



January 8, 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."

Are you settling back into your routine? Are you thinking of any new things to add like a new exercise program or a different way of eating or getting a tutor so you end your school year off well? When we read the New Testament, we realize that Jesus introduced some new routines to the disciples. In Acts they were given instructions to spread the good news of eternal life because of Jesus Christ. Just as they were called to testify regarding the living Saviour, we are called to the same task!

Our Scripture for today comes from Acts 1:8 and Acts 10:34-43.

## OUR OFFERINGS ON SUNDAY

- 1) **BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION:** The ministries and programs of Bethel.
- 2) **ADEARA:** Adeara's long-term programming is built to end the cycle of addiction, not just for one woman, but for her children and their future children. By providing faith-based accredited programming in a community setting, Adeara provides women the opportunity to step out of rhythms of drug abuse, crime, and trauma.

**NEXT WEEK – MUSTARD SEED:** Christian not-for-profit organization that delivers basic services, including six evening meals per week, clothing, and personal items, to those living in poverty in Edmonton.

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

Please keep **MARCEL CROCKER**, Jennifer, and the rest of their family in your prayers. Marcel was admitted to the hospital last week after experiencing several mini strokes, which they suspect were caused by a blood infection. Treatment for Marcel's recovery is ongoing. The Crockers are currently receiving meals if you'd like to help. You can find their Meal Train [here](#).

Please continue to pray for **CURTIS COENEN**, **ELLA JENSEN**, **ELEANOR PROKUDA**, **JILL SNEEP**, and **WILLY VROON**.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**READ THE BIBLE WITH US!** In 2023, we invite you to join us for 51 weeks of going through the Bible together! Project 51 is a plan to read and meditate on the New Testament and Psalms in 51 weeks. Each weekday one chapter from the New Testament will be read, meditated on, and put into action. The Psalms will be read on the weekends in preparation for worship. Join us in reading the same passages together each day – reading, discussing, and praying the Scriptures so that we might be shaped more and more in the image of Christ through his word. Subscribe to the plan online at our Reading Scripture Together Page: [discoverbethel.com/readingscripturetogether](https://discoverbethel.com/readingscripturetogether). Though the reading plan began on January 2, you are still welcome to join. The plan is done through the **Youversion Bible app**

**EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY DISCIPLESHIP:** Pastor Cris and Pastor Wendy are working on one of the needs expressed in the Church Pulse, a clear pathway for growing in our Christian walk. More details will follow in the new year about when this class will be offered, but we want you to know we have heard your desire for this at Bethel. You can find a brief overview of the program and its resources [here](#). If you are interested in being part of a pilot program for this class in the new year, email Pastor Cris at [cris@discoverbethel.com](mailto:cris@discoverbethel.com).

**A DAY OF PRAYER - SEEK HIS FACE:** On January 11, we invite you to a day of prayer at Bethel Community Church. Throughout the day there will be a series of prayer sessions to guide us through 7 key principles of prayer. Each session, hosted in person at Bethel, will focus on a specific principle, culminating in an evening prayer service that will look back at how God has met us and provided for us throughout the day.

For this day we would like to encourage you to consider *fasting* and how you can personally engage in prayer throughout the day. You can find a schedule and event details [here](#). Also, please make use of our *Day of Prayer* guide as a resource for how you can pray and reflect during each session. For those who are in Christ, we believe that prayer transforms the present and will shape our future. Begin the new year with us as we seek God's face.

**COUNCIL UPDATE:** Several months back, one of our Shepherding Elders, Hilary Warnock, began a discernment process with Council about a possible call of ministry to serve Bridge Church as their Director of Children's Ministries. From this process, Hilary received confirmation to join the Bridge ministry team, which means that Hilary will be stepping down from her Shepherding Elder role. Hilary's leadership on Council and in the wide range of ministries she has served in will be missed. However, we are excited for what this new opportunity holds for ministry in Fort Saskatchewan. On Sunday, January 8, we will say a prayer and blessing over Hilary, celebrating this new call on her life.

**INSTALLATION OF NEW OFFICE BEARERS:** Next Sunday, January 15, we will be installing several new office bearers to join our council: Kevin Magnes as a Shepherding Elder and Marjean Verseveldt as a deacon. Join us in blessing these leaders for the call God has given them to serve Bethel.

**A REMINDER FOR ALL LADIES:** We are planning to start a Wednesday evening Bible study at the church at the end of January 2023 and would love your opinion on what you are interested in studying! Please take a few minutes to answer the survey [here](#).

**AN OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN TO SEW!** We have four workshops running Tuesdays at 7 p.m. – Jan 31, Feb 7, Feb 21, and Feb 28. While it helps if you can attend all four workshops, it is not mandatory. Each week will build on the lesson before, but beginners are welcome at any of the workshops. We do need numbers to ensure we have enough tables set up, so we ask that you sign-up at the information desk at church or email Laura at [ljboskers@hotmail.com](mailto:ljboskers@hotmail.com) for any of the dates you are available. If you have your own sewing kit and notions such as needles, scissors, seam rippers, etc. you can bring them along. If you already have a sewing machine, please bring it along with its own feet, bobbins, etc. If you don't have a machine, perhaps you have a family member or friend who can lend you one. There will also be a couple available to share during the workshops. All other materials will be supplied (except your mending week 4).

