

## “Basics.....and repeat”

I'm an advocate for repetition. For the fundamentals. I didn't do an analysis of Tampa Bays Super Bowl victory over the Chiefs, but I'm sure it had a lot to do with the repeated implementation of the fundamentals, like defense and solid blocking. They did the basics over and over, and they did them well. Doing the basics over and over and doing them well has a predictable result: Victory. Celebration. Joy.

Sometimes we just have to get back to the basics, and repeat, don't we? Life is better with victory, celebration, and joy. The last couple weeks we've been reflecting on joy and the basic and repeatable process by which we get that desired result. I am going to recap them here so that we have them written and ready to repeat, day in and day out.

Remember now, these are the basics, which means that overall, they are not complicated. This is simple math, add these and subtract this. First, these fundamentals are all relational. Our joy is contingent upon our relationships. Poverty is not a lack of cash, it's a lack of relational riches, and our first source of that richness is in our relationship with God and His Word. The written Word of God is “a lamp to our feet and a light for our path.” In the written Word of God we are pointed to the Word made flesh, Jesus Christ, in whom our joy is complete. Romans 15:13 says, “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him.” All joy and peace are found in Christ. 1 Peter 1:8-9 says the very same thing, that in Him we “are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.” The nurturing of our relationship with God through communion with Him in prayer and pondering His Word is the secret to the riches of joy. A rich reality that is not dependent upon the bank statement or the circumstance. It doesn't mean we don't struggle; we do. But we struggle with a rock of refuge under our feet and with a peace and a hope in our heart that sustains our courage and confidence.

So one, daily communion with our Lord and His Word brings joy. Two, our relationships with others. Gatherings, whether small or large, in the context of Christ centered companionship provide the challenge and encouragement we need for support. The letters of the New Testament are all for the encouragement and guidance of the church gathering. We need each other to stay on track, to point us back onto the path as needed, and for support and celebration. We are communal creatures, we need each other to survive, and to thrive.

Also, we have an intuition to serve. Our greatest stories have service and sacrifice at their core. There is a swell of goodness within us when we give ourselves for the better of another. That swell of goodness is joy. Philippians 2 is a treatise on God's example of service, and scripture is replete with the nudge for us to do the same. Our service is an expression of God's imprint upon us and so, when we do that, not surprisingly, we feel joy. It is the divine life finding expression through us, and that is filling. Someone once wrote, “I slept and dreamt that life was joy. I awoke and saw that live was service. I acted and behold, service was joy.”

Joy is found in our relationships and in our service of others. The riches of that goodness finds its fullest expression and completeness in Christ and is sustained in our daily meditation upon His Word and the ways of His Spirit. May we be faithful, yes, repetitive in these fundamentals and find that joy that lifts and gives life.

*Matt Will*

# Bethany Church

Reach. Serve. Love.



**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 9:00AM** - masks required

**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10:30AM** - masks optional

- **10-10:30 AM Sunday School**
- **7 PM Wednesday Night Classes**
- **Jr & Sr High Youth Group check the website**

*Every other pew will be roped off to help maintain proper distancing.*

*Sanctuary and communal spaces will be sanitized between services.*

*Disposable masks are available at the welcome center desk.*

*Facebook livestream times may vary. Notices will be sent out with livestream information.*

222 MAIN STREET N | CLARA CITY MN

**Mailing Address: P.O. Box 687**

320.847.3322

*Bethany Doors will be open: Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm  
Saturday & Sunday 8:00 am – 1:00 pm*

Office email : [bethany@hcinet.net](mailto:bethany@hcinet.net)

Bethany Prayer Chain email : [info@bethanychurch-mn.com](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:bethany@hcinet.net)

# SUNDAY GATHERINGS

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

## Directives

***Bethany will have disposable masks available.***

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 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.

## Stay Safe Guidance for Places of Worship

- Stay home when sick.
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from other people.
- Wear face coverings.
- Wash your hands often.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.

# NEWS

Third Sunday Offering on February 21. "Families in Distress." Offerings given will go to help support area families through a difficult situation or loss.

