



The Annual Scoop



Everything you need to know about activities and opportunities for youth in grades 6-12

A note from the director...

Dear Bethel Youth & Parents,

Well, here it is, the Annual Youth Scoop! Spring is here and this is one more sign of it. As we do every Spring, the Bethel staff is looking ahead at next fall. And again, as we prepare to send out our annual information packets, our message is similar to the past several years. We encourage you to look at this packet, determine which pieces will nurture your family's faith growth, and plan to put them into next year's schedule, all the while trying to maintain a balance of life.

Our world has become, in many ways, a place where balance can be a hard thing to come by. Bethel faces those same challenges of balance as many of you — how to try out the new while honoring strong

traditions; how to manage time for home and church and school and (on and on it goes!); how to choose among so many *good* options available to us and provide a balance of worship, evangelism, learning, fellowship, and service. As always, we continue to strive for balance and quality in our ministries to support your child's faith growth — and we welcome your suggestions about just how to do that.

In an effort to make life easier for all of us, Bethel tries our best to give you the "everything you need to know" guide to the next year's youth happenings. We believe that it's our obligation to help you as you begin to prepare for the coming year by communicating Bethel's plans to you as early as possible. At the same time, updating our

records every spring makes our planning more accurate as well.

So the message remains very much the same — please think prayerfully about your time and your commitments, where you can pick up a piece to add to your schedules and where you need to cut back, as you review the information and mark your calendars. Then complete this year's registration packet, which is enclosed, and turn them in by May 21st. The happy result — you'll have it off your desk, AND it will help make life far more balanced for our Bethel staff!

Thank you for your part in making Bethel the great place it is for our youth and families!

Barb

Important Dates

- May 21 - deadline for returning the Scoop registration packet.
- June 4 - Senior Sunday
- June 12-15 VBS
- June 14 - Magical Mystery Tour I
- June 25 - June 30 — 8th Grade Mission Trip
- July 12 — Magical Mystery Tour II
- July 11-19 — Christikon
- July 22-29 — High School Flathead Trip
- August 9 - Magical Mystery Tour III
- August 20 - Celebration Sunday and Youth "Thanks- a -Bunch" Car Wash
- September 6 - Confirmation Orientation
- September 13 - Confirmation classes and Hang Time begin
- September 16 - Confirmation Kick-off Retreat
- September 17 - Rally Day; Sunday School begins
- September 20 - Sixth Grade Connections begins
- October 8 - Confirmand R&R Retreat
- October 15 - Rite of Confirmation
- March 21, 2018 - Last confirmation class
- May 20, 2018 - Sunday School ends
- June 3, 2018 - Senior Sunday

Do you have questions? Contact:

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Registration Packet

due at the church office by Sunday, May 21

All families are asked to return the enclosed Registration Packet to the church office by May 21st regardless of whether or not your children will be participating in our Youth Ministry programming. If your youth will not be participating, please indicate that on the registration packet itself. There are several pieces of information we need for our records regardless of participation.

Family Information Form

You may be asking why your family needs to fill out this information *again*. We, at Bethel, feel a strong obligation to provide a safe environment for all our families and it's important that we have current information on file in order to accomplish this. We ask that you update your family information completely every year, even if your youth will not be participating in Bethel's programming, so we can maintain our records accurately. This also saves you time in the long run. If your information on file is current, your child may choose to participate in an event spontaneously with a minimum of paperwork. And when a separate consent form is needed for an off-site adventure and our files are updated, you'll only have to sign the top of the form, refer us to our files for your present medical information, and turn in the form! A win-win situation for us all!

Participation Form

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

Parent Volunteer Form

Use this form to indicate in which areas you will be able to support the Youth Ministry of Bethel.

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Mentors

Meets: Several times per year - Watch the *Banner* and monthly *Scoop!* for dates and times.

Organizational meeting on September 6, 2017

All 9^{ers} (9th grade Bethel youth) are connected with a Bethel adult of their choice for a year of fellowship, service, and faith-building. Several events are planned throughout the school year to facilitate the growth and strengthening of a relationship between the youth and his/her adult mentor. This well-loved Bethel tradition is designed to assist in the faith growth of our 9th grade youth in preparation for their confirmation of faith the following fall.

