



*"The LORD is
my light and
my salvation;
whom shall I fear?"*
PSALM 37:1, NRSV

The Bethel Beacon

AUGUST 2010

MISSION STATEMENT: We, the Bethel Lutheran Congregation, called by God, commit ourselves: to proclaim the gospel, to prepare our members for outreach and service, and to minister to human needs.



August Worship Themes National Night Out	Page 2
Reflections Adult Ed News, Bell Tower, Financial Peace University	Page 3
Pastoral Acts, Pre-Baptism Scarf Project	Page 4
Music News Library News	Page 5
Children's Ministry	Page 6
WELCA News Sticky Church, Moms & Kids	Page 7
Youth News	Page 8
Gifts/Memorials Stewardship Stats, Bethel Staff	Page 9
New Member Classes Confirmation News, Rally Weekend	Page 10
YISF, BIGG Idea	Page 11
BRIDGE	Insert

CHARITABLE GRANT PROGRAM

We are pleased to inform the congregation that Bethel has been enrolled as a participating organization in Thrivent Choice during the month of August. Thrivent Choice is a new charitable grant program that allows eligible members to direct where Thrivent Financial distributes part of its charitable funds each year. Bethel is listed in the online catalog (www.thrivent.com/thriventchoice/programs/dollars). When Thrivent members help direct Choice Dollars to Bethel in August, Bethel will receive an electronic contribution at the end of the month that can be used to carry out various mission and program purposes.

Over the next six weeks, eligible benefit members will receive a letter with information on their designated Choice Dollars for 2010 and details on how they can help direct these funds. We hope that you will be eager to help promote the use of this program in order to further the mission and ministries of Bethel. Thank you!

TALKING ABOUT RACE



1 Peter 3:8

Rochester is privileged to have the opportunity to view the "RACE - Are We So Different? Project." Bethel members (middle school age through adults) are invited to meet at the Rochester Public Library on Tuesday, August 10 at 6:15pm to view the exhibit and share observations regarding the topics presented. There is no admission fee.

The exhibit presents an integrated view of race and human variation through biological, cultural and historical perspectives. The RACE project has three primary messages:

1. Race is a recent human invention.
2. Race is about culture, not biology
3. Race and racism are embedded in our institutions and everyday life.

George Thompson, a long time Rochester resident, has generously consented to serve as our guide and discussion leader. Visit mayoclinic.org/RACE for more information about the exhibit.

NEXT BEACON

Articles Due:
Tuesday, Aug. 17, 2010
by 12 Noon

Beacon Mailed:
Monday, Aug. 23, 2010



Summer Worship Theme - "Celebrating Bethel's Ministry"
Local - National - World

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near." *Philippians 4:4-5*

AUGUST: Celebrating Bethel's Ministry in the World

Date	Theme	Special Feature
July 31/Aug 1	Celebrating the ELCA World Hunger Appeal	World Hunger awareness
Aug 7/8	Celebrating Fair Trade	Fair Trade coffee and Fair Trade Market
Aug 14/15*	Celebrating The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania (ELCT)	Our partners in the Central Diocese in Tanzania; Malaria Initiative of the ELCA
Aug 21/22	Celebrating The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mexico (ELCM)	Our partners in Latin American Lutheran Mission (LALM)
Aug 28/29	Celebrating Lutheran World Relief (LWR)	LWR quilts and layettes and other LWR efforts



* On Wednesday, August 11, one of our missionaries, Kristopher Hartwig, will be at Bethel. Please join us for a potluck at 6:30pm and a presentation at 7:00pm.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

National Night is Tuesday, August 3 from 6-8:30pm! We have joined with Redeemer Lutheran Church and new this year - Rochester Community Baptist Church! We are very excited about another church sharing in our mission in SE Rochester! All Bethel members are welcome to attend! Music with Ron Hanson, Dancing Rooster Productions will provide the entertainment. Hotdogs, rootbeer floats, inflatables, games for all ages -- come join the fun!

We are also sponsoring 2 charity drives - you can bring a school supply for our *Riverside Elementary* friends or a NEW pair of shoes for *Rochester Kids Shoe Drive* through Lutheran Social Services: Shoes ... (Boys ages 5-12, sizes 1 in boys to 6,7,8 in men's; Girls ages 5-11, sizes 12 in girls to 6,7,8 in women's).

Hope you can join us! If you are willing to help out in any way, you can contact Kori Petersson, petefamily@charter.net.



