

July 7, 2024

THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

This Sunday we start our summer sermon series, *Sabbath in the Psalms*. We seek rest in all the wrong places, expecting that other sources will figure out what we need and be better at providing for us. The truth is, as Augustine prays to God, "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you." We are not only made for rest, but need rhythms of rest and Sabbath that draw us back to God and his good purposes. This Summer, Sabbath with us at Bethel as we explore the rhythms of Sabbath and rest in the psalms. Every week, we'll look a specific psalm that was used in Israelite worship to stir their hearts towards God's presence. This week, we will explore the purpose of Sabbath as God's gift of rest and call to holiness.

The message this Sunday will focus on Genesis 1:31-2:2 and Exodus 20:8-11, "The Gift of Rest."

*Note: We also encourage our whole community to embrace the Summer as a season of rest and renewal through daily and weekly practices. If you're looking for resources for how to explore and practice Sabbath, please take a look at our sermon resources page [here](#). Step into Summer with the words of Jesus in mind: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28)

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 – CORNERSTONE COUNSELLING is a not-for-profit agency providing affordable counselling in the Edmonton area. Their Mission Statement is: To demonstrate the love of Christ by providing professional counselling services to help people become renewed and whole.

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

This Sunday we are excited to celebrate the baptism of **JAMES AARON ARTURO WRIGHT**, son of Nate and Melanie Wright. The water in baptism is a sign and seal of God's covenant love for James, which testifies to the truth "we love because he first loved us" (1 John 4:19). Join us in praising God for how the Good News has already blessed this family, and commit with us to loving and supporting them in their faith.

Bethel Prayer Focus: Please continue to remember **JANNY BARTHEL, CURTIS COENEN, JENNY PENFOLD, ELEANOR PROKUDA, EVANS KOTIO, JANE SHULTZ, CELINE SIGVALDASON, and JILL SNEEP** as you pray for our church community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SUMMER AT BETHEL: We are excited to join with you in the change of season and rhythms that come with summer. Here is a heads up about few items we will be featuring this Summer.

1. **Preaching and Worship:** We will be featuring a sermon series, starting July 7, called *Sabbath in the Psalms*. We want to invite and encourage you to embrace this Summer as a time of rest and fun with God. Worship with us this Summer with the same posture that Augustine prayed, worship with us this Summer: "You have made us for yourself, O Lord, and our heart is restless until it rests in you."

2. **Praying through the Summer:** This summer we ask you to pray for a specific part of Bethel's ministry and community each week. We will be lifting up areas of need and opportunity for the ministry, while interceding for current and desired leadership teams. We'll send out an email every Tuesday reminding you of the prayer emphasis for the week and noting a few specific ways you can pray. So, whether you're in town or out of town, please pray with us! Note: If you want to receive these prayer reminders, please make sure you are on our weekly email list. The prayer schedule will be posted on our [summer](#) page.
3. **Check out our upcoming events through the summer:** Youth Camp (starting July 22) and Kids Camp (starting August 16). All sign-ups are open. You can find details on our [events](#) and [summer](#) pages.

NOTE FROM THE GENERAL SECRETARY FOLLOWING SYNOD: Please click [here](#) to read the letter.

CANADA DAY: We had an amazing turnout this year! So many families came out and had a blast. We are guessing that we had around 400-450 people come out and enjoy the games, music, food, and community. Thank you for keeping this event in your prayers and for stepping in to help. We had over 60 volunteers on the day of and more than 20 people brought in donations for the event. Thank you.

BETHEL KIDS NEEDS YOU! During the summer we give our regular Bethel Kids leaders a break for July and August, so we need you to come hang out with the children on Sundays. This is a less structured program with a video lesson, quiet toys, and coloring. Age 3 - Grade 4 will stay together in the Chapel. We need a minimum of 3 adult supervisors each Sunday to maintain safety ratios as well as some nursery caregivers. Sign up at the check in desk for the Sundays that work for you.

CHURCH FAMILY & MEXICO TEAM POTLUCK: This Sunday, July 7th, after the Worship Service, we will be having a potluck BBQ at the church. We want our Bethel Family to meet the team from Mexico & share fellowship with one another over a meal. Hot dogs will be provided; please bring a salad, side dish, or dessert to share. Please let us know if you plan to attend by registering [here](#).

