

SCHEDULED TO SERVE IN NOVEMBER

LAY LEADERS

November 5
Norm Brown

November 12
Nick Brown

November 19
Cindy Kreifels

November 26

USHERS

November 5
Katie Chapin, Jane Kriefels
Rick and Deb Shallenberger

November 12
Katie Chapin, Jane Kriefels
Rick and Deb Shallenberger

November 19
Nick Brown
Jason & Kassi Holman

November 26
Spiritual Council

SOUND SYSTEM

November 5
Jason Holman

November 12
Jason Holman

November 19
Norm Brown

November 26
Norm Brown



ACOLYTES

November 5
Lexi Graham & Volunteer

November 12
Morgan & Braellen W

November 19
Bryson & Braxton W

November 26
Makenzie & Addison

COOKIES/COFFEE ~ Rick and Deb Shallenberger

FLOWERS ~ Margaret Brust

Bethel Church of Nebraska City

2400 Central Avenue

Nebraska City, NE 68410

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Our mission is to create more awareness of Jesus Christ for the local communities by sharing positivity and providing outreach to the community with events, studies and services.



****SET WEEKLY DATES****

****AA in Fellowship Hall Wednesdays
7—9pm****

****AA in Fellowship Hall Monday, Tuesday
and Thursday 12pm****

****Choir Practice Thursdays 7pm****

****Sunday School Sundays 9am****

****Confirmation Sundays 9am****

**** Morning Worship, Sundays at 10AM/ Communion last Sunday****

November Calendar

November 5th Food Pantry Sunday

November 6th Church Council Working Meeting 6pm

**November 9th Lincoln Food Pantry 10-11am, Spiritual Council 6pm,
Search Committee 7pm**

November 12th Dedication of Pledges, Gratitude Sunday, Thanksgiving Dinner

November 15th Diaper Drive 3:30-4:00

November 16th Home Made Blessings 4pm

November 18th Turkey Trot 9am, Fellowship Hall reserved 12-4pm by Dennis Marshall

November 19th Congregational Meeting after Service, Fellowship Hall reserved 1-5pm by Nancy Brown

November 20th Board of Christian Education 6pm, Church Council 7pm

November 23rd Thanksgiving Office Closed

November 26th Communion Sunday, Christmas Decorating after Church

Bethel Church Council Minutes

October 16, 2023



Call to Order 7:00 pm by President Norman Brown.

Members Present: President Norman Brown, Vice President Larry Wieckhorst, Building and Grounds Representative Josh Epp, Member-at-Large Brian Ried, Financial Representative Jason Holman, Rick Shallenberger and Board Secretary Nancy Brown. Also present were Pastor Jacob Colligan, Memorial Officer Margaret Brust and Financial Officer Sandy Ried. Also, present Micheal Wieckhorst President of Spiritual Council and Building and Grounds and Michelle Francis, Board of Christian Education President.

Motion made by Jason and seconded by Larry to go into Executive Session. Passed.

After Executive Session, Pastor Jacob Colligan opened with prayer.

Jason moved and Rick seconded to accept agenda, passed.

No Members Comments at this time.

Nancy presented last months meeting minutes, Larry moved and Rick seconded to approve without changes, passed.

Financial Report was made available for review by members. Sandy presented members with the current liability insurance policy. The premium will cost an additional \$3,100 starting January, for a total of \$16,000 a year. Brian volunteered to look into another company. September showed a deficient of \$5,470. Josh moved with Jason seconding to pay the bills, passed.

Norm reported that Mary Thiesfeld-Hickey resigned last week as Church Secretary. Nancy has requested we increase our efforts to find a replacement.

Nancy, serving as Church Secretary, brought to the Boards attention that the list of persons that have metal keys is not complete. Requests for information to update the list has not been effective. The keys are a master key. Nancy expressed her concern about the number of people that have access to the Church office. It was decided to rekey the Church and mark them for accountability. Sandy presented the 2023 Liability Policy to be kept in the Church office.

Margaret, Memorial Officer reported the account balance is \$89,467.12. No changes in the CDs since annual report. Website donation is yet to paid. The microphone has been purchased as an honorarium for Pastor Keith.

