



NOVEMBER 2021
Volume #602

In this issue...

- BeFrienders.....*** ..2
- Bethel News.....*** ..3
- Bethel U.....*** ..3
- Children*** ..4
- Congregational Life. ...*** ..6
- Covid Task Force.....*** ..6
- Finance News*** ..8
- Mission and Justice*** ..7
- Nursery.....*** ..4
- Scrip*** ..5
- Senior Pastor.....*** ..2
- Stewardship.....*** ..7
- TORCH.....*** ..5
- Thanksgiving Offering .*** ..7
- Visual Arts Update*** ..7
- Youth*** ..5



JOIN US FOR WORSHIP

Worship will be held at 8:30 and 10:45 a.m. in the sanctuary. The 8:30 service will be live-streamed on our YouTube channel. Check the website for the link!



WELCOME MIMI DE ROSAS TO THE BETHEL STAFF!



Mimi De Rosas joined the Bethel Staff as our new Office Manager in early October. Mimi’s broad range of experience includes working at Carleton for the last 5 years and the CAC for 12 years. Mimi brings a fresh perspective and range of skills to the staff and she is already making a positive impact on the team. Her favorite part of working at Bethel so far is the friendly and welcoming community. She and her husband Arturo have lived in Northfield for 15 years and have 4 daughters ranging in age 21 - 4. Her hobbies include gardening, bird watching, family time, and caring for her beloved dogs, a Great Dane and a schnauzer.

UNCOVERING ACTS OF SERVICE AND KINDNESS by Gordy Olson

What do John VanAst and Noel Stratmoen have in common? Of course, they are both members of Bethel – Noel for 56 years and John for about 9. They are also the makers of crosses, symbols of faith and love, that find their way into the hands of our youth and families. Noel began making wooden crosses for confirmands in 1975 and has made 761 of them over 46 years in the style of the Jerusalem cross dating from about 400 AD. It has a large cross in the center and four small crosses in the corners, representing the four Gospels or the four “corners” of the world. This year, 32 of his beautiful and intricate crosses were worn by the latest confirmands.



Cross by Noel Stratmoen



Crosses by John VanAst

and skill. He doesn’t want money or anything in return. Noel believes the same. John remarked, “When I make something for someone, it is very personal because I know where it’s going. I feel God’s hand when I make such things for the church’s ministry.” Noel similarly stated, “For me it is an expression of God-given artistic and woodworking skills. It is my ‘silent mission’ to put a cross into the hands of impressionable youth who are at a ‘crossroad’ in their lives. I hope they will respond by some day paying this kind of gesture forward.”

Much more could be said about these skilled and humble men who want nothing more than to serve God with their time and talents. They are grateful for the opportunity to share with their church family.

Each month we hope to highlight some of the “secret” and “not so secret” contributions of Bethel members in order to inspire and encourage others to also find ways to engage and make a difference in their church community and beyond. Bethel is gifted with so many generous and talented people who mirror what it is to be faithful servants of our Lord. If you know of a story waiting to be shared, please direct a note or email to: Jen Leonard at jleonard@bethelnorthfield.org.

FROM OUR SENIOR PASTOR

by Inger Hanson

Dear Bethel,

November is full this year! We will celebrate All Saints on Sunday November 7 and then build to Christ the King Sunday on the 21st (the church equivalent, perhaps, of New Year's Eve). We move into a new liturgical year and Advent on the 28th. Culturally, we have Thanksgiving. For some this includes joyous reunions, for others tense ones. For some, the holiday makes a separation or loss more acute. As a church, we are trying to learn from our indigenous siblings' experience of this day. Whatever this time of year holds for us, let us be sensitive to the fact it might be different for others.

And even as we prepare for the events at the end of the month, my hope is that we can draw strength from engaging throughout the month.

November 14th will be particularly special. As your pastor, a priority for me is to help the congregation take seriously and live into our new welcome statement. Ross Murray, an ELCA deacon, LGBTQ+ thought leader, and author of *Made, Known, Loved* will be our guest preacher and will lead a Bible study during the education hour. The staff and council will then gather for an afternoon of further training and reflection.

