

October 22, 2023

## THIS WEEK'S SERVICE

**THIS SUNDAY:** We will be worshipping together through one service in person and over live stream at 10:00 a.m. To join us online, go to Bethel's home page and click on the button that says: [Worship Online with Us](#).

We continue our sermon series, The Good News, this Sunday by looking at Paul's speech in Athens. Paul's witness is one of many flowing through the churches, as the good news of Jesus spreads throughout the known world of his time. Christian leaders had to call a meeting in Jerusalem to discuss what to do with all the Gentiles who are responding in faith and receiving the Holy Spirit (Acts 15). What they experienced was the active presence of God in all places far beyond what they could imagine. They make the right choice to partner with God's will and purpose, to reclaim and restore all peoples as his own. This is what leads Paul to Macedonia. City after city, from Philippi and Thessalonica, to Berea and Athens, he encounters people ready to receive the gospel. His journey and boldness are a reminder and challenge to us, that we also must be ready to share within the cultures and among the peoples we are with every day.

The message this Sunday will focus on Acts 17, "Christ in All Places."

## OUR OFFERINGS ON SUNDAY

- 1) **BETHEL MINISTRIES & MISSION:** The ministries and programs of Bethel.
- 2) **BETHEL WORLD MISSION VISION – RACHEL BEVERIDGE:** Cohort Central America is a 1-year service-formation opportunity for young adults who want to get to know Central America, God, and themselves better! This support goes towards the missionary endeavors Bethel has identified in Central America.

**NEXT WEEK** – World Renew – World Hunger Sunday

## CHURCH FAMILY NEWS AND PRAYER REQUESTS

We rejoice with the of the **MUHINDO FAMILY** today as they will be baptized and profess their faith in Jesus Christ. We hope that you join us in praying for this family as they take this momentous step in their faith journey.

**ED DUBBELDAM'S** father, Willy, passed away on Wednesday, October 11. The Lord took him home gracefully and peacefully in his sleep; the family is grateful for this. Our condolences to Ed, Line and their family as they mourn this loss. Please remember them in prayer.

Please also remember **CALVIN BRUINSMA, CURTIS COENEN, MARCEL CROCKER, MIKE JACKSON, PAULINE LENDEIN, JENNY PENFOLD, DON & ELEANOR PROKUDA, JANE SHULTZ, CELINE SIGVALDASON,** and **JILL SNEEP**, as you pray for our church community.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**UPDATE ABOUT CLASSIS ALBERTA NORTH:** We would like to share an update from Classis Alberta North, which met this past weekend. As many of you are aware, Pastor Wendy and Pastor Cathy were both examined to be ordained as Ministers of the Word. Thank you for your prayers and support.

We're excited to share that Pastor Wendy passed her exam. We've decided to adjust the date for her ordination to **November 12** during the Sunday morning service. Congratulate her when you see her! Please consider this your notice to be present that Sunday for the ordination.

Pastor Cathy's ordination will be in progress this year. While she did excellent on most of the exam, there was a specific part of the exam that Cathy has been invited to do again at the Spring Classis. Once this has been completed, we can schedule when her anticipated ordination would take place.

We're grateful to have these two pastors serving us, alongside Pastor Cris, and pray for God's continued leading in our witness.

**BETHEL YOUTH BAND:** The youth band has been meeting for the past 6 weeks for a time of learning the "why's" and "how's" of worship and spiritual formation with Melanie Salte. Please join us for worship October 29th, as the youth band leads our service.

**BETHEL YOUTH DINNER AND GAMES NIGHT:** We invite youth (Grade 7-12) to join with other CRC youth groups in Edmonton & area for dinner and games. The first of these combined quarterly events will be hosted at Bethel on Sunday, October 29th from 6-8:30PM. Come for taco in a bag and a variety of group and board games.

