

The Bethel Bell



March 2023

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[Click to Visit our Website](#)

Volume 30, Issue 3

email: blcoffice@bethelbrushprairie.org

March Bethel Bell 2023

Pastor's Page

Early in January, we had a gospel reading in which a couple of John the Baptist's disciples wanted to spend time with Jesus and he asked them, "What are you looking for?" They said they wanted to know where he was staying. Jesus replied, "Come and see."

Over these past weeks we have sung these words as our gospel acclamation. As we move into Lent, we will return to the Gospel according to John in which seeing means believing. To see, in John's gospel, is to know someone in a relational way. Jesus helps people to see, to know him and to know God in some new way.

Lent begins, however, in Matthew's gospel with the story of Jesus being tempted in the wilderness, after his baptism and before he begins his ministry. In this story it is Jesus who sees the truth of the human condition. We are all tempted or tested as Jesus was in that lonely time. We are tempted to fend for ourselves, to seek power, and to align our allegiances to others who are not aligned with God's will for us. Before Jesus begins his journey to the cross, he is confronted with the human condition and stands against these forces that try to draw us away from our relationship with God.

Then we will turn to John's gospel. There **we will see God** through the eyes of Nicodemus the Pharisee who thought he knew God pretty well. Jesus helps us see that our relationship with God is deeper than the rituals and traditions we often cling to.

With the Samaritan woman at the well we will learn that **God sees us** for who we are and loves us, no matter what we have done or what others may think about us. Then, a man who was born blind will receive his sight. With him **we see the world around us** as well as the suspicion that is being cast upon Jesus. Finally, with the raising of Lazarus from the tomb, **we will see the promise of new life** and a preview of Christ's own resurrection.

Our experiences and assumptions can sometimes blind us from seeing God's amazing and surprising activity in the world around us. We live on this side of the Resurrection and that event can become so familiar that it is no longer amazing! Jesus longs to open our eyes and hearts to show us how loved we are by God, and helps us share this hope and promise for new life for everyone!

Whether you worship with us in person or remotely, I hope you will attend on Sundays this Lent as and the Holy Week services the first week of April. Come and see what you have been looking for! Jesus is ready to meet you in these eye-opening stories that bring us into deeper relationship with God and with God's people.

In joyful service,
Pastor Lynne

WHERE TO FIND

IT IN THIS MONTH'S BETHEL BELL

—

Pastor Lynne's
Message
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Family Ministry
pg 2

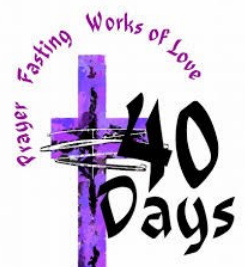
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Reminders
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Bethel Lutheran Church Mission Statement

"We are called, enlightened and empowered through Christ
to worship, witness, and serve."

FROM BONNIE STAUFFER:

MARCH FAMILY MINISTRY

The Season of Lent ~

If you would like to have a booklet for Lent to focus on the scripture and a way to help guide you on your walk during this season, they are available at the welcome desk. You can also read each week's focus in the Mid-Week E-News. If you do not receive the Mid-Week, but would like to subscribe, please contact me. You will also find the weekly scripture available on our website at bethelbrushprairie.org as well as our Bethel Facebook page. Pastor Lynne's Wednesday morning study at 10:00 AM, *Making Sense of the Cross*, will also offer you an opportunity to ponder God's Word in the middle of your week.

Serving ~ We associate acts of loving kindness and mercy with the season of Lent. Through art, music, preaching, teaching, and other means, the church tells the story of the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. But the example of Jesus is more than his death. Throughout his life, Jesus served. He was a servant leader, one who was willing to get down on his knees and wash the feet of his disciples. **Serve all people, following the example of Jesus: *Philippians 2:5-11.***



The Body of Christ at Bethel is greatly appreciated and loved. Each one of you at Bethel has a gift to offer, regardless of age or physical ability. Whether your days of service are just beginning, or you think your service days have passed, there is purpose in your life and God longs for you to walk with him, talk with him and use the gifts he has given you. Simply praying for his church at Bethel and our leaders is a powerful and everlasting gift and will further the church's ministry and bring others into the family of believers.

If you would like to schedule a time to dig deeper into the ways you can serve at Bethel or learn more about the details for various ministries, please contact me, Bonnie Stauffer, at blcfamily@bethelbrushprairie.org. I am usually at the church office Monday-Wednesday. We currently have 2 positions open for the Memorial Committee along with other ways to serve. We can help you learn more about the details if you are interested.