This month will also be my fourth

month as your pastor. Thank you for the grace you have given to me as I learn and lead. Thank you for your encouragement and for teaching me about yourselves and this community. I am daily awed and inspired by the actions I see you taking and the reflections you share – for me, with visitors, in worship, in study, with children, through work or volunteering. I am so excited to begin this new church year with you and to continue to grow together.

God's peace,

Pastor Inger

Pastor Inger Hanson
Senior Pastor
507-786-6674
pastor.inger@bethelnorthfield.org



ROSS MURRAY SPEAKING NOVEMBER 14

Don't miss ELCA deacon Ross Murray, our guest preacher and Bethel U presenter, on November 14. Ross will be leading a Bible study in our "Opening the Book of Faith," series. Later, he will lead staff and council by discussing his book, *Made, Known, Loved*, which is focused on developing LGBTQ-Inclusive youth ministry. His

leadership is sure to help us further delve into how we want to live into our welcome statement and ensure we are truly a congregation that shares Christ's love with a big heart to all people. No exceptions! We hope to see you in church on November 14!

BEFRIENDERS

"Loneliness is the first thing which God named not good." - John Milton

God made a universe, and in that universe, Adam and Eve. These first human beings were made for friendship with God and for relationship with each other. As the COVID-19 pandemic continues, coping with our lonely feelings is more important now than ever.

First, take some time to look after yourself. Try to get enough sleep, not too much nor too little. Consider your diet. Eating regularly and keeping your blood sugar stable can make a difference in your mood and energy levels. Try to get some physical activity. Exercise can be helpful for your mental wellbeing and some people find it helps improve their

self-esteem. Spending time outside can help your well-being. Even if you can't walk around outside, try putting your feet in the grass as a way to help you connect with nature. Spending time with animals can also help. Finally, avoid drugs and alcohol. Although you might use drugs and alcohol to cope with difficult feelings about yourself, in the long run they can make you feel worse and can prevent you from dealing with underlying problems.

Then take some time for others. When you send an encouraging text, an uplifting card or letter, or take the time to make a phone call to a friend you can make a difference in your own well-being. As Charles H. Burr famously said, "Getters generally don't get happiness, givers get it. You simply give

to others a bit of yourself - a thoughtful act, a helpful idea, a word of appreciation, a lift over a rough spot, a sense of understanding, a timely suggestion. You take something out of your mind, garnished in kindness out of your heart, and put it into the other fellow's mind and heart."

Blessings from Bethel's BeFriender Coordinators

A fundamental BeFriender principle: "Non-judgmental presence." For more information regarding the BeFriender Ministry at Bethel, please contact:

Marci Groenewold 507-649-0760, Knight Stanley 612-877-0893, Myrna Luehmann 507-951-7112, Vicki Roller 507-645-8999, Karen Mader 507-301-4368, or the Bethel Office 507-786-6674.

NEWS FROM AROUND BETHEL

ARLA (Anti-Racism Learning and Advocacy) - The next meeting of ARLA (Anti-Racism Learning and Advocacy) will be on Tuesday, November 9 from 9:30-10:30 a.m. on Zoom. The presentation will be by Mar Valdecantos.

Mar Valdecantos is one of the founders of NAAC (Northfield Anti-Racism Action Coalition). Valdecantos grew up in Spain, but has lived in Northfield many years. She is the vice-chair of the Human Rights Commission and was a founder of Rice County Neighbors United. Everyone is welcome. Check the weekly *Banner* for the link to the meeting. If you have questions, please call Paula Mathison, 507-645-7546 or Connie DeGrote, 507-581-0240.

FaB (Faith and Books) *Acts of Faith: The Story of an American Muslim, the Struggle for the Soul of a Generation* by Eboo Patel is the next book for FaB. We meet on Thursday mornings from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Bethel Youth Room. Please join us for community time and for thoughtful discussions. Contact lanareich@yahoo.com to be added to our email list.

