



# Herald

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume 88

Number 11

November 2024

## PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

*A*s you read this, we continue to find ourselves in the midst of an important presidential election for our country. My prayers continue to be about integrity, truth, and fairness for everyone who is running for any office. I hope that you have already or have plans to vote your own conscience. If you need a ride, do not hesitate to ask for one. I would be happy to help out. God is with us as we do our civic duty in faith, and as we wait for the results across the board.



As we embark into November of this year, we will have been two Sundays deep into our Stewardship Campaign. Our Money Story is our theme, as we *remember from where we have come, our present time, and reimagine who we are and how we continue to be the church in the years ahead. It has become abundantly clear that change will need to happen for us, as we dream to remain a faith community in our particular place. My prayers continue for us to find the next best steps of how we*

*actively participate in mission and ministry, together, today and for many years to come.*

Please be sure to join us during our Stewardship Campaign, most especially on Sunday, November 10. We will begin with worship, which will include turning in our promise cards. After worship, please join us for a Potato Hotdish Cook-off in Nazareth Hall. I found it very interesting that at last year's Hotdish Cook-off, no one brought Tater Tot hotdish. So, this year the Stewardship Team decided to see how many potato-based hotdishes we could taste test. This should be fun. I trust we have already given you a chance to tell us what you are bringing for this fun fellowship time (hotdish, salad, or dessert). Not all items need potatoes in them, just the hotdishes.

**As we continue in faith, please also mark your calendars for**

- Second Saturday Concert on November 9 at 3pm (Seward Concert Band)
- Potato Hotdish Cook-off on Sunday, November 10 at 11am
- "A Holy Experiment" worship on Sunday, November 10 at Bethel at 7pm
- Bagels with the Board, November 17 at 9am



With you, for Jesus,

*Pastor Brenda*

Pastor Brenda  
[pastor@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:pastor@bethel-mpls.org)

# BERNIE'S MUSIC UPDATE

Autumn has arrived in Minneapolis! The church year is winding down, but we are also planning for the renewal of Advent and Christmas. While the days of the year wane, we plan for the upcoming holidays culminating in New Year's Day.

One way we celebrate and commemorate in worship is through music. Who gets to celebrate with music? We ALL do! Wait, do I have that right? Let's check my work in the Psalms to be sure.

Psalms 66 says, "Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of God's name."

Who gets to make a joyful noise? The cantor, the choir, trained musicians? No, all the earth!

Psalms 95 tells us, "O come, let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!"

Let US sing, shouts the psalmist: all of us make a joyful noise.

Psalms contains six references to "joyful noise," four references to "music," and 66 references to "song." One

reason for this is that the book of Psalms is the Bible's songbook. It is a collection of hymns that were sung in worship. The only reason we do not know the original tunes of the Psalms is because there was no musical notation at the time. To demonstrate this, find the Psalms in our "Cranberry Book" or ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship). Psalms 1 - 150 are followed by hymn number 151 in the upper corner of the page.

I invite you to sing with full hearts in worship and on your own as you praise and pray to God.

I also invite you to come sing with the Bethel Choir, ring with the Handbell Choir, or join us to play percussion, guitar, or bass. I am seeking percussionists to assist in some of our worship songs, and I am happy to teach you some basic techniques. If you walk down the street whistling a tune, sing around the house, beat-box, or dance around the kitchen, give us a try!

Yours in Christ,

*Bernie Asher*

[music2023@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:music2023@bethel-mpls.org)



## meet the newest custodial team members!



**Jester Lewis, They/Them**  
Assistant Custodian

I will graduate HS (St. Paul Conservatory for Performing Artists) in May 2025; my area of focus is visual arts. Please don't ask me about college at this time. I'm still figuring things out and it's stressful!!

I performed with River City Rhythm Drum and Bugle Corps the past two summers. I'm in the color guard.

I'm making my own yarn from shorn sheep's wool. Thanks to the Valais Blacknose sheep at Shalom Hill Farm! Please ask me about fiber work and sewing--I can talk about that all day long!!

I have two beautiful daughters: Louise and Phoebe.

I have two adorable cats: Juniper and Ollie.

I speak Russian.



