



BECOME NEW.

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

Make the Connection

Bethel Reformed Church Weekly Newsletter

January 1, 2012

Volume 5—Issue 1

This Week at Bethel Church

Pastor Troy is on vacation and will be back in the office on Wednesday, January 4.

Bethel's Office will be closed on Monday, January 2, for New Years Day.

Monday, January 2

7:00 p.m.—NA Meeting, Fireside Room

Tuesday, January 3

10:30 a.m.—Bethel Staff Meeting
7:00 p.m.—Worship Team Meeting

Wednesday, January 4

8:00 a.m.—Men's Prayer Group
5:30 p.m.—Wednesday Family Ministries
7:45 p.m.—Sr. High Youth Group

Thursday, January 5

5:30 p.m.—Love INC Budget Mentoring,
Fellowship Hall and Fireside Room

Friday, January 6

6:30 p.m.—Comunidad Cristiana Bible Study/Prayer Meeting,
Fellowship Hall

A Resolution: Great Patience and Careful Instruction

Our world is filled with ups and downs, highs and lows. Just as Jesus came into the world because we needed a Savior, God sends us into situations because people still need to see Jesus' example and hear His wisdom. He calls us to leadership roles because He needs someone to represent Jesus, especially when the challenges come. When difficulties arise, how will you reflect Jesus' example of servant leadership to those around you?

Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction. 2 Timothy 4:2

Prayer:

Jesus, I am humbled to realize that You call me to represent You to the people I come into contact with today. Prepare me now with the patience and wisdom I will need. Remind me that I represent You when challenges and blessings come. Make me one who patiently reflects Your wisdom in the midst of dealing with difficulties. In Jesus' Name, Amen.

(from "Lead Like Jesus" Devotional, 12/2/11.)



This Wednesday: Sword Swallower Talks Individuality at Lifetree

Dan Meyer, professional sword swallower and multiple Guinness World Record holder, shares “cutting edge” insights about identifying one’s unique calling in life at Lifetree Café on Wednesday, January 4, 6:30 p.m.

In an exclusive filmed interview, Meyer demonstrates his abilities and shares what led him to take up one of the world’s most dangerous arts.

The Lifetree event, titled “Be Yourself,” is designed to help participants find their unique attributes and put them to use, according to Lifetree’s Craig Cable.

Admission to the 60-minute event is free. Snacks and beverages are available. Lifetree Café is located in the Bethel Basement Beanery.

Lifetree Café is a place where people gather for conversations about life and faith in a casual coffeehouse-type setting. Questions about Lifetree may be directed to Pastor Troy at 324-2467 or pastortroy@nethtc.net.

Thank You to

Meals on Wheels Volunteers

Thanks to all who spent some time delivering Meals on Wheels in the month of December: Dorothy Merrill, Paula Van Der Vliet, Ray and Dorothy Brink, Bob Schuiteman, Bernie Van’t Hul, Art and Rose Alons, Glenn Zylstra, Ed Riepma, Howard and Leila Johnson, Jay and Katy Shelp, Joyce Fedders, Krista Bousema, Sue and Emily and Peter Fonkert, Natalie and Shayla Van Meeteren, and Egbert Kragt.

With Sympathy to the Riepma Family

Nellie Riepma, 84, passed away on Monday, December 19, at Sanford Hospital in Sioux Falls. Services were held at Bethel on Friday, December 23. Please keep Ed, Ron and Jackie, and the entire Riepma family in your prayers in the days to come.

With Sympathy to the Koerselman Family

Edith Koerselman, 89, passed away on Saturday, December 24, at The Village in Indianola, IA. Services were held on Wednesday, December 28, here at Bethel. Edith was a charter member of Bethel Church. Please keep the Koerselman family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of their loved one.

With Sympathy to the Feekes Family

George Feekes, 85, passed away on Tuesday, December 27, at Royale Meadows Care Center in Sioux Center. George was Jeanne Feekes’ brother-in-law and Gary and Daphne Feekes’ uncle. Services were held on Saturday, December 31, at Carmel Reformed Church. Please keep the Feekes family in your prayers at this sad time.

Thank You from The Riepma Family

Ed Riepma and Family thank you for all your prayers and sincere expressions of sympathy for the recent passing of Nellie Riepma, Wife, Mother, and Friend.



What a wonderful celebration of the birth of baby Jesus!

