

THE BETHEL VISION

Past, present & future

PASTOR'S LETTER

All Boards Meeting A Success

14 members of committees across the congregation met with Pastor Anne Saturday, July 18 for an "All Boards" celebration of ministries and discernment event. These leaders joined in song and prayers, and studied the ministry focus of Bethel. Using tools such as Asset Mapping and Appreciative Inquiry, we discovered that Bethel is doing many things really well. Then we looked at some of the areas where we felt we needed to put more energy. It was decided that the ministry Bethel will focus on this year is PRAYER. We will gather again in February to assess our progress. Join us as we celebrate PRAYER in all that we do – at the beginning and ending of all meetings, classes, and meals. Model this in your homes, learn about different types of prayer, and practice praying out loud. Nothing is so eloquent to God's ears as the sound of our voices calling out in Prayer. Don't be shy, give prayer a try!

Pastor's Note

Summer is almost gone – so hard to believe! All the plans we had for doing all those things we never do during the school year are now almost checked off the lists. Well, maybe. The past is behind us, and it's already time to look at the future, the new school year! It's been a great summer. Kevin and I (and Wynter) are still getting settled. We want to thank everyone who was a part of the wonderful celebration of installation July 18th. The bishop charged us to DREAM, and to have VISION. It seems appropriate, then, that we talk about the future. What will this next year be like? I pray that it is like a fresh start, a clean page. I pray that we can build for the future from the strength we have in the past, the strength we find in the strong foundation of Jesus, our Rock and our Redeemer.

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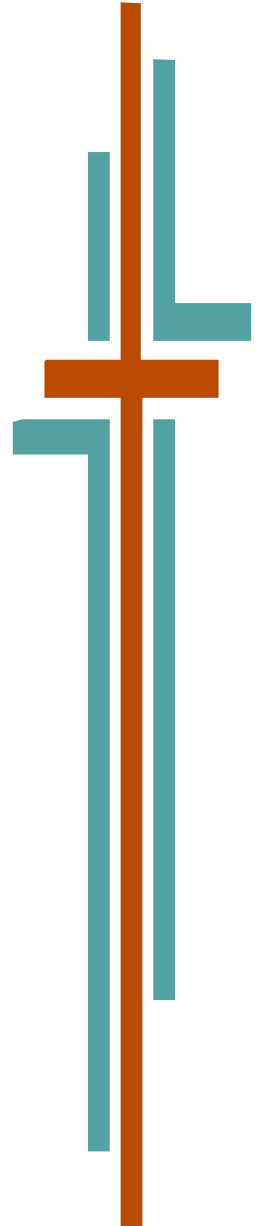
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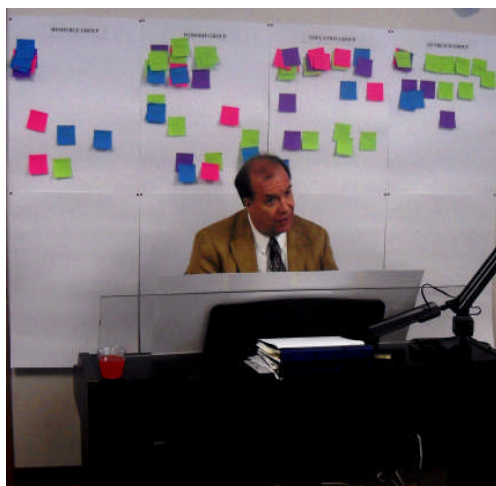
The future is an uncertain place. Leaders and representatives of our church will be gathering in Minnesota at the end of this month to make some pretty important decisions that will determine the future of the ELCA. We will be discussing, and subsequently voting on a full-communion agreement with the United Methodist Church. That would be like the agreements we already share with the Episcopal and Presbyterian Churches, where we share clergy and altar privileges. And of course, the church is voting on a social statement regarding same-gender relationships. These issues are controversial, and many members of ELCA congregations are waiting for the assembly and the results of these votes to see where they stand. I don't know about you, but I stand on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. While I realize that we will all hold our individual opinions about both the issue of joining in communion with the United Methodist Church as well as the issues surrounding same-gender relationships, the fact of the matter is, Jesus never said anything about either! What Jesus DID say was that we are called to love our neighbor. If Jesus is our model, we know from all 4 gospels that Jesus associated with the people whom society did not accept. Jesus was inclusive about with whom he ate, drank, and lived. Jesus offers forgiveness to everyone. So if I have to stand anywhere, I want to stand on that. I want to caution people that these groups – other denominations, other genders, otherly-abled folks – are just a few ways we can segregate. Soon it will be blue-eyed people, left-handed people (and remember, the Latin word for “left” is *sinister*). It was once people of color, and women, and Jews. As humans, we are ALL sinful and fall short of God's desire for us. I urge you, in these times of discernment, to remember that Jesus did not ask you before he died on the cross to save you from sin. He did not decide based on who you are in the world, rather who you are in God's eyes. And I know it's true that we are NOT Jesus. But Jesus is our model. Let us pray for the strength to love our neighbor – even when we disagree with them – and to see one another through the eyes of the one who is the only rock upon which we can stand, Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN!



