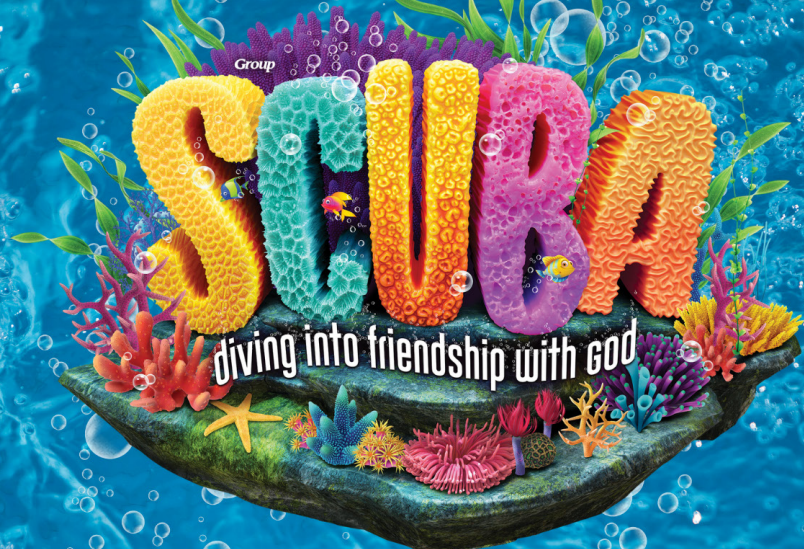


# Dive into Bethel's 2024 Vacation Bible School

**K-5**  
July 15-19  
9am - noon



**Preschool**  
July 22-25  
9-11am

Details & Registration for Participants & Volunteers at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org) or scan the codes.

K5 Participant



K5 Volunteer



Preschool Participant



Preschool Volunteer



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Hudson, WI  
54016  
Permit #79

Please check for the latest updates regarding worship, classes, and events at: [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org)



May  
2024  
Volume 9  
Issue 5

# BETHEL CONNECTIONS

## NEXT CHAPTER



HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!  
SUNDAY, MAY 12

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP AND RECEIVE A SPECIAL GIFT IN HONOR OF MOMS OF ALL KINDS!

By now when you hear "Next Chapter" you are probably thinking of our group of adults who gather together for social events outside the church. As amazing as this group is, the "Next Chapter" that I am referring to is our next chapter here at Bethel. As many of you know, on Sunday, April 28th following the 9:00am worship service, the congregation voted to call me as the new Lead Pastor. I want to say thank you to everyone who has been a part of this process, the Call Committee, the Synod, the Staff, the Congregation, and my family and friends. There are so many amazing things happening at Bethel already. By each of us living out Bethel's mission statement, we are changing lives for Christ both near and far. At the same time we celebrate all we have done and are doing, Pastor Kris and I would like to share with you that we are looking to the next chapter in the life of Bethel. Just this past month, Pastor Kris and I met with the council to propose a "First 90-days" plan. To be clear this plan is not one that Pastor Kris and I have come up with (though we have ideas). This is one that we are inviting the staff, council, and you the congregation, as our theme states to, "Walk With Us" in developing with us.

In my first 90 days, Pastor Kris and I want to hear from you considering what you believe are the most important things the church is doing and what we need to be focusing on. We believe moving forward as Bethel (church and preschool) we want to make sure we have a strong foundation to be able to stand on. Much like our Downtown Campus neighbor (the Phipps's house) before they began to expand the house, they first attended to the foundation of the house so that it can be strong and ready to handle whatever lies ahead of it. Here at Bethel Pastor Kris, the Church Council, and myself feel this is equally important. What are the things we need to address today, so we can be ready for whatever God has prepared for us tomorrow? Over the next 90-days we will be meeting with the Staff, Council, and the

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



Bethel Lutheran Church, Hudson, WI

[facebook.com/blchudson/](https://facebook.com/blchudson/)

Stay Connected



**PASTORAL STAFF**

Ladd Sonnenberg, Lead Pastor  
Kris Kurzejeski, Adult Ministries Pastor

**YOUTH MINISTRY STAFF**

Cindy Halunen, Middle School Ministry  
Matt Aubart, High 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,**

