



January 28, 2024

## THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

This Sunday we continue our series through 1 Thessalonians, ***Built Different***, by reflecting on what brings God joy. As strong as Paul's encouragement has been for church in Thessalonica, he mentions that there are some things lacking in their faith (1 Thessalonians 3:10). It is not that they have not found a path of faith in the midst of difficult times. What Paul wants to express is that God desires to give them even more than they already have. In order for them to experience God's goodness and love in this way, they will need to allow him to be a part of every aspect of their lives.

The message this Sunday will focus on 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12, "A Life of Total Devotion."

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, sharing them together as a group. 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.

**BETHEL IN THE NEW YEAR:** In 2024, we want to grow closer with God. In our series, ***Built Different***, we are learning what it means to:

**Consecrate** – What does God desire that I lay at His feet? How do I make this part of my life holy, repenting what I have wrong in my life?

**Commune** – How does the Lord desire me to connect with Him and other people? I get to be with God in my life; how can I listen to God more?

**Contend**- How does God want me to fight for His goodness in this world? How does God want me to use my place, authority, and influence to advocate for the good in this world to bring about His Kingdom?

At Bethel we want to be intentional about applying these concepts in our lives personally and communally. Some ways to do this are through our Scripture Reading Plan or by joining one of the upcoming courses on Emotionally Healthy Relationships and Personal Financial Management. These are often areas in our lives we need to consecrate to the Lord. Participating in the Scripture reading plan or attending one of these courses can help in communing with God, as you learn and listen to what He wants for you. Allowing God to transform these areas of your life will better prepare you to contend for His Kingdom right where He has placed you!

1. **Join the Scripture reading plan** : You can find more information and the link to sign up on our website by clicking [here](#). We will continue to update this page with new readings plans throughout the year.

2. **Continue Growing Together:** You can sign up for either [EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS](#) or [PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COURSE](#) by clicking on the course name, or signing up at the Welcome Desk. For more details about these courses visit [www.discoverbethel.com/events](http://www.discoverbethel.com/events).

If you have any questions about discipleship at Bethel, please email Pastor Wendy at [wendy@discoverbethel.com](mailto:wendy@discoverbethel.com). Scholarships are available if cost is a barrier to participating. We look forward to starting this new year with you—becoming like Christ and sharing Him with others!

## OUR OFFERINGS

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

**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

Please pray for **COBY** and **JOHN SNYDER'S** son, **JASON**, who has been enduring ongoing challenges with pancreatic and stomach cancer. While his care team provides comfort treatments, we pray that the Lord would be abundantly present, offering a peace and comfort that only comes through his presence.

Please continue to remember **CURTIS COENEN, MIKE JACKSON, PAULINE LENDEIN, JENNY PENFOLD, DON & ELEANOR PROKUDA, JANE SHULTZ, CELINE SIGVALDASON, JILL SNEEP** and **COBY SNYDER** as you pray for our church community.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL MEMBERS:** With the start of a new year, it's a good time to think about Bethel's mission. A key factor in fulfilling that mission relies on the many different people who serve in our church. Within that group are the church leaders (Elders and Deacons). Each year, a number of these leaders finish their terms and need to be replaced. That is where you come in. We need you to prayerfully consider who you think would make good, Christ-centered leaders for these different roles. To nominate someone, please send us an email with their name to [clerk@discoverbethel.com](mailto:clerk@discoverbethel.com). The individual you nominate must be a professing member of Bethel. To see our current list of elders and deacons visit our leadership page [here](#).

**BANDCAMP ADULT SESSIONS:** Do you have a desire to dig deeper into questions like: Why do we worship? Why is God worthy of my worship? How does what I believe about God impact the way I play with my band members? BandCAMP is a 4-session program run by Melanie Salte exploring questions like these and more. Every session will include time to connect, explore worship in Scripture, and worship through making music together. The heart of BandCAMP is to create a space for you to grow a heart and skill for worship. The dates for these sessions are Tuesdays January 30, February 13 & 27 from 7:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. To sign up please message [lisa@discoverbethel.com](mailto:lisa@discoverbethel.com).

