

June 25, 2023



## THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

**THIS SUNDAY:** We will be worshipping together through one service in person and over live stream at 10:00 a.m. To join us online, go to Bethel's home page and click on the button that says: "[Worship Online with Us.](#)"

Sharing our stories brings hope and causes faith to rise. In every situation and circumstance, we've heard how our covenantal God tirelessly walks alongside His beloved children just as He said he would. He extends grace, mercy and love without discrimination. He guides and He comforts through the power of the Holy Spirit. God is always at work. What is your story and who might He be calling you to share it with?

On Sunday, Cathy Ferchau will conclude the This is Our Story series, focusing on Hebrews 12:1-3 and Romans 8:37-39, "Our Story in God's Bigger Story." She will also be sharing parts of her own story of transformation from an unchurched kid to pastor.

Following the message, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together. For those attending in-person, we will invite you to come forward to receive the elements at the front. You can then eat and drink the elements individually as you receive them. If you are not able to come forward, please raise your hand and the elements will be brought to you. Gluten-free bread is available for those who desire this option.

For everyone online, please have communion elements ready at home (bread, juice/wine) to join with us in sharing the meal. You can partake of the elements at home while they are being served in the sanctuary.

We look forward to celebrating Christ's meal of grace with you Sunday. Please prepare your hearts for this time of remembrance and celebration in light of our forgiveness through the cross.

\*Sermon Series note: Thank you to everyone who has shared stories and testimonies over the past few months. Not only have these voices been a blessing to the church, but there are great reminders to everyone – we all have a story to share with those around us. We'll transition to our summer series next week, which will be based on 1 Samuel, but this does not mean we are not done telling of what God has done. Keep it going! We hope to include testimonies throughout the year. If you feel led to share a story with the church, please reach out to Pastor Cris.

## OUR OFFERINGS ON SUNDAY

- 1) **BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION:** The ministries and programs of Bethel.
- 2) **REFUGEE FUND:** This ministry of the deacons provides support for refugee families to get to Edmonton and to help support them as they prepare for life in Canada.

**NEXT WEEK – MINISTRY SHARES:** Supports various CRC initiatives that send missionaries around the world, start new churches, train pastors and leaders, and use media to spread the gospel.

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

Thank you for your prayer over **LINDA VROON**. The family expects that she will be able to go home today, following a positive week of recovery at the hospital. We will continue to pray that her strength returns day by day.

Thank you for your prayers for **DON PROKUDA** over the past few weeks. Don is preparing to undergo significant surgery to remove his bladder at the end of this month. He and Eleanor welcome our prayers and support during this time.

Please continue to pray for **CURTIS COENEN, MARCEL CROCKER, ELEANOR PROKUDA, CELINE SIGVALDASON, JILL SNEEP** and **WILLY VROON**.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**PASTOR OF OUTREACH AND MISSION + UPCOMING CONGREGATIONAL VOTE ON JULY 2:** Thank you for your prayers during our discernment process for calling a pastor to focus on outreach and missions. We are excited to announce that we have an update.

The calling committee interviewed and recommended council extend a call to Cathy Ferchau, who recently became eligible for Ministry of the Word at Synod. Cathy and Garry have been a part of Bethel for the past 20 plus years, alongside their 3 children. Though Cathy has been involved in a wide range of Bethel ministries, recently she has served Bethel as a pastoral intern, preaching on occasion, and leading among the prayer ministries.

Full Council voted on the motion to recommend to the congregation that we call Cathy Ferchau to the position of Pastor of Outreach and Mission. Council strongly affirmed this motion. We now have the wonderful opportunity to vote as a church on July 2nd. This vote will be taken by ballot from Bethel members after the service. If you cannot be present in person for the vote, please submit a proxy vote by email to [clerk@discoverbethel.com](mailto:clerk@discoverbethel.com).

We are grateful for God's call on Cathy's life, her desire to serve at Bethel and the gifts that she brings to this position. We are also excited for the vision God has for us to reach out to the neighbourhood and world with the love of Jesus.

