



FOOTPRINTS

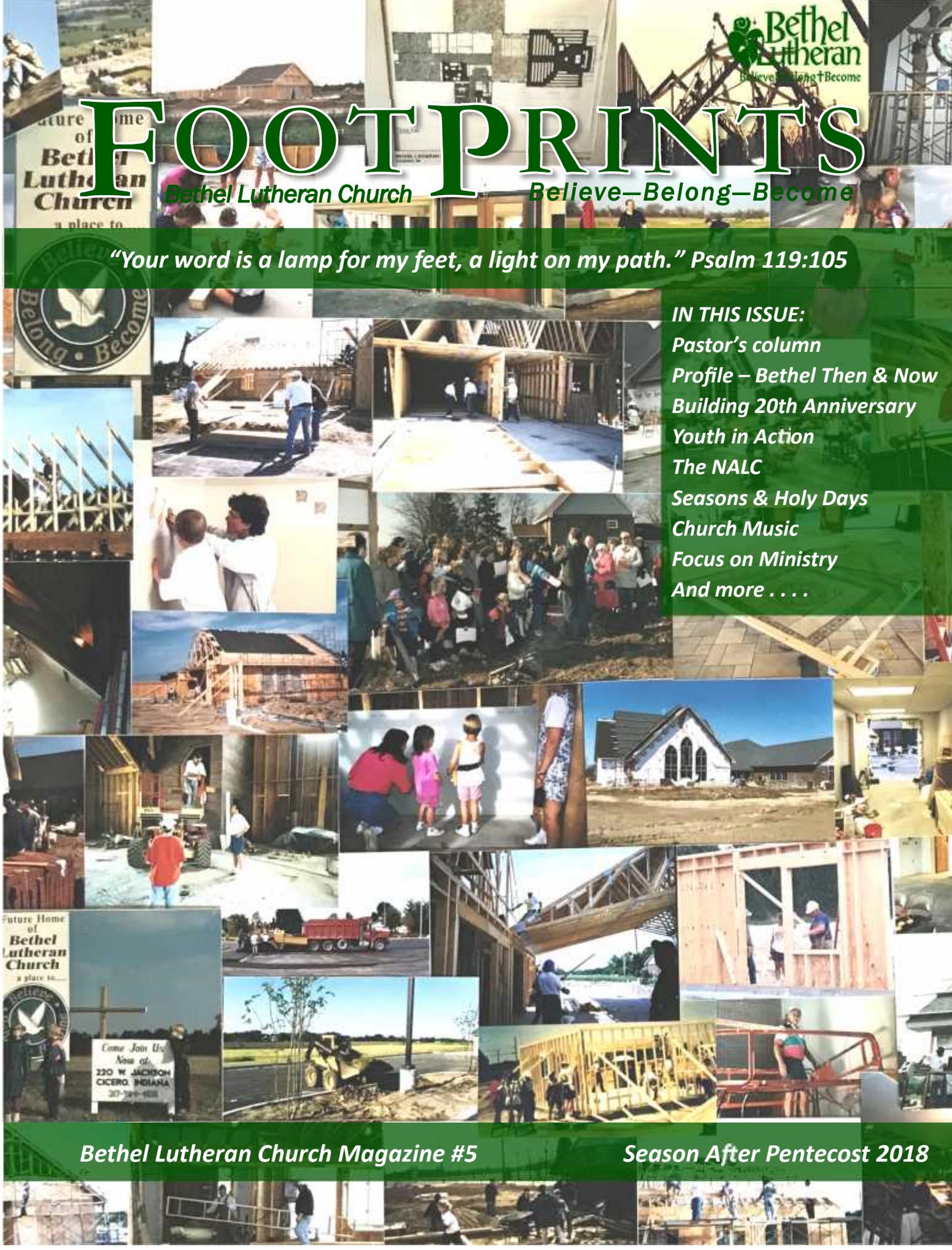
Bethel Lutheran Church

Believe—Belong—Become

"Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path." Psalm 119:105

IN THIS ISSUE:

- Pastor's column*
- Profile – Bethel Then & Now*
- Building 20th Anniversary*
- Youth in Action*
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- Seasons & Holy Days*
- Church Music*
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- And more . . .*



Bethel Lutheran Church Magazine #5

Season After Pentecost 2018

FOOTPRINTS



ON THE COVER:
Building the Church

FOOTPRINTS

Issue #5

With the name **FOOTPRINTS**, we honor our commitment to walk in the steps of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ leaving a legacy for others to follow. At the same time, we look back and acknowledge the Bethel believers and our own personal *cloud of witnesses* who have gone before us leaving their footprints of faith for us to follow. We hope our humble efforts give Glory to God and provide enlightenment, entertainment, and knowledge to our readers. God bless you all!

† † †

Bethel's **vision** is to be a dynamic, life-changing church of fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

† † †

Bethel's **mission** is to engage the curious, encourage the convinced, and empower the committed to be fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

† † †

PoWeR SuRGe

- Pray daily
- Worship regularly
- Read Scripture daily
- Serve others
- Relate to other Christians in Faith
- Give of your financial resources

† † †

Editorial Board:

Gay Hanson (Editor in Chief), Susan Adda, Pam Dodane, Pastor Doug Gast, Carole Kuhn, Sarah Manro, John Patterson, Kirk Pfeil, and Connie Wooldridge.

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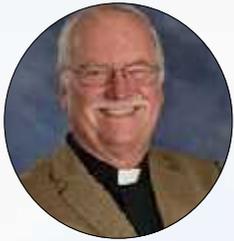
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SEASON AFTER PENTECOST

PASTOR'S COLUMN PASTOR DOUG GAST

Investing Wisely

Several years ago, I received a book as a Christmas gift from my son Justin. He was all excited about this book because it was written by a man on the staff of “Dave Ramsey,” financial guru. The book is *Retire Inspired*, by Chris Hogan. I just finished it. Wow!

Chris is a man with wisdom, story-telling and communication skills, with a grounded and practical wisdom and insight for solid financial planning, and with an unapologetic Christian witness and foundation that makes this book a must for everyone. He keeps everything he says revolving around making sure whatever stage of life you are at, that you have a budget, you have a goal of getting and staying debt free — especially as you enter retirement, and you always invest wisely.

Isn't that what the Bible is all about — making wise and intelligent investments that bring lasting value and returns? That is why Jesus would say, “do not store up (invest) in things here on earth where moth and rust will consume them, rather store up (invest) things in heaven — in the things that will last and have eternal value.” God has given us talents to use and to invest in life. God has put us in charge of His vineyard to manage. Jesus ended the Sermon on the Mount with the parable of the two men who built identical houses — the only difference was the foundation — one built on the solid rock (invested time, planning, and extra work in building) — the other one the shifting sand. One weathered the storms, the other didn't. Jesus leaves it up to us to decide which investment is truly worth it.

As a congregation and as a church, God has called us together to invest consistently, persistently, and faithfully in God's kingdom causes here on earth. As I have reflected on the subject, it seems to me God calls us to invest in 5 special funds that bring Him glory, bless us, and bring a blessing to God's world. Here are God's investment challenges and opportunities.

1. Invest in God's Treasury Fund (worship)

When we gather for worship each week, we join in giving thanks to God for all that we know and all that God has blessed our life with. All the investment pros that I read and listen to put giving right at the top of an overall investment plan and strategy. We invest in God's treasury fund as we make our offering to express our worship. The Bible says “honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income.” (Proverbs 3:9) We honor God as we give. We honor God as we seek to be good stewards. As we share, we let God know how thankful we are for the investment He has made in us.

2. Invest in God's Mutual Fund (fellowship)

One of the most memorable and easy definitions of fellowship that I have ever read is simply two fellows on the same ship. That's us — partners — coworkers — teammates — brothers and sisters in Christ traveling

through part of life on the same ship.

The church is all about relationships. Throughout the New Testament the call is to: care for one another — be devoted to one another — honor one another above yourself — live in harmony — and the overall rally cry is love one another as Christ has loved you.

Whenever we buy a card and write a note of encouragement or care, we have made a deposit in the mutual fund. Whenever another believer is going through a tough time, and we lift them in prayer, we are investing in the mutual fund. As we greet newcomers and guests at Bethel and welcome them to our family, we are making an investment in Christian hospitality.

3. Invest in God's Growth Fund (Discipleship)

When we make investments, one of the most important goals is to invest our money in funds that maximize our returns and even compound our interest. Disciples are learners. And when we are investing in God's Growth Fund, we are making sure we are always reachable and teachable, no matter what age we are. Reading the Bible daily, joining a Bible Study group, checking out books from our library are ways we make sure we are growing in faith, growing in character, growing in grace and preparing for a harvest of the Spirit.

4. Invest in God's Equity Service Fund (Ministry)

Jesus said, “I came into the world not to be served, but to serve.” God has gifted us in various ways but His call is the same — make generous and regular deposits into serving in the name of Jesus. Regardless of your job, your career, you are called to full-time Christian service. A “non-serving Christian” is a contradiction in terms.

I know that God has a place for you to serve here. It may be in the kitchen. It may be in the office. It may be up front. It may be behind the scenes. It may be on Sunday. Or you may teach and share with our children.

As we serve one another, as we serve the community, and as we serve in the name of Jesus, God is making us more like Himself.

5. Invest in God Global Fund (Mission)

Jesus had a global vision and passion for the whole world. In the Great Commission, Jesus commanded his disciples to take the Gospel message to all the world.

God wants us to use part of our money, part of our energy, part of our focus beyond our building here.

