

BETHEL NEWS for the week of December 10, 2017



This week @ Bethel

Today! 10:15a coffee & fellowship, S.S.
Christmas program rehearsal,
Adult forum: *Endowment fund*

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Monday 10a-5p office open

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Wednesday 10a-5p office open
7p Advent service
7:45p council mtg.

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Saturday 9:30a women's Bible study
6-9p WMM

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Sunday 9:00a worship & *The Birth of Jesus* presented by the S.S.;
10:15a coffee & fellowship, S.S.
Christmas party, Bible study;
11a Caroling at Cedar Crest

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Events are subject to change. For up-to-date calendar events, see our online calendar: <http://www.lpbethel.org>

Advent services & Christmas Eve

Join us on Wed. evenings **Dec. 13 & 20** at **7 pm!**
Christmas Eve Candlelight service will begin at **5:00 pm.**

Christmas Program & Treat Bags

The Birth of Jesus will be performed by the Sunday School children on **Sunday, December 17**, during our worship service. **We are accepting cash donations for Treat bags** to be given to the children on the day of the program. Please give your donation to Diane Horsman. Thank you in advance!

Poinsettia orders due today

There is an order sheet on the bulletin board for purchasing poinsettias. The cost is \$5.00 for a 4" pot and \$10.00 for a 6".

McLeod County Giving Tree

Unwrapped gifts with the tag attached are due today. Thank you for making this Christmas a little merrier for children in our area!

Christmas Caroling

On **Sunday, December 17** the choir will be going to Silver Lake to sing Christmas carols for the residents at Cedar Crest. We plan to be at Cedar Crest at **11:15 am.** All are welcome to join in the group!

Bethel Book Club

On **Sunday, December 17** at 5:00 pm the Book Club will meet at Nancy Krull's house to **watch *The Shack* and to finalize the 2018 book selections.** Please, bring book ideas and a potluck dish to share. The book selected for January is ***Turquoise Table* by Kristin Schell.** We will meet for the January book discussion at **Bethel on Wed., Jan. 17, 7:15 pm.** All are welcome to join us on Movie Night and for Book Club discussions!

Endowment Fund

Endowment funds are available for a wide variety of grant requests. Application forms are located on the narthex table for anyone interested in applying for a grant. During the **Adult Forum today** members have an opportunity to ask questions and learn more about this new process at Bethel. **The Endowment Committee members are:** Dick Kiekhaefer, Nancy Krull, Sally Krull, Tim Smith, and LuAnn Weisenburger. Completed applications can be put in the Endowment Committee mailbox. **Applications are due December 31.**

Secret Pal Sign-up

If you're looking for some **spiritual support**, some **surprises**, and some **sneakiness**-this is for you! **Any woman of any age is welcome.** We encourage you to remember your assigned Secret Pal from time to time during the year with a card, a note, or a small remembrance. It's not meant to be expensive or time consuming. Saying a little prayer for her and letting her know you are thinking of her is all it takes, [although, getting a little gift in your church mailbox is a lot of fun, too.] **Sign up on the bulletin board by December 17** so that 2018 assignments can be made. **Questions?** Ask Judy Angvall or Jill Duncan. (We already have 12 women signed up-and there's room for about 50 more!)

Welcome to Bethel!

Worshipping together as the Children of God.

Christ has claimed all of us as children of God, we encourage children of ALL ages to participate in worship, each to their ability.

To our youngest worshippers: we believe children are not the future of the church: they are the church present! We welcome your wiggles, giggles, cries and curious bodies and voices. Parents: encourage your child to sing, clap, wiggle, drop coins in the offering, and receive communion. A [non-staffed] toy room is available just outside the sanctuary.

To our “young at heart”: we welcome your enthusiasm and voices, too! If hearing assistance is needed, see an usher for a device.

For all: we strive for worship that is intergenerational and welcoming to the whole body of Christ. Communion is served every Sunday. We invite all persons who seek God’s grace through the bread and wine to share this meal, regardless of age or denominational affiliation. You are welcome at Christ’s table! Grape juice and gluten-free options are available, too.

Bathrooms are located just outside the sanctuary. Fellowship Hour happens immediately after worship. Join us for coffee, treats and conversation! During the school year, children are invited into the basement for Sunday School. Communication cards are located on the back of the pews, we’d love to hear from you or leave your name and email in our guestbook!

Serving in December

Altar Guild: Jill Duncan

Lector: Nancy Krull

Ushers:

Greeter: Ron Foust

*Thank
You*

Committee Chairpersons

Altar Guild: Judy Angvall

jlangvall@yahoo.com; 320-395-2198

Lector: Cathy Houg

cathy.houg@gmail.com; 320-395-2759

Usher: Tim Smith

benson_lester@yahoo.com; 320-395-2755

Greeter: Ron Foust

rfoust@lesterbuildings.com; 612-201-2351

Easy online 2018 volunteer sign-up:

Go to www.lpbethel.org, click on Worship, and then Worship Volunteer Sign Up.

Thrivent Educational Event

Please join us for **Keeping the Farm in the Family**. Learn how to create a smooth transition plan to protect your assets now and in the future while maintaining family harmony at this event. **Wed., Dec. 13, 2017 at 8:30am**, McLeod County Historical Society & Museum, 380 School Road NW, Hutchinson, MN.

Women’s Bible study

Women’s Bible study will meet every third Sat. morning from 9:30-11 am beginning Dec. 16. If you have any questions contact Jean Hallberg.

announcements due by Wednesdays @ noon ~ newsletter items due by the 25th of the month
www.lpbethel.org ~ www.facebook.com/lpbethel ~ bethellutheranlp@gmail.com