

Children's Ministry Road Map

Volume 15

April 2017

A Guide to Faith Development Opportunities for Children at Bethel Lutheran Church

Inside this issue:

Acolytes	9
BAM	6-7
Bethel Bistro	9
Calendar	10
CAT Class	8
Deadlines	2
Holy Communion	5
Registration Packet	Insert
Registration Packet Information	3
Retreats	5
Stepping Stones Ministry	5
Sunday School	4
VBS	3

Sunday School, BAM, CAT Class, Retreats, Special Events—It's all in here!

Registration Deadlines:

May 21 for Bethel members and anyone currently enrolled in our programming

NEW MEMBERS and VISITORS are welcome to register at **any time** throughout the year.

Mission & Vision for our Bethel Children

Mission Statement of the Youth Ministry Advisory Board:

Bethel Lutheran Church will provide a spiritual environment for each child that nurtures them in a transformational, life-long relationship with God. Each child will be equipped for their life journey through scripture, worship, prayer, and relationships with people of faith. Each child will be encouraged to discover their calling, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ, and to lead a life of service.

Vision for Children and Youth:

- Provide a nurturing partnership between church and home;
- Help our youth find their place in the church and in our world by providing connections with other youth, children, and adults of faith;
- Involve our youth in the work of the church through worship, evangelism, learning, fellowship, and service as a path toward discipleship;
- Provide experiences that will allow them to develop and test their faith so, as they move into adulthood, they will have a faith that will go with them and grow with them.

Any questions? Please contact:

Pam Vig, Director of Children's Ministry

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Bethel Lutheran Church

507-786-8878

www.bethelnorthfield.org

Northfield, MN 55057

1321 North Avenue

From the Director of Children’s Ministries

Dear Partners in Faith,

Our goal in Children’s Ministry at Bethel is to raise children who will grow into adults of faith. The faith development of our children is one of the most important responsibilities we have as parents. Statistics show that the most influential factor in a child’s faith development is whether or not their parent(s) model that faith. There is no one more qualified than you to pass on the faith to your child.

It is the responsibility of the community of believers – the church – to support you and guide you in this endeavor. To be truly successful in developing the faith of our children we, as parents and church, need to be in partnership. Neither the church nor the parents can do this important ministry without the other.

Toward this end, we have created and provide many opportunities for the faith development of our children both on site and at home. It is our prayer that you and your family will not only choose on-site Bethel activities that will sustain and develop faith in your children but that you will also seek out and utilize one or more of the take home tools that are available for you throughout the year to use in the setting of your family life.

At Bethel, we are blessed with many children. Providing programming for these children is another endeavor in which the church and home must partner. Our volunteer philosophy at Bethel is that if everyone does a little, no one person has to do a lot. We purposely design volunteer roles in ways that are easy to commit to and take very little preparation. Please keep this in mind as you fill out the Parent Volunteer Opportunity page of your registration packet. Think carefully about how you will contribute your time and talents to share in the Children’s Ministry of Bethel. Any success that we have in this ministry is due directly to the volunteers who staff each ministry area. We can’t do all of the great things we do without you!

And so, please take a few minutes right now to read through the entire Road Map. Discover what’s new and what is staying the same in Children’s Ministries at Bethel for 2017-18. When you are finished, fill out the registration packet and return it to Bethel by Sunday, May 21, if you are currently enrolled in Bethel programming, or as soon as possible if you are a visitor or new member and this deadline has passed. In addition, [please make special note of the calendar on page 10 and transfer any pertinent dates to your family calendar.](#)

We look forward to another wonderful year of ministry with you and your children.

Peace,




Important Dates and Deadlines

<p>May 21 Children’s Ministry Registration Packet due 21 Last Day of 2016-17 Sunday School Year 24 Last Day of 2016-17 BAM (Grade K-4)</p>	<p>31 5th Grade CAT Class Finale June 12-15 Vacation Bible School (See page 3 for details.)</p>	<p>September 13 First day of BAM 17 Rally Day – first day of Sunday School</p>
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New members and visitors are welcome to join any of our programs at any time regardless of stated deadlines.