Investing in these 5 funds is part of God's eternal plan and purpose for us as His body in His world. Yes, making smart and wise investment decisions is important and vital if we are going to *retire inspired*.

If we invest our only treasures here on earth, we will miss the greatest promise and legacy of all. But if we invest in eternity in God's eternal purposes — we'll enjoy our investment forever and ever!

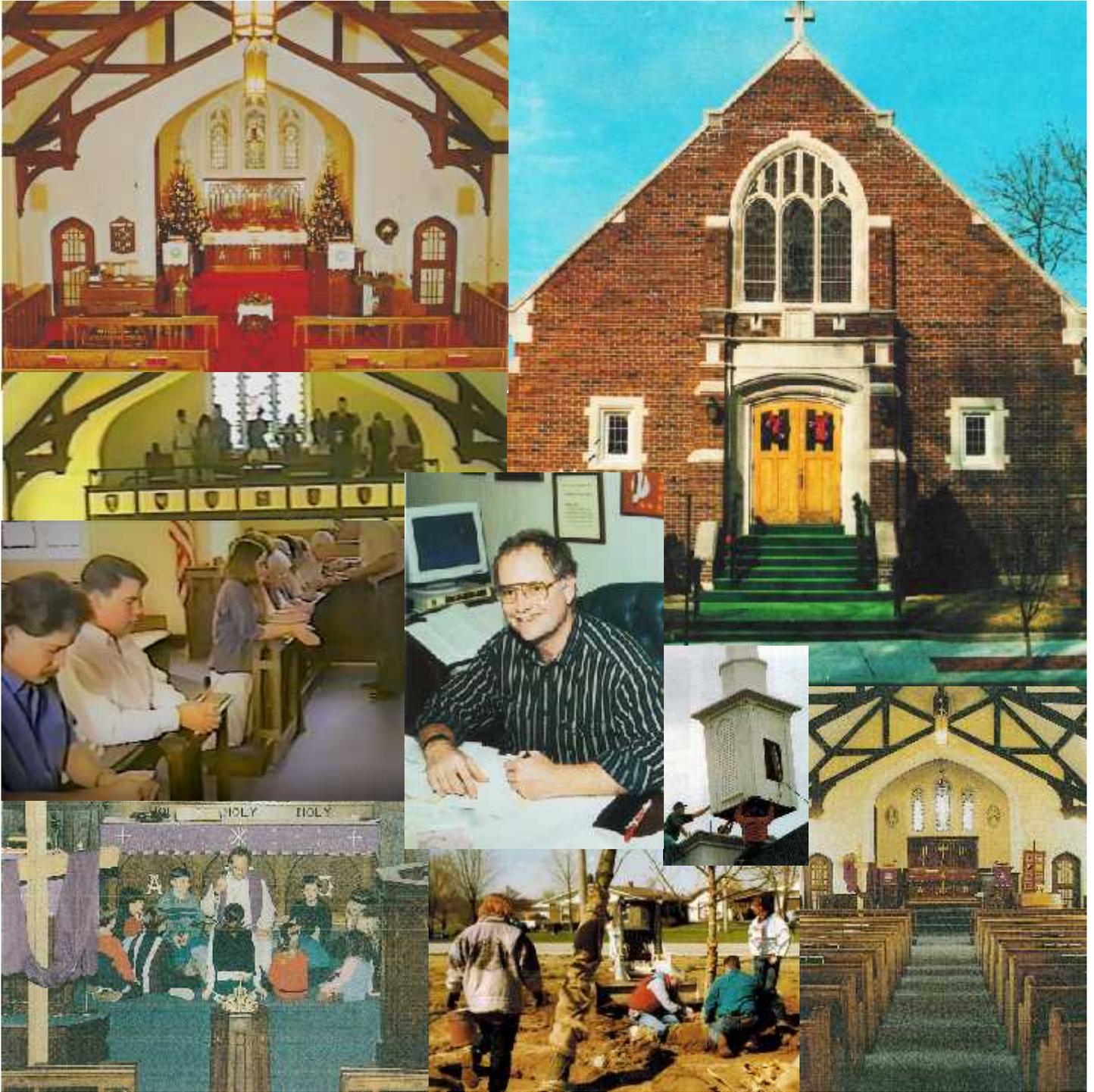
Your investment partner,

Pastor Doug



PROFILE:

Bethel Lutheran Church - Then



1998 POPULATION
CICERO 4373
NOBLESVILLE 26,909
HAMILTON COUNTY 165,629

and Now



2018
Baptized Members 1494
Ave Attendance 334
3 Services Weekly



2018 POPULATION
CICERO 4812
NOBLESVILLE 60,183
HAMILTON COUNTY 323,747



BETHEL BUILDING

On Reformation Day 2018, Bethel Lutheran Church will celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the church building at 206th and Cumberland!

The journey began in the mid-1990s when it became apparent that there were difficulties with the church building at 220 West Jackson Street in Cicero. The growth in the congregation created a number of space issues. The church was “land-locked” between other buildings, a main street, and an alley. There were other difficulties such as the stairs and people with mobility issues. Charlie Scherer spent many Sundays in the lounge where he could hear but not see the service because he could not manage the stairs. Parking was an issue even though the church had purchased a 60 ft. property three doors down, demolished the house, and created a parking lot. Something needed to be done.

So, Pastor Doug led a series of “cottage meetings” hosted in various homes to discuss the situation. Every member was invited to attend one meeting to hear from the church leadership and to give their input, ideas, and vision. Three options were presented and discussed: 1) add to the current building by building upward; 2) buy the homes/buildings around the current church; or 3) relocate. It quickly became evident that relocation was the best option.

A Land Acquisition Committee, chaired by Phil Wise, was formed, and they started looking at where to relocate. They looked at 17 different properties ranging from over by Indiana 31 to near Anderson, and from Noblesville to Arcadia. The 10 acres at 206th and Cumberland came up for sale for about \$10,500 an acre on a Sunday in 1994, and



Bethel had a proposal ready in a week. To pay off the land, members could “buy” a 10 ft. by 10 ft. square for \$2.42. A chart was posted with the squares filled in as they were paid for. The property was paid off in less than two years, and in November of 1995, a ceremony was held on the new property to “burn the mortgage.”

An Architectural Design Committee, chaired by Stan Renner, was formed. The Committee had three mandates from the congregation on what they wanted to keep from the Cicero building: 1) the stained glass; 2) the organ; and 3) the heavy wood effect. Deciding on an architectural design was not an easy process, but finally, in consultation with the ELCA’s architect Peter Norgren, a design was chosen. It was approved by the congregation on June 9th, 1996.



A Building/Construction Committee, co-chaired by David Copenhaver and Jeff Heir, was formed. It was made up of a combination members of the Land Acquisition and Architectural Design Committees with a few additions. Jeff Heir was the Superintendent of Schools in Westfield at the time, and he took a year off from that job to work on the Bethel building project.

Mission Builders consented to take part in the construction. They would provide construction experience and leadership, and the Bethel congregation would help with whatever skills and manpower they could.

A capital fundraising company was hired to help raise the funds needed. They set minimum, medium, and high goals for pledges. The high goal was reached the night before the pledges were dedicated at the Sunday worship service. Many different methods of fundraising came into play from monetary donations to a day’s business profits, and by 1997, the land was dedicated and ready.

The “ground-breaking” was held in 1997, using the old plow and a huge rope that everyone present pulled. That old plow, which today sits by the main door of Bethel, has been used to “break



20TH ANNIVERSARY

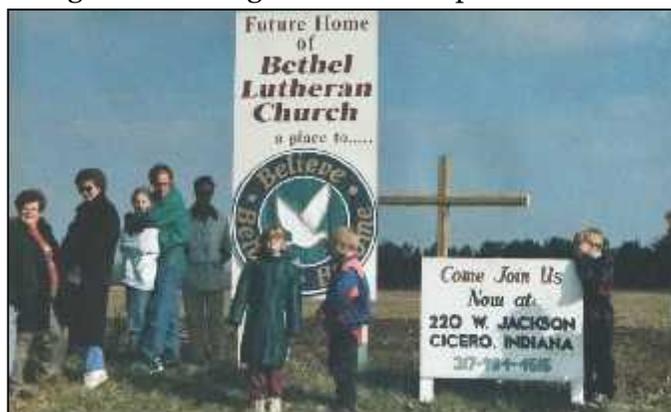
By Gay Hanson

ground” for the current Bethel building, the education addition, and the education addition to the Jackson Street church. The plow was originally owned by Hubert Nighenhelser.



The Mission Builders arrived in the summer with their eight trailers, and they brought excitement to the

project! Led by George Monter, they worked Tuesday through Saturday. Most of the Mission Builders stayed from June through September, but Robert Peterson stayed a whole year to help by living with his daughter in Indianapolis.



The garage was constructed first, and it soon became the hub of the building site. Devotions were held every morning and lunch was provided. On Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m., crews of Bethel members came to work. Even the children of the congregation helped. Pastor Doug says one of the walls in the Pantry has a lot more than its share of nails!



The participation of the Mission Builders also made some modification to the original plans easier. The

sanctuary was expanded from the original plans by 12 ft. on each side. The entrance was originally designed as an open breezeway but was enclosed as it is now. The hallway was extended a further 20 feet to provide more rooms, and there was an open pass-through from the kitchen to the narthex. The three offices down the hall were designed as one room with the ability to make them into one, two, or three spaces. Where the Chapel is now was supposed to be a library/conference room and has been used as office space with movable partitions.