Prayer Friends

Prayer Friends are an important part of the Bethel youth ministry. Every year, each 8th and 12th grade youth is paired with a Prayer Friend. The Prayer Friend simply commits to pray for their assigned student throughout the school year. Each youth is also asked to pray for his/her Prayer Friend. Students from these two classes are the focus for this ministry because of the transitions they will meet the following year - 8th graders as they enter high school and seniors as they move on to college. Adult Prayer Friends are assigned in the fall, after which they are encouraged to contact the student for whom they've chosen to pray. Please see the volunteer form included with this publication if you are interested in serving as a Prayer Friend to a Bethel youth.

Sunday School

Place: Bethel Youth Center and Sunday School classrooms

Meets: 9:45-10:30 a.m. each Sunday

Start Date: Rally Day, Sunday, September 17

The following options will be available for all Bethel youth as indicated during the 2017-18 school year. Students are asked to register for one of the options on the participation form in the registration packet.

Grapple (6th Grade)

Bethel's 6th grade Sunday school class meets in a traditional classroom setting. Students "grapple" with real-life preteen questions and tackle the issues preteens care about most in this fun interactive course of study for preteens. See registration form to register.

Live & Learn: Question Everything! (7th Grade)

This 7th grade class is presented in a traditional classroom setting. Activities and discussion will relate to the gospel reading for the day and will help students see how the Bible still has relevance to our lives today. Instead of reading the Bible and finding out how it relates to their lives, students will talk about what's happening in their lives and what the Bible has to say about that. See the registration form to register.

Faith in Action (8th Grade)

Our 8th grade Sunday school class meets in a traditional classroom setting and focuses on how faith becomes a way of life for Christians. The class invites various people to share how their faith influences them in their area of expertise, uses several service projects, and interactive study & discussion to explore questions of faith, and explores ways in which we are called to be servants in our modern world. See the registration form to register.

See *Sunday School* continued on next page.

Confirmation

Bethel's confirmation ministry has a "longer and later" approach. Our children begin their first steps toward confirming their faith with CAT classes in 4th and 5th grades, then continue into middle and high school with 6th Grade Connections, traditional confirmation classes, and Confirmation Crossroads. Here are the details.

Sixth Grade Connections

Meets: 7:00 – 8:15 p.m., every other Wednesday

Start date: September 20, 2017

6th Grade Connections meets every other Wednesday night starting in September; please see the schedule on page 15. A team of parents and Bethel's Director of Youth lead this fun, interactive learning experience designed to connect the elementary and middle school segments of our longer and later confirmation programs, the 4th and 5th grade CAT classes, and 7th - 9th grade confirmation classes. The word "connection" also signifies the connections made between our youth, their parent leaders, and their God. To enroll in 6th Grade Connections or volunteer for the parent planning team, please see the registration and volunteer sheets.

Circle of Saints Retreat

Meets: 12:00 - 3:00 p.m. November 5

At Bethel, we feel it's important to surround our youth with as many caring adults as possible, and we try to make that possible in multiple places throughout our children's and youth ministries. When this is in place, kids have multiple role models for a faith filled life and many sources of wisdom who have experienced and can share life's ups and downs. From research, we know that youth are better adjusted and more likely to pursue their faith journey into adulthood when they've had this benefit.

A new Stepping Stones Retreat for 6th graders and parents—the Circle of Saints Retreat - is aimed at creating this ring of adults for each of our youth as they enter middle school. The retreat will take place in the Bethel Youth Center on a Sunday afternoon in November. During the afternoon, 6th graders and parents will learn more about the importance of key adults in their lives and will be led through a process to select 5 adults whom they will ask to be the child's faith team. Once in place, these faith teams will be recognized at a dedication worship service in January. More information will be sent prior to this event.