“The faith development of our children is one of the most important responsibilities we have as parents.”

Children's Ministry Registration Packet

All whose children will be participating in any aspect of our Children's Ministry in the 2017-18 school year are asked to return the enclosed Registration Packet to the church by May 21st.

If your children will not be participating in any on site programming during the 2017-18 school year, you do not need to return the registration packet. **But please contact the church office and let us know that you will not be participating.**

Parent Consent/ Emergency Form

Rather than requiring that you fill out a consent/emergency form for every program that your child attends, we ask that you submit a form once a year that will cover all on-site Bethel programming for our age 3 - Grade 5 students. This includes Sunday School, BAM, CAT Class, the 3rd Grade Holy Baptism Retreat, the 4th Grade Holy Worship Retreat, and the 5th Grade Holy Communion Retreat.

Participation Form

Use this form to indicate in which programming the children in your family will be participating during the coming year.

Parent Opportunity Form

Use this form to indicate in which areas you will be able to support the Children's Ministries of Bethel in the coming year with your time and talent.

Return Deadline: May 21

If you do not return your registration packet by May 21st, you can expect to receive a reminder email, as well as a reminder phone call or two before the end of May.

We are implementing this registration packet as a matter of convenience for you. Please make its implementation convenient for our office by responding promptly.

Thank You!

**Vacation Bible School
June 12-15
For Age 3-Grade 4
In 2016-2017**

This year Bethel, Emmaus, St. John's, and St. Peter's Churches will once again be joining forces to provide a VBS experience for our students who will be 3 years old by September 1, 2017 - Grade 4 (2016-17 school year). The week's activities will be located at Bethel Lutheran Church and the cost is \$15 per student with a \$30 per family maximum.

VBS Registration packets are available online (bethelnorthfield.org) or at the Bethel Information Station. Please fill your registration packet out and return it as soon as possible.



Sunday School

9:45-10:30 am.

Classes begin on Rally Day, September 17, 2017

A nursery is provided for children who will not be 3 years old prior to September 1, 2017.

Nursery Sunday School — Every year we have several students who just miss the cut off for our 3-year-old Sunday School class and so

each week in our Nursery, our nursery staff plan special "Sunday School" activities for our older nursery children.

Spark — Age 3-Grade 1

Our age 3 — grade 1 classes use the Spark curriculum published by Augsburg Fortress. Classes for this age group are held in our East Pod. A 15-minute musical opening in the East Pod

begins our class time for our age 3-4 classes and ends class time for our kindergarten and grade 1 classes each week.

Faith Quest — Grades 2-5

Our Grade 2—5 classes meet each week in our Center Pod. The morning opens with music and an introduction to the theme for the month. The students are then dismissed

by grade to four different stations. The year is broken into 4 or 5 week units. Each unit focuses on one particular Bible story or theme. There are four or five stations in each unit and each grade moves to a different station each week. Stations can include cooking, storytelling, art, drama, science, recreation, video, and more.

If you would like your child to have a specific teacher or would like your child to be placed in a class with a specific friend, please indicate this on page 5 in the Registration Packet.



Special Sunday School Classes

Each year our 2nd and 3rd grade Sunday School classes have a special four-week class with their parents.

In the fall our 2nd graders and parents learn "How to Use the Bible."

In January/February our 3rd graders and parents study "Talking With God," a curriculum on prayer.

Details will be sent to families a few weeks prior to the beginning of class.

During these four-week sessions, the class is taught by Director of Children's Ministries, Pam Vig. Our regular teachers for 2nd or 3rd graders have those four Sundays off.

See the calendar on page 10 for specific dates for both of these classes and plan now to attend with your child.