The day the steeple went up was a big day! It was a Sunday, and almost everyone came after worship to watch. Becks donated the use of the crane, and a gentleman with the nickname of “Rabbit” provided the expertise. It was a cloudy day with storms and rain to the east and west, but Bethel got a two-hour window of dry weather to complete the installation!



In addition to the Mission Builders, other groups came to help. A church group from Illinois came and stayed for a couple of days to plant all the trees and bushes around the parking lot.

Church furnishing also had to be considered. Items that came from the Jackson Street building include: the Holy Spirit lamp, the two stained glass windows of Jesus, the shields on the back wall (from the old church’s balcony), and the pews with rounded ends and carving. The altar, altar rail, candlesticks, and altar cross were brought from the old church and installed in the Chapel. Marylou Waltz organized a group to raise funds to move, restore and enlarge the organ. The bell from the original 1865 Bethel building is on display by the front entrance. It was out of Bethel’s possession for several decades but returned to Bethel in the 1980s, moved to the new property and re-dedicated as part of the 150th Anniversary celebrations.

Before the concrete was poured for the floor, Stan Renner buried a brick from the 1864 building and

Continued on page 8

Continued from page 7

one from the 1930 building. The cornerstone from the Jackson Street church was brought over, opened, and the contents examined. New items were added and the date 1998 was put on the stone. It was installed in the corner of the narthex.



New items were either built or bought and many gave generously to complete the furnishings. The altar furniture was all made by a Mission Builder from Rockford, IL.

The Jackson Street building was sold in October 1997. Since the building had only begun, Bethel met at the 7th Day Adventist Church in Cicero. From June to October of 1998, worship was held in the Fellowship Hall of the new building while the sanctuary was completed.



It is interesting to note that for the first 3 or 4 years of the new building, visitors and new members would often say that what brought them to Bethel was “we watched you guys build.”

The dedication worship service was held on Reformation Sunday 1998. On Reformation Sunday 2018, Bethel will commemorate and celebrate 20 years of worship of our Lord Jesus Christ in the building at 206th and Cumberland. Glory to God and Happy Anniversary, Bethel!



Mission Builders are people from all walks of life - including contractors, builders, carpenters and others who have an interest in learning about construction techniques.

Working side-by-side with participants from the congregation, Mission Builders help you construct or improve the congregation's facility at significant cost savings. Mission Builders strives to help broaden the congregation's spiritual and congregational outreach to the world.

Mission Builders who helped build Bethel:

Jerry & Jan Abner of St. Joseph, IL
Donald & Clarice Anderson of Harlan, IA
Paul & Rachel Baughman of Spokane, WA
Cecil & Marlene Bradley of Masarytown, FL
Donald & Arlene Dinsmore of Elwood, IN
Emmert & Shirley Juhl of Exira, IA
George & Shirley Monter of Acton, MA
Odean & Lois Odegard of Burnside, MN
Robert Peterson of Knotts Island, NC
Paul & Lucile Price of Eaton, OH
Charles & Helen Stormo of Hayti, SD
Clarence & Marlene Strabel of Smethport, PA

The Bethel Church building and property are not static. They have continued to grow and change to meet the needs of the Bethel Community. Some of those changes include:

-) purchased additional twelve (12) acres in 2003
-) purchased additional ten (10) acres in 2005
-) used three trailers as mobile classrooms
-) added 16,000 square foot Christian Education addition in 2008
-) several upgrades of audio/visual equipment
-) purchased church bus
-) added TV monitors in narthex and Fellowship Hall
-) built and equipped modern playground off Fellowship Hall
-) active website with sermons online



STEWARDSHIP

By Tom Foreman

What does it mean to leave a legacy? If you think about the legacy of those who you know, does their legacy have to do more with what they left behind, or how they lived their earthly life? Can we intentionally live our lives to leave a legacy while maintaining humility?

At times, I have found myself avoiding thoughts regarding legacy due to some of the questions above. While we look forward to our heavenly home, God has blessed us in many ways in this earthly life and it simply is not fun to think about passing on. Then again, maybe leaving a legacy has nothing to do with the day we leave this world.

As I think back to individuals who have left a “legacy” – it is most often due to a lifetime of making this world a better place doing what they love, and very often, with humility.

Psalm 112:1-3 tells us, “Praise the Lord! Blessed are those who fear the Lord, who find great delight in his commands! Their children will be mighty in the land; the generation of the upright will be blessed. Wealth and riches are in their houses, and their righteousness endures forever.”

God wants us to enjoy our blessings, enjoy our time on this earth, and enjoy sharing it with others.

If we view leaving a legacy as a way of life instead of a final act, it can be of great joy! God tells us to live our daily lives in a way that glorifies Him so that our righteousness may endure forever.

In our worldly lives, I find it easy to link thoughts of legacy with retirement planning, financial planning, family planning, etc. But Psalm 112:1-3 helps bridge the gap — how we live our lives each day is a part of our legacy planning.

This leads to my next struggle with legacy planning. What if the legacy we want to live is one of humility? Certainly God wants us to be humble servants.

Jeremiah 9:23-24 helps us define our legacy while maintaining humility: “Thus says the Lord: ‘Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the Lord who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the Lord.’”

How do we leave a legacy without seeming prideful? By giving all the Glory to God.

Living Legacy

This year, through the stewardship campaign, we would like to focus on the idea of a **Living Legacy**. As a church and in our daily lives, long-term planning is very important. We aim to put intentional thought and actions into being faithful stewards of the blessings God bestows upon Bethel to build a **Living Legacy** together. In so doing, we may enjoy it now while we are on this earth, and future generations will benefit from our

efforts. In this way, we will all delight in doing the will of God to his glory!

Thank you, Lord, for showing us that leaving a **Living Legacy** is not something that will happen “one day” — it is something we are already doing every day.





Bethel Preschool

- a continuing ministry and outreach to youth -



When we think of Martin Luther, the idea of early childhood education isn't usually the first thing that springs to mind, but if you look at Luther's writings and his actions, he was really a pioneer of early childhood education. He advocated the teaching of all children—not just children of a certain age, but all children—boys and

girls! He encouraged parents to be their child's first and most important teachers and that there should be a connection between parents and the schools that their children attend. He suggested that society should provide education and that there should be community involvement in that education, and he taught children as well as adults!

This legacy of education continues today at Bethel in many ways, but certainly in the Bethel Lutheran Preschool and Parent's Day Out.



The Preschool is a ministry of Bethel. It is a faith-based preschool that believes in the Bible and incorporates those teachings into an age-

appropriate, academic curriculum for each child. The Preschool offers a weekday program for young children that helps them grow spiritually, socially, intellectually, physically, and emotionally. It provides a loving Christian environment where the children and their families are surrounded by God's love.

Bethel's Preschool dates back to 1991 when Pam Rondorf and Jill Dietz held classes for three- and four-year-olds. The Preschool took a break during the construction of the new building at 206th and Cumberland. A couple of attempts to restart it at the new building didn't work out, but in 2006, Brenda Day with help from Jill Dietz got it going again. Brenda taught the Junior class (3-years-olds) and Jill the Seniors (4-year-olds). The classes met in the combined classroom next to the Chapel (now offices). Jill remembers that she and the children used to enjoy watching the Education addition being built, which they could see from their classroom windows. In 2007, Parent's Day Out was added, and it was held across the hall in the nursery (now the pantry).

Jill Dietz continued to teach until 2014. Brenda Day taught and served as Director for another year and then stepped down in 2015. Kris Lingenfelter took over and continued as Preschool Director until 2017 when she took a full-time teaching job. Laura Houser became the Preschool Director in 2017 and is beginning her second year as Director.



For more information on the Preschool, please contact Laura Houser at 317-773-4315 Ext. 33 or Laura@BethelLutheranChurch.com.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

THE VALUE OF SUNDAY SCHOOL

A 2009 survey by the Barna Group asked adults to think back on their upbringing and to describe the frequency of their involvement in Sunday school or religious training. The researchers then compared these responses to the current level of faith activity of these adults.

More than 80 percent of adults remembered **consistently attending Sunday school** or some other religious training before the age of 12. Seven out of 10 adults (69%) said they attended such programs weekly.

About 70% also recalled going to Sunday school or other religious programs for teens at least once a month. Half indicated they had gone to such teen programs at least once a week when growing up.

In connecting childhood and teen engagement with adult spirituality, the Barna team used 4 elements of adult religious commitment: attending church, having an active faith (defined as reading the Bible, praying and attending church in the last week), being unchurched and switching from childhood faith.

"Those who attended Sunday school or other religious programs as children and teens were much more likely than those without such experiences to attend church and **to have an active faith as adults**," concluded the report.

Fifty percent of those who attended such programs as a child said they have attended a worship service in the last week, which is slightly higher than the national average and much higher than those who did not attend such programs as children.

Among those who frequently attended religious programs as teens, 58 percent said they had attended a worship service in the last week.

Being unchurched or changing from one's childhood faith were also correlated to early-life spiritual experiences. The study asked if people had the same faith perspectives today as when they were children or whether they had ever significantly changed their views.

Twenty-two percent of those who recalled frequent religious attendance as children had changed their faith views from those held as a child.

Among those who attended religious programs as teens, 21 percent had changed their core faith views.

