



BETHELITE

A city-wide church with a world-wide ministry

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

October 19, 2011 † Volume 61, No. 6

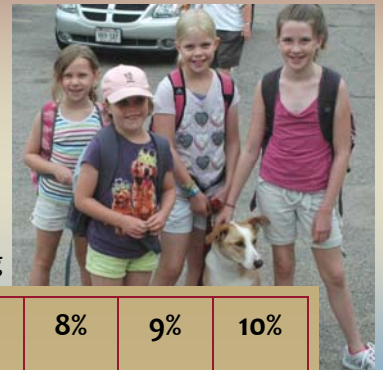


Stewardship

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An **Estimate of Giving** is the amount you plan to commit to the Mission and Ministry of Bethel Lutheran Church for 2012. It is a Pledge, made in good faith, based on your personal resources and

family budget. If your plans or family situation changes during 2012, and you need to adjust your Estimate of Giving, our Business office welcomes your call and will make an adjustment with you. As you think about your Estimate of Giving for 2012, please use this chart of weekly percentages of income as a reference point for giving. Next week, you will receive a letter and an Estimate of Giving card. Please complete and return your card on Commitment Sunday, October 30. If you are unable to attend services that Sunday, please mail to Bethel's office. **-- Alice Mowbray, Business Administrator**



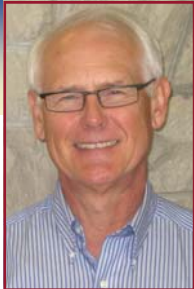
Weekly percentage of income amounts for Estimate of Giving

Annual Income	Monthly Income	Weekly Income	1%	2%	3%	4%	5%	6%	7%	8%	9%	10%
12,000	1,000	231	2.31	4.62	6.93	9.24	11.55	13.86	16.17	18.48	20.79	23.10
18,000	1,500	346	3.46	6.84	10.26	13.84	17.30	20.76	24.22	27.68	31.14	34.60
24,000	2,000	462	4.62	9.24	13.86	18.48	23.10	27.72	32.34	36.96	41.58	46.20
30,000	2,500	577	5.77	11.54	17.31	23.08	28.85	34.62	40.39	46.16	51.93	57.70
40,000	3,333	769	7.69	15.38	23.07	30.76	38.45	46.14	53.83	61.52	69.21	76.90
50,000	4,167	962	9.62	19.24	28.86	38.48	48.10	57.72	67.34	76.96	86.58	96.20
60,000	5,000	1,154	11.54	23.08	34.62	46.16	57.70	69.24	80.78	92.32	103.86	115.40
70,000	5,833	1,346.	13.46	26.92	40.38	53.84	67.30	80.76	94.22	107.68	121.14	134.60
80,000	6,667	1,538	15.38	30.76	46.14	61.52	76.90	92.28	107.66	123.04	138.42	153.80
90,000	7,500	1,731	17.30	34.60	51.90	69.20	86.50	103.80	121.10	138.40	155.70	173.00
100,000	8,333	1,923	19.23	38.46	57.69	76.92	96.15	115.38	134.61	153.84	173.07	192.30



FROM THE PASTOR

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 Peter 4:10



Serving God

“Do you understand what I have done for you?” Without relinquishing his authority as Lord and Master, Jesus re-frames the life-purpose of those devoted to him. Whatever “success” we achieve on society’s pyramid does not finally count for much in Jesus’ eyes. What matters is how we use where we stand to serve others, especially the most vulnerable. In so doing, we serve God.

I find it fascinating to read about great leaders. Their “greatness” usually becomes clearer to people over time, when their impact can be evaluated long-term. But always, it seems, they struggle with great challenges. And never are they without flaws, limitations and often, enemies. And yet their footprint can be recognized on the course of things - - often for good.

That’s why I continue to grow in my awe of Jesus the man. Under the scrutiny of time - - and nobody has been scrutinized like Jesus - - his actions and words stun, shock and inspire. And unlike all others, one truly finds no character flaws, even by those most interested in finding them.


One of his actions so stunned his disciples that Peter refused to participate, initially. By taking a water basin and a towel and washing their feet, Jesus challenges one of the most deeply embedded drives within the human psyche and began turning the world’s pyramid of success upside-down.

Trevor Hudson calls Jesus washing feet an invitation to a “downward journey.” Here is what that means and why Peter so resists it. For Jews certainly, but also for Gentiles in other ways, washing another’s feet was for slaves. It was symbolically demeaning and only those low on the rigid pyramid of power and class could be expected to do it.