REFLECTIONS

By Pastor Andy Nelson

I am coming to the end of my first year at Bethel, and am seeing my number of Bethel “firsts”— i.e. events and programs I have yet to experience — dwindle considerably. Just in the past month, I added two important things to my list of first experiences, having been through both my first VBS at Bethel and my first week of Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village.

In the first case, I got to sail along on a week of “High Seas Adventure!” with a raft of children and volunteers, singing songs, doing skits, making crafts, playing games and doing service projects all centered on learning about the Word of God (how it is True, Comforting, Surprising, Life-Changing, and For Everyone). It was a delightful week spent with the kids of this place, watching (and feeling) their joy and excitement in learning about God.

Then, in mid-July, I experienced my first week at Good Earth Village in Spring Valley, MN — along with 80 confirmation students, 9 peer ministers who came as junior counselors, 4 other Bethel staff and a host of counselors and staff from the camp itself. In addition to the couple-hours -a-day of confirmation instruction on the Old Testament, New Testament, and Life of Jesus, these youth learned about and (most importantly) *encountered* God through a week full of small-group Bible study, worship, table fellowship, time in nature, time doing productive work around the camp, community-building games, games for the sheer joy of games, and through the personal relationships established with counselors and cabin-mates. Again, what a remarkable week spent with the young people of Bethel, watching and participating in their spiritual growth, traveling along a small part of their walk with God.

Because of each of these weeks, I have offered my thanks to this congregation and to God for the ways you have supported these ministries: for making the spiritual nurturing of the youth and children of Bethel a priority in our mission, for the tireless efforts of volunteers who are the hands and heart of that mission, for the families who are our irreplaceable partners, and for the participation of the youth and children themselves, whose energy, engagement, questions, laughter, and faith are vital to the life

and mission of this place.

ADULT EDUCATION NEWS

BIBLE STUDIES AND MORE: All of our studies welcome new members and meet in various rooms (check the calendar on the kiosk in the Narthex):

- **Monday Night Bible Study** - 6:30pm in room 115 - study Sunday's lessons
- **Wednesday Early Morning Bible Study** (6:30am—read through the Bible) - Rm 115
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study** (10am – studying Sunday's lessons), room 115
- **WELCA Bible study**, 10:45am on the first Thursday of each month, room 115



THE BELL WILL RING SOON!

Maybe you have noticed some yellow and green flags in the west lawn lately. Soon you will see some digging and a poured concrete foundation and a few weeks after that - you should see a tower!

Funded exclusively by private donations, the tower is being built and the bell is being restored by Verdin Company of Cincinnati, OH. The tower will be approximately 20 feet high with a 3-foot cross on top and will include a Verdin Sonata Digital Electronic Carillon System.

FINANCIAL PEACE UNIVERSITY

Bethel's Stewardship Team is bringing FPU to Bethel this Fall, beginning Sept. 16 for 13 sessions. Childcare will be provided upon request. If you want to know more about FPU, go to daveramsey.com. You can read about the class, even sample a class. And if you are interested, you can register for Bethel's class by clicking through to "locate a class". Type in our zip code (55904) and Bethel will be at the top of the list.

The cost will be just under a \$100 for either a couple or a single. The class is limited to 100 people. While Bethel will be officially registering people (including payment for class materials) later this summer, you can assure yourself a spot by signing up now on the website.



Pastoral Acts at Bethel

We encourage you to share in the times of joy and sorrow with fellow members of God's family at Bethel:

BAPTISMS

Go therefore and make disciples of the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Matthew 28:19

6/27	Lucille Kennedy
7/4	Jacob Smith
7/10	Easton Mesenbring
7/11	Vyanna Hyde
7/18	Kendra Hart, Kaitlin Ferrier, Olivia Williamson

WEDDINGS

And now faith, hope and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love. 1 Corinthians 13:13

6/26	Jessica Smith & Allen Nelson
7/9	Michelle Dornack & Adam Taswell

FUNERALS

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable and we will be changed.
(1 Corinthians 15:51-52)

7/7	Wava Berg
7/10	Robert "Bob" Nord
7/12	Delores "Dee" Schleusner
7/17	Sandra Ripley

ARE YOU EXPECTING A CHILD? COME TO THE PRE-BAPTISM CLASS



Bethel holds a monthly pre-baptism class on the 2nd Sunday of the month and the **next class** will be **Sunday, August 8**, 6:30-7:30pm in room 115. This class is held for those planning baptisms - even if the baby isn't due for awhile, call Judy in the office and tell her which class you'd like to attend. Parents and local sponsors are expected to participate in this opportunity to review the meaning of God's gift of new life. You are welcome to bring the child that is to be baptized as well. Even if this isn't your first child, we encourage you to attend one of the pre-baptism classes.