There is a place for you to serve. It doesn't matter what your talent is and it doesn't matter if your talents are big or small. What does matter is that when God has a job for you to do, you need to be ready and willing for Him to use you.

Bonnie Stauffer

Family Ministry Director
blcfamily@bethelbrushprairie.org



Our Family Ministry Mission Statement

To partner with families to reach and teach them in such a way that they have the greatest opportunity to become fully developed followers of Christ.

Deuteronomy 6:6-8

These words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and you shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.

Scan the QR Code from your phone camera to keep up to date with all the latest news on our website. You can also access the church calendar from there.



THANK YOU TARA MCCABE!

For putting together the "Lent-In-A-Bag" activities for the children and their families to do at home during Lent!
You have a servant's heart!



March Newsletter 2023

Register for FREE until March 3rd for our online silent auction!

Silent Auction to be held March 8-13!

Your name will be put into a drawing for \$100 bidding credit.

Purchase Tickets for live event until March 5th at this link

<https://rocksolid-teen.ejoinme.org/Tickets2023>

Lucky Shamrock Auction

when:
Saturday, March 11, 2023
Doors open at 5 pm - 10 pm
Silent Auction, March 8 - 13

where:
ilani Casino Resort
1 Cowlitz Way
Ridgefield, WA 98642

tickets at:
rocksolid-teen.com

more information:
360.885.2181

Presenting Sponsor:



Pat of Child Operators



Emerald



Luck of the Irish



Clark County Food Bank
S.N.A.C Program



Twin Star Credit Union
Financial Literacy



Police Activities League
K9 Charlie



Thank you, Bethel, for giving us a home!

12919 NE 159th Street/PO Box 175 Brush Prairie, WA 98606
360-885-2181 | www.rocksolid-teen.com | Tax ID#36-4634695

February Council Meeting

February 14, 2023

Members Present: Linda Bieker, Ken Coats, Teresa Correy, Sandy Egan, Jack Graves, Chris Kast, Tara McCabe, Charles Moon, Val Moon, John Sarver, Ken Sayler, Terry Smith, Erika Stauffer
Staff Present: Jim Bergren, Pastor Lynne Ogren, Bonnie Stauffer
Not in Attendance: Candi Ehrich, Nanci Keenan, Chad McCabe

Meeting called to order at 6:31pm, by Ken S.

Meeting opened with a prayer by Pastor Lynne.

Separated into Boards at 6:36pm. Attendees reconvened for council meeting at 7:45pm.

Treasurer's Report (Chris K)

2023 financial summary based on bank statements.

o January and YTD: Deposits = \$23,299; Payments = \$16,097; Difference of \$7202

Board of Trustees (Jack G)

The sanctuary remodel committee held their first meeting Sunday, with Terry Smith as chair. The committee will be working to collect ideas that can be presented for consideration at a future date.

The church will be looking for an individual to take over bookkeeping responsibilities. The hiring will be handled by Trustees.

Training for new counters will be happening on Sunday, February 19th after church.

There will be a new electronic security system installed at the church, SimpliSafe. Installation of the new system is starting this week. Training on the system will need take place for everyone who has a key to the church prior to activation.

The memorial fund committee is still in need of at least 1, preferably 2 individuals. If you or someone you know would like to be on this committee, please contact Jack.

In response to recent events, the synod has again asked churches to review their emergency action plans. Understanding of parishioners needs for safety in different situations is a priority for the synod. Pastor Lynne is part of the Battle Ground Pastors group and they will be having the Battle Ground Police Chief at an upcoming meeting where we may have other ideas to incorporate.

Annual staff reviews are scheduled for Tuesday, February 21.

The heat pump that handles the office area is being looked at by Tri-Tech Heating. There is a concern that was shared about it's capabilities to keep the office at a comfortable temperature when the outside conditions are extremely cold for an extended period of time.

Board of Education (Val M)

We are still in need of a volunteer to cover the nursery on the second Sunday. Having the TV to show the livestream has made it nice for anyone to go there to watch the service even if it is just for a bit of time while the child is fussy or being busy.

Frolic is the new Cradle Roll program that the church will be using. It will allow up to 5 individuals to be attached to a child's profile to receive updates along with parents.

