



Volume 89

Number 8

August 2025

PASTOR'S PONDERINGS

Good day dear children of God,

A friend of mine from Ohio came and visited friends and family this past month and we had a whole afternoon of delightful, hard, and meaningful conversations. One statement she made continues to stick with me, and I appreciate that it has stayed. She said, *"My aunt always taught me that if you have time to worry, you have time to pray."*

Now maybe some of you have heard this statement before, but not me. It makes so much sense, and has given me a boost to remember that God is always here, in the midst of the chaos that we call 'LIFE'.

We spent the afternoon talking about politics, religion, broken relationships, difficult prognoses, and the hard work all people must do to become who God created each of us to be. Indeed, we know each other well enough to know how much work each of us have had to do to become who we are today. We also know there is still room for us to learn more about God's intention for us. As you may be able to guess, we had a wonderful afternoon.

This reminded me of a story about my mom, Belva. Mom used to work at an intake office in Webster County (Iowa) where she and two other co-workers would work with people who needed WIC, SNAP, energy assistance, and the like. There was one woman who came to the office on a regular basis and mom's two co-workers were always very frustrated with her. To the point of every time they saw this woman approaching the

office they would both say, "Belva, you get this one!" Mom would agree.

Each time my mom would sit with her and get all the information needed to apply for whatever assistance was needed that day. The woman would complain about everything in life, and mom would listen and cleverly get the information needed. The woman would leave carrying a little smaller burden on her back, and my mom would be just fine. She did not need to vent or complain about the woman. This always surprised her co-workers.

"Belva, how do you tolerate her so well? We cannot stand that woman." And my mom's immediate answer was, "Oh, well as soon as I see her in the parking lot, I start praying for her and I do not stop until she steps out the door."

Friends, this is another lesson I have learned about prayer, and I hope both lessons stick with me the rest of my life. Prayer changes things! Maybe we do not see the end results immediately or even in our lifetime, but prayer changes things. We may notice the change it makes in our own lives, heart, and soul – even if we never see a change in someone or something else.

When I teach confirmation class, I often talk about prayer and the different ways that we can pray. I include a list something like this (not all inclusive):

- Siren prayers – every time you hear a siren, pray for everyone involved
- Worry prayers – if something is heavy on your heart, pray
- Bandaid prayers – someone is hurt, pray for them (include yourself)

- Body prayers – we do it every Sunday together
- Whisper prayers, shouting prayers, silent prayers, popcorn prayers
- Color your prayers, journal your prayers, breathe your prayers, meditate
- Prayers of thanksgiving, confession, help, concerns, praise, faith, hope
- Prayers for a new day, meal, protection, peace, kindness, bedtime

The list goes on and on and on and on. *Please, dear ones, always remember that prayer changes things and God is always listening.*



With you, for Jesus,

Pastor Brenda



POP-UP VOCAL CHOIR

Sunday, August 17

Rehearsal 9:15am

Join us on Sunday, August 17 for our Pop-up Vocal Choir! Participants will join us for rehearsal at 9:15am in the sanctuary, then sing in worship at 10am. This is a perfection-free zone and a good way to see if you'd like to join our choir starting in September.

ALL ARE WELCOME, WITHOUT EXCEPTION!

Introducing Our New Custodians!



Kingston (He/Him) is 17 years old and going into his senior year at Twin Cities Academy in St. Paul. He enjoys biking, video games, and movies. He also plays basketball and does track and field.

Kari (She/They) is an astronomer and has a black cat named "Pan." Her favorite food is pizza and she is the oldest of two children. She goes to Atonement Lutheran Church in Bloomington, where her mother is the pastor.



BERNIE'S MUSIC UPDATE

It's the middle of summer. We are in Ordinary Time, the longest part of the church year between Pentecost and Advent. It's warm in the sanctuary, the crickets are chirping, and maybe we missed that second (or first!) cup of coffee this morning. Can you hear what people are saying on the way to their seats on Sunday morning? Shh, let's take a listen:

"How many Sundays is it since Pentecost?"