Sunday School Advent Worship Service - Sunday, December 17, 2017

Each year during Advent our Grade 5 and younger Sunday School classes lead the congregation in worship during one of the Sundays in Advent. Age 3 - Grade 1

students sing 3-4 songs and our Grade 2-5 students present the gospel message for the day. Because of the large number of children in our Sunday School ministry,

students are divided into two groups. This year families whose last names begin with A-L are asked to participate in the 10:45 service and families whose last names

begin with M-Z are asked to participate in the 8:30 service. More details will be available as December draws closer.

Sunday School Staff Opportunities

Age 3 - Grade 1 — Spark Teaching Teams

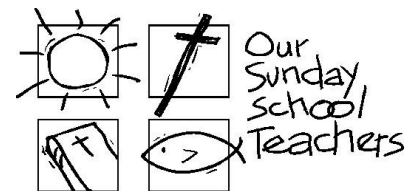
For each of our age 3 — grade 1 classes we recruit a team of four adults who take turns rotating teaching duties. Each team works out their own schedule with the only requirement that at least two of the four be present each week. We have lovely spacious classrooms and an easy to follow curriculum and leader's guides.

Grades 2-5 — Faith Quest Station Leaders

Station leaders are recruited for four or five week units. The role of a station leader is to prepare one 35-minute lesson and give the same lesson each week to a different group of students. You may sign on for one unit or multiple units. Curriculum is provided and station activities can include art, cooking, storytelling, drama, science, recreation, video, and more.

Grades 2-5 — Faith Quest Small Group Guides

We recruit one guide per every 8—10 students who stays with the group for the entire year. Guides are responsible for taking attendance, leading their group to their station for the week, assisting the station leaders with activities, crowd control, and nurturing an ongoing relationship in the group. Guides have no prep duties but simply show up each week ready to share the fun and fellowship.



You may sign up for any of these positions on pages 6 & 7 of the registration packet.

* Children's* *Retreats

All retreats are led by Pastor Tim McDermott and Pam Vig, Director of Children's Ministries

3rd Grade Holy Baptism Retreat

On April 22, all 3rd grade students are invited to an afternoon of learning centered around Holy Baptism. We begin at noon and end at 5:00. The activities include lunch, learning, games, video, and several special activities. Parents are asked to join us for a 30-minute session designed just for them at 4:15. The afternoon concludes with a joint closing with the children in the sanctuary.

4th Grade Holy Worship Retreat

On March 11, all of our 4th graders are invited to an afternoon of learning centered around Holy Worship. The afternoon begins at noon and ends at 5:00. The activities include lunch, learning, games and several special activities. Parents are asked to join us for a 30-minute session designed just for them at 4:15. The afternoon concludes with a joint closing with the children in the sanctuary.

5th Grade Holy Communion Retreat

On Friday night and Saturday October 27 & 28, all of our 5th graders are invited to an overnight retreat centered on Holy Communion. The retreat begins on Friday at 6:00 p.m. and ends Saturday afternoon around 3:00 p.m. Parents are asked to join us for a 30-minute session designed just for them at 2:15 p.m. The afternoon concludes with a joint closing with the children in the sanctuary. Retreat activities include a Seder meal, games, video, good food, and several special learning activities. Lights out is at 11:00 and sleeping is a requirement.

Mark your calendars

Stepping Stones Ministry

At Bethel, we intentionally observe specific steps in a child's faith journey, recognizing their significance in a child's faith life...

