

June 16, 2024

THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

This Sunday we continue through Paul's second letter to the Thessalonians in our series, *Built Different*, where we see the importance of prayer. Paul asks for prayers from the Thessalonian church in the belief that it is through prayer that God advances his kingdom mission. Essential to God building us *different*, as resilient and effective disciples in the world, is persistent prayer. As we pray for God's kingdom to come, "may the Lord direct your hearts into God's love and Christ's perseverance" (2 Thessalonians 3:5).

The message this Sunday will focus on 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5, "Persistent Prayer."

NEW OFFICE BEARERS: This week Sunday, we will be installing new office bearers to serve as deacons on our council. We welcome Jessica Kalf, Helen Krol, Gary Simpson, Jacqueline Prins, and Jeff Van Niejenhuis.

We are thankful for the dedicated service of our outgoing office bearers: Bethany Mast, Ashley Patton, Mary Rietveld, Brad Veenstra, Kevin Veenstra, Carolyn Wallish, and Michael Werkman. Our deepest appreciation to those who let their names stand but who were not elected. Bethel has been richly blessed by the qualified leaders God has raised up in our church.

OUR OFFERINGS

- 1) **BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION:** The ministries and programs of Bethel.
- 2) **REFUGEE FUND:** This ministry of the deacons provides support for refugee families to get to Edmonton and to help support them as they prepare for life in Canada.

NEXT WEEK – THE PAKITINÂSOWIN RECIPROCITY FUND: King's and the Micah Centre, in partnership with the Northern Alberta Diaconal Conference, have created the Pakitinâsowin Fund for Reciprocity and Reparations. The Fund is an opportunity for all churches in Edmonton and across Alberta to give of their wealth and resources into a common fund that will support Indigenous-led community initiatives. Learn more about fund [here](#).

CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY FAIR: We want to thank everyone that participated in the Ministry fair last week Sunday after the Worship Service. The ministry fair featured specific opportunities to use your gifts, talents, and abilities to serve Bethel and our community. There are also summer ministries that require support and assistance. Part of our vision is that everyone who is a part of Bethel will have a specific role (or roles) they play in the life of the church. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please see the bulletin boards at the back of the sanctuary and sign up by using the QR code or clicking [here](#).

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms." 1 Peter 4:10

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING + BUDGET UPDATE: Governing Elders and the Finance team recently met and agreed on two significant changes for the upcoming congregational meeting.

1. First is to hold our Congregational Meeting not on a Wednesday evening but on a Sunday, immediately after the worship service. **Our next Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday June 23, immediately after the worship service.** The worship service will intentionally plan to be finished much sooner than usual. This will allow time for members to attend a Congregational Meeting who typically are unable to do so. We want to give the opportunity for everyone to participate in the congregational meeting, including parents. So, we will have a team of caregivers will watch children ages 0-12 during the meeting. Near the end of the service, at the last song, all the children will gather in the Chapel, where we will eat some snacks, and have some fun activities, and maybe a movie. **All children should be picked up from the Chapel that day.**

2. Second, the 2024-2025 total budget amount will be based on the total amounts received in the current (2023-24) fiscal year. Therefore, the budget presented will only be adopted for use if there is a surplus or no deficit in the present fiscal year. Should there be a deficit this year, the upcoming budget will be reduced in line with the deficit. For example, if the 2023-24 budget deficit is 7%, then the 2024-25 budget would be reduced by 7%. The present giving trends do forecast a deficit and if the forecast is accurate, we will reduce the operating budget by as much as \$122,000.

Council met and voted to support the new budget, including how the total amount is to be determined based on this year's giving. As a member, you are encouraged to attend this important meeting on June 23 to also give your vote to the budget. The meeting information package including the budget were sent by email on May 30. Physical copies are available for members at the Welcome Desk. If you have questions about this update and forthcoming budget plan, please reach out to the Governing Elders in advance of our congregational meeting. You can send in questions and comments to governingelders@discoverbethel.com. The Governing Elders value hearing from you and engaging in discussion beforehand as we prayerfully prepare for ministry next year at Bethel.

CANADA DAY: We are looking for volunteers to help us run our Canada Day event on Monday, July 1st from 12:00-3:00 p.m. for Bethel and the surrounding community. We will celebrate with games, food, face painting, and more! We need volunteers to help set up/take down, supervise activities, prepare/serve food, and do facepainting. We are also looking for people to provide live music for the event. To sign up to help please register online [here](#). If you have any questions or concerns, please email kaitlyn@discoverbethel.com

KIDS CAMP: We are looking for volunteers for August 12-16. Bethel is hosting a weeklong summer Kid's Camp for ages 4-10. 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 now open! 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.

DAYS FOR GIRLS WORK BEE: Join us for our next work bee that is scheduled for this coming Thursday, June 20, at 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. We could use workers with sewing machines and sergers, but also need help from non-sewers for a variety of tasks: ironing, cutting, adding snaps, measuring and tracing, folding, etc. Please let me know at lindesrosiers@gmail.com if you plan on coming so we can ensure we bring enough work for everyone. Location is at LDS Church, 9010 - 85 Street NW Edmonton. Please come to the west side back door.

BETHEL YOUTH

YEAR END GALA: The time for celebrating the year that has passed while looking forward to the year to come is upon us again. Join us on tonight, June 14th from 7:00-9:00 p.m. to celebrate together as a community all that God has done. The theme will be 'Country' so come dressed up and ready for some good old fashioned line dances. Bring your parents, friends, and siblings, and expect a great time. Don't forget to sign up [here](#) so that we know who is coming. There is no cost to attend.

