



# The Bethel Newsletter

November 2020

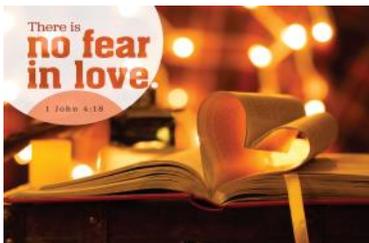
Porter, Minnesota

## Sundays in November

Worship with us via the internet



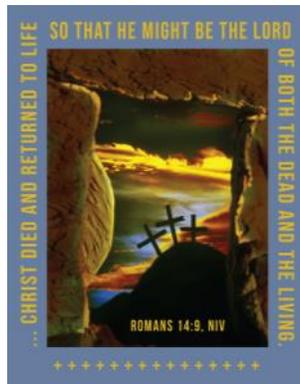
November 1



November 15



November 29



November 8



November 22

## SUNDAY SCHOOL REIMAGINED

# IT'S "KID'S TIME" ONLINE

ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL "KIDS" ARE CALLED TO WATCH "KID'S TIME" LIVE STREAMED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

"KIDS TIME" HAS MUSIC, STORIES AND PRAYER WITH TERRY, PASTOR ELLEN AND MANY SPECIAL GUESTS.



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Bethel Lutheran Church is affiliated with the Southwest Synod of Minnesota of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

God's Work. Our Hands.

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 2429 County Hwy 16  
 Porter, MN 56280

Telephone: (507) 296-4658

Office Hours at the Church:  
 Wednesday —9:30 a.m. -12:00 p.m.

E-mail address: [bethel@bethelofporter.com](mailto:bethel@bethelofporter.com)

Website: [bethelofporter.com](http://bethelofporter.com)

Pastor Rev. Ellen Munter 296-4558 (home)  
 507-828-1000 (cell)  
 Email: [pastormunter@gmail.com](mailto:pastormunter@gmail.com)

#### Your Church Officers

President	Mike Knutson	507-829-2767
Vice President	Randy Kamrath	507 530-4417
Treasurer	Deana Moeller	296-4634
Financial Sec.	Josh Sumption	296-4497
Secretary	Sue Alley	507-530-1628

#### Deacons

Linda Bruns	296-4645
Martha Melrose	296-4515
Craig Petersen	296-4483
Terry Dybsetter	296-4401
Sara Wollum	223-5844

#### Trustees

Jerome Bruns, Chair	296-4645
Tom Gawerecki	224-2267
Roger Longhenry	296-4422
Bob Merritt Jr	296-4436

#### Board of Education

Tracy Wente, Chair	296-4623
Pat Petersen	296-4483
Nikki Petersen	507-829-0555
Rachel Wollum	223-5844
Megan Syltie	507-829-9931

#### Custodian

Lou Knutson	296-4489
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### November Birthdays

1<sup>st</sup> Levi Hurt, Hadley Hurt  
 4<sup>th</sup> Lauren Ningen  
 5<sup>th</sup> John Mamer, Matthew Petersen  
 6<sup>th</sup> Travis Longhenry  
 9<sup>th</sup> Crystal Alexander, Daniel Pridal, Addison Emery  
 10<sup>th</sup> Dick Anderson  
 13<sup>th</sup> Heather Cottingham  
 14<sup>th</sup> Gayle Fredricks  
 16<sup>th</sup> Muriel Wadsworth  
 17<sup>th</sup> Monica Tuttle, Lawrence Petersen,  
 19<sup>th</sup> Kendon Knutson  
 20<sup>th</sup> Linda Bruns, Grant Schrunk  
 21<sup>st</sup> Rick Anderson, Lance Moeller, Sue Alley  
 22<sup>nd</sup> Devin Sumption  
 26<sup>th</sup> Julie VanHyfte  
 29<sup>th</sup> Lacie DeVos

If you have any corrections or additions,  
 please contact the church office at 296-4658, or  
 email: [bethel@bethelofporter.com](mailto:bethel@bethelofporter.com) If your name  
 does not appear in the month of your birthday, it  
 means we don't have your birth date. Thanks!



At this closing of the liturgical year, endings are revealed as beginnings, and we find that as the Christian community we live simultaneously in past, present, and future. Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. What seemed dead lives on, and what seemed purely memory is present, what was longed for is actually at hand. Time and its distinctions stretch and blur at this closing of the year, and the Church finds itself living in the future for which it so earnestly petitions. The day of the Lord is at hand. The new age has begun.