**Winter Weather Notifications.** In the event of Sunday morning winter storms, closure announcements will be posted on the Bethany Facebook Page, the Bethany website, sent out via Prayer Chain, KDMA Radio in Montevideo or KWLM - Willmar and website: [willmarradio.com](http://willmarradio.com)

## PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR CHURCH MAILBOXES!!

# MISSION NEWS



**We are sending two shipping containers to Haiti in 2021! Help us fill them up!**

Children of the Promise faced unprecedented challenges as an organization in 2020. Acquiring the resources our ministry needs to thrive was one of the biggest challenges. Instability in Haiti has forced us to significantly limit travel, drastically adjust according to exchange rates, and limit short-term volunteers... and that was before the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to these factors and uncertainty surrounding international travel, we plan to send shipping containers full of the resources needed to sustain and enhance ministry in Haiti. Here is a list of current and ongoing needs.

Donations can be brought to the Willmar office by **March 1**: 1020 Hwy 71 NE Suite 202

- Appliances
- Basic Toolsets
- Cleaning Supplies
- Children's Summer
- Clothing/Sandals
- Diapers & Wipes
- Facilities Maintenance
- Formula
- Household Items
- Non-Perishable Foods
- Office Supplies & Technology
- Printers, Laptops, Projectors
- Adaptive Playground
- Washing Machine, Gas Range
- Dish Soap, Hand Sanitizer
- Newborn - Size 7 Diapers
- Bug Spray, Yard Tools
- Mattresses, Linens, Towels

# CALENDAR



## Wednesday, February 10

- 7:00 pm Grades 9 -11 Class
- 7:00 pm Jr High Youth (YA)
- 8:00 pm Sr High Youth (AFC)

## Sunday, February 14

- 10:00 am Youth Board (Family Room)
- 3:00 pm Effective Parenting in a Defective World (Sanctuary)
- 4:30 pm The Truth Project (Sanctuary)

## Monday, February 15

- 6:45 pm Elder's Meeting
- 7:00 pm Deacon's Meeting
- 8:20 pm Consistory Meeting

## Wednesday, February 17

- 7:00 pm Catechism Classes
- 7:00 pm Jr High Youth (YA) – small groups
- 8:00 pm Sr High Youth (AFC) – small groups

## Sunday, January 21

- 3:00 pm Effective Parenting in a Defective World (Sanctuary)
- 4:30 pm The Truth Project (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 pm Devotional Journaling Workshop – w/Nici Ahrenholz (Hub)

## Wednesday, February 24

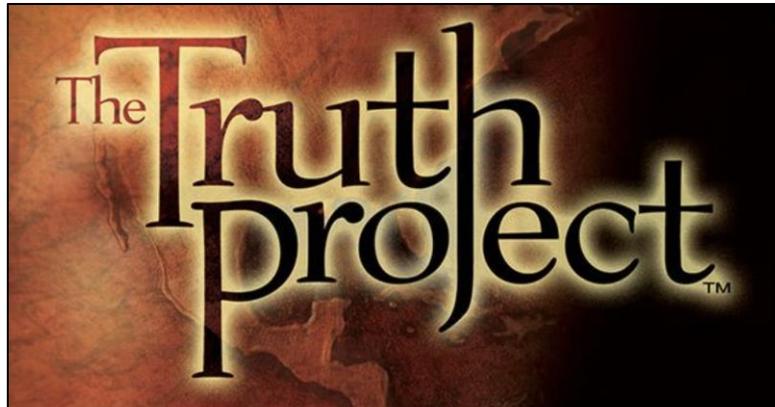
- 7:00 pm Catechism Classes
- 7:00 pm Jr High Youth (YA)
- 8:00 pm Sr High Youth (AFC)

