

SCHEDULED TO SERVE IN AUGUST

LAY LEADERS

August 6

Nick Brown

August 13

Richard Bristol

August 20

Sandy Ried

August 27

Jason Holman

USHERS

August 6 & 13

Jane Kreifels & Cindy Kreifels
BJ & Sandy Ried

August 20 & 27

Spiritual Council



SOUND SYSTEM

August 6

Jason Holman

August 13 & 20

Norm Brown

August 27 & Sept. 3 (Labor Day)

Nick Brown

ACOLYTES

August 6

Byrson & Braxton W.

August 13

Makenzie J. & Addison F.

August 20

Kizen A. & volunteer

August 27

Brooke B. & Lexi G.

COOKIES/COFFEE ~ Sandy Ried/ & Lynn Wurtele

FLOWERS ~ Margaret Brust

MOWING -

August 6

Richard Bristol

August 13

Michael & Brenda W.

August 20

Epp Family

August 27

Dennis & Carol M.

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****

****Bethel Contemporary Praise & Worship, Saturdays at 6pm****

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

August

Thursday, August 10th: Lincoln Food Pantry.....10-11AM (line up early)

Spiritual Council meeting, 6PM

Friday, August 11th: Fellowship Hall reserved, 2PM

Thursday, August 17th: Homemade Blessings, 4-6PM

Sunday, August 20th: 4-H meeting, 2-5:30PM Fellowship Hall

Monday, August 21st: Board of Christian Education meeting, 6PM

Church Council meeting, 7PM

Sunday, August 27th: Fellowship Hall Reserved (Baby Shower) Noon-5:00PM

Looking Ahead...

A decorative banner with the text "Looking Ahead..." in a cursive font. The banner is made of colorful triangles (red, green, blue) and has small decorative flourishes at the ends.

Applejack weekend is fast approaching. The dates are September 16th and 17th. Please consider helping out with our Bethel Women's Fellowship concession stand in front of Easter and Associates on Saturday the 16th. Watch for a sign up sheet for volunteers and donations in the back of the church and on our website.



Bethel Church Council Minutes

June 17, 2023



Meeting called to order at 7:00 by President Norman Brown. Led in prayer by Pastor Keith.

Members Present: President Norman Brown, Vice President Richard Bristol, Treasurer Representative Jason Holman, Building and Grounds Representative Josh Epp, Memorial Treasurer Representative Larry Wieckhorst, Member-at-Large Brian Ried, Board Secretary Nancy Brown and Pastor Keith Valenzuela. Also present were Memorial Officer Margaret Brust, Financial Secretary Sandy Ried, Board of Christian Education President Denise Valenzuela, Spiritual Council President and Buildings and Grounds Leader Michael Wieckhorst, Spiritual Council Members Cindy Kriefels, Nick Brown and Sherry Smith. Church member Nancy Hunt also attended.

Motion to approve agenda was made by Richard and seconded by Larry, passed.

Member comment time. Michael expressed concern over the recent Congregational Meeting and lack of organization. The volunteer's fulfilling the Custodial role are dwelling in members and wishes the Council consider filling that role with a paid person.

Nancy presented the June minutes, motion to accept minutes made by Jason, seconded by Josh, passed.

Financial Report presented by Sandy. We are in the Green for the month of June but not for the year. See attached report. The deductible for the roof damage is \$2500 and we have Memorials and money in a CD that can help cover that if needed. Sandy will be missing several Sundays in August and will need assistance to cover her duties.

Pastors Report given by Pastor Keith.

Jen gave Secretary Report. See attached. Norm thanked her for all the work she has done on our Facebook account and with the Website proposal.

Margaret reported that \$200 was received this month. Total in account is \$89,363.36. CDs amounts are unchanged and can be found in the Annual Report.

The Spiritual Council report given by Michael Wieckhorst. They have spent many hours working to resolve conflicts in the Church. Not many have been attending the Saturday evening service. We as Church members need to attend/promote it more and feel it should continue into the fall to see if the attendance improves. Pastor Curtis will be pulpit supply in Sunday July 23. The options for pulpit supply and organist are critically low. If there are any ideas on people that can be contacted on an "as needed basis", contact Mike.