"Hmm, 12, 13, 14...I've lost count."

"I see that the paraments on the altar are green...unlike my lawn."

"Well, at least you don't have to mow it every week."

"Wasn't it fun to hear that, what's it called, 'Pop-Tart' Handbell Choir last month?"

"Yes! But I think that was 'Pop-UP,' dear. Speaking of choirs, when does the vocal choir sing this Summer?"

<RECORD SCRATCHING NOISE> Hey! The wait is over: Pop-Up Choir is here!

We will sing on Sunday, August 17. If you want to try singing in the choir, or it's been a while since you last sang, please join us! It's a pop-up sing – one and done – in a perfection-free zone. We will sing Marty Haugen's "Shepherd Me, O God," so if you don't read music, you can sing the melody. We will rehearse at 9:15 in the sanctuary, and sing during worship. Just drop in. If you know you'll join us, please tell me ahead of time.

The new choir season is around the corner with Rally Sunday on September 14. Stay tuned for rehearsal starting dates for Handbell Choir and Bethel Choir.

Stay cool, drink water, and keep singing, playing, and praying.

Peace and Grace,

Bernie Asher

music2023@bethel-mpls.org



BETHEL'S **FREE** rally sunday SEPTEMBER 14, 2025

This event is **FREE** and open to the public.
ALL ARE WELCOME!

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AT 10AM
OR AFTER FOR:

- **FREE PICNIC**
- **BOUNCE HOUSE**
- **YARD GAMES**
- **SERVICE PROJECT**

Help us put together school bags
filled with school supplies for
Lutheran World Relief to distribute.



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



Bethel is

Education is one of the strongest tools a community can use to break the cycle of poverty. Children, especially girls, and some adults benefit from these kits. Currently, thirty-one backpacks are sewn. More are being made. With stores featuring sales on school supplies, now is a good time to purchase them.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES TO FILL THE BACKPACKS ARE:

- 70-sheet notebooks of wide-ruled paper
- 30-centimeter ruler
- Pencil sharpener
- Blunt scissors
- Unsharpened #2 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 or military symbols, flags, group emblems, or names cannot be accepted.

Contact Sharon Rodi for more information: nord@minter.net

thrivent[®]

**THERE'S STILL TIME TO BECOME A
THRIVENT ASSOCIATE MEMBER:**

For \$19.95 you can become a Thrivent Associate Member.

Associate Members can give a \$250 grant to Bethel. To apply, click the QR code and follow the steps.

Once you have applied to be an associate member, please contact Bethel for more information on the next steps.

Thank you!

bethel@bethel-mpls.org

Apply now:



ELLIE'S GRANTS UPDATE

Hello Everyone,

I am writing this update just a few days after our July 10th Community Fun Night, which was a blast. We grilled some hot dogs, spontaneously shared a meal with our friends at CANMN, and had fun learning some basic dance steps for salsa, bachata, cha-cha, and more. Whether you were the next dance prodigy or holding on to the rhythm for dear life, it was such a joy to share this evening with all of you who could attend. I also can't stop thinking about how much fun it would be to hold a similar event someday on our PATIO!

Yes, I am thrilled to announce that the grant application I mentioned in my last update was approved! The Southside Legacy Fund has granted us a helpful sum to get our plans for the renovation of the West Entrance in motion. The project is still very much in its early stages, but now we have the opportunity to dream about all that this multi-use patio space can be. I'd like to include a passage from the application that we submitted, because I think our former grant manager, Rev. Michelle Lewis, did an amazing job of imagining its potential:

"We [...] envision using the space as a way to continue to shift the purpose of our building and our facilities, from an inside-focus to a neighbor-focus.

Can you hear the outdoor concerts on the deck? Can you

see the Raptors demonstration? Can you feel the soft fur of the rabbits that the MN Companion Rabbit organization has brought to the Bethel deck for a program? Grab a cup of coffee and a pastry from the food truck at the curb and join us for a fun Saturday morning or Thursday evening in the summer."