At Bethel, we intentionally observe specific steps in a child's faith journey, recognizing their significance in a child's faith life and offering the congregation, as a whole, the opportunity to celebrate with the child and family as these steps are taken. Stepping Stones are given out for the following Faith Steps in a child's life at

Bethel:
Baptism, Beginning of Sunday School, 2nd Grade Prayer Class, 3rd Grade Bible Class, 3rd Grade Holy Baptism Retreat, 4th Grade Holy Worship Retreat, 5th Grade Holy Communion Retreat, 6th Grade Lord's Prayer Retreats, 7th Grade Beginning of Confirmation Instruction, 8th Grade Mission Trip, 9th Grade Christikon Trip, 10th Grade

Confirmation Service, High School Summer Trip, and 12th Grade Graduation.
*If your child has observed any of these steps in the years before Bethel began giving out Stepping Stones or at a church other than Bethel, you can order a stepping stone to mark it. Order forms are available in the church office or online at bethelnorthfield.org.

Holy Communion Practices for Children at Bethel

Holy Communion instruction takes place for children at Bethel during the 5th Grade Holy Communion Retreat (See details above.). Upon completion of this retreat, children are ready to fully participate in Holy

Communion. However, there are families who occasionally seek to have their younger children participate in Holy Communion. This is an option. Families seeking this option are asked to contact the church office to make an

appointment for a time of private child-friendly instruction on the practice of Holy Communion with one of our pastors.



BAM - Bible - Arts - Music

BAM begins on Wednesday, September 13

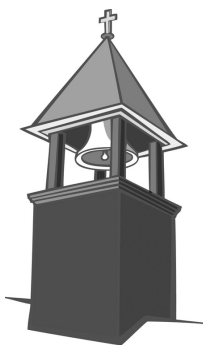
BAM is open to any student in Kindergarten through grade 5 during the 2017-18 school year. See page 10 for a full 2017-18 Wednesday calendar.

Weekly BAM Schedule:

- 3:30**-Arrival and Snack
- 3:45**-Chapel
- 4:15**-K-Choir
Grades 1-2-TNT
Grade 3-Neutral Zone/Chimes
Grades 4&5-CAT/BLAST
- 4:45**-K-Kclub
Grades 1&2-Choir
Grades 3,4,&5-TNT/Chimes
- 5:15**-Grades K-2-Neutral Zone
Grades 3-5-Choir
- 5:30**-Bistro Begins Serving
- 5:45** BAM Dismissal
- 6:30**-Bistro Serving Concludes

Snack

A simple snack is provided each week. Two volunteers are needed to prepare and serve this snack.



BAM Chapel

BAM Chapel

BAM Chapel is led by one of our pastors and includes fun action songs, a child friendly liturgy, the Gospel reading for the week, and a brief homily. 5th graders are encouraged to serve as Acolytes, Audio/Visual Room Attendants, Singing bowl ringers, and

Readers. (Sign your 5th grader up for one or more of these duties on page 4 of the Registration Packet.) Parents are welcome to join us for chapel at any time and volunteers for the day are asked to arrive in time to sit among the students during Chapel.



Catechism

4th & 5th Grade CAT Class

CAT Class details can be found on page 8. A schedule of which grade is in session each week is found on the calendar on page 10.

BLAST

BAM Leaders And Servants Together is an activity for our 4th and 5th graders. It takes place from 4:15—4:45 on the weeks when their grade is not in a CAT Class unit. Led by parent volunteers, our students focus on how they can lead and serve, not only as participants at BAM on Wednesday afternoons, but in all of their activities here at Bethel and out in the world. In 4th Grade our BLAST activities focus on the Fruits of the Spirit. In 5th Grade they learn the concept of Bucket Filling – living in ways that contribute to their own well being and the well being of the people around them.

TNT

Trying New Things (TNT) is an activity time for our grade 1–5 students at BAM. Students rotate every other week between Art and Action activities. Each two week segment focuses on one Bible story. One week they will experience an art activity that highlights the story. The next week they will participate in action activities that will focus on the same story. Four volunteers are needed each week to lead and assist with TNT. Volunteers can sign on for one, two, or more weeks at a time.

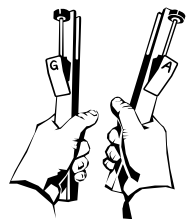
Kclub

Kclub is the activity time for our Kindergarten students. Each week the students hear a different Bible story and participate in activities that include games, crafts, and more. Two volunteers are needed each week to lead and assist with Kclub.



