

THE BETHEL CONNECTION

August 4, 2021

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Mike Leman, a faithful and outstanding servant of the Lord here at Bethel, went home to be with his Lord yesterday, August 3rd. Mike fought hard against COVID pneumonia for several days, but his body finally wore out. More information will be coming in the days ahead as plans are made. Please continue to pray for Tina as she is yet recovering from COVID pneumonia herself in the hospital. Pray for Caleb, Sarah and Andrew and their families as well as Mike's extended family that God's grace and comfort will be overwhelming. Let's trust God together to make his name great through these days of sorrow and loss.

Annual meeting update.

Our annual congregational business meeting was held on Wednesday July 21st. A brief summary of the meeting includes:

- Reports from church and ministry leaders were given highlighting how God has been at work in various ways this past year at Bethel. Printed copies of these reports are available in the church foyer or by contacting the church office.
- The annual financial report for fiscal year 20-21 was presented and approved along with a budget for the coming year 21-22. These are also available in the printed report copy. Note that the budget for the next year is not balanced per income and expense. The major factor causing more expense than planned income is supporting two pastors during this season of Don mentoring Matthew Dodd, our new associate pastor. The plan calls for the budget to be balanced through undesignated savings if giving does not increase sufficiently in the coming year. This aspect of the budget will be carefully watched and assessed annually.
- New officers and leaders were appointed. We thank God for the excellent service of Chris Krohn (Elder), Gary Gudeman (Deacon) and Amy Miller (Treasurer) who all completed their terms of service. We welcome Mike McKay (2nd term Elder), Kerry Miller (1st term Elder), Randy Mitchell (1 year term Elder) and Dave Budd (1st term Deacon) to our Church Council. We also welcome Jan Good (Treasurer) and Randy Hutton (Assistant Treasurer) to the Finance Committee. Kelly Hines continues to lead our Sunday School. Please express your gratitude to these who have and are serving and pray for them.

We have much to thank God for both for the past year as well as looking ahead to the coming year. Thank you for all you do to serve the Lord and each other here at Bethel.

Ask the Pastors

Do you have any questions? Perhaps something you found in your Bible reading, or a question from a family member or coworker. It could be a question about church ministry, theology, cultural issues or a Christian view of politics. We are planning to combine the Adult Sunday School classes for the month of August to enjoy a more relaxed setting with refreshments and an opportunity to ask the pastors any questions that may be on your mind. The class will gather in the Family Center after worship and conclude at 11:30. Plan to join us and enjoy putting the pastors on the spot! If you already have questions that come to mind, send them to the church office and we will begin with those.

Happening this week:

Sunday, August 8: Worship service @ 9:15 am;

Sunday School Hour @ 10:30 am

Wednesday, August 11—Church Council Meeting

*When my heart is overwhelmed, lead me
to the rock that is higher than I.*

Psalm 61:2

Pray for the entire Leman family with the loss of Mike. Pray for Tina especially, that she would rely on God to give her the strength & endurance needed during this time.

Pray for Don & Char Norrick as they continue to battle Covid. Pray for protection for the whole house, that God would bring quick healing.

Thank you for continuing to pray for Alyssa Kreitl. Her surgery went well; the family is very pleased with the doctor who did the surgery. Pray for her healing in the coming days. She is expected to be in Pittsburg for another week.

Baby Magnolia continues to do well and gain weight and strength. Pray for her oxygen levels to keep increasing. Thank you for the continued prayers.

Please continue to pray for Bob & Carrie Fritz and the rest of Joie Grenner's family. Joie went home to be with her Savior last week. Pray for God's peace to surround the family in the coming days & weeks.

Dear Bethel Bible Church family,

Wanting to thank all of you that have remembered Joie and the entire family in your prayers during this difficult time. Our hearts are extremely sad as we miss the earthly presence of our sweet granddaughter, but now she is enjoying the fullness of Christ's glory. Your cards, phone calls, and visits have been a soothing balm for our great pain. Thank you again!

Bob & Carrie Fritz

Calling all families/parents/kids:

Plan to join us **Sunday, August 15**, as we kick off the new Sunday School year with promotion Sunday. Following a special time of prayer during the service, during the Sunday school hour we'll all meet together in the west fellowship for a special snack, game, and learning about the new classes. If you have any questions, please contact Kelly Hines.



The church picnic on August 15 will take place at the Hines home. Watch the newsletter next week for more information.

Giving at Bethel: We believe that God provides the resources for gospel ministry through the generous and sacrificial giving of his people. You'll notice that we don't pass an offering plate or set aside a specific time to collect an offering during our worship service. You are encouraged to give anytime by using a giving option that fits best for you. You may use the giving box located on the back wall of the auditorium for gifts of cash or check. You may also give through our website (www.bethelbiblechurch.org), your online banking bill pay or send your offering to the church office in the mail. Thank you for your partnership in the gospel here at Bethel.



We're
Searching for
Volunteers

We have been asked by the Starke/Pulaski County Habitat for Humanity to provide a meal on August 21 for 10-15 people who will be working on a home in Winamac. The meal would need to be delivered to that home around 11:30 am. If you are interested in helping or heading this up, please contact the church office for more information.

If you would like to help serve/clean up meals for our Simple Suppers, beginning September 8, please contact Melody. We would love to have a rotation of folks/families helping so that those who do serve still have time to attend a class each week.