Men of Bethel will be studying the Book of Exodus by examining different versions of two movies about it - both

titled, *The Ten Commandments*, and both directed by the legendary Cecil B. DeMille. DeMille's first black and white silent picture will be looked at and compared to the multi-million dollar blockbuster, *Technicolor extravaganza* that is still being watched 60 years after its premier. We'll be looking at some of the underlying cultural assumptions of these famous movies as an ancient Hebrew story of freedom from slavery is portrayed to an overwhelmingly white American audience of the 1920's and the 1950's. If you really like watching "the movies"

stayCONNECTED

and talking about them from a theological perspective, consider yourself invited. The discussion will be facilitated by Rev. Keith Homstad. Thursdays, 8:30 a.m. in the central Pod, and on Zoom.

Mission Quilters - The Bethel Quilters have been meeting the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month. We are working to meet the CAC's *Operation Joy* goal of a quilt for every family. We will fulfill our 30 quilt promise, but we need sheets for the backs of our quilts! Perhaps you have a

single in your closet that doesn't have a match? We especially need flat sheets, but can work with fitted ones if they are queen or king sizes. Drop off donated sheets in the box by the CLC.

Join us from 9 - 11:30 a.m. on November 9 and 23 to help assemble. For more details, call Dottie Hammer at 507-301-3632.

Bethel Vision Seekers, our men's fellowship group, will meet at Reunion restaurant's outside venue on Thursday, November 11, 2021 at 7 p.m. The outside heaters were so welcoming, we thought we could try outside in November, weather permitting. If you wish to be added to the email list, please contact Kelly Groenewold at kelly.groenewold@gmail.com.

The ladies of **WoW (Women of the Word)** Bible study continue their study of the Book of Daniel. Women of the Word meet Friday mornings at 9 a.m. Currently, the group meets on Zoom, though that may change when the ladies can again meet inside Bethel. If anyone wants to join the group, contact Myrna Luehmann at (507) 951-7112, or email myrnalueh@gmail.com to get the Zoom link.

BETHEL U

Bethel U courses for adults and teens begin at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings. Due to overwhelming attendance, classes will be held in the sanctuary. A Zoom option will be available at noon on Sundays. Email Pastor Inger at pastor.inger@bethelnorthfield.org if you are interested in an online option.

Opening the Book of Faith, led by Pastor Inger, November 7, 14, 21

After taking the time to review the tools Lutherans use to engage and honor God's word, we're diving into scripture!

November 7: Exodus 3:1-15

November 14: TBA with Deacon Ross Murray

November 21: Jeremiah 1:4-19

Opening the Book of Faith Advent Series: Luke's Playlist, led by Pastor Inger, November 28, December 5, 12, 19

November 28: Song of Mary - Luke 1:46-56

December 5: Song of Zechariah - Luke 1:68-79

December 12: Song of the Angels - Luke 2:10-14

December 19: Song of Simeon - Luke 2:28-32

Mission and Justice Series, November 7 and 21

November 7: Habitat for Humanity led by Dayna Norvold. Come and hear stories from recent Habitat for Humanity homeowners.

November 21: Lutheran Social Services
A representative from LSS will detail the process of resettling Afghan families in Minnesota.

Children ~ Youth ~ Disciples ~ Children ~ Youth ~ Disciples

WHAT'S NEW IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRY?

Upcoming Dates:

November 21: 1st & 2nd Grade Parent-Child Sunday School

Class: Save, Share, Spend

November 24: No *Limitless!*

Gratitude and Questions

It has been pure joy to be together, in-person, with smiling children, loud children, kind children, enthusiastic children, your children. Thank you for sharing your precious children with us. As we continue to endeavor through the fall there is joy at all that we are once again able to do. There is also fatigue. There is gratitude for the opportunities, the fellowship, and community. There is also weariness at the continuing pandemic, the loss of normal, even as we attempt to plod ahead.