David Kinnaman, president of Barna Group, noted, "(this information) provides clarity that **the odds of one sticking with faith over a lifetime are enhanced in a positive direction by spiritual activity under the age of 18.**"



WHY IS SUNDAY SCHOOL IMPORTANT? 6 REASONS

- 1. Improves your Bible knowledge!**
- 2. Helps you grow spiritually!**
- 3. Gives you a place to belong!**
- 4. Helps you build relationships!**
- 5. Gives you the opportunity to minister and serve!**
- 6. Is a place for the entire family!**



Women of the NALC

By Gay Hanson

Sisters in Christ - Women of the NALC



The Women of the North American Church (WNALC) was formed on Friday, August 12, 2011, at the NALC Convocation. They formed as a guiding organization, not a governing organization, with a purpose to assist the local congregational women's groups in their efforts in Faith and Mission, through Prayer and Evangelism, with the Bible as the ultimate Authority of God. The WNALC strives to link NALC women's groups together as a community of faith, hope, and love as they focus on their individual organization and to assist them in God's mission, studies of His Word, service to others in Christ's name, and fellowship with each other and other Lutheran women.

The WNALC is an auxiliary ministry of the NALC and is committed to the four attributes of the NALC: Christ-Centered, Mission Driven, Traditionally Grounded, Congregationally Focused. All women and women's groups of the NALC are part of the organization.

The WNALC is organized in the following manner:

The Women's Council (TWC)

The TWC is a seven-member board that directs the work and mission of the WNALC. Members serve two-year terms.

Mission District Designated Contact

Each TWC member is asked to identify someone from their assigned Mission District to assist the TWC in getting to better know the Mission District congregations and women's groups so that service to the women in the mission districts can be improved by the WNALC.

Ministry Teams

The Women's Council (TWC) appoints Ministry Teams to conduct the business of the WNALC. Each Ministry Team includes at least one member of the Women's Council. Teams are developed for:

Communication Team: includes, but is not limited to, providing adequate communication for the WNALC, such as a website, newsletter, social media, and coordination with the NALC webmaster.

Budget Team: develops a financial plan in the form of a budget which takes into consideration the financial support for the total program of the WNALC. This Team suggests a budget based upon an estimate of income from congregational and Mission District women's ministries.

Nominating Team: solicits and validates candidates for the Women's Council and oversees the WNALC election process.

Spiritual Growth: compiles sources for Bible studies.

Mission Support Team: works with the NALC Mission Director's office to provide information about mission opportunities.

Fellowship and Community Team: develops and shares ideas for programs, retreats, and fellowship opportunities for the members of the WNALC.

The many tasks set before the WNALC cannot be done by a seven-member board alone. They believe that God is calling the women of the NALC churches to work with them. If you are interested in joining or helping the WNALC, visit their website at: <http://www.wnalc.org>.



ASK THE PASTOR



IS THERE SOMETHING YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO ASK?

By Pastor Al Schoonover

Sometimes I read something in the Bible, and it stops me in my tracks. These words of Jesus from Matthew's gospel are one such passage: *You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.* (Matthew 21:22, NLT) Remember the context. Jesus is teaching his friends as they walk along the road in Jerusalem early in Holy Week. As they were walking, you may remember Jesus cursed a fig tree because it hadn't produced any figs. The disciples were surprised the fig tree had withered before their eyes. In response, Jesus tells them *if you have faith and don't doubt, you can do things like this and much more. You can even say to this mountain, "May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea," and it will happen. You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.* (Matthew 21:21-22, NLT)

Is it just me, or does it sound like Jesus is making a blanket promise, that if we have faith we can pray for whatever we want, and God will give it to us? Let's try it out: "Jesus, in faith I pray that Ed McMahon would walk through the door right now and give me my Publisher's Clearing House Sweepstakes winnings." Hmm . . . it didn't work. Are you surprised? Why didn't Mr. McMahon come in just now? After all, Jesus said, *You can pray for anything, and if you have faith, you will receive it.*

Did I not have enough faith? Or is Jesus lying?

If it's the first, I risk spinning into a spiritual depression, focusing completely inward, on myself and the supposed quality of my faith. Am I better than that person over there? What about her? Rather than keeping my eye on Jesus, I'm looking everywhere else under the sun for spiritual validation. Elsewhere, Jesus says that if I have faith the size of a mustard seed, I'll be able to tell a mountain to go take a hike; that nothing would be impossible (Matthew 17:20). Apparently, I don't have even *that* much faith, because I can't get the dirt mound in the upper parking lot at church to move a millimeter!

If it's the second, I risk something worse – falling completely out of faith altogether. If Jesus is lying about this, then what about really important stuff like his teachings on how we can be forgiven, or on the various things he experienced in his life? Was he *really* tempted like we are? And what about his death and resurrection? If Jesus/the Bible is lying about prayer, then is it also lying about Jesus' own life, death, and resurrection?! Is it all just a sham?!

How do we untangle this knot?

One way is to ignore it completely: "The Bible says it, I believe it. Moving on." Personally, this approach isn't helpful. I don't want a thoughtless, uncritical faith.

There's another way: let Scripture interpret Scripture. As Lutheran Christians, we don't cherry pick passages without listening to the whole counsel of Scripture on a particular topic or issue. As an example, a woman wanted to know what God wants her to do, so she opens her Bible and picks a verse at random: *Judas went out and hung himself.* That didn't sound very good, so she opened her Bible to another place and read, *What you are about to do, go and do quickly.* No, by letting Scripture interpret Scripture we recognize that we can better understand what Jesus means by comparing it to other things he's said, or to other teachings we've received from the apostles in their letters in the New Testament.

When we do that in this case, we discover several things.

- (1) Praying to Jesus isn't like putting our debit card into an ATM, punching in our PIN, and withdrawing cash. We can't manipulate Jesus into answering our prayers the way we want him to.
- (2) Jesus *always* answers prayers. Sometimes, his answer is "Yes." Other times, it's "No" or "Not yet."
- (3) Now, Paul tells us, we see and understand what is happening in our life only partially, "like puzzling reflections in a mirror" (1 Cor 13:12). Eventually, things will become clear. Why God answers our prayers the way he does falls under this category of seeing things now only partially. Eventually, all will become clear. I've heard it said that the most pervasive sound when people enter heaven will be "Oh, now I get it!"

In the midst of the many uncertainties in this life, God offers us several promises on which to hold. Tightly. Everyday.

- (1) Nothing shall ever separate us from God's love.
- (2) Jesus is "God with us." We are never alone.
- (3) This world is heading toward a grand conclusion in which those who believe in God through his Son, Jesus Christ, will enjoy a forever relationship that begins now and will carry us to be with God for all eternity.

With this foundation, we can build our lives and our faith now on the bedrock that will not shift or give way.

SEASONS & HOLY DAYS

THE SEASON AFTER PENTECOST & CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

by Carole Kuhn

The longest “season” of the Liturgical (Christian) year begins the Monday after Pentecost Sunday. Throughout the summer months, we see the green of growth all around us, thus the “season” color during those months is green. It’s a time to remember Jesus’ time here on earth...reaching out, teaching, and encouraging others to reach out and teach. It should be a reminder to us to reach out through love and service.

The last day of this season is known as Christ the King Sunday. At this time, we look at who Christ is and was and also what he told his disciples. “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.” (Matt.28:18; NIV)

We need to remember that Christ is the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. There are many references in the Bible regarding Christ having dominion over all creation through his love as he came to save us from our daily sins. And, that when he comes in judgment, he will reign forever, truly Christ the King. “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.” (Rev. 1:8; NIV)

“King” is one of the earliest titles given God’s son, but meaning a “spiritual” king, a king in heaven as well as on earth. In truth, Christ wears many “crowns”...He gave his life for our sins, offering His love and forgiveness. Many of our Christian songs have been written to remind us of Christ the King...*Crown Him with Many Crowns, All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name* among them.

The color of the day is white signifying purity.

Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

1 Timothy 1:17

Then Nathanael declared, “Rabbi, you are the Son of God; you are the king of Israel.”

John 1:49

They will wage war against the Lamb, but the Lamb will triumph over them because he is Lord of lords and King of kings—and with him will be his called, chosen and faithful followers.

Revelation 17:14 (NIV)



LUTHERAN CHRISTIANS

WHO WE ARE - WHAT WE BELIEVE

By Susan Adda

The History of Our Stained Glass

Each time we enter the sanctuary of our church, we are surrounded by examples of an ancient, beautiful art. The importance of our stained glass windows can best be shown by remembering this bit of church history: when parishioners of Bethel were asked what they wanted to bring to our new building, it was unanimous that the stained glass be brought first.



The purpose of stained glass - colored and painted glass created in a manner that originated in medieval Europe (around 675 A.D.) - was to enhance the beauty of the church setting and to inform

worshippers through narratives and symbolism. Stained glass brightened up otherwise dark walls or rooms with brilliant visuals as the light reflected through them.

The process of *creating* stained glass derives from the silver stain that was applied to the side of a window facing the outside of the building. Although this form of painting began over a thousand years ago, it is essentially done the same way today.



At Bethel, we have many examples of this sacred art. As you enter the sanctuary, you will see two windows to the left and right each of Jesus. The window on the left was dedicated to the memory of Rev. A.H. Scherer, Founder, in 1856. New

glass was installed surrounding these windows, and stained glass circles now flank each side. Four of the circles are the symbols of the Gospel writers: Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John.

