

BETHEL BIBLE CHURCH**6966 West SR 14****Winamac, IN 46996**

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THE BETHEL CONNECTION

July 22, 2020

Follow Up**2020 Annual Business Meeting**

Just a few thoughts as we reflect on our annual congregational meeting last week. Please let us know in the office if you did not get a copy of the annual report. We are happy to get one to you.

First, I was impressed again with the 'rightness' of saying thanks and expressing honor to all at Bethel who serve or lead for Jesus sake. The challenges in this are many. There are so many of you to thank. There is so much done that we are not aware of. The reports and reporters represent a significant chunk of what goes on at Bethel but not everything. So, if you did not hear it last week or read your name in a report, thank you! Thank you for your generous service for Christ here at Bethel. If you did hear or read your name mentioned, thanks again!

Reading our covenant of membership together was encouraging. Our commitment to each other is substantial and specific for the glory of God and His church. It is helpful to be reminded of that commitment and to hear your voices acknowledge it again together. We should read it together more often.

Regarding our new budget, let me provide some practical 'so what' kind of stuff. First, it is important to understand that we approved a budget that is 8.5% less than last year's budget (combined General and Missions). However, the budget we approved calls for a 7% increase in actual giving (combined GF and Missions) over last year. That means a \$2,000 increase monthly in giving over last year is required to meet this budget. We believe God will continue to supply as we are well informed of the needs and respond to His generosity with our own grace driven giving.

Thank God for the ministry of the gospel in and through the various ministries, classes and events at Bethel. The pandemic has obviously limited or suspended many of these. We are hoping to restart some of these ministries early in September depending on what area schools are doing and any pandemic restrictions. Continue to pray for wisdom and direction as we try to make plans.

One last thought, we do have a job description written for an Associate Pastor and encourage you to pray with our leadership for God's direction and provision. We will begin soon to step up our search process and get word out to find possible candidates. We are somewhat hesitant with the COVID 19 uncertainties and the current level of giving to proceed too quickly. Let's together ask God for wisdom and patience as we wait on Him for this big step for our church.

May mercy, peace, and love be multiplied to you!

don

What about the offering?

We encourage you to continue giving generously to the Lord's work here at Bethel. Here are some different options available :

- Mail
- Bank bill pay
- Online giving through the website
- Offering box is available at the back of the sanctuary.

Office Hours:

We will be in the office Monday ~ Wednesday from 10am-3pm, while still working hours from home.

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

**ZOOM PRAYER MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 22 @ 7 PM**

SERVICE TIMES AND PROCEDURES WILL REMAIN THE SAME FOR THIS WEEK.

- Sunday, July 26 service at 9:15 am, sign up with Kelly Hines
- Sunday, July 26 service at 11:15 am, sign up with Kelly Hines
- Sunday, July 26 Drive-in service @ 11:15 am
- Sermon audio available on website by noon on Sunday.
- Saturday, July 25, Deacon's meeting, 7am
- Saturday, August 1, Elders meeting, 7 am
- Sunday, August 9, Baby Dedication—if interested, please contact Kelly Hines

Beginning Sunday, July 19, we will be offering nursery (ages 0-2) during both the 9:15 and 11:15 services, as well as Junior Church (ages 3-kindergarten) during **only** the 9:15 service. We are adding the following procedures:

*Please only have one adult drop off and pick up children at the nursery and remain outside of the nursery if possible.

*At dismissal time for Junior Church, send children to the side sanctuary door to meet their teacher/helper. After church, please have only adult pick them up in the classroom.

*Nursery toys and surfaces will be disinfected between services.

***PLEASE do NOT** bring any child who has been sick or exposed to anyone who has been sick (ie fever, cough, etc) during the last week.

*Since we will not be able to social distance in these two areas, please only send your child(ren) if you are comfortable with that. Every effort will be made to keep spaces/children clean as much as we can.

Any questions: don't hesitate to reach out to Kelly.

PRAYER

Remember those in our midst who have on-going physical challenges:

Clifford Fritz	Phyllis Fritz
Paulette Krulik	Judy Luckey
Carrie Fritz	Sue Baker
Faye Fagner	Virginia Barr
Linda McNabney	

Colossians 1:9-11

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to Him, bearing fruit in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power according to His glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy