

THE BETHEL CONNECTION

June 23, 2021

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From the Pastor's Desk . . .

The LORD is on my side as my helper; I shall look in triumph on those who hate me. It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. Psalm 118:7-8

I hope you are finding help and refuge in the Lord in your journey this week. Pray that we all will. Here are some things going through my mind this week.

You and Your Pastors Our current sermon series from 1Peter 5:1-5 reminds us of the way God has organized his flock, the church, to both reflect and communicate the good news of Jesus Christ. It is crucial that the flock and the God assigned shepherds of the flock, serve, grow, and love together in humility and harmony. It is important because that is how Jesus will be magnified and seen by those outside the flock. You could watch the sermons online on the church website if you missed them. Continue to pray for the pastor/elders at Bethel and let us know how we can better feed, lead, care and protect the Bethel flock.

Dodd Update We are looking forward to the arrival of another pastor elder in another month or so. Matt Dodd will begin his associate pastor assignment at Bethel on August 9th. Matt, Vange, Josiah and Talia plan to move into the church house the week before he begins work at Bethel. They plan to be at Bethel this coming weekend to connect with the Youth and Worship teams and join us for services. Be sure to introduce yourself and welcome them.

Missionary Partners Bethel partners with several missionaries and ministries around the world to share the good news of Jesus as we have been commanded. Here are some current prayer needs that I have read about this week.

Justin and Sarah Hutt Pray for some important meetings to be held this week of a number of Muslim background believers in the city the Hutt's are serving. Also pray as they are planning and preparing for home assignment beginning in late July. They fly back to the US on July 15th. We plan to have them at Bethel to report and minister the word on September 26th.

Charlie and Rachel Armstrong Sue and I had lunch with the Armstrong's this week as they prepare to return to France in about 2 weeks. They are completing their year of home assignment and looking forward to getting back to their ministry in Marseille. Pray for the Armstrong family as they have much to do to find housing and settle back into life after being gone and with ever changing COVID restrictions.

Baptist Children's Home We just received word this week that BCH has had to relinquish their child caring license in Michigan due to a waiver being revoked by the State government. This along with the significant suffering of their ministry partners in Myanmar and India is a huge challenge to Linda Brooks, BCH President, and the board. Pray for them please.

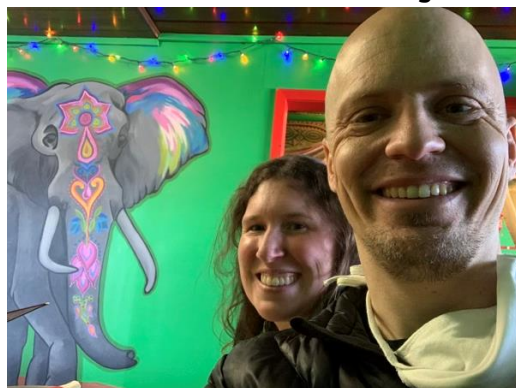
Have a great week!

Pastor don

Justin & Sarah Hutt



Charlie & Rachel Armstrong



Thank you for continuing to pray for Alyssa Kreitl as she continues to struggle with health issues.

Baby Magnolia was born 12 weeks early at 2 pounds 12 ounces; her health is fragile. Pray for strength in her lungs.

Update on Joie: Huge praise!! The last tests showed that Joie is cancer free! Joie is giving God all the glory! She will be staying in an apartment close to the hospital in Chicago for the next couple of months so that she is able to be back at the hospital daily for physical therapy and so that they are able to monitor how her body is reacting to the new bone marrow.

Pray that God would deepen our passion & commitment to live the Gospel.

Continue to pray for Faye Fagner. We will find out today if insurance will approve another week in the hospital to focus on physical therapy. She is still having some struggles with chewing...prayers appreciated for that as well as for her to continue gaining strength! Thank you to those who have sent cards, flowers and made a visit to see Mom! Your love & concern are deeply appreciated!

Thank you for continuing to pray for Neil Owens. His surgery to repair an aneurysm went well. Please keep both Neil and Debbie in your prayers as he goes through his recovery. Pray for God to strengthen his heart & mind.

Loretta Disinger is home from the hospital. Please continue to pray for her to regain her physical strength. Pray for Dan & Loretta and the family as they care for one another.



We need volunteers to be greeters for the month of July! If you can serve one or more Sunday's during the month of July, please contact the church office. Thanks for your help!



My office hours will be limited next week due to my "4-H fair-time adjusted" schedule. I will still be available via my cell phone or the church email. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Also, there will be no newsletter next week, Wednesday June 30.

Melody



Happening this week:

Saturday, June 26: Deacons meeting @ 7:00 am

Sunday, June 27: Worship service @ 9:15 am; Sunday School Hour @ 10:30 am

His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.

2Peter 1:3-4