**John Fleming, He/Him**  
Assistant Custodian

**Say hello and welcome them to the Bethel staff!**



# MICHELLE'S GRANTS UPDATE



## GIVE TO THE MAX DAY AT BETHEL THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2024

Happy November! This year Bethel will participate in Minnesota's "Giving Holiday," so plan to give on Thursday, November 21. This year, the funds raised through Give to the Max Day will be used for new ministry exploration to offer a **Queer Safe and Sober Space at Bethel**.

Recently there has been legislation in many states attempting to limit folx in their self-expression and self-determination, particularly folx who are transgender. Bethel is a Reconciling in Christ Congregation, committed to the full inclusion and celebration of people who recognize themselves to be in the LGBTQIA+ spectrum.

Bethel can intentionally and explicitly use our space to allow sober queer folx to determine what they need from a church. We will offer space for this group of folx to use and we will walk alongside them in their journey.

This year the funds we raise together through Give to the Max Day will be matched 2:1! For every dollar you give, we will receive \$2 in matching funds from the Lenore Bevis memorial! These funds will help facilitate conversations, conduct research, reach out, and try some ideas for what Queer Safe and Sober Space would look like. If you want to be part of the team, contact Pastor Brenda.

This year, **plan to give at least \$20** (with the match, that's \$60!) and **invite three other people** to join you in giving to this ministry project. Watch your email and around the church for more details on how to **Give to the Max on Thursday, November 21, 2024!**



Peace and Joy to you,  
*Rev. Michelle Lewis*

[grantmanager@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:grantmanager@bethel-mpls.org)  
651-226-6804

A graphic with a dark blue background featuring silhouettes of several people with their arms raised in prayer or worship. The title 'A Holy Experiment' is written in a large, white, cursive font at the top. Below it, the text 'A ground-breaking worship experience that combines healing rituals, meditation, teaching and movement. No dogma, just healing connection to the divine. Come and play with us.' is written in a white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, there are two columns of text in a white, sans-serif font, separated by a vertical line.

*A Holy Experiment*

A ground-breaking worship experience that combines healing rituals, meditation, teaching and movement. No dogma, just healing connection to the divine. Come and play with us.

<i>Sunday, November 10 at 7pm</i> <i>Bethel Lutheran Church</i> <i>4120 17th Ave South, Minneapolis</i>	<i>Sunday, November 24 at 7pm</i> <i>Atonement Lutheran Church</i> <i>601 East 98th Street, Bloomington</i>
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BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH'S  
**2ND SATURDAY**

# Concert Series

## THE SEWARD CONCERT BAND

**SATURDAY, NOV. 9, 2024**

**3:00PM SHOW**      DOORS 2:30PM

*Suggested \$10 Donation*



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4120 17TH AVE S, MPLS, MN  
[bethel@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:bethel@bethel-mpls.org)





# FEASIBILITY UPDATE

Your Feasibility Study Team continues to pursue and discuss ideas for Bethel's property in the future. Right now we have been focused on three areas:

- We are working with our lawyers and Crown Castle, the company who owns the monopoly in our parking lot, to be sure we have full understanding of our monopoly contract and know what our options are for the parking lot, should a future plan for Bethel include that space.
- El Colegio High School, the charter school on 42nd and Bloomington that uses our building frequently, may be interested in a more permanent use of more of our space. We have been in

conversation with them and expect to find out more this fall about future possibilities.

- We feel strongly that we want to involve the neighborhood as we continue in our Feasibility Study work, and we are searching for a professional organization that can facilitate a Neighborhood Impact Study. Such a study would help us to gain a better understanding of what our neighbors think about Bethel and to use this knowledge to help us make decisions based on their potential effects on the neighborhood.

As always, please get in touch with us if you have questions or ideas. Our email is [feasibility@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:feasibility@bethel-mpls.org).

*Laurie Hauge*

[feasibility@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:feasibility@bethel-mpls.org)



## ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3**

*Bring photos, mementos, etc., that help keep the saints in your life close to your heart. Place your items on the front table in the sanctuary. All Saints will indeed be with us.*

## BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS

Although the Board is not meeting until after the deadline for this newsletter, we continue to attend to the business of the church. We expect good news from our insurance company concerning the storm damage to the roof over the sanctuary. We await their final check for repair/replacement. We have contracted with YardPro again for our snow removal and continue to work on ways to prevent the tomfoolery happening in our parking lot.

