

# 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. 22, 2020: 10:00 AM: THE STORY reboot chapter 31 – “The End of Time” and Communion Celebration:** Our look at THE STORY moves us to the last chapter of our study, Chapter 31 and is entitled “The End of Time” with a focus on the book of Revelation. As a fitting close to this study we will join in a celebration of communion. As in our previous celebration, upon arrival those of us in attendance will be given instructions regarding picking up the elements for use later in the service. 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. 29, 2020: 10:00 AM: ADVENT # 1 – “BE NOT AFRAID”:** Next week we join Christians all over the world as we mark the beginning of the season of advent. The Advent season is meant to be a season of waiting, rekindling in our hearts and minds an awareness of God's actions throughout the ages – past, present and future. This idea of waiting and reflection has taken on special meaning this year as the world is walking through the Covid-19 pandemic. Yet this season still provides us with a unique opportunity to reflect on God's redemptive story, his need to rescue the world and our anticipation of the ultimate fulfillment of God's purpose in peace and love. The 2020 Advent theme is BE NOT AFRAID and is based on a series suggested in the resource REFORMED WORSHIP #137. This year as we wait, we

offer up our fears to God and hear God's comfort in angel voices: “Do not be afraid.”

**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 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 **Bronson and Rachel G.** and their family as Bronson's mother, Cathy, passed on to be fully in the presence of the Lord last Sunday. We pray for God's eternal comfort and promises to surround Bronson, Rachel and the family.
- Please pray for **Irene O.** This past Monday, Irene was hospitalized due to a fever and was released on Thursday.
- Pray for **Sylvia R.** who continues to recover from a recent fall. Pray for healing of broken bones and sprains.
- Pray **Karen L.** and her husband **Moses.** With elections taking place various major cities in Uganda, there have been protests, violence and loss of life. It has also caused them to temporarily curb some ministry activities.
- Pray for **Leah H.** We give thanks that Leah's visa has come through and she is cleared for another 2 year period of serving medical needs in Uganda.
- 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.
- **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: CAMBODIA:** Pray for Resonate missionaries in Cambodia who disciple young leaders. Ask the Holy Spirit for wisdom and guidance in these important relationships. Ask God to work powerfully through these young leaders to strengthen Christ's church.

**RAISE UP: TIMOTHY LEADERSHIP TRAINING:** Stress: Many church leaders around the world are feeling the emotional stress of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. People are lonely and anxious. Domestic abuse is prevalent. TLT produced a lesson, "God's Unfailing Love," to address mental and emotional stress arising from the pandemic. Pray for its successful distribution to ministry partners worldwide.

**DISABILITY CONCERNS: CAREGIVERS:** This past month we gathered online for a series of meetings on caregiving. We thank God for giving us a space to learn, give support, make connections, and grow together as a community. We pray for ongoing strength and sustenance for all who are caring for others in so many different ways. We pray for peace, guidance, and ongoing strength for the journey.

**BACK TO GOD MINISTRIES: TODAY DEVOTIONALS:** Pray for Denny, who reads the Today devotions and writes, "I am incarcerated and am needing prayers for pain in my legs and hips. I'm needing a hip replacement, and thank God for giving me a new heart."

**RESONATE GLOBAL MISSION: COSTA RICA:** Pray for the community of Casa Adobe, an intentional Christian community that Resonate missionaries Jim and Ruth Padilla DeBorst started in Costa Rica. Casa Adobe is a home where people can grow in relationship

### "THE STORY" DISCUSSION GROUPS:

Please feel free to join these discussion groups:

- 1) Monday afternoon November 23: 2:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall completing the series 30 and 31.
- 2) Sunday morning November 29: 8:30 AM in the Fellowship hall.

with one another, their neighborhood, and God. Pray for their growth in discipleship in Christ.

## CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GREEN SPACE:** Council **urgently** needs to hear from you!! Please submit your thoughts in writing to any council member or the church email about the current proposal for the Green Space so that Council can make a decision based on the desires of the congregation.

**COMMUNICATION FROM COUNCIL:** Financial update: As we are approaching the end of another year we are experiencing a short-fall in our budget giving. Please prayerfully consider Bethel's need and let the Lord direct you in your giving.

