

Advent Season

Remember that our Midweek Holden Evening Prayer at 6:30pm is shared with Resurrection Lutheran Church. Please come to pause and pray at both churches!



How does a weary world rejoice?

An Advent series in Luke's Gospel

Wednesday, November 29th at 6:30pm Holden Evening Prayer at Bethel

Saturday, December 2nd at 9am Women's Advent Breakfast

Sunday, December 3rd at 9am 2nd Sunday of Advent with the Choir Singing
with Adventfest Crafts and fellowship following worship

Wednesday, December 6th at 6:30pm Holden at Resurrection Lutheran Church
(1024 Shawano Ave)

Sunday, December 10th at 9am 3rd Sunday of Advent with the Tone Chimes
Budget Meeting after worship

Wednesday, December 13th at 6:30pm Holden at Bethel

Sunday, December 17th at 9am 4th Sunday of Advent with the Choir Singing

Wednesday, December 20th at 6:30pm Longest Night Worship at Resurrection Lutheran Church

3rd Annual Adventfest Crafts

After worship on **Sunday, December 3rd** we will have crafts and fellowship downstairs. The busy elves (Sharon Hilla, Pegi BeDell & Cindy Michalski) have again put together some great crafts to add to your Advent decor. We will be adding the wise ones to the block nativity that we started last year (you can still do last year's Holy Family if you missed last year), along with a couple other easy crafts. Friends and family are welcome! Even if you don't like crafts, stay for the fellowship.

If you are able, please help bring snacks: Apple cider, quick breads, muffins, and cookies are all welcome snacks to share.



Christmas Eve Worship

4pm Worship with Communion, Candle Lighting, & Tone Chime Choir

9pm Worship with Communion, Candle Lighting, & Bethel Choir

Note: We will not be having worship on
Christmas Eve morning (Sunday) or Christmas Day

From the Desk of Pastor Kim

The first advent was about the arrival of God into a world of woe, and every advent since invites us to grapple with what Jesus's coming means to our fraught landscapes now. The advent narratives orient us toward a lifetime of faithfulness to the God of liberation, love and peace. How do we rejoice in this time of weariness?

The Patriarchs and Heads of the Churches in Jerusalem sent a [LETTER](#) to their churches acknowledging the atmosphere of sadness and pain. They called upon them to stand strong, to forego any unnecessarily festive activities, and focus on the spiritual meaning of Christmas as all pray for a just and lasting peace for *God is with us*.

Even in our daily trials and tribulations, *God is with us*. On Wed, Dec 20th at Resurrection, we will have a Weary Worship or Longest Night Worship where we name our fears, tears, and joy for this season. We will lift up prayers, knowing that God is listening. O Come, O Come Emmanuel!

Online Digital Devotional

The liturgy we are using this season comes with a very good Advent Devotional and a set of cards that can be used for your daily use. Copies of both can be found in the church lounge. [HERE](#) is a digital version of the devotional.

Decorating for Advent

Thanks to Marsha & Doug Scholes, Jennifer Scholes for making our new Advent paraments and for creating the advent lighting display. Thanks to Bonnie Madsen for decorating the sanctuary. Thanks to Kathy Long and Debbie Kausaulke for helping to put up the Christmas tree and to the Martin's for decorating it later this month.



How Does A Weary World Rejoice?

I think delayed Christmas cards count-
the ones with the haphazard stamps,
mailed three weeks late.

I think the way you get down on all fours
to be close to your dog
and your cousin's baby counts;
it's a holy routine.

I think the way you stretch your body awake
and breathe deeply when you rise counts;
that's Yahweh in your lungs.

I think the extra second you spent
looking at the sky last night
and not being afraid to dance counts.
So does giving up your seat on the subway
for someone's grandfather,
helping her carry the stroller up the stairs,
and running to catch the man who
dropped his bag in the crosswalk.

Lighting candles when the sun disappears,
laughing so hard others begin to stare,
and pausing to look at trees every
once in a while to say

"Good job with that one, God"
all definitely counts;
as do mumbled prayers
and children's prayers
and every measure of music.

How does a weary world rejoice?

I would guess
soul by soul and day by day.

But if you ask me,
I bet most all of it counts.



Mission Opportunities

Resurrection Food Pantry Items always needed include: canned fruit & vegetables, baked beans, canned meals, Jello. They also are always in need of laundry soap. Currently there is great need for paper bags and plastic bags (w/no holes).