**BETHEL KIDS AND YOUTH PRAYER CARDS:** In 2024, we will continue our tradition of creating prayer cards for all children and youth at Bethel. Our hope is that every child and teen (ages 0-17) would have a member of the congregation intentionally praying for them. If you consider Bethel to be your home church and would like your teen(s)/child(ren) to be included in this initiative, please fill out the form [HERE](#) to upload photos.

**EMOTIONALLY HEALTHY RELATIONSHIPS:** This is part two of the Emotionally Healthy Discipleship Courses. Starting February 6 at 7:00-9:00 p.m. this powerful 8-week course will equip you with practical tools to love people in difficult situations and continue to mature into an adult follower of Jesus. In the EH Relationships Course, everyone will learn 8 practical relationship skills to develop mature, loving relationships with others. Cost: \$40. Click [here](#) to register.

**WOMEN'S WINTER BIBLE STUDY:** Women of Bethel, are you looking to connect with other women and dig deeper into the Bible? Join us on Wednesday evenings starting February 7 until March 13th from 7-9 p.m. at Bethel. We will be reading 'Starved' by Amy Seiffert. The cost is \$20. Please sign up [here](#) or in person at the back of the sanctuary.

**FAMILY WORSHIP CAMP:** Join us for the first class in our monthly Family Worship Camp series and learn how to equip your child to live a life of worship. Family Worship Camp aims to help families understand the different ways people connect with God, giving practical tools to help kids and teens engage in worship at church and home. Parents and their kids ages 4-18 (nursery care provided for ages 0-3) are invited to join us once a month after Sunday worship to have lunch and learn more about how you can engage in worship. There are four sessions – sign up for all or just the sessions you can make. Our first session will be Sunday, February 11 from 11:45-1:30. For more information and to sign up, click [here](#).

**PERSONAL FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT COURSE:** Feeling those January bill blues? Sign up for the new 6-week Finance Management Course which starts on February 13 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. This course will give you an easy-to-follow personalized plan for money management. You will be guided through Dave Ramsey's "7 Baby Steps", which starts with saving for an emergency fund and ends with building wealth and giving. Learn how to handle money, budget with confidence, and set, track and reach your financial goals. Cost: \$75. Register [here](#).

**GUITAR TRAINING CAMP:** Come join Trent Jeske for some group guitar lessons. Just starting out or getting back into it - this is for you! If you just want to play, come Jam with us! This will happen February 22 from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in the Chapel. E-mail [lisa@discoverbethel.com](mailto:lisa@discoverbethel.com) to sign up!

## **BETHEL YOUTH**

**BETHEL YOUTH MISSIONS BOTTLE DRIVE:** Reminder to bring your bottles on or before Sunday, January 28. Our Youth Missions Team is raising funds to sponsor a group of teens and young adults from Mexico to join in the ministries we are taking part in this summer in our community. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Melanie at [melanie@discoverbethel.com](mailto:melanie@discoverbethel.com)

## **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

### **COLLECTIONS IN JANUARY**

January 7	Ministry Shares
January 14	Refugee Fund
January 21	Mustard Seed (Mosaic Centre)
January 28	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 [accounting@discoverbethel.com](mailto:accounting@discoverbethel.com)

**QUARTERLY STATEMENTS:** The quarterly statements for December 2023 have been emailed. Please review your statements carefully and report any errors to the church office so that errors can be corrected before tax receipts are issued in February. If you have not received your statement, please contact the church office to update your email address.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

**COLDEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR WINTER WALK:** Hosted by Adeara, this 4<sup>th</sup> annual event will take place Saturday, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Last year, with the support of our community, we raised \$60,419 to help women and their children recover from their traumas, learn healthy boundaries, breakaway from co-dependencies, develop new life skills, and ultimately, stop the horrific cycle of addiction. With your help, we would like to reach more women and continue to provide the essential service of addiction recovery to families right here in our community. **Would you please consider starting a team as a Church?** The Coldest Night of the Year is completely FREE to sign up and all ages are welcome. It's a great way for the local Church to continue to partner with Adeara (and it's a fun family-friendly event for a good cause!). To check-out all the event details, please click [here](#).