This year we celebrated Posada with Comunidad Cristiana on December 21. The evening began with a worship service that included a beautiful, diverse Nativity scene, music by Ken and our choir and a welcome by Pastor Sammy and Pastor Troy. The kids sang English and Spanish versions of “Away in the Manger.” Pastor Troy gave a brief message which was translated by Maribel, Pastor Sammy’s wife, and the service concluded with a rousing “Feliz Navidad” by a combined group from Bethel and Comunidad. It was a beautiful sound and picture of God’s people celebrating a joyous event. A delicious meal followed that included tamales, beans and mashed potatoes with creamed turkey. The basement was very festive in colorful decorations. The evening concluded with the scramble for candy as several large piñatas were broken by the kids.

Thank you to the youth and adults who worked behind the scenes and helped with all the preparations.

**New Address
for Gerald Kreykes**

Gerald Kreykes moved to Sanford Senior Care, Room 205, on Thursday, December 15. His new address is:

Sanford Senior Care
P.O. Box 250
Sheldon, IA 51201

**Wise Men Costumes
in Need of Repair**

We have two wise men costumes that are in need of a little sewing repair work. Please contact Sue if you're willing to help.

Is Hospitality Your Gift?

Do you enjoy making new friends as well as welcoming familiar faces? The Beanery is looking for someone to work the Lifetree Wednesday night shift from 5:45-7:30. Contact Beth Hamill if you are interested.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

January 4

Noelle Fjeld
April Fox
Mary Helene Rozeboom
Ken Ven Huizen

January 6

Alex Lange

January 8

Darrel and Wanda De Jong

Need a 2012 Calendar?

Bethel's office has received several more 2012 calendars than it needs. The extra calendars have been placed in the back of the church. Feel free to pick up one for you or your family.



Still Looking for:

- ◆ A Preschool Teacher is needed for every other month on Sunday mornings. There is a wonderful helper and all materials and lessons are provided. Contact Sue Fonkert.
- ◆ Good used sofas are needed in the Youth House. Contact the church office
- ◆ Two middle schoolers need someone to hang out with while their parents are participating in the Loving Help Budget ministry. They enjoy playing games, watching movies and creating things with paper, tape, etc. This would begin January 5, 6:20-7:30 p.m. at Bethel. Also, more help is needed with childcare, providing cookies/bars or greeting on Thursday nights. Contact Sue Fonkert.

Discipleship for Adults

NEW for 2012: Lifetree Café
(See left for details.)

Sermon Seconds on Sundays is a discussion of the Bible text(s) and main points Pastor Troy used in his sermon.

Men's Accountability Group meets on Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. Please contact Bill Langfitt at 324-4663 if you are interested.

Circle of Friends Bible Study Meets the second Tuesday of each month. Currently studying "Live Deeply". Please contact Rose De Vos at 324-4213 to join them.



**Love INC Seeking
Used Furniture**

Through local support in 2011, Love In the Name of Christ distributed over 700 pieces of furniture and household items to area families in need. Because of the level of need families have in northwest Iowa, Love INC's warehouse is currently very low on furniture. Love INC urgently needs couches, loveseats, dressers, end tables, kitchen tables with chairs, box springs, mattresses, and bed frames. If you have the above items to donate, please call 324-9707 or drop off during our office hours: Mondays 9-5 and Tuesdays-Fridays 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Offering Record

December 25

Offering..... \$5,661
Weekly Offering Needed..... \$8,325
Offering Received YTD \$349,963
Budgeted YTD..... \$432,900
Percent Received YTD..... 81%

HyVee
712.324.2516
Highway 19, Sheldon, IA 51201
OPEN 24 HOURS 7 DAYS A WEEK
Prices good through Monday, January 2, 2012

The Mission to Haiti Team is collecting Children's Chewable Vitamins for the compound there: basic children's chewable vitamins with iron (NOT gummy chewable vitamins). There is a box for this purpose in the back of the church.

Vitamins for Haiti!

We will be having a team from Sheldon go to Haiti in January. They are collecting multi-vitamins for children.

Won't you help? For just a few dollars, you will have the opportunity to make a big improvement in some child's life.

This week we are featuring **Health Market Children's Chewable Vitamins 50% OFF**

WE'LL HAVE A DROP BOX AT THE STORE FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

HY-VEE WANTS TO HELP

