

THE WALK TO THE MANGER

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS AT BETHEL WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

CHRISTMAS EVE | HIGHLANDS CAMPUS | CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICE | 10:00AM

CHRISTMAS EVE | HIGHLANDS CAMPUS | 2:00PM, 4:00PM, 6:00PM

CHRISTMAS EVE | DOWNTOWN CAMPUS | 8:00PM

CHRISTMAS DAY | HIGHLANDS CAMPUS | HYMNS & STORIES | 10:00AM



 **BETHEL**
CONNECT. GROW. SERVE
920 Third Street
Hudson, WI 54016

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
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54016
Permit #79

Please check
for the latest updates
regarding worship,
classes, and events at:
bethelhudson.org



December
2023
Volume 8
Issue 12

BETHEL CONNECTIONS

Christmas Caroling

Spread the holiday
cheer this season!
A group from Bethel
will be caroling at
local senior living
facilities on
December 21 from
4:30-7:30pm.

Additional details
and registration at
bethelhudson.org

WALK WITH US TO THE MANGER

During the holiday season, most of us look forward to long-held traditions that have brought us comfort and joy. It reduces our anxiety to know what to expect and who is going to bring the mashed potatoes or the pie. During the past year at Bethel, we have tried to maintain a steady, even keel and stand strong through change and uncertainty, by maintaining long-held Bethel traditions. We've also continued to focus on our mission of connecting, growing, and serving God and others. The staff, our church council, and each one of you, have played a role in keeping Bethel on track to meet our goals and objectives and to continue to thrive during transition. We frequently hear comments about Bethel's inspiring worship services, uplifting music, life-changing youth programming, and thought-provoking studies. New members continue to flock to Bethel, and we are inching closer and closer to meeting our financial goals, even during economically challenging times.

Most of all, we have held tightly to the basis of our faith by preaching, teaching, and living the Gospel. During the Advent and Christmas seasons, we recall Jesus, the Living Word, entering the world as a baby in the humble setting of Bethlehem. This story continues to bring comfort all these years later, as it so beautifully expresses God's unconditional and unfathomable love for us. This message has survived and thrived over two thousand years, because each one of us refuses to let it stay in the manger. We share our faith with others and continue to walk forward with confidence that God will be as faithful tomorrow as He has been with us today.

IN-PERSON WORSHIP AT BETHEL

SUNDAYS 9:00AM | CONTEMPORARY SERVICE | HIGHLANDS CAMPUS

LIVESTREAMED ON BETHEL'S WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE, & YOUTUBE CHANNEL

SUNDAYS 10:30AM | TRADITIONAL SERVICE | DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

LIVESTREAMED ON BETHEL'S WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE, & YOUTUBE CHANNEL



facebook.com/blchudson/

 Stay Connected



PASTORAL STAFF

Kris Kurzejeski, Adult Ministries Pastor
Ladd Sonnenberg, Youth & Families Pastor

YOUTH MINISTRY STAFF

Jake Summerville, High School Ministry
Cindy Halunen, Middle School Ministry
Matt Aubart, Middle School Ministry
Carole DeJardin, Children's Ministry
Marcie Andrews, Youth Ministry
Communication Director

MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF

Skip James, Traditional Music Director
Craig Koehnen, Contemporary Worship Director
Sonja McGill, Handbell Director

SUPPORT STAFF

Gwen Cossin, Business Administrator
Tammy Huberty, Administrative Assistant
Kathy Jeska, Worship Support Coordinator
Hannah Cobian, Communications Director
Koreen Theisen, Event Coordinator
John Lischewski, Donations Accountant
Patrick Willson, Media Technician