You must let the church office know the date you will attend the pre-baptism class to ensure that a pastor will be present to conduct the class. If we don't have anyone signed up for the evening, the class will not be held.

To schedule a baptism, please contact Judy Gittus, 288-6430 or jgittus@bethellutheran.com.



Scarves, Scarves ... Everywhere!

The Sunday morning Youth Forum classes will be making fleece scarves this fall as a service project to local organizations. To complete this project we are looking for donations of fleece in **1 yard increments (60 inches in width)**. Various fleece patterns (children, youth and adults) **and** solids are needed for this project. If you enjoy purchasing fleece, or have some 1 yard fleece that you could donate, please consider giving to this service project. Donations may be dropped off at the main office or to Darcy Youngstrom.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY NEWS

2010 / 2011 SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION!

Please register as soon as possible if you have children who are 3 years old by September 1, 2010 through 5th grade. The registration fee is \$10/child with a maximum of \$20/family. The fee is waived for Sunday school volunteers. *PLEASE NOTE THAT CHILDREN WILL NOT BE PLACED IN A CLASS ON RALLY SUNDAY.

SUNDAY SCHOOL VOLUNTEER INFO SESSION

10:30am, August 22 or August 29: Please plan to join us in the Chapel for an information session to learn about the upcoming Sunday school year. The session will last approximately 1 hour. You will receive information about curriculum, calendar, class lists and plans for the year. If you have questions please contact Daryl or Susan in the church office.

BEGINNERS ORIENTATION and BIBLE BAGS –

September 11: Mark your calendars for September 11 at 9:00 or 10:30am. We will have a special milestone event for our 3-year-old Beginner Sunday School children and their parents. We will meet at the same time as you are registered for Sunday school (9:00 or 10:30am). More information will be mailed out in August.

RALLY DAY CARNIVAL – September 12: Join Children's Ministry as we kick off the beginning of a new Sunday School year with a carnival followed by an all church picnic. We will have inflatables, popcorn and freeze pops. We will need volunteers to help from 10am – 1pm. If you would like to help for one hour, please contact Susan in the office or by e-mail: smlars16@hotmail.com

PRE-K BIBLE MILESTONE – September 19:

Pre-K children and their parents will participate in the Bible Milestone event on 9/19. During your child's regular Sunday School hour, we will present your child with a special story Bible. This event is for Pre-K children (2nd year of SS) and their parents. It will take the place of their regular Sunday School class. Watch your mail in September for an invitation to this fun milestone event!

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS – September

19: Children of Bethel are encouraged to bring their backpacks to worship on September 19 for a special blessing.

5TH GRADE 1ST COMMUNION:

Parents of 5th graders, please mark your calendars for one of the following first communion training evenings: Sunday September 26 or Tuesday September 28 from 6:30– 8pm. In addition to the training, 5th Graders will take their First Communion on Sunday October 3 at the hour opposite their Sunday School hour. Please let your child's sponsors and family members know about this very special milestone so they can attend too! You will receive a letter in September with more details.

3RD GRADE BIBLE MILESTONE: There are two parts to this milestone: an evening to learn about the Adventure Bible that the 3rd Graders will receive and second a worship service where parents will present the Bible to their child. Please plan to attend the Bible Orientation on either October 10 or 12 from 6:30–8pm. On October 17, 3rd Graders will receive their Bible during worship. Please plan to attend the worship service opposite your child's Sunday School hour. You will receive more information in September.

UPCOMING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY EVENTS!

- August 22 or 29 – 10:30am SS volunteer info session.
- September 11 – 9:00/10:30am – Beginner's Orientation
- September 12 – Rally Sunday, Sunday school begins
- September 19 – Blessing of the Backpacks during worship
- September 19 – Pre-K Bible Milestone during regular Sunday School hour
- September 26/28 – 5th Grade 1st Communion Training – 6:30pm
- October 3 – 5th Graders receive 1st Communion during regular worship services
- October 10 or 12 – 3rd Grade Bible Orientation – 6:30pm
- October 17 – 3rd Graders receive Adventure Bible during worship

NEWS FROM THE WOMEN OF BETHEL

Mission of the Month for August: School Kits for Lutheran World Relief (LWR): A school kit may provide the only supplies for children returning to school after the disruption of war. School kits help parents continue their children's education, even while living in a refugee camp. A school kit may also be used in adult literacy classes.

