

# BETHEL

*Christian Reformed Church*

Connect . Grow . Care



## **NOTE REGARDING WORSHIP SERVICES:**

Due to the province's latest restrictions meant to curb the spread of Covid-19, we will NOT be gathering in person as a congregation. However, we will be able to meet virtually for worship through our live-streamed services each Sunday morning at 10 AM. Services will be accessible through this Facebook link <https://www.facebook.com/BethelCRCLdnOnt> Transcripts will continue to be made available in the same manner previously being offered.

If you have any needs or questions please contact the church office, Pastor Eric, the council chair or any elder or deacon of the church. Contact information is located near the end of this bulletin.

**NOTE IF YOU ARE HAVING ANY DIFFICULTY ACCESSING THE Members Only BULLETIN**, please contact the Pastor Eric, the office, one of the council members or another Bethel member who may be able to help.

**NEXT WEEK: February 14, 2021. 10:00 AM: – Live-Stream:** Next week John Van Til will be leading the service with the Scripture focus of 1 Peter 1: 24 – 2:12.

## **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.*

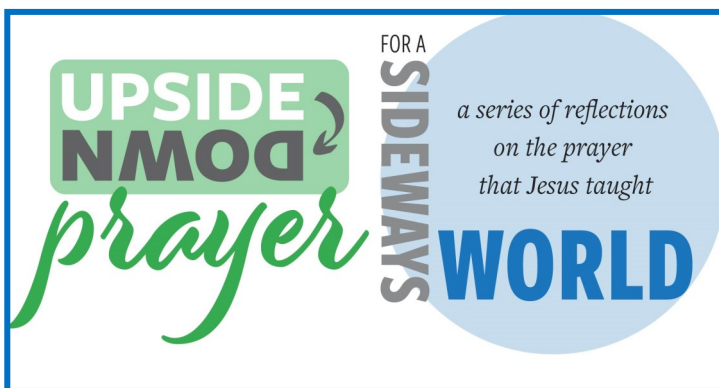
## **THIS WEEK'S PRAYER SUGGESTIONS:**

**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/>)

**RACE RELATIONS: PEACE:** Praise God, who made all of us human beings in his image. Give glory to Jesus, who came to break the curse of sin and will rule in righteousness. Ask the Holy Spirit to fill us as we pray and work against the sins of racial division, mistrust, and distress around our world. Pray that we will better reflect the mind of Christ and the will of God and shine his light in a broken world.

**REFRAME: BURKINA FASO:** Ky is one of the most dedicated listeners to ReFrame's French ministry programs. Every year she collects all the scripts from the past year's radio messages to reread them. She says these messages nourish her faith so much that she cannot do without them. Praise God for Ky's faithfulness! Pray that she will continue to seek understanding of God's Word.

**RESONATE: AFRICA:** Resonate missionaries ask for prayers for the Christian educators they work with in Nigeria, Uganda, and other countries throughout Africa. Many schools are struggling financially due to the COVID-19 pandemic, especially as they try to safely reopen for in-person learning. Ask God to provide for these schools. Pray for wisdom and encouragement for educators as they strive to support students and families.



**TODAY: February 7, 2021. 10:00 AM: Live-Stream & Communion.** We hope to offer a livestream from the church. You will have received the email link or be able to find it on the Bethel Facebook page. We also hope to celebrate communion (the Lord's Supper) so please have ready elements (juice and bread/crackers) to use as the bread and the drink of a communion celebration. The series Upside Down Prayer for a Sideways World will focus on the petition of the prayer "Give us today our daily bread."



**Ark Aid Street Mission** thanks you for your kind generous donations with blessings to the congregation for continuing to do good things and storing up treasures in heaven.

**CALVIN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY: SAFETY AND FLEXIBILITY:** Our spring semester began this past Monday. We are planning on face-to-face residential classes. Please pray for everyone as we work to provide flexible (online/in-person) learning for our students, and for the health and safety of our seminary community in West Michigan and around the world.

**WORLD RENEW: CAMBODIA:** Storms and flooding recently brought significant damage across 19 provinces in Cambodia. These include three of our target provinces— Svay Rieng, Kampong Speu, and Kampong Chhnang— where more than 300,000 people are affected. We thank God that the government has worked well with development partners, NGOs, and individuals to respond quickly and to manage the situation well. Please continue to pray for all of the affected families.

**RESONATE GLOBAL MISSION: LITHUANIA:** At LCC International University, a Resonate partner in Lithuania, all classes are being conducted online because of the COVID-19 pandemic. "Pray that students will engage with the Word of God even as courses are delivered online rather than in person," say Resonate missionaries Chris and Steve Van Zanen.

**CCNL PRAYER PROMPT FEBRUARY 2021:** Human beings alone of all God's creations have been given this unique ability to communicate with one another in words - millions of words, in various languages, in thought, spoken and written words. It is a precious gift - a treasure to be used well. The power of words is enormous - to strengthen or to hurt, to lift up or to put down, to foster peace or to sow discord. The bible has much to say about our use of words. Maybe we have these "pandemic windows of opportunity" to think more intentionally about our words because of our heightened awareness about brevity of life, or because of increased availability of free time. Maybe it's because we are living in constant closer proximity with others, maybe it's because of reduced social contacts, maybe it's because of recent examples of so many misused words on social media or in political dialogues.... or maybe it is because each word spoken feels like they need to be cherished and examined more than ever.

Let's pause to think together more about words we might need to hear ourselves, as well as those we may need to utilize more often. This month, Scripture will shape our prayers as we invite the Spirit within to assist us "choose our words". What a difference we could make in London all because of Jesus powerfully at work in our selection of words! **God, may we share these words generously this month: I'm proud of you... You're doing a great job... Proverbs 16:24 says "Kind words are like honey— sweet to the soul and healthy for the body."** God, each day, help us to bless someone - or bless lots of people - with sweet, healthy words, spoken or written. Let us not be empty flatterers or posers, but rather be sincere, thoughtful lovers of others - strangers, family, friends, and even those we are not so fond of! Use our words to bring healing & reconciliation, energy & joy, hope & healing.

### REQUESTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

**GROUNDWORK: RECONCILIATION** - Re-establishing peace and justice after relationships are broken is hard. Join Groundwork as we study 2 Corinthians 5:17-21; Matthew 5:9, 23-27; and Matthew 18:15-20 to better understand the spiritual discipline of reconciliation and how our reconciliation with God impacts our ability to reconcile with each other. 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 Justice and Mercy: Proverbs 14:31 says, "He who oppresses the poor shows contempt for their Maker, but whoever is kind to the needy honors God." Who in your community is needy? What might you do to show kindness to that person or group of people? (For more on faith practices from Faith Formation Ministries, visit [cncna.org/FaithFormation/Practices](http://cncna.org/FaithFormation/Practices))

**FOCUS ON THE CROSS - LENTEN DEVOTIONS:** Lent is a season to focus on the hope of Jesus Christ. Receive a free Today devotional email series to help you refresh, refocus, and renew your faith during Lent. Or download the ebook! Subscribe at [todaydevotional.com/lent](http://todaydevotional.com/lent).

#### Interested in membership at Bethel Church?

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

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<b>Office Hours: By Request</b>		

Bulletin Deadline: **Thursday by Noon**