

## BETHEL BIBLE CHURCH

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Winamac, IN 46996

574.946.6229

To access the directory on our website, go to [www.bethelbiblechurch.org](http://www.bethelbiblechurch.org) click on "About", then "Church Directory" and enter the password: bbcwinamac

### 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
- Drop off at the office
- Call & have an elder or deacon pick it up for you
- Online giving through the website

### Office Hours:

We will mostly be working from our homes in the coming weeks. Please contact our cell phones or email us!

### PRAYER

Pray for the Dugan family at the passing of Brian's brother, Bill Dugan.

Pray for the family of Ann Fagner.

Remember those in our midst who have ongoing physical challenges:

Paulette Krulik

Clifford Fritz

Phyllis Fritz

Carrie Fritz

Sue Baker

Becky Arthur

Faye Fagner

Dorothy Nice

Virginia Barr

Linda McNabney

Irma Germann

Continue in prayer for the church leaders as they continue to meet and make decisions for the church.

# THE BETHEL CONNECTION

May 20, 2020

## HAPPENING THIS WEEK:

- **Zoom Prayer Meeting Wednesday @ 7 pm**

Be sure to email the church office to be included in the prayer meeting. You will then be sent a link via email.

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

- **Sunday, May 17 service at 9:15 am, sign up with Kelly Hines**
- **Sunday, May 17 service at 11:15 am, sign up with Kelly Hines**
- **Sunday, May 17 Drive-in service @ 11:15 am**
- **Contact Kelly Hines...765-210-1206 or [bethelbiblekids@gmail.com](mailto:bethelbiblekids@gmail.com) to sign up for a service time.**
- **Sermon recording available on website by noon on Sunday.**

We will begin to offer the sanctuary as a place to hold meetings for activities of the church; for example, the Deacons will meet Saturday, May 23 in the sanctuary. Please follow these guidelines when wanting to use the facility:

- **Meetings will need to be approved by staff on a case by case basis depending upon availability.**
- **Clean/disinfect the space you have used—Melody will let you know where supplies are.**
- **Agree to follow social distancing guidelines set up by the church.**

Groups which are not a part of the church will be not be considered until after July 4, pending guidelines given by the state/local health department.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the office.



## Congratulations and Controlling Principles

If you recently graduated from High School, Vocational School, College, Grad School, or any other kind of school . . . Congratulations and please keep reading!

If you did not, please keep reading and pass this on to any graduates that you may know.

The coronavirus has caused the cancelation of traditional graduation ceremonies but has not stopped the well-deserved celebrations in various forms. Let me, on behalf of the Bethel Church family join all the other voices in expressing our hearty ‘well done’ at this significant and hard-earned milestone in your life. We thank God for you and are proud of you.

Most of you graduates are quite well known around Bethel Bible Church. Our church family has watched many of you grow up from the nursery through the children’s and youth programs. How many people at Bethel have served you as a teacher, VBS worker, youth leader or in some other capacity? In a real sense, you are not only graduating from school or university - this is a season of your life where you are moving on to the next level in your walk with God as well. Whether for a short time or for your entire life, God has brought people into your life to help you know and love Him.

We as your church family are proud of you, how hard you have worked in school as well as all you have achieved in your years of schooling. We are grateful to God for the person you have become and the direction you have chosen to go. Our added celebratory wish for you is to continue going hard after God. You have not only done well in ‘book learning’ at school, but you have been given an impressive education in the ‘fear of the Lord’ by your church family.

Here is a simple verse of scripture that summarizes what the Bethel Church family has worked so hard and lovingly to teach you. Thousands of prayers have been offered over the years for you and others that this truth would find a home in your heart as you arrive at graduation.

*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of knowledge; fools despise wisdom and instruction. Proverbs 1:7*

To *fear the Lord* in simple terms is to be in awe of God. *The beginning* indicates the first and controlling principle, rather than a stage one leaves behind (Kidner). *Knowledge* is an ongoing relationship of loving your creator God. As the contrast of fools indicates, knowing and loving God must include further training and learning. Putting it all together, you move on to the next level of your spiritual journey – hopefully guided by your awe of God and your passion to see him known and worshipped.

Our prayer for you as you graduate and commence this new season is that you will choose the fear of the Lord as your guiding principle as you embrace Jesus and continue to learn from him and about him. Be a life-long learner, especially in your commitment to the one true God – you have learned a lot about him from your Bethel Church family.

One more note, we will have a celebration for graduates at Bethel as soon as we are able. The when and how are being talked about. Hopefully, we will have more definite plans to share in the next few weeks. Please help us out by getting some pictures into the church office so Melody can put a video together for when we are able to have the party!

This is a long article! If you are a graduate and you have read this entire article, contact me to let me know that you read the whole thing and Sue and I will send you a gift!

**Pastor Don**