Items needed for these kits include: 70-page wide-ruled notebooks, blunt children's scissors, wooden ruler with centimeters and inches, pencil sharpener, #2 pencils (unsharpened), 2 ½ " eraser, construction paper, boxes of crayons (24-count). Put these items in the barrel provided in the Narthex from now until August 29. Thank you for helping the children!

Fall Rummage Sale: October 7. Please keep us in mind as you prepare for another changing of the seasons.

Dates to Remember:
Monday, August 16 - WELCA Board Meeting

NEEDED

Do you have a natural ability to make people feel welcome? Do you like to host gatherings and social events? Bethel is preparing to launch a sermon-based small group ministry this September for 8 week segments (Session 1: September 26- Nov 20). Might you be willing to be a small group host (convene a group in your home or at church) once a week during the 8 weeks? You can pick the best day and time for your schedule and we will help organize the rest. Contact Avis Hagen or Pastor Anjanette Rist at the church office (288-6430) if you are interested in serving in this way! Thank you!

MOMS AND KIDS

Join Moms and Kids as we begin a new year of study on Thursday, September 9. We will begin with a morning of fellowship and a time for prayerful reflection on the new fall season. We are a relaxed group of moms with children of all ages that gather weekly on Thursdays for fellowship from 9-9:30am, and Bible study from 9:30-10:30am with other moms and Pastor Anjanette. Young children are cared for in the nursery by wonderful and caring volunteers while we meet next door in Room 115. Please join us for an informal time to enjoy motherhood in all seasons. For more information, contact Heather Schenck, 261-1702, or Dawn Mitchell, 206-0310.

SAMARITAN BETHANY ANNUAL DINNER

Samaritan Bethany Foundation thanks you so much for all you did for the Golf Outing. The proceeds go to the *Creating Home* Building Project. Just like home, the work is never done and our fund raising is never done at Samaritan Bethany either.

We are already working on the Annual Benefit Dinner on Thursday, October 7, at the Rochester International Event Center. This year we have the male quartet sensation, Tonic Sol-fa. These four guys do a super job with their singing. But don't take our word for it – go to their web site at www.tonicsof.com and hear for yourselves.

Libby Witzeman, your liaison, at Bethel has tickets (\$50) to sell for this dinner. We hope you will join us and support this fundraiser – the proceeds will go to the *Creating Home* Building Project. Treat yourself to a delightful evening!

YOUTH NEWS

Mural by Youth Hall

On April 2, 2010, the Bethel Church family lost a brother in Afghanistan. Curtis Swenson was killed in action while serving his country. There was much coverage from all over the state, and nationally as well, about his death. The memorial services were something that continue to touch my life in a very deep way.

In the past few months, the Swenson family generously donated memorial funds to be used to benefit Youth Ministry as Curtis was involved with various youth activities at Bethel. In particular, he played on the summer softball team and participated in many youth trips including ones to California and Montana. Part of the Swenson's request was for the money to help with scholarships for these types of trips due to the impact they had on Curtis' life. Youth will be able to continue to attend such trips due to these donated memorial funds.

We also brainstormed another idea for a mural in the hall which leads to Youth Hall. Amy Ramer (the very talented muralist who has painted the stairwell as well as the hall downstairs) and the Children's Ministry team presented an idea for this mural. We brought the proposal to Dave, Kay, Emily and Katie Swenson with a special Bible verse to add to the mural. The verse, which was read at Curtis' memorial service, states: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." (Mark 10:45)

The family was excited that Curtis would be remembered and the mural would bring some color and life to this hallway. It is with great honor and in loving memory that we announce the completion of this mural. The mural will speak of not only Curtis' sacrifice for his country and all of us, but also of Christ's love for us and our ability to serve others because of this love.

I hope you will take time to see this beautiful mural in the lower level by Youth Hall. We are thankful to the Swenson family for thinking of Bethel's Youth Ministry and setting up the memorial fund. We also thank Amy Ramer for her work in creating this mural. May we always remember Curtis for his service to others and may we be held in Christ's love as we serve others.