Above the altar, the Luther Rose appears in the round stained glass window. This is the seal of Martin Luther which Luther himself created. It is an expression of his faith through layers of symbols. Our Luther Rose was donated in memory of Jacob

and Emma Kepner and in honor of the Kepner family. The Kepner family has a long history with Bethel Lutheran which began in 1856. Both the father and grandfather of Jacob were charter members

of Bethel. Jacob himself dug the first shovelful of dirt when construction began in 1930 on our former location. This was a gesture made to him because he was so well-liked by church members at that time. When our new location was planned, current church member Stan Renner, great grandson of Jacob, started a family discussion which led to the decision to donate funds to purchase the Luther Rose and dedicate it to all past, present, and future family members. Jacob's only living daughter, Alice Altpepper, and many other members of the Kepner family blessed us all with this very special symbol of our faith. Since that time, members of the 7th and 8th generations of the family have celebrated marriages and baptisms under this marvelous example of the art of stained glass.

As the sun sparkles through our windows in the sanctuary (and even on cloudy days), it's comforting to feel the presence of God and His majesty through something so pleasing to our eyes and something which in turn touches our souls. May we all be thankful to the people who have provided these treasures through their talents and gifts.

Enjoy the view!

References

Wikipedia. *Stained glass: history and technique.* Kahn Academy.

Bethel Lutheran Discipleship Class IV 2015-08 rev 4



CHURCH HISTORY

ANNIVERSARIES

By Gay Hanson

Bethel is celebrating a number of anniversaries this year and with this issue of FOOTPRINTS:

- ✦ 20 years of Christian worship in the church building at 206th and Cumberland
- ✦ 10 years of Christian education in the addition to the building
- ✦ 1 year of Bethel's Healing service
- ✦ 1 year of Bethel's magazine FOOTPRINTS

Why celebrate these anniversaries?

We celebrate to give glory to God!

The building, healing service, and magazine and the talents and resources to produce them have all been gifts of a gracious God. He has given us a faith community that has generously provided its time, talents, and treasure to create a building that is warm and welcoming to all— a place where the Word of God is preached and Jesus Christ is proclaimed. He has provided individuals and a team with varied talents and a willingness to create a magazine publication that informs, educates, entertains, and gives glory and honor to Him as we try our best to follow in His footsteps. He has given us

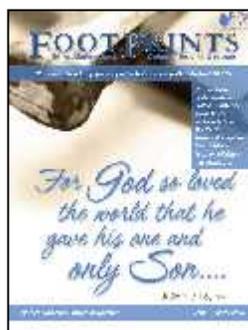
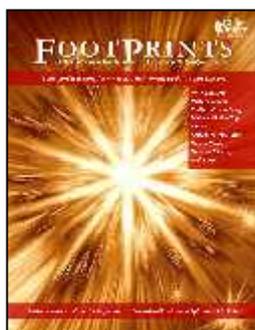
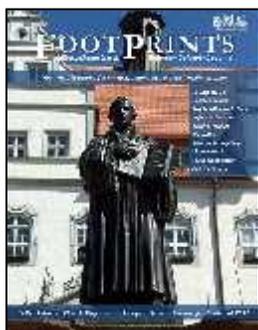
disciples at Bethel who not only serve Him but are willing to share their service and their stories with others to inspire them. He has given us disciples who care for others.

Therefore, as we celebrate these milestones—these anniversaries, we take time to give thanks to God for blessing the congregation of Bethel with such gifts and blessings!

At the dedication service in 1998 for the new building, one of the prayers read:

Brothers and sisters: We have come together to dedicate this church for the worship of almighty God, for the building up of the body of Christ, and for equipping all members to be Kingdom builders for Christ. From this day forward let it be a place for the gathering of the people of God, a place for proclaiming the Gospel through Word and Sacrament, a place for bringing growth, life and hope to us, and to this community.

May this continue to be our goal and our prayer in the Bethel church building and through FOOTPRINTS. And all God's people say, "Amen!"





CHURCH MUSIC

By Michelle Whitehead

HYMNS

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

1779

Who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him. 1Peter 3:22

In the November 1799 issue of *The Gospel Magazine*, edited by Augustus Toplady, there appeared an anonymous hymn entitled "On the Resurrection, the Lord is King":

*All hail the power of Jesus' Name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown Him Lord of all.*

The author, it was later revealed, was Rev. Edward Perronet.

Edward's Protestant grandparents had fled Catholic France, going first to Switzerland, then to England. Edward's father had become a vicar in the Anglican Church, and Edward followed in his footsteps.

For several years, he became closely allied with the Wesleys, traveling with them and sometimes caught up in their adventures. In John Wesley's journal, this entry was found: "Edward Perronet was thrown down and rolled in mud and mire. Stones were hurled and windows broken."

In time, however, Edward broke with the Wesleys over various Methodist policies, and John Wesley excluded his hymns from Methodist hymnals. Edward went off to pastor a small independent church in Canterbury, where he died on January 22, 1792. His last words were: *Glory to God in the height of His divinity! Glory to God in the depth of His humanity! Glory to God in His all-sufficiency! Into His hands I commend my spirit.*

Edward Perronet's hymn, "All Hail the Power," has earned him an indelible place in the history of church music. It also has a place in missionary history, being greatly used in evangelistic endeavors. Rev. E.P. Scott, for example, missionary to India, wrote of trying to reach a savage tribe in the Indian subcontinent. Ignoring the pleadings of his friends, he set off into the dangerous territory. Several days later, he met a large party of warriors who surrounded him, their spears pointed at his heart.

Expecting to die at any moment, Scott took out his violin, breathed a prayer, closed his eyes, and began singing, "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" When he reached the words, "Let every kindred, every tribe," he opened his eyes. There stood the warriors, some in tears, every spear lowered. Scott spent the next two years evangelizing the tribe.

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

All hail the power of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, you martyrs of our God,
Who from his altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod
And crown him Lord of all.
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod
And crown him Lord of all.

O seed of Israel's chosen race,
Now ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who saves you by his grace
And crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace
And crown him Lord of all.

Hail him, you heirs of David's line,
Whom David Lord did call,
The God Incarnate, man divine,
And crown him Lord of all.
The God Incarnate, man divine,
And crown him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can never forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread you trophies at his feet
And crown him Lord of all.
Go, spread you trophies at his feet
And crown him Lord of all.

Let every kindred, every tribe
On this terrestrial ball
To him all majesty ascribe
And crown him Lord of all.
To him all majesty ascribe
And crown him Lord of all.

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown him Lord of all.

LBW Hymn #328 — ELW Hymn #634
Text: Edward Perronet Tune: Oliver Holden



CARE MINISTRY

By Kim Radant

***Is anyone among you in trouble? Let them pray.
Is anyone happy? Let them sing songs of praise.
Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the
elders of the church to pray over them and
anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord.***

James 5:13-14

Healing Service 1 Year Old

One year ago our Bethel pastors began offering a monthly service for healing. All in need of prayer and comfort spiritually, emotionally, physically, are invited to gather at Bethel for this special worship experience of healing prayers and Holy Communion. It is also an opportunity to pray for family members or friends, and to support other Christian family members in need.



“The Healing Service is attended by 8 to 25 people each month and each service that has been held in the last year has touched someone significantly,” says Pastor Doug Gast. He

reminds us that the practice of laying on of hands for healing when anointing with oil is an ancient one, as old as the church itself. When Jesus sent out his first disciples two by two, he empowered by commissioning them to “anoint many with oil who were sick and to cure them.” (Mark 6:13). Pastor Doug tells us that at the healing service, what is shared is neither the stuff of TV evangelists, nor is it what is commonly known as “faith healing.” In the service, attendees call upon the name of Jesus in faith, and the knowledge that God is the source of all healing.

Those who have attended a healing service provide testimony to the power of this service and the impact it has had on their lives. Here are just a few of the things they had to say:

– “I was having heart surgery and I was really, really scared. I didn’t know exactly what the healing service was, but my anxiety was so high I decided to give it a try. My son attended with me. It is hard to describe what I felt when I approached the altar and the attendees prayed with me....it was so very special—powerful, and it gave me such Peace. Now I attend so that I can pray for others. It is a beautiful service and gathers you closer to your family, the congregation, and our pastors.”

– “I was having very distressing health issues that no doctors could help me with...and it was impacting my mental health. I looked at the Bethel News and saw that a healing service was going to be held, so I asked my husband to attend it with me. After all, I had tried everything else except turning to prayer and the support of my Bethel family. I had no idea what to expect. The prayer, the comfort of others, the anointing of oil...it was overwhelmingly powerful. When the sign of the cross was placed on my head with oil, I felt such Peace. While my symptoms were still there, I realized for the first time in weeks that I was going to be OK. That knowledge meant everything to me. The day after the service, my doctor’s office called me in for a few more tests and created an effective treatment plan. Is it a coincidence? I just don’t think so. Now I attend regularly to pray for others who are hurting.”

Since the healing service began one year ago, healing shawls have been made by the Bethel members, are blessed, and distributed to those who are in need to provide comfort and strength. One attendee says that she keeps her shawl on the headboard of her bed to remind her of the Bethel family, the prayers of others, and God’s love.

The Healing Service is held on the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30 PM. All are welcomed to attend to pray for others and for themselves. Whatever brings you to the healing service, whatever problem or trial you are facing, whatever hardship or heartache, our pastors want you to know that God loves you and God cares.



