

September 5, 2025

O THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

This Sunday, we start a new sermon series for the fall, *Habits of the Church*. The Book of Acts gives us a picture of a church alive with purpose, passion, and power, modeling six habits that shaped the early church: devotion to God's Word, life-giving fellowship, the breaking of bread, powerful prayer, generosity and worshipful witness. These were not occasional activities but consistent rhythms that formed a Spirit-filled community and made the gospel visible to the world. In this series, we'll discover how these same habits can shape us today into a church that is committed to becoming like Christ and sharing Him with others.

The message this Sunday will focus on Acts 2:42-47 and Colossians 3:15-17, "To the Apostles' Teaching."

Each week we'll include notes and resources for "what to do next" related to the habit of the week on the sermon resources page: here

UPCOMING BAPTISM: Next Sunday, September 14, we will joyfully celebrate the sacrament of baptism with the BARR family as Doug and Cherie bring their son, Zach, to be baptized. Let us join together in prayer and support as this family takes this meaningful step of faith.

OUR OFFERINGS

- 1) BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION: The ministries and programs of Bethel.
- 2) ALPHA CANADA: has created video programs that are an effective way to share the Good News of Jesus. By focusing on the essentials of the Christian faith, it opens the door for Alpha to be used in almost any context so that everyone has the opportunity to see their friends' lives transformed by the gospel. For more information https://alphacanada.org/

COLLECTIONS IN SEPTEMBER

September 7 Alpha Canada September 14 King's University

September 21 Edmonton Native Healing Center

September 28 Ministry Shares

OCHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

Continue to remember **CURTIS COENEN**, **MARIJKE COUVREUR**, **SYLVIA MILFORD**, **JENNY PENFOLD**, **ELEANOR PROKUDA** and **JEAN SAATHOF** as you pray for our church community.

Please also pray for those in our community that are mourning the loss of loved ones; the **VAN POPTA** family and the **ARNOLD** family.

50th **WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: DON & ELEANOR PROKUDA** will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday, September 13th, 1:00 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.in the Fireside Room at Bethel Church. Bethel Community, you are invited to rejoice and share in this special occasion with them. Please stop by that afternoon to bring your congratulations and share some finger foods with the Prokuda's.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BETTER TOGETHER LIBERIA - BETTESU STUDENT SPONSORSHIP: The opportunity to contribute to students in Bettesu continues. To cover the cost of inflation on uniforms and school supplies, this year's donation per child is \$50. You can donate online using PushPay by clicking here. Please select Bettesu – School Supplies Drive from the drop-down menu. You may also send an e-transfer to hettertogetherliberia@gmail.com We are forever grateful for the generous support we receive from Bethel year after year!

PLAN TO PROTECT FALL SESSION: This training is for anyone who is currently volunteering or will be working with children, youth, or vulnerable adults this coming year. The next training session will be on Wednesday, October 1. The session is 2.5 hours, from 6:30-9:00 p.m. and is for those who need to have a refresher and for those who have never attended. Anyone who has been before will need to attend because we have not run the sessions for some time. Please sign up here.

OASIS: We're back! We meet from 9:30-11:00 a.m. over coffee, with volunteer provided snacks, and free childcare. After watching a video together and a time of prayer, we break into smaller groups to discuss the study. Ages range from 19 to retirees. We kick off our year on September 10th with a potluck and then begin our book/video series the following week on September 17th. This year our fall book study is "When Strivings Cease" by Ruth Chou Simons. Books will be available for \$20, while supplies last, starting at the potluck. Please contact Laura at oasisbetheledmonton@gmail.com if you have any questions about joining Oasis. Click here for more information.

OASIS VOLUNTEERS: Maybe you aren't looking to participate in a Bible study at this time, but you enjoy children and find that your Wednesday mornings (9:20-11:05 a.m.) are free? We are looking for a few more people to add to our substitute volunteer list for childcare which includes Nursery (up to age 3) and Preschool/kindergarten ages. We have also begun offering a Homeschool Group for elementary aged kids. They will have a bible lesson and hang out together while their moms attend bible study. This is a casual time, but our numbers have already outgrown our current volunteer capacity. We are looking for adults who can commit to spending time with these kids and are willing to accommodate your schedule. Please contact Laura at oasisbetheledmonton@gmail.com if you would like to help.

