

BETHEL BIBLE CHURCH

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THE BETHEL CONNECTION

April 7, 2021

This Weekend at Bethel - Associate Pastor Interview

Important, crucial, strategic, key and vital are all words that could be used to describe this weekend and the weeks following for the Bethel Church family. Months of prayer, conversations, interviews and 'getting to know' times are coming to a point of decision regarding determining God's direction on hiring an Associate Pastor. Here are a few FAQ's to help us enjoy a profitable interview weekend with the Dodd's.

Who are the Dodd's?

Matt and Evangeline (Vange) have 2 children, Josiah (4 in July), Talia (2 in Sept) and expecting their 3rd in September. They are currently living in Louisville where Matt is a student at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. Contact the church office for a full resume. The Dodd's will share their testimonies during the SS hour this Sunday.

What is the purpose of this weekend of meetings with the Dodd's?

This weekend is for the elders to drill down deeply in a formal interview with Matt and Vange to be certain there is a fit theologically, in ministry philosophy and other key areas. We also hope that through the preaching and sharing time Sunday morning our church family will get to know them better. After the exposure and interaction of this weekend the Elders will decide whether to invite them back or not for a candidating weekend where the congregation would vote to extend a call to them to come as associate pastor.

When will the congregation be able to ask the Dodd's questions?

This Sunday morning in the SS hour there will be an opportunity to ask questions of the Dodd's and elders. While there will be questions from the floor, we are asking that you submit your questions in writing to the church office or an elder before the Sunday session. Also, if they are invited back to candidate, there will be a Q&A time before the congregational vote.

How should we pray for this weekend?

Let's unite our hearts in prayer 1) thanking God for the Dodd's and bringing us together in this process, 2) thanking God that he does guide our steps as we lean on him, 3) asking God for his sustaining grace for the elders and the Dodd's as they interact over important issues, 4) asking God to give the Dodd's safety in travel, strength for the weekend of meetings and power as Matt preaches the Word, and 5) asking God to grant us clarity and unity as a church as we trust him to provide us with another pastor.

Easter at Bethel

The Lord gave us a wonderful Sunday morning together as a church family to celebrate Christ's victory over sin and death. It was so encouraging to see old and new friends and faces. There were 189 in attendance with both overflow rooms near or at capacity. Many thanks to the teens and youth leaders who served a delicious breakfast and did all the set up and clean up work. Our hope was renewed in the Gospel and we look forward with refreshed joy and confidence to what our Savior has for us in the days ahead (1Corinthians 15:58).



PRAYER CONCERNS:

- **Alyssa Kreidl:** Alyssa (daughter of Jeff & Susan Braun) has been diagnosed with a very rare form of slow-moving cancer. She is also pregnant. Pray for a healthy pregnancy and that the doctors will have wisdom in her treatment plans.
- **Brad Carling:** Continue in prayer for Brad as he continues with his treatments.
- **Joie Grenner:** Joie has been able to be home during this round of treatments. Radiation has also been added to her routine. Her last blood tests showed that the cancer is weakening. Pray that God would continue to strengthen her mind as well as her physical body.
- Continue in prayer for the Associate Pastor search. Pray for Matt & Evangeline Dodd as they prepare to visit April 9-11. Pray that we would seek God's will as a church body.
- **Randy Hutton:** Randy had a tumor removed from around his eye. He will be seeing an oncologist to determine the next steps. Thanks for praying for wisdom & discernment.
- **Josiah**—nephew of Cindy VanWienen: He has a narrowing of the aorta which will be treated with medicine over the next week. If this does not correct the issue, surgery will be needed. Josiah is not quite a week old yet.

WORK-DAY AT THE PARSONAGE



Saturday, April 10:
Grab your digging shovel & help us dig out the remainder of the old landscaping at the parsonage. We will possibly be putting in new stone and edging as well. Work starts at 8:00 am. Thanks in advance for the help!

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

- **Today, Wednesday April 7—Simple Supper @ 5:30 pm; Family Night classes @ 6:00 pm**
- **Saturday, April 10—Ladies Bible Study @ 9:00 am**
- **Sunday, April 11—Worship service @ 9:15 am; Sunday School Hour @ 10:30 am**
- **Monday, April 19—Men's Bible Reading @ 7:30 pm**

Women's conference: BBC is hosting a virtual conference with Lifeway Women on Saturday, April 17. Registration will begin at 8:45 am. Coffee, juice & pastries will be available in the morning, with the event beginning at 9:30 am EST. This will be an all-day event. Lunch will be provided, as well as snacks through-out the day. The cost is \$15. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board for those ladies interested in coming. Sign-up is not necessary, just helpful in planning purposes! Contact Jessica Libey or Melody Perez for more information. We are looking forward to a time of purposeful fellowship & renewal in Christ!



Update with The Hutts:

On April 13th, Muslims all over the world will begin their month-long fast of Ramadan. Fasting during Ramadan is one of the pillars of the Islamic faith. They believe this earns them 'points' with God which makes it a religiously pious and spiritually dark time.

We often find this to be a slower season of ministry as our neighbors can be lethargic during the day as they prepare to party at night. Paired with the hot season and national elections this Ramadan in Chad could be an interesting season. **Pray for the Lord to use Ramadan to draw Muslims; in Chad to the True Redeemer who washes; not only the outside but the heart too.**

HOME ASSIGNMENT 2021 NEEDS

We are thankful for the provision of the Lord. After our last update, we have located a three-bedroom home. **We are still in search of a reliable 6-passenger vehicle to use, rent or even purchase to use from August 2021 to January 2022.** If you know of someone who might be able to help with these needs, please let us know by responding to this email (africanhutts@sent.com) or WhatsApp (+235 68814531).