Perhaps you have experienced the system shock that a full school schedule delivered. Perhaps you recall a sense of relief at the reduced schedule that March 2020 brought, the sense of wondering what changes would happen

post-pandemic. What were we going to learn, take away, change for the future? I still don't have answers to these questions for myself, my family, or our ministry at Bethel, but I am seeking. We are not post-pandemic yet, but the questions of how to re-enter society are here. Hindsight tends to bring clarity, but we aren't in the hindsight phase yet, and so we plug ahead, with more questions than answers.

I wonder if it's in the clearly not knowing that we are most open to the Holy Spirit's nudging. So, as we wait together, making it up as we go, know that you aren't alone, and be blessed by this promise: *The Lord is good to those whose hope is in God, to the one who seeks the Lord.* - Lamentations 3:25

Be blessed. We're in this together.

Brenda

Brenda Atzinger
Director of Children's Ministries
507-786-8878
batzinger@bethelnorthfield.org

NURSERY NEWS

November Sunday FUN-Day Themes

November 7: Fantastic Friendships!

A good friend is a blessing from God. - 1 Samuel 18:3

We have such a great group of Nursery kids that are all REALLY good friends! We will spend the morning celebrating the fabulous friendships that have been formed on Sunday mornings in the Nursery.

November 14: Under The Sea!

Fishies and Mermaids and Sharks, Oh My!!! We might not be able to exactly go on a deep-sea dive, but we will get very close with a morning full of pretending we live under the sea!

November 21: We Give Thanks!

There is so much to be thankful for, but today we spend the morning celebrating all of the many things in our lives we are extra thankful for!

November 28th: Time For Tea!

We'll bring the fancy cups, finger sandwiches, and lace table cloths, you bring the frilly hats and bow ties (jeans and sweatpants work, too)! We're getting fancy in the Nursery and changing snack time into tea time!!!

Artist of the Month is BACK!!!

After a break from featuring the many artistic talents of our nursery children, we are bringing back our *Artist of the Month* feature. This month, we will be showcasing the creative

work of Isaac Atzinger. Please stop by the Nursery bulletin board and check out these amazing creations!

Coming Soon!

Starting on November 28 and going through the entire season of Advent, the Nursery will offer a special Advent-inspired craft each Sunday morning. Look for the festive table set up outside of the Nursery and stop by anytime throughout each morning to create a fun project to remember the season of Advent. This is open to all ages or to anyone who would like to participate.

Nursery Sunday School

The nursery offers Sunday School for 2-3-year-old children that don't quite make the September 1st age cut-off. We offer a very informal and laid-back atmosphere that includes a simple Bible story, a craft and most importantly, a snack. The Nursery Sunday School class is offered during the regular Sunday School education time, 9:45 - 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday Nursery

The nursery is open and staffed on Wednesdays from 3:00 - 8:00 p.m. Take advantage of the many volunteer opportunities available at Bethel on Wednesdays while your little one enjoys time playing with other children in the nursery.

Juley Jenkinson
Nursery Director
507-786-8973
jjenkinson@bethelnorthfield.org

Children ~ Youth ~ Disciples ~ Children ~ Youth ~ Disciples

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN YOUTH MINISTRY?

6th Grade

6th Grade Connections meets November 10 at 7:00 – 8:15 p.m. in the CLC (Note location change!)

6th Graders and parents are invited to a "Circle of Saints" retreat on Sunday, November 7 from 12:00 - 2:30 p.m. The retreat is aimed at creating a ring of supporting adults for each of our youth as they enter middle school. 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 who they will ask to be their child's faith team. Put it on the calendar and watch your inbox for the opportunity to register.

Middle School Sunday School

You're not too late to jump into 6th, 7th,

and 8th grade Sunday School. Show up and join Dean and Kaethe and their friends in rooms 61A and 61B.

9th Grade

The Mentor Kickoff Dinner is November 7 at 5:30 p.m. This event is for 9th grade confirmation students and their mentors. Get to know one another, share a meal, and kick off what is sure to be an amazing year for both mentors and mentees.