## ON THE HORIZON.

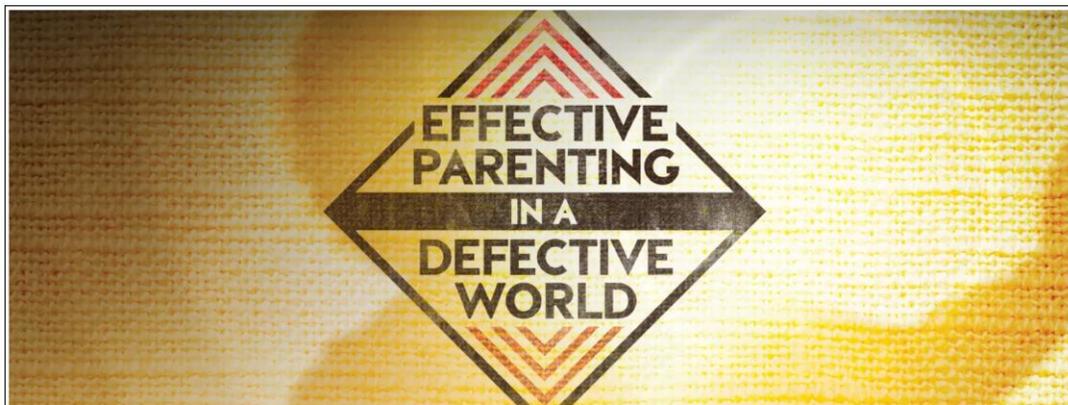
Sunday, March 7 Next Communion Service

Sunday, March 28 Profession of Faith – Palm Sunday

# OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER & GROW



Sundays @ 4:30 PM  
in the Sanctuary



## ENCOURAGEMENT FOR PARENTS

**How to build a bond that lasts a lifetime** →

**Unconditional Love.** "I'm for you no matter what."

**Scheduled Time.** Eat together. Be together. Tell stories.

**Have Fun.** Play games. Laugh. Go to the lake. Take a trip.

**Talk.** Focused attention. Eye contact. Open communication. Phones off!

**Pray.** Mealtime & anytime. "Families that pray together stay together."

## Devotional Journaling Workshop

Mici Ahrenholz will be leading a devotional Journaling workshop at our Church on Sunday February 21 @ 5:30 PM.....

She felt prompted to begin this teaching and has been amazed at the interest shown.

I have asked her to do a workshop at our Church and she graciously accepted.

She will bring all the materials needed to provide for a wonderful night of digging into Scripture, she supplies a short lesson, notes, a scripture study outline and also a blank Journal Page.

You will need to bring YOUR BIBLE...

You will go home with a deeper knowledge of Bible Study techniques and the ability to study on your own, plus a completed journal page and a book maker (You've created)

The workshop will be approximately 1 1/2 to 2 hours long depending on Questions.

Please prayerfully consider attending and bringing a Guest...

Let me know if you can attend so she has time to get supplies she will need.

I am anxious to have her work with us and to see all of you....

Again:

Let me know if you can attend ~ Confirmation \* 320-905-2958

Cost is \$5.00 per person

Bring Your Bible...

This is a Great opportunity  
to Dig into God's Word...

Thank-You...

Jolene Hebrink

Snacks and water will be provided.....

# PRAYER

## PRAYERS for STRENGTH & HEALING

- ✝ Leonard & Kathryn Klinghagen are both in the Clara City Care Center.
  - ✝ Paul Childer's dad, Randy, passed away on Sunday, February 7.
  - ✝ Darlene Andresen has moved out of her Assisted Living due to deteriorating health. She is now at Highland Chateau Rehab Center in St. Paul. Her address is:
    - ✝ Sharon Asche
    - ✝ Bruce Hinrichs
    - ✝ Ruth Johnson
    - ✝ Deanna Meints
    - ✝ Milt Wubben
    - ✝ Vivian Reiners
    - ✝ Care Center & Assisted Living Residents.
- Darlene Andresen  
Highland Chateau Rehab Ctr  
2319 7<sup>th</sup> St W #114E  
St Paul, MN 55116  
Ph# 320-979-3550

The Care Center is open for visitors. There is a limit of 10 guests in the facility at any given time, so please contact the Care Center office before coming to ensure they are within the limit — (320) 847-2221

# THANKS

Dear PRECIOUS Prayer Shawl Knitters,  
Thank you so very much for the prayer shawl you sent with Paul Childers for us (his parents). We are SO BLESSED by your prayers, information shared – and the shawl itself!! As I pray with my sister, I am surrounded by it's beauty and soft texture – and your way of sharing his love! We know who holds our future, and thank you for encouraged to keep on with your ministry – you never know how far the ripples go! Because of Jesus, Randy & MaryAnn

# YOUTH NEWS

## **ROCKY**

- **Needed 1 female sponsor for Rocky Mountain High.**
- **Leaving the evening of July 30 – Mid afternoon August 4<sup>th</sup>.**
- **Contact Todd if interested.**

Small groups will meet on Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. Contact your small group leader as to where you will meet.

Youth Board will be Sunday, February 14<sup>th</sup> from 10 – 10:30 AM in the Family Room.

# WORSHIP NOTES

*"Sanctify them by the truth; Your Word is Truth."*

*John 17:17*

Would you like to memorize scripture in a unique Bible adventure? See Pam's office bulletin board to get more information on this fun way to memorize 26 scripture verses. ALL ages are invited to embark on this challenge. Grab a copy of the verses and let Pam know you are committed to this. Let's be in **THIS** together!

