

May 19, 2024

## THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

On Sunday, we conclude a week of prayer, which also closes our 40 day journey about God's vision for us at Bethel to build - a **House of Belonging**.

Through our worship, we will celebrate the power and promise of Pentecost, when God sent his Holy Spirit to dwell within his church. God predicted this gift through the Scriptures, especially in his meeting with Israel at Sinai. We reflect on this encounter, exploring how God's covenant expressed a call to belong him as his "treasured possession" and to serve as his "priesthood" throughout the world. At Pentecost, we remember that each of us are called and empowered to share the message of the good news of Jesus Christ. Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on us.

The message this Sunday will focus on Exodus 19, "Called to Belong."

## OUR OFFERINGS

- 1) **BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION:** The ministries and programs of Bethel.
- 2) **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.

**NEXT WEEK – REHOBOTH:** Rehoboth Christian Ministries offers services to "developmentally disabled" adults and children. They declare and demonstrate God's love and grace to people who have been denied full participation in the mainstream of life because of their mental or physical disabilities.

## 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 last 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.

Please note of a phone number correction for **CURTIS COENEN** in the Church Directory. The correct phone number is 780-504-3678.

## 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](https://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 27<sup>th</sup> 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!

**COUNCIL NOMINATIONS:** The council of Bethel would like to present the following as nominees for the position of Deacon: Jessica Kalf, Helen Krol, Gary Simpson, Jacqueline Prins, Jeff Van Niejenhuis and Ron Van Der Linden. At this point we do not have any nominees for the elder positions.

We as a congregation will vote on Sunday, June 2, to affirm these nominees. If you are not able to attend the worship service that day, you may vote in advance by sending an email to [clerk@discoverbethel.com](mailto:clerk@discoverbethel.com). To vote, you must be a professing member of Bethel Community Church. Following the affirmation vote, we will plan to draw lots as needed the following Sunday, June 9. If you have any questions, please contact the Clerk of Council at [clerk@discoverbethel.com](mailto:clerk@discoverbethel.com).

**FINANCE TEAM UPDATE:** Changes are happening with our Finance Committee. Hans Vandenbrink is retiring from his role as Treasurer on the committee. He has held the position of treasurer for Bethel for 12 years. Also, John Oort is retiring from serving on the committee as well. John is a long tenured leader at Bethel with 24+ years of service, chairing on the Finance team and also on the Facilities team. Thank you for your diligent work, Hans and John! We are so grateful for your service and greatly appreciate all you have done for the church. We will plan to formally thank these two men during our next congregational meeting.

Two new members have joined the committee this spring: Linda Bird and Lorraine Vacciana, who both work in accounting and finance. We're grateful for their willingness to serve on the Finance team.

**NEW BIBLE READING PLAN – MINOR PROPHETS 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 25, join us as we dive into our Summer Bible Project where we will be reading through the Minor Prophets. 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](mailto:wendy@discoverbethel.com)

**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](mailto: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](#).

**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

**PRAYER NIGHT:** This 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.

**CATALYST:** Join us on Friday evening, May 24. We will be meeting from 7:00-9:00pm and Dunamis Fellowship of Canada will be joining us to talk to us about the Holy Spirit and Prayer.

**PAUL AND PANCAKES:** will be happening during the service on Sunday, May 26. Come join us for some delicious food and a great discussion!

## FINANCIAL UPDATE

**FINANCIAL UPDATE:** As of the end of March, we are 58% through the fiscal year (September 2023 through August 2024). We have collected 49.8% of the budgeted income for the year and have spent 51.1% of the budgeted expenses for the year. This means our expenses are currently higher than our income.

Thank you to Bethel for your faithful and generous giving. Please continue to prayerfully review your monthly giving, for when you give, you are investing in your church and something far greater than yourself: God's kingdom work here at Bethel.

### 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](mailto:accounting@discoverbethel.com).

## THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### SUNDAY, May 19

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

### MONDAY, May 20

7:00 p.m. Prayer – Zoom

### TUESDAY, May 21

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

### WEDNESDAY, May 22

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

8:00 p.m. AA

### THURSDAY, May 23

12:30 p.m. Food Bank

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

### FRIDAY, May 24

6:00 p.m. Women's Beauty In Bloom Event

7:00 p.m. Youth – Catalyst

### SATURDAY, May 25

9:00 a.m. Bannerman In Action – Bannerman Hall

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**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 Line des Rosiers at 780-479-4900.

**CHRONOS VOCAL ENSEMBLE:** On Sunday May 26, 3:00 pm at McDougall United Church, Chronos Vocal Ensemble presents *Connect, Create!* This joint presentation with guests Spiritus Chamber Choir from Calgary will feature Rhenberger's opulent and magnificent Mass in E flat for double choir as well as Eric Whitacre's Alleluia. Also, on the program will be works by Canadian composers including Edmonton's own Stuart Beatch and Trent Worthington. Tickets and more information at [chronosvocalensemble.com](https://chronosvocalensemble.com)

**REHOBOTH GOLF CLASSIC:** is around the corner and we're looking for you! Join on June 1 at The Ranch Golf & Country Club. Help make this event a putting success! More info or register at [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](mailto:bgoutbeck@gmail.com).

**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](#).

**REHOBOTH CAMP NEED YOU!** Counsellors are desperately needed to ensure our weeks can run, and Campers with disabilities can enjoy their favourite week. All weeks are still looking for volunteers but R & R week, June 23-28, still requires a minimum of eight volunteers to go ahead. R & R week is for our older Campers that are looking for a relaxing and quieter camp experience – this week is perfectly paired with more mature volunteers. Help us make this summer a highlight for so many adults with disabilities! Visit our website for more information [here](#).

**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](http://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)

**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 15<sup>th</sup>** 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](http://prisonfellowship.ca).

**JOB OPPORTUNITY:** Associate Pastor of Congregational Life at Maranatha Christian Reformed Church in Edmonton. Are you passionate about discipleship? Do you have a heart for serving a multicultural and multigenerational congregation? Maranatha CRC is seeking to add an Associate Pastor to their ministry team. Must have 2-4 years of ministry-related education and experience (including volunteer work). See our website [here](#) or contact Carolyn at [fcwoudstra@shaw.ca](mailto:fcwoudstra@shaw.ca) for more information and to apply. Applications close June 29, 2024 .

**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](#).