October 16, 2026

BETHEL COMMUNITY CHURCH

THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

This Sunday, we begin a new sermon series, *Building Together*, continuing our exploration through Paul's first letter to the Corinthians, a journey we began earlier this year. After Paul reflects on the differences between the world's wisdom and God's wisdom, he explains how God builds his church, not through human means, but through loving divine care within a community that embraces the mind of Christ. During this series, we will examine how God grows us as his church and guides us to build together.

The message this Sunday will focus on 1 Corinthians 3:1-9, "Only God Makes Things Grow."

For past messages, subscribe and follow our podcast: discoverbethel.com/podcasts

OUR OFFERINGS

1) **BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION:** The ministries and programs of Bethel.
2) **CANADIAN FOOD GRAINS BANK:** is a partnership of 15 church-based agencies working together to end global hunger. Farmers in this area grow crops which are specifically harvested for donation to the food grains bank. The Foodgrains bank provides emergency food assistance and long term development in over 30 countries annually with the help of over 100 international partners.
   For more information: https://foodgrainsbank.ca/

COLLECTIONS IN OCTOBER

OCT 4 World Renew
OCT 11 Food Bank
OCT 18 Canadian Food Grains Bank
OCT 25 Ministry Shares

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

CELEBRATION OF LIFE FOR EVANS KOTIO: There are a few services planned to remember Evans.
Musical Night: October 23, 2026, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. at **Steele Heights Baptist Church**, 5812 – 149 Avenue.
Funeral Service: October 24, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. at **Bethel Community Church**.
Repass and Refreshments: October 24, 2026, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. at **Steele Heights Baptist Church**, 5812 – 149 Avenue.

Please continue to pray for **Jenny Penfold, and Eleanor Prokuda** as you pray for our church community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BETHEL STAFF TRANSITION: Following her request for a release of call, Pastor Cathy will be completing her role with us as Pastor of Outreach and Missions on November 1, 2026.

We are encouraged that God has guided Pastor Cathy to this decision, which includes further discernment and hope around future ministry. We also trust that God will guide Bethel in our faithful pursuit of Christ within our community and beyond.

Please pray for Pastor Cathy and her family during this time of transition.

We also ask for prayerful support of our staff and Council as we discern how God is leading us as a church.

For further details on the process, please see the letter sent to the congregation on October 2, 2026. Also, please do not hesitate to reach out to Pastor Cris (cris@discoverbethel.com) or the Governing Elders (governingelders@discoverbethel.com) during this time of transition.

YOUNG ADULTS: We're creating a space for you to gather, study the Bible, and grow in faith and community. Camila Lazzarotto will host Sunday night gatherings at her home on October 18, November 1, November 29, and December 13, at 6:00 p.m. This fall the Bible study will go through *Gospel in Life: Grace Changes Everything* by Timothy Keller. Come ready to dig deeper into God's Word and enjoy building friendships with each other! If you're interested in joining, contact Camila at camila@discoverbethel.com for more details.

LET'S BLESS THE EDMONTON FOOD BANK: We would like to extend the celebration of Thanksgiving with the larger Edmonton community by having a food drive for the Food Bank in the month of October. The most needed items are: beans without pork, peanut butter (500 g), canned protein like chicken or fish, baby formula, healthy school snacks, soup, stew, canned fruit or vegetables, pasta, pasta sauce, hot or cold cereal options.

We will be collecting donations for the entire month of October. You may leave food donations at the back of the sanctuary.

LADIES PICKLEBALL NIGHT: Ladies of the church, come join us for a fun evening of pickleball, laughter, and fellowship! Whether you're an experienced player or have never picked up a paddle before, everyone is welcome. This evening will be happening on Wednesday, October 21, from 7 – 9 PM at Trinity CRC (13427 57 St NW, Edmonton). There will be a $5.00/person fee to cover the rental of the gym, please register here.

Grab a friend, bring your paddle if you have one, and come out for a great night of fun and connection. **No experience necessary—just come ready to play!**

INVITATION TO MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: Over the next month, we are reflecting on what it means to be a member of Bethel following our *Where We Belong* Series. As for the next few weeks, we invite you to review our updated Membership Covenant and Bethel Statement of Faith. We will also host several *What We Believe* sessions, which include space for questions. The upcoming sessions will take place on October 25 and November 5 at 6 pm You can sign up for the session by visiting discoverbethel.com/events. For details in the overall process, please see the letter from Pastor Cris we sent out on October 9, 2026.

DUNAMIS: Dunamis Essentials #5 Equipping for Spiritual Warfare is coming to Bethel November 5-7, 2026. All event and registration information can be found here

SOUP-ER SUNDAY: Our next Community Connection Sunday is happening **November 8**. This is a time for everyone to connect with food and fellowship with one another after the service. Mark **November 8** on your calendar for **Soup-er Sunday**. Join us in the lower level to enjoy this Soup and Buns Potluck lunch.

Help with set-up, clean-up, and dishes is needed. Sign up here

GET INVOLVED

JESUS TO NOW: CHURCH HISTORY CRASH COURSE: This class will wrap up this Sunday on October 18.