Pastor Anne's Installation July 18, 2009



Pastor Anne's Installation July 18, 2009



(Mike's Song for Pastor Anne)

**The Process We've Ha Calling Pastor Anne
By Mike Huffman**

(To the tune of "It's Almost Like Being In Love")

**What a year-and-a-half this has been
So you'll pardon the mood we're in
From the process of calling Pastor Anne.**

**Pastor Cheri helped give the charge
The call committee's job was really quite large
In the process we've had calling Pastor Anne.**

**Once the interviews and visits all were done
Then the presentations started, and that was surely some fun!
The call committee and the council agreed
It was Pastor Anne Bethel did need.
What a process we've had calling Pastor Anne.**

**So the congregation's vote was cast
Luckily for us, the whole thing got passed
In the process we've had calling Pastor Anne.**

**Then the real fun truly began
Of moving boxes, I'm not a big fan
In the process we've had calling Pastor Anne.**

**June and July have flown getting settled in
Then we came to today, for this installation to begin
We are blessed with the bishop being here
Anne's friends and family came from far and near
To see the process close from calling Pastor Anne.**

**The Sr. choir sings mightily most of the year,
But it's summer, so except for today, they're not really here
So it was up to me to write this tome
From Muskego we hope that you'll never roam
We're delighted and excited
Back to Bethel everyone is now invited
Yes, welcome to Bethel Kevin and Pastor Anne.....WAIT!**

**This one thing I know for certain:
We can finally stop saying "INTERIM!"
Yes, welcome to Bethel
Wynter the sheltie,
Kevin the husband,
And Pastor Anne!**

(Pastor Anne's Response)

“Together We Will Grow”

By Pastor Anne Strickert

(To the tune of “You'll Never Walk Alone”)

When you take a new call
It's a scary thing-
You don't know what people are like.
But we quickly were shown
All the gifts you bring-
There are pot lucks, and choir, and Mike.

Beth-el, House of God,
You are Christ in Bod-
Dy and Spirit, mind, and soul.
Beth-el, Beth-el
With all of your heart
You will hope, and dream, and grow –
Together we will grow.

Now the boxes are gone (for the most part)
And the work begins
To plan, and to dream, and to soar;
To reach out to each other
And to meet
The world as it comes to our door.

Beth-el, House of God,
We worship with bod-
Dy, and spirit, mind, and soul.
Beth-el, Beth-el
With Prayer at the heart
We will help the world to know
The love of God to show.

Let us go forth in peace
And together pray
For God to be blessed by our work
And that by God's grace
Every single day
The doubt in our faith be removed

Beth-el, House of God
We're tools for the Lord
In our bodies, minds, and souls,
Beth-el, Beth-el
God's mission is hard
But we do not walk alone
Together we will grow!

Heads-Up for August!