I, of course, can't make any promises that there will in fact be companion rabbits on the deck at some point in the future, but I encourage you to dream about what Bethel can be to the community, and what projects like this can mean. No matter how the final details shake out, or when it is ultimately finished, I know that this patio will be a wonderful addition to our outdoor space and a great way to connect with our neighbors.

One final housekeeping note before I sign off: if you signed up to sponsor an upcoming project with a Thrivent Action Team grant and have not applied for the grant yet, please get in touch or stop by the office so we can help you with your application. The process only takes a few minutes and is relatively painless (I promise). We'd love to help you sponsor our next great event or volunteer project!

Have a lovely rest of your month, and happy dreaming,



All my best,

Ellie Erb

grantmanager@bethel-mpls.org

FEASIBILITY UPDATE

The Feasibility Study Team is beginning its third year of work. We've done a lot of exploring in two years but are still looking for the best fit for Bethel for the future. At this time we are working on three main areas:

1. Circling back to contacts we have made in the past that weren't interested in further conversations with us at the time but may be ready to talk now.

2. Finding out more about the lease and contract regarding the monopoly in our parking lot. Legal terms may affect possibilities for future/new uses of our parking lot.

3. Reaching out to Luther Seminary, which will be selling its property and going mostly online. Maybe they would be interested in using Bethel as a physical space for some of their needs – it's an idea worth exploring!

As always, please keep our work in your prayers and be on the lookout for any possible partnerships that we might explore.

Thank you!

Laurie Hauge, Ann Allison, Gene Rodi, Don Olson, Pastor Brenda, and Jim Lair, Chair

feasibility@bethel-mpls.org

MINISTRY CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
27 10:00am Bethel Worship 11:00am Fellowship Time 12:00pm Mahibere Conference 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 7:00pm A Holy Experiment (AT ATONEMENT, NOT BETHEL) 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA	28 Bethel Office Closed 8:00am Camp Breakaway Check-in 6:00pm Queer Safe Space 6:00pm Talk Sessions 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA	29 7:00am AA Meditation 9:30am OA HOW Meeting 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 6:30pm Scout Troop 38 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA 7:00pm Pentecostal Casa Music	30 9:30am Ensemble Music Class 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 6:30pm Continuous Action Awareness 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA
3 10:00am Bethel Worship 11:00am Fellowship Time 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA	4 Bethel Office Closed 10:00am CANMN Intake 6:00pm Queer Safe Space 6:00pm Talk Sessions 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA	5 7:00am AA Meditation 9:30am OA HOW Meeting 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 6:30pm Scout Troop 38 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA 7:00pm Pentecostal Casa Music	6 9:30am Ensemble Music Class 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 6:30pm Continuous Action Awareness 6:30pm Nokomis Quilters 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA
10 10:00am Bethel Worship 11:00am Fellowship Time 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 7:00pm A Holy Experiment 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA	11 Bethel Office Closed 6:00pm Queer Safe Space 6:00pm Talk Sessions 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA 7:00pm Troop 38 Committee Meeting 8:00pm Bridge to Shore AA - Meeting	12 7:00am AA Meditation 9:30am OA HOW Meeting 9:30am Operation Love Quilters 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 1:00pm NHS Grief Support Group 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 6:30pm Mission Council 6:30pm Scout Troop 38 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA 7:00pm Pentecostal Casa Music	13 9:30am Ensemble Music Class 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 6:30pm Continuous Action Awareness 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA
17 9:15am Pop-Up Choir Rehearsal 10:00am Bethel Worship 11:00am Fellowship Time 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA	18 Bethel Office Closed 10:00am CANMN Intake 6:00pm Queer Safe Space 6:00pm Talk Sessions 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA	19 7:00am AA Meditation 9:30am OA HOW Meeting 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 4:00pm NHS Board Meeting 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 6:30pm Scout Troop 38 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA 7:00pm Pentecostal Casa Music	20 9:30am Ensemble Music Class 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 6:30pm Continuous Action Awareness 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA 7:30pm Continuous Action Leadership Herald Deadline 12:00pm
24 10:00am Bethel Worship 11:00am Fellowship Time 1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 7:00pm A Holy Experiment (AT ATONEMENT, NOT BETHEL) 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA	25 Bethel Office Closed 6:00pm Queer Safe Space 6:00pm Talk Sessions 7:00pm Bridge to Shore AA 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA	26 7:00am AA Meditation 9:30am OA HOW Meeting 10:00am NHS Exercise 10:00am Staff Meeting 11:00am NHS 500 Cards Group 5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross 6:30pm Scout Troop 38 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA 7:00pm Pentecostal Casa Music	27 10:00am NHS Women's Art Group 10:00am NHS Yoga 12:00pm Hybrid Bible Study 6:30pm Continuous Action Awareness 7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA

