



April 2010

Baby Steps

Faith Formation for Little Lambs and Their Families



News from the Nursery

Dear Families of Our Little Lambs

This brochure contains information regarding the ministries Bethel Lutheran Church has for our littlest ones. Please take time to read through this information and complete the Family Information Form.

Your Child's faith begins forming from day one and this is a time in their lives when they begin their journey with God. If we begin to try to keep the promises that we made at our child's baptism now, their journey with God will be easier and richer.

At Bethel, we are committed to helping you nurture your child's faith.

God Bless,
Stacy Waters
Nursery Coordinator

Nursery Information

The goal of our nursery is to provide a safe, loving, fun, and comfortable beginning to a child's faith formation. The nursery is for children, from birth through kindergarten. The toys and activities are not appropriate for school-age children.

For your child's safety: we

have implemented a paging system that prevents anyone other than the parent from picking up a child and helps us reach you if you are needed. If your child is crying when you separate from them, we can page you and let you know that either your child is okay or that you need

to return to the nursery.

When you sign your child in, you will receive a pager and a pager number. The pager needs to be worn on you so that you can feel the vibration when you are being paged. Simply return the pager to a nursery worker when picking up your child.

For more information on any of our Nursery Ministries please contact **Stacy Waters** our Nursery Coordinator at **507-581-9142** or by email at: stacywilliamswaters@gmail.com

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Baptism Information	3
Babysitting List	2
Bethel Bistro	3
Nursery Health Policy	2
Nursery Information	1-2
Parents Night Out	2
Registration form	Insert
Sunday School	7
Volunteer form	Insert

Nursery Staff

We have been blessed to have excellent and well-trained staff as part of our Nursery. Students from St. Olaf College are our regular staff members during the school year. Please stop in and meet our staff and let them know how much you appreciate them.



Cradle Roll is a quarterly mailing which provides parents with ideas for sharing their faith with their infants age one month through his/her third birthday. Deonne Gray is the volunteer who currently coordinates this wonderful ministry. If your child does not currently receive Cradle Roll and you would like them to, please contact Deonne Gary at deonnegray@gmail.com.

Nursery Health Policy

In order to insure the safety and health of others, please refrain from bringing your child to the nursery if he/she has had any of the following symptoms within the past 24 hours:

- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Fever

- Rash
- Yellow or green runny nose or eye discharge
- Any communicable disease or infection

If your child is being treated with an antibiotic, he/she should have received treatment for at least 24 hours before

coming to the nursery.

We thank you for helping our nursery to run smoothly by following these guidelines.



Information to Know When Using the Nursery

For our volunteers:

- ◆ No children above nursery age will be permitted in the Nursery.
- ◆ No child should be in the nursery without an adult.
- ◆ Please do not "look in" on your child so that they can see you. This may cause your child to become unnecessarily upset. No child should have to endure two separations in one morning. You can ask to be paged or look through our wonderful window if you want to know if your child is okay.
- ◆ All children cry sometimes when being left by their parents. This reaction is a normal, healthy show of preference for parents. In most cases, crying stops a few moments after you leave. Your child's crying lessens with regular attendance as they become more familiar with the nursery. Let the nursery staff know if you would like to be paged when they stop crying or how long you want them to cry before you are paged.
- ◆ All children must be signed in and picked up by an adult. Children need to wear nametags on their backs so the nursery staff can identify them.
- ◆ Please label with masking tape your child's diaper bag, sippy cup, bottles, etc.
- ◆ Please make sure to complete a Family Information Form to keep on file in the nursery.
- ◆ When childcare is needed for children who are older than appropriate nursery age, a separate space will be used.

Parents Night Out

Parents' Night Out is a service to give moms, dads, grandparents, or guardians a refreshing mini-break. Parents' Night Out will be held three times per school year on a Saturday evening from 4:00–8:00 p.m. Care will be provided for children ages infant through school-age. Crafts, activities, and a meal will

be offered at each event. A fee of \$5.00/child with a maximum of \$15.00/family (per evening) will be charged. Parents' Night Out is being held in conjunction with the Bethel Youth. The Youth will volunteer their time and in return will earn a little money for their summer trip funds.

Plan now to take advantage of this opportunity for a night out.



Babysitting List

The Nursery at Bethel has an amazing list of babysitters on file. If you would like a copy or would like to be added to the list as a babysitter, please let Stacy know.

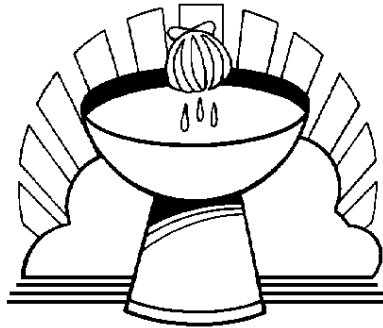


Setting a Baptism Date and Baptismal Remembrance

Setting the date – Holy Baptism is the first step in a child’s faith journey. You may schedule a baptism for your child by contacting the church office. Depending on worship circumstances, there are some dates each year that are unavailable for Baptism. It is always a good idea to check with the church office to ensure that the date you choose is available before making plans. Holy Baptism is usually offered during either the early (8:30) or late (10:45 September–May; 10:00 June–August) worship service or can be held

privately following the late service, or at another time during the week.

Baptismal Remembrance— On the first Sunday after Epiphany, in January, we observe the Baptism of Jesus by remembering the baptism of our youngest members. Any child who has been baptized and is not yet of Sunday School age is invited forward during the worship service, along with their parents and baptismal sponsors (if available), to gather around the altar as we recall the promises



made in Holy Baptism—promises to faithfully bring the child to the services in God’s house, to teach her/him the Lord’s Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments, to place in her/his hands the Holy Scriptures, and to provide for her/his instruction in the Christian faith. At Bethel we see our partnership with parents in keeping these promises as a top priority as we strive together to raise children of faith. A mailing is sent out at the end of December each year explaining the details of Baptismal Remembrance Sunday and each child is presented with a special Baptismal Remembrance gift on that Sunday.

Sunday School Information

When do they start?

A three-year old Sunday School class is available beginning each fall for children who have turned 3 before September 1 of that year. Because of space limitations, we are unable to provide classes for children who turn three throughout the year. However, age ap-

propriate activities are available in the nursery during the Sunday School hour.

What about Kindergarten Summer Birthdays?

If a family of a child with a summer birthday decides to wait to have that child begin kindergarten until s/he is six, that child is then kept in the 4-year-

old Sunday School class for one more year so s/he can begin Kindergarten Sunday School with the class with whom s/he will be attending Kindergarten in the school system.



Sunday School Classes

Bethel Bistro for the Whole Family

Wednesdays at Bethel are filled with activities from 3:30 until 9:00 p.m. As a ministry to our busy families, Ruth Bolstad and a crew of volunteers graciously provide a home cooked meal each Wednesday night from 5:30 until 6:30. All Bethel members and friends are invited to attend. There are usually sev-

eral entrees, including a vegetarian option. Peanut butter and jelly are always available. Many families have found Bethel Bistro a wonderful opportunity for a simple family meal on a very busy night. Fel-

lowship with other Bethel folks and friends is an added benefit. Recommended donation is \$3.00 per person age 3–adult.



Bethel Lutheran Church

1321 North Ave.
Northfield, MN 55057



Building Disciples for Christ and
His Kingdom



For more information on
any of our Nursery
Ministries
please contact
Stacy Waters our
Nursery Coordinator at
507-581-9142
or by email at:
stacywilliamswaters@gmail.com