Michelle Webb, Interim Director of Programming  
Leah Knutson, Interim Assitant Director

Staff can be reached via email through  
[bethelHUDSON.org/about/staff](mailto:bethelHUDSON.org/about/staff)

**DOWNTOWN CAMPUS**

920 Third Street | Hudson, WI  
715.386.8821

**HIGHLANDS CAMPUS**

504 Frontage Road | Hudson, WI

Congregation to learn what your thoughts are. You are invited to attend a listening session in May where you will have a chance to share your thoughts as well as your questions. Once we collect these thoughts, we will begin to categorize them along with the Executive Committee and Council in order to create committees and action teams which will then create an action plan on how we move forward on accomplishing them. It is our hope that in these "First 90-days" these committees and action teams will be up and running. Throughout this process we will continue to keep you informed and a part of the conversation.

We are so excited to see what God has in store for us in the future, and we are also excited to see how God is going to work through Bethel in the next 90-days to begin to solidify our foundation, so that we can continue to be a united front living out our mission of connecting, growing, and serving.

Thank you again for believing in me. I am excited to continue to partner with Pastor Kris as we look to our "Next Chapter" here at Bethel.

All God's Blessings,  
Pastor Ladd Sonnenberg

**BINGO AT BETHEL**  
TUESDAY, MAY 7  
DOWNTOWN CAMPUS, FELLOWSHIP HALL  
PIZZA 5:30-6:00PM | BINGO 6-8:00 PM  
BRING \$10 FOR PIZZA/BINGO CARDS  
DETAILS AND REGISTRATION  
AT [BETHELHUDSON.ORG](http://BETHELHUDSON.ORG)

**2025 Tanzania Trip**  
June 28 - July 13, 2025  
Approximate Cost: \$1700/person  
Airfare: \$2500-\$3000/person  
**Informational Meeting:**  
Thursday, May 2nd at 6:30PM  
Downtown Campus, Engedi

THE LUTHERAN CENTRE  
ACCOMMODATION, RESTAURANT & CONFERENCE  
P.O. BOX 511, IRINGA  
TANZANIA  
Email: [LutheranCentreTanzania@gmail.com](mailto:LutheranCentreTanzania@gmail.com)

**2024 Annual ALL CHURCH CAMPING TRIP**  
Friday - Sunday, June 7-9  
Apple River Family Campground  
Somerset, WI  
For details & registration go to [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org) or scan the code.

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE

[BETHELHUDSON.ORG](http://BETHELHUDSON.ORG)

FACEBOOK: [FACEBOOK.COM/BLCHUDSON/](https://www.facebook.com/blchudson/)

YOUTUBE: [BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH HUDSON WI](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC...)

INSTAGRAM: [BETHELHUDSON](https://www.instagram.com/bethelHUDSON)

[BETHEL@BETHELHUDSON.ORG](mailto:BETHEL@BETHELHUDSON.ORG)



**WALK WITH US**  
AS WE GROW IN FAITH AS  
BETHEL MEMBERS,  
VOLUNTEERS,  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS,  
MUSICIANS,  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS,  
AND BROTHERS &  
SISTERS IN CHRIST!

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

## 2023-2024 YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Programming for the current school year has wrapped up. The summer is full of opportunities for all ages! Registration for '24-'25 Sunday School through 9th Grade Confirmation will open this summer.

### Youth Ministry KEY DATES

- MAY 1** Wednesday Programming  
Final Night of 2023-24 Wednesday Programming (6th - 12th grades)
- MAY 5** 9:00AM  
Last Day of Sunday School  
Bethel Palooza following SS
- MAY 12** 9:00AM  
Mother's Day Liturgical Dance (2nd & 3rd graders)
- MAY 19** Graduation Sunday  
9:00 - Blessing in Worship  
10:00 - Graduation Brunch

## Nursery Birth - 3 Years

Returning regularly in September

During the summer there is space in the back of the Narthex with toys for children with wiggles who want to play. There are activity bags as well.

