



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

- We are a Reconciling in Christ Congregation.
- Bethel Children, Youth & Family Ministry bridges generations to model, equip, and encourage a foundation of trust in God's story.

Bethel
LUTHERAN
South Minneapolis

BETHEL HERALD

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Sharing Information and Looking for Feedback

Greetings and blessings to each of you on this day! I hope this finds you doing well and enjoying the summer. I cannot believe it is already August. I am also happy to be one more month through our global pandemic. There may be a light at the end of this tunnel. Thanks be to God!

With the new delta variant and the fact that our kids are still not able to be vaccinated, **we will continue to worship out in our backyard unless it is too hot or raining.** If we move inside, we will be wearing face masks - for months to come. We have to protect our kids. The Board will reconsider this decision again in August. Thank you for your continued cooperation with this process.

For more information please check out this podcast: <https://www.mprnews.org/episode/2021/07/21/the-pandemic-isnt-over>

The Board of Administrators has endorsed the Mission Council plan to beautify the northwest entrance to our narthex. Mission Council will be putting together a final estimate for their plans for a small patio and pavement improvements, and slowly moving ahead with this plan. Questions can be directed to elected leadership and staff members.

We would LOVE your feedback on some items as we make plans for the new academic year. **Please** take a few minutes to **fill out this very short survey** <https://forms.gle/k3VMqwUD9BEveNig7> regarding worship and education, fellowship and activities. It will only take a few minutes to do and will be extremely helpful for our further planning. As we print this newsletter 40 of you have taken the survey. Thank you. Those of you not online please complete the survey enclosed and return it to the office. The more responses we get, the better it will be for all of us. Thanks again.

Gathering Sunday (formerly known as Renewal and Rally Sunday) is currently planned for Sunday, September 12, 2021. Regardless of the actual location of our worship service, we will gather together that day and begin another year of worship, education, fellowship, for this loving and loved faith community. Part of our day will include **opportunities to sign up for small volunteer activities that happen on a weekly basis.** Please put some thought and prayer into where you can help on Sundays! Think about our needs for ushers, communion servers, assistant ministers, greeters, hospitality hosts, communion set-up and take-down, readers, cantors, technology, and kid's table supervision. What will you do to help us make things happen again? We look forward to seeing all of us working together!

You are loved, you are missed, and you are in my prayers. God blesses you each and every day.

Pastor Brenda

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Book Club

Do you want to increase your cultural capacity? Please join us for our Book Club every six weeks and learn more. We read one book at a time and discuss it together for an hour or two. Here is a list of the next three books. Sundays 12:30-2:00PM

September 19 - **Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism**
by Drew G. I. Hart

October 31 - **White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism** by Robin DiAngelo

December 12 - **United States of Grace: A Memoir of Homelessness, Addiction, Incarceration, and Hope** by Lenny Duncan

Come 2022 we will take more time to work through **My Grandmother's Hands: Racialized Trauma and the Pathways to Mending our Hearts and Bodies** by Resmaa Menakem. This might be a weekly or every other week meeting for several weeks. It is a great, and heavy, book, and provides healing options that we will practice as a group.



THE CONSEQUENCES OF TRASH

Anyone can help prevent this from happening by recycling more often.

The earth will become a landfill if we continue as we are.

Our generation will die on this earth if we don't do something NOW.

Soil and Spirit

South Minneapolis Day Camp
Middle and High School Youth
Public Art Creations

The youth were asked to collect "found things" for the first two days of camp. Then they were given the opportunity to create art.

TRASH STORM

Rainstorms are a part of nature. The way litter builds up, especially in cities, is often equivalent to how water gathers. This human made trash storm drowns out the water, and makes the area unsafe for life. The scale of human pollution is increasing.

This sculpture represents the storm of trash we have created.





Happy August to all of you!

As time unfolds, we are slowly learning that living with the coronavirus will likely be a longer term concern than any of us had hoped. Over this past year and a half we have dealt with different stages of hopes and grief that have come with such an unknown impacting our lives. And truth be told, we don't know what the future holds.

During this time, we need to be taking care of ourselves. We need to look after our physical health and of those around us. We do this through vaccinations, masking, and physical distancing when appropriate. We need to take care of our mental health. We need to make sure we are talking with others, getting exercise, engaging with hobbies and passions, reading, getting outside and making sure we seek professional help if we notice signs of depression or anxiety.

We also need to take care of our spiritual health. So I ask you, what have you been doing to care for your relationship with God? How are you nurturing that relationship? How are you living out your baptism? How are you tending your spirit?

In many ways, we do this in the same manner in which we care for our physical and mental health. We connect with those in our spiritual community. We walk and bike and wonder in God's Creation. We are good stewards of the bodies God has given us.