Neutral Zone

The Neutral Zone is an activity time for our K-Grade 3 students. It takes place from 4:14 - 4:45 for Grade 3 and from 5:15 - 5:45 for Kindergarten-Grade 2. The Neutral Zone is designed as a quiet space in the afternoon for children to read, do homework, have a story read to them, play a board game, or participate in quiet movement activities.



Chime Ensembles

Grace Notes and Half Steps are our handchime ensembles and are included as one of our TNT activities.

Handchimes Handchimes are a precursor to learning handbells. Children do not need to be able to read music to begin. The children will learn how to read music, learn how they can use their talents to serve God, and nurture a love of music at the same time. Half Steps is open to our 3rd graders and begins in February. Grace Notes is open to our 4th and 5th graders. 4th graders rehearse from Sep-Dec. 5th graders rehearse from Jan-



May.

Choirs

Vocal choirs are a key component of our BAM program. If your child is not able to commit to regular attendance at rehearsals or performances, or is just not interested in participating in music, please make plans to pick him/her up before their choir rehearsal time as there are no other activities available at that time for his/her age group. Rehearsal times are as follows:

Kindergarten Choir

4:15–4:45

Grades 1-2 – Alleluia Choir

4:45–5:15

Grades 3-5 – Carol Choir

5:15–5:45

Kindergarten Choir

In Kindergarten Choir we emphasize early musical experiences such as learning about rhythm, matching pitch, and following the Director. This choir will sing in worship services with the Alleluia Choir occasionally throughout the year.

Alleluia Choir

Singers in Grades 1 and 2 participate in the Alleluia Choir. This choir is designed as a preparatory program through songs, games, and movement. They will sing in worship services occasionally throughout the year.

Carol Choir

3rd through 5th graders sing in the Carol Choir. This group participates in worship services generally once or twice a month.

Choir and Chime Expectations

It is important that children who participate in any of our vocal choirs or instrumental ensembles be consistent in their attendance at rehearsals and performances as they will each have specific parts/roles. When they aren't in attendance, there is a hole in the presentation that isn't easily filled. Please do all you can to insure your child is



present for weekly rehearsals and scheduled performances.

The Bethel Bus

Each week we rent three buses from Benjamin Bus Company to pick up our BAM participants from Sibley, Greenvale, and Bridgewater Elementary Schools. In addition, one of our buses originates at the Middle School in order to pick up our Prairie Creek students. Students are then transported right to Bethel. Please indicate on page 4 of the Registration Packet which school your child attends and



whether or not they will be riding the Bethel Bus to BAM each week.

Volunteer Opportunities

We can't do any of our children's ministries without you. This is especially true of our BAM ministry. We rely on several volunteers each week to keep our program running and our children safe and engaged. Check out the Volunteer Opportunities on page 6 of the Registration Packet and choose one or more ways in which you can serve. A nursery is provided for children of volunteers who are not yet old enough for BAM. *When everyone does a little, no one has to do a lot!*

CAT (Catechism) Class

Catechism instruction at Bethel Lutheran Church for 4th, 5th, and 6th graders began in 1991. A Joint Confirmation Committee made up of staff and lay leaders from Bethel, St. John's, and St. Peter's Lutheran Churches in Northfield spent many months and hours examining the then current confirmation practices at all three churches and how they might be enhanced.

As a result of the work of this committee, Catechism classes for grades 4 and 5 and Catechism Retreats for grade 6 were implemented at all three churches.

At Bethel our 4th graders study the Ten Commandments, 5th graders study the Apostles' Creed, and 6th graders study the Lord's Prayer.

Currently at Bethel, CAT classes for grades 4 and 5 are taught by Pastor Tim McDermott and Pam Vig, Director of Children's Ministries.