Denise gave a Board of Christian Education report. Lily Graham has accepted to complete the empty seat on the board. They are planning having a "5th Quarter" get together after home football games, including food and activities. First game is September 1. Will be contacting the school to assist in the promotion. If well attended, will consider having after other events also. Richard has planned an Adult Sunday School Class. Nick will be working with the board in development of the music program for next year.

Building and Grounds Report from Michael reported that the tree on the east side of the church has been removed. Cost \$3,000. By counting the rings, it was about 95 years old. Will be looking into stump removal. Can do it ourselves, it will take years to complete. The insurance summery on the hail damage was presented and discussed. Mike has some questions and has been working to clarify a few items. The steeple was also damaged and investigating options on repair for the insurance company to review. The North Sunday School room sustained water damage after the storm. Mike and Dale cleaned it up and found is a crack in the concrete wall that will need repaired and many Sunday School supplies will need to be replaced. Denise will try to get a list of supplies needed so we can get replacements before September. A proposal for replacing the North door was presented from AA windows. They did the South doors and will be able to match the North doors. The total estimate cost is \$8872.46. This bid is good until January.

F team report from Mike included July event. It was well attended, especially considering the rain delay. Pam Epp will be taking the lead on the Turkey Trot planned for the fall.

Old Business

Church Security - Jason reported he is continuing to investigate options for recording cameras. He's working with members to develop a security team.

Job Descriptions – The Job Descriptions for Financial Secretary and Choir Director were tabled by motion of Brian and a second by Larry.

Social Media Update – With the updated Web Site proposal being increased to \$4,460, it was felt we should approve the additional amount. Larry moved and Richard seconded to approve the current bid. Passed. Proposal will be voted on next

Council minutes continued.....

Sunday, since there was a lack of a quorum last Sunday. If not approved, we will still need to have Rob Huff clean up our Facebook accounts.

Sound System – nothing new

New Business

Larry would like to have a place on the agenda for Stewardship discussion starting next month. The growth of the Church would be the center focus.

Motion to close the meeting given by Jason and seconded by Larry. Passed. Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Next Council Meeting August 21, 2023 at 7pm.

Submitted by,

Nancy Brown, Secretary, Bethel Church Council

Secretary Report for Church

Council July 23, 2023

I have been working to get church and shed key fobs and cards back from those people who no longer need them. If you have one you no longer need, please return it to the church office.

Building and grounds is still searching for a solution to the dead bolt problem with both doors.

The next scheduled church use contract is for a member baby shower on Sunday, August 27th from noon- 5pm. Following that, the Heritage Needlework Guild will be using fellowship hall from September 13-17 for Applejack as they have for several years now. We also have a Sunday, October 15th early afternoon wedding scheduled and Life Line Screening will be utilizing fellowship hall again on Friday, October 27th. Informational flyers can be found on the ushers table and on our website.

Our upcoming calendar includes the annual Labor Day Brunch on Sunday, September 3rd and the Stangl Family gospel singers on Saturday, September 9th at 6:00PM in place of our regular praise and worship service.

The Council is aware that the current By-Law 111 Membership C #6 “no charge to members” must be reviewed and changed if in fact there is to be no charge to members for weddings as it does not reflect the contract. Our non-wedding use agreement also needs to be reviewed.

Reminder that the Lincoln Food Pantry delivery day of the week has changed. It is now at Bethel on the second Thursday of each month at the same time, which is 10-11AM. Please keep in mind that the entire parking lot is used for this event and it is difficult to find a parking spot from at least 8AM, if not earlier, to approximately noon. The parking lot fills up very early. Doors will not be unlocked until I arrive at 9AM.

Purchases in July include reimbursement for baptism certificates from Mardel for \$28.94, and a \$50 diagnostic fee on the CC from S-Systems for the old Dell All – in – One.

Reminder, if you have meeting minutes, announcements or any other information to submit for the monthly Beacon, please do so no later than the Wednesday prior to the last Sunday of each month.