I would like to suggest that we all take an assessment regarding our spiritual health. Take a few minutes and reflect on how you have been caring for your spirit and your relationship with God. Take stock of what habits or practices you already engage in that enhance your connection with God and Christ's love. Ask yourselves what new activities you can cultivate to strengthen that relationship.

It is important to remember that our identity as Christians involves every aspect of our lives, therefore we can always be mindful of God's grace even as we undertake the most mundane tasks in our day to day lives. We can be grateful as we take out the garbage that we live in a city that is clean and democratically run. We can recognize God's grace in the voices of our friends and families and EVEN in strangers we meet.

Some suggestions to help you in nurturing your spiritual life:

Pray. If you are not a pray-er, try saying grace, even silently, before meals to thank God. Or pray as you do chores or even pray out loud when you drive. Set aside time just for prayer.

Sing. Sing out loud! Listen to hymns. Watch one of Phil's videos on the website.

Meditate. Mindfulness meditation is easy to follow. You just listen. My favorite meditation guide is Tara Brach. You can find her online and she has a podcast.

Read scripture. Read a psalm a day. Try reading the Gospels or Paul's letters. Take time to reflect on what you've read.





 *Phil's Music Score*

Bethel Klokke

Sometimes it's good to start fresh. I've had many fresh starts in the past couple of months. For one, I just started to teach two brand new piano students. It is always fun to teach someone something new, and it's even better to see how far they excel after a while. My second fresh start is a recently purchased house. I find myself working on new projects every day and am excited to see how it all will turn out. Now to the fresh start coming to the bell ensemble this fall.

I have been anxiously awaiting the time we can return to music ensembles here at Bethel. The first one to get started will be the Bethel Klokke. Klokke – bells in Norwegian, an ode to the history of Bethel. Given the increasingly busy lives we all lead and the anxiety of committing to an entire season that might lead to a life-sentence in a music ensemble, I will be starting the Klokke ensemble. Anyone who is interested in joining the core ensemble is invited to weekly rehearsals throughout the school year, hopefully starting in September. The musicians who make up the core ensemble should have some basic music background; everything else including technique and style is taught by me. If you have wanted to try to ring bells before, this is your chance!

The second part of this ensemble will be the ringers who want to join a few times a year and want to still have the ensemble experience but maybe don't know much about music or find it hard to commit to a weekly schedule. Every other month an invite will go out to be part of these extra ringers. Music, bells, one-on-one lessons, encouragement, smiles, laughs all included! So get ready to experience the joy of ensemble music-making. This group will rehearse 2-3 times before playing in a worship service, once on their own and then with the rest of the Klokke ensemble to fill in parts. This is your chance to try it out, so what are you waiting for? Information will be sent mid-August.

Phil Radtke,
Music Director

Live as a Steward

Different Bucket Lists

There is a saying that got popular years back from a movie with Morgan Freeman named "Bucket List." I have many friends that have their "bucket list" of things they want to do in their lifetime or maybe just over the summer. My dad used to have a daily "to do" bucket list that he could cross off each day. I did not like the list as a kid because it seemed more of a list of chores I had to do for the day.

Anyway, I heard a speaker one time talk about how to control your daily life and putting your choices into three buckets: 1) Things we can control; 2) Things we can influence; 3) Things we really can't do anything about. You can use these buckets to help organize pretty much anything from work, school or even church committees.

Soon you will be hearing from Pastor Brenda and the Stewardship committee about what Stewardship means to you. In other words, start thinking about how to answer, "Stewardship is...?" I looked at these buckets to figure out which bucket Stewardship would best fall into on my daily bucket list. Bucket one? Maybe. I can control how much time/talent/money I give, but I felt control is not the best word. Bucket three? Possible, because some things we may want to help with are out of our control. To me though, it was an easy choice. Bucket Two. Things we can influence. We all have unique gifts given to us and we are able to share and influence an amazing number of people in our church and community with those gifts. It doesn't matter where you are in life, you have those gifts that can be used for God's greater glory. One answer can be...Influence.

~Doug Psick, Stewardship Committee

A note about our Radical Hospitality!

Dear Pastor Brenda and Bethel Lutheran Church,

Dan and I want to thank you for the radical hospitality that we experienced throughout the week of July 12, culminating on Friday, July 16 with the memorial service for Neysha Rivera.

The radical welcome began when I, Sally, contacted Pastor Brenda to see if the church may be available for me to do a memorial service since I am not serving a congregation at this time. The service would be especially difficult due to the age of Neysha and the circumstances around her death. Pastor Brenda was responsive to my inquiry and did a great deal of legwork to see if it would be possible to hold the service at Bethel. In the end, not only was it possible, but Bethel offered a discount for the use of space and the availability of a staff person during our time in the building.

