

## Bethel Council Highlights

*From the Council:*

### ***Joyful, joyful we adore you God of glory Lord of love!***

- **Christmas Hampers for Bannerman:** The deacons spent Monday evening packing Christmas hampers for families in our community. They would like to say a big **“THANK YOU!!”** to Bethel for your generous support of this project and for blessing our neighborhood. Great Job deacons! Thank you for being hands and feet of Christ.
- **Save the date “CHURCH CAMPOUT” on June 9-11<sup>th</sup>:** In the theme of “Be with one another” encouraging community at Bethel, planning is in the works for a church campout this year. Let’s see if we can make it our biggest campout ever! More details to follow.
- **Grateful for our staff:** Please take the time over Christmas to let them know how amazing they are! As governing elders, we continue to work with the HR committee and staff to transition to our new structure. Hilda, as our Executive Administrator, is doing a great job to help keep things organized and supporting our teams. Thank you, Hilda!
- **Regarding extra hands:** We want to say thank you to all the volunteers that have been in to assist with the advent boxes, Christmas goodie packages for the neighborhood, flyer deliveries and more. It is so fun to work together, shoulder to shoulder to get these things accomplished. If you have extra time available for odd tasks, let the office know and they will contact you when they can use a hand.
- **Preparing for 2023:** The governing elders spent much of our meeting discussing preparations for our January tasks. These include the 2023-2024 budget and the annual office bearer nomination process. Please pray for us as we discern the budget details and review ministry plans. Also, consider those in our congregation that have the gifts of leadership in the areas of deacon and elder, your nominations are important.
- **Looking for a small group?** Pastor Wendy has been working with your shepherding elders, Hilary Warnock and Tara Kilkenny to get more members into supportive small groups.  
\*Contact Pastor Wendy at [wendy@discoverbethel.com](mailto:wendy@discoverbethel.com) if you want to be a part of a small group.
- **Emotionally Healthy Discipleship:** Pastor Cris and Pastor Wendy are working on one of the needs expressed in the Church Pulse, a clear pathway for growing in our Christian walk. More details will follow in the new year as to when this class will be offered, but we want you to know we have heard your desire for this at Bethel. You can find a brief overview of the program and its resources [here](#). If you have interest in being part of a pilot program for this class in the new year, email Pastor Cris at [cris@discoverbethel.com](mailto:cris@discoverbethel.com).

May the wonder of Christ’s birth and the Hope that it brings be yours this Christmas.

Grace and peace,

from your elders and deacons

**Be With Jesus (Communion)**  
**Be with one another (Community)**

**Play your role in God’s family (Calling)**  
**Develop Emerging Leaders (Grow Young)**