



THE BELLRINGER

May
2014



Construction Zone

It appears that our loooong winter season is *finally* coming to a close. We are starting to see some warmer weather as we look forward to the month of May. It is very welcomed. The sunshine and warmth put smiles on people's faces. It makes it easier to get out and get around. We've all heard the old joke about Minnesota weather, though. We only have two seasons: winter and road construction. So, now that winter is fading away it is time to see the signs indicating that roadwork is being done.



In preparation for that our sermons for the next several weeks will put us in a "Construction Zone." Throughout the Easter season, beginning with the Sunday following Easter, our sermons will focus on the first letter of Peter. The author speaks with the heart of a pastor to Christians who are struggling on multiple levels. Many of them are physically persecuted and having conflict with the surrounding culture as a result of their faith. The author writes to encourage them and to build up their faith by telling them what a gift it is. He writes to help shape and form them as followers of Jesus Christ.



Even though we do not have the same experience as they do, even though we do not share their struggles, we can learn from them what it means to live in faith. We can have our faith built up. Being a Christian does not happen automatically. It takes work, practice, and being formed. That's what this letter is trying to do for the early church and what it can do for us as well. May this be a time for us to enter the "Construction Zone" to have our faith developed and nourished.



I have received a couple of responses to the invitation to submit questions that will form our summer worship themes. We have had paper in the bulletins recently that have started with the words, "Am I the only one who has wondered..." Feel free to fill that in and drop it in the offering plate, leave it in the office or give it to me personally. You can also email your question to me at bethelrev@mchsi.com. Anything that you may be wondering about faith, the church, the Bible, or a spiritual matter is good. If you are wondering it is likely that there are others wondering too. You do not have to include your name. It is useful to me to know who is asking in case I need to get clarification on the question so that I address it as completely as possible. You have until May 10 to submit questions and then I will begin planning the series.



At the end of the month will be our Annual conference session. Our construction there will be packing meals for Feed My Starving Children. The Minnesota Annual Conference has set a goal for United Methodists in the state to pack a million meals. That is a great endeavor and a very worthy cause. At the Conference session it is always great to see old friends, to worship together, and to celebrate what United Methodists are doing throughout the state. Even though the time there goes by very quickly, it is a great way to renew spirits.

As we journey together,

Pastor David



Dinner is Served!

Many of you already know that Bethel and the Free Church have teamed up to serve a free meal to people in the community on Wednesday evenings. The meal is served at the Free Church the first and 3rd Wednesdays, and at Bethel on the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays from 5:00-6:30 pm. We have had about 8-12 guests during the cold months and 20-30 guests during the warmer months. It is hard to believe that we have been doing this for almost a year.

Just recently we have had some exciting developments regarding a partnership with the food shelf. In March the food shelf replaced their freezer and gave their old freezer to Bethel. Also, the food shelf has been overwhelmed with donations from Lunds and Jubilee that are over the "sell by date". The food shelf is donating some of their excess food to Bethel and the Free Church to be used for the Wednesday meals or distributed to our guests on Wednesdays. We are now picking up excess bread on Fridays (which we freeze until Wednesday) and bread and/or other perishables on Wednesdays. What a blessing!

If you would like to volunteer for "Dinner is Served", please check the bulletin board in the Narthex for a volunteer sign-up sheet. You can volunteer by assisting in the kitchen with prep, serve and/or clean-up; or by taking full-charge of a meal with your family or a team that you have organized. We have had many volunteers and teams that have made this mission possible -- thank you!

Other ways you can support "Dinner is Served" is by making a donation, praying for the mission, and inviting friends or family to join us for the meal. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Joleen Carlson or Dwight Davis.

Church Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday
8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.



SUNDAY HIGHLIGHTS

May 4th - 3rd Sunday of Easter

Sermon: "What Your Life Depends On"

Scripture: 1 Peter 1:13-23

May 11th - 4th Sunday of Easter

Sermon: "Our Credit Rating"

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:19-25

May 18th - 5th Sunday of Easter

Sermon: "Clinker Bricks"

Scripture: 1 Peter 2:2-10

May 25th - 6th Sunday of Easter

Sermon: "eHow Hope"

Scripture: 1 Peter 3:8-22

Summer Worship Hours

During the summer months of
June, July and August
our Sunday Service worship time will be
9:00 a.m.