NEW Community Shelter Meal will be served in collaboration with Trinity and Resurrection churches on **Sunday, December 10th**. Six dozen bars/cookies are needed for this meal. Please sign up on the bulletin board.

Salvation Army Senior Lunch Meal will be prepared on **Monday, January 15th**. Please sign-up on the bulletin board (later in December) for items needed which include: 2 (24oz) jars spaghetti sauce, 3 (2#) boxes dry spaghetti, 6 dozen breadsticks/dinner rolls, 3 (8oz) containers parmesan cheese, 3 (1#) bags baby carrots. Ice Cream Buckets are always needed.

Mission Room Don't forget that we collect Christmas string lights that no longer work, egg cartons, old glasses, and prescription bottles.

Bethel Newsletter deadline for the February issue will be **January 15th**. We ask that all submissions be turned in by this date. Thank you.

Dear Bethel Congregation,

Myself, our staff, and the students of GB West High School "Thank you" all from the bottom of our hearts for the amazing donation given to us. We couldn't help our students without help from people like you. All the items are greatly appreciated and have been mostly utilized at this time. Marilyn M, thank you so much for reaching out to me. It means a lot to help our students.

Thank you again. Sincerely, April Martin



Directory Photos

Please?!? We really need your help to get photos of all of our members so that we can do an updated directory. Please, send any picture you like of yourself and/or your family to bethelonbond@yahoo.com or text to Pastor Kim at 510-230-9533. Need it scanned? We can do that as well!



December Birthdays

| | | | |
|-------------------|-------|-------------------|-------|
| Carol Hohne | 12/2 | Courtney Carlson | 12/11 |
| Madelin Villiesse | 12/2 | Linda Martin | 12/12 |
| Freya Russett | 12/3 | Kathryn Petersen | 12/23 |
| Lynn Smith | 12/6 | Jenny Martin | 12/24 |
| David Elbe | 12/7 | Jack Peot | 12/24 |
| Kati Long | 12/9 | Florence Niemuth | 12/28 |
| Ben Hietpas | 12/10 | Kinsley Keckhaver | 12/29 |



December Anniversaries

| | | |
|----------------------|-------|--------|
| Gary & Jill DeQuaine | 12/5 | 20 yrs |
| Karen & Bill Hervas | 12/23 | 45 yrs |

January Birthdays

| | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----|------------------|------|----------------|------|
| Tim Jasman | 1/1 | Tori Russett | 1/9 | Shasta Murphy | 1/24 |
| Joshua Roethle | 1/3 | Nancy Moran | 1/10 | Ann Poh | 1/24 |
| Laurie Andrews | 1/5 | Jennifer Scholes | 1/11 | Nadine Knoll | 1/26 |
| Gretchen Baeten | 1/5 | Shirley Johnson | 1/15 | Doug Hanson | 1/27 |
| Jesse Meister | 1/6 | Sally Caylor | 1/17 | April Martin | 1/27 |
| Liam Golden | 1/7 | Tarin Carlson | 1/23 | Gloria Treptow | 1/31 |

January Anniversaries

| | | |
|-----------------------|------|--------|
| Diane & Ron Wesoloski | 1/17 | 34 yrs |
| Todd & Sue Keckhaver | 1/27 | 40 yrs |



Bethel Prayer Concerns

| | | |
|------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Baby Wesley | Kristen Daily | Ron Kasulke |
| Becky Pilon | Millissa Montevideo | Roberta Krouth |
| Betty Jansen | Pat Larson | Tyler T |
| Bernie Baer | Sandy & Dave Elbe | Kathy Towle |
| Christina Petzel | Steven Gibson | Austin Tree |
| Elaine Barber | Lottie Jaworski | Willow Van Vonderen |
| Dan | Nancy Johnson | Ken Claussen |
| Dan Conard | Shirley Johnson | Ralph Addison |
| David | CJ Johnston | |
| Eldon Wade | Karen Koblenz | |

Bible Studies at Bethel

Grace Study Group will meet on Thursday, December 7th at 11:30am to eat out. We will meet in the church lounge on Thursday, January 4th covering chapter 6 with Pastor Kim leading and Pat Stilp hosting.

Joy Study Group will meet on Tuesday, January 16th at 6:30pm at church with Peggy Hansen hosting.

BBB's will meet on Tuesday, December 19th at 6pm at Old Mexico Cantina & Grill. We will resume our class on Tuesday, January 23rd at 6:30pm at Gayle's house with Cindy leading Session 4.