GEMS: (Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior). - Empowering girls to feel confident, secure and loved. We hope to have a wonderful year together building skills, experiencing God's love and growing in faith. Come join us for fellowship, Bible study, badge work, and lots of fun. GEMS runs alternating Tuesdays, from 7:00-8:30pm, starting September 23. Click here for more information and to register.

CADETS: Cadets is a group for boys in grade 2-6. Cadets meets every second Tuesday from 7:00-8:30pm from October – May. Our first Cadets night is October 14. Through badge work, games, and physical activities, this group of boys build relationships, gain skills, and become more Christ-like in all areas of their lives. Click here for more information and to register.

FAMILY TABLE: Are you raising kids or teens? Pull up a chair at *The Family Table!* This new series of Sunday afternoon gatherings will help your family discover simple ways to grow faith at home. Join us Sept. 21 after church for *Setting the Table*, a family potluck and time of vision, connection, and encouragement. Bring a dish to share and be ready for some great fellowship and inspiration. Families with children and teens (ages 0-18), sign up here.

YOUNG ADULTS: Sep 28, 2025, 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Join us each month for Bethel Young Adults Gathering. This month will be hosted at Harpers at 7 pm on September 28. We will spend time in prayer and worship, exploring how we can support each other into the fall. Snacks provided. *Email Pastor Cris for details (cris@discoverbethel.com).

DISCOVER BETHEL CLASS: We are putting on another Discover Bethel class.

WHO SHOULD TAKE THIS CLASS? Anyone interested in learning more about Bethel Community Church and those considering membership.

WHAT: This is a two-hour class designed to acquaint you with the history of Bethel Community Church, the church's ministries and mission, and the Christian Reformed Church denomination. This class is the first step towards membership at Bethel.

WHEN: Sunday, September 28th from 12-2pm (includes a light lunch)

WHERE: Bethel Fireside Room To sign up, please click <u>here</u>

For more information, please email Pastor Cathy at cathy@discoverbethel.com

WOMEN'S FALL RETREAT: The women of Bethel Community Church are having a retreat, *Still Waters, Deep Roots*, at Camp Nakamun, from Friday October 31 to Sunday November 2, 2025. Join us for a weekend away to learn, deepen our relationships with God, and strengthen our community as a church. **EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION (\$190) ENDS AUGUST 31.** Click <a href="https://example.com/heres/h

GET INVOLVED

BETHEL MEALS MINISTRY: You know that feeling you get when someone brings you a meal to offer you support? Relief, gratitude, and knowing that you are seen and cared for is what meals ministry brings to Bethel families who are experiencing recovery from surgery, illness, the addition of new family members, a loss, or other big life moments. But this ministry needs your help. Our list of volunteers to make meals has been shrinking. You don't have to be a professional chef, or a fancy cook to bring a meal.

The process is simple:

- 1. Receive an email letting you know a Meal Train has been created (it is also posted in the Bethel Facebook group). There will be information about the size of the family and any food preferences as well as delivery time.
- 2. Select a date and sign up with your name and the dish you're bringing.
- 3. Deliver your meal on the day you selected, building community through this one simple act.

Bethel Family, as you make supper throughout the next month, perhaps you could consider how you could double a meal and deliver it to a family who could use the boost? Email Laura at ljboskers@hotmail.com to get your name on the email list.

A BIG COOK IS COMING! On Saturday, October 4th, starting at 1:00 p.m. to about 4:00 p.m., you are invited to join us in the lower level here at Bethel to prep some meals for the Bethel freezers for the Deacons and staff to have on hand when there is a church family or community need. All the ingredients will be provided, but we need your help to put them together into freezer meals, building community as you do so! Sign up is at the back or email Laura Meidl at ljboskers@hotmail.com

BETHEL SUMMER READING CHALLENGE: Thanks to everyone for participating in our first summer reading challenge! Be sure to return your books and don't forget to stop by the library to check out the new reading materials.

BETHEL YOUTH

GAMES NIGHT: Join us on Sept. 19 from 7:00 pm to 10:00 p, for a night of games and fun!!

YOUTH AND PANCAKES: Meet us for pancakes on September 28. We will meet in the Lower Level during the service for pancakes and a time of connection.

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FREE RENT: We are looking for a Christian university student who may be interested in a temporary livein arrangement with a senior in the neighbourhood. In exchange for free rent, the student would assist Norma for 2–3 hours a day with organizing and packing household items. The primary tasks involve boxing and labeling, with a particular focus on a large kitchen hutch filled with crockery, pottery, and a unique collection of knick-knacks.