If you ever have any questions, ideas, comments or concerns for Bethel Church, I am always happy to help. Just give the office a call between 9am and 1pm weekdays or leave a voicemail and I will get back to you the next weekday morning. You are also welcome to contact me via Facebook messenger or email us at bethelucchurch1887@gmail.com. Be sure to check our website at bethelucchurch.com to stay up to date on calendar events.

Respectfully submitted,

Jen Hamilton, Bethel Church Secretary

E-TEAM Meeting

July 2, 2023 Present: Pastor Keith & Denise, Jen and Dan H., Lori and Tim Crom

Old Business

Living Nativity 2022

Very poorly attended. Need ideas to increase traffic. Two nights was sufficient. Do we continue Christmas Eve?

Gospel Concert (Grateful Heart)

Comments/Suggestion included: Great attendance. Amazing free will offering from those attending. Over \$700!! Lets try having 2 or 3 concerts per year. One in the Spring and one in the fall perhaps.

Nancy has the access and knowledge of the different groups and will continue to arrange groups. Lori and Tim Crom's family (Crom Nation) may be willing to provide a concert next spring. They will check into it.

E-Team minutes continued.....

New Business:

Upcoming fall concert

The Stangl Family will be our next E-Team concert here on September 9th. The E-Team will need to be available to help with publicity, sound, live stream, greet and seat, serve cookies and drinks. Lori had the idea to go to every church personally during worship and invite their assemblies. Posters are available now and ready to be distributed. Please get them from the church office to begin sharing them around town. The office will post on fb, website, swap pages, newspaper, etc. The family is willing to accept a free will donation.

Community Prayer Box

Discussion was held to provide a community prayer box for Nebraska City. This could be installed south of the drive opposite the mailbox with a lockable container if so decided. We could also consider more than one location eventually. Pastor suggested possibly the Mission Field area as well. A prayer box could provide a very positive response from the community. There are so many who do not have a church family or may feel like they themselves really need prayer and do not have the support or relationships with people to ask for it. A prayer box could provide a very necessary option for them. I (Jen) would gather the prayers when checking the mail each day and share them with our team to provide individual prayer, we can pray together as a team following worship once per month, or even put them on our bulletin prayer list for the entire congregation to pray over each week. The church office has been receiving numerous calls lately from individuals who are just asking for prayer and this would be a way to give that same comfort to Nebraska City from Bethel Church. The group present liked the idea and would like to proceed. If you were unable to attend, please provide your thoughts on the subject.

Living Nativity 2023

We are needing new ideas. Pastor dressed up one year and stood outside of Wal Mart to advertise our drive thru nativity. This year we would really like to have a donkey we could lead around town with Mary and Joseph traveling. Lori Crom knows of a donkey rescue in Malvern. She will check into possibly getting a donkey from them and whether we could use one if we provide a donation to the rescue. Our dates for the Living Nativity this year are Saturdays, December 9th and 16th and possibly again on Christmas Eve if that is what the team chooses to do.

The Chosen Season 4

Please consider how you would like to present The Chosen Season 4 once it becomes available, which will hopefully be this year. The writers strike has slowed down production for them even though they are not produced by "Hollywood." See Dallas Jenkins explanation online. Would we like to see this brought back to Bethel the way we had done or do you have thoughts on a new direction we could take?

The Sound of Freedom (Operation Underground Railroad)

Let's consider mission work as a team. Yes, our main mission is to evangelize, especially to our community, as a beacon of Bethel Church, but what else could we be doing on an even larger scale? I encourage each of you to take the opportunity to go see The Sound of Freedom. "The Sound of Freedom, starring Jim Caviezel, is based on the true story of a former US Government agent, who quits his job to devote his life to rescuing children. After rescuing a young boy from ruthless child traffickers, he learns the boy's sister is still captive and decides to embark on a dangerous mission to save her. Please take a moment to watch the trailer for this movie. It's about the trafficking of children around the world which quite frankly may be the worst scourge this world has ever seen. Current estimates are that over 2 million children are trafficked each year. We need to come together to help save these children. Tickets are on sale now." (The Sound of Freedom Facebook page)

Please support the movie and as an E-Team, let's consider supporting the cause. Research Operation Underground Railroad / Tim Ballard. We live right in the center of what is quite possibly one of the most heavily traveled parts of our country by child traffickers.....I-80 and I-29 being two interstates that provide extensive routes for this evil and those criminals who take part in it.