Classes are held in one 4-week session and two 6-week

sessions throughout the school year in conjunction with BAM, our weekly after school program. A student may attend CAT class without staying for the entire Wednesday afternoon program. Simply check the "CAT Only" box on page 4 of the registration packet. See the calendar on page 10 for a listing of which dates are 4th Grade CAT Class dates and which are 5th Grade CAT Class dates.

Take Home Lessons

Every year there are always one or more students in each grade who, for one reason or another, are unable to take part in our after-school CAT Class sessions. In addition, each week there are usually one or two regular students who are absent due to illness or other conflicts. We don't want these students to miss out on these valuable building blocks in their Christian education. As a result we are pleased to provide *Take Home Lessons*. These lessons are designed to be used with the entire family as

a weekly devotional tool during the weeks that a child's grade is in CAT Class. They focus on the topics that are covered in CAT Class that week.

CAT Class *Take Home Lessons* can be used in three ways.

- You may choose to teach your child at home for the entire year.
- You may use the lessons to help your child cover material that he/she may have missed due to an absence.
- You may use the lessons as a weekly devotional tool for your entire family or as a one on one time with your CAT Class student to reinforce what was covered in CAT class that week and to nurture faith in your home.

Each week a Take Home Lesson will be emailed to the students whose grade is in session at that time.



Important CAT Dates

All 4th and 5th graders are asked to attend a CAT orientation on the first day of BAM, Wednesday, September 13.

The first day of regular CAT Class lessons for 4th Graders will be Wednesday, September 20.

The first day of CAT Class lessons for 5th Graders will be Wednesday, October 25.



Catechism

4th and 5th Grade Acolytes

4th and 5th graders at Bethel serve in worship during the school year as acolytes.

What do acolytes do?

- Wear a cool white robe.
- Walk into the worship service with the pastors and assisting minister.
- Sit with the pastors and assisting minister.
- Light the candles on the altar.
- Distribute and collect the offering baskets to and from the ushers.

- Collect the glasses during holy communion.

Two acolytes are scheduled for every Sunday morning worship service. Please indicate on the participation form in the registration packet at which service your 4th or 5th grade child would like to be scheduled. In addition, we are always delighted to have acolytes serve at our Sunday evening worship service. Students are not scheduled for this service but any 4th or 5th grader who is present is welcome to serve.

Your child does not have to attend Wednesday afternoon CAT Class in order to participate as an acolyte. If your child is not going to attend CAT Class but would like to be scheduled to acolyte, please indicate your worship service preference, if you have one, on page 4 of the registration packet.

Acolyte Liaisons

Each week we ask that one of the parents of the children who are serving as acolytes

that week serve as the acolyte liaison. Duties involve meeting the acolytes in the usher's closet 10 minutes before the beginning of the worship service, helping them get into their robes, and making sure they are clear on which acolyte will be performing each duty. Detailed instructions will be sent out in the fall.



Student Bibles

Spark Story Bibles are used in our Age 3-Grade 1 classes. All Bethel children receive a copy of this Spark Story Bible in January of the calendar year they begin Sunday School. If your child wasn't here to receive their bible at that time, and you would like one, please let us know. Spark Story Bibles are available for \$15.00. Children do not need to bring their Spark Story Bible with them to Sunday School.



Hands On Bibles are presented to our Bethel 2nd graders each year. Our Grade 2-5 students use these Bibles each week in class and are encouraged to bring their Bible with them to class every Sunday. If your child needs a Hands On Bible, you may purchase one for \$15.00.

Bethel Bistro

Many families have found Bistro a wonderful opportunity for a simple family meal on a very busy night.

Bistro serves a tasty home cooked meal every Wednesday from 5:30–6:30 p.m. during the school year (with the exception of Lent when we have soup suppers and Christmas and Spring Breaks). Peanut butter and jelly are also a weekly staple. A suggested donation of \$3.00 per person for this delicious meal is collected at the door.