Albert Einstein once set himself this thought experiment: if I were to sit astride a beam of light, traveling at the speed of light, how would time appear? Einstein concluded that past and future would gradually thin, until one existed in an ever-widening, ever-expanding present now. For Orthodox Christians, the eucharist is nothing less than heaven on earth, the light of God breaking in and making of the past, present, and future one ever-expanding moment. At this transition time in the church's year, we are reminded of the breaking in of God's reign into this earth.

So we remember in these waning days the saints, those whose stories and lives have shaped our lives and the collective life of the Church: who have lived the future of God's reign; who bore the harvest of the Spirit's talents as willing participants and who are eternally present in memory and expanding time by the pervading light of God through Christ and the Spirit.

The lives of the saints are a part of the Church's inheritance, and their gifts of hymns, writings, and quiet acts of mercy shape the present in which we live. They are a link of rich memory to the holy story that shapes the Church's life and our individual lives here, now. Like the saints we are cajoled to live as children of light, radiant with God's presence in an ever-greater melding and blurring of past, present, and future. When we eat of this bread and drink of this cup, we remember the Lord's death until He comes.

Surrounding the memory of the saints in these days are what seem to be dark and worrisome texts of scripture, full of clouds and thick darkness. God declares to us: You are redeemed. Live as redeemed people! You are loved. Live as beloved people! The day of the Lord has already dawned with the radiant face of the risen Christ, and as baptized people, that is the day in which we live.

So the gospel writer Matthew reminds the church to live out the fruits of the Spirit, to use the rich talents and inheritance of the new dawn, and not to cower in fear and hoarding. We are to live lives of compassion, lovingkindness, truth, creativity, wisdom, mercy, and justice. To live without compassion, to live in fear, is to live as if the eternal day of the risen Christ had never dawned. These days of ending are a beginning, and what seems past is present, and the longed-for future is at hand. We are beckoned to live as children of the light, radiant in the dawn of the risen Christ, whose festival closes out these days of the church: the Sunday of fulfillment or Christ the King.

"I will seek out my sheep," says God. "I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness" (Ezek. 34:12). God is always calling us to be radiant and fearless, coaxing us out of darkness into the new day, bidding us into the glorious dawn of the day of the risen Christ, Who was, Who is, and Who is to come. This is the day that God has made, the eternal, ever-widening present of life in God, radiant with Christ, gifted by the Holy Spirit poured out into our hearts. What seems past is here, and what seems yet to come is at hand, in the eternal, gloriously redeemed moment of the day of God.

In Christ,  
Pastor Munter

This is from *Sundays and Seasons*, 2004. I thought it was beautifully written and knew I could not have done better!



## The Church Council and Board reports for October 2020

### Trustees

Trustee action taken:

- Motion was made and second to pay bills.
- Josh presented the cost of the broadcast equipment - \$1635.00. It was agreed to use the Bethel part of the Manna Fund .
- Furnace water pump that feeds the social hall is not working and Vick plumbing has ordered a new one. The repair should be fixed in 2-3 days.
- The high water bill from last month was found to be an old flapper in the water closet in the woman's bathroom. The fix was \$15,00 flapper.

Bob, Tom and Jerome

### Deacons

- Deacon for November: Martha Melrose
- Food Shelf: Canby
- Communion Dates for November 1,8, and Christ the King 22nd.

### Board of Education

No report



## For Your information :

As we continue with the changes within our parish community due to COVID 19 , we felt a need to add to our COVID plan. The following is an appendix to the document that the council passed earlier in the year. This portion addresses the use other Social Hall, Kitchen and Sunday School wing of Bethel Lutheran.

Appendix I to COVID plan for Bethel Lutheran Church, Porter, MN

Guidance regarding use of the social hall and kitchen area during the COVID mandate.

There will be no activities held in the social hall, kitchen or other rooms in the social hall wing of Bethel Lutheran other than church designated functions until COVID mandates are lifted.