Senior High

There is no Senior Stepping Stones Retreat on November 14. This event is being rescheduled as Ross Murray is coming for a church retreat that same day. Stay tuned for more information regarding this retreat for Seniors and their parents!!

Grand reopening party for the Youth Room is November 14 at 9:45 - 10:45 a.m. The Youth Room is getting a makeover! Come and see the new paint color and be a part of putting the finishing touches on this beautiful room. Senior High Youth, 9th - 12th, meet every Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the Youth Room. Come on Nov. 7 and let your ideas for your space be heard for the big party on Nov. 14!

Hang Time is November 3, 10, and 17 from 7-8 p.m. in the Youth Room. This ministry is for all 10th – 12th grade youth and is fun, fun, FUN! Grab a friend or come and make a new one over games, conversation, and pizza. Come and be a part of the FUN!

Any questions about anything? Call or email Kara. I'd love to help!

TORCH NEWS

The mission of TORCH is to support and empower traditionally under-served students, including first-generation college students and low-income youth. The Northfield TORCH program offers academic advising, ACT preparation, leadership opportunities, career exploration, and among others, a PSEO program that allows students to obtain college credit for free while in high school. TORCH has 15 years of success, graduating 97.8% of participants and sending 89% to college!

At Bethel, we help extend the support of the TORCH program by sending care packages to the students three times a year, at the beginning and end of Fall semester and in the end of Spring semester. These care packages offer much-needed support from the young person's home community, a support that can give them the hope and confidence to continue forward with their dreams.

Bethel serves ten Northfield students and has been supporting TORCH graduates for the past four years. Thank you, Bethel, for all you have given to these students!

We will be assembling our December TORCH Care Packages on **Sunday, November 28**. Come join us! Volunteers will gather in the CLC after the first service to pack the boxes for our ten TORCH graduates. Each student receives cash, a handwritten note, cookies or snacks, school supplies, personal care items or whatever you think would be fun to donate! You may donate items in the TORCH box by the main office. Please leave cash donations at the church office.

Thank you Bethel for supporting these terrific students!

Kara Millerhagen
Director of Youth Ministries
507-786-8877
kmillerhagen@bethelnorthfield.org

THANK YOU, BETHEL

Dear Bethel friends,

Thank you, thank you for the many gifts, cards, and wonderful party with which you sent me off at my retirement! It was so generous and overwhelming, and I so greatly appreciate it all. Most importantly, however, thank you for your constant care and support of me and our Bethel youth throughout the years. It has truly been a joy to know and work with you, and I know your care of our kids will continue with Kara. In this season of thanksgiving, my heart is full - thank you.

With love and gratitude,

Barb Farmer

A FINANCIAL UPDATE

Changes abound!

Whether it be new faces, new systems, or new leaders, the operations of the church have not been standing still and there are still many moving pieces. Amidst these moving pieces, we have not had the normal continuity on the finance side either. For one, we did not have overlap between our outgoing Director of Finance & Administration (DF&A) and new DF&A Jen Leonard, as is usually the hope. We were happy to welcome Jen, but unfortunately there was minimal cross-training available for her. Thus, a few normal financial responsibilities were put on hold until we could figure out the best course of action. Now don't worry, offerings were still counted, bills were still paid, benevolences still extended, and I and others monitored our balance between these items. However, our normal financial statements (income, balance sheet, and cash flow) have been delayed and the typical financial summary in the Banner has been absent.

But we are turning the corner! Jen is training with Blackbaud, our (still relatively new) software provider. We

have enlisted the assistance of one of our Bethel members to help with the monthly close process. And we have taken preliminary runs at year-to-date statements.

What this initial snapshot shows is that we are bouncing back from an early summer giving lull. Offerings are



“holding in there” as we continue to worship and communicate in this hybrid, physical-digital world. We estimate we are currently a few percent behind budget as well as our pre-pandemic 2019 trend on revenues, but with expenses under-running by a greater amount, we are “in the black” (i.e. positive) on net income.

