



October 4, 2024

THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

This Sunday we continue our sermon series, *Everyday Disciples*, by reflecting on “What is the cost of following Jesus?” Amidst the sickness and scarcity of our world it is understandable for us to reach for peace and security. However, for us to seek first the kingdom (Matthew 6:33), we must avoid seeking comfort and purpose outside of Christ. While we would prefer following Jesus to be easier and more convenient, not costing us so much, God has far more to give us through his love and provision. We cannot fully receive what he has to give until we let go of what we cling to for comfort.

The message this Sunday will focus on Matthew 8:18-22, "The Almost Disciples."

Community Connection Sunday on October 6 – Last month for our Welcome Back Sunday, we created space for everyone to connect with food, fellowship and name tags. We want to continue this focus by once a month having a connection focused Sunday. This Sunday, please fill out and wear a nametag and after the service join us in welcoming each other. Plan to stay a little while after the service for a treat and the chance to connect with others. We're hoping to be outside, but we'll wait to confirm based on the weather for the morning.

OUR OFFERINGS

- 1) **BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION:** The ministries and programs of Bethel.
- 2) **WORLD RENEW:** joins communities around the world to renew hope, reconcile lives, and restore creation. Working in more than 30 countries, World Renew embraces a family-centered approach to ending global poverty, hunger and illness and providing disaster response services.
For more information→worldrenew.ca

NEXT WEEK – EDMONTON FOOD BANK provides food, free of charge, to those experiencing hunger through a variety of effective distribution methods throughout the city. The food bank runs hamper programs, and meal and snack programs through a number of locations throughout the city. The money collected allows the food bank to purchase bulk food at a discounted rate for use in the programs they run. For more information→edmontonsfoodbank.com/

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

RANDY SNEEP was recently involved in a motorcycle accident. He sustained many upper body injuries and is now recovering at home. Please pray for continued healing over Randy and the Sneeep family in his recovery ahead.

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of **MARCI MAST'S** dad, **GEORGE WEENINK**. Our love, support and prayers go out to Marci and the whole Mast family in this difficult time.

Please continue to remember **JEAN SAATHOF, CURTIS COENEN, LORETTA HUIZINGA, GERRY & JENNY PENFOLD, ELEANOR PROKUDA, EVANS KOTIO, CELINE SIGVALDASON, JILL SNEEP, and PASTOR WENDY WERKMAN** as you pray for our church community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LOST AND FOUND ITEMS: Please stop by the lost and found items table located outside the sanctuary across from the library.

PODCAST UPDATE: We've launched a new series called Midweek Conversations on our main podcast channel. Our goal is to help you follow Jesus, grow, and encourage you in your discipleship by reflecting on your questions and going deeper beyond the Sunday morning. If you have a question about a Sunday message or the series in general, whether big or small, please send it to media@discoverbethel.com. Make sure you're following our podcast wherever you find your podcasts, so you don't miss out when we release a new episode. You can also find these on our website [here](#).

BETHEL'S DIAPER DRIVE FOR BANNERMAN is accepting diaper donations from now until October 6th. If you happen to be out shopping and have the means to contribute, consider picking up a box or package of diapers. You can drop off anytime the church is open at the back of the sanctuary under the windows. All sizes are needed, but there is a special need for sizes 4, 5 and 6. Thank you for being the hands and feet of Jesus to these precious little ones and their families.

WOMEN OF BETHEL please join us for a games night at the church on Friday, October 4 from 7-9 p.m. Bring your favorite game(s) and some snacks to share. Drinks will be provided.

MEN'S MINISTRY: We have upcoming breakfast gatherings on October 19 and November 16 (See discoverbethel.com/events). In between those gatherings, we're organizing conversation groups, discussing a book, *Fighting Shadows* (by Jon Tyson and Jefferson Bethke). If you'd like to read with you us, you can purchase your own copy [here](#). If you'd like to join a conversation group, email Pastor Cris (cris@discoverbethel.com).

MEMBER LOOKING FOR AFFORDABLE RENT: A quiet woman in our congregation is looking to rent in a Christian home on the Northeast side of the city. If you are interested in offering her a place to live, please e-mail the office at info@discoverbethel.com.

HARVEST FEST: Bethel's annual **Harvest Fest and Trunk-or-Treat** is just around the corner. This family fun, indoor-outdoor event will be held at the church on Saturday, October 26th, from 2-4p.m. Our goal is to make this year's event bigger and better than ever with more trunks, and more (new) activities, but we need YOU! Click [here](#) to find out how you can get involved.