**Bethel likes to see kids in worship!**

If you have questions or nursery needs, contact Carole DeJardin (cdejardin@bethelHUDSON.org)

## BETHEL PALOOZA

Following Sunday School on May 5

Enjoy a **snack lunch** then be entertained with an all-ages show of **illusions, jokes & balloon animals!**

Details at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org)

## FLAT JESUS!

Where are you and Jesus going this summer?

Kids - get your Flat Jesus on the last day of Sunday School - May 5!

Take Jesus with you wherever you go, snap a photo and send it to [mandrews@bethelHUDSON.org](mailto:mandrews@bethelHUDSON.org) so we can share it with others!

## MOTHER'S DAY LITURGICAL DANCE

2nd & 3rd Grade

Sunday, May 12 | 9am worship

These boys & girls will express their gratitude for moms through dance!

## 4TH/5TH GRADE SWIM PARTY

MAY 19, 2-4PM  
SUPER 8 | HUDSON

Details & Registration at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org) or scan the code

## Bethel Honors the Class of 2024

Sunday, May 19

9:00 - GRADUATION BLESSING  
\*Message given by student at all worship services  
10:00 - BRUNCH

Scan the QR Code for details & reservations



Follow the Bethel website, eConnect, Facebook and family emails for upcoming youth events for all ages!

Bethel offers a variety of options for you to grow in your faith with Bible Studies. Details at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org)

**Naomi Gathering:** May 13 | 1:30PM | Shirley McKercher's Home

**Dorcas Gathering:** May 9 | 9:30AM | Downtown Fellowship Hall

**Mary Gathering:** May 9 | 1:00PM | Downtown Conference Room

**Ruth Gathering:** May 9 | 2:00PM | Bonnie Knutson'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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:Truclarson1@gmail.com)

## New Member Class

Bethel Lutheran Church

Saturday, May 4 | 9am-Noon  
Bethel Highlands Campus  
Details and registration at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org) or scan here!

## SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON

Monday, May 13 | Noon-1:30pm  
Bethel Highlands Campus  
Cost: \$12

Register online at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org)  
Must register and submit payment by May 7.

## HOME MEAL VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP POSITION OPEN!

THE H.O.M.E. COMMITTEE SERVES FREE MEALS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AND TO-GO MEAL BOXES TO EVERYONE. VOLUNTEERS ALWAYS WELCOME!  
DETAILS AT [BETHELHUDSON.ORG/SERVE/LOCAL](http://BETHELHUDSON.ORG/SERVE/LOCAL)

PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE WITH INTEREST IN THE VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP POSITION!

## ACTIVITIES

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

### Quilting

Friday, May 10 & Tuesday, May 28  
Downtown, Fellowship Hall | 9:00AM

### Hardanger

Thursdays, May 2 & 16  
Downtown, Conference Room | 1:00PM

## LIFE EVENTS

### Baptisms

Jameson Alexander Motu, April 14, 2024  
Drew Avery McAthie, April 28, 2024

### Funerals

Hayes Joseph Pien, April 6, 2024  
Gloria Gaynor, April 22, 2024  
Elizabeth Lampman, April 27, 2024  
Benét Winberg, April 29, 2024

## BETHEL BREWS & BROS

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

Friday, May 17  
Hop & Barrel, Hudson  
5:00 - 7:00PM

## BETHEL BOOK CLUB

All who love to read and discuss books are welcome to join!

Wednesday, May 1 | 1:00PM  
Downtown Fellowship Hall

This Month's Book:  
Lost Roses by Martha Hall Kelly



# NEW! COMPOSTING AT BETHEL HIGHLANDS CAMPUS BATHROOMS

We are excited to introduce composting of paper towels in our bathrooms at Highlands. This is part of our effort to reduce Bethel's contribution to landfills and greenhouse gas emissions. Soon, you will notice the addition of a receptacle and signage in the Highlands bathrooms that will direct you to place your used paper towels (only) in a composting bin, and everything else in a trash bin. We need your help – please read the signs, and place your paper towels in the appropriate bin. Everything else goes in the trash bin. Help your children and grandchildren learn this new routine. We'll form this habit together, in no time.

