



BETHEL

Christian Reformed Church

Connect . Grow . Care

Our re-gathering requires us to follow a number of protocols and procedures. Please continue to check the congregational letter attached to the end of this bulletin. Members are encouraged to consider thoughtfully their own comfort level with regard to attendance as well as personal risk level due to age or other underlying conditions of concern.

Pastor Eric's reflections and weekly messages on YouTube or through delivered hard copy will continue for those unable or who feel it unsafe to attend. If you have needs or questions please contact the church office, Pastor Eric, the council chair Ron H. or any elder or deacon of the church. Contact information is located near the end of this bulletin.

THIS WEEK: Nov. 8, 2020. 10:00 AM – BAPTISM and THE STORY reboot chapter 29: Today we thank God for the privilege of witnessing the baptism of Kurtis James Taylor, infant son of Denise and Fraser. In a small gathering on the Friday before (November 6, 2020), Emma Harmina Jane Howlett was scheduled to be baptized. We hope to be able to include a video of Emma's baptism as part of the Sunday service. Despite the need to flex usual practices due to the pandemic, as a community we rejoice greatly in witnessing God's promises and love flow abundantly over these two new infant members of Bethel Church. Our study of THE STORY moves to Chapter 29, "Paul's Mission" as we continue watching the Holy Spirit at work in the book of Acts, extending the ministry of Jesus through the early church and beyond. Please recall that THE STORY pieces together scripture from the New International Version of the Bible in chronological order. Gatherings for study of each chapter are indicated elsewhere in the bulletin.

NEXT WEEK: Nov. 15, 2020. 10:00 AM – THE STORY reboot chapter 15 – "Paul's Final Days": Our study of THE STORY moves to Chapter 30. The chapter title is "Paul's Final Days" is our last look at the book of Acts, as we observe Paul and the early church extend the gospel, church and kingdom of Jesus.

THE LORD'S SUPPER: For those who are unable (or for whom it is unsafe), the elders are willing to suggest or

arrange a means of receiving communion. If you might be interested in communion, please contact your elder.

CHURCH FAMILY

We pray for each other in the ongoing challenges, hardships and health concerns we experience within our community; we pray also in thanksgiving for the gifts of blessings and joys.

- Pray for **Bill V.** We extend our Christian sympathy to Bill as he mourns the passing of his brother Herman in Exeter. We pray that God's grace and comfort surround the family.
- Pray for **Albert P** as he resides at Henley Place in a weakened condition.
- Pray for **Bronson G's** mother, Cathy, as she is under palliative care.
- Pray for **Leah H.** Leah has been working on renewing her visa with the Ugandan government but the process has been difficult and has now lasted more than 6 months. Pray for this processing to be resolved soon and positively.
- Pray for **Lothar and Marrianna H.** We give thanks to God with Lothar and Marrianna, as they marked their 50th wedding anniversary this past Friday.
- Pray for **Riek V., Albert P., Margaret S., Tina D., Frans H., Andy V., Sid K. and Bernie & Harmina K.** all of whom are in long term care facilities.
- Blessings to **Peter M.** on his 82nd birthday on Nov 13, **Keith S** on his 87th birthday on Nov 14, **Trudy M.** on her 87th birthday on Nov 16 and **Sid K.** on his 93rd birthday on Nov 18.
- **ARE YOU STRUGGLING WITH PERSONAL ISSUES?** As we pray for each other, remember we are a CAP Church. CAP is an anonymous, confidential, professional counseling service - given at no cost to you. Simply call Shalem at 866-347-0041. They'll work with you to help get the support you need.

PRAYER LIST: Pray for Bethel members and friends with ongoing health concerns or unable to attend as well as those whose ministries we support: **Janet B.; Tina DV.; Bernie H.; Sid K.; Melissa P.;** Marlene P., Gerry M.; **Albert P.; Joan S.; Margaret S.; Nel DV.;** Bernie and Harmi-na K.

In Ministry: **Leah Hopp; Karen Lubbers-Odel**

PRAYER MINISTRY AT BETHEL

Each week we are encouraged to formulate our personal prayers using such categories as our city, our community, our world; the deepening of God's people; the extending of God's Kingdom; the flourishing of love, justice, peace and the spread of the gospel.

THIS WEEK'S PRAYER SUGGESTIONS:

DENOMINATIONAL MINISTRIES: In addition to these weekly denominational prayer items, you may access other updated requests through this link of CCNL (Christian Churches Network of London <http://www.ccnl.org/resources/pray/>)

RESONATE GLOBAL MISSION: MEXICO: On university campuses in Mexico, students can face discrimination for their faith in Christ. Pray for Resonate missionary James Lee, serving with a local campus ministry in Queretaro, as he disciples university students. Ask the Holy Spirit to work through him to strengthen young adults in their walk with Christ.

CALVINIST CADET CORPS: GROWTH: Our "Dive into the Word" theme continues to encourage cadets and counselors to make a habit of reading the Bible and rejoicing in it. Please pray that despite uncertain times our counselors, clubs, and corps will have the capacity and patience to help boys become more Christlike in all areas of life.

RACE RELATIONS: UPCOMING EVENTS: Psalm 23 reminds us, "The Lord is my shepherd. . . . He leads me beside quiet waters, he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake." Please pray with us for these upcoming antiracism events: Ideology of Whiteness; Living Room Conversation with CRCNA staff; Conversations with Race Relations and Friends; Racism: Looking Back, Moving Forward (U.S. workshop); Cultural Intelligence Workshop.

RESONATE GLOBAL MISSION: COHORTS: Pray for young adults preparing to serve with Resonate cohorts in Detroit, Central America, and the Middle East. Cohorts provide opportunities for young adults to serve with a local grassroots ministry, live in community, and engage in deep spiritual formation. Ask the Holy Spirit to prepare these young adults for this discipleship experience.

"THE STORY" DISCUSSION GROUPS:

Please feel free to join these discussion groups:

- 1) Monday afternoon November 9: 2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall.
- 2) Sunday morning November 15: 8:30 AM in the Fellowship hall.

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

BACK TO GOD MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL: God is everywhere. His Word should be too. Celebrate God's work through new media ministry of podcasts, websites, and videos in China. Although it's difficult to get God's Word to Chinese speakers, media helps make this possible.

THE INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER FOR THE PERSECUTED CHURCH: This year's International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, Sunday, November 8, will focus on the persecution and witness of the church in China.

GREEN SPACE: Have you received a communication letter from Council and the Green Space presentation via email? If you did not get it or would like a paper copy, please contact the church office.

CARE & SHARE: Need a meal? Know of someone who could use a meal? Maybe a neighbour, friend or co-worker? The meals are free and available to anyone who could use one. Contact Carolyn GN or Carolyn tB.

REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHAPLAINCY AND CARE SUNDAY IS NOVEMBER 15, 2020: On the third Sunday of November, churches throughout the CRCNA take time to pray for and encourage the work of chaplains. Based on annual reports, we estimate that our 153 chaplains minister to over 2 million people every year. Chaplains are called to be a light in the darkness, to bring Christ's grace, peace, and healing to those who need it the most. They need the support of our congregations so they may continue in their life-giving ministry.

EXAM CARE! Fanshawe Campus Ministry will be providing exam care bags for students in late November/early December. Because of COVID-19 challenges we will be providing care bags a bit differently than usual. If you are a student OR if you know of a student (Fanshawe or not) who could benefit from an exam care bag please let us know by Monday November 23rd by sending us an email at info@fanshawecampusministry.com or texting Helena

Interested in *membership at Bethel Church?*

In making profession of faith? To talk further, contact Pastor Eric at pastor.ericqn@gmail.com.

at 204-799-9342. Students do NOT need to live in the London region to receive a care bag!