Approved by the Bethel Council September 14, 2020

## The ThankGiving Tree

**Bethel's ThanksGiving Tree will again appear in church Narthex.**

**We are looking to supply 20 gifts (approximately \$20.00) for children in our community who are in need of Christmas gifts.**

*No wrapping needed.*

**Additional information will be coming soon via the bulletin and e-mail.**



# Monthly Financial Update

## Miscellaneous Revenues

The Revenues taken into account are all weekly and holiday offerings as well as special offerings designated to the general account such as Fuel, Missions, and Food Shelf Offerings. This comparison is only for Revenues and Expenses associated with Bethel's responsibility for our parish budget, meaning checks from Hemnes Lutheran Church are not included in the Year to Date Revenue and their 25% share of our parish budget is not included in the Year to Date Budgeted Expenses. This comparison also does not take into account Refunds and Reimbursements or Savings Reimbursements. These sources of revenue are normally received to pay expenses that are not a part of Bethel's operating budget, so are not used to make comparison to our budgeted expenses.

The Year to Date difference will show on a monthly basis if we are receiving sufficient offerings to cover our budget, or if we are behind. The running total for each month will be in a Year to Date total, not a monthly total.

If it is necessary to borrow money from Savings Reserves to fund the operations of Bethel, the amount will be denoted in the Cash Reserves Expended column. If funds are repaid to the Savings Reserves during a surplus, the repayment will be denoted in the Cash Reserves Repaid column. Reserves Expended and Reserves Repaid are not represented in the Revenues and Expenses columns of this report.



	Year:		2020				
	Total Budgeted Expenses:		\$	103,919.70	*Does not include the Hemnes share of the Parish Budget.		
	Monthly revenue required to meet budget:		\$	8,659.98			
Year to Date Actual Revenue and Budgeted Expenses Comparison-							
This report is based on budgeted expenses only, divided evenly for each month of the calendar year. Actual expenses per month vary greatly. This analysis is to be used as a guideline only and not a full representation of the full financial health of Bethel Lutheran Church.							
This report does not include revenues assigned to the Hemnes Lutheran Church portion of the joint parish budget or transfers from savings accounts that cover special, non-budgeted expenses.							
	Total Revenue for Month	Year to Date Revenue	Year to Date Budgeted Expense	Year to Date Difference: shortfalls shown as negative numbers	Cash Reserves Expended	Cash Reserves Repaid	Reserves Repaid Notes
January	\$7,965.95	\$7,965.95	\$8,659.98	-\$694.03			
February	\$4,163.24	\$12,129.19	\$17,319.95	-\$5,190.76			
March	\$8,867.00	\$20,996.19	\$25,979.93	-\$4,983.74			
April	\$8,572.27	\$29,568.46	\$34,639.90	-\$5,071.44			
May	\$16,334.85	\$45,904.12	\$43,299.88	\$2,604.25		\$3,000.00	Federal COVID Response Grant*
June	\$7,028.50	\$52,932.62	\$51,959.85	\$972.77			
July	\$3,832.84	\$56,765.46	\$60,619.83	-\$3,854.37			
August	\$6,590.74	\$63,356.20	\$69,279.80	-\$5,923.60			
September	\$3,552.25	\$66,908.45	\$77,939.78	-\$11,031.33			
October	\$4,830.00	\$71,738.45	\$86,599.75	-\$14,861.30	-\$3,000.00		

\* \$3,000 from the Federal COVID Response Grant as it was deposited directly into General from the US Treasury, it was later moved into Bethel's Reserve Fund in the savings account. This amount is not reflected in the May or Year to Date revenues. It is possible, pending determination of the US Treasury that these funds will need to be returned.

# Bethel Workgroup Schedule

## Altar Workers for Sundays in November

Darcy Bruns

Bonnie Merritt

## Altar Workers for Sundays in December

Carmon Mamer

Charlotte Wilke

### GROUP #1

Brenda and Mike Knutson	507-829-2767
Paul and Darcy Bruns	507-530-0327 and 507-530-5036
Rose and Dick Anderson	296-4440
Marilyn and Waldo Petersen	223-5829
Sue Alley	507-530-1628
Marty and Meghan Syltie	507 829-9931, 507 829-9924
Linda and Jerome Bruns	296-4645
Bill Ningen	296-4693
Josh Sumption	296-4497
Tiffany Keating	223-5542
Brian and Cassidy Emery	605-880-3569



## ? ? ? Bible Quiz ? ? ?

After Jesus healed 10 men at one time, how many returned to thank him? What had been their ailment?

- A. five; blindness
- B. all 10; deafness
- C. one; possession by demons
- D. one; leprosy



Answer: D (See Luke 17:11-19.)