Mike reported that Spiritual Council will meet tomorrow night. The Board is asking if the Council has considered Rev Jacob Colligan to serve as our Interim. That question will be addressed under New Business. The Board will be calling inactive members to evaluate their status.

Michelle reported that the new Sunday School format seems to be working well. They had 13 kids the first week and 5 last week. Carrie Ferguson, Erin Johnson and Danielle Barrett are working with the Confirmation class. Mentors will be leading the classes; sermon reports will be due twice a month. The Christmas Program is planned for December 17th as a musical. They will be asking the Choir Director for assistance. December 3rd is Hanging of the Greens. Trunk or Treat plans are going well. The confirmands are running the games and the Women's Fellowship will be serving the Hot Dogs. The Thanksgiving Dinner is scheduled for November 12th and their next meeting will be November 20th.

Buildings and Grounds Chairmen Michael Wieckhorst. The Roof repair is awaiting insurance approval.

Church Council Meeting, October 16th cont.

The crack in the wall will be complete by the committee after harvest. He has contacted two companies for estimates on replacement of current nonfunctioning locking system. Its looking like the cost will be \$8,000 for 2 locking doors (the North Door and the basement door), key fob system, cameras at the doors and hall with recording capacities. It is recommended to replace the North Door at this time. The cost will raise 7% after January. He visited with Eric Madson regarding the replacement of the lighting in the Basement. The LED lights cost \$40-\$75, for a total of \$2,940. Larry motioned to present to the Congregation a request to update the Basement Lights with Memorial money. Josh seconded and passed.

Michelle reported for the Bethel Team. The Turkey Trot event is scheduled for November 18th with registration at 8:15 and the race starting at 9:00. The Living Nativity is planned for Saturday, December 16th and 23rd. We will be working with the Creative District in Nebraska City to present it on the 22nd.

Search Committee – David Carpenter has stepped away for the committee, Brian Ried has agreed to replace him on the committee. Motion was made by Larry and seconded by Jason to accept Brian on the committee. Stephen Luther has accepted the role of Chairman and Brenda Wieckhorst will serve as Secretary. They will meet every two weeks.

Old Business

Church Security - Note Building and Grounds report.

Social Media – Brian reported that the Website and Email are both working, currently working on fixing Facebook account. Our old website needs to be removed as its blocking the access to the new one. Brian can remove with the authorization from the Board. Rick moved with Larry's second to remove the old website from the web, motion passed. The g-mail mail system will be set to redirect the mail to our new account and a signature line be added. To live stream the Sunday Service and Weekly message and on-line giving capability will cost \$999 per year to set up and an additional \$222 - \$277.99 a month to run. Will put this project on hold at this time.

Sound System – The new mike has been ordered. Still waiting on the monitor for the Choir.

Non-Wedding Church Usage Agreement- Rick moved and Nancy seconded that this should be moved to the next Working Council Meeting, passed.

North Door proposal- Jason moved and Rick seconded to move forward with the replacement of the North Doors with possible Memorial money. Passed. This will be brought to the congregation for approval.

2024 Budget Approval Meeting is planned for October 22.

New Business

Norm reported that this Board held an interview with Pastor Jacob Colligan for the position of Interim Pastor. Jason moved to offer Pastor Jacob a 6-month contract to serve as our Interim Pastor starting November 1st. Larry seconded and the motion passed. Pastor Jacob accepted.

Church Council Meeting, October 16th cont.

After no new business, Larry and Jason moved the meeting be closed, passed.

The Lord's Prayer was recited.

Next Council Meeting November 20, 2023 at 7pm.

Submitted by,

Nancy Brown

Council Board Secretary

Spiritual Council Minutes-October 17, 2023

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Wieckhorst at 6:00 pm in the Duensing Chapel. Cindy Kreifels opened with a prayer. Members present were: Cindy Kreifels, Kassi Holman, and Mike Wieckhorst. President Mike asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Kassi made a motion with a second by Cindy.

Motion passed. The minutes from the September meeting were read and approved.

There was no pastoral report, however, Mike reported that the Church Council has offered Jacob Colligan a six- month interim position starting November 1, 2023 and he has accepted.

Old Business:

Mike reported that Jacob will continue to fill the pulpit through the month of October until his interim position begins. There are four other resources that can be contacted if necessary. Next the Council worked on revising the "Procedure and Policy" section of the Spiritual Council binders. Cindy will type the updates that were made and bring copies for the members to the next meeting.