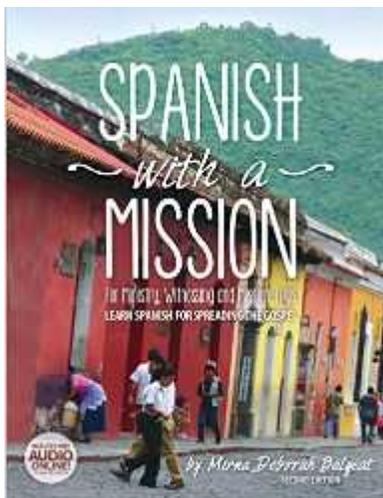
MISSIONS



SPANISH WITH A MISSION—SWAM

By Debbie Nielsen

“¡Yo quiero Taco Bell!” While that advertising slogan may be about the extent of many Hoosiers’ “fluency” in Spanish, several Bethel members have far exceeded that milestone after taking part in Bethel’s *Spanish With a Mission* classes. The six-week course offers a means to begin learning or improve upon familiarity with the Spanish language and equips attendees with increased confidence in communicating with their Spanish-speaking neighbors.



Spanish With a Mission (SWAM) launched in October 2017 when Bethel member Debbie Nielsen, veteran Spanish and English teacher, began offering an introductory course based on a text designed by native speaker, Deborah Balyeat. Balyeat created the text to help those interested in pursuing ministry

to the Latino community. While there is a necessary focus on the mechanics of language, the main focus is on getting students more comfortable and proficient at creating relevant communication in Spanish.

The purpose of the text dovetails well with Debbie’s goals for a beginning class: “In the traditional public school classroom, it often seemed that I was preparing students to simply pass a test. I wanted instead to find a curriculum that would help give students a platform for becoming more conversant.” Debbie explains that the student-friendly workbook helps students achieve that goal. “Our classroom is a non-threatening environment where students aren’t afraid to make mistakes. I try to make the instruction relevant, and we proceed at a methodical pace, unhurriedly building on previously learned material.”

The reasons students enroll in SWAM are as unique as the individuals themselves. Some want to build relationships with Latino acquaintances, some use Spanish in the workplace, and others take the class

just for fun. “Depending on previous classroom experience, ‘fun’ is a stretch when describing some folks’ foreign language experience,” Debbie concedes. “But we really do have a good time. Humor and chocolate are trademarks of my class--and both laughter and chocolate are universal languages!”

In January of this year, participants of SWAM were offered the option of continuing coursework in SWAM 2.0. “Those are my *estrellas*, my stars,” Debbie notes. “They’ve gone the distance and can really see the progress they’ve made. They began last fall with the absolute basics--learning the Spanish alphabet--and they are now reading brief passages in the text. They’ve really come a long way.”

Debbie notes, “I am extremely humbled to have had such a great group of students in our pilot program of SWAM. My passion has always been to encourage others to be willing to extend Christ’s love and compassion to the Latino community. It’s a great feeling to see a native speaker’s face light up when they see that you’ve invested in them enough to learn even a smattering of their language.”

A six-week Spanish With a Mission 1.0 will be offered again this fall on Thursday evenings, 6:45-8:15 p.m. There is no charge, other than the purchase of the consumable text, available on Amazon for \$20. If you would like more details, contact Debbie at limberlostfriend@gmail.com.

SPANISH WITH A MISSION seamlessly integrates teaching Spanish with gospel-oriented vocabulary and cultural insights. It provides an excellent resource for any individual or group looking to minister to Spanish speakers across the street or abroad. SWAM gives churches a tool to be more effective in spreading the Gospel in Hispanic countries and the ever growing number of Hispanics in this country.

From: spanishwithamission.com

CHRISTIAN

YOUTH & SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT



Sunday School — Children ages Kindergarten through 5th grade begins at 10:00 a.m. Children go directly to their rooms where they will meet their teachers). They are dismissed to parents at 10:55 a.m.

Nursery — Infants and toddlers under 3 are welcomed into our nursery during the 8:45 service through the end of the Sunday School hour. Nursery attendants read Bible stories, play and love on our youngest members while their parents attend Adult Education classes or worship.

Preschool — Children who turn 3 years old before December 31st are invited to join our Preschool Sunday School Class at 10:00. Gospel Light Curriculum teaches children Bible lessons in a fun, age-appropriate way, with engaging songs, stories, videos and puppets!

K-5th Grade — Children are grouped into Sunday School classes by age/grade. Over a three-year cycle, students learn the basic stories and Lutheran concepts in preparation for Confirmation during middle school.

High School—We explore various topics of mutual interest, seeking to apply our faith to real-life situations and challenges; to move beyond the accumulation of more head knowledge, into the arena of faith application and growing as disciples. We begin class each week sharing at least one good thing from the past week. We encourage conversation and discussion in a respectful manner. We encourage active serving while reminding them of the little eyes looking up to them here at church. We end each class with prayer requests and prayer.



Confirmation

Confirmation class for Middle School students (grades 6-8) strives to move faith from the head to the heart through a highly interactive experience that includes both large group presentation and small group discussion. Following class, we attend the 11:11 a.m. service to worship together. Once a month we will continue our time together after worship with a large group fellowship activity. Our goal is to develop a sticky, life-long faith through a combination of engaging learning events, regular fellowship activities, and frequent service opportunities in and beyond the congregation. Join us upstairs in the Student Center. Contact Youth and Family Minister Joe Rudy at joerudy@bethellutheranchurch.com for registration information.



MIDWEEK: High School Youth Ministry

Our High School (grades 9-12) youth ministry meets upstairs in the Student Center. A typical night involves hanging out, eating Oreos or something awesome, listening to music, playing games, watching a video, discussing the important and the not so important things and wrapping up the evening with HI's and Low's. We welcome all (members and friends alike), and we encourage each other throughout the week. We have been known to go on trips, mission work, summer camp and Boundary Water Adventure journeys. High School life is too hard to do it alone so we try and do it together.



Baptism Class

This class is for parents who wish to have their child(ren) baptized. During this session, we explore what happens when we come to the font and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. We review the expectations placed on parents and the support they can expect to receive from the church.



First Communion Class

Children in 4th grade and up learn about God's promises and the importance of Holy Communion. Classes are held during Lent after the Sunday School hour, and culminate with the Rite of First Communion on Maundy Thursday. For more information, speak with Kris Lingenfelter at kris@bethellutheranchurch.com.



Discovery:

Becoming a Disciple of Jesus

Sundays — Sept. 16 to Oct. 7, 2018

During this interactive and engaging "new disciple" orientation, participants will grow deeper into the life of discipleship as we explore key aspects of our Lutheran Christian faith, including how God has wired each person to be ministers rather than simply members of the Church. Contact the church office (773-4315) or one of the pastors to register.

EDUCATION

ADULTS — Fall 2018

Aug 19 – Sept 30

Rediscovering God's Creation

God's creation is wonderful and amazing ... especially the earth! This class will examine the concepts of Intelligent Design and Darwin's Theory of Evolution in the context of God's creation.

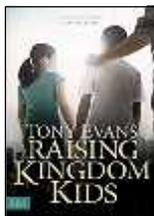


Intelligent design refers to a scientific research program as well as a community of scientists, philosophers and other scholars who seek evidence of design in nature. This class helps you understand the issues with evolutionary theory and the mounting evidence for Intelligent Design. The goal of the class is to help reveal the magnificence of God's creation.

Aug 19 – Sept 30

Raising Kingdom Kids: Giving Your Child a Living Faith

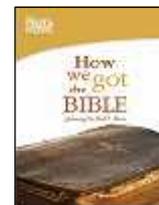
In this six-week class, Dr. Tony Evans explores our roles and responsibilities as parents in raising God-following children, and how to prepare children to take on the assignments God has for their lives. He then takes a practical turn, with examples and illustrations to help parents understand and provide specific training for kids in the power of prayer, wisdom, loving God's Word, getting through trials, controlling their tongues, developing patience, the surrender of service, and much more.



Oct 7 – Dec 16

How We Got the Bible

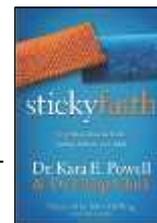
This Bible study will survey the historical development, textual transmission, and publication history of the Bible as it has come down to us through the centuries. With special emphasis on God's divine activity through the Spirit-inspired authors of the Old and New Testaments, this study will show how the Bible is His book, His Word — revealed to man that they might know the way of salvation as revealed by the prophets and made real in the flesh through the life, death, and resurrection of God's son, Jesus Christ.



Oct 7 – Dec 16

"Sticky Faith"

Most parents would give anything to anchor their children with a vibrant faith that "sticks" and continues to mature into adulthood. Yet, despite this deep desire, research indicates that approximately 40%-50% of high school seniors drift from their faith after graduation. This video curriculum presents powerful strategies and practical ideas to help parents encourage their children's spiritual growth, enabling them to develop a faith that sticks.



Ongoing Sunday Adult Classes

Ask the Question — Chapel
Led by Jason Pearson & Lu Olp

The Church ought to be a safe place where we can bring our faith questions. In fact, a healthy faith questions and pushes for greater understanding, and a healthy church embraces those questions without feeling threatened or attacked. Join us with your cup of coffee and sweet treat as we discuss the questions you bring to the table.

Loose Links—Library
Led by Suzy Patterson & Tree Rudy

A group of Christian friends who discuss, question, and banter around day-to-day life situations and use the Bible, their own "common sense," and humor to help each other out. New participants welcome!

Gospel of Mark—Fellowship Hall *Led by pastors*
Bible study based on the week's passage from Mark



During the Week

Sausage and Scripture - Fellowship Hall

Men's Breakfast and Bible Study meets Saturdays at 7:30 a.m. For more information, please contact Kevin Hardie (765-432-6211).

Women on Wednesdays - first upstairs classroom in the education building. Meets on Wednesday mornings at 9:15 a.m. for Bible study. Contact Mary Jo Mikulski with questions (260-403-5525).

