



REFORMED CHURCH IN AMERICA

FOLLOWING CHRIST IN MISSION

The Reformed Church in America is a fellowship of congregations called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to be the very presence of Jesus Christ in the world.

This is our vision. This is our mission. But,

We live in a broken world. Individuals are broken. Institutions are broken. Jesus said, "Where two or more are gathered in my name there I am in the midst of them." Well, at the same time, where two or more are gathered, there is also the capacity and opportunity for conflict. Such is the state of our human condition. Such is the state of our denomination.

There has always been conflict, but our most recent conflict focuses on the debates around human sexuality. The impasse here is so deep and nonnegotiable that our denomination has resolved to strike a new path forward. A Vision Team was put together to help with this revisioning, and after two years of meeting, they have written up a report for consideration at General Synod next summer. While the recommendations sent to GS are subject to change and are also contingent upon Classes approval, the three points of the Report are given here so that the whole Bethany community can be aware of the conversations that are going on. ***No changes are in store for at least a couple of years, but nevertheless, the thought process begins now.*** Here is a summary:

[1] Stay together yet change structure

- The primary structure of the RCA involves fleets of churches divided up by geography. These fleets are called Classes. Thus, we are a part of MN Classis. Change #1 would reconfigure this structure from geography to affinity. An affinity classis then, would be based not on location, but on similar interests and vision.
- Regional Synods would be largely disbanded and/or consolidated

[2] Create new mission agency

- The RCA has a strong missional identity. In order to preserve this heritage, the Vision 2020 Team has recommended the formation of a new mission agency. The agency would be independent / non-denominational, but would allow churches continue supporting the missionaries of their choice.

[3] Mutually generous separation

- Individual churches could leave graciously, with no hassle, and retain their property.

Bethany Church

Reach. Serve. Love.



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 9:30AM

222 MAIN STREET N | CLARA CITY MN

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 687

320.847.3322

Office email : bethany@hcinet.net

Bethany Prayer Chain email : info@bethanychurch-mn.com

[Give | Bethany Church - MN](#)

Anyone who would like a DVD of the services or know of someone who would like to receive one call the church office at 847-3322 or send an email to bethany@hcinet.net.

BETHANY DIRECTORY. <https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/158305/bethany-reformed-church>

Access code is BRC20. The information can also be changed. If your contact information and anything else in your listing has changed, please contact the church office at 847-3322 or email at bethany@hcinet.net



Text "**BRC APP**" to 77977
to download our app



SUNDAY GATHERINGS

“Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing...” Heb 10:25

Directives

Due to the recent statewide mandate on masks, Bethany will have disposable masks available, but will not be regulating or managing their use.

Hand sanitizer is provided.

NO nursery or Children’s Church.

NO gathering in The Hub after the service.

Offering plates are set out at the back of the sanctuary.

Please exit the sanctuary after the service and visit outside.

Maintain proper distances while entering & exiting the sanctuary.

Please be seated in family groups and social distanced from others.

Remain in primary gathering spaces; sanctuary, entrance and bathrooms.

Singing is great! But not required.

If you are feeling sick or are anxious about returning, please remain at home and join in on our FACEBOOK PAGE LIVESTREAM

Directives for Gym Use

Please follow the 3 S’s for GYM USE: SCHEDULE / SUPERVISE / SANITIZE

- Please call the church office, or stop in to schedule a time so there are no conflicts
- Staff or an adult supervisor must be present
- Sanitize equipment used

See our website for more info? <https://www.bethanychurch-mn.com/gym-use-questions>

Directives for General Building Use

Please note that throughout the church building, rooms contain a spray bottle with a cleansing solution in it and a clean rag. Anyone using rooms during the week are asked to spray and wipe the areas used. Any questions can be directed to staff.

National and Global Day of Prayer and Repentance. Sept 25-26

The Return is a national call to prayer and repentance broadcasting live from the National Mall in Washington D.C. Speakers include Ben Carson, Anne Graham Lotz and Dr. James Dobson. **The Return** event will stream LIVE this Friday from 5 - 8 PM and continue all day on Saturday from 8 AM to 8 PM at <https://thereturn.org/live-stream/>

Carris Health Helpline. Carris Health has created a conversation phone line for those who need to connect with somebody. Volunteers are available to chat with you if you are experiencing loneliness during this time of extended isolation. The line is for seniors and persons with disabilities. Call hours are Monday - Friday from 9 AM to 4 PM. Call: **1 (866) 777-0250**

Raymond United Methodist Fall Fundraiser

This year, due to the pandemic, we won't be holding our normal Fall Bazaar. Instead, we are taking orders for Lefse and Broccoli Cheese Soup. Orders may be placed by calling Kim at 320-295-6510; Char at 320-967-4184 or 320-444-4915 and Kay at 320-894-3664 before October 1. Lefse is \$5/package of three; Broccoli Cheese Soup is \$3/16-ounce container. Orders ready to pick up Nov. 7 from 9:00 a.m. to noon.

**Blood Drive at the Clara City Community Center on
Tuesday, September 29th from 12:30 – 6:30 pm.**

Give blood. Every 2 seconds someone in the U.S. needs blood.