AR — AUGUST 2025

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>s group</p> <p>A AA</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9:30am NHS Nurse Is In/Blood Pressure</p> <p>10:00am NHS Exercise</p> <p>3:00pm CANMN Distribution</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p> <p>7:00pm Up the Creek AA</p>	<p>1</p> <p>9:30am Ensemble Music Class</p> <p>11:30am Camp Breakaway Check-Out</p> <p>6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p>	<p>2</p> <p>9:00am AA Amigos</p> <p>10:00am Memorial for Regan's Aunt</p> <p>11:00am CANMN Deliveries</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p>
<p>s group</p> <p>A AA</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:00am NHS Foot Care</p> <p>9:30am NHS Nurse Is In/Blood Pressure</p> <p>10:00am NHS Exercise</p> <p>11:00am NHS Senior Discussion Group</p> <p>3:00pm CANMN Distribution</p> <p>7:00pm BNA Board Meeting</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p> <p>7:00pm Up the Creek AA</p> <p>8:00pm Up the Creek AA Meeting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>9:30am Ensemble Music Class</p> <p>6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00am AA Amigos</p> <p>10:00am Gibbs Farm with BOLD</p> <p>11:00am CANMN Deliveries</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p>
<p>s group</p> <p>A AA</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30am NHS Nurse Is In/Blood Pressure</p> <p>10:00am NHS Exercise</p> <p>11:15am NHS Lunch and Bingo/Movie</p> <p>3:00pm CANMN Distribution</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p> <p>7:00pm Up the Creek AA</p>	<p>15</p> <p>9:30am Ensemble Music Class</p> <p>3:00pm Champions Gym Event</p> <p>6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:00am AA Amigos</p> <p>11:00am CANMN Deliveries</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p>
<p>s group</p> <p>A AA</p> <p>Leadership Meeting</p> <p>6:00pm</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:30am NHS Nurse Is In/Blood Pressure</p> <p>10:00am NHS Exercise</p> <p>11:00am NHS Support As We Are</p> <p>3:00pm CANMN Distribution</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p> <p>7:00pm Up the Creek AA</p>	<p>22</p> <p>9:30am Ensemble Music Class</p> <p>6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p>	<p>23</p> <p>9:00am AA Amigos</p> <p>11:00am CANMN Deliveries</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p>
<p>group</p> <p>A AA</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:30am NHS Nurse Is In/Blood Pressure</p> <p>10:00am NHS Exercise</p> <p>11:00am NHS Caregiver Support Group</p> <p>12:30pm Diabetes Support Group</p> <p>3:00pm CANMN Distribution</p> <p>7:00pm Board of Administrators</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p> <p>7:00pm Up the Creek AA</p>	<p>29</p> <p>6:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00am AA Amigos</p> <p>11:00am CANMN Deliveries</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</p> <hr/> <p>31 (SUNDAY)</p> <p>10:00am Bethel Worship</p> <p>11:00am Fellowship Time</p> <p>1:00pm Pentecostal Casa Worship</p> <p>5:30pm Minneapolis Jo - Dave Cross</p> <p>7:00pm El Nuevo Despertar AA</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.