Beer & Theology will meet on Tuesday, December 12th at 5:30pm at Doug & Marsha Scholes' home for a potluck. In January, we will meet on Tuesday, January 9th at The Bar Next Door/Cheesecake Heaven at 5:30pm

Confirmation

All classes will be held at Resurrection Lutheran Church at 5pm.

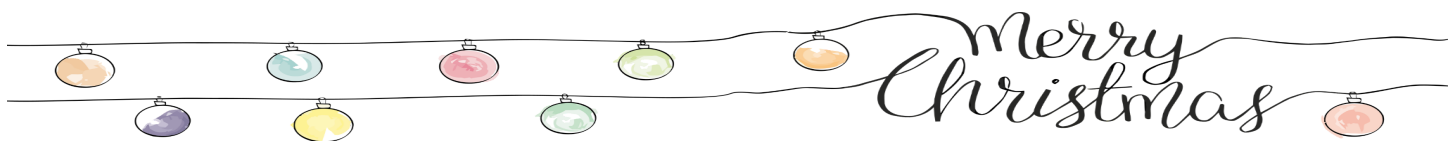
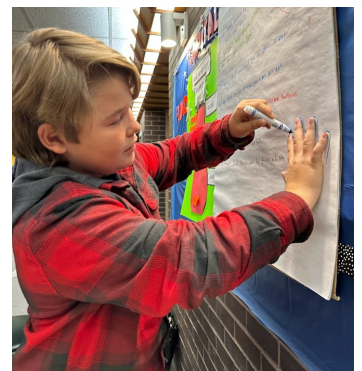
Note the dates for January.

Wed, Dec 6th: David to Solomon with Mentors

Wed, Dec 20th: The Prophets and Exile

Wed, Jan 10th: Jesus' Baptism and Temptation with Mentors

Wed, Jan 18th: Jesus Calls the Disciples



Ecumenical Partnership for Housing (EPH)

By now, you should have received our annual letter asking for support for EPH. Bethel is one of many partner churches and we are caretakers of a transitional house on Mather St. In the coming weeks, you will hear of opportunities to help prep our house for a new family in the new year. In April, Bethel will be hosting a Family & Faith night.

If you missed our Thanksgiving Worship on Tuesday, November 21st, you missed a wonderful and moving presentation from Matt Kadlec, Family Ministry & Housing Stability Coordinator, and Lucy Hansen, Volunteer Coordinator (Lucy has actually personally benefited from the EPH program as she worked on getting back on her feet after leaving an abusive relationship.)



You can watch the EPH Video Be Amazing Grace 2023 on YouTube: [HERE](#)

(Just click on the word HERE and allow the program to open YouTube)

Watch Matt and Lucy on our YouTube Recording starting at 23:20: [HERE](#)

Funding for Mission & Budget

| | Revenue | Expenditures | | |
|-----|------------|--------------|----------------------|-----------|
| Oct | \$18,351 | \$ 21,753 | | |
| Nov | \$18,112 | \$18,749 | 2023 Monthly Budget: | \$21,490 |
| YTD | \$ 211,216 | \$ 222,987 | 2023 Total Budget: | \$257,876 |

Annual Budget Meeting Bethel's annual budget meeting will be held after worship on **Sunday, December 10th**. Please plan to attend. Copies of the proposed budget can be found at the usher stands.

2023 Offerings In order for your offerings to be counted for the year 2023 they must be in by Sunday, December 31st. Any offerings turned in after that date will be counted for 2024. Thank you.



Online Giving Online giving is available through the Bethel website: bethelonbond.org. In the upper right corner of our website home page you will find "Donate". Click on that and it will take you to Vanco's secure site where you can contribute to the ministry and mission of Bethel.

Offering Envelopes Offering envelopes for 2024 are now in the lounge. If you worship with us regularly and don't currently have offering envelopes, please contact the church office. At the front of your box of envelopes is a special envelope marked "Initial Offering". This offering of \$4 helps offset the envelope printing costs.

Those who participate in *Simply Giving*, still need an envelope number to record your giving. Included in the offering envelope box are special Lent, Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas envelopes. Please note that your offering envelope number may have changed in the New Year. Thank you.

2023 Annual Reports are Due All Bethel committee and organization chair-persons are asked to turn in their annual reports to the church office **by January 16th** so that the 2023 Annual Report can be printed and made available to the congregation by February 4th. Thank you in advance for getting your reports to us by that date!