**RACHEL BEVERIDGE VISIT:** Join the Missions Committee in welcoming Rachel Beveridge to Bethel this Sunday, October 22. Rachel is one of Bethel's missionaries, serving in Guatemala. She runs Cohort Central America: a 1-year service-formation opportunity for young adults who want to get to know Central America, God and themselves better! Cohort: Central America is looking for people who are discerning their calling, want to learn Spanish, are willing to lean into cultural discomfort, love serving others, are looking for authentic community, and want to see what God is up to in another part of the world! **Join us in learning more about Rachel, her work, and the Cohort immediately after the service on October 22!**

**HARVEST FEST 2023:** Bethel Community Church is hosting a Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 28th from 2-4 PM. This outdoor event in the parking lot will feature "Trunk or Treating" (where kids can go from car trunk to car trunk with their candy bags). Hot chocolate will be served, and a costume photobooth will be available. There will also be a pumpkin decorating contest, music, and community fun! If you are able to help either through donation of treats or volunteering your time, please click [here](#). You may also sign-up at the back of the church. The deadline to sign up is **SUNDAY, OCTOBER 22**.

Flyers are printed and organized into delivery routes. Pick one up at the back of the sanctuary for delivery around the neighborhood Sunday after the service.

**TIME CHANGE REMINDER:** Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 5, 2023. Please don't forget to set your clocks back one hour that Saturday night.

**ADVENT IS COMING!** Advent begins December 3rd. We will once again have advent candle sets to help bring meaning in a unique way to you and your family during Advent. The advent candle sets are available for purchase for \$25. This includes the 5 candles with the wooden base as well as different passages to read with your family as you light a candle each week. Candles can be ordered by sending an email to [lisa@discoverbethel.com](mailto:lisa@discoverbethel.com) by November 10<sup>th</sup>.

**TODAY DEVOTIONALS FOR NOVEMBER/DECEMBER** are available now. Find them in the literature rack or at the Membership Desk.

**CLASSIS ALBERTA NORTH:** We thank you for your prayers for the delegates who attended the meeting of Classis Alberta North (our regional assembly of Christian Reformed Churches) on October 13 and 14. We learned about several of our ministries and how they support the work of the churches, including our classical youth ministry and our denominational THRIVE agency. We heard from our delegates to Synod as they reflected on their experiences, and the discussions and decisions at that gathering in June. We also examined three candidates for the Ministry of the Word. Two of them were admitted to the Ministry and one will be given the opportunity to complete the examination at our next meeting in March.

As is often the case, there was much cause for celebration and anticipation, as well as moments of pain, as we reflected about the Lord's work among us. In all of that we were supported and encouraged through the prayers led by our Chaplain for the day, Rev. Rebecca Hall, and by the gentle and wise leadership of the classis chair, Rev. Ken Douma.

A special thank you to the people at First CRC in Red Deer who hosted us with their well-prepared facilities and amazing meals, augmented with Korean dishes contributed by the Red Deer Korean Church.

For more information, talk to the delegates from your congregation.

**QUARTERLY STATEMENTS:** The quarterly statements for September 2023 have been emailed. Please review your statements carefully and report any errors to the church office so that errors can be corrected. If you have not received your statement, please contact the church office to update your email address.

**COLLECTIONS IN OCTOBER:**

- October 1 Ministry Shares
- October 8 Edmonton Food Bank
- October 15 Disability Concerns
- October 22 Bethel World Mission Vision – Rachel Beveridge
- October 29 World Renew – World Hunger Sunday

Please visit our website at [discoverbethel/give](https://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](mailto:accounting@discoverbethel.com).

 **FINANCIAL UPDATE**

**OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY:** In September, although we collected just over \$60,000 in tithes and offerings, it was less than the just over \$84,000 in expenses for the month. We want to make you aware of the shortfall, encourage you to consider how God is calling you to respond and to thank you for your regular support of what God is doing here at Bethel.

**2022/23 YEAR END DEFICIT:** Our past fiscal year ended with a deficit of approximately \$9,000. Please consider additional giving to assist in covering this deficit. All funds collected above this amount will be added to the current year's operating fund. Please make a note that your donation is for the "2022/23 Year End". Push pay will also have this as a giving option. Thank you for your support.

 **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**THE KING'S UNIVERSITY** invites all members to their 2023 Annual General Meeting happening on Tuesday, October 24, 2023, at 6:30-7:30 p.m. Please **RSVP by Friday, October 20** by emailing [board@kingsu.ca](mailto:board@kingsu.ca).