FACILITY & CUSTODIAL STAFF

Cory Wong, Facilities Manager
Will Jeska, Facilities Support Specialist

BETHEL HIGHLANDS PRESCHOOL,

Missy Austreng, Director of Programming
Michelle Webb Operations Manager

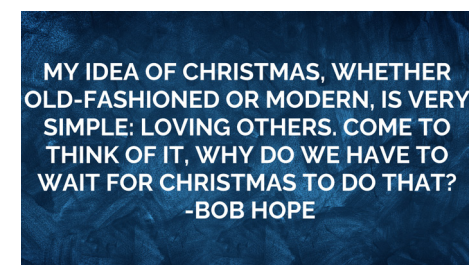
Staff can be reached via email through
bethelhudson.org/about/staff

DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

920 Third Street | Hudson, WI
715.386.8821

HIGHLANDS CAMPUS

504 Frontage Road | Hudson, WI



Bethel is an amazing place where we are blessed with so much, that it has allowed us the great privilege of sharing amongst ourselves and with our larger community. This time of year, when it is darker outside for longer periods of time, and where holidays can bring loneliness and grief for those missing a loved one around the table, we are needed, more than ever, to be like the shining star over the manger that kept pointing to Jesus and kept the focus on what was most important.

One way you can "Walk With Us" in doing this is by making a tax-deductible end of the year gift to Bethel so that we can end this year, and start the new one, in strong financial standing. Another way you can continue to "Walk With Us" is by inviting others to join us for one of our five Christmas Eve services. As in the past, we will have a 10 am family service at the Highlands campus. We will also have a 2 pm and 4 pm traditional service at the Highlands, a 6 pm contemporary service at Highlands, and an 8 pm traditional service Downtown. All these services will include carols, communion, and candle lighting. Then on Christmas Day, we will have a 10 am service at the Highlands with caroling, hearing the stories behind the carols, and sharing Holy Communion. During "The Walk To The Manger" in the next few weeks, we will hear our children share the Gospel through word and song, we will sing familiar hymns, and we will rejoice that we are able to hold dear the greatest story that has ever been told – and we have the great privilege to share it with others.

On behalf of the pastors, the staff, and all our families, we want to say thank you for keeping the faith, for trusting us to help guide this journey, and for remaining hopeful that we can continue to make an impact for Christ in the St. Croix Valley, and beyond, throughout the coming year. We pray that you and your family may have a blessed and safe Christmas. We look forward to walking with you in 2024!

Merry Christmas,
Pastor Ladd and Pastor Kris



CONNECT
WITH US
ONLINE



FACEBOOK.COM/BLCHUDSON/



YOUTUBE: BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH HUDSON WI



INSTAGRAM: BETHELHUDSON



BETHEL@BETHELHUDSON.ORG



Visit Bethel's Facebook page to view more photos from recent events

Youth

2023-2024 YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Classes have started, but registration remains open!

Details & Registration at bethelhudson.org/youth for Sunday School through 9th Grade Confirmation

Youth Ministry KEY DATES

DEC 9	9:00-11:00AM K-5 Christmas Program Rehearsal
DEC 10	9:00AM K-5 Christmas Program
DEC 17	9:00AM Preschool Christmas Program K-5 Birthday Party for Jesus
DEC 20	No Wednesday Classes 7:00PM High School Youth Group - Christmas Party
DEC 24	10:00AM Family Christmas Eve Worship
DEC 27	No Wednesday Classes 7:00PM - 7:00AM High School Youth Group - Movie & Gaming Marathon
DEC 31	No Sunday School

SUNDAY SCHOOL Birthday Party FOR JESUS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17

DURING SUNDAY SCHOOL

HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE !

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS

The Crippled Lamb
K-5 Program
Sunday, December 10, during 9:00am worship

Angels
Preschool Program
Sunday, December 17 during 9:00am worship

High School Youth Group

MOVIE & GAMING Marathon

Bethel Downtown
Wednesday, December 27, 7pm - Thursday, December 28, 7am

Details at bethelhudson.org

MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

EVENTS JUST FOR YOU!

Details & registration coming soon ...