By Michael Beckmann

Teachers still needed! If you are looking for a way to help with the youth program, please consider teaching or helping with the Sunday morning Youth Forum classes. We are still in need of the following teachers: **9:00 Hour: 6th grade girls and 7th grade girls; 10:30 Hour: 6th grade girls, and 6th grade boys.** Teaching materials provided each week; please contact Darcy if interested.

Youth Forum Registration occurring now!

Please make sure you stop by and register your middle school youth for the upcoming **Sunday morning Youth Forum** classes. Registrations materials may be found at the youth board or online. Students in grades 6–9 are encouraged to register by Sunday, August 22 so that we are sure to have enough teachers to accommodate all classes. **Rally Sunday is September 12.**

Youth Leadership Training- Registration will be available around the middle of August for this ministry opportunity for youth going into 10th grade. We will be meeting on **Wednesday nights from 7-8:30pm.** This ministry will allow youth to discover their gifts of leadership within their church, school and community. Sessions will include group discussion, journaling and hands on experiences. Youth Leadership Training will take the place of Peer Ministry Training, and will use some of the same aspects of Peer Ministry with more of a focus on how to be integrated into the life of our congregation and ministries. Please contact Michael for more information or with questions.

Youth Band - We are still looking for youth interested in playing or singing in the Youth Band. Youth interested should be in high school, will need to be available on Wednesday evenings 8:30-9:30pm and Sunday evenings from 7-9pm, as well as selected Sunday mornings. If you are in middle school and would like to be added to a "potential list" please contact Michael as well, we are always looking for ways to continue the youth band and it starts with younger singers and instrument players!

More information for fall programming will be available in the September Beacon, until then continue to check our Youth Website for updated information!

GIFTS & MEMORIALS

- † Music fund in memory of Pastor Don Deines from family and friends
- † Undesignated Memorial Fund in memory of Gerald Flickinger from family and friends
- † Mundahl Endowment Music Scholarship Fund in honor of Dale Mundahl from Bethel friends
- † Bell Tower Fund in memory of Kelly Engwall, granddaughter of Clarence and Marilyn Engwall, from Dave and Jan Kaehler
- † Operation Hometown Gratitude in memory of dad and grandpa Harry J. Schmitz Sr, and Harry J. Schmitz II from Judy Gittus (both Navy men)
- † Youth Fund in memory of parents, Harry & Doris Schmitz, from Judy Gittus
- † Children's Library Fund in memory of granddaughter Michaela Herring from Herman & Diane Zincke
- † Organ Fund in memory of Ella Brown from Barbara Ferguson
- † Music Fund in honor of Dale Mundahl's years of service from Doug and Cindy Boese
- † Music Fund in honor of Don and Carol Lamberg's 50th Wedding Anniversary from Cliff and Lea Pagel
- † Organ Fund in Organ Fund in memory of Dee Schleusner from family and friends

2010 STEWARDSHIP GIVING

<u>General Giving</u>		<u>Building Fund</u>	
6/27	\$14,017.50	Offerings to Date (as of 7/18)	\$213,174.54
7/4	\$18,439.16	Total Pledged for 2010	\$392,000.00
7/18	\$35,237.92	Number of Families Pledging	443
		YTD Mortgage Payments	\$282,989.00
		Annual Mortgage Payments	\$485,124.00
		Mortgage Balance	\$4,792,557.28
As of 7/18/2010:		<u>Simply Giving</u>	
YTD Projected Envelope Offerings	\$546,011.10	General Offerings Rec'd in 2010	\$138,394.48
YTD Actual Envelope Offerings	\$546,581.04	Building Offerings Rec'd in 2010	\$61,020.00
Difference	+ \$539.94	% of General Offerings Rec'd 2010	28.1%
		# of Families Participating	189

BETHEL'S STAFF

Pastors:

Norman Wahl	Executive Pastor (on Sabbatical)
Anjanette Rist	Visitation, Outreach & Missions
Andrew Nelson	Education & Youth
Roy Satre	Assisting Pastor of Visitation

Office Staff

Judy Gittus	Communications/Membership
Janet Hoffmann	Administrative
Patricia McEwan	Education & Youth
Sylvia Ramaker	Receptionist/Secretary

Program Staff

Chris Zabel	Parish Administrator
Gary Thorn	Minister of Music
Dave Gross	Youth Music Assistant
Michael Beckmann	Youth Director
Darcy Youngstrom	Assistant Youth Director
Daryl Jans	Children's Ministry Director
Avis Hagen	Shared Ministry & Small Groups
Lorrie Schuchard	New Member Coordinator