If you know someone who could benefit from free housing while attending university and would be willing to support Norma during this transitional time, please contact the church office.

OPEN HOUSE AT LIGHTHOUSE: Join us for an Open House at Lighthouse on Saturday, September 6, from 1:00–4:00 p.m. at 11425 St. Albert Trail, Inglewood. This is a wonderful opportunity to tour our new independent seniors living facility, explore our bright and spacious suites, and see the welcoming common areas designed for community and connection. Meet our friendly team, ask questions about living at Lighthouse, and enjoy light refreshments as you discover all that we have to offer.

GRAND OPENING AT LIGHTHOUSE: You are invited to attend our grand opening celebration of Lighthouse, an Emmanuel Home community, located at 11425 St. Albert Trail NW. The celebration will be on Thursday, September 25 at 3:30 p.m. The celebration will consist of a short program, ribbon cutting, reception and tours. RSVP by September 19 to info@the-lighthouse.ca.

EVENING OF DREAMS GALA: Celebrate with us at Adeara Recovery Centre's annual Evening of Dreams Gala, Friday October 3. This spectacular event is designed to inspire and bring hope as we support women who are building new futures for themselves and their children after addiction. Tickets available <u>here</u>.

THE KING'S UNIVERSITY HARVEST BANQUET: Join us for our annual Harvest Banquet at The King's University on October 4, 2025. Let's gather in fellowship and reflect on the ways Christian education shapes lives for God's glory. Early Bird tickets are now available! Visit here or call 780-465-8314 to learn more or purchase tickets. We hope to see you there!

LOVEDMONTON'S DINNER & SILENT AUCTION: You are invited to celebrate with us God's transformative work in our community. At Lovedmonton, our mission is to be a storefront to the gospel, reaching people who might never walk into a church. Through relational ministry, we meet people where they are, sharing God's love in ways that are meaningful and accessible. Your support makes this possible, and we can't wait to celebrate the impact we've made together. Join us October 17th, 2025! Click here for tickets.

KINDRED HEARTS CAMBODIA FOUNDATION: Please join Kindred Hearts Cambodia Foundation at their 11th annual Fundraiser Gala & Silent Auction on Friday, October 17, 2025! There will be amazing food, live entertainment, a 50/50 draw and great company! Come out for a fun evening, while supporting the KHC programs in remote Cambodia. The event will be at the Woodvale Community Facility (Millwoods Golf Course Clubhouse) and early bird tickets are only \$20, available at eventbrite.ca or text Leanne Foff 780-278-0603. See you there!

CLASSIS ALBERTA NORTH: There are several opportunities to serve the wider CRC community.

Please consider submitting a nomination or volunteering for one of the following roles:

- 1. Classis continues to desperately seek someone willing to serve as Treasurer.
- 2. Classis needs a Minister of the Word (active or retired) to serve on the Classis Interim Committee
- 3. Classis Alberta North is looking for 2 Ministers of the Word (active or retired) to serve as Synodical Deputy and Alternate Synodical Deputy respectively.
- 4. Classis needs persons to serve on the Classis Abuse Response Team (CART). Click <u>HERE</u> for information about CART.
- 5. Classis seeks nominations for a Minister of the Word (active or retired) to serve as our representative on the Board of Calvin Theological Seminary.

Our denomination is also seeking nominations for:

- a Minister of the Word (active or retired) to serve on the Judicial Code Committee,
- a non-ordained person with no legal training to serve on the Judicial Code Committee,
- a "at-large" member of the Council of Delegates, and
- a person to serve on the Candidacy Committee.

Click <u>HERE</u> for information about the Judicial Code Committee and the Council of Delegates.

Click <u>HERE</u> for information about the Candidacy Committee. (Scroll to page 11.)

Send names to Lucinda Klapwyk, Nominations Coordinator, at lklapwyk@yahoo.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.

I THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, September 7

10:00 a.m. Worship - in person & live stream11:30 a.m. Fall Kick off BBQ in the parking lot

MONDAY, September 8

7:00 p.m. Prayer – Zoom

TUESDAY, September 9

5:15 p.m. Dove TaeKwonDo

WEDNESDAY, September 10

6:30 a.m. Prayer-In-person & Zoom 9:30 a.m. Oasis Potluck 8:00 p.m. AA

THURSDAY, September 11

12:30 p.m. Food Bank 5:15 p.m. Dove TaeKwonDo

FRIDAY, September 12 SATURDAY, September 13