- Middle School Lock-in (January)
- Middle School Ski Trip (February)

2024 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING
July 16-20, 2024

2024 High School Youth Group Ski Trip

LUTSEN MOUNTAIN
January 12-15

Details & registration at bethelhudson.org or scan the code

2024 MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

MILWAUKEE
June 16-21

2024 HIGH SCHOOL MISSION TRIP

Walking in MEMPHIS
JUNE 21-27

Nursery Birth - 3 Years

Sundays during 9:00am worship
Activity bags available at both locations
Nursery Volunteers Wanted!
Contact Mandy (amanda.gibbs213@gmail.com)

Bethel offers a variety of options for you to grow in your faith with Bible Studies. Details at bethelhudson.org

Dorcas Gathering: December 14 | 9:30AM | Downtown Fellowship Hall

Mary Gathering: December 14 | 1:00PM | Downtown Conference Room

Ruth Gathering: December 14 | 2:00PM | Downtown Lounge

Naomi Gathering: December 11 | 1:00PM | Janet Gavic's Home

ABC Bible Study: Mondays | 8:30AM | Via Zoom

ABC strives to promote an atmosphere where all feel welcome to join the discussion - there is no prep needed! Contact Karen at kypavlis@gmail.com for more information and the Zoom link

Men's Bible Study: Saturdays | 8:00AM | Highlands Campus

This group welcomes any man who would like to attend. Contact Aethan at hartav@comcast.net for the details.

Men's Fellowship Breakfast and Bible Study: Meet at Key's Cafe on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00AM. New members are always welcome. Contact Curt at: Truclarson1@gmail.com

JOSHUA
STRONG AND COURAGEOUS

Join Matt Aubart in a Bible Study on the Book of Joshua!
Tuesdays from January 9-February 13 at 6PM
Bethel Downtown Fellowship Hall

Details and Registration at bethelhudson.org

Christmas SHADOWBOX CREATION

DECEMBER 14th
BETHEL HIGHLANDS YOUTH ROOM
from 6-7pm

DETAILS AND REGISTRATION AT BETHELHUDSON.ORG
MUST REGISTER BY DECEMBER 7

NEW YEARS EVE SERVICES

SUNDAY WORSHIP WILL BE HELD AS USUAL AT 9AM AND 10:30AM ON SUNDAY, DECEMBER 31.

ADDITIONAL BETHEL WORSHIP DETAILS CAN BE FOUND ONLINE AT BETHELHUDSON.ORG

ACTIVITIES

You are invited to be a part of the following activities to connect at Bethel!

Quilting

Friday, December 8 & Tuesday, December 26
Downtown, Fellowship Hall | 9:00AM

Hardanger

Thursdays, December 7 & 21
Downtown, Conference Room | 1:00PM

BETHEL BREWS & BROS

Men of Bethel,
Join us for snacks, local brews, and fellowship with friends!

Friday, December 15
Hop & Barrel, Hudson
5:00 - 7:00PM

BOOK CLUB

December 6
1:00-3:00PM
Downtown Fellowship Hall

The Only Woman in the Room
by Marie Benedict

Thank you to all who supported the Operation Help Giving Tree! Thanks to the generous Bethel donors and wonderful volunteers, we were able to provide 43 local children Christmas gifts this season!



THANKS FOR 150 YEAR CELEBRATION!

Dear Bethel Friends,

Our 150th anniversary year for Bethel is coming to a close. Looking back, it was a wonderful year with our celebration in April and the dedication of our Fabric of Bethel quilt. We give thanks to all of you who volunteered to help in many ways for this special milestone. Your teamwork in preparing for the spring celebration and the design and sewing on the quilt is greatly appreciated. At the center of the quilt is the cross, a reminder to all of us of His resurrection, where we were given a restored life, the Tree of Life. We give thanks for all of you as we continue onward with our soulful purpose to Connect, Grow and Serve in the glory of His name.