Bible Study Fellowship on Tuesdays for Women — see page 26 for more information.

Monthly Bethel Book Clubs for Women

One3 group meets the **first Tuesday** of the month at 7 p.m. in various homes for fellowship and discussion. For more information, including that month's meeting location, contact Rise Helgemo (317-877-8416).

The second group meets **Saturdays** at 11:00 a.m. at Harbour Trees Golf Club. Each month's study includes lunch. For more information, contact Linda Crist (317-758-6748).

FOCUS ON MINISTRY

Worship & Music

By Michelle Whitehead

The Colors of the Luther Rose

Every week at worship, you can glance up and see the stained glass Luther Rose above the altar. This was Luther's personal symbol. Ever wonder what each part means? Here is the rest of the story....

This seal was created by Dr. Martin Luther while teaching at Wittenburg, and it has become the primary emblem of the Lutheran Church. It is a summary of our Christian faith. It depicts in color the message of what God has done for us in Christ:

In the center is a **BLACK** cross that reminds us that Jesus died for our sins. Jesus is the center of our lives.

The **RED** heart represents the love God has for us in sending Jesus to be our Savior who shed His blood for our forgiveness.

The **WHITE** rose helps us remember the work of the Holy Spirit who brings us to faith, strengthening us with His comfort and peace and equipping us to live our lives for Him as we grow in faith.

The **SKY BLUE** background stands for the joy of the new life and hope of heaven that God gives to all who believe and trust in Him for life and salvation.

The **GOLD** circle symbolizes our most precious gift – eternal life in heaven – where we will enjoy complete joy and happiness with Jesus Christ, our Savior.



Luther's version

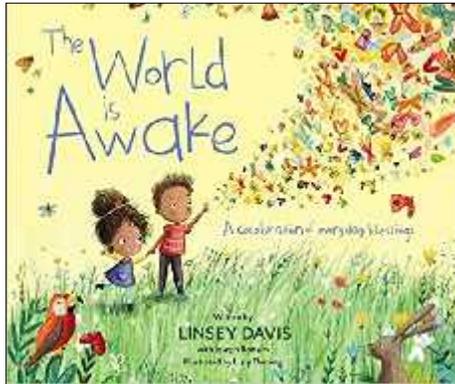
We proudly bear as banner
A cross within the heart,
To show that we have chosen
Christ the better part.
Then joy and peace and comfort
Shall blossom as a rose,
Until our earthly blessings
The worth of heaven disclose.
All hail, our glorious Saviour!
We march where thou hast trod,
To seek thy house of triumph,
The city of our God!

Luther League Hymn, SBH 567, vs. 3

BOOKS OF INTEREST

Reviews by Connie Wooldridge

Reading level:
Ages 2-6



THE WORLD IS AWAKE: A Celebration of Everyday Blessings

by Linsey Davis and Joseph Bottum;
illustrated by Lucy Fleming

A rhyming text and brightly colored illustrations (full of point-and-name possibilities for the youngest listeners) follow a brother and sister as they wake up, play in the yard, go to the zoo and the market, have supper, then snuggle into bed for the night. While the focus is on what they see, the One who made it all is mentioned just often enough to get the message across without being overly preachy. The tone is warm, reassuring, celebratory. Great reading for the beginning or the middle or the end of a summer day.



Reading level:
High School/Adult

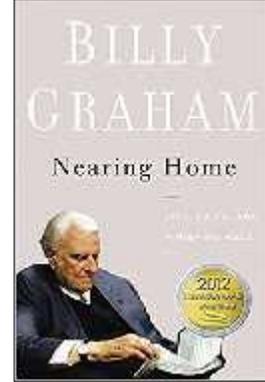


WHAT DOES GOD WANT OF US ANYWAY? A Quick Overview of the Whole Bible

by Mark Dever

In this slim little volume (120 pages), Dever makes the case that in studying the Bible passage by passage, or chapter by chapter, or book by book, we miss something important: the Bible *as a whole* is a book with a storyline that begins in Genesis, ends in Revelation, and communicates a clear and consistent message. It is Dever's belief that familiarity with the story of the *whole Bible* will help us understand the smaller chunks we encounter in sermons or short Bible studies. He provides a large framework: - the Old Testament is about "Promises Made" and the New Testament is about "Promises Kept" - that orders his summary and shows how the whole fits together and moves toward a dramatic conclusion. This would be a wonderful book to use as a personal or group study.

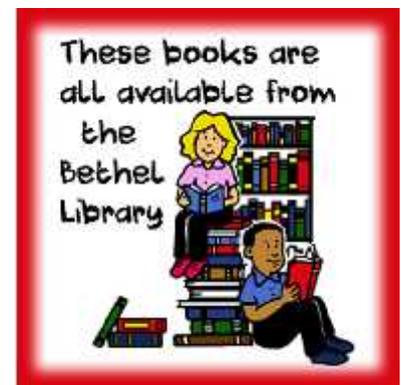
Reading level:
Adult (especially age 50+)



NEARING HOME Life, Faith, and Finishing Well

By Billy Graham

On February 21, 2018, Billy Graham went to be with the Lord he had spent his life proclaiming — to presidents and working people, to the powerful and the marginalized, to the skeptical and the desperate. He was almost 100 years old when he died. In his last decade, he realized he knew a lot about how to live and how to die, but not about how to grow old. In this book, he addresses that oversight and invites us to listen in on his conclusions. Wise, insightful, sometimes meandering it is a true privilege to read.



Seasons and Holy Days Match

Match the meanings to the day/season.

- ___ Advent
- ___ Christmas
- ___ Epiphany
- ___ Lent
- ___ Ash Wednesday
- ___ Palm Sunday
- ___ Maundy Thursday
- ___ Good Friday
- ___ Easter
- ___ Ascension
- ___ Pentecost
- ___ Season of Pentecost
- ___ Holy Trinity Sunday
- ___ All Saints Sunday
- ___ Christ the King Sunday

1. The day that celebrates Jesus being taken up to heaven 40 days after his resurrection. It marks the end of his life on earth and prepares for the coming of the Holy Spirit.
2. The 40 days that precede the Resurrection of Jesus (not counting Sundays). It is a time of reflection and repentance. The days also symbolize the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness fasting and overcoming the temptations of Satan.
3. Marks the end of the church year, and celebrates the sovereignty of Jesus Christ over everything.
4. The day when ashes are placed on the foreheads of participants with the words “repent, and believe in the Gospel” or “remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return.”
5. Begins the fourth Sunday before Christmas Day. The word means “coming” and the time is one of preparation and expectation of the coming birth of Jesus Christ.
6. The day that Jesus held his last supper with his disciples. He washed the feet of the disciples as a symbol of servanthood, and instituted Holy Communion with bread and wine in remembrance of Him.
7. The Sunday that celebrates the Christian doctrine that God is “three persons” – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
8. The day that commemorates the crucifixion, death, and burial of Jesus.
9. Commemorates the coming of the three wise men or kings to visit the Christ child. The word means “revelation” or “appearance” and emphasizes the day when Jesus was revealed as the savior of the world.
10. The commemoration and celebration of Jesus’ resurrection from the dead and the salvation of humanity.
11. The day that celebrates the coming of the Holy Spirit in what seemed to be tongues of fire that rested on each of Jesus’s disciples. This enabled the disciples to speak to other languages than their own and equipped them to go out into the world to preach and teach about Jesus.
12. Celebrates the birth of God’s son Jesus and the salvation He brings.
13. First Sunday of November. It is a day to commemorate those we have lost as well as Christian believers who have lived before us.
14. The longest season of the church year. Preaching usually concerns the Jesus and the church’s mission in the world.
15. This Sunday focuses on the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. He rode on a donkey and was praised as a king.