New Business:

Discussion was held concerning hymnal selection and the number of hymns that we sing during Sunday services. Next, the Council brainstormed ideas about how to make some future changes in the Sunday services which might bring new members to the Church. The Thanksgiving dinner to be held on November 12 th was next on the agenda. Spiritual Council members are to bring three crockpots of dressing. Mike (oyster), Kassi (gluten free), and Cindy (traditional) volunteered to take care of this. We decided that it would be appropriate to read the notes from the "Gratitude Wall" during the same service. The Council discussed decorating the church for Christmas after the November 26 th service and the Hanging of the Greens on Sunday December 3 rd . Finally, Mike wants Council to work on a plan to encourage members to attend services. More discussion will take place at the November meeting.

Announcements: Mike shared updates pertaining to the new website. The next meeting will be held on November 7, 2023, Election Day. Kassi made a motion to adjourn with a second by Cindy. Motion passed. The meeting closed with the reciting of the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by Secretary Cindy Kreifels

Board of Christian Education Minutes

Meeting October 16 at 6:00 pm

Members present were Michelle Francis, Erin Johnson, Danielle Barrett, and Brianna Johnson

Michelle opened the meeting with a prayer. We discussed how well the new style of Sunday School was going but would still like to see more participation with the youth in the church.

Trunk or Treat on Sunday October 29th was discussed. BOCE will provide hot dogs for Women's Fellowship to help serve during the event. Other games and bounce house will be done as well, and we will need all youth (high school thru elementary ages) to help with those games. It runs from 3 pm to 5 pm on Sunday.

For confirmation, Erin will be making the sheets for each confirmand to memorize before confirmation Sunday. Brianna has made sermon note sheets which will be left at the church for copies to be made for each Sunday.

We quickly discussed some upcoming events such as Hanging of the Greens and Christmas Program. Michelle will ask Kassi Holman to help with the Hanging of the Greens, while Brianna and Erin will find a Christmas Program (date to be determined).

Meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 20th at 6 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin Johnson, Secretary



Growing Great Kids will be setting up their Christmas Tree again this year. Please help a Child have a special Christmas. Take a tag off the tree and fill that kids wish.



The Annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be November 12th. The Boards will be providing Turkey and Ham, Potatoes and Gravy, Stuffing and Rolls. They ask you to bring a covered dish to share.

Editors note: I love pie!



—Change to the Service—

With the upcoming Cold and Flu Season, The Spiritual Council is suggesting we wave at our Fellow Members instead of handshaking. We encourage you to join us in welcoming each other during Coffee Fellowship after service.



CHECK IT OUT!

Choir Practice nights have been moved to Thursday nights for November. Come and meet our Senior Choir Director Anthony Priester. He has wonderful plans for the Choir. Everyone, including non members, are welcome.

2024 Pledge/Donation Sheets are available at the Church or contact Sandy Ried. We will dedicate them during the November 12th service.