Special mention for the following volunteers who helped construct the quilt; Jan Clymer- first volunteer and chief organizer, Patti Thacker, Joanie Scheffen, Sandy Larson, Karen Jacobs, Monica Weekes, Jill Nasvik, Pam Loeffler, Mary Gerzmehle, Deb Green, Gail Nolan, Deb Anderson, Wendy Helm, Cid Phillip (hardanger), Karen Pavlis, Roger Pavlis (display frame), Marge Sandfort and Jane Dahlin (refreshments and fellowship), Diane Wolf (writing the story of "Fabric of Bethel").

The 150th Anniversary Committee included Kelle Anderson, Hannah Erickson, Pastor Kris, Roger and Karen Pavlis, Ron and Nancy Langness, Barb and Doug Peterson, Kaaren Barlow, Andrea Herzan, Edith Lampman, and Tim and Gale Reams.



BETHEL HIGHLANDS PRESCHOOL



WE ARE THANKFUL!

BHP kids' monthly affirmation was I am thankful. What are we thankful for? Many are things you are a part of and have provided. Here's just a start:

- The space, property, and facility at BHP!
- Our specialists Miss Sara, Mr. Skip, Miss Erica and others!
- Our friends and teachers!



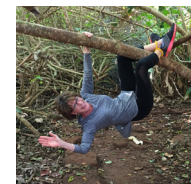

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

Bethel Lutheran has a strong ministry of disciples and volunteers who are selfless and humble before God and others in the countless ways they serve.



This month we celebrate an extraordinary volunteer, Edith Lampman, with grateful hearts for the many ways she gives her time and talents. Edith and her husband, Slater, have been Bethel members for 37 years. They raised their two daughters—now adults—Elizabeth and Allison, in Hudson and at Bethel.

Over the years, Edith's commitment to serving has gone above and beyond with the ways she volunteers and brings happiness to her church family. When her girls were young, Edith taught Sunday School Pre-K music and led the Christmas programs for multiple years. Her musical talents are many and she started playing with the Chime Choir in the mid 1990s which later became the Bell Choir, where she continues to play. She also sings, and has been the drama director for the Lenten skits. Edith has been on the congregational life committee, served as council president, assisted with Scandinavian Food Fest, and was on the prior transitional team. She serves as an usher and is part of the altar care/communion set-up team. In addition, Edith had a big part with Bethel's 150th Anniversary Celebration planning committee, delving deep into research for presentation of Bethel's history. Outside of Bethel, Edith volunteers at Hudson Food Cupboard.



Edith received her degree in Institutional Housekeeping at North Dakota State. She worked in the industry prior to raising her daughters, then worked various jobs to accommodate her role as a mother. Before retiring, Edith worked at St. Paul Eye Care for many years and continues to "fill in" occasionally.

A goal for Edith and Slater—in their retirement—is to travel to all the National Parks. She likes to golf, hike, knit and read. She also enjoys gardening and playing the piano.

Edith, your Bethel family is grateful and inspired by the endless ways you serve. We commend you and thank you for your continuous commitment to our church, and how you spread joy to others.

"Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven."

Now Hiring

DIRECTOR OF

MIDDLE SCHOOL MINISTRY

DIRECTOR OF

HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY

Contact Pastor Ladd with interest or recommendations



JOIN A TEAM FROM BETHEL AT FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN!

Saturday, December 16
11:30AM-1:15PM
FMSC in Eagan, MN

Details and Registration
at bethelhudson.org


Hudson Outreach
Meals for Everyone

The H.O.M.E. committee serves **FREE** meals in the Fellowship Hall and to-go meal boxes to **EVERYONE** on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of this month. Volunteers always welcome!

Upcoming Meal:
Thursdays, December 7 & 21
5-6PM | Downtown Campus

Details at
bethelhudson.org/serve/local

RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE



Friday, December 15
Noon-6:00PM
Downtown Campus

Details and Registration
at bethelhudson.org