FREE ADVENT DEVOTIONAL: He Will Be Our Peace is an email devotional series put together by World Renew, Resonate Global Mission, and the CRC Office of Social Justice that features reflections from CRC ministries around the world during Advent 2020. Each devotion will be delivered to your email inbox every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, starting December 2, 2020, through Christmas Day. Join us as we journey through lamenting injustice to looking forward to the coming of the Prince of Peace using the book of Micah. Go to justice.crcna.org/advent to sign up today!

GROUNDWORK: CHRIST GLORIFIED: THE HOLY SPIRIT AND GROWING IN CHRISTLIKENESS - The gospel of John points its readers to Jesus' glory through its faithful account of Jesus' teachings. Join Groundwork as we study John 14:15-17:26 to discover how we can grow in Christlikeness as his disciples today. Listen now at GroundworkOnline.com and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

AT-HOME FAITH FORMATION TIP: The Practice of Generosity: End-of-year giving opportunities abound at this time of year, so be intentional about your giving. Consider doing some research to discover a new local ministry or organization that supports a cause you care about deeply, and then give generously of your time, talents, and treasure to help it flourish. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices.)

THE LIGHTHOUSE GALA EVENT: Join The Lighthouse on November 21, 2020 for its Gala Event via ZOOM and hear from staff about the significant work taking place at The Lighthouse during COVID-19. The evening program will begin at 7 pm and conclude by 8:30 pm. You will have an

opportunity to join the event at 6:30 pm to check for any technical issues as well as greet others who joined early. We hope to introduce and kick off our first online auction, which will run for three to four weeks. Register for this Gala Event by November 19, 2020: contact The Lighthouse at info@lighthousecentre.ca or 416-535-6262.

ENDNOTES: This week we have the privilege of witnessing the baptisms of two infant members, Kurtis and Emma. We rejoice that in baptism God holds out his promises to us. For infants, it is an especially remarkable scene as we consider God's reaching out to them and recognizing them with his eternal love, even as they are just beginning in life, and beginning their physical, emotional and spiritual development. They receive this gift of baptism at a time during which they might just barely be able to recognize their parents. Baptism is a wonderful picture of grace. God makes the first move, approaching us with his unconditional love, long before we might even think to begin looking for God. In the sacrament of baptism, God gives us a new identity in Christ and in the community which Christ is forming. As one liturgy puts it, "In a world where ... anonymity and rootlessness threaten our existence, God calls people into covenant embrace."

As we once again witness the sacrament of baptism, we rejoice in celebrating God's promises and his gift of a salvation through a new identity in Jesus.

-EGN

To access Pastor's Eric's regular COVID-19 MEDITATIONS, click here ... <http://www.bethel-crc.ca/blog/covid-19-meditations/>

DIACONAL GIVING		
LAST WEEK	THIS WEEK	NEXT WEEK
Denominational Min Shares \$ 20.00	Back to God Hour	Local Christian Schools
World Renew (Hunger) \$ 340.00		
Back to God Hour \$ 20.00		
Local Christian Schools \$ 40.00		
Diaconate \$ 20.00		
Tuition Assistance Fund \$ 20.00		
Uganda Ministry Leah Hopp \$ 20.00		
BETHEL BUDGET GIVING—2020		
Budget Received Last Sunday: \$ 2,170.00		

SERVICE SCHEDULE			
	NOV 8	NOV 15	NOV 22
ELDER	Fred DV	Steve tB	Ron H
DEACONS	Rose S Richard B	Richard B Arie R	Arie R Harry J
GREETERS	Ron H Peter O	Peter O Barb W	Barb W John VT
SIGN-IN PERSON	Florence O	Steve tB	Barb W
HALL MONITORS	Ron H Peter O	Peter O Barb W	Barb W John VT
MAIL FOYER AREA MONITOR	Richard B	Ron H	Ray B
USHERS	Ben S Rose S	Ann P Arie R	Arie R Harry J
PLANNER	Steven dB	Helen B	Barb W
MUSICIAN	Irene O Gary B	Nicole B	Irene O
SINGERS	Ben S Richard V Ed W		
SOUND	Gary B	Ben H	Fraser T
VISUALS	Barb W	Hagos	Steven dB
SENIOR DRIVER	Dick & Trudy N	Fred & Liz DV	Peter & Rita B