American Red Cross

IMPORTANT: Your nomination ballots for Elders & Deacons are in your mailbox. Please fill them out and put them in the box located in the Welcome Center by **Sunday, October 11th.**

C ALENDAR

Mission Speaker. Daniel Pennings will be sharing with us during our worship service on Sunday, September 27. He will be in the area from September 27 – October 4 and lodging with Chip & Ettie Goeman. The Goeman's will be out of town for several days during his time here. If anyone would like to host Daniel for a meal or meet for a visit, Daniel is available for that. Please contact the church office with dates and times.

- *There will be a time for Q & A in the sanctuary after the service on Sunday.*

Next Communion will be on World Communion Sunday. October 4

Sunday School Kick-Off

Kindergarteners - 12th graders, you are invited to join us on September 27th immediately after the church service for our Sunday School Kick-Off party! There will be no lesson this day, but we would love to see you and celebrate the start of a new Sunday School year. Ice-cream sandwiches will be in coolers and handed out to students outside of the front doors this year. See you then!

- There will be a short mandatory teacher meeting immediately following the church service in the youth room to collect materials and gather information on the upcoming year. Thank you for your willingness to serve and teach our youth this year!
- **7-12 Grades (with Todd) are invited to stay for the Q & A with Dan Pennings in the Sanctuary.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL classes for all grades will begin on October 4th.

- Kindergarten class will meet in the Children's Church Room.
- Grades 1-6 will meet in the Sanctuary.
- Grades 7-12 will meet in the Youth Room.

Wednesday Night Classes started last week for the 9th – 11th grades and will begin on Wednesday, September 30th for the 1st-6th grades. ***Doors will not open until 6:45, currently there are no meals, and the Gym is not open to play.*** The Superintendent's will guide and lead you where to go when you get here on Wednesday Night.

Thank you to the many volunteers who have or will be helping with MEALS ON WHEELS in September. They include the following: Al & Lois Ahrenholz, Mary Ahrenholz, Karen Bulthuis, Todd Henker, Gretchen Hilbrands, Jim & Gloria Hilbrands, Lois Kluver, Pam Knapper, Pat Seeman, and Clayton & Elaine Vreeman.

Thank you to those of you who helped to make the Bethany Benefit such a success! This year we were able to serve over 100 more meals than we have served in recent years. Thank you as well to those who supported the community!!

PRAYER

PRAYERS for STRENGTH & HEALING

- ✝ Care Center & Assisted Living Residents
- ✝ Job Seekers during this time of uncertainty & heightened layoffs
- ✝ Our national anxiety and unrest to coronavirus, race relations & elections
- ✝ Bruce Hinrichs
- ✝ Ruth Johnson
- ✝ Deanna Meints
- ✝ Cindy Plowman
- ✝ Milt Wubben
- ✝ Vivian Reiners
- ✝ Randy Janssen had successful surgery to remove a small tumor this past week.

Vernon Onnen died Tuesday, September 15, at Bethesda Grand Nursing Home in Willmar. His funeral service was Friday, September 18, at Bethany Reformed Church.

Delly Schwitters, Jerry's dad, passed away on Tuesday, September 15. His celebration of life service was held on Monday, September 21 at Bunde Christian Reformed Church.

CELEBRATION!

Ryan Wubben & Ashlie Johnson were married on Saturday afternoon, September 12. They and their family and friends had a beautiful day to celebrate! Congratulations Ryan and Ashlie!

BETHANY CONSISTORY.

Elders

Terry Epema
Lee Hagemeyer
Bruce Hinrichs
Chuck Ammermann
Chip Goeman
Dan Wrede
Chuck DeGrote
Calvin Aeikens
Roger Knapper

Deacons

Aaron Pauling
Scott Tomes
Travis Wubben
Mark Hilbrands
Keith Klinghagen
Dan Niemeyer
Riley Aeikens
David Hinrichs
Cory Sietsema

THANKS...

Thank you to the following teachers for volunteering their time to teach every week...we know teaching is a huge commitment & we thank you for being a leader to these great groups of kids!

SUNDAY SCHOOL

- ✕ Kindergarten: Stefanie Epema
- ✕ 1st Grade: Deb Berghuis
- ✕ 2nd Grade: Paul & Krista Childers
- ✕ 3rd & 4th Grade: Nate & Terese Bourne / Allison Warne
- ✕ 5th & 6th Grade: Brian Nelson
- ✕ 7th-12th Grades: Todd Henker
- ✕ 1st – 6th Grade Video Lessons: Stephanie Miller
- ✕ Superintendents: Amanda Pauling & Whitney Nelson

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

- ✕ 1st Grade: Bryan Pauling
- ✕ 2nd Grade: Justin & Kara Dirksen
- ✕ 3rd Grade: Wade Buss
- ✕ 4th Grade: Cheri Aeikens
- ✕ 5th Grade: Nikki Niemeyer
- ✕ 6th Grade: Kari Johnson
- ✕ 9th & 10th Grades: Tyler Wrede
- ✕ 11th Grade: Pastor Matt
- ✕ Superintendents: Jaclyn Sunderland & Allison Pauling

WORSHIP NOTES

"Let those who love Him be like the sun when it comes out in full strength." Judges 5:31

"When we love Him as we should, it makes us warmer, happier, brighter, and more cheerful. It gives us radiance. It provides strength for others. We should study the wonders of God's creation and pray today that the Lord will give us a love for Him that's like the sun, rising in its strength." *(David Jeremiah)*

This coming week we will be working toward the **October schedule**. If you would like to serve in any capacity - projector, sound, instruments, vocal . . . contact Pam. Also, if you have a song request, let her know.