**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.

**DIRECTORY:** It's time to review the current Directory and make any changes. Since we can't look over the paper copies in the church, please take your copy of the Directory and check to ensure that your information is correct. If anything needs to be corrected, please send an email to the church ([bethelcrldn@gmail.com](mailto:bethelcrldn@gmail.com))

## REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

**YOUNG ADULT FRIENDSHIP:** If you're between the ages of 18-28 years, CRC campus minister Dr. Mike Wagenman (Western University) would like to invite you to a small group study of friendship as a resource for wellness, well-being, and flourishing. Time commitment is 1-2 hr/week for reading and meeting via Zoom to discuss your thoughts and reactions. Indicate your interest by emailing [mwagenman@uwo.ca](mailto:mwagenman@uwo.ca) or call/text 519-851-5845.

**ADVENT DEVOTIONAL SERIES FROM TODAY:** It's been a rough year. Let Advent help you see God's story in Christmas. This special devotional series takes you deeper into the true meaning of Christmas, the coming Savior. Subscribe at [todaydevotional.com/advent](http://todaydevotional.com/advent). It's free!

### Interested in *membership at Bethel Church?*

*In making profession of faith?* To talk further, contact Pastor Eric at [pastor.ericqn@gmail.com](mailto:pastor.ericqn@gmail.com).

**DENOMINATIONAL RESTRUCTURING - TOWN HALL:**

Ever wondered what Canadian CRC congregations have in common and how we could work together on shared priorities in the future? Then you should plan to have your voice heard in an upcoming virtual town hall meeting. Chris Bosch from Chisel Consulting and Canadian Ministries Director Darren Roorda will be offering a public virtual town hall three different times: November 18, 19, and 21. Any member or participant of any Christian Reformed congregation in Canada is welcome to attend. Learn more at [crcna.org/Canada](http://crcna.org/Canada).

**GROUNDWORK: JESUS CHRIST RESTORES** - Have you ever wondered if you're too broken or if you've sinned too much for Jesus to love you? Study John 21 with Groundwork and witness an interaction between Jesus and Peter that gives us the hope and courage to love Jesus despite our failings. Listen now at [GroundworkOnline.com](http://GroundworkOnline.com) and subscribe to Groundwork's weekly emails for future episodes.

**AT-HOME FAITH FORMATION TIP:** The Practice of Generosity: We often associate generosity with financial giving, but we can also cultivate a generous spirit in our relationships. Ponder how you might practice this in daily life, perhaps by focusing on refraining from mental criticism, attributing the best motives to people's actions, being "present" and attentive when spending time with others (especially children), or doing acts of random kindness. (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices](http://crcna.org/FaithFormation/Practices).)

**THANKS FOR GIVING ON CHAPLAINCY SUNDAY:** The CRC Office of Chaplaincy and Care would like to thank you for offering up your tithes and prayers on November 15. If you did not have a chance to give, please consider donating

to this special ministry online here: [crcna.org/Chaplaincy](http://crcna.org/Chaplaincy)

**ENDNOTES:** The Disability Concerns ministry of the CRCNA has been offering a discussion group / online gathering for caregivers. There are many behind-the-scenes faithful people serving someone who is ill or disabled or aged and needing assistance. Many people may even experience a sandwich feel to their caregiving, offering care to more than one person, juggling their time and energy in multiple situations. One of our members, Carolyn GN has been part of this study group which has been using the resource "Courage For Caregivers" by Marjorie J. Thompson. From a recent session discussing the challenges and the joys of caregiving, Carolyn pointed out the following quote...

*"...Jesus teaches unequivocally: "I was sick and you took care of me," and "just as you did it for one of the least of these ... you did it for me" (Matthew 25:36,40). It takes a faithful imagination to see the image of God in every person. There are times – unexpected moments breaking through the crust of ordinary perception – when God gives us eyes to see the hidden Christ in broken and beloved humanity. What could be more precious than to see the face of our humble Lord shining in the flesh and bone of another human being, weak and imperfect as we all are? What better gift could there be in this world?"(p.119)*

One can also reflect on the following question: *If you have been a caregiver, even for a short season, what gifts have you experienced in that role? -EGN*