Bags for the youth have been put together with activities and lessons for them to use during the Lenten season.

Council Minutes (Contd.)

Board of Deacons (Erika S)

Shrove Tuesday, February 21, the men will be hosting a pancake dinner as we prepare to enter the Lenten season.

Easter is Sunday, April 9 this year. We will be having two services: one at 8:00am and one at 10:00am. The 10:00am service will be livestreamed. Between the two services there will be a continental Easter brunch.

Mallard Landing in Battle Ground is looking for Bethel members who are interested in participating in worship.

Our next ministry outreach program that we will be supporting is Lutheran Community Services NW (LCSNW). Noisy offering on April 30th will be donated to that organization.

Motion to add annual subscription for "ProPresenter" to improve tech options to the budget starting in 2024. This will replace PowerPoint as the software used for services. It adds more flexibility for the tech team, is more dynamic, and supports multi-screen displays. The initial subscription for 2023 of the software, and any additional hardware needed, will be donated. **MSA**

Future outreach activities were discussed, including harvest days parade, craft night, trunk or treat, and other ideas. Revitalizing the KIT (Keep In Touch) program to connect with our on-line views and phone patch listeners.

Family Ministry Report (Bonnie)

The Souper Bowl of Caring event was a huge success. We collected 600 pounds of food and more than \$500 in financial contributions. These donations will be given to the North Clark County Food Bank.

A Lenten booklet is being put together that will include events and scriptures. Pick one up next week so you don't miss out.

Pastor's Report (Pr. Lynne)

Upcoming Pastor communications will include information about ELCA, Southwestern Washington Synod, and how congregations support and are supported by the denomination.

Closing (Ken)

In preparation for Easter services, we will be hosting the annual spring cleaning on Saturday March 18 following the Men's Breakfast.

MSA to adjourn at 8:20pm and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Teresa Correy

Council Mission Statement 2022 - As the council of Bethel we will fearlessly follow God's leading, respect and encourage one another, listen to, and communicate with the congregation.



Community Outreach Ministries

March 2023

Have you noticed the box in the hallway between the restrooms?

JUST ONE THING BATTLE GROUND: Just One Thing Battle Ground is an all volunteer community coalition that believes all of us are better off when we work together to help one another. Just One Thing Battle Ground coordinates with members and local resources to facilitate help with immediate survival needs while supporting long term goals of the homeless. DROP OFF YOUR DONATIONS IN THE **RED BOX** (not pink)



BATTLE GROUND EDUCATION FOUNDATION : The Battle Ground Education Foundation has supported the students and schools of Battle Ground Public Schools since 1994. The foundation also maintains a *Family and Community Resource Center* and can always use items to be distributed to needy students. Items can be put into the Just One Thing box in the hallway. For more information or to volunteer contact them at info@bgef.org or call (360) 885-6536.

KIT- KEEPING IN TOUCH: Laura Kast made over 15 dozen cookies on Martin Luther King Day of Sharing. These cookies will be shared with our homebound members of Bethel. KIT (Keeping in Touch) visitors will take them when they visit our friends who aren't able to come to church any longer. If you would like to be a part of this Bethel ministry - KIT - contact Linda Bieker. Love starts at home, and our members who have difficulty with mobility still call Bethel their home. They really enjoy visits from Bethel's more mobile members. Thank you Laura, and thank you to all the KIT visitors.

MEALS ON WHEELS: Meals on Wheels is more than just a meal. They offer human connections and social support including the **Friendly Chat** program which provides a much needed warm connection for homebound older adults. Calls are made by volunteers once a week and is a great opportunity to build intergenerational connections. Contact friendlychat@mowp.org or call (503) 953-8217

SOUPER BOWL OF CARING: Bethel donated 680 lbs of food and \$524.42 to the North County Food Bank in our SOUPER BOWL of CARING event.. Thank you to everyone who gave so generously!



FAMILY PROMISE: Family Promise is coming up the week of March 5-12. To find out how you can help, contact Candi Ehrich at candi-ehrich@comcast.net

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES:

- Rocksolid Community Teen Center Volunteer
- Keeping in Touch Outreach Volunteer - Visits to the Homebound
- Help Maintain and Beautify Our Building, Property, and Grounds
- Make & Deliver Meals to Fellow Congregants in Need

This & That from
Pat

February Quilting
Join one of the groups
in the fall.