Many families have found Bistro a wonderful opportunity for a simple family meal on a very busy night. Fellowship

with other Bethel folks is an added benefit.

Plan now to make the Bistro meal a part of your Wednesday night routine. A playroom, staffed by St. Olaf students and located in the Center Pod, is provided

during Bistro each week for children to utilize while their parents are finishing their meal and visiting. Parents

are asked to check their children into and out of the playroom each week in order to keep our children and our building safe. Children not in the playroom must be

under their parents' supervision in the CLC.



2017-2018 Children's Ministry Calendar

Sundays:

17 Rally Day
 24 2nd Grade Parent/Child Bible Class

1 2nd Grade Parent/Child Bible Class
 8 2nd Grade Parent/Child Bible Class
 15 2nd Grade Parent/Child Bible Class
 22
 29 1st/2nd Grade Parent/Child Share/Save/Spend Class

5
 12
 19 Advent Fair 12:00 p.m.
 26

3
 10 Music Festival Sunday
 17 Sunday School Advent Worship Service
 24 No Sunday School - Christmas Break
 31 No Sunday School - Christmas Break

7 3rd Grade Parent/Child Prayer Class
 14 3rd Grade Parent/Child Prayer Class
 21 3rd Grade Parent/Child Prayer Class
 28 Buried Alleluia Lesson - Grades 2-5

4 3rd Grade Parent/Child Prayer Class
 11
 18
 25

4
 11
 18
 25 Palm Sunday

1 No Sunday School - Easter Sunday
 8
 15
 22
 29

6
 13
 20 Last Day of Sunday School
 27 Memorial Day Weekend

September 2017

October 2017

November 2017

December 2017

January 2018

February 2018

March 2018

April 2018

May 2018

Wednesdays:

13 1st Day of BAM - 4th & 5th Grade CAT Orientation
 20 4th Grade CAT
 27 4th Grade CAT

4 4th Grade CAT
 11 4th Grade CAT
 18 No BAM - MEA
 25 5th Grade CAT

1 5th Grade CAT
 8 5th Grade CAT - BAM Super Service Day
 15 5th Grade CAT
 22 No BAM - Thanksgiving Break
 29 5th Grade CAT

6 5th Grade CAT
 13 4th Grade CAT
 20 No BAM - Christmas Break
 27 No BAM - Christmas Break

3 4th Grade CAT
 10 4th Grade CAT
 17 4th Grade CAT
 24 4th Grade CAT
 31 4th Grade CAT

7 5th Grade CAT - Half Steps Begins
 14 5th Grade CAT - Ash Wednesday 5:15 Chapel
 21 5th Grade CAT
 28 5th Grade CAT

7 5th Grade CAT
 14 5th Grade CAT
 21 4th Grade CAT
 28 No BAM - Spring Break

4 4th Grade CAT
 11 4th Grade CAT - BAM Super Service Day
 18 4th Grade CAT
 25 4th Grade CAT

2 5th Grade CAT
 9 5th Grade CAT
 16 5th Grade CAT
 23 5th Grade CAT - Last Regular Day of BAM
 30 5th Grade CAT Class Finale

Special Dates:

5th Grade Holy Communion Retreat, October 27 & 28, 2017
 4th Grade Holy Worship Retreat, March 11, 2018
 3rd Grade Holy Baptism Retreat, April 22, 2018

Children's Ministry Fees

Other than a nominal fee to cover food and extra supplies during Vacation Bible School (see page 3) and our three retreats throughout the year (see page 5), we do not charge a fee for our weekly Children's Ministry programming. The cost of these ministries is significant — Sunday School curriculum, general supplies, BAM snack and bus, and of course the mortgage, maintenance, and utility bills associated with our wonderful building. These expenses and many more are all funded through the annual giving of our members and visitors. We encourage all families with children in our programming to support our ministries through time, talent, and treasure. See page 6 of the Registration Packet to volunteer your time and talent. You can contribute to the general fund of our congregation by giving weekly to the offering collection in worship services or by sending your contribution in to the church office. Contact the church office to hear details on how you can have funds automatically transferred from your account to Bethel's through our Simply Giving program. Thank you for giving of your time, talent, and treasure to support the ministries of Bethel Lutheran Church. We could not do it without you!

