

Bethel Council Highlights

From the Governing Elders:

Update from our Tuesday September 12/22 Meeting

On Saturday September 10th Council met for our Council breakfast. We have missed the opportunity to do this over the past two years. It is so good to kick off a new ministry year together, to encourage each other, talk about our roles as leaders, set expectations for the new year considering, together, what God is telling us about His plans for us. We will be meeting more formally as a group at our Leadership retreat on September 23 & 24th. Please pray for your leaders as they meet for this time of listening and planning.

- **GE Champions:** GE has recently developed “champion” roles on our team to support and increase communication with our volunteer teams and you, our congregation. We now have champions in the areas of Human Resources, Finance, Facilities, Vision, Future Leaders and Leadership Support. Our hope is that this encourages communication, partnership and consistency. It is best for individuals to connect with the Governing elders through our governingelders@discoverbethel.com email to share encouragements and concerns.
- **Engaged with staffing transitions:** you may be wondering, “who is managing the things Wendy used to take care of?” Some of the duties are being managed by our volunteer teams and others are being managed and overseen by Hilda Buisman as our Executive Administrator. To be clear, Hilda is not the new Wendy, but she is working hard to make sure balls are not being dropped. Her gifts of organization, leadership and service are being well used and appreciated. GE champions are also a big part of making this transition smooth. With a greater focus on volunteering for the administrative responsibilities in Facilities, Finance, and Human Resources, these teams are looking for volunteers to assist with tasks and leaders that are willing to be trained up. Please contact one of the leaders if you are interested in volunteering in one of these areas. We are grateful for the leadership of John Oort (finance and facilities) and Randall Huisman (human resources) and the teams they lead. Your knowledge and expertise are so valuable to us.
- **Church Pulse:** Tara Kilkenny presented the top strengths and greatest challenges, identified on the Church Pulse survey, at the Council Breakfast. Thank you for your participation in this survey. We are actively planning around the information that was received. A Church Pulse team is being assembled with representatives from the Council groups and staff to continue to move forward with objectives around these findings. More information to come.
- **Grateful for your giving:** Giving in July was above expectations. We thank God for your faithful giving. It is an encouragement to see your commitment to ministry at Bethel. God is working through you.
- **Save the date:** Please plan to join us at our next congregational meeting set for **November 23rd, 2022**. We will see God’s faithfulness, as we review our Year End financials and God’s provision over the past ministry year, engage in conversation, Church Pulse update etc.
- **Classis meetings October 14 & 15:** Members of our council will be joining Pastor Cris to represent our church at this session in Ponoka. Please remember our Classis in your prayers as we meet as a larger denominational group in support and encouragement of each other.

Therefore I...beg you to lead a life worthy of your calling, for you have been called by God. Always be humble and gentle. Be patient with each other, making allowances for each other’s faults because of your love. Make every effort to keep yourselves united in the Spirit, binding yourselves together with peace. (Eph 4:1-3).

We encourage your comments and suggestions.

Grace and peace,

From the Governing Elders