#### **REQUESTS FROM THE DEACONS:**

- **Transportation to Oasis:** We have some members from the community who would like to attend our Oasis Women's Bible Study, and we need your help! If you can offer a ride to and from Oasis on Wednesday mornings, please contact Laurie Veenstra at [info@discoverbethel.com](mailto:info@discoverbethel.com).
- **Transportation to Church:** If you can help with transporting a member with a young child to and from our Sunday services, please contact the deacons at [deacons@discoverbethel.com](mailto:deacons@discoverbethel.com).
- **Childcare:** We are looking for someone who is able and willing to care for a child on a few mornings or afternoons to give the mom a break. If this is something that you would like to help with, please contact the deacons at [deacons@discoverbethel.com](mailto:deacons@discoverbethel.com).
- **Looking for a car seat:** If you have a rear facing car seat that is not expired for a child under 20 lbs., we have a family attending the church who could make good use of it. Please contact the deacons at [deacons@discoverbethel.com](mailto:deacons@discoverbethel.com) if you can help with this request.

#### **COLLECTIONS IN JANUARY:**

January 1	Ministry Shares
January 8	Adeara
January 15	Mustard Seed
January 22	NewGround
January 29	World Renew

Please visit our website at [discoverbethel.com/give](https://discoverbethel.com/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 [sara@discoverbethel.com](mailto:sara@discoverbethel.com).

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**INSTALLATION OF A NEW PASTOR:** First CRC will have an "official" CRC installation of its new pastor, Rev. Bernhard VanderVlis, during the morning service on January 15 with Pastor Bill Nieuwenhuis officiating.

**CALVIN UNIVERSITY JANUARY SERIES:** You are invited to the 36<sup>th</sup> year of the Calvin University January Series beginning January 9, 2023, and continuing weekdays through January 27 by livestream. Each lecture will be shown through livestream from Calvin University from 10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. MST. The series aims to cultivate deep thought and conversations about important issues of the day, to inspire cultural renewal and make us better global citizens in God's world. You can also watch the presentations digitally on demand each day until midnight MST on your own device. Just go to website ([www.calvin.edu/january](http://www.calvin.edu/january)) each day around 10:00 p.m. MST and click on the "Watch Now" link, enter a few quick questions (name, email, etc.) and you will be able to access the livestream. Don't miss out on this chance to hear important lectures and experience a piece of Calvin University.

**TOUR THE BIBLICAL LANDS OF ISRAEL:** March 6 – March 17, 2023. Experience a refreshing renewal of your faith, and gain a deeper understanding of the Bible, as you tour the biblical lands with teaching host, Pastor Peter Tuininga, and Sindbad Tours of Israel. See many of the biblical places (Jerusalem, Galilee, Caesarea, Jericho, and much more), and gain spiritual and historical insights which will make the Bible come alive for you. For complete information, cost, and registration, go to [tourssofarrael.wordpress.com](http://tourssofarrael.wordpress.com) or call Peter Tuininga: 1-289-877-8433 or e-mail: [peter.tuininga@gmail.com](mailto:peter.tuininga@gmail.com)

**POSITION OPENING: DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT (CANADA):** Join the CRCNA staff team to provide leadership in strategic planning for the ministry share program, church and donor engagement, grants and planned giving, and other means of supporting the work of the CRCNA. This full-time position can be worked from the Burlington, Ont., office or as a hybrid role remotely in Canada. For details and to apply, go to <https://crcna.pinpointhq.com/en/jobs/81800>

**IMPACTUS MEN'S CONFERENCE:** Every man wants to make an impact. What if the key to having an impact is to first be impacted by God? Join us Saturday, March 4, 2023, from 8:40 a.m.-4:00 p.m. at the Impactus Men's Conference where you will learn how to press into all God has for you, and to become the man he is calling you to be. For more information and to register, click [here](#).

**YOU CAN HELP! HOST A UKRAINIAN FAMILY:** More than 7,000,000 Ukrainians have left Ukraine. Do you have a spare bedroom and a willingness to help a newcomer family get on their feet in Edmonton? Temporary Hosting makes a huge difference. Families usually stay about one month. Hosts provide room and board and help them with initial tasks like opening a bank account, getting a SIN, and registering for healthcare. The Kilkenny and Denning families have hosted and are willing to answer any questions. Please see the QR code for more information.



**CLIMATE WITNESS PROJECT:** is excited to host Professor Debra Rienstra on January 12, 2023, at 8 p.m. ET for a discussion of her new book *Refugia Faith: Seeking Hidden Shelters, Ordinary Wonders, and the Healing of the Earth*. This is an online event where Debra will discuss her book 'Refugia Faith'. Debra Rienstra is professor of English at Calvin University, and the author of four books—on motherhood, spirituality, worship, and ecotheology/climate change. Rienstra is also the host of the *Refugia Podcast* and writes bi-weekly for *The Twelve*, a blog connected with *The Reformed Journal*. Please register [here](#).

**SOCO BEACH PROJECT - SUMMER YOUNG ADULT DISCIPLESHIP EXPERIENCE:** Are you or is someone you know a young adult (18 - 29) looking to dig deeper into the life of faith and what impact that has on their unfolding life story? Check out the SoCo Beach Project - an intentional Christian community experience from May - August located in Port Dover, Ontario. Applications are open for SoCo 2023- deadline is January 16, 2023. For more information or a deeper conversation about this experience, email Pastor Willemina Zwart: [info@southcoastbeachproject.org](mailto:info@southcoastbeachproject.org). Hear the reflections of last year's participants and check out the latest newsletter [here](#).

## THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### **SUNDAY, January 8**

10:00 a.m. Worship - In Person & Live Stream

### **MONDAY, January 9**

7:00 p.m. Prayer (Zoom)

7:00 p.m. Governing Elders, Shepherding Elders  
and Deacons meet

### **TUESDAY, January 10**

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

7:00 p.m. Cadets

### **WEDNESDAY, January 11**

6:30 a.m. Prayer - In Person & Zoom

9:30 a.m. Oasis

8:00 p.m. AA

### **THURSDAY, January 12**

7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

### **FRIDAY, January 13**

1:30 p.m. Food Bank

7:00 p.m. Youth

### **SATURDAY, January 14**