Respectfully submitted

Jen Hamilton, Bethel E-Team

PLEASE SHARE THIS AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE....

FAITH MOVES MOUNTAINS

Matthew 17:20

Weekly Contemporary Worship

Saturdays | 6PM | Bethel Church of Nebraska City
2400 Central Ave. | Nebraska City, NE

www.bethelucchurch.com

WOMENS FELLOWSHIP

JUNE 2023

Bethel Women's Fellowship met at 6 pm on Tuesday, June 13, 2023 in Fellowship Hall. There were 9 members present and Pastor Keith. Pastor Keith opened our meeting with prayer of Laughter and Fellowship. Peggy read the minutes of the last meeting. We bought a new ice machine costing \$2960.50 with \$1000 from Memorial funds, to offset the cost of machine. This leaves \$1527.50 in the checking account. Jane brought up a CD that needs attention. We decided to cash in the CD, put \$1000 into checking and reinvest the remaining amount. Funeral thank you's were received. Jane can supply ice cream buckets of ice for the 4th of July celebration. Applejack is the weekend of September 16th . We will be having our concessions in front of Easter and Associates on Saturday the 16th . We will be serving Walking Taco's – the Big (Good) Hotdogs – Apple Cookies – bags of Gorp – Pop – Water. Michelle will contact Mark Easter about placement and Sandy Murry about Dorito's Bags for Walking Taco's. Peggy, Jane, and Michelle will meet to make final arrangements and will place sign up sheets for donations and volunteers. Offering was taken up and we closed the meeting with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be September 12, 2023 at noon, 12pm. Blessings,

Michelle Francis, Secretary

Board of Christian Education Minutes

President Denise called the **July 17th** meeting of the Board of Christian Education to order at 6:03 pm. Members present were Denise, Pastor Keith, Pam, and Matthew. Absent were Sarah and Lilly. Lenny Tietz and Richard Bristol were also present at the meeting. Pastor Keith opened the meeting with prayer. Matthew read the minutes from the June 1st meeting. Pam motioned to approve the minutes as read. Matthew second. Motion carried.

Old Business

High School Sunday School – Lenny was present at the meeting to discuss his concerns about canceling High School Sunday School and how to get those members involved in the church after confirmation if they don't have the class to be a part of.

Summer Impromptu scheduled for June 9th was canceled due to a lack of interest in saying they were going to be there. Due to summer almost over, we will not try to do another one this summer.

Adult Bible Study – Richard gave an update on his plans for Adult Bible Study. He reported that the curriculum he is going to use for the class will be at no cost to the church or BOCE. Pam addresses concerns about attendance/those that would be interested in the class will be the same people that participate in other church-related activities.

New Business

The 23-24 Sunday School Calendar was set for the upcoming school year. BOCE is looking for volunteers to help lead and participate in the Xmas program this year. Another parent meeting for Confirmation was discussed with a possible date of September 10th for the meeting. The final decision on High School Sunday School has been postponed for the next meeting when everybody can hopefully be present for the meeting.

BOCE Continued.....

Pastor Keith is close to the Lord’s Prayer. Matthew motioned to adjourn the meeting. Pam second. The meeting was adjourned at 6:57 pm

Respectively submitted.
Matthew Ramold

BETHEL SUNDAY SCHOOL ROSTER

Kindergarten

Ella Delunger

1st Grade

Kaia Ried

2nd Grade

Eli Delunger

3rd Grade

Berklee Ried

4th & 5th Grade

6th Grade Continued..