The welcome continued with Michael. He was open to my questions on a phone call the day prior to the service. Before the service, he responded willingly and lovingly to the grieving and anxious parents who were making extra requests (and a couple of requests from me, too).

Why am I giving such detail in my thank you? Because I wanted you to hear about the "vibe" that showed up throughout the entire interaction with Bethel Lutheran. Every encounter was consistent with its vibe of welcome and care. When there is a consistent vibe, the mission of Bethel is communicated clearly and is felt by those who interact with Bethel, like it was felt by us.

I imagine that this has been a really stressful year for you as it has with every congregation. And I imagine you may be nervous about the future, just like I think many others are, as well. In the midst of the possible concerns and questions, know that you are making a difference. Keep having this outward focus, for I am convinced that that is where God is calling us modern-day disciples to be even as we have our own struggles. No matter where we are, we can know that we are giving and serving in love, for the sake of Christ.

In Christ,

Pastors Dan and Sally Ankerfelt

BETHEL & COVID-19

The following reflects current guidelines for worship as determined by Bethel's Board of Administrators.

- We will meet outside as a default. Move inside if it is going to rain or the heat index temperature will be 88 or above by 11 AM.
- If we are outside, wear masks if there are children present – unless the child(ren)'s parent/guardian indicates they are comfortable with us being unmasked. If so, only those fully vaccinated can unmask.
- Those NOT fully vaccinated should always wear masks and physically distance at least 6 feet from others outside their family/pods.
- If we are inside, ALL must wear masks and physically distance themselves from other families/pods.
- Please continue to use hand sanitizer and behave in the safest ways possible.
- The kitchen is open. Anyone cooking or preparing any food or beverage for a group of people larger than 5 must wear masks while working. This is mostly in response to the requests from our two Casa congregations.
- Bethel will not have any official fellowship time that includes food or beverages until further notice.



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
1 10:30 AM Bethel Worship @ Minnehaha Falls 11:30 AM Bethel Fellowship 1:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Worship 1:30 PM MN CASA Worship 4:00 PM MN Casa Potluck	2	3 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 12:30 PM Virtual Text Study 7:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Music Practice	4 10:00 AM NHS Art G 12:00 PM Virtual Bi https://us02web.zoom
8 10:00 AM Bethel Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship: Kickball 1:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Worship 1:30 PM MN CASA Worship	9	10 9:00 AM Operation Love Quilters 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 12:30 PM Virtual Text Study 6:30 PM Virtual Mission Council https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/84515895120 7:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Music Practice	11 10:00 AM NHS Art G 12:00 PM Virtual Bi https://us02web.zoom
15 10:00 AM Bethel Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship: Washer Toss & Badminton 1:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Worship 1:30 PM MN CASA Worship	16	17 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 12:30 PM Virtual Text Study 6:30 PM Board of Administrators 7:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Music Practice	18 10:00 AM NHS Art G 12:00 PM HERALD I 12:00 PM Virtual Bi https://us02web.zoom
22 10:00 AM Bethel Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship: Fair Games 1:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Worship 1:30 PM MN CASA Worship	23	24 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 12:30 PM Virtual Text Study 7:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Music Practice	25 10:00 AM NHS Art G 12:00 PM Virtual Bi https://us02web.zoom
29 10:00 AM Bethel Worship 11:00 AM Fellowship: Fun & Games 1:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Worship 1:30 PM MN CASA Worship	30	31 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 12:30 PM Virtual Text Study 7:00 PM Pentecostal Casa Music Practice	

Bethel Fellowship Sundays after wors



Join us for fellowship fun after the service on **August 8th**. We will be playing a game of kickball in Bethel's backyard! Or bring your camp chair to cheer folks on and chat. All ages and speeds are welcome! Please come masked and ready to socialize.



Fun and games after the service on **August 15th**. Please join in for rousing games of washer toss and badminton! We look forward to spending time together having some fun after this past year and a half. Come as a spectator or a full participant! All ages and abilities welcome! We will be outside, in the backyard. Remember to bring your mask and be ready to practice good COVID precautions.