Share House Quilters
2nd and 4th Monday
at 9am

Mission Quilters
2nd and 4th Tuesday
at 9am



Set-up for
Sunday Fellowship Hour
February - Hope Circle

Members of the Circle will set up the coffee for Sunday morning and schedule helpers for clean-up at the close of services.

All Bethel families are invited to help with food as well as serving & clean up.

You'll find a sign up sheet on the bulletin board.
Please help as you're able.

Someone you haven't seen lately?
Give them a call.

Send them a
St. Patrick's Day
blessing!



BLCW Brunch
March 4th at 10am
Hostess: Hope Circle

Our Guest Speaker
Gail Miller, Charge RD
Daybreak Youth Services

Join us to learn more about how this Brush Prairie neighbor brings hope to the future of youth who are struggling with substance abuse and mental health issues

Potluck Brunch
Please bring your favorite breakfast casserole, fruit, bread or pastry.

Ask a friend to join us!



**Circles meet on Tuesday, March 21st
at Bethel**

**Priscilla - 9:30am - Naomi - 1:00pm
Hope Circle - 6:30pm**

Priscilla: Sylvia Vilander, hostess
Naomi: Karen Robison, hostess
Hope: Candi Ehrich, hostess

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!



Work Day Every Tuesday

**MEN'S
MINISTRIES**

**Bethel Men are Invited
to Breakfast and Devotions
Third Saturday of Each Month
9:00AM**

**March 18th... Spring Cleaning
after Men's Breakfast!**



**Our Next Service Week
March 5-12**

We have yet another opportunity to serve families at Battle Ground United Methodist.



**One more bell
ringer needed!**

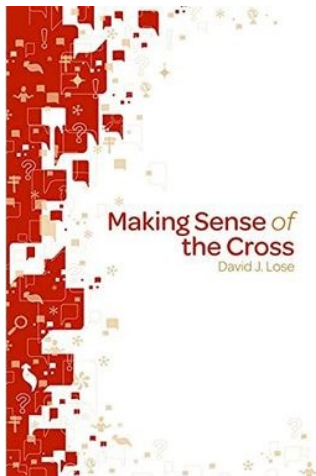
We have just enough bell ringers, but we could use a sub who would be willing to fill in during rehearsals for various bell ringers who can't be there. Being able to sight read music would be a benefit. Bell choir practices Wed. nights at 6pm. It is our hope to play the bells on Easter Sunday. If interested, contact Nanci Keenan

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Bethel's Memorial Committee is looking for 2 additional people to serve. Time commitment is nominal. See Jack Graves if you're interested.

AND

Our Nursery is looking for an attendant for the 2nd Sunday of each month. Val Moon can give you all the information.



**Pastor Lynne's Bible Study
Wednesday mornings at 10am
Our new study is
"Making Sense of the Cross"**

Musician Position Open: Worship Pianist and Choir Director

Bethel Lutheran Church

PO Box 175 12919 NE 159th St.
 Brush Prairie, WA 98606
 Office: 360-892-4231 blcoffice@bethelbrushprairie.org

Bethel Lutheran Church is seeking an experienced pianist to lead congregational singing for worship, 2-3 Sundays per month, who can also direct a small vocal choir and a handbell choir. Contact the church office for a complete job description and application information.



Join us In person:
 for Worship at 10:00am on Sunday mornings
 on line: follow the links from our website
 bethelbrushprairie.org
 or on the Phone Patch: 360-729-0011
 Put your phone on speaker
 and don't forget to hit the mute button...



Masks are welcome, but optional, according to your comfort level

Worship Assistants Schedule for March 2023

	Worship Asst	Reader	Greeter	Usher
Mar 5	Terry Smith	Ron Gullickson	Geni Hammer Maureen Smith	Ron Gullickson Dick Wolf
Mar 12	Heidi DeBroeck	Ken Sayler	Jon Bradley Nanci Keenan	Ken Sayler Larry Kytola
Mar 19	Heidi DeBroeck	Rick Hauser	Claudia Bottemiller Kay Nock	Neal Correy Dennis Stauffer
Mar 26	Heidi DeBroeck	Terry Smith	Chad McCabe Tara McCabe	Jim Fuerstenberg Ray Sell



Got some important Bethel news? You can send updates, or get information to us by e-mailing:



Today we ask for prayer for Judy Sutera, Sandi Kytola, Milt Kleven, Jody Huffstutler, Lucille Gukens, Denneva Coats, Sheryl Elder and Laurie Haynes

We pray for the financial & spiritual health & growth of Bethel and for all who struggle with illness and economic issues. We ask God's guidance and protection on our military, our leaders and our country.