ADVENT CANDLES: Advent begins December 1, 2024. If you want to order an Advent Candle holder you can do this by emailing lisa@discoverbethel.com. This comes with the wooden Candle holder, 5 Candles, and information to help guide you through lighting these candles every week. Orders need to be in by November 5, 2024. The cost is \$20.

SAVE THE DATE! Bethlehem Comes to Bannerman: **A Christmas Dinner Theatre** will have two showings on Saturday, Dec. 14th. We assure you; this is an event you won't want to miss! Keep your eyes peeled in the coming weeks for more information about how you can get involved. It's going to be a blast, so come on Bethel, join us in blessing the community of Bannerman!

BETTER TOGETHER LIBERIA is a registered non-profit organization working in a small village in Bettesu Liberia. Bethel CRC has been a major supporter with this project along with other private donators. We are presently in the process of constructing a medical clinic and would love for you to make a donation towards the completion of this clinic. Please go to bettertogetherliberia.org and read about the project. You can make a donation online or send money to bettertogetherliberia@gmail.com. You can also visit our website at discoverbethel/give to donate. Please note that the donation is for Better Together Liberia.

BETHEL YOUTH

PAUL & PANCAKES CONTINUES! Next meeting is on Sunday, October 20, during the service.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

COLLECTIONS IN OCTOBER

October 6	World Renew
October 13	Edmonton Food Bank
October 20	Disability Concerns
October 27	Ministry Shares

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, October 6

10:00 a.m. Worship - in person and live stream
11:30 a.m. Community Connection Sunday

MONDAY, October 7

7:00 p.m. Prayer – Zoom

TUESDAY, October 8

2:00 p.m. Parent Prayer Cohort
5:00 p.m. Dove Taekwondo
7:00 p.m. GEMS
7:00 p.m. Life Groups

WEDNESDAY, October 9

6:30 a.m. Prayer - in person and zoom
9:30 a.m. Oasis
8:00 p.m. AA

THURSDAY, October 10

12:30 p.m. Food Bank
5:00 p.m. Dove Taekwondo
7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, October 11

SATURDAY, October 12

COMMUNITY NEWS

LODGEPOLE COMMUNITAS NEEDS YOU! Are you a group of 4-6 people who enjoy spending time together and making a difference in your community? Our Lodgepole Alberta Avenue location serves a community meal 3 times/week to people in need. We're currently in need of small groups to prepare Friday dinner from 12-4 p.m. once/month, to be served by other volunteers later in the evening. To get involved in creating a space of welcome, belonging, and good food please contact Sarah Nicolai-deKoning at prayerworks@lodgepolecommunitas.ca; phone/text 780-289-5730; or check out www.lodgepolecommunitas.ca

SEVEN MILE STORY: You are invited to a community outreach event on October 8th being held at Trinity Baptist in Sherwood Park. The event, called *Seven Mile Story*, takes audiences through the entire Bible in just one night. From creation to resurrection, listeners experience the Bible's unbroken narrative in a way that captivates hearts and leaves people hungry for more of God's Word. It has had a tremendous impact on kids as young as 10 and people from all backgrounds. It's a great community event and easy to invite friends & family to. You can find more information about the event [here](#).

NADC REFUGEE WORKSHOP AND SHARING SESSION: We invite all deacons, others involved in working with refugees and all interested to join us on Wednesday, October 9 at 7 pm at West End CRC. Martine Ooms, long time refugee coordinator at Inglewood CRC, will lead us in a time of learning and discussion on refugee sponsorship in our churches. We will also have a time of sharing best diaconal experiences and practices in our congregations. We look forward to a good evening of learning and sharing together. If possible, send us an email at yournadc@gmail.com or call Jeremy Stork at 780-722-9388 by October 7 so we can plan refreshments. All are welcome!

REHOBOTH'S ANNUAL DONATION DRIVE: This October, we invite you to become a "Friend of Rehoboth" and partner with our ministry in supporting persons with developmental disabilities to flourish. Friendship involves a "shared responsibility of the shared Christian community for those within their community that require their support." Donations of any size are appreciated and helps us grow our reach. Look for the **Friends of Rehoboth** envelopes in your mailbox or at the Welcome Desk. You can also speak with Jo-Ann Tavenier-Vriend. Alternatively, a digital online submission is available [here](#).

REHOBOTH CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES FUNDRAISER: October 19th visit Dutch Delicious 913232-118 Ave)in

support of *For the Love of Opa*; an annual fundraiser where 50% of sales are donated to local charities. Enjoy free coffee and cinnamon buns while shopping for a great cause!