DRUMMER NEEDED: Would you like to be part of our worship team? We are currently looking for a drummer to serve **once a month** during our Sunday morning service. Your time **c**ommitment would be to attend Thursday practice from 7:00–9:00 p.m. prior to the Sunday morning service. If you're interested in dropping in for a practice or would like more information, please contact lisa@discoverbethel.com.We have so much fun at practice, we'd love to have you join us!

COUPLES CONNECT: You may not have heard about Couples Connect yet, but it is the name of the Marriage Ministry at Bethel!
Mission: Provide a means for couples to connect and flourish in Christ at Bethel.

- **Vision:** All couples feel supported and a sense of belonging at Bethel.
- **Beliefs:** The family is the foundation of every community, a healthy marriage is the cornerstone of a strong family, and the ultimate lasting strength of every marriage and family is found in a relationship with Jesus Christ. [from Family Life Vision https://familylifecanada.com/about]
- **Values:** Marriage enrichment is a normal part of any marriage. Prioritizing your marriage is healthy. Holding a posture of humility toward learning about marriage and your spouse is beneficial.
- **Objectives**: Provide events that nurture couples and connections to other couples at Bethel:
  - Fun
  - Educational
  - Entertaining
  - Memorable

Activities: Host events throughout the year based on input from couples.

- Provide Alpha the Marriage Course March/April of each year.
- Cross-promote events such as Family Life Weekend Getaways and marriage events at partnering churches.
- Background: Couples Connect flows out of our experience hosting the Alpha for Marriage Course, in which couples expressed a desire to connect with other couples.
- So far, we have offered two Alpha for Marriage Courses and cross-promoted other marriage events in Edmonton and Jasper, and now we are gearing up for this Fall/Winter and would like your input!

Please use the QR code to take a short survey

BETHEL YOUTH

OCT. 16: Join us on October 16 from 7:00 pm to 9:00pm.

YOUTH RETREAT:
Theme: The Battle
WHEN: November 6–8, 2026
WHERE: Camp Nakamun
WHO: Students in Grades 7–12
COST: $125 per person
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: October 28, 2026
Transportation: TBD
For more information and registrations, please click here

COMMUNITY NEWS

CLASSIS ALBERTA NORTH: Please keep the delegates of Classis Alberta North in your prayers as they gather October 16–17 at Woody Nook CRC near Lacombe. This is an especially significant meeting as delegates consider the proposed strategic plan and seek God's direction for the future of our Classis. There will also be much to celebrate. We anticipate welcoming a new candidate into the Ministry of the Word in the CRCNA and spending time with a church that is exploring affiliation with the CRCNA. Please pray for wisdom, unity, open hearts, and a strong sense of God's presence throughout the meeting.

CAMPUS MINISTRY CONNECTIONS AT NAIT AND U OF A: For students attending NAIT or the University of Alberta, your CRC campus minister would love to connect with you! Christy Harper is serving both campuses this fall and would love to welcome you to campus with ways to connect with other students, drop in events, weekly gatherings, worship nights, or having a chat over coffee. You can reach out to her at christyha@nait.ca, cjharper@ualberta.ca.

REHOBOTH: Help Create Space for People to Flourish.
Support Rehoboth Christian Ministries through the Friends of Rehoboth Campaign and Building a Well Campaign. Your generosity helps provide homes, programs, relationships, and opportunities for adults with developmental disabilities to live with dignity and belonging. Together, we're building hope, community, and brighter futures. You can read wonderful stories by following this link to access the digital version of the Flourish newsletter. https://rcmflourish.ca/who-we-are/flourish-newsletter/ and you can donate at www.rcmflourish.ca/donate .

CHRISTMAS AT SEA: We here at the Ministry to Seafarers are already in preparation for the gifts we will be delivering. If you are able to donate to this cause, please send funds via e-transfer (finance@ministrytoseafarers.com - remember to include your name and address in the message so we know where to send the tax receipt) You can also send via Canada Helps via the "Donate" button on our website (ministrytoseafarers.com). Or you can send a cheque, payable to "Ministry to Seafarers Vancouver" to us at Ministry to Seafarers Vancouver, 401 E. Waterfront Rd., Vancouver, BC V6A 4G9.

We are also once again soliciting Christmas cards for seafarers. Consider sending some individually, as a small group, as a Sunday School class, or even as a school class project. More information is available on our website under the "Get Involved" tab. Thank you!

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, October 18
10:00 a.m. Worship - in person & live stream

MONDAY, October 19
7:00 p.m. Prayer – Zoom

TUESDAY, October 20
5:15 p.m. Dove Taekwondo
7:00 p.m. GEMS

WEDNESDAY, October 21
6:30 a.m. Prayer - in person & Zoom
9:30 a.m. Oasis
8:00 p.m. AA

THURSDAY, October 22
12:00 p.m. Food Bank
5:15 p.m. Dove Taekwondo

FRIDAY, October 23

7:00 p.m. Youth

SATURDAY, October 24

9:00 a.m. Evans Kotio - Funeral