We would like to thank everyone who helped with the Fall Festival. A special thank you goes to Regan Saunders for all her planning and facilitating. We think we had 350+ folks attend that day, which is a great start for our first year. The money gained has been placed in a new dedicated account to assist with our 2nd Annual Fall Festival in 2025.

If you have not already, please sign up to attend a Cottage Meeting with Pr Brenda! We look forward to hearing what she learns in these small group meetings.

**Cottage Meeting Sign-up Genius:**  
[shorturl.at/yi6mU](https://shorturl.at/yi6mU)






Finally, you are all invited to **Bagels with the Board**, a meeting with our Board members to talk about anything on your mind, get an update on what is on our minds, and take a bit of time to dream toward our future! Join us on Sunday, November 17 at 9am in the Parlor.

In peace and faith,

*Sarah Berke*

*On behalf of the Board*

# MINISTRY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
27 Bethel Choir Sings 9:00am MN Early Voting 10:00am Bethel Worship 10:15am Faith Trek Sunday School 11:00am Fellowship Time 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship <b>5:30pm Trunk or Treat</b> 	28 Bethel Office Closed 8:00am MN Early Voting 10:00am CANMN Distribution 6:30pm BNA Garden Group Potluck 7:00pm Bethel Bell Choir 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA	29 8:00am MN Early Voting 9:00am OA HOW Meeting 9:30am The Curiosity Crew School 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 6:30pm Scout Troop 7:00pm Pentecostal Casa Music	30 8:00am MN Early Voting 9:00am Ensemble Music Class 9:30am Dean Billmeyer Organ 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 12:00pm Organ Tuning 6:30pm Continuous Action Atonement 7:00pm Bethel Choir Rehearsal
3 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 9:00am MN Early Voting 10:00am Bethel Worship 10:15am Faith Trek Sunday School 11:00am Fellowship Time 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo	4 Bethel Office Closed 7:00am MN Early Voting 10:00am CANMN Distribution 7:00pm Bethel Bell Choir 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA	5 ELECTION DAY 6:00am MN Voting (E) 9:00am OA HOW Meeting 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 6:30pm Scout Troop 	6 8:00am MN Voting Post-Election 9:00am Ensemble Music Class 10:00am Building & Grounds 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 6:30pm Continuous Action Atonement 6:30pm Nokomis Quilters 7:00pm Bethel Choir Rehearsal
10 Bethel Choir Sings 10:00am Bethel Worship 10:15am Faith Trek Sunday School <b>11:00am Bethel's Hotdish Cookoff</b> 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo 7:00pm A Holy Experiment at Bethel 	11 Bethel Office Closed 2:00pm Feasibility Study Team 6:00pm Open Gym 7:00pm Bethel Bell Choir 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA 8:00pm Bridge to Shore AA - Meeting	12 9:00am OA HOW Meeting 9:30am Operation Love Quilters 9:30am The Curiosity Crew School 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 6:30pm Mission Council 6:30pm Scout Troop 7:00pm Pentecostal Casa Music	13 9:00am Ensemble Music Class 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 4:00pm NHS Board Meeting 6:00pm Open Gym 6:30pm Continuous Action Atonement 7:00pm Bethel Choir Rehearsal
17 Bethel Bells Play 9:00am Bagels with the Board 10:00am Bethel Worship 10:15am Faith Trek Sunday School 11:00am Fellowship Time 11:15pm Bethel Joint Leadership Mtg 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo	18 Bethel Office Closed 10:00am CANMN Distribution 6:00pm Open Gym 7:00pm Bethel Bell Choir 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA	19 9:00am OA HOW Meeting 9:30am The Curiosity Crew School 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 6:30pm Scout Troop 7:00pm Pentecostal Casa Music	20 9:00am Ensemble Music Class 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 6:00pm Open Gym 6:30pm Continuous Action Atonement 7:00pm Bethel Choir Rehearsal 7:30pm Continuous Action Atonement <b>Herald Deadline</b>
24 10:00am Bethel Worship 10:15am Faith Trek Sunday School 11:00am Fellowship Time 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo 7:00pm A Holy Experiment at Atonement	25 Bethel Office Closed 6:00pm Open Gym 7:00pm Bethel Bell Choir 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA	26 9:00am OA HOW Meeting 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 6:30pm Scout Troop 7:00pm Pentecostal Casa Music	27 Bethel Choir Sings 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 6:00pm Open Gym 6:30pm Continuous Action Atonement <b>7:00pm Thanksgiving Worship</b> <b>Minnehaha UMC</b>