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

<b>DIACONAL GIVING</b>																	
<b>LAST WEEK</b>	<b>THIS WEEK</b>	<b>NEXT WEEK</b>															
<table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Denominational Min Shares</td> <td style="width: 10%; text-align: right;">\$</td> <td style="width: 70%;">48.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>World Renew (Hunger)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td>48.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Back to God Hour</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td>98.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Local Christian Schools</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td>148.67</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Diaconate</td> <td style="text-align: right;">\$</td> <td>48.67</td> </tr> </table>	Denominational Min Shares	\$	48.67	World Renew (Hunger)	\$	48.67	Back to God Hour	\$	98.67	Local Christian Schools	\$	148.67	Diaconate	\$	48.67	<p><b>Denominational Ministry Shares</b></p> <p>Today our offerings are for Denominational Ministry Shares and for the ongoing ministries here at Bethel.</p> <p>The Christian Reformed Church uses ministry shares to fund a variety of requested ministries both within North America and around the world. The vast majority of every dollar of ministry shares goes directly to ministry programs that start new churches, train servant leaders, support chaplains, resource congregations, and reach out to our neighbors through media and evangelism.</p>	<p><b>Diaconate</b></p>
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<b>BETHEL BUDGET GIVING—2020</b>																	
<b>Budget Received Last Sunday: \$ 2,447.00</b>																	

<b>SERVICE SCHEDULE</b>			
	<b>NOV 22</b>	<b>NOV 29</b>	<b>Dec 6</b>
<b>ELDER</b>	Ron H	Peter O	John VT
<b>DEACONS</b>	Arie R Harry J	Harry J Ray B	Ray B Richard B
<b>GREETERS</b>	Barb W John VT	John VT Steve tB	Steve tB Janet B
<b>SIGN-IN PERSON</b>	Barb W	Nel B	Florence O
<b>HALL MONITORS</b>	Barb W John VT	John VT Steve tB	Steve tB Janet B
<b>MAIL FOYER AREA MONITOR</b>	Ray B	Harry J	Ray B
<b>USHERS</b>	Arie R Harry J	Gay L Ray B	Ed W Richard B
<b>PLANNER</b>	Barb W	Steve dB	Helen B
<b>MUSICIAN</b>	Irene O	Irene O	Irene O
<b>SINGERS</b>	Helena H Jennie DV Joan W		
<b>SOUND</b>	Fraser T	Bronson G	Gary B
<b>VISUALS</b>	Steven dB	Barb	Hagos E
<b>SENIOR DRIVER</b>	Peter & Rita B	Jack & Clara H.	Dick & Trudy N.

<b>THIS WEEK AT BETHEL...</b>		
<b>SUNDAY</b> November 22	8:30 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	THE STORY discussion group with Fred DV Worship Service AA/AI-Anon/Alateen
<b>MONDAY</b> November 23	7:00 PM	Worship Planners
<b>SUNDAY</b> November 29	8:30 AM 10:00 AM 6:00 PM	THE STORY discussion group with Fred DV Worship Service AA/AI-Anon/Alateen

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

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.

**BETHEL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**

[November 22, 2020](#)

**The Story Chapter 31 “The End of Time”**

**Pre-Service Song: LUYH 482: 1 – 3 Soon, and Very Soon**

**Welcome and Announcements**

Jennie lights the Christ candle.

**GOD GATHERS US TOGETHER**

**Call to Worship**

**Sing: LUYH 958: Alleluia (with He’s my Saviour and I Will Praise Him)**

**Opening Prayer**

**\* God’s greeting and our AMEN (Eric)**

**\* Songs of Praise: LUYH 567: Here I Am To Worship**

**LUYH 483: 1, 4 Come, We that Love the Lord**

**CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE**

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Song: “I Will Be There”**

Prayers of the People & Offertory Prayer – Denominational Ministry Shares & Budget

**GOD SPEAKS TO US**

Scripture: Rev 21: 1 – 5, 22 - 27

Message: The End of Time

Prayer

**WE RESPOND**

**Sing: LUYH 490 Here from All Nations**

**WE CELEBRATE COMMUNION**

**The Thanksgiving:**

**Sing: LUYH 844:1 Lift up Your Hearts unto the Lord**

**Affirmation**

**Sing: LUYH 844: 2, 3 Lift up Your Hearts unto the Lord**

**Affirmation:**

**Sing: LUYH 844: 4, 5 Lift up Your Hearts unto the Lord**

**The Institution**

**Prayer of Consecration**

**Communion**

**RESPONSE of PRAISE**

**Sing: LUYH 489: 1 By the Sea of Crystal**

**GOD SENDS US OUT INTO THE WORLD**

**\*God’s Blessing**

**\*Closing Hymn: LUYH 489: 2,3 By the Sea of Crystal**