2021

Have you **updated and/or confirmed** your information in the Church Directory yet? Please email Susie at bethel@bethel-mpls.org or call 612-724-3693. We want to print the new directory ready for **Gathering Sunday, September 12th!**

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Group Bible Study https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81542792093	5 9:00 AM Music Together Class 6:00 PM MN CASA Service	6 6:00 PM Pentecostal Worship	7 9:00 AM AA Amigos 9:00 AM Debtors Anonymous 1:00 PM Colby's Birthday Party
Group Bible Study https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81542792093	12 9:00 AM Music Together Class 6:00 PM BNA Ice Cream Social 6:00 PM MN CASA Service	13 6:00 PM Pentecostal Worship	14 9:00 AM AA Amigos 9:00 AM Debtors Anonymous
Group Bible Study DEADLINE https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81542792093	19 9:00 AM Music Together Class 6:00 PM MN CASA Service	20 6:00 PM Pentecostal Worship 7:00 PM Movie Night: MUDBOUND https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83898066592 Discussion to follow	21 9:00 AM AA Amigos 9:00 AM Debtors Anonymous
Group Bible Study https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81542792093	26 6:00 PM MN CASA Service	27 6:00 PM Pentecostal Worship	28 9:00 AM AA Amigos 9:00 AM Debtors Anonymous

Pastor Brenda will be fishing with her vaccinated family members August 28th through September 4th. Please watch the bulletin for who will be on call. Thank you.



Fun & Games!

Fellowship at 11:00 AM



Pastor Brenda is known for her wealth of minute-to-win-it games. She has an encyclopedic knowledge of fun little games that can be played in under a minute such as "fling-the-chicken" and other such silliness. These games require no strenuous activity but a little dexterity and brainpower. Join us outside by the playground after the service on **August 22nd** for Fair Games Fellowship. All ages, abilities and guests welcome! Please bring a mask and a readiness to practice COVID safety. We hope to see you there!



If your birthday or anniversary is missing from this page, please let the office know so we can update our records!

Mike Greer	Aug 3	Frank Phillips	Aug 19
Malakai Keating	Aug 5	Troy Ramerth	Aug 20
Matt Psick	Aug 6	Kathy Hundt	Aug 24
Jim Haraldson	Aug 7	Jan Walker	Aug 24
Matthew Nordine	Aug 7	Sharon Warwick	Aug 26
Hunter Maddaus	Aug 8	Jen Kilps	Aug 27
Dan Hauge	Aug 10	Norma Lanning	Aug 28
Lizzy Kile	Aug 13	Amanda McCaughan	Aug 30
Irene Berke	Aug 14	Megan Psick	Aug 30
Tony Resendez	Aug 17		

David & Gabby Hauge	Aug 7
Kellie & Clint Riley	Aug 8
Mike & Grace Simons	Aug 8
Dan & Kathy Hundt	Aug 10
Ryan & Emily Kjesbo-Johnson	Aug 15
Barb & Bob Wandberg	Aug 23
Gail & Doug Hanson	Aug 26
Bev Berg & Mike Riley	Aug 29
Kathy Burk & Tim Berens	Aug 30



School Kits

Education is one of the strongest tools a community has to break the cycle of poverty. In addition to children, especially girls, adults also benefit from the kits. Currently, thirty backpacks are sewn. With stores featuring school supplies on sale, now is a good to purchase them.

SUPPLIES TO FILL THE BACKPACKS ARE:

- 70 sheet notebooks of wide-ruled paper
- 30-centimeter wood ruler
- Pencil sharpener
- Blunt scissors

- Unsharpened pencils with erasers
- Box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 2 ½ inch eraser
- Blue or black stick ballpoint pens, no gel ink



Items with any religious, military, flags, group emblems and names will not be accepted.

Please bring your items to the church or office by Sunday, September 5th.

Gathering Sunday Preparations

Don't tell the kids, but soon it will be time for school to start again! Which means it is time for our Gathering Sunday (aka Rally or Renewal Sunday).



Sunday, September 12, 2021 is also God's Work, Our Hands Sunday.

Initial plans include making school bags for Lutheran World Relief, Food, Fun, Volunteering at Bethel, and maybe some painting.

Here is where the preparations come in ... many, many things happen behind the scenes and out front on Sunday mornings which **we rely on YOU to do**. We need **YOU** out front being a cantor, reading our lesson, being assistant minister, acolyting, and serving communion. We need **YOU** behind the scenes setting up communion, ushering, running technology, fellowship prep and serving, and bringing things for fellowship.

WHAT WILL YOU DO to be a part of this ministry? Please come to worship on September 12 **ready to commit to something that happens** because ALL OF YOU agree to be a part of our Sunday mornings. **We have no age limits - so prep the kiddos too!** THANK YOU!