Early in 2023, the Creation Care Team began helping the congregation compost paper products and food waste at Lenten Suppers and other Bethel events. When we do this, only butter packets and creamer cups go in the trash. For example, at the final Lenten Supper of 2024, we collected about one gallon of trash destined for the landfill. And, we collected about 120 gallons of compostable waste headed for the composting site in Hastings. Composting paper towels used in the Highlands bathrooms will expand these efforts – less for the landfill and more soil for farms and gardens!

If we can recruit additional volunteer composting coaches, we can expand composting at Bethel even more. Would you be interested in volunteering once every month or two at a Bethel event, to gently guide Bethel members in placing their trash in the appropriate bin? Or, would you be willing to drive bags of compost to Hastings? Training will be provided to all volunteers! If you are interested, please contact Vicki Datt at 715-410-3800 or at vickidatt@gmail.com.



## BETHEL HIGHLANDS PRESCHOOL

# COLOR fun run

Saturday, May 11  
Bethel Highlands Preschool



Come out on a trek around the BHP property while getting colorful! The fun begins at 10:30am and includes:

- Color Fun Run** • **Food Trucks**
- Raffles** • **Music** • **Activities**

REGISTER TODAY!



Scan here or visit [bhphudson.org](http://bhphudson.org)



## VOLUNTEERS OF THE MONTH

Volunteers are the backbone of our ministry at Bethel and involve those who come from many ages and stages of life. Those who are so willing to share their time and gifts in multiple ways.



We feature not one, but two outstanding individuals—at once—who have been married since 1958. Doug and Barb Peterson are long time Bethel members. Doug goes back to 1949 and Barb joined after marriage. They have raised three children: Tamara, Greg and Dan, and have seven grandchildren, ages 24 to 35.

Both Doug and Barb have been actively engaged in various ways over the many years they've attended Bethel Lutheran. Doug has served on the council, not once but twice. He has sung in the choir for all the years he has been a member. Barb, too, has sung in the choir for all of the years she has been at Bethel. A true testament of togetherness and sharing their talent. Barb has taught Sunday School when their children were young as well as heading up VBS. Both have helped many times with the Scandinavian Food Fest. Barb making dozens of jars of jam and jelly, and Doug faithfully helping with clean up or where ever he was needed. Barb has served on a prior call committee and both were active with Bethel's 150th Anniversary committee.

The Petersons retired a number of years ago. Doug worked for State Farm's regional office in St. Paul for 40 years. Barb says with a laugh that she worked at anything that wasn't "illegal or immoral" to save money to put herself through college, which she did at Oregon State (where they lived for three years). She obtained her degree in speech pathology and audiology. She also received her masters degree from the University of Wisconsin, River Falls. She was a teacher for four years and then entered into the field of Human Resources. All three of their children have followed in Doug's footsteps and have worked for State Farm.

Doug is a walker—he is up early every day to walk. Barb loves to knit and has made numerous hats and scarves for Operation Help. In addition, she previously volunteered as a girl scout leader and for the American Association of University Women.

The Petersons love to travel and have been on seven cruises, made many trips to Mexico, and been to every country in Europe.

Doug and Barb, your Bethel family marvels at your long commitment to each other and your dedication to volunteering over the years. You are an inspiration to so many who love you and value your gifts and talents. We thank you with much admiration.

"Well done, you good and faithful servants."

“

Volunteering is an act of service that not only benefits our favorite communities and causes – but also nurtures our own personal growth and connections with others. It's about offering your time, energy, and skills selflessly – contributing towards making the world a better place. -Author Unknown

## MEMORIAL WALL PLAQUES

Honor someone you love with a plaque in Bethel's Memorial Garden! Details at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org)

Deadline: May 15



## 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.

Upcoming Meals:  
Thursdays, May 2 & 16  
5-6PM | Downtown Campus

Details at [bethelHUDSON.org/serve/local](http://bethelHUDSON.org/serve/local)