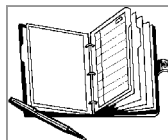


Mark Your Calendars



November 25 ~
Thanksgiving Eve Worship

December 7 ~ WELCA
Potluck Luncheon

December 14 ~ Annual
Budget Meeting

January 16 ~ Parents Night
Out

January 31 ~
Annual
Meeting

February 5-6 ~ Adult Winter
Retreat

September 23-26, 2010 ~
Bethel Backpacking

Welcome, Visitors

We're glad you're here! You are welcome at worship, in Sunday School, and at the Lord's Table. For more information about Bethel, please pick up a visitor's packet at the information table in the narthex.

Gluten-free communion wafers are available for those who prefer them. Take communion in the center aisle and let them know your preference.



BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1321 North Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057

Phone: 507-786-6674
Fax: 507-786-8880
Email: bethel@charterinternet.com
www.bethelnorthfield.org



The deadline for submissions to the weekly *Banner* is Wednesday at noon. You may email submissions to bethelbanner@charterinternet.com or drop them off in the church office. Questions or comments? Contact Lisa McDermott at bethelbanner@charterinternet.com.

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

BETHEL BANNER WEEKLY

November 22, 2009

Today at Bethel

Please enjoy a *Covenant brunch* this morning at 9:45 a.m. in the CLC and learn more about our covenant with each other and with God. No need to RSVP!

Give milk and biscuits, baby chicks, or charcoal – in your loved ones' names – to those that need it desperately. Help the poor, lonely, hungry, and hurting around the world and right here in Northfield by shopping Bethel's 2009 Shop for the World Alternative Giving Fair in the narthex.



The season of Advent begins next Sunday. Please join us today from noon to 2 p.m. for an *Advent Fair*; food, fun, and

Advent projects that will aid us in preparing for and enhancing the observation of the season of Advent in our homes. A simple lunch will be served (\$3 donation suggested, but not required).

Get your free CFL bulb and "*Change a Light, Change the World*" today in the narthex. You can save energy and cut down on greenhouse gas emissions significantly. Purchase CFL bulbs at ACE or Menards for \$1 each as part of the campaign.

Have you always wanted to travel to *Holden Village*? Come to an informational session this evening, 6:30 – 8 pm in Bethel's Fireside Room. We'll discuss dates, costs and transportation options for a trip to Holden Village in 2010. Questions? Contact Clark Cary or Pam Santerre.

Worship with us on ***Thanksgiving Eve***, Wednesday, November 25, at 6:30 p.m. All are welcome!





On-Going Prayer List

God's comfort at a time of loss: Elaine Deim; Bette Bass; Sandy & John Haines; Abbie & Steve Meierbachtol; Paula & Allan Mathison; Lynn & Obie Holmen
 Healing requests: Logan Olivero, Milt Hanson, Helen Hanson, Maxine Amundson, Pastor Tim McDermott, Joyce Harter, Linda Cloud, Dean Carlson, Barb Backe, Brett Knutson, Judy Dirks, Francis Wergin, Ina Carlson; Pastor Owen Gaasedelen, Tom Pritchard, Maired Beithon, Bryce Knutson, Hal Gargrave, Joyce Snede, Tom Brawley, Trudy Breitag, Ellis Lysne
 Homebound: Margaret Berg, Pastor Bob Harter
 Those Awaiting Baptism: Camryn Schuster, Thisbe Jothan, Claire Ailabouni
 Newly Married: Collin & Krista Meierbachtol, Michael & Rebecca Quamme, Cullen and Breanna O'Neill
 Those serving in the military and their families: Mathew Meillier (U.S.); Jeff Olson (U.S.); Kenneth R. Laite (U.S., father of Caitlyn Laite); Mark Graff (Japan); Katie (Graff) Podritz (Iraq); Keenan Bachmeyer (U.S. - welcome home!, grandson of the Ganskes)
 Praying through the Bethel directory: Gary, Suzanne, Nate, Alexa & Noah Anderson; Gordon, Kathy, Kelly, & Jacqueline Anderson; Rod, Peggy, Erica & Megan Anderson; Tom & Lisa Anderson; Doug, Nancy, Christopher & Jennifer Antoine
 If you'd like your name to appear on this list, are ready for your name to be removed, or believe we have left someone off the list who should appear, please let us know.

Prayer for This Week

Glory to you for the feast day of life.
 Glory to you for the sparkling silver of early morning dew.
 Glory to you for the joy of dawn's awakening.
 Glory to you for the new life each day brings.
 Glory to you, O God, from age to age.

Gregory Petrov

Join us for Worship This Christmas!



Christmas Eve
Thursday, December 24
 3:30 p.m. - Candlelight worship
 5 and 9 p.m. - Candlelight worship with Holy Communion

Christmas Day
Friday, December 25
 10 a.m. - Worship with Holy Communion

decorate the church for Christmas with poinsettias!

Poinsettias will be used to decorate our church through December 25. All poinsettias can be picked up anytime after the Christmas Day service. Thanks for helping beautify our building in celebration of the birth of the Messiah.

_____	Red	X	\$7 each	=	\$_____
_____	White	X	\$7 each	=	\$_____
_____	Variegated	X	\$7 each	=	\$_____
			TOTAL	=	\$_____

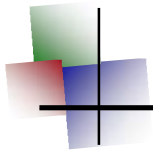
Person(s) ordering: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Please attach your cash or check (made payable to Bethel Lutheran Church). You may place your order in the offering plate or mail it to Bethel by December 6.