We are excited to have Cathy preach for us this Sunday. We will host a small meet and greet in the Fireside Room after the service. If you haven't had the chance to meet her yet, grab a coffee and come get to know Cathy.

If you have any questions about the upcoming vote, please contact the Governing Elders ([governingelders@discoverbethel.com](mailto:governingelders@discoverbethel.com)).

**SYNOD 2023:** Synod, the denominational gathering for the CRCNA, met this past week. Thank you for praying for this event in our wider community, as it affects so many in terms of the overall ministries of the church. We are in the midst of reflecting on the decisions from this gathering and will share a summary next week in case you are interested in learning more. May Jesus lead the way.

**WE'RE HIRING:** Bethel Community Church is looking to hire an Administrative Assistant. This position is developed as a job share arrangement. Each of the employees is hired to work one half of the 0.6 FTE which the position requires. It is expected that they work two days per week. To see the job description and learn more about this position click [here](#). If you are interested, please send your applications to [hr@discoverbethel.com](mailto:hr@discoverbethel.com).

**PLAN TO PROTECT TRAINING EVENT:** If you are a current volunteer or you are looking to volunteer at Bethel in the coming months, we need you to join us for a Plan to Protect training session. Having all our volunteers trained in Plan to Protect helps to keep our most vulnerable members at Bethel safe. Even if you have been through the training before, it is required that you get a refresher. We will be holding two sessions: one refresher session for those who took the orientation session in 2022 and one orientation session for those who have not taken Plan to Protect before or has not taken it in several years. Please let us know what session you are planning to go to [here](#).

- Sunday, June 25, 12-1:30PM – Refresher Session - Pizza lunch and childcare will be provided.
- Wednesday, June 28, 6:30-9PM – Orientation Session - Refreshments will be provided.

**CANADA DAY CELEBRATION:** Get ready to mark Canada Day on your calendar, this year is going to be epic with our annual Canada Day Celebration! This year we've got games, prizes, bouncy castles, face painting, free food, and even a dunk tank. To run an awesome Canada Day, we are reaching out to you to help volunteer and make this year amazing! We have time slots available if you can't make the whole event and even if you can't volunteer, we would love to celebrate and have you come down and join our celebration! Check out our website [here](#) for more information and ways to sign up to help.

**KID'S CAMP:** If you have a heart for working with children and would like to help share stories from the Bible with them, this is the chance you've been waiting for! Kid's camp will run from August 14th to 18th, and we need your help! There are lots of ways to volunteer and get involved. Register now or sign up to volunteer [here](#). For more information e-mail Grace at [grace@discoverbethel.com](mailto:grace@discoverbethel.com).

**YOUTH SUMMER CAMPS:** Join Bethel Youth the week of July 24th until the 28th as we dive into a week filled with sports/art camps for Grades 6 to 12. The cost for each youth is \$2.50 per day or \$10.00 for the whole week. Even if you can only make it for one of the days, we would love to see you. Lunch will be provided. To register visit Bethel's summer page [here](#) or scan the QR code located in the summer information pamphlet that can be found in your mailboxes and at the back of the sanctuary.

**PLOT:** Drop in youth events will happen every Tuesday this summer starting Tuesday July 4th for grades 6 and up. Join us for activities like tie dye colour run, life size Monopoly, fear factor, and SO MUCH MORE!! No registration is needed and there is no cost!

**YOUTH DAY TRIPS:** Registration for the Youth Day Trips are up on our summer webpage. Sign up [here](#) to register and learn more information about our West Edmonton Mall Trip on July 15. For more information feel free to contact Elena at [elena@discoverbethel.com](mailto:elena@discoverbethel.com).

**BANDCAMP:** We're excited to offer BandCAMP, beginning Tuesday, September 19, from 6:15 - 9:00 p.m. This 6-week program will provide a community for those aged 12-25 who want to develop a heart and skill for worship. Each gathering will consist of four segments: specific skill development, community connection, worship foundations in Scripture, and band dynamics. At the end of these six weeks, we hope that every person involved will not only have new tools for leading and understanding worship but will be inspired to live an authentic life of worship wherever they go.