Save the Date for Bethel's Annual Meeting Sunday, February 18, 2023

Congregation Council Minute HIGHLIGHTS

Monday, November 13, 2023

(Awaiting approval at the December Church Council meeting)

Present : Doris Brack, Linda Grunewald, Charlie Hilla, Marilyn Meister, Cindy Michalski, Linda Wery, Gayle Peot, Pegi BeDell, and Pastor Kim

Excused: Todd Keckhaver

Call to Order: Charlie Hilla called the meeting to order at 6:30pm

Dwelling in the Word: Marilyn led dwelling in the word with a reading from Christ in Our Home about quiet witnesses/helpers in the church. This reading referenced I Thessalonians 5:16-18. Then she led the prayer.

REPORTS: Secretary's Report, Parish Accountant Report & Pastor's Report: Received as submitted.

NEW BUSINESS:

"Handbags of Hope" Ministry: Charlie reported that Resurrection has asked if we would have people who would be willing to pack hygiene items into purses, once a month, to be given out to those in need at the Resurrection food pantry. It was agreed that we would do this.

Water in the basement: Tabled until next month.

OLD BUSINESS:

Aebleskiver: Scheduled for Saturday, February 24. April Martin has agreed to head this up again. Sign-up sheets for workers will go up soon!

Kitchen Stove: Charlie is contacting a company about checking and cleaning the pilots on the stove. The vents have been cleaned.

Thrivent Support Presentation Date: No updates yet

Budget 2024: One change was proposed for the 2024 Budget: to increase the vacation substitute organist pay from \$900 to \$1500 to match the amount approved for the 2023 budget.







Photo Directory: Pastor Kim reported we have approximately 50 pictures for the directory. Many more are needed. Pictures can be emailed in, dropped off at the church or be taken at the church.

Adjourn: at 8155pm and closed with the Lord's Prayer


Next Meeting, Sunday, December 10 after the Budget meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Meister, Council Secretary

December 2023

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|---|--|---|---|---|
| | | | |  | 1 Pastor's Sabbath | 2 9:00 Advent Breakfast |
| 3 9:00 Worship 10:00 Advent Fest Crafts & Fellowship | 4 | 5 | 6 5:00 Confirmation with mentors 6:30 Midweek worship at Resurrection 7:15 Choir | 7 11:30 Grace Bible study | 8 Pastor's Sabbath | 9 |
| 10 NEW Shelter Meal 8:00 Tone Chimes 9:00 Worship 10:00 Budget Mtg 11:00 Council | 11 | 12 5:30 Beer & Theology | 13 10:00 Mission Sewing 6:30 Midweek Bethel 7:15 Choir | 14 9:30 Library | 15 Pastor's Sabbath | 16 |
| 17 9:00 Worship 10:00 Tone Chimes | 18 | 19 6:00 BBB's | 20 5:00 Confirmation 6:30 Midweek at Resurrection 7:15 Choir | 21 | 22 Pastor's Sabbath | 23 |
| 24 3:00 Tone Chime 4:00 Worship 9:00 Worship | 25  | 26  | 27 Pastor Kim in Iowa Office Closed | 28  | 29  | 30  |
| 31 9:00 Worship | | | | | | |

January 2024

| | Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|---|------------------------------|---|--------------------|----------------------|-----|-----|
|  | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | |
| 7 9:00 Worship 10:00 Tone Chimes | 8 6:30 Council | 9 5:30 Beer & Theology | 10 10:00 Mission Sewing 5:00 Confirmation w/mentors 7:00 Choir | 11 9:30 Library | 12 Pastor Sabbath | 13 | |
| 14 9:00 Worship 10:00 Tone Chimes | 15 MLK Jr Day 1:00 Salvation Army Meal | 16 6:30 Joy Bible Study | 17 7:00 Choir | 18 | 19 Pastor Sabbath | 20 | |
| 21 8:00 Tone Chimes 9:00 Worship | 22 | 23 6:30 BBB's Bible Study | 24 5:00 Confirmation 7:00 Choir | 25 | 26 Pastor Sabbath | 27 | |
| 28 9:00 Worship 10:00 Tone Chimes | 29 | 30 | 31 7:00 Choir | | | | |