8/6	Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16
8/13	Y is for Yak Gen 2:19
8/20	Z is for Zacchaeus Luke 19:1-10
8/27	P is for Puah Exodus 1:15-22

CHURCH STAFF AND LEADERSHIP

Rev. Brenda Froisland, Pastor:

pastor@bethel-mpls.org

Operations Manager:

Regan Saunders

bethel@bethel-mpls.org

Music:

Bernie Asher, Music Director

music2023@bethel-mpls.org

Anne Phillips, Musician

musician2023@bethel-mpls.org

Office Manager:

Margaret Borg

office@bethel-mpls.org

Building Facilitator:

Kristian Ask

building@bethel-mpls.org

Assistant Custodians:

Michael Hauge, Kingston Normil, Bill Shy,
Kari Strommen-Campbell, Josh Weber,
and Franklin Wohnoutka

Grant Manager

Ellie Erb

grantmanager@bethel-mpls.org

Finance Coordinator:

Teresa O'Brien

assttreas@bethel-mpls.org

Visitation Minister

Susan Johnson

visitation@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
8/3	Susan Johnson	Sharon Rodi	Bernie Asher	Stephanie Johnson	Norris	Gene and Ted	Alice Evenson	Barb and Barb
8/10	Anna Olsen	Anna Wohnoutka	Dean Anderson	Marilyn Newborg	Dean and Dave S	Gene and Ted	Sharon Rodi	Barb and Barb
8/17	Sharon Rodi	Anna Olsen	Janet Anderson	Clarice Lovstuen	Susan and Jerry	Gene and Ted	Joan Bargman	Barb and Barb
8/24	Kristin Cleary	Dan Hauge	Sarah Berke	Marilyn Newborg	Dave K and Norris	Gene and Ted	Laurie Hauge	Barb and Barb
8/31	Ann Allison	Darlene Olson	Kristin Cleary	Marilyn Newborg	Dave K and Norris	Gene and Ted	Wohnoutkas	Barb and Barb



AUGUST

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

Harold Cross	2
Matt Psick	6
Matthew Nordine	7
Hunter Maddaus	8
Dan Hauge	10
Regan Saunders	10
Irene Berke	14
Frank Phillips	19
Troy Ramerth	20
Kathy Hundt	24
Jan Walker	24
Cassandra Herrmann	27
Norma Lanning	28
Megan Psick	30

Anniversaries

Dan and Kathy Hundt	10
Ryan and Emily Kjesbo-Johnson	15
Bob and Barb Wandberg	23
Gail and Doug Hanson	26
Bev Berg and Mike Riley	29

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

Sunday School

AT BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

SUNDAYS AT 10:15AM — STARTING SEPTEMBER 21, 2025



**REGISTER
HERE:**



Registration is preferred, but not required. By registering, we will be able to communicate with you in the event of any changes to the schedule.

PRAYER list...

PRAY FOR BETHEL MEMBERS

Mike Wohnoutka	Karen McBride
Dave and Libby Krogh	Laurel Jorgensen
Hoover Family	Kevin Hoover
Leonard and Sharon	Gloria Condon
Phillips	Hundt Family
David and Sue	Puckett Family
Dorumsgaard Ayers	Darrell Dahl
Joyce Hughes	Walker Family
Jerry Johnson	Cannon Family
Darlene Olson	Warwick Family
Gert Carlson	Pikkarainen Family
Jan Walker	
Larissa Hoover	

MORE PEOPLE OF GOD

- Victims of natural and human disasters
- People of Ukraine, Israeli Citizens, Iranian 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

MEMBERS, RELATIVES AND FRIENDS IN THE SERVICE

Katrel Bishop (Pr B's nephew)
Adam Froisland (Pr B's nephew)
Evan Harrison (Pr B's great nephew)