Sunday School End of Year Celebration



Join in the fun! On Sunday May 18th, at 12:00 p.m. join in fellowship and fun as we celebrate another wonderful year of Bethel's Sunday School program and Bethel's youth with a picnic and mini golf.

Located at Big Stone Mini Golf Course in Minnetrista, everyone should bring their own lunch and be ready for fun!

Cost for golf: Adults: \$7, Kids 8 and under: \$6

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



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

May 15th - 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.
 May 29th - 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.

If you have questions, please contact Joleen Carlson.

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

UMW Spring Banquet

On May 27th, the UMW is hosting our annual Spring Banquet from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. You are all welcome to come and enjoy an evening of great food and entertainment by: "The Somewhat Dixieland Band", a nine piece group that includes traditional Dixieland, popular songs from the swing era and even a bit of ragtime! The Men's Club will prepare and serve a truly fabulous dinner and dessert - always a special treat!

Menu to include:

Chicken Tetrizzini, green beans and mini green salad
 Dessert: Strawberry Shortcake
 Beverages

Come and join us!! Everyone is invited. Tell your friends and neighbors and let's make a "Community Connection." Watch for a sign-up sheet closer to the event to make your reservations.

Cost: Adults: \$12, children 4-11 \$8, under 3 free
 For Show only! Tickets \$5.00

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

Thank You!

To Bethel Kids and Bethel UMW,
 To my little friends and friends in UMW,
 What a beautiful bag of Easter candies and baked goods. it was so nice of you including everything I liked.

Thanks so very much!

God bless you all,

Ella Richter

p.s. The card was so pretty too!!

Spring Clean-Up

Spring has finally arrived! Crack those windows and feel that fresh air!

With spring, comes spring cleaning, and there are multiple areas of our church that are in need of cleaning this month. If you are able to help bring a fresh face to Bethel's facility and grounds, our Spring Clean-Up day will be Saturday, May 10th, from 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Please contact Faye Bryan with questions and to volunteer! 952-479-1054

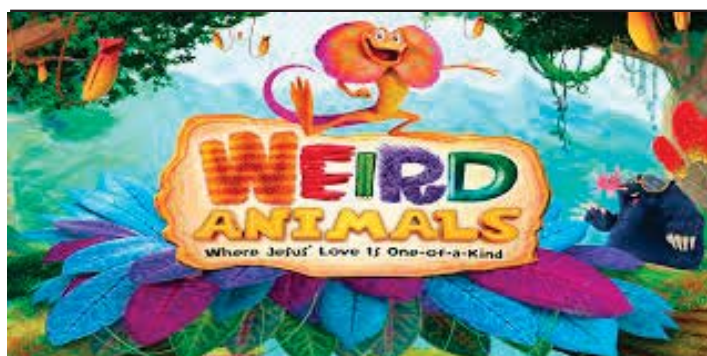
Thank you for helping to keep Bethel looking its best!

Bethel's March EXPENDITURES 2014	
MEN'S CLUB	\$167.96
ADMIN & FINANCE	\$6,765.62
PASTOR PARISH STAFF	\$29,446.85
CONGREGATIONAL TRUST FUND	0
MEMORIAL GARDEN	0
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	\$114.73
SHEPHERDING MINISTRIES	\$653.81
MISSIONS SOCIAL CONCERNS	0
WORSHIP WORK AREAS	(93.03)
TRUSTEE'S	\$15,397.65
OTHER	0
Total Expenses	\$52,453.59
Total Revenues	\$47,908.63
Net Income	(4,544.96)

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



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



SAVE THE DATES!!
August 3rd - August 6th

Come and enjoy a week of fun in Bethel's Vacation Bible School program. God filled the world with a lot of crazy creatures...including you! When kids feel weird, different, or even lost in a crowd—nothing compares to the extraordinary love of Jesus.

Volunteers are a vital piece for a successful VBS week. Whether you can lead a group, help with decorations, one day or all four, we need you! If you are able to join in the fun as a part of the volunteer team, please contact Stefanie in the office. Until then, mark your calendar and talk to friends and neighbors and invite them to come!



Summer Worship Time Change

The Church Council decided to move the time for worship during the summer to 9:00. This will be for the months of June, July, and August. This idea was announced to the congregation prior to the March Council meeting. The Council voted its unanimous support.