Lord's Prayer Retreat

Meets: 12:00 - 5:00 p.m. January 28

A Lord's Prayer Retreat is offered as a part of the 6th Grade Connections program. It takes place on Sunday afternoon, January 28, from noon to 5:00 p.m. and is led by the Director of Youth and parent volunteers. The retreat focuses on 3 different petitions of the Lord's Prayer:

First Petition	<i>Hallowed be Thy name.</i>
Second Petition	<i>Give us this day our daily bread.</i>
Third Petition	<i>And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.</i>

To help as a parent volunteer, please see the volunteer sheet.

Confirmation Classes for Grades 7–9

Meets: 7:00 p.m., Wednesday evenings

Confirmation Orientation: Wednesday, September 7 (classes begin September 14)

Traditional confirmation classes are offered every Wednesday evening from 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. during the school year except during church holidays and school breaks. Please see schedule on page 14.

The confirmation curriculum has been thoughtfully planned to provide a strong faith foundation for our youth in preparation for their affirmation of baptism, which traditionally takes place in the fall of their sophomore year. Classes start with a large group presentation by the class teacher. Students are then divided into small groups for discussion, which are led by parent volunteers. The hour closes with a wrap-up of the information by the teacher.

Bethel's confirmation classes are open to all 7th - 9th grade students. Registration may be completed on the enclosed registration sheet. Parents - Please see the volunteer form in the registration packet to volunteer as a confirmation small group leader.

The following are the specifics for each class, including teachers and curriculum:

7 th grade	Pastor Tim	23 Stories You Should Know (Bible Study)
8 th Grade	Pastor Becca	Luther's <i>Small Catechism</i>
9 th Grade	Sarah & Eric Swan McDonald	Discipleship

Confirmation Crossroads

Confirmation Crossroads is a series of evening classes for our soon-to-be confirmed students to help them make the transition from confirmation student to confirmed Bethel member. Throughout a child's elementary and confirmation years, our goal at Bethel is to give students tools to equip them for a faith that will last a lifetime. We feel that this last step before the Affirmation of Baptism helps our confirmation students begin to take ownership of their faith life and gets them started on that lifetime journey. With that in mind, all sophomores meet during the month of September at the regularly scheduled time for Confirmation Classes on Wednesday evenings to recap their learning from previous years and to each create a visual representation of their personal faith statement. Their work is then displayed in the narthex on their Confirmation Day. Pam Vig teaches the class and parents meet with their children for this final preparation for the affirmation of baptism.

Rite of Confirmation

Confirmation R & R - Sunday, October 8, 2017

Youth who are confirming their faith are asked to set aside a Sunday in October in preparation for their confirmation service. Their parents are asked to join them in the evening. The specifics of the day are:

Confirmand Retreat: All youth who will be confirming their faith meet immediately following the late worship service and are bused to Nerstrand Big Woods State Park. The day is spent in preparation for their confirmation service the following Sunday. The youth return to Bethel at approximately 4:30 p.m.

Confirmation Dinner: All confirmands and parents are served a dinner by the 9th grade youth and parents, followed by a photo session in the sanctuary. The dinner is a meaningful end to a full day of planning for the rite of confirmation.

Confirmation Rehearsal - Wednesday, October 11, 2017 -

Parents are asked to join their child in Bethel's Sanctuary to walk through the confirmation service with the pastors and youth director. Details will be sent prior to this week.



Confirmation (Continued from page 7)

Confirmation Service – Sunday, October 15, 2017

Every fall, an afternoon service is dedicated to the rite of confirmation for all Bethel youth who wish to confirm their faith (traditionally 10th grade youth). This service will take place on the third Sunday in October in Boe Chapel on the St. Olaf Campus and is held separately from our regularly scheduled services in order to provide the space needed for our confirmands, their families, and friends. Detailed information is sent to the confirmands and their parents in the summer months before they confirm their faith.

HangTime

Meets: Every Wednesday of the month – 7:00 p.m.

Start date – September 13, 2017

Bethel's youth in grades 10-12 meet every Wednesday evening for faith, fellowship, and service events. Youth are encouraged to invite a friend to these events.