- **The ELCA Church-wide Assembly** will be held August 17-23 in Minneapolis. Among the items our churchbody will be deciding are issues regarding same-gender relationships and a full-communion agreement with the United Methodist Church. Bethel Lutheran Church will be live-streaming some of the sessions that week. Tentative times are Tuesday, August 18 – 8am-11am; Wednesday, August 19 – 2pm-5:45pm; and Thursday, August 20 – 2pm-5:45pm. For more information, please contact Pastor Anne, or check out the webpage at WWW.ELCA.ORG
- **A Service for the Blessing of Animals** will be held Thursday, August 13, at 7pm, and Sunday, August 16, at 9:30am. Bring your pet (on a leash or in a “house”) to church and have them blessed!
- **Vacation Bible School** will be August 10-14, 10am – 11:30am. Groups will meet at both Bethel and Atonement. For more information, please contact Marcia Marquardt (262-784-2062).

Heads-Up for September!

- **Rally Sunday** this year will be September 13. There will be ONE SERVICE that morning, at 10:15am, followed by the annual Ministries Fair and Picnic. Sunday school students and teachers, members of committees and groups, and ALL MEMBERS and GUESTS are welcome! Our regular Sunday school programs will begin Sunday, September 20.
- **Adult classes** will be beginning during the Sunday school hour. Throughout the year there will be a number of 3-4 session classes on Church History, Lutheran Confessions, Bible studies, and Current Events. A schedule is forthcoming. For more information, please contact Pastor Anne.
- **First Communion Instruction** for 5th graders will be held Sundays, October 4th, 11th, and 18 in the fellowship hall following the 10:15 service. For more information, please contact Pastor Anne.
- **Confirmation Classes** will kick off Wednesday, September 9th with a meeting of the adults involved in the program, at 7pm in the fellowship hall. Then EVERYONE involved in the confirmation program – students in 7-9th grades, parents, teachers, mentors, etc. – will meet September 16th for classes. For more information, please contact Pastor Anne or Marcia Marquardt.



PARISH HAPPENINGS

PRAYER CONCERNS – Please keep the following people in your prayers:

Reese Rasmussen, Dennis Bissett, Linda Galkowski, Vera Gottfried (back in the hospital), MaryAnn Knippel, Judy Davidsz, Nick Tretow and Bruce Kelly

BAPTISM Casey Lee Frahmman, the son of Mike and Kathleen Frahmman was baptized on July 12. His sponsors are Kelly Frahmman and Debra Alter. Thanks to Ida Frahmman who made the baptism banner.

A BIG THANK YOU TO GEORGIA HAINER for creating and sewing the new banners in the Sanctuary. It took a lot of time and hard work...They are beautiful.



CRAFTY PEOPLE GROUP will meet each Wednesday from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm to prepare for the annual Bethel Christmas Craft and Bake Sale.

A NEW CRAFTY PEOPLE GROUP is meeting on Tuesday evenings from 6:00 – 9:00 pm. Fabric and craft ideas are needed.

Please call Edna Czaplewski at 262-679-0919 if you are interested.

All are welcome to participate.



NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS –

Pastor Anne, Jean Paape, Marcia Marquardt, Julie Frahmman who submitted articles for the newsletter to encourage you and to keep you informed of Bethel happenings. Special thanks to Lori Schwanz, Kathy & Dennis Duran who collated and folded these newsletters for mailing.



Bethel Rummage 09

Errors & Omissions

Due to an “editor’s error”, the following information was omitted from the July newsletter.
My apologies to all affected by this.

Remaining clothes (men’s, women’s, & children’s) were given to the “Clothes for Kids Inc” of Waukesha. They also took stuffed animals. A total of ten bags were donated. The Muskego Food Pantry will receive \$300 from the proceeds, which will be matched by Thrivent for a total of \$600. We can’t forget about the hard work from everyone who helped with donations, set up, marking prices, baggers, cashiers, baking, clean up, driving the leftover rummage and those who helped represent Bethel in a friendly manner. Many, many Thanks! A special “thanks” to Tom Hetrick who manned the grill all three days and set up and ran the food tent out front. He was also there for so many other needs we asked of him. He was very helpful! This “Huge rummage” is a “Huge” amount of work and we are thankful to all involved. We couldn’t do the rummage without you!!!

