



# THE BELLRINGER

March  
2014



## God is in this Place

When Jacob had a dream, as recorded in the book of Genesis, he realized that it had divine implications. Hearing in the dream God's promise to him, he exclaimed, "Surely the Lord is in this place and I did not know it." He then named that spot Bethel, because that name means "House of God." The name of our congregation declares that we are a house of God. The Lord is in this place. The Spirit of God is moving and at work among us.



During Advent, at the end of last year, we engaged in the Advent Conspiracy. Many of you joined me in RACKing people – participating in Random Acts of Christmas Kindness. You took some of the RACK cards that had been printed and left them with your acts of kindness and generosity. It was a way of spreading the grace of God. But as I said back then, these acts of kindness were not meant just for the Christmas season. That was a way to start looking at the world and life differently. I hope that you are continuing to look for ways that you can bless other people each day. Bring some light and love to the lives of people around you. Make the world – or at least your corner of it – a little more like the world that God desires. Help the kingdom to shine a bit more brightly through you. Advent Conspiracy is not just for a season; it is a way of life. It is what being a follower of Jesus is all about.



As we begin the season of Lent it is a good time to think about the Conspiracy. Easter was the focus of the early Christians. It was such a significant event that they began to worship on Sunday, the day of the Resurrection, instead of Saturday which was the Sabbath. They considered every Sunday to be a "little Easter." As other seasons of the church year began to develop, Lent was designed to be a time of preparation for Easter. New converts to the faith were baptized and received into membership on Easter morning. The weeks of Lent leading up to Easter were used to teach and prepare these converts to take their place in the life of the congregation.



Today, the season of Lent provides the opportunity for all of us to examine our faith and to see where we can grow closer to God. We can become more consistent in our spiritual disciplines that we practice, or begin some new ones. And like the Advent Conspiracy, this is not something to pick up for a brief time, but a way to begin shaping our life differently so that we stay closer to God. That is how we prepare ourselves spiritually for the celebration of Easter. That is also how we continue to be "Bethel" – a house of God. And in the process we discover that the Lord is in this place.



As we journey together,

Pastor David

## Thank You!

Dear Members,  
Thank you for the lovely Christmas basket. It was nice of you to remember me. I enjoyed all the things that were included.

Sincerely, Norma Babatz

A Big Thank you to UMW for the very nice bag of goodies I received over the holidays. Nice to keep in touch.

Phyllis Orn

UMW,  
Many thanks for the wonderful goodies you brought us. We enjoyed them very much. Hope you can do the same for someone else with the enclosed.

Again, many thanks,  
Bill and Irma Roberts

Dear Mary & Lucy,

What a great surprise when I found two UMW women at my door. There was much good news about the great changes. Thanks much for remembering me.

Thanks for the bag of surprises. I enjoyed remembering the new booklet of members. I enjoyed the goodies and the surprises in the colorful bag.

My family and I thought is best I make plans for my senior years. We have decided Minn. Masonic Home would be very good for me. I'm happy here and love visitors.

I loved meeting you again. Greet people from me.

Love, Charlotte Reynolds  
(only 92)

Dear Bethel Church and Choir,

We would like to thank you for your participation in making the first Compassion Christ Meal and overwhelming success. The joy of the gift our your precious service was felt throughout the night.

The compassion team and Mound  
Evangelical Free



## Men's Golf League

Looking outside it's hard to believe spring is just around the corner, but with spring comes green grass, flowers, and Bethel's Men's Golf League! This year Bethel will have one team, playing Monday nights, and all men (any age) are invited to play! It's a great way to get some healthy exercise and enjoy some fellowship and good golf at the same time.

All levels of play are encouraged to join, scratch golfers and duffers alike.

With the closing of Lakeview, there are some details still being worked out, but if interested, please talk to Ron Carlson or Jeff Johnson.

## SUNDAY HIGHLIGHTS

### March 2nd - Transfiguration Sunday

Sermon: "Extreme Makeover"

Scripture: Matthew 17:1-9

### March 9th - 1st Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "Knowing Whose We Are"

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11

### March 16th - 2nd Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "Wind-Born"

Scripture: John 3:1-17

### March 23rd - 3rd Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "Quenching Our Thirst"

Scripture: John 4:5-42

### March 30th - 4th Sunday in Lent

Sermon: "I Once Was Blind"

Scripture: John 9:1-41

Please see insert for additional information regarding all the upcoming Lenten services.

## Christian Education Classes

### Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00 a.m. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FOR ALL AGES

Lower level - Adult and Teen Class  
Children's Class

10:00 a.m. WORSHIP

### Thursday Bible Study

A weekly Bible Study held at Ella Richter's home at 11:00 a.m. starting January 9th. Contact Church office for information and details.



