciting to see how these students were using the Bible to find all the right answers.

Isn't that what we should be doing too? When questions arise or difficult situations we are facing, shouldn't we also be searching the Bible for answers, comfort, and direction?

Psalms 119:105: "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." This verse emphasizes the Bible's guidance in making life decisions.

Proverbs 4:5-9 "Get wisdom, get understanding; do not forget my words or turn away from them. Do not forsake wisdom, and she will protect you; love her, and she will watch over you." This passage encourages seeking wisdom and understanding from God's word.

The Bible is a God-breathed book of truth that is there to help us in any and every situation we are going through. The Bible provides wisdom when we have a difficult situation we are facing. The Bible provides comfort when times are hard. It gives a sense of security knowing that our Heavenly Father is always there and loves us unconditionally.

Bible reading is such an important part in our walk with God. It helps us to continue to build our relationship with God on a daily basis.

In an article from the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, Billy Graham writes, "Today, many people keep the Bible a closed book. One reason is because we don't realize how much we need it. If I suggested that you stop eating for a few months, you'd ignore me—and rightly so. We need food in order to survive, and without food we'll grow weak and eventually die.

"The Bible is not an option; it is a necessity. You cannot grow spiritually strong without it."

Yet many Christians are spiritually starved and weak because they ignore the spiritual "food" God has provided in the Bible. The Bible is not an option; it is a necessity. You cannot grow spiritually strong without it.

We all need to open our Bibles and get spiritually fed on a daily basis. Open it with enthusiasm knowing that it is God speaking and developing our relationship with Him.

Renae Lind, Youth Director



June Church Schedule

Sun., 1st	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 4:00 p.m. High School Girls Bible Study
Tue., 3rd	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Sun., 8th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Deacon's Meeting Fellowship 6:00 p.m. Movie Night, "The Forge"
Tue., 10th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 12:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering Potluck & Fellowship
June 11-18	Cheryl Vacation
June 12-17	Pastor & Leesa Vacation
Thu., 19th	5:45 p.m. Executive Meeting 6:30 p.m. Consistory Meeting
Sun., 22nd	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship-Offering VBS 10:30 a.m. Fellowship 12:45 p.m. The Fireside Event
Tue., 24th	10:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 1:00-3:00 p.m. Senior Gathering
Fri., 27th	1:00 p.m. Dementia Caregiver's Meeting
Sun., 29th	9:20 a.m. Prayer Time, Youth Room 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Deacon's Meeting Fellowship



1st Quinn Laper
Shanna Peterson
Herb & Pat Beekman
2nd Kevin & Brenda Beekman
Rick & Shelly Pluim (35)
Brittany DeBoer
3rd Jenna Vis
4th Caleb Riedeman
Paul Brunsdon
Craig Mulder
5th Randy Pinnow
6th Bella Beltezore
Bob Winkel
Caleb & Danica Riedeman
7th Jesse Beekman
Lori Dahlke
Shelly Pluim
Krista Schliep
Mitch & Jenna Vis
David & Torrie Grade
8th Marisa Youngwirth
10th Lori Coehoorn
Rick & Janet DeBoer
11th Jack Theyerl
Glenn Ebert
Sydney Dahlke
Paul & Melanie Brunsdon
12th Randy & Deb Pinnow
13th Ron & Sharon VandeBerg
15th Tony Sauer

16th Steve Smit
Ann Kastein
John Navis (Missionary)
17th Jared Hoinacki
18th Shaun & Amanda Hiemstra (15)
19th Kalen Montsma
Vicky Mulder
Sadie Newbury
20th Harley & Melody Coehoorn
Caleb Navis (Missionary)
21st Mike Owens
22nd Angela Arndt
Charlie & Connie Blank
23rd Brenda Beekman
Emily Smit
Lori VandeBerg
Eugene & Betty DeBoer
24th Ben Coehoorn
25th John Luczak, Jr.
Alex & Ann Zabel
26th Gary & Judith Henker (55)
Keith & Sharon Krohn
27th Corey Dahlke
Connie Dahlke
Ryan Hiemstra
28th Melissa Henker
Glen Belmer
John & Shanna Peterson
29th Ryan Arndt
Seth Gosse
Pastor John & Leesa Tilstra
30th Lori Madigan
Bert & Cheryl Leusink