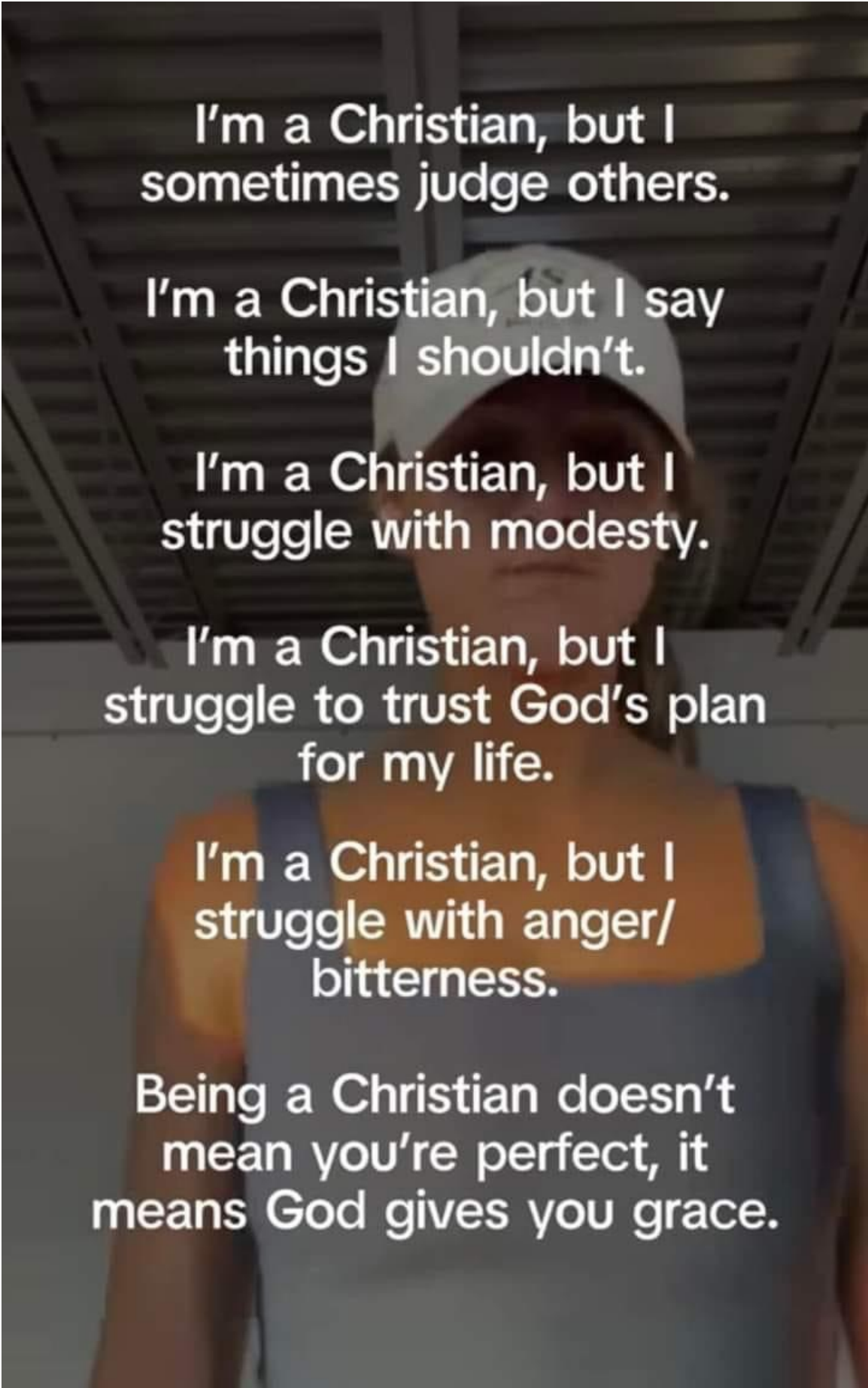
Monthly expenses are \$11,500.00 on average that comes from the General Fund.

September giving was \$3,457.45.

Please keep this in mind when pledging.

Homemade Blessings

Homemade Blessings served 25 meals in October. Kitchen workers were Michelle Francis, Julia Francis and Bonnie Wurtele. Delivery drivers included by David Carpenter, Katie Chapin, Sandy Ried and Bonnie Wurtele. The next Homemade Blessings will be on Thursday, November 16th from 4-6pm. Please contact Michelle Francis if you would like to receive a meal in November. A special thank you to everyone who volunteers their time and talents. Volunteers are always welcome.



I'm a Christian, but I
sometimes judge others.

I'm a Christian, but I say
things I shouldn't.

I'm a Christian, but I
struggle with modesty.

I'm a Christian, but I
struggle to trust God's plan
for my life.

I'm a Christian, but I
struggle with anger/
bitterness.

Being a Christian doesn't
mean you're perfect, it
means God gives you grace.



Trunk or Treat was an success!

We had 7 "Trunks" and over 70 visitors.

Fun, and Candy, was had by all!



Thanks to Michelle for her organizational skills, the "trunk" owners (The Jobs Daughters, The Mike Wieckhorst family, Tracy Wieckhorst and her family, Dean and Sue Griepenstroh, Jason and Kassi Holman, Nancy Brown and Fabio, and Michelle Francis) and the Hot Dog servers (Peg Johnson and Jane Kreifels).



Congregational Meeting

is planned for November 19th.
We will be discussing the North
Door Project with inclusion of
Security Locking System

And

Proposal for replacement of
Overhead Lights in the
Basement.