Excerpts from the mini-movie shown on February 7th: "The Word of God is a mirror, showing us who we really are. We don't just read the Word of God. It reads us. It's a treasure, beautiful in every dimension and worth every effort of discovery. It brings endless joy and eternal riches to all who find it. It's a fire spreading across the world to bring heat and light. It's a river bringing life and power to everything it touches. The Word of God is a seed planted deep inside of our hearts producing the fruit of holiness and righteousness. The Word of God is a sword dividing true and false, right and wrong, good and evil. So let the voice of God be the first, the last and the loudest voice in our ears - Today! Tomorrow! And the rest of our lives!

**Come . . . let's memorize scripture together.**

	<u>SOUND</u>	<u>PROJECTOR</u>
February 7	Jerry Schwitters	Brenda Schwitters
February 14	Scott Tomes/Garrett Struxness	Carter Tomes/Logan Dirksen
February 21	Austin Sweep	Megan Struxness/Renae Epema
February 28	Landin Ahrenholz/Benny Miller	Nikki Niemeyer

Thank you, also to our vocalists:

† Alison, Elizabeth and Sadie Koenen – February 7<sup>th</sup>.

† Lee, Carin & Connor Hagemeyer – February 14<sup>th</sup>.

And to the instrumentalists who have share their talents, we are grateful: John Hagemeyer, Joyce Hinrichs, Ashley Sietsema, and Carly Hagemeyer.

## **Consistory Positions & Committees 2021**

President

Pastor Matthew Miller

Vice President

Dan Wrede

Clerk

Chip Goeman

Chairman of the Deacons

Keith Klinghagen

General Fund Treasurer

Mark Hilbrands

Mission Fund Treasurer

Keith Klinghagen

Building Fund Treasurer

David Hinrichs

Cemetery Fund Treasurer

Wade Buss

### **Worship Committee**

\*Chip Goeman

Cory Sietsema

Kim Sandry

Pam Knapper

### **Leadership Committee**

\*Dan Wrede

Chuck DeGrote

Keith Klinghagen

Brad Hebrink

Pastor Matt Miller

### **Education & Youth Committee**

\*Mark Hilbrands

Riley Aeikens

Wade Buss

Todd Henker

### **Mission/Outreach Committee**

\*Keith Klinghagen

Calvin Harms

Scott Ruiter

### **Fellowship/Congregational Care**

\*Dan Niemeyer

Roger Knapper

Ron Thomton

### **Property Committee**

\*Chuck Ammermann

David Hinrichs

John Hagemeyer

# FEBRUARY

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## Anniversaries

- 13 Robert & Diann Dirksen
- 16 Leonard & Kathryn Klinghagen
- 16 Dalen & Janice Caspers
- 20 Dalen & Karen Wieberdink
- 24 John & Audrey Arends
- 24 Bryan & Allison Pauling
- 27 John & Janice Zimmer



## Birthdays

- |                     |                     |                       |
|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Karen Wieberdink  | 10 Colton Ammermann | 20 Susan Sweep        |
| 2 Brinly Sietsema   | 11 Keith Klinghagen | 21 Jason Groen        |
| 3 Brady Madsen      | 11 Jan Petersen     | 21 Danelle Aviles     |
| 3 Vicky Hinrichs    | 11 Lucas Koenen     | 23 Greg Rhode         |
| 4 Roger Knapper     | 12 Aiden Buss       | 23 Elizabeth Hinrichs |
| 5 Marlin Ammermann  | 13 Lois Hoekstra    | 25 Roger Bulthuis     |
| 6 Richard Feldman   | 13 Asher Koenen     | 25 Ella Bourne        |
| 6 Dalton Ruiter     | 13 Kendall Koenen   | 26 Shannon Ahrenholz  |
| 6 Ryan Epema        | 13 Lyla Thielen     | 26 Jeannie Cavaness   |
| 6 Rhett Enger       | 14 Cindy DeGrote    | 27 Audrey Koenen      |
| 8 Justin Dirksen    | 15 Gary Aeikens     | 27 JoLinda Niemeyer   |
| 9 Eunice Onnen      | 15 Amy Schwitters   | 27 Graysen Dirksen    |
| 9 Willie TerWisscha | 15 Drue Schwitters  | 28 Troy Sweep         |
| 9 Corey Abbas       | 18 Janice Harms     | 28 Korine Sommers     |
| 9 Kari Johnson      |                     | 28 John Zimmer        |

