

May 12, 2024

THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

We are continuing our journey through **40 Days of Belonging**. Each week we are exploring a key value that shapes who we are becoming as a church family: a "House of the Lord," which is what Bethel means, and a "House of Belonging." Our goal is to re-affirm what this means for every person at Bethel and allow unity for what we care about most to guide our lives together in Christ.

On Sunday, we will look at God's call for us to seek him as a **House of Prayer**.

God's story is about how, through Christ, we are restored to God in relationship. The pathway for this journey is in the message of Jesus and in the communion we experience with the Spirit through prayer. The posture of prayer must shape how we seek after God if we are to claim his promises, such as what we find in James 4:8, "Come near to God and he will come near to you." This Sunday, we explore how prayer can guide our community, our mission, and our relationship with God. May we earnestly seek him – "...for my house will be called a house of prayer for all nations." (Isaiah 56:7)

The message this Sunday will focus on Psalm 63, "A House of Prayer."

OUR OFFERINGS

- 1) **BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION:** The ministries and programs of Bethel.
- 2) **CANADIAN FOODGRAINS BANK** is a partnership of 15 church-based agencies working together to end global hunger. We support programs implemented by our member churches and agencies through their local partner organizations in countries around the world.

NEXT WEEK – EDMONTON FOOD BANK: To be stewards in the collection of surplus and donated food for the effective distribution, free of charge, to people in need in our community, while seeking solutions to the causes of hunger.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for **KATHY AND MIKE JACKSON** as Mike has been diagnosed with lymphoma in the brain. He has been moved to palliative care. We ask that the Lord provides care and comfort to Kathy and their family in the upcoming weeks.

JANNY BARTHEL had a knee replacement this week. Please pray for her recovery and healing.

Please continue to remember **CURTIS COENEN, DRIKA DUTHLER, JENNY PENFOLD, DON PROKUDA, ELEANOR PROKUDA, EVANS KOTIO, JANE SHULTZ, CELINE SIGVALDASON, JILL SNEEP** and **EVERT VROON** as you pray for our church community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

40 DAYS OF BELONGING SERIES: This Spring we want to ask an important question as a church: What does it mean to belong to Bethel? We will be reflecting on our key values which shape who God has called us to become as a church family and a "house of the Lord." If this is the kind of house we're supposed to be, we want to re-affirm what this means for every person at Bethel. This conversation in our church should flow

through everything we do. Every week we will send out resources and discussion guides. Every Sunday we will focus on another value that draws us together as a family through our sermon series, House of Belonging. We'd love for you to journey with us as we say together as members of one body: **You belong here.** For details and, visit discoverbethel.com/belong.

NIGHT OF BELONGING: Through our House of Belonging series, we wanted to express to everyone who is a part of Bethel: You belong here. Join us for an "All-In" family gathering on Monday, May 27th at 7:00 p.m., a night filled with faith stories, fellowship, fun and a friendly dessert competition. We are grateful for the family God has made among us, and we're excited for what's next! Click [here](#) to sign up!

NEW BIBLE READING PLAN - THE GOOD LIFE by the Bible Project: Have you been part of Bethel's Bible Reading Plan? This is a great way to try something new or continue your journey through the bible. Starting May 10, in this 14-day plan, you'll gain two complementary perspectives on experiencing the good life. Proverbs invites readers to fear God and follow wisdom. Ecclesiastes challenges the reader to think more deeply about God's goodness in light of death and the unpredictable nature of life. Try it out and be part of the conversation! Find the plan [here](#). To join the Bethel Group email Pastor Wendy at wendy@discoverbethel.com

24/7 PRAYER: May 12-19 is our dedicated week of 24/7 prayer leading us to Pentecost Sunday. Sign up for prayer slots by visiting the church's 24/7 prayer page at discoverbethel.com/24-7prayer. A 5-day devotional will be posted to guide your prayer time this week. Additionally, we invite you to join the following prayer gatherings:

- Monday, May 13, 7:00 p.m. in-person or Zoom
- Wednesday, May 15, 6:30 a.m. in-person or Zoom
- Wednesday, May 15, 12:00 noon in-person or Zoom
- Wednesday, May 15, 7:00 p.m. Time of Listening prayer, in-person only
- Friday, May 17, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Youth Prayer

WOMEN'S BEAUTY IN BLOOM EVENT: Please join us on Friday, May 24, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Bethel Community Church for our Beauty in Bloom Event. Enjoy a night of delicious desserts and refreshments, worship, and a session to plant flowers in a pot for your front porch or deck. The cost for the event is \$30. The deadline to sign-up is Wednesday, May 15. Click [here](#) to register.