Photo by [Brittney Burnett](#) on [Unsplash](#)

And now for something completely different:

This ordinary season after Pentecost is often, well, ordinary. So let's try something different for August into September. *For Bible Study and Worship, I have chosen some of the oddest stories we can find in the Bible. A talking donkey, a day-long sermon, and kids calling Elisha names, just to name a few. Come to Bible Study to further explore and join us at Worship to have some fun! See you soon!*



Bible Study (And lessons for the following Sunday)

NOTE - **Bible Study Time has been changed to 12 NOON**
- instead of 11 AM

Wednesdays at NOON	Scripture	Story
August 4	2 Kings 2:19-25	Elisha is called 'baldy' by kids!
August 11	Numbers 22:21-38	A talking donkey?
August 18	Acts 20:7-12	A sermon is so long that someone dies.
August 25	Matthew 17:22-27	Catch a fish for money?
September 1	2 Kings 6:1-7	Iron floats in the Jordan.

Pray...

for those you know and don't know.

PRAYERS FOR OUR MEMBERS

Clarice Lovstuen	Cantu-Cannon Family
Mike & Grace Simons	Rosie Smith & Family
Mark & Jan Walker	Gloria Condon
Sharon Warwick	Marge Hauge
Marilyn Romsaas	Hundt Family
Ann Allison	Tom Keating
Mary Thone	Bresina Family
Judith Day	Teondre Martinez
Trudy Carlson	Crystal Vaughn
Audrey Campbell	Lynn Vaughn
Sheila Nelson	Jeff Fossum
Warwick Family	Mel Olson
Pikkarainen Family	Joan Dahlman
Laurel Jorgensen	Puckett Family
Sue Dorumsgaard Ayers	Andy Martinson
Kevin Hoover	Doris Christianson

MORE PEOPLE OF GOD

Black and Brown Lives
National Leaders
All of us regarding COVID-19
Indigenous Lives
Asian Lives
Migrants & Asylum seekers
Palestinians in Gaza

MEMBERS, RELATIVES & FRIENDS IN THE SERVICE

Robert Hundt
Katrell Bishop (Pr Brenda's nephew)
Adam Froisland (Pr Brenda's nephew)
Dwana Froisland (Pr Brenda's niece)
Brian Hansen (Kaka Day's husband)
Aaron Larson (Rosie Smith's grandson)
Sean Young (Pr Brenda's godson)

RELATIVES & FRIENDS

Steven Keating (Tom's son)
Linden Oyen (Jen's friend)
Bill Chilvers (Mary's dad)
Manda (Jen's sister)
Vicki (Sheila Nelson's sister)
Bill Shy (Assistant Custodian)
Nini & Brenda (Christian Ledesma's
uncle & aunt)
Betty (Christian Ledesma's mom)
Gretchen (Larissa Hoover's mom)
Kristian (Pr B's bestie)
Bob (Sue Dorumsgaard Ayers' uncle)
Ray (AnnE Keating's brother)
Darlene (Jeff Alberts' mom)
Susan (Mike Condon's sister)
Steve (Pr B's brother)
Cherril (Candy Hickenbotham's friend)
Susan & Dale (Wendy Ledesma's parents)
Sue & Wayne (Karen Warwick's parents)
Rhonda (Sheila Nelson's friend)
Joni (Sheila Nelson's cousin)
Rev. Ron Schuette (Dave's father)
Joanne Wilberg (Marge Hauge's sister)
Gabe Ness (Julie Hundt's husband)
John Hundt (Kathy Hundt's brother-in-law)
Ann Baskett (Crystal Vaughn's grandmother)
Andrea (Mona Falk's daughter)

OUR MISSION PARTNERS

- ❖ Bancroft Neighborhood Association
- ❖ Bread of Life Deaf Lutheran Church BOLD
 - ❖ Casa de Oracion - MN
 - ❖ Casa de Oracion - Pentecostal
- ❖ Every Meal
- ❖ Mpls Area Synod
- ❖ Nokomis Healthy Seniors
- ❖ ReconcilingWorks

BETHEL HERALD

**Bethel Lutheran, South Minneapolis
4120 17th Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55407**

www.bethel-mpls.org 612-724-3693

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A Reconciling in Christ Congregation*

BETHEL'S RACIAL JUSTICE INITIATIVE PRESENTS

**ZOOM
MOVIE
NIGHT**



Laura McAllan is trying to raise her children on her husband's Mississippi Delta farm, a place she finds foreign and frightening. In the midst of the family's struggles, two young men return from the war to work the land. Jamie McAllan, Laura's brother-in-law, is everything her husband is not - charming and handsome, but he is haunted by his memories of combat. Ronsel Jackson, eldest son of the black sharecroppers who live on the McAllan farm, now battles the prejudice in the Jim Crow South.

Friday, August 20 @ 7pm
+ discussion after

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83898066592>

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