THIS WEEK AT BETHEL...		
SUNDAY November 8	8:30 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	THE STORY discussion group with Fred DV Worship Service with Taylor Baptism AA/Al-Anon/Alateen
MONDAY November 9	2:00 PM	THE STORY discussion group with Pastor John
TUESDAY November 10	7:00 PM	Administrative Council Meeting
SUNDAY November 15	8:30 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	THE STORY discussion group with Fred DV Worship Service AA/Al-Anon/Alateen

Pastor Eric Groot-Nibbelink:	519.453.0767 (<i>church study</i>)	pastor.ericgn@gmail.com
Chair of Council: Ron Hessels	226.663.4191	ronshessels@gmail.com
Office Admin: Barb Wesselius	519.453.6565	bethelcrcldn@gmail.com
E-transfer Address:		bethelcrdonate@gmail.com
Office Hours: By Request	Bulletin Deadline: Thursday by Noon	

Dear Bethel Members,

As we continue to journey through these challenging times, we encourage each other to trust in God. In every challenge God remains our refuge and strength (Psalm 46). As we begin meeting again for Sunday worship (September 13, 2020), we also look to various God-given resources and wisdom to guide us in the practical aspects of physically re-gathering. Below is a list of guiding principles for returning to worship in the church building. This document has been developed by an ad hoc committee appointed by council.

Procedures and Protocols for Returning to Worship in the church building

Council has based these procedures and protocols on Middlesex-London Health Unit Guidance for Places of Worship and other available guidance documents.

1. We request that if you are feeling unwell or are experiencing any of the common symptoms of Covid-19 (cough, fever, shortness of breath, runny nose, sore throat) that you refrain from coming to church that Sunday. If you have travelled internationally in the last 14 days or have had close contact with a confirmed Covid19 case, you may not enter the building.
2. We can stay within the 30% of capacity that the provincial government has mandated. If required, we will need to adjust. If possible please pre-register through church office via [email](#) or Facebook.
3. Attendees are reminded to maintain a safe physical distance from each other when in the parking lot or lining up to enter the church building or when within the building. We will use every third row in the sanctuary instead of the recommended every 2nd row.
4. All attendees will need to wear a mask unless there are medical reasons for not doing so. The pastor will not wear a mask only while on the pulpit. Those who are not wearing a mask will not be allowed to sing.
5. Please enter the building from the south entrance. When you enter, please sanitize your hands and proceed into the sanctuary. You may empty your mailbox and deposit collections prior to the service but please do not loiter in the foyer. Ideally we will be seeking to fill the church from front to back so please arrive in a timely fashion.
6. After the service attendees will exit from back to front and proceed directly outside. Please use hand sanitizer as you exit as well. We will need to exit the church directly out the west or south doors.
7. Washrooms are available if necessary. We request that you limit occupancy to 1 person to maintain distancing.
8. Bulletins will only be available online. You should bring your own Bible. The Bibles and Psalters have been removed from the pews.
9. Children may attend worship service and must remain with their family. There will be no nursery or Sunday School until further notice.
10. The church library is currently closed. The room is open for one household to listen to the service if required on a first come, first served basis.
11. Elders and deacons will be encouraging you not to congregate in high traffic areas.
12. There will be cleaning and disinfecting of high traffic surfaces such as doorknobs and faucets by the hall monitors.
13. Caution should be taken to limit access to hand sanitizer by young children without supervision.
14. The collection plate will not be passed during the service but opportunity to donate will be available upon entering and exiting the church in baskets in the foyer. You may continue to donate online as well.
15. Please be sure to social distance upon leaving the church in the parking lot. We need to be aware of our neighbours and want to promote a positive image.
16. As with any social gatherings, there is an elevated risk faced by the elderly or those who are immunocompromised.
17. Please avoid activities that require close-contact (hand-shaking, hugging) or sharing items.
18. The sermon will continue to be online and the manuscript will continue to be available.
19. If you have questions or comments, please reach out to your elder.

