

September 27, 2024

THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

This Sunday we continue our sermon series, *Everyday Disciples*, exploring the identity of a true disciple who is known by Jesus. This Sunday's passage contains several warnings about how we are to watch out for false prophets and that not even our actions proves that we belong to Jesus. Our identity as disciples means that it is not enough to simply have the appearance of goodness or to do good things...we must follow the Good Shepherd and true prophet and come under his leadership as we walk this path of discipleship. Our prayer is that we are known as those who do "the will of my Father who is in heaven." (Matthew 7:21b) and that our hearts are soft soil that produces good fruit.

The message this Sunday will focus on Matthew 7:15-23, "The Identity of a Disciple."

Following the message, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper together. During the next few summer months, we plan to celebrate this differently.

For those attending in-person, we will pass around the elements with plates and baskets. When you receive them, please wait to eat and drink together at the same time. We welcome you to use the time for singing, prayer and reflection. Gluten-free bread is available in the centre of the tray for those who desire this option. You may leave the disposable cups in the pews to be collected later.

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.

OUR OFFERINGS

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

NEXT WEEK – WORLD RENEW: Compelled by God's deep passion for justice & mercy, 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 and providing disaster response services.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

RANDY SNEEP was recently involved in a motorcycle accident. He sustained many upper body injuries and is currently receiving medical care at the hospital. Please pray for continued healing over Randy 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

GARDEN HARVEST TABLE: The time of year has come again when many of us are enjoying the produce from our gardens. We have now set up our Harvest Table. This is an opportunity for those avid gardeners among us to be able to share their excess produce with fellow Bethelites. If you would like to contribute, drop off your produce at the table by the elevators before the worship service; everyone is free to pick up items that they like after the service. Bring your own bags and continue to be both blessed and a blessing in our community.

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 officially 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.

CADETS is a group for boys in grades 2-6 that meets every second Tuesday from 7:00- 8:30 p.m. 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. The registration fee is \$55 per cadet, and \$35 to buy a shirt. Click [here](#) to register or join us on registration night, September 24 at 7:00 p.m. Our first meeting will be October 1. For more information speak to Calvin VanderLeest.

LIFE GROUPS (Because we are doing life together!) October 1 we are starting "Life Groups" -small groups of people who choose to study together for an intentional amount of time - about 6 to 8 weeks. In that time, we encourage you to study the Bible together, have at least one potluck meal together, and consider a project that will have you serving together (i.e. volunteer at the Mustard Seed or Habitat for Humanity).

Life Groups will meet at the church (there will not be childcare available) unless a participant offers for the group to meet in their home.

Life Groups can use small group studies from the Bethel Library, choose on-line studies from RightNow Media, or take part in the Emotionally Healthy Spirituality course.

For more information or to register to be part of a Life Group please click [here](#).

WOMEN OF BETHEL please join us for a game's 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.

EDMONTON-WIDE DEACON 101 WORKSHOP: Join Erika Repka, Edmonton Diaconal Coach, at Bethel CRC, Edmonton (14204 - 25 Street NW) on October 5, 10am -12pm for an in-depth look at the call to be a deacon. This workshop is excellent for onboarding & recruiting new deacons, refreshing experienced deacons, and is also open to anyone who is passionate about serving their community! Together we will explore the deacon's mandate, and engage in collaborative discussions about exciting ministry initiatives. Coffee and light refreshments will be provided. Please register by clicking [here](#).

MEN'S MINISTRY: We launched a new series out of our recent monthly breakfast following a men's discipleship book, *Fighting Shadows*. Our vision is to discuss this book at our breakfasts, while arranging discussion groups to meet in between gatherings. If you would like to meet with a few other men to talk about faith and *Fighting Shadows* this fall, please reach out to Pastor Cris (cris@discoverbethel.com). The next Men's Breakfast will be on October 19. You can sign up by going to discoverbethel.com/events.

HARVEST FEST: It's that time of year again... fall! And you know what that means?! Bethel's annual **Harvest Fest and Trunk-or-Treat** is just around the corner. This super fun indoor-outdoor family event will be held partially in the parking lot and partially in 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.

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!

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.

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 SEPTEMBER

September 1	Tuition Relief
September 8	Alpha Canada
September 15	Resonate Global Mission
September 22	Edmonton Native Healing Centre
September 29	Ministry Shares

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, September 29

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

MONDAY, September 30

7:00 p.m. Prayer – Zoom

TUESDAY, October 1

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

7:00 p.m. Cadets

7:00 p.m. Life Groups

WEDNESDAY, October 2

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

9:30 a.m. Oasis

8:00 p.m. AA

THURSDAY, October 3

12:30 p.m. Food Bank

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, October 4

SATURDAY, October 5

9:00 a.m. Deacons 101 Course

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

NAVIGATING YOUR WAY THROUGH STRESS: This is a free support group for adults hosted by Cornerstone Counselling, made possible through generous funding from the City of Edmonton. This uniquely-tailored workshop series is designed to support skill-building to help you more effectively manage stress and regain a sense of self-empowerment. The group focuses on building awareness regarding how stress manifests in our bodies and ways to better cope in managing emotional distress, boundaries, self-compassion, and mindfulness. Groups begin in October or November. Click [here](#) for more details or to register.

TOWARD CRC CANADA is hosting an informative zoom meeting for and about the Canadian CRC and our call to (do) justice and reconciliation: Take one hour of this year's National Day of Truth and Reconciliation (Monday, Sept. 30) to learn and discuss opportunities and challenges for CRC churches in Canada to be part of the on-going ministry of justice and reconciliation. Join in a Zoom discussion with three leaders in this area of ministry in Canada. (6 MT) "Reconciliation can never take place without justice." Retired Justice Murray Sinclair, in his new book: *Who We Are: Four Questions for Life and Nation*. Zoom link: <https://www.towardcrccanada.net/zoom-meetings-presentations>.

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. Donations of any size are appreciated and helps us grow our reach. Look for the **Friends of Rehoboth** envelope [coming soon](#) to your mail slot or speak with Jo-Ann Tavenier-Vriend. Alternatively, a digital online submission is available [here](#). Thank you for your prayerful consideration.

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](https://www.eventbrite.ca) or text Leanne Foff 780-278-0603. See you there!

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)

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.

EMMANUEL HOME – JOB OPPORTUNITIES: Emmanuel Home, a Christian Seniors Home that provides facilities and care in a Christian community, requires a Maintenance Lead (FT) and a Maintenance Aide (Temporary) to begin soon. The Maintenance department at Emmanuel Home ensures that the facility is maintained in excellent condition, both inside and out. Please go to emmanuelhome.ca for details about qualifications, responsibilities and how to apply.

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.

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](#).