Closing Thoughts

Whew! You made it! Congratulations and thank you for taking the time to read through this volume of information. Hey, you made it this far. Why not sit down right now and fill out the enclosed Registration Packet? It will make a huge difference in our work load if we receive all of our Registration Packets on time. Thank you for your help with this. Extra copies of this information packet are available in the church office throughout the year. Please feel free to share them with friends, neighbors, and visitors who would like to know more about our Children's Ministries at Bethel. A copy of this brochure as well as a Children's Ministry Registration Packet can also be downloaded from our website at: www.bethelnorthfield.org.

Put Your Schedule Where Your Heart Is

Please search your heart as you complete pages 6 & 7 of the Registration Packet. We have several wonderful, fun, and exciting programs in our children's ministry at Bethel, a ministry that has a place for you and your child(ren). Where do your gifts lie? How will you use those gifts for your own faith development? How will you partner with Bethel and other parents to nurture the faith of all of our children?

We are all looking forward to another great year of Children's Ministry at Bethel Lutheran Church. It is our hope that you and your family will join us on this journey.



Deadline Reminders:

Registration Packets are due on May 21, 2017.

If you are a member of Bethel and your child will not be participating in any of our ministries, please see page 3 for instructions on how to proceed. Thank you!



**Registration Packets
are due by May 21,
2017. New
members and
visitors may
register at any time
during the year.**



Bethel Lutheran Church
1321 North Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057



www.bethelnorthfield.org
507-786-6674
pvig@bethelnorthfield.org

Children's Ministry Shorthand

Alleluia Choir ~ Grades 1 & 2 - Rehearsal is from 4:45 - 5:15 during BAM Each Wednesday

BAM ~ Bible, Arts, - Music, our Wednesday after school program

BAM Fam ~ Short for BAM Family - a mixed age group of students who sit together in BAM Chapel and work together on Super Service Days.

BLAST ~ BAM Leaders and Servant Together is a 30-minute session for 4th and 5th graders that takes place from 4:15 - 4:45 on the days they are not in CAT Class. Activities focus on Fruits of The Spirit in 4th Grade and SelfCare & Care of Others in 5th Grade

Carol Choir ~ Grades 3 - 5 - Rehearsal is from 5:15 - 5:45 during BAM each Wednesday

CAT Class ~ Catechism Class that focuses on The Ten Commandments in Grade 4 and The Apostles' Creed in Grade 5. Sessions rotate among the two grades on a 4 or 6 week schedule.

CLC ~ Christian Life Center where most Bethel meals and treats are shared.

Grace Notes ~ Grades 4 - 5 hand chime ensemble - Rehearsal is from 4:45 - 5:15 during BAM each Wednesday. 4th Grade meets Sept. - Dec. 5th Grade meets Jan. - May

Half Steps ~ Grade 3 hand chime ensemble - Rehearsal is from 4:15 - 4:45 during BAM each Wednesday starting in February

Jammin' Minute ~ A 2 - 3 minute time of movement at the beginning of BAM Chapel.

Kclub ~ Our BAM kindergarten activity time

Kindergarten Choir - Rehearsal is from 4:15 - 4:45 during BAM each Wednesday

Super Service Day ~ Two times a year our BAM Fams will work together to perform several service activities in place of TNT and Kclub for that day.

The Neutral Zone ~ Quiet activities such as stories, homework, board games and reading.

TNT ~ Trying New Things is the main activity time for BAM outside of Choir and CAT. It can include art, games, chimes, and more.