

THE BETHEL CONNECTION

May 12, 2021

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Bethel Bible Church 6966 West SR 14 Winamac, IN 46996

Bethel's New Associate Pastor

We thank God for his good hand in guiding and directing our search process over the past several months. That process culminated this past Sunday morning with a congregational vote of 97% in favor of extending a call to Matt Dodd to become our Associate Pastor. On Monday, Matt called with the news that he and Vange accept our offer and look forward to serving at Bethel.

Please pray for the Dodd's (Matt, Vange, Josiah, Talia and daughter due in September) and our leadership as we work out many details that are ahead of us for a smooth transition. It appears that they will move and begin sometime in early August. We will keep the church family informed as time goes on.

A shout out to our church family is in order. Thank you for your patient, prayerful and gracious participation in the process over the past few months. This is an unusual model with the components of Matt continuing his seminary classes, serving as an Associate and looking to the potential of becoming lead pastor. That is a lot to process in one decision. A huge thanks to everyone, including the search committee, the elders, the Council and our entire church family.

The Dodd's current address if you would like to reach out to them:
107Fenley Ave, Apt F3
Louisville, KY 40207

Open House Invites:

Sydney Anderson
Saturday, May 15 from
1-4 pm
265 West 100 North
Winamac, IN 46996

Valerie Field
Saturday, June 5th from
12-4 pm
8634 West SR 14
Winamac, IN 46996

Makayla Rose Libey
Sunday, June 6th from 3-6
pm at Meadow Springs
8631 US 421 Francesville,
IN 47946

Congrats to our High School Graduates!

HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

- Today, Wednesday May 12—Simple Supper @ 5:30 pm; Family Night classes @ 6:00 pm (this is our last scheduled Family Night until the Fall)
- Today, Wednesday, May 12—Council Meeting @ 7:45 pm
- Saturday, May 15—Elders Meeting @ 7:00 am
- Saturday, May 15—Ladies Bible study @ 9:00 am
- Sunday, May 16—Worship service @ 9:15 am; Sunday School Hour @ 10:30 am, BBC GRADUATE RECOGNITION
- Sunday, May 16—BBC Membership class resumes

This month's **Book Look** features excerpts from an article by Tim Challies (rhymes with valleys), entitled "5 Questions To Ask of a Book Before You Read It." The entire article can be found here:

<https://www.challies.com/articles/5-questions-to-ask-of-a-book-before-you-read-it/>

Here is an edit of the main points, in Tim's words.

Who wrote you? Familiarize yourself with trustworthy authors. As a reader you should have your list of favorites, the short list of people you regard as especially influential and trustworthy. I'd try people like H.B. Charles Jr., Kevin DeYoung, Gloria Furman, Russell Moore, Andy Naselli, Barnabas Piper, or Jen Wilkin—people like that. They have each written a few books but not so many that you'll need to spend two years catching up, and they are all likely to write quite a few more. Find "your" authors and read what they write.

Who published you? You should familiarize yourself with Christian publishers and learn which of them are especially trustworthy. There are quite a lot of excellent publishers whose books may vary by quality and secondary theological issues but which will never fall outside the conservative Evangelical stream. Learn to trust these ones. Among them are Banner of Truth, Christian Focus, Crossway, Evangelical Press, Matthias Media, P&R, Reformation Heritage, Reformation Trust, The Good Book Company, (and, I hope, Cruciform Press since I was involved in founding it). If they publish it, you can be quite confident in it.

Who endorsed you? If you don't know the author or publisher... check the endorsements or, more properly, the endorsers. Look there for trusted or at least familiar names. The value of endorsements is... in the fact that the endorser is willing to put his or her name to the other person's work. Names that mean a lot to me include : Randy Alcorn, Thabiti Anyabwile, Nancy Leigh Demoss, Mark Dever, Gloria Furman, Mary Kassian, John MacArthur, Al Mohler, Andy Naselli, Burk Parsons, John Piper, and R.C. Sproul.

Who reviewed you? Avid readers read more than books—they also read reviews of books. Reviews are helpful in giving an in-depth overview of a book or providing some in-depth engagement with it. When I haven't read a book, I find myself looking to see if it has been reviewed by [Aaron Armstrong](#), [Books at a Glance](#), [David Steele](#), [The Gospel Coalition](#), [Themelios](#), or any of my [favorite bloggers](#). For children's books I look to [Redeemed Reader](#).

Who will I find in your endnotes? If all else fails, look at the book's sources. Few books stand on their own and most authors rely on work that has already been written. Look especially for your favorite authors and publishers.

All of this is designed to help you filter the few books you *will* read from the thousands you *could* read. Not only that, but it is designed to help you get a sense of what a book is all about before you begin to read it. When you are quite new to Christian books, there is value in choosing your books carefully to avoid bad influences.



Pray for those going through treatments:

- Brad Garling
- Randy Hutton
- Joie Grenner
- Connie Davis

Please remember those who have lost loved ones recently:

- Dorothy Hagen with the loss of her son John
- Jan Good with the loss of her father Wes
- Cindy VanWienen at the loss of her sister Sherry

Pray for those who have had recent surgeries:

- Neil Owens
- Kathy Leman
- MaryAnn Fritz

Alyssa Kreitl: 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 & joy-filled pregnancy and that the doctors will have wisdom in her treatment plans. Pray that God would guard her mind and grant her peace during this waiting season.

Pray for Neil Owens as he looks to his next surgery on May 19 to repair an aneurism.

Please continue in prayer for Joie Grenner as they begin the next steps for a bone marrow transplant!

Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, declares the LORD. Be strong, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land, declares the LORD. Work, for I am with you, declares the LORD of hosts. Haggai 2:4