2024 Pledge/Donation Sheets are
available in the back of the Sanctuary.
We will dedicate them during the



November
12th
service.

The 3rd Annual Turkey Trot

November 18, 2023

Registration starts at 8:15

Trot at 9:00

5K Run

Preregister Adults \$30
before October 16th,
kids \$25

\$40 after October 16th,
Kids \$30

Preregister for T-shirt

Preregister on runsignup.com under
Nebraska City Turkey Trot



Extra Prayers Needed

Braxtyn Epp was involved in a vehicle accident. He will require multiple surgeries and an extensive rehabilitation period.

Please Lord, lay your healing hands on him and give him and his family your love and strength

They are requesting privacy during this time.



**Seeking Members to serve the Church starting
January 2024**

**Look deep into your heart and consider serving
on the following boards:**

Church Council

Spiritual Council

Board of Christian Education

**Contact the Chairman of the Board if interested
in serving.**

The 5-Finger Prayer



Thumb: Pray for those closest to you: your family and friends.

Pointer finger: Pray for those who point you in the right direction: your teachers, and other leaders in your life. Pray for wisdom and support.

Middle finger (tallest): Pray for those that lead us: those in government, in business, in church leadership. Pray for guidance and wisdom.

Ring finger (weakest): Pray for those who are poor, sick, in pain, in trouble: those most in need.

Pinkie finger (smallest): Pray for yourself and your own needs.

HELP SPREAD THE WORD!

Church Staff OPENINGS

Part time Secretary

For details, visit with a Council Board
Member

Norm Brown, Larry Wieckhorst, Josh
Epp, Brian Ried, Jason Holman, Rick
Shallenberger or Nancy Brown.

Thank you!

We would like to thank Diane Adkins for the beautiful harvest scene in the Sanctuary, all those who manicured our grounds, cared for the building, gave of your time and talents to the church... we love you and want you to know that we appreciate all you do for Bethel Church.

"As each one has received a special gift, employ it in serving one another as good stewards of the manifold grace of God." 1 Peter 4:10

Happy Anniversary!

November

Bill and Katheryn Walters

November 9, 1963

Brent and Sandy Livingston

November 26, 1988



*November
birthday wishes go to*

Carol Beccard 1st, Jamie Horstman 1st, Brenda Wieckhorst 1st, Milton Kreifels 4th, Molly Hermann 10th, Kassi Holman 10th, Zoie Mills 12th, Case Borgen 12th, Betty Joe Adkins 14th, Braiden Moyer 16th, Maddison Ried 16th, Keston Holman 20th, Kara Funk 24th, Stephen Luther 25th, Scott Sawyer 25th, Benjamin DeVorss, 26th, Dylan Holman 27th, Connie Jensen 29th, Bonnie Wurtele 29th, Matthew Ramold 30th

If I have accidentally omitted anyone, please let the office know so we can make that correction.



November

Terry Mathisen (Jen Tietz's father), Carol Biere, Cindy Roemer, Sarah Hotsenpillar, Louella Hauptman, Gail Lewis (Bonnie Wurtele and Connie Jensen's niece), Logan Drabek (cousin of Jen Tietz), The Bassinger Family -Terry, Allie and Zoey (the Community), Dave Hoyle (cousin to Michelle Francis and Michael Wieckhorst), Jack Haupt (friend of Michelle Francis and Michael Wieckhorst), The Family and Friends of Karen Driever, The Family and Friends of Jeff Carlson, The Family (the Brown's) and Friends of Rosemary Liesemeyer, The Family and Friends of Dale Orton, Maeleigh McConnell (student of Kassi Holman), Braxton Epp and the Epp Family

We are blessed to have begun the phone prayer chain again here at Bethel Church. Bonnie Wurtele has graciously agreed to begin the chain for us and we encourage you to contact Bonnie Wurtele or the Church office with your prayer requests. You can also enter your request on our website at

info@bethelchurchnbcity.com

**NEBRASKA CITY FOOD
PANTRY HOLIDAY
SHOPPING LIST**

Holiday Gift Boxes will be available as either a Thanksgiving Meal (November 20) or a Christmas Meal (December 18) to Food Pantry patrons.