Morgan Barrett
Braellen Wieckhorst
Braxton Wieckhorst
Bryson Wieckhorst

7th/8th Grade (Confirmation)

Brooke Bando
Lexi Graham
Kizen Adams
Addison Ferguson
Makenzie Johnson

High School Class (Confirmed)

9th Grade
Blake Bando
Chloe Barrett
Easton Epp

10th Grade

Landon Ferguson
Lillian Graham

11th Grade

Culter Adams
Braxton Epp

12th Grade (Graduation Seniors)

Keston Holman
Brianna Johnson
Elizabeth Poggemeyer
Madisen Tietz
Mason Wieckhorst

Bethel Church Sunday School 2023-2024 Calendar

Sept 2023

24th: First Day of Sunday School
First Day of Confirmation

Oct 2023:

29th: Service Sunday

Nov 2023:

26th: Hanging of the Greens

Dec 2023:

17th: Christmas Program/
Last Day of Sunday School &
Confirmation for 2023
24th: Xmas Eve (No Sunday School)
31st: New Year’s Eve (No Sunday School)

Jan 2024:

7th: Sunday School & Confirmation Resumes

Feb 2024:

Wed 14th: Lent Begins

Mar 2024:

24th: Palm Sunday (Confirmation Sunday)
31st: Easter Sunday (No Sunday School)

Apr 2024:

TBA

May 2024:

5th: Senior Recognition
12th: Graduation Sunday (Mother’s Day)
19th: Last Day of Sunday School/Church
Festival/ Teacher Recognition



Keep doing the things you love.

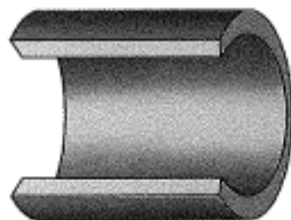
Catch health problems before they go too far.

Life Line Screening offers a 4-screening package to provide peace of mind or early detection for risks of stroke and cardiovascular disease.

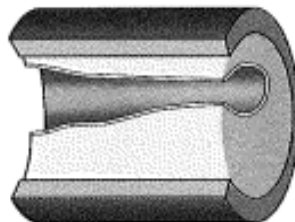
The combination of these tests helps detect problems—before you have symptoms and while you and your doctor can still take action...so you can keep doing the things you love.



Plaque buildup can lead to cardiovascular disease, stroke and aneurysms.



A normal artery allows blood to flow through easily.



Plaque buildup in the arteries reduces your blood flow and can be dangerous if left untreated.

Register now to check the health of your arteries

4 Important Screenings for Only \$149 (Special Package Pricing)

- Carotid Artery Disease
- Peripheral Arterial Disease (PAD)
- Abdominal Aortic Aneurysm (AAA)
- Atrial Fibrillation (AFib)

Join the **10 million people** who have been screened.

We are coming to your neighborhood.

Where: Nebraska City - Bethel Church of Nebraska City

Sponsored By: Warren Memorial Hospital

When: Friday, October 27, 2023

To register for your appointment and to receive the special discount, please call toll-free **877-792-8479** or visit LLSA.SOCIAL/HC

Screening results are provided to you in about 14 days. We direct all participants with abnormal results to take the report to their physician. Appropriate modification of risk factors (including high blood pressure, smoking, heart disease, diabetes and poor diet) is also necessary for cardiovascular disease prevention. Our screenings cannot detect all forms of stroke risk or cardiovascular disease. All tests are for screening purposes only. You should consult with your personal physician regarding your screening results. Price does not include any applicable review fees. Insurance Note: Life Line Screening does not participate in the Medicare program and the cost of our screening services is not covered or reimbursable by Medicare. Life Line Screening does not file insurance claims nor provide referrals to any physician's group or hospital. If you are unable to attend the screening for any reason whatsoever, we will issue a gift card for the full amount to be used by you, or anyone you choose, for future screening services.

Spiritual Council Meeting Minutes

Meeting was held July 13, 2023 Michael called the meeting to order. Pastor Keith opened with prayer. The minutes from the last meeting weren't read due to computer issues. A motion was made to read them at the next meeting by Nick, seconded by Sherri and the motion passed.

Pastor gave a pastoral report. No weddings, 1 funeral, no baptisms, and no new members.

We went into a closed session.

After the closed session, we continued on with our meeting.

Old business

Binder clean up and what we need to update, change, and add.

New business

Pulpit supply for when Pastor is gone or to do a Saturday service. We need to update our list.

Hem the pulpit cloths to fit

Nick made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Sherri second. Motion passed and the meeting adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting is scheduled for August 10th at 6:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kassi Holman -fill-in secretary



We will be offering an adult group Bible Study Sunday mornings this fall at 8:45AM. If you have a book or study series you would like to take a look at, please let Richard Bristol know. More details to follow

www

The completion date for our new Bethel website is anticipated to be September 15th.