Custodial Staff

Bill Freytag	Properties Supervisor
Bryan Kohn	Custodial Supervisor
Tony Wright	Custodian
Dustin Christopherson	Part-time Custodian
Organist	Jim Bahler
Weekend Receptionists	Barb Larson, Lois Graif
Financial Secretary	Alice O'Groske
Nursery Coordinator	Shelly Savage

NEW MEMBER CLASSES

Have you been thinking of making Bethel your church home? Great! We are glad that you are here. The first of 4 classes will start on **Thursday, September 30**, at **7pm** and will meet weekly until **October 21**. Registration for the classes is required and must be done prior to **September 20**. Registration information can be found at <http://www.bethellutheran.com/join> or call Lorrie Schuchard, 273-3832. If you are not able to attend the evening classes, please call Lorrie to discuss alternative solutions. We don't want the timing of the classes to be a road-block preventing you from joining. If now is not a good time to join, you can look forward to the next new member classes in 2011. We want you to feel free to participate in any activity that Bethel has to offer as you don't need to be a member first to get involved. **Welcome to Bethel!**

CONFIRMATION NEWS

Confirmation Make-up classes! For students in 7th, 8th and 9th grades who did not attend Confirmation camp. Please make sure you have marked your calendar for confirmation camp make-up classes on Saturday morning September 11 and 18 from 8:00am to 12 noon.

Confirmation Mentorship Reminder!

To all confirmation students in the 10th grade who will be confirmed on Sunday, October 31: We hope you are staying in contact with your mentor, and finding time to meet. The final confirmation mentor meeting will be Sunday, September 19 at 11:30am in Bethel Hall. Confirmation mentors and students should have this date marked on their calendars. Please plan to worship together at the 10:30 service and then attend the mentor meeting in Bethel Hall.

Confirmation Youth & Parent Night!

All 7th, 8th and 9th grade confirmation students and their parents: Please mark your calendar for Wednesday night September 15 from 7-8:30pm in the Sanctuary. We will kick-off the 2010 / 2011 confirmation classes with our annual Youth & Parent Night meeting. This is considered a regular class night and attendance is expected SEE YOU THERE!

Confirmation Service Sunday, October 31,

All 10th grade confirmation students and their parents: MARK your calendars for 2 very important dates: (1) Confirmation service rehearsal scheduled for Saturday, October 30 at 9:00am in the Sanctuary. We need all students in attendance along with 1 parent. (2) The Confirmation Service on Sunday afternoon October 31 at 1:30pm in the Sanctuary. Please call or email Daryl for questions regarding rehearsal and or the service.

RALLY WEEKEND

Saturday, September 11

6:00pm - Worship with Potluck following - bring a dish to share and your own plates & utensils if possible.

Sunday, September 12

9 & 10:30am - Worship
9 & 10:30am - Sunday School
Carnival - 10am-1:00pm
All Church "Picnic" in
Bethel Hall
11:30am-1:15pm
Bring a salad or dessert to share
(main dish will be provided)
Bring your own plates and
utensils if possible.

See you Rally Weekend!

YOUNG IN SPIRIT!

The SPOTLIGHT is on all SENIOR BETHEL MEMBERS!!!

This is to remind you to mark your calendars for the 3rd Thursday of every month from September through December. You won't want to miss The YOUNG IN SPIRIT Group that is organized just for you! On the 3rd Thursday of each month, we meet for a delicious noon meal with fun entertainment that follows. Our meal is catered so we ask everyone to call their reservations in to Norma Isaacson, 282-0423 on the prior Tuesday. Your neighbor and friends are welcome. This is a wonderful way to enjoy an afternoon of devotions, good food, fellowship and meeting new people!

TIPS FROM THE BIGG TEAM WAYS TO SHOW

YOUR LOVE FOR GOD'S CREATION!