Please provide the following to be included:

- 2 cans of corn
- 2 cans of green beans
- 1 can of sweet potatoes
- 1 can of cranberry sauce
- 1 box/package of cornbread mix
- 1 box of stuffing
- 1 envelope of gravy mix
- 1-2 envelopes of mashed potatoes

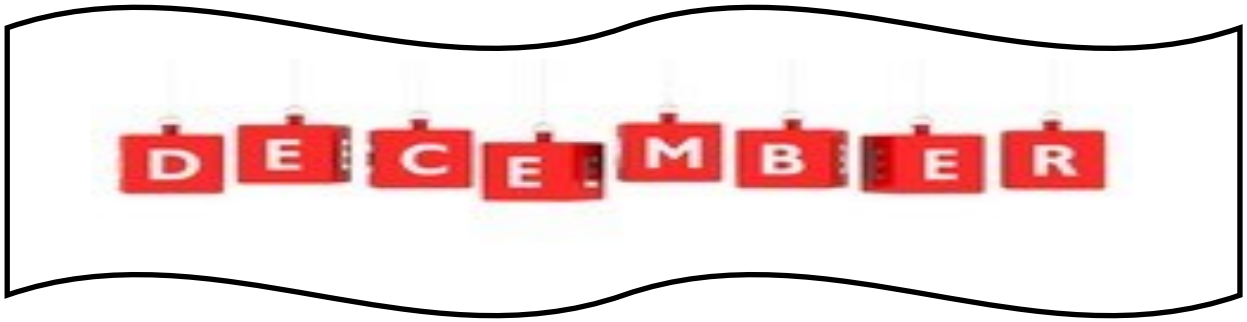
Meat, pie, whipped topping, rolls, butter, and eggs will be added by the Food Pantry.

**PLEASE BRING YOUR FOOD DONATIONS
TO THE GAGE HALL STAGE AT THE FIRST
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH. ANY
DONATIONS WOULD BE HELPFUL!**

**CALL 402-873-3821 TO DROP OFF
YOUR DONATION**



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December 1st MODD Squad Flower Decorating Adventure

December 3rd Hanging of the Greens

Food Pantry Sunday

Advent Recital

December 9th Bell Ringing at Fareway 12-2

December 12th Woman's Fellowship Luncheon at Valentino's

December 14th Lincoln Food Pantry

December 16th Living Nativity

December 17th Sunday School Program

December 22nd Living Nativity with the Chamber Tour of Lights

December 23rd Living Nativity

December 24th NO 10AM service

7 PM Christmas Eve Service with Alter Communion

10PM Christmas Ever Service Candlelight NO Communion

December 25th NO Service

Ever wanted to be a Bell Ringer for the Salvation Army?



All the funds collected will benefit our community.

Bethel Church is looking for Bell Ringers to support this cause.

We will be Ringing Bells at Fareway on Saturday, December 9th from 12-2PM.

Sign up in the back of the Sanctuary

THE BETHEL BEACON ~ November, 2023

Sunday School @ 9:00 am
Confirmation @ 9:00 am
Worship time @ 10:00 am

BETHEL CHURCH OF
NEBRASKA CITY
2400 CENTRAL AVE.
NEBRASKA CITY, NE 68410
Church Phone #: (402) 873-6813

Email: info@bethelchurchnebcity.com
Website: www.bethelchurchnebcity.com

Find us on



We come together and grow closer by learning and applying the word of Jesus Christ.

The Board Members working for the Church

Church Council Members - Norman Brown President, Larry Wieckhorst Vice President, Nancy Brown Council Secretary, Brian Ried, Josh Epp, Jason Holman and Rick Shallenberger

Spiritual Council – Michael Wieckhorst President, Nick Brown Vice President, Cindy Kreifels Secretary, Sherry Smith and Kassi Holman

Board of Christian Education - Michelle Francis President, Erin Johnson Secretary, Danielle Barrett, Carrie Ferguson and Brianna Johnson

Search Committee - Stephen Luther Chairman, Jane Kreifels, Brenda Wieckhorst, Brian Ried and Debbie Shallenberger.

Women's Fellowship - Peggy Johnson President, Michelle Francis Secretary and Jane Kriefels Treasurer. All Women of the Church are members.

They are open to suggestions, concerns, ideas and comments.