YOUTH NEWS

Leadership Bible Study will resume again on the 13th.

Jr. High youth will be selling Subway Subs up until October 7th. If you would like to order subs and have not been contacted by a youth please call Todd at 320-847-3322 to place your order and we will get them delivered to you. Order slips have been handed out to the Jr. High youth and are also available by Todd's office door. Subs will be delivered on October 19.

PUMPKINS will be available very soon on HWY 23 for those who would like to support the youth. The Pumpkins are grown, picked, and donated by the Bruce Hinrichs Family. There will be a box attached to the flat bed wagon for you to put your payments into.

Just a reminder to the Sr. High and Jr. High youth to check Bethany's web page on a regular basis. **Rocky registration will open on-line on October 1st**, there is a link to the registration from the ACF page on our web site. The summer of 2021 will also be a Power Connection Summer so Jr. High youth look for that information when it comes out.

LOH end of the year party will be held at Todd and Jen's Home on Sunday the 27th at Noon. This is a great way to celebrate all your hard work over the past 4 months. When we offer the next round of Leadership classes after the new year.

Remember if at any time one of the Elementary schools or the High school goes to "distance learning," then that age group will not have Sunday or Wednesday activities while they are "distanced learning" with the exception that youth groups will go to zoom meetings.

REGARDING COVID-19

Bethany's Sunday & Wednesday Night Education Programs

The Below has been decided through the Youth Board, Leadership Committee, Sunday School and Wednesday School Superintendent's, and Todd Henker (Youth Director) that we proceed with the following.

SITUATION

1. If MACCRAY East & West and MACCRAY High School are going to class in school or as Hybrid.
2. If Either of Both MACCRAY East or West are Distance Learning, but MACCRAY High School is going to class in school or Hybrid.
3. If Either or Both MACCRAY East or West are in school or Hybrid, and MACCRAY High School is Distance Learning.
4. If Either or both MACCRAY East & West are Distance Learning and MACCRAY High School is Distance Learning.

RESULT

1. **ALL WILL MEET:** Sunday School, Wednesday Night, & Youth Group's
2. **WILL NOT MEET:** Sunday School or Wednesday Night for Elementary.
WILL MEET: Sunday & Wednesday High School classes as well as Youth Groups.
3. **WILL MEET:** Sunday School or Wednesday Night for Elementary.
WILL NOT MEET: Sunday & Wednesday High School Classes.
Youth Groups will Zoom.
4. **ALL WILL NOT MEET:** Sunday or Wednesday Night Classes.
Youth Groups will Zoom.

In this ever-changing time, we have tried to make it a bit easier for parents to know when and when not to send their youth to our continuing Christian education programs on Sunday and Wednesday Nights here at Bethany. We know that this isn't ideal for all parties who attend Bethany's Christian Educational programs, but we felt it was necessary. We are hoping and praying that this will give us the best chances to keep all youth safe as well as giving us the best chance to continue many of our Christian Educational programming for youth. If you have Questions you may call Todd Henker at 320-847-3322 and I can give you better clarity.

Thank you.

Todd Henker

OCTOBER

Anniversaries

- 8 Tim & Kim Sandry
- 12 Rob & Kari Johnson
- 19 Arvid & Sharon Wieberdink
- 19 Jim & Carmen Grussing
- 25 Randy & Cindy Klinghagen
- 25 Ryan & Stefanie Epema
- 26 Richard & Velma Feldman
- 30 Randy & Cathy Janssen

Birthdays

- | | |
|-----------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Tyler Loe | 21 Jim Hinrichs |
| 1 Evan Loe | 22 Evelyn Epema |
| 2 Tyler Plowman | 23 Lloyd Santjer |
| 2 Kathi Beseman | 23 Caleb Melin |
| 4 Joyce Hinrichs | 23 Joan Groothuis |
| 5 JoHannah Klinghagen | 26 Gary Slagter |
| 5 Cassandra Strommer | 27 Ettie Goeman |
| 9 Kathy Davids | 31 Ardis Gerdes |
| 9 Landin Ahrenholz | 31 Shannon Buss |
| 10 Ron Thomton | |
| 11 Brian Nelson | |
| 14 Kaitlyn Cloutier | |
| 14 Leah Hagemeyer | |
| 15 Ole Sandry | |
| 19 Kim Sandry | |
| 20 Wade Hoekstra | |
| 20 Taylor Tebben | |
| 20 Adrienne Pankratz | |