# R - NOVEMBER 2024

day	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>s n Rehearsal group</p> <p>A sal</p>	<p>31</p> <p>8:00am MN Early Voting 9:30am NHS Nurse Is In/Blood Pressure 10:00am NHS Exercise</p>	<p>1</p> <p>7:00am MN Early Voting 9:30am Ensemble Music Class 6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00am AA Amigos 9:00am MN Early Voting 11:00am CANMN Distribution</p>
<p>ion s Mtg group</p> <p>A sal</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00am MN Voting Post-Election 9:00am NHS Foot Care 9:30am NHS Nurse Is In/Blood Pressure 10:00am NHS Exercise 11:00am NHS Roundtable Discussions 3:00pm CANMN Distribution 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 18896 7:00pm BNA Board Meeting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>8:00am MN Voting Post-Election 9:30am Ensemble Music Class 10:00am Kitchen Use - Memorial 1:00pm Lynn Vaughn Arradondo Memorial 6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p>	<p>9</p> <p>8:30am Cub Scout Pack 38 Meeting 9:00am AA Amigos 9:00am TCAGO Organ Tour 11:00am CANMN Distribution 12:00pm El Despertare Event <b>3:00pm 2nd Saturday Concert</b></p> <p><b>2ND SATURDAY</b> <i>Concert Series</i></p>
<p>s group</p> <p>A sal</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30am NHS Nurse Is In/Blood Pressure 10:00am NHS Exercise 11:15am NHS Lunch and Bingo 3:00pm CANMN Distribution</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30am Ensemble Music Class 6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 6:30pm Curiosity Crew Movie Night</p>	<p>16</p> <p>8:00am Toy Drive - Society of Creative Anachronism 9:00am AA Amigos 11:00am CANMN Distribution</p>
<p>s group</p> <p>A sal</p> <p>Leadership Meeting</p> <p><b>12:00pm</b></p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:30am NHS Nurse Is In/Blood Pressure 10:00am NHS Exercise 11:00am Diabetes Support Group 11:00am NHS Let's talk About Loss 3:00pm CANMN Distribution 6:00pm Girl Scout Troop 18896</p> <p><b>give</b> <small>TO THE</small> <b>MAX</b>  <b>Nov. 21, 2024</b></p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30am Ensemble Music Class 6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p>	<p>23</p> <p>8:30am Cub Scout Pack 38 Meeting 9:00am AA Amigos 11:00am CANMN Distribution</p>
<p>group</p> <p>A ip Service at</p>	<p>28</p> <p>THANKSGIVING Bethel Office and Building Closed</p> 	<p>29</p> <p>Bethel Office and Building Closed 6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00am AA Amigos 11:00am CANMN Distribution</p>

# BIBLE STUDY WITH PR BRENDA

*Wednesdays at 12pm*

Online meeting room:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81542792093>



And in-person in the Fireside Room.

11/6	Mark 12:38-44
11/13	Luke 5:1-11
11/20	Psalm 93 John 18:33-37
11/27	Psalm 25:4-10 Luke 21:25-36

## CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

### Rev. Brenda Froisland, Pastor:

[pastor@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:pastor@bethel-mpls.org)

### Music:

Bernie Asher, Music Director

[music2023@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:music2023@bethel-mpls.org)

Anne Phillips, Musician

[musician2023@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:musician2023@bethel-mpls.org)

### Office Manager:

Regan Saunders

[bethel@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:bethel@bethel-mpls.org)

### Finance Coordinator:

Teresa Klotz

[assttreas@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:assttreas@bethel-mpls.org)

### Facilities Manager:

Rachel Allison

[headcustodian@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:headcustodian@bethel-mpls.org)