On behalf of the Outreach committee,
Kathy Duran, Lori Schwanz, Audrey Flamingo, Barb Hilker and Jean Paape

Thank you and God Bless!
Jean Paape

SVDP (St. Vincent de Paul) SOUTHSIDE FOOD KITCHEN NEWS

BETHEL MEMBERS contribute to the ministry of the SVDP South Side Food Kitchen through stewpot donations on the first Sunday of each month.

Because of the annual picnic, the usual volunteers who serve meals as well as those who make the stews, cakes and Jell-o had the month off.

If you have any questions concerning the meal program,
please contact Jean Paape at 262-679-4369 or Barb Hilker at 262-662-2854.



One-time volunteer groups for summer
Hospitality Ministers and Greeters
Prayers for building search
Forks and Spoons
\$650 for Madison meal site rent
Men's underwear



MUSKEGO FOOD PANTRY

Julie Frahmann reported that Bethel Lutheran Church donated 15 bags of groceries and money to the Muskego Food Pantry. The money will be used to purchase meat for the needy families.

Thank you Bethel for your donation of \$600 to the Muskego food pantry. \$300 was donated from the rummage sale and matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. The money goes to purchase meat for our families. If anyone wishes to donate in August the pantry could use...laundry detergent, shampoo, cereal and canned fruit. Your donations are much appreciated.

Bethel's Backpacks

Back to School

1st grade — 3rd grade

1 Backpack	1 Box of
3 Color pocket folders	colored
3-5 8x 10 spiral	pencils
notebooks-wide	Ruler (no
ruled 1 Pair	metal
blunt tip scissors	edges)

4th grade & Up

- 1 Backpack – solid color only
- 3 Color pocket folders
- 3 8x10 spiral notebooks – wide ruled
- 3 Packages of notebook paper – wide ruled
- 1 Package of dividers – clear tabs with inserts
- 6-12 #2 Pencils
- 1 Box of colored pencils
- 1 Ruler
- 1 8oz Bottle of glue/glue sticks
- 1 Protractor
- 1 Compass
- 1-3 Pens

Your Name: _____

Please bring your backpack to church no later than: Sunday, August 16th

Attach this sheet to your backpack when you return it. They will be distributed at the Muskego Food Pantry or Waukesha Head Start program.

Any questions see Jeanne Kolkoski or Julie Frahmman.

Family Life Ministries

HELPING FAMILIES POINT THEIR CHILDREN TO JESUS

"Not by might, nor by power, but by My Spirit," says the LORD Almighty. Zechariah 4:6

DEAR BETHEL FAMILY AND FRIENDS,

Talking to God brings strength, peace, and direction to our lives. **Building prayer into our family life brings us closer to each other and to God.** Have you incorporated prayer into your meal and bed times? It's a great time to pause together as a family and connect with God. Try these ways to pray together:

- **Meal Time**

Zip a dee do dah, zip a dee day

We are thankful for Your blessings today.

We've plenty to eat, to drink, and to share.

We sit at Your table with friends everywhere.

(to the tune of *Zip-a-dee-do-dah*)