Please recognize that we cannot cover all probable situations but are seeking our best to mitigate risk so that all members who desire to attend church in the building may do so.

Full Council Meeting Summary

October 20, 2020

- Opening Devotions and Prayer by Rose S
- Official welcome to Barb W
- September 29, 2020 FC minutes approved
- Nominations for Full Council Positions. Chair = Ron H
Vice = Fred DV
Clerk= Barb W
- Motion to Destroy ballots of elder vote was passed
- Pastor salary team set up as Arie R and Ron H.
- Green Space presentation to the Congregation of Oct 28 has been cancelled due to COVID. We are planning to send out the presentation via e-mail (with hard copies sent to those who are receiving the bulletin as such) Council encourages questions and feedback
- Congregational Meeting tentatively planned for Nov 25
- Motion to start Crossroads process by ordering In Dying We Are Born by Peter Bush for council members was approved
- Motion by Richard B supported by Rose S to look for a facilitator for Crossroads process was approved
- Communion individual serving cups have been arrived. Lord's Supper will be held Oct 25.
- Discussion on Surprise the World Chapter 6 Learn: The Fourth Habit
- Barb W will be the Council Liaison for the WPT
- Closing Prayer by Richard B

BETHEL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

November 8, 2020

The Story Chapter 29 "Paul's Mission" & Baptism Kurtis Taylor

Pre-Service Song: Living Waters - Getty

Welcome and Announcements Eric lights the Christ candle.

GOD GATHERS US TOGETHER

Call to Worship: (Eric) (on screen) Let us call to mind the reason for our hope:

Because of the Lord's great love we are not consumed,

For his compassions never fail.

They are new every morning; great is your faithfulness.

I say to myself, "The Lord is my portion; therefore I will wait for him."

**The Lord is good to those whose help is in him,
to the one who seeks him;**

It is good to wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord.

Song: LUYH 608 Salvation Belongs to our God

Opening Prayer (Eric)

*** God's greeting and our AMEN**

*** Songs of Praise: LUYH 21: 1, 3 This is My Father's World**

LUYH 17: 1, 3, 4 Beautiful Savior

Baptism:

God's Invitation and Promises:

Baptismal Litany: (on screen)

Together we confess that Jesus Christ is present with us in this sacrament.

It is he himself who baptizes us, and by the Spirit of Pentecost he brings us into his church.

Baptism is a sign of dying to sin and rising to new life in Christ. By water and the Holy Spirit, God claims us as his own, washes us from sin, and sets us free from the power of death.

**Here we know that we are made one with Christ crucified and risen, members of his body,
and called to share his ministry in the world.**

In this sacrament, the love of God is offered to each one of us.

**Though we cannot fully understand it or explain it,
we are called to accept that love with the openness and trust of a child.**

In baptism Kurtis and Emma can be assured of the love that God has for them, and the sign and seal of the Holy Spirit will be placed upon them.

Prayer

Vows Administration of Baptism Kurtis James Taylor

Video of baptism of Emma Harmina Jane Howlett

Welcome: (on screen)

Brothers and sisters,

We now receive Kurtis James Taylor and Emma Harmina Jane Howlett into Christ's church. I charge you to nurture and love them and to assist them to be Christ's faithful disciples.

**With joy and thanksgiving, we now welcome you into Christ's church, for we are all one in Christ. We
promise to love, encourage, and support you and to help you know and follow Christ.**

Prayer:

Song: LUYH 559: Ten Thousand Reasons

Prayers of the People & Offertory Prayer – Back to God Hour & Budget

GOD SPEAKS TO US

Scripture: Acts 17: 16 - 31

Message: Paul's Mission

Prayer

WE RESPOND

Sing: LUYH 762: Ancient Words

GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD

***God's Blessing**

***Closing Hymn: LUYH 334: 1, 5 May the Mind of Christ, My Savior**