## Worship Schedule

Our worship will be live streamed on our Facebook page. Bulletins are e-mailed weekly or available for pickup in the narthex.

[www.facebook.com/bethelofporter](http://www.facebook.com/bethelofporter)

Other resources are available on our website. [www.bethelofporter.com](http://www.bethelofporter.com)

## Coming Events

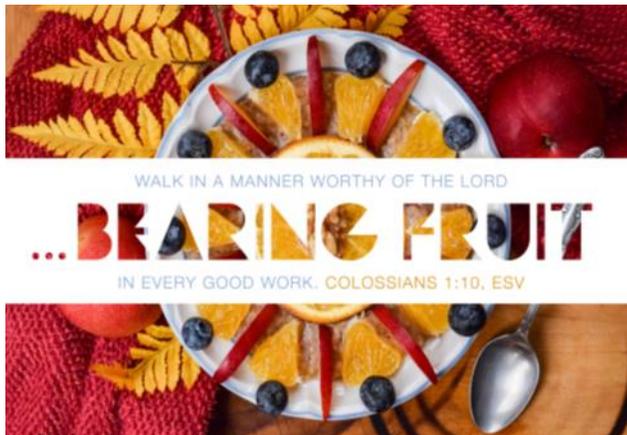
**Worship has resumed with adaptations to provide a safe worship experience for all—masks required.**

**Our worship service is still available live streamed, video or audio recording. Please worship with us as you are able.**

**Worship with communion will be held on November 1, 8, & 22**

**Confirmation on Wednesdays from 6:30—7:45 pm**

*Please stay safe, wash your hands, wear a mask, social distance and pray for those in our country and around the world who are sick and who are grieving.*



## Readings for the month of November

November 1 All Saints Day	November 8 23 Pentecost	November 15 24 Pentecost	November 22 Christ the King	November 29 Advent 1
Revelation 7:9-17 Psalm 34:1-10, 22 1 John 3:1-3 Matthew 5:1-12	Amos 5:18-24 Psalm 70 1 Thess. 4:13-18 Matthew 25:1-13	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 Psalm 90:1-8, 12 1 Thess. 5:1-11 Matthew 25:14-30	Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 Psalm 95:1-7a Ephesians 1:15-23 Matthew 25:31-46	Isaiah 64:1-9 Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Mark 13:24-37

# A taste of history

Add a yummy, authentic touch to your Thanksgiving meal with this recipe.



### What you need:

- 2/3 cup heavy cream
- pint jar with lid
- strainer
- bowl
- container
- salt



### What you do:

1. Pour cream into the jar and close the lid tightly.
2. Shake vigorously about 8 minutes, until a solid lump of butter forms. (Take turns with a friend!)
3. Strain the contents, catching the buttermilk in a bowl to save for another recipe.
4. Put the butter in a container. Add salt to taste.
5. After chilling the butter, enjoy on fresh bread.

# Kids Page



## Glad gatherings

The first Christians met together over a meal. Today church families still gather to break bread and thank God.

Follow the instructions below. Then write the remaining words in order from left to right and top to bottom to complete the verses.

	A	B	C	D	E	F
1	They	found	broke	bread	acts	in
2	houses	their	homes	beautiful	and	round
3	ate	world	beginning	together	follow	thought
4	with	numbers	glad	happiness	lesson	and
5	thanks	sincere	disciples	gathering	hearts	tradition
6	celebrate	good	praising	Christian	God	river

Cross out all words in column E with double letters.

Cross out all words that are books of the Bible.

Cross out all words in column B that end in d.

Cross out all words in column A that have more than 4 letters.

Cross out all words in row 5 with 3 syllables.

Cross out all words in the table with 9 letters.

Cross out all words in column F with 2 or more vowels.

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\_\_\_\_\_

ACTS 2:46-47, NIV

Answer: They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God. Acts 2:46-47, NIV



THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF

## BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

P.O Box 126

2429 Co. Hwy. 16

Porter, MN 56280

### Bethel Lutheran Newsletter

November 2020

*Bethel Worship, Sunday 10:00 am*

*"KIDS TIME" following*

*Live streamed on the Facebook page  
and later at [bethel@bethelofporter.com](mailto:bethel@bethelofporter.com)*

[www.facebook.com/bethelofporter](https://www.facebook.com/bethelofporter)