BETHEL KIDS AND YOUTH PRAYER CARDS: We are working on creating this year's prayer cards for all children and youth at Bethel. Our hope is that every child and teen (ages 0-17) would have a member of the congregation intentionally praying for them. If you consider Bethel to be your home church and would like your teen(s)/child(ren) to be included, please fill out the form [here](#) and send us an updated photo of your child. We hope to distribute prayer cards to the congregation in late May. Email selikke@discoverbethel.com if you have any questions.

BANNERMAN IN ACTION: Do you want to serve the community, meet some of Bethel's neighbours, and create new relationships? **Bannerman in Action needs your help!** For several years, Bethel has partnered with the Bannerman Community League for a day of service. This year the community league has invited the church to partner with them in a different way. The community hall needs renovations estimated at \$500,000 or more. To raise those funds, a card has been created to promote several fundraising events to advertise community building activities through the community league, as well as Bethel Church activities (e.g. VBS, PLOT, etc.). We're looking for 20-30 Bethelites to volunteer their time on Saturday, May 25th from 9 a.m.-12 p.m. to help distribute those cards. Volunteers will meet at the community hall at 9 a.m. where they'll be served coffee and muffins, grouped in teams, and sent out to engage neighbours to draw attention to the events. We are excited to join Bannerman in modernizing a space we all enjoy and use! To volunteer, please sign-up [here](#).

CALLING ALL YOUNG ADULTS WITH A HEART FOR MISSIONS: Are you a young adult and over the age of 18? Do you have missions' opportunities lined up for the summer with your university or a missions program? Did you know Bethel's World Missions Committee has grant funding available for short term (less than a month) and long term (more than a month) missions opportunities? If this is something you're interested in, email a letter of application to Pastor Cathy at cathy@discoverbethel.com by May 6. Applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Please include your mission group, location, duration, a brief description, and how this will grow your faith.

A REQUEST FROM BETTER TOGETHER LIBERIA: Better Together Liberia has enjoyed tremendous support from our church family for the work in Liberia and the board is immensely grateful to all of you at Bethel. We are reaching out tonight to see if you can help in any way possible as the organization needs funds to clear the container of medical equipment that will be arriving to Liberia in about a week and half. Due to the construction expenses and the transportation of the container from Canada to Liberia, the organization is currently left with little to clear the sea can from the port in Liberia. We must move the container, or we will receive daily charges. Any donations at this time will go a long way in getting that equipment cleared from the port and transported to Bettesu.

BETHEL YOUTH

YOUTH COOKOFF: This Friday (May 10th) from 7:00-9:00 p.m. Bethel Youth will be gathering at the church for our annual cookoff event. Teams will be made and have a \$15 budget so this will be a time to get creative! First, we will head off to the grocery store then return to the church for you to cook or bake your way to victory! The Best Dish will see the winning team have their name added to the coveted (and slightly terrifying) cookoff trophy. Bring your, aprons, your best recipes, and a few friends for a night of intense cooking competition. No registration required!

PRAYER NIGHT: Next Friday (May 17th), from **7:00-8:00 p.m.**, the youth will be gathering at the church to participate in 24/7 Prayer. You can expect various stations of prayer, each teaching us a different way that we can connect with God in prayer. Come join us and spend some time with our heavenly Father.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

COLLECTIONS IN MAY

May 5	Ministry Shares
May 12	Canadian Food Grains Bank
May 19	Edmonton Food Bank
May 26	Rehoboth

Please visit our website at [discoverbethel/give](https://discoverbethel.com/give) to see the ways that you can donate and support our different collections. If you have any questions about our giving options, please contact Sara at accounting@discoverbethel.com.

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, May 12

10:00 a.m. Worship - in person and live stream

MONDAY, May 13

6:45 p.m. Council Meetings

7:00 p.m. Prayer – Zoom

TUESDAY, May 14

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

7:00 p.m. ALPHA The Marriage Course

WEDNESDAY, May 15

6:30 a.m. Prayer - in person and zoom

9:30 a.m. Oasis

WEDNESDAY, May 15 con.