KID'S CAMP: Bethel is hosting a weeklong summer Kid's Camp for ages 4-10 on August 12-16. The theme for this year is Camp Firelight; A summer camp adventure with God. The week will be filled with daily bible stories, crafts, games, and much more! To sign up to volunteer please register online [here](#). Registration is also open for children to attend. To do so, please register online [here](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please email Kaitlyn@discoverbethel.com.

FINANCE CHAIRPERSON NEEDED: we are seeking an individual to take on the role of Chairperson for our Finance Team. This position helps ensure our church's financial matters are managed effectively. If you feel called to this position, or if you have any questions about this position, please email clerk@discoverbethel.com.

TREASURER NEEDED: we are also seeking an individual to take on the role of Treasurer of Bethel. This position ensures our church's financial matters are handled with integrity and transparency. If you feel called to this position, or if you have any questions about this position, please email clerk@discoverbethel.com.

NEW BIBLE READING PLAN - THE WISDOM OF PROVERBS by the Bible Project: July 6 begins our 32-day journey revisiting Proverbs. The Book of Proverbs claims that God's own wisdom has been woven into the fabric of the universe, and you are invited to participate. What's the wise choice when it comes to relationships and money and work, the stuff of day-to-day life? This plan will walk you through Proverbs step by step as you train your heart to discern the wise way forward. Find the plan [here](#). To join Bethel's Reading Group on the app, email Pastor Wendy at wendy@discoverbethel.com.

BETHEL YOUTH

MEXICO TEAM UPDATE: We are happy to announce that the Mexico Team will still be coming this week, although the dates have been shifted a bit! They now arrived in Edmonton (Lord willing) on Friday night, July 5th and are hoping to extend their trip till Thursday, July 11.

YOUTH CAMP: From July 22-26 youth camp will be taking place at Bethel. We will be doing a variety of activities ranging from soccer to water fights, crafts and capture the flag. Come join us for a week of fun! Drop off will be at 10 a.m. and pick up will be at 3 p.m. each day. Lunch will be provided. The cost for the

week is \$20. For more information and to register click [here](#). If you are interested in helping with camp, please sign up [here](#). Reach out to Ayaan@discoverbethel.com with any questions, we would love to have your help!

PLOT IS STARTING AGAIN! PLOT, abbreviation for parking lot (original I know) is a drop in ministry that we runs each summer for youth in the community. All youth, from grade 6-12 are welcome, and it takes place every Tues day night from 7:00-9:00 p.m. in the parking lot of the church. We hang out, have a brief devotion, and spend our Tuesday nights playing games and having a good time together. Join us this Tuesday for our next PLOT, I hope to see you there!

FINANCIAL UPDATE

COLLECTIONS IN JULY

July 7	Ministry Shares
July 14	Cornerstone Counselling
July 21	Pregnancy Care Centre Edmonton
July 28	Bethel World Mission - Vision Nehemiah Center

Please visit our website at 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.

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, July 7

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

MONDAY, July 8

6:45 p.m. Council Meetings

7:00 p.m. Prayer – Zoom

TUESDAY, July 9

2:00 p.m. Mobile Food Bank

7:00 p.m. PLOT

WEDNESDAY, July 10

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

8:00 p.m. AA

THURSDAY, July 11

7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, July 12

SATURDAY, July 13

COMMUNITY NEWS

THE LIGHTHOUSE – OPEN HOUSE: On Saturday, July 13, come check out the newest Christian seniors' community in Edmonton...the Lighthouse! With 101 fully self-contained suites and fantastic common areas and amenities, the Lighthouse is scheduled to open in early 2025. We will have some suites available for viewing on the main floor, so you will not need to do any stairs. Come anytime between 9:30 a.m.-12 p.m. Park by the intersection of 128 St & 114 Ave and look for the balloons. Contact us at info@the-lighthouse.ca for more information!

THE STUDIO SCHOOL FOR SPIRITUAL DIRECTION (<https://www.thestudionschool.com>) is now taking applications for their next cohort, beginning October 20, 2024. The Studion is a two-year, part-time program that offers comprehensive training in the skill and art of Christian spiritual direction. Inquiries can be made to thestudionschool@gmail.com or rev.klok@gmail.com to find out more. Fuel for the Heart; Food for the Soul.

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](#).