Nebraska City Chess Club

JOIN THE NEBRASKA CITY CHESS CLUB!

ALL AGES AND SKILL LEVELS WELCOME!
MEETING ON THURSDAYS AT 5:00 PM
IN THE KIMMEL GALLERY AT THE
MORTON-JAMES PUBLIC LIBRARY

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT
KYLE MADISON:
TEXT: 712-520-0859 or EMAIL:
KYLEMADISON2009@HOTMAIL.COM



THE 2023 ANNUAL DIRECTORY IS AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE, WWW.BETHELUCCHURCH.COM

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A PRINTED COPY OF THIS, THE ANNUAL REPORT OR OUR BEACON, PLEASE LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW AS THEY WILL ONLY BE PRINTED UPON REQUEST. THANK YOU

Opportunities to Volunteer

BETHEL SUMMER ARTS SERIES

If you or someone you know would like to share their talents with us during our summer arts series at Bethel, please sign up in back, at www.bethelucchurch.com, or contact Jen in the office. This is open to all arts, such as dance and theatre, not just music. This summer arts series ends on August 27th, but please don't hesitate to join us here at Bethel anytime throughout the year to share your talent with us.



You are invited to attend the Love Well Conference. August 24th—26th, 2023 in Bellevue, NE at New Beginnings Worship Center. This will be a weekend filled with testimony, workshops, worship, teaching and support for those who would love to have and pursue biblical clarity regarding the LGBTQ issues that have become such a large part of our society. Please see the church bulletin board for more specific information, a schedule for the weekend or go to www.ferventheartministries.com

LOVE WELL CONFERENCE
Engaging The LGBTQ Culture

August 24th- Youth Rally 6pm-8pm Pizza Provided
August 25th- 6:30pm to 9:00pm Testimonies from former LGBTQ
August 26th- 9am to 5pm. Workshop Day.
Lunch Provided on Saturday.
Cost FREE

NBWC- 2231 Jefferson St. Bellevue, NE
Register at- Akleinfree@oulook.com
Ferventheartministries.com

Sponsored by Fervent Heart Ministries, Nebraska Family Alliance,
New Beginnings Worship Center

Here's what's happening

BETHEL'S WEEKLY CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP

If you would like to be a part of this special weekly service, please let Pastor Keith know asap. We are in need of sound techs, musicians, testimonials, instrumentalists, and an open heart to truly experience God through His word with an added flare.



If you have not joined Bethel Church of Nebraska City on Facebook yet, please let the office know and Jen will send you an invitation. Its easier than trying to find the page unfortunately.

IMPORTANT REMINDER.....

Please return all church access metal keys, fobs or cards you no longer need. We have a very limited supply and must maintain an accurate list of users.

Thank you!

We would like to thank everyone who participated in our Sunday Worship in July. From the beautiful flowers, to speakers, musicians, all those who served, cleaned our building, manicured our grounds, presented His word, or made sure everything was in working order,... 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!

Dalyce & Kristy Sudman

August 8, 2008

Please let the office know if we are missing any birthdays or anniversaries. This information is taken from annual Time & Talent form and we do not get many of those back unfortunately.



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

Lillian sinner 4th, AnnaMarie Stukenholtz 5th, Addison Ferguson 6th, Chuck Funk 7th, Julie Marshall 8th, Erika Rowh 8th, Larry Wieckhorst 9th, Brianna Johnson 21st, Neal Niebruegge 22nd, Autumn Funk 26th, Josh Epp 26th, Mira Hartman 29th, Kathy Clymens 29th, Teri Stukenholtz 30th

Homemade Blessings

Homemade Blessings served 21 meals in July, delivered by David and Darcy Carpenter, Sherry Smith, Pastor Keith, Dale Francis and Bonnie Wurtele. The next Homemade Blessings will be on Thursday, August 17th from 4-6pm. Please contact Michelle Francis if you would like to receive a meal for August. A special thank you to everyone who volunteers their time and talents for this amazing mission of Bethel Church.



