

Bethel Lutheran Church

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PROUD OF OUR PAST

FAITH IN OUR FUTURE

MISSION STATEMENT

Because of God's grace, we will prayerfully share the Gospel through Word and Sacrament with as many people as possible.

Worship Sundays at 9:30AM

Bethel's Church Council will meet Sunday, October 12 at 6PM.

Please Note: Pastor Arledge is retiring. As such, his last day of leading our services will be Sunday, October 12. We thank Pastor Arledge for his years of faithful leadership.

Council News and Notes

Immediately after the service on 9/7/14, the annual congregational meeting was held. Provided below is a summary of the business activities approved:

- October 1, 2014 - September 30, 2015 Budget was unanimously approved. The total budget projection is \$194,885 for this church year. This budget includes:
 - General offering of \$127,000
 - fundraising activities totaling \$4,500
 - rental income of \$18,500 (Preschool and Child Care and Sovereign Grace Fellowship Church)

Good of the Order

Council recognizes and thanks the following for their service to and for Bethel:

- the Women's Group for their generous donation of \$5,000 to our general operating fund
- The volunteer painters of the Fellowship Hall: Mike and Jen, Leslie, Cindy, Ron and Linda, Sue, Hector, Libby, Maddie, and Kathleen
- Mike and Jen for purchasing and Ron for installing the new fans in Fellowship Hall
- The 50th Anniversary Committee for the dinner on Saturday and the Continental Breakfast on Sunday: Leslie, Norma, Deb, Dianne, Sue, Amber, Mike, Sher, and Mike
- The quilts from the Women's Group
- Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Debt Reduction
- Special Music: the Adult Choir, Hand bell choir, Karen, Sandy, Don, and Tristan

Welcome Back Choirs!!!

Sr. Choir Practice - Wednesdays @ 7:30pm
Hand Bell Choir – Thursdays, October 9 & 16 @ 7PM

Preparing for Advent

Our Wednesday Advent services will be held on December 3 (dinner and devotions, set up Boutique floor plan), December 10, and 17. Everyone is invited to attend the Advent Supper at 6PM, followed by the weekly study at 7PM.

Read a good book lately?

The Bethel Book Club will meet Sunday, October 19 to discuss *Devil in the White City* by Erik Larson. The discussion will be held at the Kathie's home and will begin at 7PM. Everyone is welcome to attend. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share as well as ideas and suggestions for future reads!

Calling All Bethel Elves!

Boutique Workshops will be held at Gunda's house on Thursday evenings in October and November, beginning at 7PM. Please join us for some creative craft time!

Dates for Workshops....mark your calendar!:

- | | |
|--------|--------|
| Oct 2 | Oct 30 |
| Oct 9 | Nov 6 |
| Oct 16 | Nov 13 |
| Oct 23 | Nov 20 |

**2014 Christmas Progressive Dinner
December 13**

The Bethel Women have been preparing for the 32nd Annual Progressive Dinner scheduled for Saturday evening, Dec. 13 beginning at 6:30pm. Please make plans today to join your Bethel family for great food and Christmas fellowship.

If you would be interested in hosting the appetizers, main course or desserts at your home, please contact Norma. There are three ways you can take part in this fun event! Our members bring (1) appetizers or (2) desserts to the event, with the cost of the entrée defrayed through (3) donations (\$7.50 per person) toward the side dishes which are coordinated by Norma and the hostess / host. Please note: we had many donations last years, so ask that you consider bringing an appetizer or dessert to the event this year.

The reservation form is below. If you know you will be attending, please complete the form and return it to Norma or the church office. The cost per person of this incredible evening only \$15.00! But we assure you, you can't find the fun, fellowship and fabulous food for such a bargain price anywhere else! A good time will be had by all! Join your Bethel family for the Progressive Dinner December 13th!

**2014 Christmas Progressive Dinner
December 13**

Name _____ **# Attending** _____

Paid _____ **(\$15 / person)**

Appetizer _____; **\$7.50/ person Veg. Donation** _____; **Dessert** _____

Save Your Acme Receipts!

The Women's Group is registered to participate in the Community Cash Back Program sponsored by Acme Markets. The program collection period kicked off September 18 and will run through February 1. The church will receive 5% cash back on Acme brand purchases (Acme Fresh Market, Academix, Dosmetix, Electrix, Food Club, Full Circle, Paws, Top Care, ValuTime, and World Classics). Please start collecting your Acme receipts (dated after September 18) and bring them to the church. Receipts can be placed in the marked collection box located in Fellowship Hall or placed in Joan's or Vicki's mailbox.

Christmas Eve Services

Yes, we realize Christmas is still a little ways off, but it will be here before you know it, so we'd like to take the opportunity to invite you, your family and friends to worship with us each Sunday in December at 9:30AM. In addition to our regular Sunday worship, we will also have two Christmas Eve worship opportunities. Our 7PM Family Service will be held at the church, then we will gather together at 11PM for our Christmas Eve Worship Service at Hale Farm and Village. Both of these services offer a wonderful worship experience for the entire family. Please plan on joining us.

BYG News and Notes

The Bethel Youth Group will meet on the second and fourth Sundays of the month this year. The meetings will begin at 7 and are done around 8:30PM.

Bethel Women's Christmas Boutique - ELF Time!

The 45th Bethel Christmas Boutique is scheduled for December 5-7, 2014. Please consider making a craft, knitting a blanket, baking cookies, designing a floral arrangement, ... now is the time to start preparing your handmade items. We are planning to have another terrific boutique this year! Workshops at Gunda's house are scheduled Thursday nights in October and November. Dates include: October 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 and November 6, 13 and 20.

Education News and Notes



Yes, our Sunday School classes are in full swing and we're having a great time with your kids! This year our Sunday School curriculum is *Holy Moly!* We would really like to see everyone each and every week throughout the school year as we live and learn together as Christians!

The deadline for the November By Line is October 20.

Making work work for you!

Does your job come with benefits? Taking advantage of them may be cost-effective and help you improve your financial situation. Here are a few ways:

- **Enroll in your 401(k):** Enrolling in this type of retirement account offers tax deductions and tax-deferred growth.
 - **Get the match:** If your employer offers a 401(k) match, contribute enough to get the full match. If you don't, you're missing out on free money.
 - **Review how your dollars are allocated:** Review your portfolio each year, and if necessary, rebalance. Be sure to keep in mind your risk tolerance, as well as how long you plan to keep your money invested. Review these assets and your other investments.
- **Take advantage of flexible spending accounts:** These accounts allow you to contribute pre-tax dollars to use during the year to pay eligible medical and child care expenses. Be sure to use wisely.
- **Add-on insurance:** Many employers allow employees to buy additional life and disability insurance coverage at a low cost.

For help understanding and making work work for you, contact Brian or Stephanie McCarty, CFP® at (330)668-4720 or brian.mccarty@thrivent.com or Stephanie.mccarty@thrivent.com today, or visit Thrivent.com.