### **ANNOUNCEMENT'S FROM THE KING'S UNIVERSITY:**

**Quandaries: Traditional African medicine—nothing but voodoo?** On Tuesday, February 6 from 7:30-8:30pm at King's, Moréniké Oláòşebikan will lead us on a journey of philosophical discovery and social change in healthcare. Moréniké was born in Nigeria during the height of the HIV epidemic and grew up with an awareness of health inequities in African countries. Quandaries, a public lecture and podcast series at The King's University, approaches contemporary moral dilemmas with wisdom in an age where we tend to react or withdraw too quickly. Visit [kingsu.ca/quandaries](https://kingsu.ca/quandaries) for more info or to register.

**Parent Night for Prospective Students:** Is your child considering King's? Join us on Wednesday, February 7 from 6:30-9:00pm to learn how King's supports students in their faith development, achieving their academic and career goals, and funding their education through scholarships and financial aid. Come on campus for an evening with fellow parents and have all your questions answered. Visit [kingsu.ca/admissions/visit-kings](https://kingsu.ca/admissions/visit-kings) for more info or to register.

**The King's Players presents "A Gentleman and a Scoundrel":** Join us at The King's University February 15-17, 2024, for "A Gentleman and a Scoundrel," a performance full of charm and mischief! All proceeds will go towards the Student Refugee Fund. Tickets sold [here](#).

**CHRISTIAN STEWARDSHIPS SERVICES - WINTER CONVERSATION SERIES:** Conversations about your estate are always difficult. Christian Stewardship Services is hosting open Q& A sessions every other week this winter to answer all of your questions on charitable giving and estate planning. Explore the topics and register [here](#). Don't miss the last three sessions! Our topics will be: Joint Accounts, Choosing an Executor or Power of Attorney, and Cryptocurrency. For more information, contact: [info@csservices.ca](mailto:info@csservices.ca).

**INTERMISSION SILENT RETREAT:** Getting tired of Netflix? Maybe it's time for something different. InterMission Silent Retreat is coming up May 31-June 2 at King's Fold Retreat Centre in St. Albert, a lovely and cozy retreat house on the ridge of the Ghost River overlooking the Rockies. 2 nights accommodation, 4 meals, 2-3 spiritual direction sessions, silence, rest, peace, quiet, spirit, soul. Single private room. "Be still and know that I am God." Registration is \$500/person. Contact [rev.klok@gmail.com](mailto:rev.klok@gmail.com) to register.

**CEO OPPORTUNITY AT EMMANUEL HOME:** The Emmanuel Seniors Living Society is now accepting applications for its next permanent CEO. There are some exciting things happening in the Society and the Board is seeking the right person to lead the Society through the next chapter of its growth! More information, including the Job Posting and Organization Profile, can be found at [emmanuelhome.ca](https://emmanuelhome.ca) and inquiries can be sent to the Transition Committee at [info@emmanuelhome.ca](mailto:info@emmanuelhome.ca).

**THE PREGNANCY CARE CENTRE IS LOOKING FOR:** Individuals with experience in marketing, social media, and/or fund development. Please contact: [janice@pregnancycarecentre.ca](mailto:janice@pregnancycarecentre.ca). They are also looking for new Members of the Board of Directors. Please contact: [admin@pregnancycarecentre.ca](mailto:admin@pregnancycarecentre.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](#).

## THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

### **SUNDAY, January 28**

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

### **MONDAY, January 29**

6:00 p.m. Prayer - in person and zoom

### **TUESDAY, January 30**

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

7:00 p.m. Adult Band Camp

7:00 p.m. GEMS

### **WEDNESDAY, January 31**

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

8:00 p.m. AA

### **THURSDAY, February 1**

12:30 p.m. Food Bank

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo

7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

### **FRIDAY, February 2**

### **SATURDAY, February 3**