This program will be facilitated by Melanie Salte under the direction of Lisa Vander Heide. If you have any questions about the program, please email [lisa@discoverbethel.com](mailto:lisa@discoverbethel.com).

**TODAY DEVOTIONALS:** Are available here at the church. They can be found in the literature rack or at the Membership Desk.

**YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE!** On behalf of the ministries of the Christian Reformed Church in North America, thank you for your gifts to ministry shares. Your support enables congregations to do so much more to further God's Kingdom than any one church could do alone. Our denomination could not impact the world through missions, media, and church development without your incredible and faithful support. Thank you! To discover more visit [crcna.org/ministryshares](http://crcna.org/ministryshares).

**COLLECTIONS IN JUNE:**

June 4	Ministry Shares
June 11	OneBook
June 18	The Pakitinâsowin Reciprocity Fund
June 25	Refugee Fund

Please visit our website at [discoverbethel/give](http://discoverbethel/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).

**FINANCIAL UPDATE: Our Mission and Ministry:** \$72,817.00 was collected in the month of May for a total of \$601,527 this year. \$665,337.74 was anticipated by this time based on our restated budget for this year. Currently, the giving of the church has been greater than our expenses. We are blessed by the continued support for our ministries.

**Other Giving:** The deacons gratefully acknowledge the following receipts for other collections taken in

May: Ministry Shares:	\$	2,620.00
Bethel World Mission Vision:	\$	820.00
ReFrame Ministries:	\$	785.00
Rehoboth:	\$	985.00
Other Causes:	\$	1,210.00

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**REHOBOTH CAMP MINISTRY** is a summer camp for persons with developmental disabilities, and we really need your help! We currently have a camper waiting list for all of our weeks because it is such an awesome place to hear about Jesus' love. We need Cooks, Nurses/LPN's, a Bible Leader, Night Watch, and especially Counselors (buddies) willing to hang out and be a friend during Camp. We completely rely on volunteers to continue this important ministry, and we are getting close to having to cancel some of our weeks because we don't have the volunteers. You can see the specific type of camp week, dates, and needs at <https://www.rcmflourish.ca/camp/volunteers/>. Don't delay, come out to Camp today. You'll never know whose life may be changed!

**JOB OPPORTUNITY:** The Christian Reformed Church of St. Albert is looking for a part time administrative assistant. This position requires approximately 20 hrs/wk, spread over 3 or 4 days (negotiable). Some key responsibilities will be to maintain a variety of church records, deal with enquiries from a wide range of sources, and prepare the weekly church bulletin. You should be comfortable using MS Office software, and familiarity with software on the Google platform (e.g., Drive; Docs; Sheets) would be an asset. The deadline for applications is Friday June 30 with a start date in the middle of August. A complete job description can be found on our website at [crdsa.org/bulletins](http://crdsa.org/bulletins) or email Peter Buisman at [pbuisman@crdsa.org](mailto:pbuisman@crdsa.org).

## THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### **SUNDAY, June 25**

10:00 a.m. Worship - In Person & Live Stream  
12:00 p.m. Plan to Protect Refresher Session  
12:00 p.m. Meet and Greet for Cathy  
4:30 p.m. Alpha at Bethel

### **MONDAY, June 26**

7:00 p.m. Prayer (Zoom & In Person)

### **TUESDAY, June 27**

### **WEDNESDAY, June 28**

6:30 a.m. Prayer - In Person & Zoom  
6:30 p.m. Plan to Protect Orientation Session  
7:00 p.m. Young Adults - Offsite  
8:00 p.m. AA

### **THURSDAY, June 29**

7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

### **FRIDAY, June 30**

1:30 p.m. Food Bank

### **SATURDAY, July 1**

12:00 p.m. Canada Day Celebration