### Assistant Custodians:

Kristian Ask, John Fleming,

Michael Hauge, Jester Lewis, Bill Shy,

Katie Simons, Franklin Wohnoutka

### Grant Manager:

Rev. Michelle Lewis

[grantmanager@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:grantmanager@bethel-mpls.org)

For a full list of our staff and leadership members, please visit our website:



## SUNDAY SERVERS

Date	Assisting Minister	Lector	Cantor	Sacristy	Ushers	Streaming	Hospitality	Altar Guild
11/3	Anna Olsen	Ann Allison	Janet Anderson	Stephanie Johnson	Tom	Gene and Ted	Clarice Lovstuen	Sharon and Joyce
11/10	Kristin Cleary	Darlene Olson	Bernie Asher	Marilyn Newborg	Dean and Dave S	Gene and Ted	Romell White	Sharon and Joyce
11/17	Ann Allison	Don Olson	Sarah Berke	Clarice Lovstuen	Susan and Jerry	Gene and Ted	Janet Anderson	Sharon and Joyce
11/24	Anna Olsen	Laurie Hauge	Kristin Cleary	Marilyn Newborg	Dave K and Norris	Gene and Ted	Ann Allison	Sharon and Joyce



# NOVEMBER

## BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

### Birthdays

Nathan Lovstuen	1
Kevin Hoover	2
Cheri Wright	3
Russell Johnson	7
Gene Rodi	9
Dan Hundt	10
Darlene Olson	11
Phoebe Fleming	11
Jason Cross	12
Maseyo Cannon	12
Kaleena Keating	16
Becky Johnson	19

Hanna Maddaus	20
Michael Hall	21
Roberta Horning	23
Grayson Chovan-Spence	24
Ruth Aaskov	28
Paige Best	29

### Wedding Anniversaries

Bruce and Pat Gramentz	1
Dan and Laurie Hauge	29

*If your birthday or anniversary is missing or incorrect, please let the office know so we can update our records! Thank you!*

Bethel Lutheran, Minnehaha United Methodist,  
and St Peder's Lutheran Churches

*Invite you to our*

# Thanksgiving Eve

## WORSHIP SERVICE

*Joint choir  
practices at  
6:20 PM*

**November 27**

**7:00 PM**

*Bring  
friends and  
family!*

**3701 East 50th Street, Minneapolis, MN**

*Followed by a pie social*

# PRAYER list

## PRAY FOR BETHEL MEMBERS

Andrea Allie's Family	Karen McBride
Roberta Horning's Family	Sharon Phillips
Crystal Vaughn's Family	Gert Carlson
David and Sue	Laurel Jorgensen
Dorumsgaard Ayers	Kevin Hoover
Larissa Hoover	Gloria Condon
Mike and Grace Simons	Hundt Family
Tom Keating	Puckett Family
Libby Krogh	Doris Christianson
Warwick Family	Darrell Dahl
Pikkarainen Family	
Cannon Family	
Walker Family	

## MORE PEOPLE OF GOD

- Victims of natural and human disasters
- People of Ukraine, Israeli Citizens, and Palestinians in Gaza
- All of us regarding COVID, RSV, Flu, Mpox
- Black, Brown, Indigenous, and Asian Lives
- People without homes
- Refugees, Migrants and Asylum Seekers
- People dying due to gun violence

## PRAY FOR OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Beth (Dan Hauge's sister)  
 Kristian (Pr B's friend)  
 Jane (Ann Allison's sister)  
 Kathy (Krogh Family friend)  
 Judy (Sue Dorumsgaard Ayers' step-mom)  
 Steve (Pr B's brother)  
 Michael (Marilyn Newborg's brother)  
 Laura (AnnE's sister)  
 Angela (Tom and AnnE's granddaughter)  
 Donovan (Angel Cannon's father)  
 Ian (Pr B's friend)  
 Laura (Sue Dorumsgaard Ayers' friend)  
 Rita (Sharon Phillip's friend)  
 Calvin (Angel Cannon's godfather)  
 Sandie (Anna Wohnoutka's aunt)  
 Laura (Lisa Chovan Spence's sister)  
 Wayne (Karen Warwick's dad)  
 Trent and Michelle (Norma's Family)  
 Darlene (Jeff Alberts' mom)  
 Susan (Mike Condon's sister)  
 John (Kathy Hundt's brother-in-law)  
 Andrea (Mona Falk's daughter)