12:00 p.m. Prayer – in person and zoom

7:00 p.m. Listening Prayer – in person

7:00 p.m. Men’s Bible Study

8:00 p.m. AA

THURSDAY, May 16

12:30 p.m. Food Bank

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, May 17

7:00 p.m. Youth Prayer

SATURDAY, May 18

COMMUNITY NEWS

ANNUAL AUCTION AT EDMONTON CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL: Join us on May 11th at ECHS! (14304 109 Ave) for a Live and Silent Auction. Doors open at 4 p.m., Live Auction will start at 5 p.m. The event also includes various activities such as kids' games, face painting, a bake sale, fresh flower bouquets, a 'kids only' store, and the cafeteria will be open for dinner. Support the auction by donating a new item, service, or gift certificate, or join the team of volunteers! More information, plus a link to sign up to volunteer, can be found on our website [here](#).

LIGHTHOUSE CHRISTIAN RETIREMENT HOME VIEWING: Everyone is invited to join us at the Lighthouse construction site (114 avenue and 127 street) on Saturday, May 11 between 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 noon for a look at the new Lighthouse Retirement Home which is opening in the winter/spring of 2025. You will be able to view a couple of 1-bedroom suites, one on the main floor and one on an upper floor, and get a feel for the size, appeal, and location of the Home. You must park on the street as this is still a construction site. Another open house will be scheduled in a couple of months. We hope to see you on May 11!

DAYS FOR GIRLS: The next work bee is Saturday, May 18, 9:00 a.m. to 12 noon. We need all kinds of helpers for tracing, cutting, stuffing, folding, ironing, sewing, and serging. If you are available to help, please let me (Line) know so I can bring enough work for everyone. The work bee is held in the LDS church at 9010 85 Street NW; entrance at the back. There are usually several of us coming along, so please contact me if you would like to carpool. You can reach me at 780.479.4900. Line des Rosiers

THE PREGNANCY CARE CENTRE is hosting their annual Walk for Hope 2024 on June 1. Walk for Hope is a family-friendly community event to celebrate and increase the positive impact the PCC has on our community. Let's STEP IT UP for women and families again this year! Every step you take in the Walk for Hope will help women and families thrive right here in your community. Whether you choose to participate virtually or in person, you'll have the opportunity to share about the important work of supporting those impacted by unexpected pregnancy. Register to Walk by clicking [here](#).

ATTENTION ALL GOLFERS, are you interested in a 9-hole scramble? Join fellow golfers from Trinity CRC on June 8, with a 3:30 p.m. tee time at the Fort Inn View Golf Course. There will be a steak dinner afterwards. The total cost is \$81. If you are interested, please email Bert Goutbeck at bgoutbeck@gmail.com.

SYNOD 2024: As we approach Synod 2024 we are compelled to pray. The Synod 2024 Prayer Team has put together resources for you, your small group, council, and church. They are available at crcna.org/synod/prayer. Thank you in advance for your prayers. We receive this encouragement from scripture in Mark 11:22-24, *"Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'Have faith in God. I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours.'" (NLT)*

EMMANUEL HOME GOLF TOURNAMENT - presented by Keller Construction Ltd. Join us at **The Ranch Golf & Country Club on Saturday, June 22**, for an 8:00 a.m. shotgun start! The day includes a few fun challenges at some holes, prizes, and a delicious steak dinner. All proceeds directly support the residents at Emmanuel Home. Check out our website <https://emmanuelhome.ca/involved/golf-tournament> for the registration form, sponsoring opportunities and to sign up, or reach out to Laura Pothoven at lpothoven@emmanuelhome.ca.

HOPE MISSION "NO CHILD HUNGRY" WALK: Every day across the province we see children and youth coming to school hungry. These kids come to our programs who have had nothing to eat all day, and our staff across Alberta work at not only feeding hungry tummies, but also to help teens stay in school who would have otherwise dropped out to help provide for their younger siblings. Walk with us **June 15th** to raise hope for Albertans struggling with the challenges of rising costs. The "No Child Hungry" Walk will take place in Edmonton, Calgary, Camrose, and Red Deer. You can sign up to walk or donate at this [link](#).

PRISON FELLOWSHIP CANADA – ANGEL TREE CAMPING program connects church communities and individuals with the families of prisoners through a Summer Camp experience. Children have the opportunity to step outside of their home situation and into a camp environment full of adventure and fun. It also provides them with the opportunity to hear the good news of Jesus Christ and the difference He can make in their lives. To donate and learn more about this program please visit prisonfellowship.ca.

CRC NEWS: Check out what's happening in the CRC community [here](#).

CRCNA ANNOUNCEMENTS: Connecting church members with the ministries of the denomination. Find out more by visiting the website [here](#).

CRC COMMUNICATIONS: Call to Synod and Synod Agenda. Click [here](#).