KINDRED HEARTS CAMBODIA FOUNDATION: Please join the 10th annual Live and Silent Auction fundraiser on Friday, October 18, 2024! There will be live music by Erin Kay, as well as refreshments, awesome auction items and exciting updates on Kindred Hearts Cambodia programs! The event will be held at a new, larger venue, the Woodvale Community Facility (Millwoods Golf Course). You can purchase tickets at eventbrite.ca or text Leanne Foff 780-278-0603. See you there!

DUNAMIS ESSENTIALS: An abridged version of each of the 6 Dunamis Projects, taken over 3 years, where we teach the content in a condensed time frame, either on-line or in-person. You will get to experience live teaching, small groups and worship together. Our goal is to make the Dunamis teachings more accessible to more people. Dunamis Essentials #1, **Gateways to Empowered Ministry**, is a core teaching on the person and works of the Holy Spirit, from a Biblical and reformed theological framework. This event as an in-person session, November 21-23, 2024, at the Providence Renewal Centre in Edmonton. Registration deadline is November 8. Click [here](#) for more information or to register.

UPCOMING VISIT EVENTS AT THE KING'S UNIVERSITY:

- Fall Open House: At The King's University on October 19, 2024 | 10:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Admissions Online Information Session: On October 23, 2024 | 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm
Microsoft Teams (Online Webinar)

SINGLES FELLOWSHIP EVENT: If you are single (never married, widowed, separated, divorced) and 50+, join us at First Church of the Nazarene (14320 - 94 Street) on Thursday, October 17, drop-in time from 7-8:15 p.m. for Thanksgiving pumpkin pie and refreshments! It will be a great time of fellowship and encouragement as we meet together with people who share similar life experiences. Hope to see you there!! You can phone 780-232-3876 if you have any questions.

STEVE BELL CONCERT: Christian singer-songwriter Steve Bell will be performing in Sherwood Park with his band (featuring special guest pianist Mike Janzen) on Sunday, October 27, 7:00 p.m. at Sherwood Park Alliance Church (1011 Clover Bar Road). The concert is celebrating his 23rd album release, *The Glad Surprise*. Tickets are \$29.00. Visit <https://stevebell.com/events/> for more info.

DIG A WELL IN KENYA FUNDRAISER: Frank and Carolyn Van Boom were on a mission trip to Kenya this past year. They are helping to raise funds to dig a well in an impoverished area in Kenya. Please join them in advancing God's kingdom by coming to our fundraising dinner on Saturday November 2nd at Trinity CRC. There will be live music, delicious food and a silent auction. The cost is \$30.00. Feel free to email Carolyn at fcvanboom@gmail.com if you have any questions or to RSVP. Carolyn is also able to take e-transfer, cheque or cash.

ADEARA RECOVERY CENTRE: We are excited to extend a special invitation and a challenge to you for our **annual Evening of Dreams Gala**, taking place at the Evario Events Centre, October 18, 2024. The Evening of Dreams Gala is a tangible way to come alongside the most vulnerable women and children and show that they are not alone, but rather have a community of people who believe in them. For more details and to purchase your table, visit adeara.ca/gala. We would love to have you join us.

INTERMISSION SILENT RETREAT: Noise Getting to You? Tired of Busy? Since January 2005, InterMission Silent Retreat has offered time away for prayer, self-reflection, and rest. Consider Jesus's invitation, "Come away with me by yourself and get some rest." It is \$500 for 2 nights' accommodation, 5 meals, private room, up to 3 sessions of spiritual direction, and all the amenities of the retreat centre. November 1-3, 2024 at Star of the North Retreat Centre. To register email rev.klok@gmail.com.

PAUL'S MISSIONARY JOURNEYS IN GREECE (March 28 - April 8, 2025): Travel by motor coach (7 days) and cruise ship (3 days) to sites connected with Paul's second and third missionary journeys, as well as visit other major sites of biblical, archaeological, and cultural interest. Jeff Weima, professor at Calvin Theological Seminary and leading Pauline scholar, hosts this inspirational tour. For more information,

contact Dr. Weima at 616-328-3110 or weimje@calvinseminary.edu.

SYNOD 2024 UPDATED FAQ: Earlier this year, we shared an initial draft of the FAQ document with you. Since that time, we've encountered additional questions as well as some misinformation that has been circulating. In an effort to address these, we've updated [the FAQ document](#) and wanted to bring it to your attention. There is a new section on racism and diversity. Other updates are in the "covenant for officebearers" section. In compiling this document, we acknowledge that the concerns of many leaders and members of our churches may run deeper than we are able to reach here, despite our good-faith efforts to answer questions based on the facts as we understand them. It is also likely that, based on feedback that we receive, some of the responses here may be updated and new questions and responses may continue to be added. If you have questions and would like to reach out to us, please contact us at communications@crcna.org.

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](#).