The hour includes time for simple relaxation and relationship-building as a way to recharge in the middle of the week while at the same time exploring ways of staying connected to God in the midst of our busy world.

Please see the HangTime schedule on page 15 for dates.

Retreats for our Youth

6th Grade Lord's Prayer Retreat

A Lord's Prayer Retreat is offered as a part of the 6th Grade Connections program. It takes place on a Sunday afternoon during the school year from noon to 3:00 p.m. and is led by the Director of Youth and parent volunteers. This year's retreat will be held on Sunday, January 28. The retreat focuses on three different petitions of the Lord's Prayer.



Circle of Saints Retreat

A new Stepping Stones Retreat for 6th graders and parents—the Circle of Saints Retreat - is aimed at creating this ring of adults for each of our youth as they enter middle school. The retreat will take place in the Bethel Youth Center on a Sunday afternoon in November. During the afternoon, 6th graders and parents will learn more about the importance of key adults in their lives and will be led through a process to select 5 adults whom they will ask to be the child's faith team. Once in place, these faith teams will be recognized at a dedication worship service in January. More information will be sent prior to this event.

Fall Confirmation Kick-Off Retreat

A confirmation retreat takes place each fall for all youth entering 7th through 9th grade confirmation class. This Saturday at Bethel is a great chance to learn more about your confirmation journey and get to know your confirmation teachers for next year in a fun, relaxed setting. Details will be sent during the summer. This retreat is scheduled from 9:00 a.m.—2 p.m. on Saturday, September 16, 2017.

2017 Confirmand Retreat

All youth who will be confirming their faith on October 15, 2017, meet for a retreat the week before (Sunday, October 8) the Confirmation service. See the details on page 7.

Other Opportunities (Continued from page 9)

More Summer Trips and Fun!

9ers

Christikon: Christikon is a ministry of Lutheran congregations that is based in an outdoor setting in the mountains of southern Montana which offers outdoor experiences grounded in and shaped by the gospel of Jesus Christ. A Bethel tradition for years, Bethel's youth who have completed 9th grade participate in the "Mountaineers" backpacking trip as a part of their preparation for confirmation. This trip usually takes place in July. An informational meeting is held for all 9th grade youth and parents the October before the trip.

High School Summer Trip: Bethel's summer trip for youth who have completed grades 10 - 12 follows a 3-year rotation:

- Outdoor adventure trip
- ELCA National Youth Gathering
- Mission Trip

The high school summer trips generally last about 7 - 10 days. Youth on this summer's trip (2017) will travel to Glacier National Park area of Montana for a week of sea kayaking, sailing, white-water rafting, and exploring God's beautiful creation. During the 2018 summer trip, Bethel Youth will travel to Houston for the National Youth Gathering. An informational meeting is held for all 10-12th grade youth and parents the October before the trip.

Celebration Sunday and Youth Thanks-a-Bunch Car Wash

At the end of every summer, Bethel youth and children celebrate their summer faith experiences with a Celebration Sunday. Youth who went on summer trips share music and memories and serve as worship servants. The youth also put on "The Absolutely Free - No Strings Attached - Thanks-a-Bunch Carwash" as a thank you to the Bethel congregation who supported their fundraising efforts throughout the year. This summer Celebration Sunday is scheduled for Sunday, August 20th.



Get **IN**volved

Get Involved!

March Food Drive

The local March Food Drive has been an emphasis of Bethel for over a decade. During that time, our youth have led the challenge to the congregation to raise funds and collect food for the Northfield Food Shelf. With adult leadership, Bethel youth plan displays, create posters and flyers, and present skits to get the word out about the drive and their work has resulted in Bethel's increasing contribution to the community drive. Youth and adult leaders are needed; if you'd like to be a part of this exciting ministry, please indicate your interest in the registration packet.

Fundraisers, Fundraisers, Fundraisers!

Bethel provides several fundraisers throughout the school year that create a time of fellowship and connection for the youth and the adults of the congregation as well as a great opportunity for the youth to earn some or all of their trip expenses. Information about each fundraiser is sent to all youth and parents well before the event. Funds earned are "banked" in individual youth accounts.