CONSISTORY & COMMITTEES

LIFT

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

SOUND

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

GREETER

1st Brian Brown
8th Jared Hoißnacki
15th Jay Smit
22nd Torrie Grade
29th Jon Post

NURSERY

1st Sadie Newbury
8th Lori Coehoorn
15th Lena Arndt & Cameron Hiemstra
22nd Mac Mattheis
29th Rosanne Bresser

LITURGY

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

FELLOWSHIP

1st Bob Winkel
8th Dallas VandeSlunt
15th Merwin Kimble
22nd Nic Mattheis
29th Kelly VandeZande

DVD DELIVERY

1st Jeanette Winkel
8th Shelly Hiemstra
15th Karen Redeker
22nd Charlene Kamphuis
29th Rosanne Bresser

Elder's Meeting May 12, 2025

- Aiden Tiejn made Profession of Faith
- Anthony & Tammy Martinek made Profession of Faith.
- Communion to shut ins was discussed
- Moving the Information Center was discussed
- Getting more furniture in the entryway
- New area for the sound and video systems is being constructed.
- Next meeting July 21, 2025.

May 15, 2025 Consistory meeting was cancelled due to weather and will be held on May 28, 2025.

Thank You!

Chronicles 16:34, says, "Oh give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; for His steadfast love endures forever!" We truly have so much to be thankful for. The Car Hop Fry and Car/Motorcycle show was a huge success. The weather was a bit cold and windy but that didn't keep the customers away. We were able to clear \$1,300.00. Thanks to all who came out and supported this youth event. We are so thankful for each and everyone of you. The students were blown away by the awesome response. They had a great time, worked hard, and I am sure went home a little tired. Thanks again.
Bethel Senior High Youth group

FROM THE KENDRICK BROTHERS • CREATORS OF *WAR ROOM*, *OVERCOMER* AND *COURAGEOUS*

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A year out of high school with no plans for his future, a boy is challenged by his single mom and a successful businessman to start charting a better course for his life. Through the prayers of his mother and biblical discipleship from his new mentor, he begins discovering God's purpose for his life is so much more than he could hope for or imagine.

Consistory 2025

Elders

Torrie Grade (25)	920-948-7419
Jon Post (25)	920-960-1402
Merwin Kimble (26)	920-517-1042
Dallas VandeSlunt (26)	920-229-2337
Shelly Hiemstra (27)	920-948-3548
Bob Winkel (27)	920-382-5120

Deacons

Brian Brown (25)	920-204-2663
Jared Hoinacki (25)	920-948-0289
Byron Navis (26)	920-597-0203
Jay Smit (26)	920-858-1739
Nic Mattheis (27)	920-904-1337
Kelly VandeZande (27)	920-346-2100

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Jon Post, VP
Torrie Grade, Clerk
Byron Navis, Deacon Chr.
Brian Brown, Main Treasurer

TREASURERS

Brian Brown, Main Account
Cheryl Leusink, Accountant

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Byron Navis, Deacon Chr
Brian Brown, Main Treasurer
Torrie Grade, Clerk
Deanna Theyerl
Mary Kimble

BUILDING

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Jared Hoinacki, Chr.
Karl Rens
Byron Navis
Jay Smit

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Torrie Grade
Jon Post
Brian Brown
Jared Hoinacki
Merwin Kimble
Byron Navis
Dallas VandeSlunt
Jay Smit

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Deanna Theyerl, Co-Chr.
Caleb Riedeman
Danica Riedeman
Leesa Tilstra
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Shelly Hiemstra
Dianne Kastein
Kelly VandeZande
Merwin Kimble

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Randi Turner, Treasurer
Dione Kimble
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Cathy Rens
Rick DeBoer
Bob Winkel

CARE TEAM

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Sally Kok
Ann Mulder
Mary Ann Smit
Connie Blank
Nancy DeBoer
Ann Zabel
Deb Pinnow
Merwin Kimble, Elder Rep.

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Torrie Grade, Clerk

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Torrie Grade, Elder Rep.
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Angela Arndt
Rena Lind
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Judi Post
Rena Lind
Jon Post
Nick Kamphuis
Nic Mattheis

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Anna Lind
Bill Lind
Dawson Drews
Julie Brown
Brody Gerrits
Ruby Flegner

CARE ELDERS

Les Hiemstra
Linda Smit
Herb Beekman
Shelly Hiemstra, Liaison



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