## MEMBERS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN THE SERVICE

Alec M. Cullen (Tom Keating's nephew)  
 Katre Bishop (Pr B's nephew)  
 Adam Froisland (Pr B's nephew)  
 Dwana Froisland (Pr B's niece)  
 Evan Harrison (Pr B's great nephew)

## BETHEL'S MISSION PARTNERS

- ❖ Bancroft Neighborhood Association ❖ Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran Church (BOLD)  
 ❖ ReconcilingWorks ❖ Casa de Oracion - Pentecostal  
 ❖ Mpls Area Synod ❖ Nokomis Healthy Seniors ❖ CANMN

For additions or revisions to the Prayer List, please contact  
 Pastor Brenda: [pastor@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:pastor@bethel-mpls.org)  
 or the Office: [bethel@bethel-mpls.org](mailto:bethel@bethel-mpls.org)  
 (612) 724-3693

# STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

Over the past six months (as we build up to Stewardship Sunday – and the hotdish cook-off – on Sunday, November 10th) the Stewardship committee has been using resources from Sanctified Art for our current campaign. We felt the ideas and concepts behind “Remember” and “Reimagine” from our theme “The Money Story” really represent what has been going on with Bethel Lutheran Church over the past bunch of years.

There is a poem for “Reimagine” called Love, By Another Way by Sarah Are. The last verse is:

“For I am starting to believe  
That what matters in life will never be easy.  
So we must imagine and imagine again.  
We must dream and try, die and rise.  
And in our rising, may we see the next right reimagined thing  
Until step by step we are home.”

You can read this passage and think about how difficult things have been over the past few years. Lots of changes happened that no one wanted or was prepared for. But now, as you look at the Bethel calendar for the last half of 2024 and Pastor Brenda’s letter to all members of Bethel Lutheran Church from her and the Stewardship team – a whole lot of reimagining has already taken place.

Not only did the church have a productive and festive summer, the autumn and winter are shaping up for many more exciting things. 2025 will bring even more welcome changes for Bethel Lutheran, its congregation, and the residents of South Minneapolis. I’d have to say things are pretty good right now.

We are looking forward to a festive holiday season and a great 2025 – hope you all are too!

Thanks for reading,  
*Jerry Johnson*



# MISSION COUNCIL REPORT

The October Mission Council meeting was held on the first chilly night of the year, a reminder of the changing of the seasons and the coming of winter. We reviewed the Fall Festival and are happy with the success - especially because it was the first time the festival was held. Already, we are working on ideas for next year. A big THANK YOU to Regan, who put so much work into organizing the Fall Festival.

We discussed the upcoming Trunk or Treat to be held in the Bethel parking lot on October 27, 5-6:30 PM. It promises to be a fun, well-attended event. The Mission Council is looking at potential membership with the Mental Health Connect (MHC) program. They are a

collaborative of faith communities working to ensure everyone has access to mental health care and working to reduce the stigma of mental illness. We also reviewed the proposed calendar of events for 2025. We are working to schedule our events in ways that will bring efficiency and increase participation.

The Mission Council is getting ready to review Bethel’s Mission Statement at the request of the Feasibility Committee. We are currently reading select chapters of a book and other activities to prepare for this task. Finally, we reviewed the status of our grants and the upcoming Give to the Max Day. I hope everyone has a great fall season!

That’s all for now,  
*Susan Johnson*





# Herald

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4120 17th Ave. S., Minneapolis, MN  
bethel-mpls.org | 612-724-3693

In gratitude, Bethel Lutheran Church amplifies God's grace, nourishes all creation, reaches out, and builds community.

- We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.
- Why a Public Church? To impact and enhance the community so that everyone feels a sense of love and belonging.

Peace  
on  
Earth

JOIN BETHEL FOR OUR  
CHRISTMAS EVE  
WORSHIP  
DEC. 24 at 4pm



Bethel  
LUTHERAN  
South Minneapolis



In-person and Online—YouTube@bethelmpls