Youth Sundays

The third Sunday of every month is designated as Youth Sunday for worship assistants at both services. Youth in grades 6-12 serve as readers, ushers, assisting ministers, and sacramental ministers. Instructions and training are provided. Please see the Youth Participation Form to volunteer for these positions.

Youth Music Opportunities:

Youth are encouraged to share their musical gifts in worship as vocal or instrumental soloists or ensembles. If you are interested in this opportunity, please indicate this in the enclosed registration packet or contact the Director of Music Ministries. Youth are also warmly invited to be a part of the adult choir directed by Dan Kallman which meets in the Sanctuary at 7:15 on Wednesday evenings.



Offer Your Talents

Ring Forth

Ring Forth is a bell choir made up of 6th and 7th grade students led by Jill Mahr. They rehearse Wednesdays from 6:15-7:00 p.m., September through May. Students must commit to weekly attendance. Prior music reading skills are required but not necessarily handbell experience. For youth who have gone through the Bethel chime program in BAM, Ring Forth is their next step. The group plays about every six weeks in church throughout the school year.



Brio

Brio is a more advanced bell choir made up of 8th through 12 grade students led by Jill Mahr. They rehearse Wednesdays from 8:00-8:45 p.m., September through May. Students must commit to weekly attendance. Prior music reading skills are required but not necessarily handbell experience. The group plays in worship about every six weeks throughout the school year.

Audio Visual Room Technicians:

Opportunities abound at Bethel for our youth to use their special talents (or sparks), and this is a wonderful offering for youth interested in technology. Youth in grades 9-12 are encouraged to learn new technological skills and share them with the congregation by monitoring the sound and recording systems for Sunday and special worship services. Youth are given hands-on training prior to working in the AV room and are asked to commit to two Sundays of work a month. If you are a youth interested in this exciting opportunity or an adult who would like to be involved in a supervisory capacity, please indicate this in the registration and volunteer packets.



Vacation Bible School Assistants



VBS for children who will be 3 years old through those entering 5th grade in 2017-18 will be held June 12-15 from 9:00 -11:30 each day at Bethel. There will be several opportunities for middle and high school students to serve as assistants and small group leaders during this week. Please indicate your interest on the enclosed registration form and you will be contacted.

BAM Aides

If you grew up coming to Bethel for BAM (Bible, Arts, & Music) after school on Wednesdays and miss the activity and fun, this may be a perfect opportunity for you! Pam Vig is looking for some youth who are able to be here from 4:00 - 5:30 every Wednesday, one Wednesday a month, or just occasionally to help out as BAM youth aides. You can plug in wherever you have an interest - leading K Club (for our kindergarten children),

Closing Thoughts

Whew! You made it! Congratulations and thank you for taking the time to read through this volume of information. There will be extra copies of this information packet 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 Youth Ministry at Bethel.

Partners in Faith

The Christian education 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. (Yes, contrary to what you might think, even your teen cares what you think!) There is no one more qualified than you to pass on your 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.

But That's Just Not My Gift!

Many of our Youth Ministry volunteers over the years have come into their positions with some hesitation. However, once they are on board, very few of them have regretted their decision to share of themselves and their time. It is quite likely that at the end of a volunteering stint you will feel that you got more out of it than the kids did. It is almost always a mutually beneficial relationship.

At Bethel we are committed to doing everything we can to make volunteer experiences meaningful and manageable. You will never be asked to do more than you are able. Isn't God's grace amazing!

Let's Just Wait and See

Are you thinking that you need to wait and see what your schedule is like next fall? Chances are it will be very similar to what your schedule was this year. Don't wait to volunteer — sign on now and build your fall schedule around your commitment to Bethel and our children. If things become too hectic, you can always resign.

Put Your Schedule Where Your Heart Is

Please search your heart during the next two weeks. We have several wonderful, fun, and exciting programs in our Youth 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 our children?

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



Hey, you made it this far. Why not sit down right now and fill out the enclosed Registration Packet? You'll make the Director of Youth Ministry at Bethel ecstatic, and you can spend the rest of the spring with your feet up, eating bonbons, sipping lemonade, and watching the world go by!