Thank you to each of you for all that

you give, both financially and via your time and talents, in what is proving to be another out-of-the-ordinary year. Finance Committee and the Church Council are very excited about the new additions to the church staff. We look forward to more regular communication on the financial front as we turn toward 2022.

Lastly, a note on giving statements: In order to focus time on the most pressing tasks at hand, the church will hold off issuing giving statements until year end instead of sending on the normal quarterly cadence. Anyone who would like to know their giving status before year-end is welcome to reach out to Jen Leonard, jleonrd@bethelnorthfield.org or Caroline Smith, csmith@bethelnorthfield.org and they can provide that to you.

Jared Plotz
Bethel Treasurer



THANK YOU TO THE COVID TASK FORCE!

Since March of 2020, we, at Bethel and we, the entire world, have been living in what feels like some kind of bizarre alternate reality. As soon as we feel that we have our thumb on the pulse of how to navigate this pandemic world, something shifts and we need to reevaluate our protocols once again. We are so grateful to the staff, council members, and volunteer consultants on the Covid Task Force for taking on the daunting task of balancing the necessary caution of keeping everyone safe and healthy with the need to congregate and have real, in-person connection. We know you are doing your very best to walk this challenging and ever-changing line. As Paul wrote to the Phillipeans, we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us. Let's keep walking together, Bethel! Many thanks to the Covid Task Force.

Members: Brian Jermeland, Pastor Inger Hanson, Jen Leonard, Chris Bussman, Juley Jenkinson, Blair Fowler, Tyler Severson

Consultants: Joel Leer, Dr. Jane Runzheimer, Kyle Eastman, Pete Schleif, as needed

JOIN IN THE FUN!

The Congregational Life Committee is committed to finding opportunities for connection and FUN in our Bethel community. Some groups have already started meeting and you can join in anytime! Some of our current offerings include Soup Group, Movie Discussion Group, Walking Group, Pickleball Group, and Out and About Group. Of course we are always looking for new members and ideas for activities. Contact Cindy Kreis at cindykreis@gmail.com if you would like to join us, share your idea, or participate in one or more offerings!

MISSION AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE NOTES

We are looking forward to some in-house education sessions in November. On Sunday, Nov. 7, Dana Norvold who leads Habitat for Humanity Rice County, will be bringing several home owners of recent Habitat for Humanity builds to share their stories. We have supported the efforts of Habitat with our benevolence dollars and with the hard work of Bethel builders. Now and in the past, we recognize the need for affordable housing in Northfield and our commitment to providing help for this important ministry.

We are also looking ahead to Nov. 21 to hear from Lutheran Social Services,

an organization which also benefits from our annual financial contributions. There will be Afghan families who will be resettled in Minnesota and LSS has been involved in the work of making that happen.

We also welcome to the November schedule the start of our annual Alternative Christmas Fair, now in its sixth year. Check out the details in the weekly *Banner*.

If you value the outreach ministry of this committee, we meet monthly on the second Thursday of the month from 4-5 p.m. in the Fireside room. You are welcome to join.

A THANKSGIVING OFFERING OPPORTUNITY

One of Bethel's unique and blessed opportunities each year is to contribute to a special cause at three major holiday times – Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. We are always amazed at your generous response, even during our pandemic period, when we may feel more separated from each other and the needs in our community and world.

Offering recipients are selected by our Stewardship Committee with input from our Mission & Justice Committee and often reflect current issues and happenings in our community, nation, and world. This Thanksgiving it seems appropriate that we give through one of Bethel's long-time partners in social ministry, Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota (LSS). LSS is playing an important role in the settlement of Afghan refugees in Minnesota.

Although we at Bethel may not be able to play a personal role in assisting directly with refugees, we can play a significant role by giving through our respected and trusted partner.

As in previous offerings, we plan to mail a letter to all members closer to Thanksgiving with more details. We hope you will plan to continue your generous response to this opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people who need our prayers and our financial help.