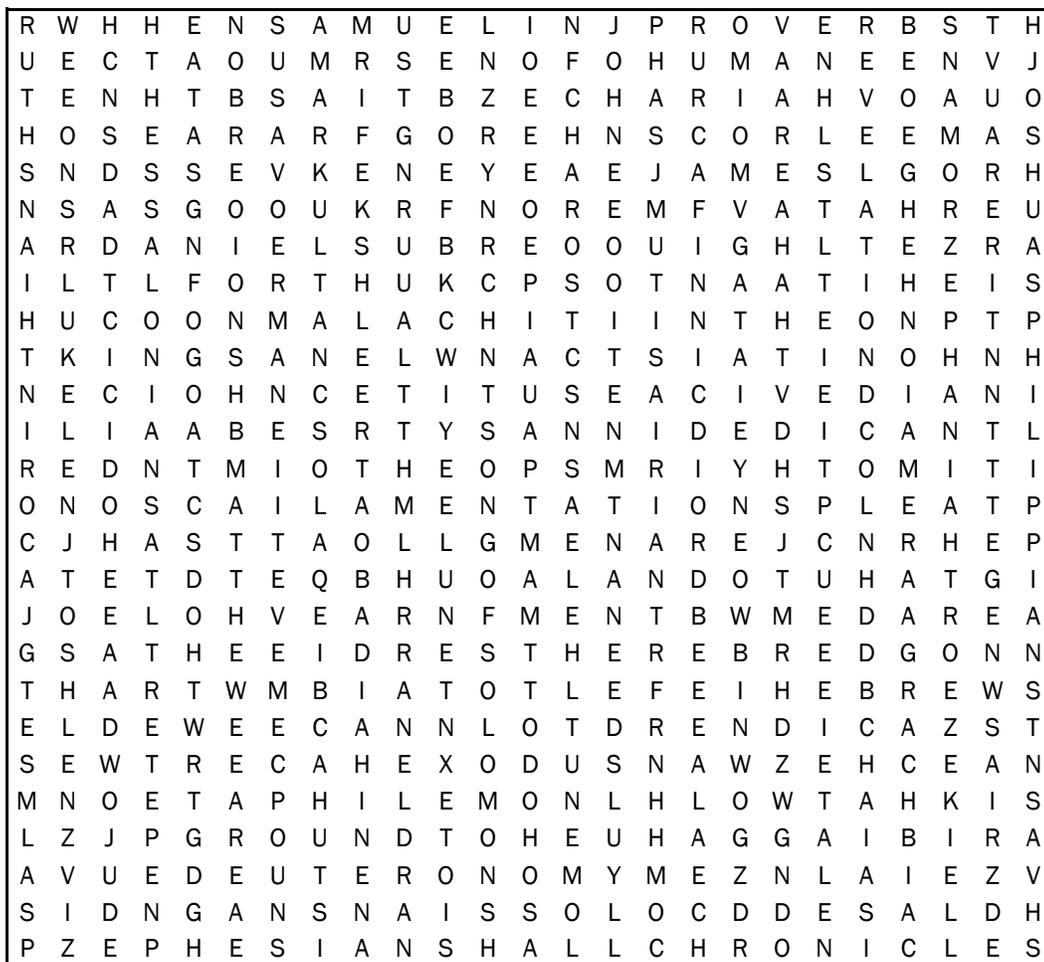
**FOR EVERYTHING THERE
IS A SEASON, A TIME
FOR EVERY ACTIVITY
UNDER HEAVEN.**

ECCLESIASTES 3:1, NLT

Answers may be found on page 26.

PLAY

Books of the Bible Word Search



GENESIS
EXODUS
LEVITICUS
NUMBERS
DEUTERONOMY
JOSHUA
JUDGES
RUTH
SAMUEL
KINGS
CHRONICLES
EZRA
NEHEMIAH
ESTHER
JOB
PSALMS
PROVERBS
ECCLESIASTES
SONG OF SOLOMON

ISAIAH
JEREMIAH
LAMENTATIONS
EXEKIEL
DANIEL
HOSEA
JOEL
AMOS
OBADIAH
JONAH
MICAH
NAHUM
HABAKKUK
ZEPHANIAH
HAGGAI
ZECHARIAH
MATTHEW
MARK
LUKE

JOHN
ACTS
ROMANS
CORINTHIANS
GALATIANS
EPHESIANS
PHILIPPIANS
COLOSSIANS
THESSALONIANS
TIMOTHY
TITUS
PHILEMON
HEBREWS
JAMES
PETER
JUDE
REVELATION

Answers may be found on page 26.

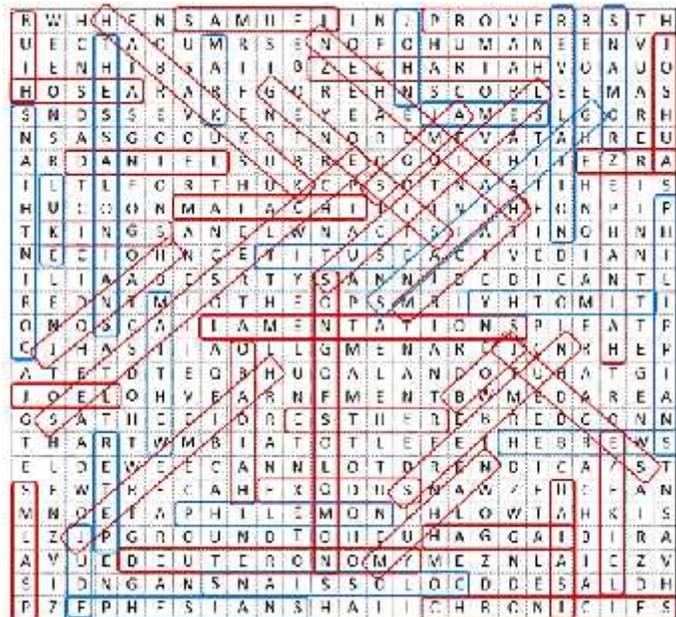
CALENDAR

LITURGICAL CALENDAR

Bethel Lutheran Church functions on a liturgical calendar with seasons and holy days. There are colors associated with each of the seasons and holy days. These are shown on this calendar and are reflected in the paraments in the sanctuary.

DAY	DATE	CHURCH CALENDAR
Sunday	8/5/18	11th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	8/12/18	12th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	8/19/18	13th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	8/26/18	14th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	9/2/18	15th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	9/9/18	16th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	9/16/18	17th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	9/23/18	18th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	9/30/18	19th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	10/7/18	20th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	10/14/18	21st Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	10/21/18	22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	10/28/18	Reformation Sunday
Sunday	11/4/18	All Saints Sunday
Sunday	11/11/18	25th Sunday after Pentecost
Sunday	11/18/18	26th Sunday after Pentecost
Thursday	11/22/18	Thanksgiving Day
Sunday	11/25/18	Christ the King Sunday

Answers to Word Search



EVENTS & ACTIVITIES

August 1, 2018 — November 30, 2018

- Aug 1 Healing Service 7 p.m.
- Aug 12 Sunday School Kickoff - games 10:00 a.m.
Worship at the Shelter 11:11 a.m.
Picnic at the Shelter 12:30 p.m.
- Aug 13-17 Lutheran Week - NALC Convocation
- Aug 19 Sunday School starts
- Sept 5 Healing Service 7 p.m.
- Sept 16 Discovery Class starts (4 Sundays)
- Sept 28 Fish & Chicken Fry
- Sept 28-30 Campout—White River Campground
- Oct 3 Healing Service 7 p.m.
- Oct 14 80+ Luncheon 12:30 p.m.
- Oct 27 Trunk or Treat 4:00 p.m.
- Oct 28 Reformation Sunday
20th Anniversary of building
- Nov 3-4 Craft Sale—before & after services—starts at 3 p.m. on Saturday
- Nov 7 Healing Service 7 p.m.
- Nov 18 Budget Forum 10 a.m.
Bless Financial Pledges
- Nov 21 Thanksgiving Eve Service 7 p.m.

From Page 21...



Bible Study Fellowship for Women

Did you notice all the cars in the parking lot each Tuesday evening from September through May last year? You didn't see anything in the bulletin about a church event. What was going on?

Bethel not only provides its own opportunities to study the Bible, our congregation also hosts a group called Bible Study Fellowship. From September through May, at host churches throughout the world, BSF offers a non-denominational study focusing on a different book or section of the Bible each year. This year's study is called "People of the Promised Land Israel" and will follow the early history of Israel, beginning with Joshua, through the reign of King Solomon, when the kingdom splits in two. By the end of the 30 classes, participants will be familiar with the Old Testament books of Joshua, Ruth, 1 and 2 Samuel, and the first 11 chapters of 1 Kings.

You can ask Jean Gast, Annette Lang, Linda Burdett, and Lisa Passior for details or you can just show up on Tuesday, September 11 at 7:00, prepared to engage with the Word and grow in your knowledge of and love for the God of the Bible!

Answers to Match

Advent-5, Christmas-12, Epiphany-9, Lent-2, Ash Wednesday-4, Palm Sunday-15, Maundy Thursday-6, Good Friday-8, Easter-10, Ascension-1, Pentecost-11, Season of Pentecost-14, Holy Trinity Sunday-7, All Saints Sunday-13, Christ the King Sunday-3

Events & Activities

The collage features the following events and activities:

- Service of Healing:** Illustration of hands holding a chalice.
- Church Picnic:** Illustration of a picnic basket with food.
- Worship Service at our SHELTER:** Illustration of a wooden shelter.
- Sunday School Kickoff:** Illustration of children playing with colorful figures.
- Annual Convocation NALC (North American Lutheran Church) Lutheran Week:** Logo for NALC.
- Bethel Discovery Class:** Illustration of a magnifying glass over a cross.
- Annual Fish & Chicken Fry in support of Missions:** Illustration of a fish and a chicken.
- Church Campout:** Illustration of trees and a campfire.
- 80+ Luncheon:** Illustration of a plate with a flower.
- Operation Christmas Child Samaritan's Purse:** Illustration of a shoebox with a plane.
- Reformation Sunday:** Logo with a cross and a heart.
- Bethel Lutheran 200th Anniversary Noblesville Church Building:** Logo with a clock face.
- Trunk or Treat:** Illustration of a car trunk filled with candy.
- All Saints' Day:** Illustration of a white dove with a flame above it.
- Annual Craft Sale:** Illustration of a paint palette and craft supplies.
- Worship the Lord!:** Illustration of a crown.
- Thanksgiving Food Baskets:** Illustration of a basket of food.
- Thanksgiving Worship:** Illustration of a cornucopia with pumpkins.
- Christ the King Sunday:** Illustration of a crown.



WEEKEND WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SATURDAY

5:30 p.m. – Casual Worship

SUNDAY

8:45 a.m. – Classic Worship

10:00 a.m. – Christian Education Hour

11:11 a.m. – Praise Worship

Communion will be celebrated at all services.



OTHER WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

FIRST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH

7:00 p.m. – Healing Service

WORSHIP AT OUR SHELTER

11:11 a.m. – weather permitting

THANKSGIVING EVE

November 21st

7:00 p.m. – Worship Service

Bethel Lutheran Church

20650 Cumberland Road

Noblesville, IN 46062

317.773.4315

www.BethelLutheranChurch.com



NALC

North American Lutheran Church