PRAY FOR OUR RELATIVES AND FRIENDS

Ruth Ann (Pr B's sister)
Ian (Pr B's friend)
Eric (Pr Brenda and Mary's family friend)
Teresa (Susan and Jerry's friend)
Julian (Jan Walker's friend)
Kevin Johnson and family (Les' brother)
Beth (Dan Hauge's sister)
Kristian (Pr B's friend)
Kathy (Krogh Family friend)
Steve (Pr B's brother)
Michael (Marilyn Newborg's brother)
Donovan (Angel Cannon's father)
Laura (Sue Dorumsgaard Ayers' friend)
Rita (Sharon Phillips' friend)
Calvin (Angel Cannon's godfather)
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)

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
or the Office: bethel@bethel-mpls.org
(612) 724-3693

BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS

Greetings from your Board of Administrators!

In the midst of summer, there is activity all around us here at Bethel.

As we prepare for our next board meeting, I'm incredibly grateful for the dedicated work of our staff and members/volunteers, taking care of business by getting insurance payments and repair proposals for our roof, seeking out marketing and outreach opportunities, and identifying investments in our physical space that can better meet the needs of future rental partners. Some folks at Bethel are even already spending time thinking through plans for snow removal, knowing that winter will soon enough follow this warm summer weather.

We'll be discussing all this and more in late July, our first official meeting of the new board year. By the way, we are

still seeking self- or third-party nominations for another board member for our open (at-large) seat for this new board term. Please reach out with questions or to express interest! We're a fun group, we start and end meetings on time, and board service can really be what you make it. Consider joining us -- or "volun-tell" someone you think would be great.

In peace and service,

Sarah Berke

On behalf of the Board

MISSION COUNCIL REPORT

This Sunday the familiar Good Samaritan story was the sermon topic. The Pastor asked the questions: How do we respond to the needs of others in the way that God calls us to? How do we fulfill God's desire for us to "love your neighbor as yourself"? This command is at the heart of what the Mission Council strives to do. The August School Supply Collection is one way we can help our neighbors both near and far. Also, the Little Free Pantry is being used more and more, and donations to the pantry are another way we can help.

At July's meeting, the Mission Council approved purchasing small identification signs for the many different species of trees planted on Bethel's land. A big thank you to Janet Anderson for all her hard work on this. We hope the tree signs will help make Bethel's land more relevant for the community and encourage community members to enjoy the area around Bethel. We are always on the lookout for opportunities to engage and serve our neighbors at home and around the world, so please let us know if you have any ideas.

Susan Johnson

On behalf of the Mission Council

STEWARDSHIP UPDATE

For this year's Stewardship campaign leading up to Promise Sunday on November 9, we're continuing to use resources from Sanctified Art. Our theme is "God's Grace - Release and Restore." One definition of release is "to relieve from something that confines, burdens, or oppresses."

At our worship service on June 1, a poem by Ted Loder was read that ended with this line: "Release me from being possessed by riches I do not need and grievances that worry me, when you call me to share my very self with neighbors and to reflect for the world the light of the kingdom within me."

I like this quote from Sanctified Art: "Faith has always involved letting go, releasing, setting free, dropping our nets, giving to others, and following." What might we need to release as individuals, in groups we belong to, as Bethel Lutheran Church? Do we have disappointments, fears or frustrations that are holding us back? There aren't easy answers to these questions! But we are encouraged to release them so we can (as Pastor Brenda says) be the hands and feet and heart and voice and mind to take care of creation.

Thanks for reading!

Kristin Cleary

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.

SAVE THE DATE

for these events at Bethel

●	AUGUST	●
	Collecting School Supplies	
●	SEPTEMBER	●
	14 Rally Sunday	
●	OCTOBER	●
	26 Trunk or Treat	
●	NOVEMBER	●
	2 All Saints Sunday	
	8 2nd Saturday Concert	
	20 Give to the Max Day	
●	DECEMBER	●
	11 Community Fun Night	
	13 2nd Saturday Concert	

Stay tuned for more information on these events.