Reverse Advent Calendar for Resurrection Food Pantry

Each day, add an item to a box or bag and pray for those who need and use food pantries. Please bring them to Bethel (or Resurrection on Thursdays) in the New Year

| | | | |
|-------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| December 1 | Can of Chicken Soup | December 13 | Jell-O |
| December 2 | Can of Spaghetti O's | December 14 | Pudding |
| December 3 | Cookies | December 15 | Can of Vegetables |
| December 4 | Toothbrush | December 16 | Can of Fruit |
| December 5 | Toothpaste | December 17 | Peanut Butter |
| December 6 | Deodorant | December 18 | Oatmeal |
| December 7 | Can of Tomato Soup | December 19 | Gravy |
| December 8 | Can of Baked Beans | December 20 | Soup starter or Bouillon |
| December 9 | Boxed Side Dish | December 21 | Laundry Soap |
| December 10 | Dish Soap | December 22 | Boxed Cake Mix |
| December 11 | Body Soap | December 23 | Frosting in a Container |
| December 12 | Cereal | December 24 | Bag of Candy |

Thank you! You may be part of the answer to a Christmas Prayer of someone in need!



Service Schedule for December

| | Assisting Minister | Reader | Altar Guild & Communion Assist | Usher | Video Tech |
|---|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday, December 3 | Doug Hanson | Doug Scholes | Peggy Hansen Gayle Peot | Charlie Hilla Sharon Hilla | Yvonne Pamperin |
| Sunday, December 10 | Doug Hanson | Karl Peterson | Linda Wery Marilyn Meister | Dawn & Howie Schroeder | Rick Johnson |
| Sunday, December 17 | Charlie Hilla | Doris Brack | Pat Petzel Terri Hilbert | Todd & Sue Keckhaver | Pegi BeDell |
| Sunday, Dec 24th No AM worship, 4pm & 9pm Christmas Eve Service Sign-up in Hallway | | | | | |
| Monday, Dec 25 th No Service Merry Christmas! | | | | | |
| Sunday, December 31 | Cindy Michalski | Christian Jaworski | Linda Grunewald | Dave Hansen Kathy Long | Doug Hanson |



Service Schedule for January

| | Assisting Minister | Reader | Altar Guild & Communion Assist | Usher | Video Tech |
|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday, January 7 | Linda Grunewald | Dar Schuurmans | Linda Wery Marilyn Meister | Carl Andrews Marsha Scholes | Cindy Michalski |
| Sunday, January 14 | Doug Scholes | Dawn Schroeder | June Andrews Sheila Greenwood | Howard Schroeder & Jerry Boettcher | Rick Johnson |
| Sunday, January 21 | Sandi Tibbetts | Peggy Hansen | Peggy Hansen Gayle Peot | Gayle & Jack Peot | Yvonne Pamperin |
| Sunday, January 28 | Kay Zastrow | Michael Zastrow | Pat Petzel Terri Hilbert | Charlie & Sharon Hilla | Pegi BeDell |



Service Schedule for February

| | Assisting Minister | Reader | Altar Guild & Communion Assist | Usher | Video Tech |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Sunday, February 4 | Doug Hanson | Christian Jaworski | Karen Hervas Marilyn Meister | Todd & Sue Keckhaver | Rick Johnson |
| Sunday, February 11 | Cindy Michalski | Doris Brack | Linda Wery Karl Peterson | Jerry Boettcher Dave Hansen | Doug Hanson |
| Sunday, February 18 | Charlie Hilla | Dawn Schroeder | Peggy Hansen Sharon Hilla | Howard & Dawn Schroeder | Yvonne Pamperin |
| Sunday, February 25 | Karl Peterson | Dar Schuurmans | Pat Petzel Terri Hilbert | Carl Andrews Kathy Long | Pegi BeDell |

Save the Date for Aebleskiver Fest: Saturday, February 24, 2024!!

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1350 Bond St

Green Bay, WI 54303



OUR VISION: Growing In Faith Together, boldly inviting others to share in God's love.

OUR MISSION: By God's power, we will serve as Jesus' disciples,
embracing traditions and growing ministries.

Bethel Staff | Contact

| | | | |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|----------|---------------------------|
| Pastor: | Pr. Kim Swenson | 494-3737 | bethelpastorkim@gmail.com |
| Administrative Assistant: | Thank you, Dawn Schroeder | 494-3737 | bethelonbond@yahoo.com |
| Director of Music: | Diane Meinel | 499-1527 | |
| Choir Director | Tori Russett | 660-7544 | |
| Parish Accountant: | Dawn Schroeder | 494-1728 | |
| Treasurer: | Linda Grunewald | 265-8199 | |
| Congregation President: | Charlie Hilla | 465-9655 | |

www.bethelonbond.org | bethelonbond@yahoo.com | 920-494-3737

Office Hours: Tue-Thur 9am-3pm

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