Prayer Requests

July

Joyce Baldwin (Jen Hamilton's mother), Terry Mathisen (Jen Tietz's father), Carol Biere, Cindy Roemer, the family and friends of Mark West (brother of Lynn Wurtele), the family and friends of Patty Straw, Sarah Hotsenpillar, Louella Hauptman, Gail Lewis (Bonnie Wurtele's niece), the family and friends of Candy Herzog (Sarah Bando's mother), Logan Drabek (cousin of Jen Tietz), Bristol Gordon (friend of Pastor Keith), Nicholas & Lizzie Chelle-Andersen (Jen & Lenny Tietz son and daughter-in-law), Bobbie Vance (friend of Pastor Keith and Denise), Ted Christiansen, Pam Epp, the family and friends of Buck Hammers, the family and friends of Rex Peterson

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 her with your prayer requests when office staff or Pastor Keith is unavailable. You can also enter your prayer request on our website at bethelucchurch.com

BETHEL BABY ANNOUNCEMENTS



Braydon Robert Borer, great grandson of Suzie Briley, born July 3rd.



Charlie Evelyn Chelle-Andersen, born July 3rd to Nicholas & Lizzie Chelle-Andersen. Charlie is the granddaughter of Lenny & Jen Tietz.

*YOU KNOW ME
TOGETHER IN MY
MOTHER'S WOMB
Psalm 139:13*



*CHILDREN ARE A
HERITAGE FROM THE
LORD
Psalm 127:3*



George Alton Wurtele, grandson of Dale & Lynn Wurtele and great grandson of Bonnie Wurtele, born July 8th.

Darleen Lillian Darnell, daughter of Sabrina & Michael Darnell, born July 6th



Killian Jay Kilpatrick, son of Laura and Scotty Kilpatrick and grandson of Lenny & Jen Tietz, born July 24th.

THE BETHEL BEACON ~ AUGUST 2023

Keith A. Valenzuela, Pastor

pkvalenz@gmail.com

Cell #: 719-339-4921

Sunday School returns this fall

Worship time @ 10:00 am

BETHEL CHURCH OF
NEBRASKA CITY
2400 CENTRAL AVE.
NEBRASKA CITY, NE 68410

Church Telephone #: (402) 873-6218

Email: bethelucchurch1887@gmail.com

Website: www.bethelucchurch.com

Find us on



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

"As For Me And My House, We Will Serve the L-rd"

(Joshua 24:15b)

These were words that Joshua, son of Nun said to Israel shortly before he passed.

Joshua was a warrior for the L-rd. He was one of the spies who went into the promised land and brought back a report to Moses. Of the 10 spies who went in, only two, Caleb and Joshua, came back with a positive report. The remaining 8 spies were frightened because of the inhabitants; they said they were giants, and Israel couldn't defeat them. How easily they forgot what G-d almighty had done for the 2,000,000 people who left Egypt, free from bondage after 400 years of slavery! As a result, the children wandered in the wilderness for 40 years so that those who had no faith would die off.

As I vacate my position as pastor of Bethel, I will leave you with a question: Who are you serving today?

All too often, it's easier to acquiesce to the pressures surrounding us. Rather than standing up for what's right, people - and leaders - will take the easy path to avoid conflict. Neville Chamberlain, the British Prime Minister of England was an appeaser; he signed the Munich Agreement in 1938 that turned out to be a miserable foreign policy train wreck; it wasn't until Winston Churchill assumed the role of PM in 1940 and stood up to Nazi Germany to face them head on.

Was it easy for England? Absolutely not! The British people dug in, worked together and fended off the onslaught brought on by the Third Reich.

Only by standing up for something you firmly believe in will prevail. It might cost you dearly. You may even lose your life.

Christ lost His because he believed YOU were worth it. Praise the L-rd that He rose again on the third day! He is the firstfruit of the resurrection!

Those of us who believe and earnestly follow Him will be resurrected as well.

(1 Corinthians 15:20-23)

Stand up for your faith. Defend it. Stand on G-d's word and NEVER doubt it, nor be ashamed of it. **(Romans 1:16)**

May G-d richly bless you and yours now, and in the time we have left on this earth.

Pastor Keith