Parish Admin: Judy Wood
blcoffice@bethelbrushprairie.org

Pastor: Lynne Ogren
blcpastor@bethelbrushprairie.org

Director of Family Ministries
Bonnie Stauffer
blcfamily@bethelbrushprairie.org

A/V Ministry: Jim Bergren
blcav@bethelbrushprairie.org

RSTC Director
Marcy Sprecher
Marcy@rocksolid-teen.com

visit us on the web at
bethelbrushprairie.org



Thank you Bethel for your continued financial support.

Have you considered setting up automatic giving through your bank or credit union? It's usually done at no charge.

Masks are now optional at Bethel. Wear or not - according to your own comfort level.

Stay well!



April 2023
Bethel Bell
Newsletter Articles
are due by Mar 21st

Office hours:
Regular hours
Mon-Fri 9AM-3:30PM

Please call if you have questions.
Office: 360-892-4231

"pray without Ceasing"
1 Thessalonians 5:17



"Always pray and never give up"
Luke 18:1

Are you a part of Bethel's Prayer Chain?

If not, and you'd like to be, please contact Judy Bergren (phone chain) 360- 666-9134 or Judy Wood (email chain) 360-892-4231 or 360-904-0271. All we need is your name and email address, or your phone number if you don't use a computer...

Communion March 2023



Communion will be served to those who attend in-person services at Bethel this month.

Communion elements for home use are available at the Bethel office. Call and arrange to come and pick yours up.



John Bomar	03/01
Robert Huffstutler	03/03
John McAllister	03/05
John Schroeder	03/08
Madalyn Moon	03/08
Dennis Stauffer	03/12
Allison Sprecher	03/13
Myra Wilkinson	03/14
Grace Wetter	03/17
Dustin Zumwalt	03/21
Judy Sutera	03/22
Janice Shepard	03/28
Harper Pavegio	03/28
Jan Kleven	03/30

Les & Jody Huffstutler	03/06/1982
Charles & Gail Carbajal	03/08/1974
John & Cindi Schroeder	03/08/1980

If you had a birthday or anniversary and are not listed, OR if dates are incorrect or incomplete,



Keep our Servicemen and women in your prayers..

SPC Alec Rohrer, US Army, grandson of Jack & Cindi Graves, serving at Fort Carson, Co.

Johnathan Cook, USAF , grandson of Kay Nock, stationed in Florida

Zackery Scott Noorlun, USAF, TSgt , great-grandson of Clarice Noorlun, serving as an avionics technician at Royal Air Force Lakenheath in the UK.

Ingrid Flores, E-4 US Combat Medic, who returned safely in July 2020 from a year of service in Jordan. Great niece of Craig and Candi Ehrich, who continues to serve with the Army National Guard.

Nick Otos, USAF, nephew of Kari Otos, stationed at Okinawa, Japan

Luke Terry - US Air Force, stationed in Germany.

Lonnie Terry - US Air Force, stationed in New Mexico.

Derrick Wolf, USN, grandson of Dick & Charlene Wolf. Derrick is on recruiting duty in Virginia.

Chandler Heppe, USAF, Capt, nephew of Eric & Lynne Ogren, stationed in Utah.

Regan Heppe, USAF, Lt. niece of Eric and Lynne Ogren, stationed in Mississippi

A soldier said: "When I die do not play taps over my grave. Instead play reveille, the morning call, the summons to arise."

If you have an update for this list, please let the office know.. Thanks!

Bethel Lutheran Church
12919 NE 159th St
PO Box 175
Brush Prairie, WA 98606



Christ Welcomes All

Stay Informed....

There are many ways for you to keep up with what's going on here at Bethel..
You may visit us **on the web** at www.bethelbrushprairie.org

Like us on Facebook! Click the LIKE button to stay on top of all the
current news and photos! www.facebook.com/bethelfamilyministry

You can also follow Bethel on:

Pinterest <https://www.pinterest.com/bethelblessings/> and

Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/blcfamily/>



**If you're unable to join us in-person please
won't you join us virtually??**

Sunday Service Hours

In-person 10:00am

Streaming Service - YouTube

Phone patch - 360-729-0011

**Watch the Bethel Bell and the Mid-Week (on line)
for Coming Events!**