- **Meal Time**

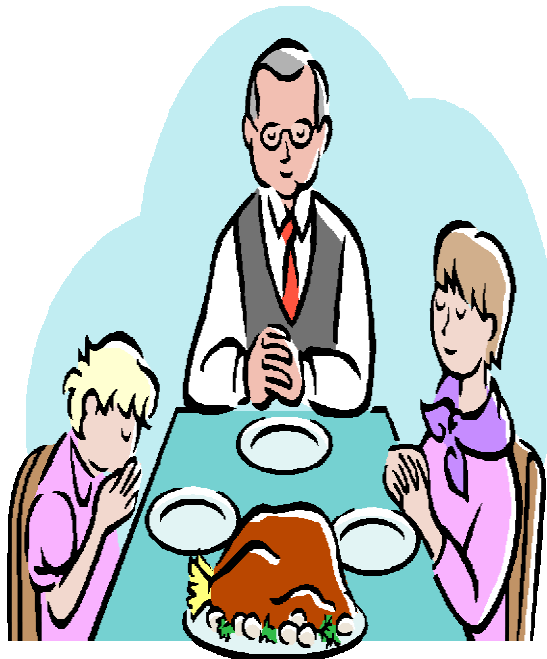
We know, we know

From whom all blessings flow.

We thank Him and we say Amen.

We know, we know, we know.

(to the tune of *Hi-Ho*)



PRAYING FOR OUR KIDS IN AUGUST

Pray that your child would talk to God and listen to Him.

"Call to me and I will answer you and tell you great and unsearchable things you do not know."

Jeremiah 33:3

- **Bed Time**

It's time to go to bed, God.

Please keep me safe at night.

And wake me with a smile

When morning brings its light.



In Christ,
Marcia Marquardt
Family Life Minister

MARCIA'S SCHEDULE

I often work from home and you can reach me there (262-784-2062, marcia1@wi.rr.com). I will be worshipping at Bethel on August 2.



Children & Family Ministry

Mark your calendars for these Children and Family Events:

- Tuesday, August 4 at 10:00-11:45am at Atonement **VBS Adult Bible Studies**—great for parents, grandparents, and volunteers to explore and prepare the stories and themes of Vacation Bible

School

- August 10-14 **Vacation Bible School for Age 4-Grade 5** with Atonement and Bethlehem Lutheran Churches. Return the registration form in this newsletter to the file in the church office.
- August 13 **VBS Family Bonfire after the evening service** Our VBS kids will share their songs at the 7:00pm worship service. Then we'll gather around the campfire to enjoy a S'more and get to know other families from Bethel, Atonement, and our community.
- September 13 **Rally Day**
- September 20 **Sunday School classes resume!**

Summer Bible Study with Marcia at Atonement August 4, 10:00-11:45am

Discover the difference getting to know God through the great stories of the Bible can make in your life. Join Marcia Marquardt for Bible Study on Tuesday, August 4 at Atonement Lutheran Church, 570 W16244 Martin Drive, to explore the power of God in our lives. Invite a friend. **Child care will be provided.** Weekly Tuesday Bible Study begins September 8.



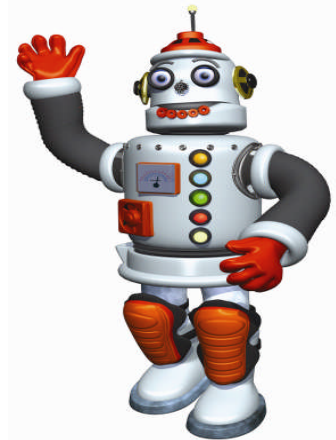


Register for Vacation Bible School

*An Exciting Week of Stories, Songs, Crafts,
Games, and Snacks
to help the children get to know Jesus!*

August 10-14, 2009

Children Age 4 through Grade 5



Preschool- Kindergarten
9:15-11:15 am at Atonement
S70 W16244 Martin Drive
414-422-0400

Completed Grades 1-5
9:00-11:30 am at Bethel
S77 W18426 Janesville Road
262-679-1616

Cost? It's FREE! Invite friends to join the fun!

Questions? Contact Marcia Marquardt (262-784-2062, marcia1@wi.rr.com)

Pleasereturn this form tothe VBS file folder in the church office.

Children's names

Age/ Grade completed

Food allergies

Children's names	Age/ Grade completed	Food allergies

Parent's Name _____

Phone/Cell Number _____

Email Address _____

- _____ I am willing to volunteer to help during VBS.
- _____ I am willing to donate snacks.
- _____ I am willing to donate supplies.
- _____ I require transportation for my child.