- Support your local farmer by buying locally grown fruits and vegetables. This eliminates fuel emissions caused by long-haul produce trucks, trains or planes.
- Replace your old toilet with a low-flow version. This conserves 23,000 gallons per year!
- Use reusable containers to pack your lunch – keep plastic bags out of our landfills.
- Get a home energy audit. Find new ways to save money and CO2 emissions.
- Turn your computer off when you are not using it.
- Break a sweat! Skip the drive to the gym and run, bike or rollerblade outside

MISSIONARY VISIT

On the weekend of Aug 14/15 we will be celebrating our partnership with congregations and ministries in Tanzania. As part of that week we will also host our missionary, Dr. Kristopher

Hartwig on Wednesday, Aug 11 for a 6:30pm potluck (meat and drink provided, please bring a side dish) and presentation at 7pm. We want to collect items for the assembly of hospice kits for Dr. Hartwig to use in his palliative care of patients. The following donations are needed for the kits. Thank you!

New or gently used items:

- . 1 regular size bath towel
- . 1 wash cloth

New items:

- . 1 bath size bar of soap (wrapped) - any kind
- . 1 toothbrush
- . 1 tube of tooth paste, medium or large (or two small sample size) - any kind
- . 1 "pick" comb
- . 1 nail clipper
- . 6 Band-Aids
- . 1 jar or tube of petroleum jelly
- . 1 pair heavy duty household gloves (kitchen type) Size - medium

BETHEL BOOK CLUB

The Bethel Book Club meets monthly on the third Tuesday at 6:30pm. We often select a book through the Rochester Public Library Book Club in a Bag program. Because of this wonderful opportunity, we do not have to buy, or otherwise, find our own copy. How does this work? A book club member checks out a bag with 10 copies of the book we have selected from a long selection of books. That person is also responsible for returning all 10 books. The books in their blue bags are then available in the adult library and only those persons who plan to join the discussion should sign out a book.

Our book selection for August 17 is The Book Thief by Markus Zusak. It is a Book Club in a Bag selection. The story is about a young girl, Liesel, who lives in Germany during World War II. We are given a picture of how difficult survival was for the average German citizen during the war. Liesel, the book thief, survives the war by learning to read and write.

We welcome anyone - young or older, to join us in discussing this award winning book.



worship • connect • serve

Soon you are going to be seeing the word **BRIDGE** all over Bethel. And we want you to know what **BRIDGE** is all about!

Is it ... a card game? Yes. But in this reference? No.

Is it ... a walkway from one side of the riverbank to the other? Yes. But in this reference? No.

Is it ... a lite station on the radio? Yes. But, again, not in this reference.

BRIDGE at Bethel stands for ... **B**uilding **R**elationships **I**n a **D**ynamic **G**roup **E**xperience!

BRIDGE groups are sermon-based groups that meet weekly to study, share, and support one another in their Christian lives.

What will we study?

The studies are based on the previous Sunday's sermon. The pastors will write discussion questions that expand upon the main points of their sermon. They will include additional Bible verses that pertain to the topic and practical applications. Best of all, there is no preparation!

When will we meet?

When you sign up you will indicate a preference of a meeting time and day. You can form your own group or join a group based on the time they meet or a shared demographic (i.e. parents with small children, retired, Vikings fans, etc.). A typical meeting lasts a minimum of an hour and includes informal and guided discussion, prayer, and refreshments. No homework is required.

Where will we meet?

Groups of 8-10 people will gather together in a place determined by the group. This can be in a home of a group member, at Bethel, or... be creative! Maybe your **BRIDGE** group meets:

- For breakfast at your favorite restaurant before work?
- In a park setting out in God's beautiful creation?
- In a specially created on-line chat room? (Use technology for your group to meet!)
- At a coffee shop?

Your lives can determine the best way for this group to work. We need both session participants and a group contact person who will be given timely and helpful communication for the group.

What is the commitment?

Small group sessions are in 8-week segments. Session One begins the week of September 26 and ends the week of November 20 (before Thanksgiving week).

How do we sign up?

Sign up tables and on-line registration will be available at the end of August. For more information contact **BRIDGE** Small Group Directors, Cindy and Doug Boese at boesemom@yahoo.com, #285-1866, Avis Hagen at hagen@bethellutheran.com, #288-6430 or Pastor Anjanette Rist.



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BE READY ...
ALL OUR CHOIRS, ORCHESTRAS,
ENSEMBLES, HANDBELLS, ETC.
WILL BE STARTING SOON -
LOOK FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Church office, 507-288-6430.

WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday	6:00pm
Sunday	9:00 & 10:30am

OFFICE HOURS

Mon-Fri	7:30am-5:00pm
Sat	8:30am-12 Noon
Sun	8:00am-12 Noon

AUGUST 2010
BETHEL BEACON

Staff e-mails can be found at:
www.bethellutheran.com