Community News

When people think of *Habitat for Humanity*, they think of construction work, but there are many other ways people can be involved. To learn more, come to the Habitat Committee Night on Tuesday, November 24, at 6:30 p.m., at Trinity Lutheran Church in Northfield. For more information call Pam Swanson at 507-323-0170.

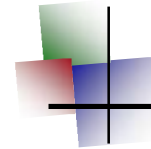
IRIS is holding a fundraiser 5k run/walk and kids' run *Turkey Trot* Thanksgiving morning at 8 a.m. Register online at www.irisremembers.com/events/TurkeyTrot2009/ or contact the IRIS home office in Faribault at 507-334-4748. IRIS is a non-profit organization that is dedicated

to offering support, education, and resources to parents, families, friends, and professionals on the death of a child in early pregnancy and all other types of infant & early childhood death.

I Cantanti, Northfield's Chamber Choir directed by Bethel member Wayne Kivell, will present its biennial *Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* concert at Skinner Chapel, Carleton College, on Sunday, November 29, at 7:30 p.m. Le Donne Cantanti, the women's ensemble of I Cantanti, will also perform. This concert is open to the public and all ages. A free-will exit offering will be taken.

Is God calling you?

Our Home Communion Ministry is looking for a leader, someone who would handle the arrangements of delivering home communion to members who cannot attend church. Vikki VanVeldhuizen, our long-time Home Communion Leader, has stepped down from this volunteer position but is very willing to pass along her experience and ideas in this area. If you are interested in information about serving in this role, please contact Sandy Haines in the church office.



Bethel News

Bethel's commitment to the *Meals on Wheels* program is November 29 through December 19, noon to 1 p.m. each day. Volunteers can sign up for one day or several. Instructions are provided for new drivers. Go with a friend, bring your family, or just deliver yourself. Please call Chris Valek at 645-9331 or email christyv@cjscottage.com to volunteer.

In December, WELCA circles depart from their regular meeting format to celebrate the Christmas season with special gatherings. For those of you who don't want to miss the *fifth lesson on Romans* from the December *Lutheran Women Today*, Pam Santerre is hosting a study of this lesson in her home on Monday, November 30, at 7 pm. If you

wish to attend, please RSVP by Friday, November 27, to Pam at 786-8951.



Set aside Saturday, December 5 for a *Bethel Craft Day*.

You can finish up your Christmas projects or just work on your crafts – scrapbooks, knitting, cards, quilting, or just about anything else. The CLC will be available from 9–5. Come for the whole day, or just for a while. Snacks will be provided. Contact Alice Carson (952-985-5755) if you have any questions.

Take a break from crafts and join us for *lefse making and other holiday fun* at the NRC on December 5 at 1:30 p.m.

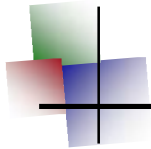
News, continued on page 4.



Advent Vespers

We enjoy a vespers service each Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m., but you don't want to miss the vespers services in December. Our Advent services on December 2, 9, and 16 will include a beautiful evening prayer liturgy and a message that will help us prepare for the birth of the King!





Bethel News, continued from page 3.

All ages are welcome. Have a musical talent you could share? Hooray! Call Mary at 645-0740 for more information.



Who takes those awesome portraits of our new members? Dean Neuberger! And now you can *have your photo taken*, too, just in time for Christmas. Dean will set up his "studio" on Sunday, December 6, in the CLC, and produce digital images that you can print at your favorite photo shop or site -- all for a freewill offering to Bethel. Interested but not available on the 6th? Contact Dean directly to set up an appointment at another time.



As we prepare our hearts for Covenant Sunday (December 6), let these and other books in the *Bethel Library* assist you:

- How Much is Enough? by Arthur Simon--Why in the face of unprecedented affluence, do so many feel discontented?
- When the Game is Over It All Goes Back in the Box

- Ask, Thank, Tell by Charles R. Lane--Improving stewardship ministry in your congregation.

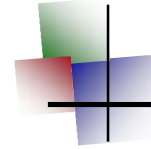
We welcome any and all helpers at the Library Ministry Team's meetings! They are always the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Are you interested in joining the *ISLA trip to Nicaragua* in January? The deadline has been extended to December 1. For more information, go to the ISLA website at www.isla.cc.

Please give Dick Wright and the rest of the Bethel

Finance Committee an early Christmas present: come to the annual Budget meeting on December 14 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room.

The committee would be grateful for your company -- and your input -- at this short and informative session.



Prepare With Us for Covenant Sunday

Thank you to our Temple Talk speakers Bryce Narveson and Juley Jenkinson who will help us explore the questions: *Why do I share what God has given me?* and *How do I share what God has given me?* The text for our meditation will be Matthew 25: 31-46 ..."Lord, when did I see you?..."

As we prepare for Covenant Sunday on December 6, please prayerfully consider your gifts of time, talent, and treasure as we enter 2010. There are many opportunities to see the needs, and Bethel has a strong tradition of finding and meeting those needs. In keeping with Bethel's faith-based giving, your covenant cards will be left unopened and returned to you later in the year for you to check your progress on your commitment. Thanks for your attention to our Temple Talks, our articles in the monthly *Banner*, and our letters to your home. Thanks for all the time, talent, and treasure you give.

What's Up with the Water Pump in the Nart hex?!

We're glad you asked! At our Thanksgiving Eve worship service (November 25, 6:30 p.m.), our offerings will go toward purchasing water pumps exactly like this one to help developing communities around the world access fresh drinking water.

If you've been attending the Mission & Justice forums on water, you know what a precious resource it is for individuals and communities. You can help make this resource available to more people with your Thanksgiving offering. Watch for a letter about this effort in your mailbox soon.