Your Stewardship Team – Rebecca Benedict, Kevin Christopherson, Gordon Olson, Don Pavek, Noel Stratmoen, Pan Vig, Pastor Inger Hanson

and Your Mission & Justice Team - Darlene Broughton, Clark Cary, Carol Cole, Dottie Hammer, Jim Holden, Curt Johnson, Judy Tonolli

A PRAYER FOR GENEROSITY

Open your hearts to the love God instills in them. God loves you tenderly. What he gives you is not to be kept under lock and key, but to be shared. The more you save the less you will be able to give. The less you have, the more you will know how to share. Let us ask God, when it comes to ask God for something, to help us to be generous.

Mother Teresa - *In My Own Words*

AN EXPANDED MINISTRY: VISUAL ARTS BECOMES WORSHIP AND ARTS!

After several conversations around the need to coordinate the liturgical life of the congregation, the Visual Arts Committee is expanding the scope of their mission and becoming the Worship and Arts Committee. The word liturgy comes from a Greek term that means “the work of the people.” This expansion will allow greater participation and communication in crafting worship that reflects and inspires the people of God.

The hope is that a sub-committee will meet at least five times a year with the pastoral and musical staff to plan each liturgical season. Input will be given into the full experience of worship (visual, verbal, musical, etc.). We will look at the words we use for worship, when and why – creeds, prayers, special litanies, etc – and coordinate with other committees when needed. Sharing the visioning process will let services and seasons become more cohesive, building up the body of Christ at Bethel. On a practical side, we also hope these meetings will enhance communication and give more organizational support to those who have been helping with altar care, etc. We look forward to this new, enhanced collaboration!

The Bethel *Banner* is published monthly as a ministry of Bethel Lutheran Church of Northfield, Minnesota. **Articles are due by the 15th of each month.**

Questions, suggestions, or comments? Contact editor Chelsey Headrick at chheadrick@bethelnorthfield.org, or call the church office at 507-786-6674.



Bethel Lutheran Church
1321 North Avenue
Northfield, MN 55057



Phone: 507-786-6674

Web: www.bethelnorthfield.org

www.facebook.com/bethellutheran

Email: bethel@bethelnorthfield.org



Return Service Requested

Non-Profit Organization
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Northfield, MN
 55057
 Permit No. 138

Bethel *Love & Light* of Christ in the World

Bethel's Vision

Bethel Lutheran Church Shares Christ's Love with a Big Heart

We celebrate all people as children of God. We unconditionally welcome diversity of age, race, citizenship, ethnicity, cultural identity, sexual orientation, gender identity, ability, education, relationship status, family structure, and life challenges. Your diversity and uniqueness are valued. Your questions and your doubts have a home here. You, your spouse, partner, children, family, and friends are welcome to be full participants in the life of our church.

YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!



Bethel's Mission

BETHEL BLOOD DRIVE NOVEMBER 14

Be a lifesaver!!!

Memorial Blood Centers' bus will be in Bethel's West parking lot on **Sunday, November 14 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.**

Sign up at www.mbc.org/searchdrives and enter sponsor code 4044, or call Memorial Blood Centers at 1-888-448-3253.

Memorial Blood Centers began in 1948 with their single-focus as a regional blood bank resource serving Minnesota and NW Wisconsin. Bethel has hosted the MBC bus twice a year



since December 2012 and has collected over 590 units in 18 blood drives, averaging 33 units each time. Since one whole blood unit can be divided into 3 components,

each unit has the potential to save 3 lives. It is AMAZING to think that nearly 100 people can benefit from each of our blood drives.

It only takes about 45 minutes to be a lifesaver through blood donation.

You can speed up the process by completing your health history questionnaire online on the day of your donation at mbc.org/iDonate.

MEALS ON WHEELS

Beep beep! Do you have a vehicle and an hour to spare? Sign up to deliver a meal to our neighbors. This is a fun, safe, and rewarding service project that is perfect for an individual or a family. Bethel will be covering the Meals on Wheels delivery from November 14 - December 4. Watch your weekly *Banner* for more details. Contact Juley Jenkinson at 612-616-4643, jjenkinson@bethelnorthfield.org or call the church office at 507-786-6674 to sign up for a route today!