Sunday School 2017-2018

September	3	Labor Day Weekend
	10	Jesse James Weekend
	17	Rally Day-1st day of Sunday School
	24	
October	1	
	8	
	15	
	22	
	29	
November	5	
	12	
	19	
	26	
December	3	
	10	
	17	
	24	Christmas Break - No Sunday School
	31	Christmas Break - No Sunday School
January	7	Sunday School resumes
	14	
	21	
	28	Annual Meeting - HS youth lead children during Sunday School
February	4	
	11	
	18	
	25	
March	4	
	11	
	18	
	25	
April	1	Easter Sunday - No Sunday School
	8	
	15	
	22	
	29	
May	6	
	13	
	20	Last Sunday of Sunday School
	27	Memorial Day Weekend

Confirmation 2017-2018

September	6	Confirmation Orientation mtg 7 pm
		9th Grade Mentoring mtg 8 pm
	13	Regular Classes Begin
	20	
	27	
October	4	
	11	
	18	No Confirmation (MEA break)
	25	
November	1	
	8	
	15	
	22	No Confirmation (Thanksgiving Eve service)
	29	
December	6	
	13	
	20	No Confirmation (Winter break)
	27	No Confirmation (Winter break)
January	3	No Confirmation (Winter break)
	10	
	17	
	24	
	31	
February	7	
	14	Ash Wednesday (Worship as a class)
	21	
	28	
March	7	
	14	
	21	Last day of Confirmation Classes

Hang Time 2017-2018

September	6	
	13	Hang Time - Juniors & Seniors
	20	Hang Time - Room #54
	27	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
October	4	Hang Time - Room #54
	11	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	18	MEA - No Hang Time
	25	Hang Time - Room #54
November	1	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	8	Hang Time - Room #54
	15	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	22	Thanksgiving Eve—Worship with your family!
	29	Hang Time - Room #54
December	6	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	13	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	20	Christmas Break - No Hang Time
	27	Christmas Break - No Hang Time
January	3	Christmas Break - No Hang Time
	7	Hi School Progressive Dinner
	10	Hang Time - Room #54
	17	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	24	Hang Time - Room #54
	31	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
February	7	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	14	Ash Wednesday - Worship as a group
	21	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	28	Hang Time - Room #54
March	7	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	14	Hang Time - Room #54
	21	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	28	Spring Break - No Hang Time
April	4	Hang Time - Room #54
	11	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	18	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	25	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
May	2	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
		Senior Sunday Planning (Seniors)
	6	Senior Send-off BBQ
	9	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	16	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	23	Hang Time - Bethel Youth Center
	30	
June	3	Senior Sunday

6th Grade Connections 2017-2018

September	6	6th Grade Connections Parent Planning Meeting
	14	
	20	6th Grade Connections
	28	
October	4	6th Grade Connections
	11	
	18	MEA - No 6th Grade Connections
	25	6th Grade Connections
November	1	
	5	6th Grade "Circle of Saints" Retreat
	8	6th Grade Connections
	15	
	22	Thanksgiving Break - No 6th Grade Connections
	29	6th Grade Connections
December	6	Bistro & Vespers - Worship as a group
	13	
	20	Christmas Break - No 6th Grade Connections
	27	Christmas Break - No 6th Grade Connections
January	3	
	7	"Circle of Saints" Dedication Service
	10	6th Grade Connections
	17	
	24	6th Grade Connections
	28	Lord's Prayer Retreat
	31	
February	7	
	14	Ash Wednesday - Worship as a group
	21	
	28	6th Grade Connections
March	7	
	14	6th Grade Connections
	21	
	28	Spring Break - no 6th Grade Connections
April	4	6th Grade Connections
	11	
	18	6th Grade Connections End-of-the-Year Party

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Bethel Lutheran Church is a body of
believers redeemed by Christ who

Call and welcome all people;

Act to serve our neighbors in need;

Respond with God's love to one another; and

Encourage spiritual growth.