## Game Day!!



Cribbage, 500, Twister, Scrabble, Chutes and Ladders, Don't Spill the Beans...you name it, we'll have it! Join us on **Saturday, March 22nd at 2:00 p.m.** for an afternoon of games, cards and fellowship. Whether you're one or 99, we want you here.

Potluck snacks, coffee will be provided. Let's get together and play! Got a fun game you want to share? Bring it too!

Questions, please contact Rachel Dahl at:  
763-377-3238

## Bethel Missions



There are several times to share your time at Feed My Starving Children (FMSC) in the next few months.

March 13th -- 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

March 27th — 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

If you have questions, please contact Joleen Carlson.

Carpooling is available from Bethel UMC.  
(Arrive 30 minutes prior to scheduled time).

### Dinner is Served!

Join us every 2nd and 4th Wednesday, as we reach out to those in need in our community with our ongoing community meal, Dinner is Served! Partnered with the



Mound Free Church, the 1st and 3rd Wednesday hosts, this program is going strong and continues to grow. Please contact Joleen with questions.

### Church Office Hours

*Monday, Wednesday, Friday*

*8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.*

#### Staff Support for Bethel's Ministers and Leaders

*Pastor, David McBride, 952-923-2540*

*.....bethelrev@mchsi.com*

*Parish Nurse, Tina Goralczyk, 952-472-8822*

*.....tgoralczyk@mediacombb.net*

*Director of Music, Marjorie Austin, 763-229-0212*

*.....margie.austin@hotmail.com*

*Praise Team Director, Mary Lou Kingren, 612-695-1935*

*.....loukingren@hotmail.com*

*Church Administrator, Stefanie Huesmann, 952-472-1522*

*.....betheloffice@mchsi.com*

*Custodian, Brandy Graef, 952-688-1509*

*.....brandyparker27@hotmail.com*

#### Lay Staff Support for Bethel's Ministers and Leaders

*Treasurer, Steve Pinney, 952-472-9801*

*.....flpinney@frontiernet.net*

*Financial Secretary, Dwight Davis, 952-472-7814*

*.....davism1@mchsi.com*

## Rummage Sale

Spring is coming and so is the Rummage sale. Start gathering those items that are gathering dust or taking up space. Details coming in the April Bellringer.



### 2014 Sign-up Sheets Available

**Greeter, Hospitality and Altar Flower Sign-up charts** are located in the Narthex. Please offer to serve in one of these categories in coming months to make welcome new and old members and friends.

Also, please check the **Mission Outreach Board** in the Narthex for future service programs.

Bethel's January EXPENDITURES 2014	
MEN'S CLUB	0
ADMIN & FINANCE	\$2,358.13
PASTOR PARISH STAFF	\$9,951.26
CONGREGATIONAL TRUST FUND	0
MEMORIAL GARDEN	0
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$60.80
SHEPHERDING MINISTRIES	\$231.04
MISSIONS SOCIAL CONCERNS	0
WORSHIP WORK AREAS	\$18.50
TRUSTEE'S	\$5,837.16
OTHER	0
Total Expenses	\$18,456.89
Total Revenues	\$13,810.17
Net Income	(4,646.72)

Bethel United Methodist Church  
2116 Commerce Blvd  
Mound, MN 55364  
(952) 472-1522  
[www.bethelumcmn.org](http://www.bethelumcmn.org)  
<http://facebook.com/bethelmound>



**Sunday Worship ~ 10:00 a.m.**  
*...warms the heart, feeds the soul.*



## Easter Breakfast

Mark Your Calendars!  
Sunday, April 20th, 9:00 a.m.  
in Fellowship Hall

Please join Bethel's Children, Youth & Family  
Ministries for Brunch before worship on  
Easter Morning!



Menu will include:  
Egg Bake, Fruit, Muffins and Beverages  
Free Will Offering

\*\*To help ensure we prepare enough food, in April a  
sign-up sheet will be available in the Narthex to help  
get an idea of people. If you forget to sign up, please  
still plan to come, everyone is welcome\*\*

This celebration will also include an  
Easter Egg Hunt for the children  
prior to the 10:00 a.m. service.  
Hope to see everyone there!!



## Memorial Garden

It is hard to believe, but our beautiful  
Memorial Garden was built 9 years ago. It  
was designed by the Memorial Garden  
Committee and funded by the Crossroads  
Campaign to be an aesthetic addition to the  
community and a place of peace and serenity  
for Bethel United Methodist members to  
choose as their final resting place.

Near their Church home and convenient for  
family members to visit, the Memorial Garden  
provides a safe haven for people to visit their  
loved ones after passing and also a place for  
meditation and reflection for members of the  
greater community. It was developed to  
provide an affordable alternative to burial.

If you would like more information on this  
wonderful addition to the services our church  
provides, please contact Pastor David or Dave  
Feerhusen for more information.