

Bethel Council Highlights

Update from our meetings on December 11, 2023

- From the Shepherding Elders: The Shepherding Elders are pleased to announce that Kevin Magnes will serve as their next Chair; with Peter Rietveld as Vice Chair and Bethany Mullins as Secretary.
- From the Deacons: The Deacons are excited that the Refugee Committee has received word that the application for a family of 8 people has been approved. The family should arrive in Canada within the next 6 months to a year.
- From Governing Elders: We committed that we would continue to pray for each other and we will focus on outreach, which is our theme for the year.
 - As Governing Elders, we spent a considerable amount of time discussing our financial shortage as it stands so far this year. Since the final numbers for the first quarter were not available at the time of the meeting, we have committed to doing a complete review of the numbers and see where some changes need to be made. We will also focus on giving of members and find ways to encourage people to focus on their habits of giving and tithing
 - As our focus for the ministry year is REACHING OUT, we spent some time with Pastor Cathy. We reflected on her ministry so far and are very excited about the work that she is doing, especially in our local community. The Christmas party as organized by Pastor Cathy was a success. We expressed our thanks for the work she is doing. We then spent time in prayer over Cathy and her ministry.
- Director of Youth Ministry: Since Pastor Melanie plans to take maternity leave in the new year, we have posted for the position for this role on our employment [page](#). Please share among your networks and pray that God will bring the right person to join our ministry team.
- Pastoral Position Statement: Each council group reviewed a [position statement](#) we received from the CRCNA related to our posture with the LGBTQ+ community. We're sharing the statement and letter on our bulletin this week. We pray that God will lead us in how to best offer belonging to all our neighbours.
- Christmas Eve Services: As a reminder to the congregation, we will be holding 2 Christmas Eve services. One will be held at 4:00 PM and one at 6:00 PM. The aim of the evening services is to reach out to our local community to celebrate the birth of our Saviour Jesus Christ. We encourage everyone to invite a neighbour or friend to come and join us for the service. There will also be a service on Christmas morning at 10:00 am. We will not be holding our regular Sunday morning service.

Grace and peace,
The Council of Bethel Community Church

*If you have any question or comments, please reach out to the different council groups:
Governingelders@discoverbethel.com | Shepherdingelders@discoverbethel.com | Deacons@discoverbethel.com