MEXICO MEALS: The Missions Team from Mexico will be joining us at Bethel from July 1st-July 9th. We are looking for your help to feed them over that week. If you can cook a meal for approx. 15 people, either delivered to the church, kings university, premade, or hosted at your home we would really appreciate the help! For more information and to sign up click [here](#).

MEXICO TEAM POTLUCK: On July 7th, after the Sunday Worship Service has finished, we will be hosting a potluck at the church. The goal of this time is to give Bethel a chance to meet the team from Mexico and share fellowship with one another over a meal. We will be providing hot dogs, but we will be needing you to bring sides if you are able. More details, as well as a sign-up sheet will be posted next week.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

COLLECTIONS IN JUNE

June 2	Ministry Shares
June 9	Dynamic Youth Ministries - Cadets
June 16	Refugee Fund
June 23	The Pakitinâsowin Reciprocity Fund
June 30	The King's University

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, June 16

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

MONDAY, June 17

7:00 p.m. Prayer - Zoom

TUESDAY, June 18

WEDNESDAY, June 19

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

8:00 p.m. AA

THURSDAY, June 20

12:30 p.m. Food Bank

7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

FRIDAY, June 21

SATURDAY, June 22

COMMUNITY NEWS

SYNOD 2024: As we approach Synod 2024 we are compelled to pray. The Synod 2024 Prayer Team has put together resources for you, your small group, council, and church. They are available at crcna.org/synod/prayer. Thank you in advance for your prayers. We receive this encouragement from scripture in Mark 11:22-24, *"Then Jesus said to the disciples, 'Have faith in God. I tell you the truth, you can say to this mountain, 'May you be lifted up and thrown into the sea,' and it will happen. But you must really believe it will happen and have no doubt in your heart. I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours.'"* (NLT)
For the call to Synod and Synod Agenda, please click [here](#)

MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER SHORTAGE: There is an alarming shortage of volunteer meal delivery drivers. If this is something that you are interested or would like more information, please connect with Tara Lyon at tara.lyon@emow.ca or (587)735-2358. A Police Information Check including a Vulnerable Sector Check is required.

FELLOWSHIP CRC REFUGEE FUNDRAISING BANQUET: After a forced break due to COVID, Fellowship CRC is again hosting its annual fundraising banquet to support our refugee sponsorship program, and you are invited. The evening will include a delicious middle eastern dinner, silent auction, words from our Syrian refugee family, songs by a Ukrainian family, and, of course, fellowship. Tickets are \$100 each with \$75 of that amount being tax deductible. The event will take place Saturday, June 15, 6 PM at the Hellenic-Canadian Community Hall (10450-116 Street). To get your tickets, contact Nancy Van Driel (nancyvandriel@gmail.com) or Joe Mulder (Mjmrdrj@gmail.com).

EMMANUEL HOME GOLF TOURNAMENT - presented by Keller Construction Ltd. Join us at **The Ranch Golf & Country Club on Saturday, June 22**, for an 8:00 a.m. shotgun start! The day includes a few fun challenges at some holes, prizes, and a delicious steak dinner. All proceeds directly support the residents at Emmanuel Home. Check out our website [here](#) for the registration form, sponsoring opportunities and to sign up, or reach out to Laura Pothoven at lpothoven@emmanuelhome.ca.

REHOBOTH: Please join us on Saturday, June 22, 2024 @ 10:30 am via Zoom for Rehoboth's Annual General Meeting. For your review, the draft minutes from the 2023 AGM is attached to this email, along with the bios for the two new board members. Financial statements will be available at the AGM. You can also view the attached documents on Rehoboth's website here: <https://www.rcmflourish.ca/2024-agm/> To participate, please register ahead of time. Following your registration, you will receive an email from ZOOM with the webinar link and instructions on how to join. Register [here](#). For questions or concerns with registering and/or attending the webinar, please contact Emma Solowan at flourish@rcmflourish.ca or (780) 963-4044.

DYNAMIC DUET MUSIC STUDIO is hosting an assortment of upcoming summer camps. Please see the QR code or click [here](#) for more information on the camps and to register. If you have any questions, please contact dynamicduetmusicstudio@gmail.com.



JOB OPPORTUNITY: Associate Pastor of Congregational Life at Maranatha Christian Reformed Church in Edmonton. Are you passionate about discipleship? Do you have a heart for serving a multicultural and multigenerational congregation? Maranatha CRC is seeking to add an Associate Pastor to their ministry team. Must have 2-4 years of ministry-related education and experience (including volunteer work). See our website [here](#) or contact Carolyn at fcwoudstra@shaw.ca for more information and to apply. Applications close June 29, 2024.

EMMANUEL HOME IS HIRING! We are planning to hire a **Site Manager** at Emmanuel Home. This is a new mid-level manager role that we are excited to add to our management team. This addition is needed as we gear up to the transition of having a second site, the Lighthouse, which will open in early spring of 2025. If interested, contact Laura Pothoven by email at lpothoven@emmanuelhome.ca and be sure to check out our website [here](#) for more detailed information.

THE STUDIO SCHOOL FOR SPIRITUAL DIRECTION (<https://www.thestudionschool.com>) is now taking applications for their next cohort, beginning October 20, 2024. The Studio 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](#).