**DOES YOUR CHILD LOVE MUSIC?** Naomi Hungler is a piano teacher with Dynamic Duet Music Studio (Google us!) and is looking for more students! RCM 6 certified with 10+ years' experience, she teaches beginner or beginner-intermediate piano ages 6-16 on Tuesday (in-studio lessons) and Thursday (in-home lessons) evenings. Email her with any questions at [naomi.dynamicduet@gmail.com](mailto:naomi.dynamicduet@gmail.com) or text 780-802-2043. Thank you for taking an interest in supporting local music!

**ON EAGLE'S WINGS** is running an online Caring For The Wounded Heart course, click [here](#) for more information. They are short of a few participants and need to find a few more. The course begins on Sunday, October 29 and runs till December 10 at 4:00-6:00 p.m. If you are interested in registering, click [here](#).

**NEW: A DIAKONIA CIRCLE** Tuesday, November 7 from 7-9 p.m. at Ebenezer CRC in Leduc. This is a shout out to all deacons past, present and future, whether you have a formal title or not. Come to an evening of sharing and community with likeminded individuals for inspiration for serving our communities and to meet your DMC area coach! To let us know you are coming and to ask any questions, please email [yournadc@gmail.com](mailto:yournadc@gmail.com). On behalf of NADC and DMC, see you all soon!

**CRC DIRECTORY 2024/24: ADVERTISEMENTS:** The new 2024/2025 Christian Reformed Church Directory of Greater Edmonton is underway once again and ready for you to place your advertisement. Don't miss out on a super-low advertising price for your business for a two-year period and a user base of approximately two thousand homes! Please call Brenda Paszek at 780.479.0738 or email at: [dbpaszek@telusplanet.net](mailto:dbpaszek@telusplanet.net) for information. Advertising deadline: Nov 20, 2023

**BLESS A FAMILY:** The Pregnancy Care Centre is gearing up for their annual Client Christmas Party. Once again we need you to support our Bless a Family campaign! We look forward to celebrating with our precious PCC families again this year. That includes providing each family with a Christmas gift basket. That's where you come in! There are three ways to participate in this year's Bless a Family campaign. You can sponsor a family or shop for families. Email [tanya@pregnancycentre.ca](mailto:tanya@pregnancycentre.ca) to participate. One-time financial gifts are also welcome to help create a special Christmas morning for our clients. E-Transfer to [finance@pregnancycentre.ca](mailto:finance@pregnancycentre.ca), indicate "Bless a Family" in the comments along with your contact information (for a tax-deductible receipt). If you'd like to donate through another method, please call 780-424-2624.

**MINISTRY TO SEAFARERS:** With the Fall season comes preparations for Christmas at Sea. This year the Ministry to Seafarers will again be delivering Christmas gifts for seafarers. Your donations for this project can be made by cheque payable to Ministry to Seafarers, and mailed to 401 E Waterfront Rd, Vancouver, BC V6A 4G9. You can also make donations online via our website, [ministrytoseafarers.com](http://ministrytoseafarers.com). Please designate gifts for "Christmas at Sea." Thank You! To view the Fall newsletter click [here](#).

**EMMANUEL HOME AND LIGHTHOUSE UPDATE:** Emmanuel Home is pleased to announce that the Lighthouse seniors' home is on schedule to open in the west central community of Inglewood in the Spring of 2025. Residents of our Christian retirement communities enjoy beautiful courtyards and grounds, spacious and comfortable suites, and a diverse range of programs and activities. If you would like to learn more about the Lighthouse, keep an eye out for the next ECHO newsletter or give us a call at 780-478-2051 to arrange an appointment at the site or to have an information package sent to you. Enjoy independent living in a caring, Christian environment at the Lighthouse!

**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 22**

10:00 a.m. Worship - in person and live stream  
12:00 p.m. Rachel Beveridge Visit

### **MONDAY, October 23**

7:00 p.m. Prayer (Zoom)

### **TUESDAY, October 24**

5:00 p.m. Taekwondo  
7:00 p.m. Band Camp  
7:00 p.m. Emotionally Healthy Spirituality  
7:00 p.m. GEMS

### **WEDNESDAY, October 25**

6:30 a.m. Prayer - in person and Zoom  
9:30 a.m. Oasis  
8:00 p.m. AA

### **THURSDAY, October 26**

12:30 p.m. Food Bank  
5:00 p.m. Taekwondo  
7:00 p.m. Worship Practice

### **FRIDAY, October 27**

### **SATURDAY, October 28**

2:00 p.m. Harvest Festival