



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 her/his life when the journey begins with God. If we begin to try to keep the promises that we made at our child's baptism now, her/his journey with God will be easier and richer.

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

God Bless,
Juley Jenkinson
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.

For your child's safety: we have 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.

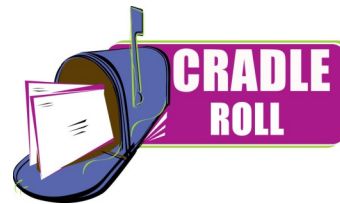
For more information on any of our Nursery Ministries please contact **Juley Jenkinson** our Nursery Coordinator at **507-645-4558** or by email at: jjenkinson@bethelnorthfield.org

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Nursery Staff

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



Cradle Roll is a monthly mailing which provides parents with ideas for sharing their faith with their infants age one month through his/her third birthday. If your child does not currently receive Cradle Roll and you would like them to, please contact Juley Jenkinson at jjenkinson@bethelnorthfield.org or call the church office.

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:

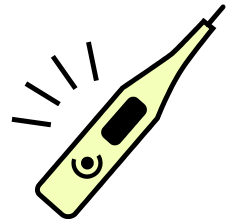
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Fever

- 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 the safety of our young children, we ask that only children age Kindergarten and younger use the nursery.
- ◆ To ease the transition from nursery to worshipping with their families, we have provided busy bags (found outside of the sanctuary doors) for those children who would like to use them.
- ◆ 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 s/he becomes 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 her/him 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 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.

Nursery Sunday School

We offer a Nursery Sunday School every Sunday during the Sunday School hour (9:45 - 10:30) which includes crafts, bible study and music.



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 a couple times per school year on a Saturday evening from 3:30 - 7:30 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 \$10.00/child with a maximum of \$25.00/family (per evening) will be charged.

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



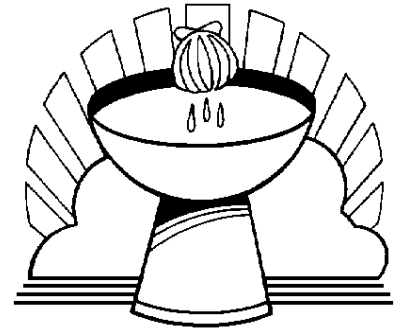
Setting a Baptism Date and Baptismal Remembrance

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 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 appropriate 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.



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Matthew 19:14

Bethel Bistro for the Whole Family

Wednesdays at Bethel are filled with activities from 3:30 until 8:00 p.m. As a ministry to our busy families, an active crew of volunteers graciously provides a home cooked meal each Wednesday night from 5:30 until 6:30. All Bethel members and friends are invited to attend. There is usually one main healthy entrée that we announce ahead

of time. Peanut butter and jelly are always available. Many families have found Bistro a wonderful opportunity for a simple family meal on a very busy night. Fellowship with other Bethel folks and friends is an added benefit. Recommended donation is \$3.00 per person age 3–adult.



Little Lambs Volunteer Opportunities

We encourage parents to volunteer in the nursery. There are many ways that you can help besides caregiving including Nursery Committee, Prayer Friends, help updating bulletin boards, new baby baskets, busy bags, and room cleaning/sanitizing to name a few.

You do not have to be a parent of a young child to help. We encourage intergenerational relationships. This may be grandmas and grandpas who miss their own grandchildren or empty nesters who would love to read a story or play with a child. It is also a great opportunity for your child who is reaching babysitting age, to help teach and mentor our Little Lambs.

Name(s) _____

Please check the volunteer opportunities that you will be able to fill during the year. If you need more information, please contact Juley.

_____ **Nursery Committee**—One hour a month to provide assistance and direction to the Nursery Coordinator

_____ **Cradle Roll**—Help send out mailings to families regarding faith formation for young children

_____ **Bake Sale Baker**—Bake an item for the annual bake sale.

_____ **Bake Sale Worker**—Help set up for the bake sale or work at the table.

Please complete this form and return it to the church office. Thank you.



It takes your help to make it work. "I am the church, you are the church, we are the church together." It takes the help of many to make it all work. Please help be the "church" by volunteering in our ministries.

2017–2018 Family Information Form

Last Name: _____

Please list all children, babies through Kindergarten:

First Name: _____
Middle Name: _____
Prefers to be called: _____
Birthdate: _____
Baptism Date: _____
My Favorite Things:
___ Blanket ___ Pacifier
___ Toy _____
___ Game/Song _____
___ Other _____
Snacks:
___ Are ok ___ Do not give
Allergies: _____

First Name: _____
Middle Name: _____
Prefers to be called: _____
Birthdate: _____
Baptism Date: _____
My Favorite Things:
___ Blanket ___ Pacifier
___ Toy _____
___ Game/Song _____
___ Other _____
Snacks:
___ Are ok ___ Do not give
Allergies: _____

Older Siblings

Name _____ Age _____ Name _____ Age _____
Name _____ Age _____ Name _____ Age _____

Parent Information

Father's Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Cell _____ Work _____
Email _____

Mother's Name _____
Address _____
Phone _____ Cell _____ Work _____
Email _____

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
Juley Jenkinson our
Nursery Coordinator at
507-645-4558
or by email at:
jjenkinson@bethelnorthfield.org**