When Jesus finishes washing, he asks his disciples:

As you discern your service to God through ministry here at Bethel and beyond, and consider your financial support for 2012, think first of how your commitment will serve. It is in this spirit that we can best understand one definition of a pledge: “Our thank-you note to God.” Why is that? Because nothing so gladdens the heart of Jesus than seeing our lives touch others in service! In His service,

-- Pastor Peter Strommen

 **EDUCATION** Getting Ready for Sunday School

Story: Manna, Quail and Water **Biblical Text:** Exodus 16:1-18; 17:1-7 SPARK Story Bible, pages 90-93
 God’s caring for the children of Israel is told in: *Moses and the Long Walk* in the Bethel Library

Bible Point: God gives us what we need.

Key Bible Verse: *This is what the Lord has commanded: “Gather as much of it as each of you needs.”* Exodus 16:16a (NRSV)

Prayer: Dear God, thank you for giving us all we need. Help us to see when we have enough and how to share your gifts with others. In Jesus’ name, amen.

Pastoral Staff

Peter Strommen	
Jaime Dubon	
Curt Everson	
Duane Hanson	
Sarah Harrold	
John Swanson	

*Interim Senior Pastor
Interim Latino Ministries
Visitation & Worship
Bethel Horizons
Evangelism & Mission
Confirmation, Visitation &
Women’s Ministries*

Program Staff

Mary Conlin	
Annette Durkin	
Stacy Gahlman-Schroeder	
Anita Grue, AIM	
Gary Lewis	
Alice Mowbray	
Sandy Ripp	
Jacqui Shanda	
Susan Straus	
Ray Weihofen	

*Director XYZ & Volunteers
Director of Communications
Assistant to the Senior Pastor
Coordinator of Youth Ministries
Director of Music - Organist
Business Administrator &
Director of Development
New Member Coordinator - Wedding Secty.
Director of Parish Education
Family Life Coordinator
Asst. Business Administrator, part-time*

Office Information

Hours: Monday through Friday, 8:30 am - 5:00 pm, Saturday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
Phone: 608-257-3577 **Fax:** 608-257-4044
Email: bethel@bethel-madison.org **Web site:** www.bethel-madison.org

 Bethel.Lutheran.Madison.WI  [@Bethel_Lutheran](https://twitter.com/Bethel_Lutheran)  [Bethel-Lutheran-20-30](https://www.meetup.com/Bethel-Lutheran-20-30)

NEWS & EVENTS



2013

DANCE AT BETHEL

Friday, November 4

Sponsored by the Prime-Timers and the 20+30 Group, featuring a professional caller for square and line dancing! Learn new dance steps and enjoy dinner created by Chef Steve. No dance experience necessary - we'll teach you. Doors open at 6:00 pm. Child care provided.



Family Ministry

Halloween Party-October 21

Enjoy a spooky dinner, crafts and a costume parade - all indoors! 5:30 pm.

Parenting Breakfast-November 5

Start your Saturday at 8:30 am with breakfast and fellowship at Bethel. Child care provided and the Game Room will be open.

Fairy Party-November 12

Movies, makeovers and fairy inspired food, 9:30-11:30 am.

Monday Night Football-November 14

Watch the Packers take on the Vikings - 7:30 pm kick-off. Dinner available at 7:00 pm. Child care provided.

Cowboy Party-November 19

Rustle up some great grub, get your face painted and watch a movie.

Susan 257-3577, ext 336, or:
familyministry@bethel-madison.org

Don't Sing Songs to a Heavy Heart

A class on how to relate to those who are suffering, providing critical tools, understanding and compassion to help comfort others. 10:30 am, Good Shepherd Chapel.

Nov. 6 Chapters 5-18

Nov. 20 Chapters 9-12

Book available at the receptionist's desk, \$15. Jacqui to register: 257-3577.

Exploring the Heavens

Join us for an evening of astronomy on Oct. 29 when Jupiter will be at its brightest. Telescopes will be available. Dress warmly and bring binoculars. Eric Volden: 608-574-1992.

Current Christian Concerns

Join this lively men's discussion group on Thursday mornings at 7:00 am in the Library Media Room. *Drop-ins welcome.*

Oct. 20 Teachers' Unions

Oct. 27 In God We Trust: Dominionism

Love and Logic Parents Class

For parents and caregivers of children of all ages. Begins Wednesday, Nov. 2 for six weeks, through Dec. 7, 6:00 - 7:30 pm, facilitated by Julie Martinelli. The cost is \$25 per person or \$35 per couple, and includes one workbook. Childcare provided. Jacqui 257-3577 x 333.

Inspiration Circle-Coffee Sales

Fair trade coffee, teas and chocolates will be available in the Parking Lot Foyer, Oct. 23.



Lutefisk Listing

Here's where you can find that Norwegian favorite, Lutefisk and Lefse:

Oct 22 NO Dinner-Sons of Norway

Oct 29 Orfordville Lutheran Church

Nov 4 Lakeview Lutheran Church

Nov 5 Barneveld Lutheran Church

Bonnet Prairie Lutheran Church

Western Koshkonong Luth. Ch.

Nov 12 Christ Luth. Church, DeForest

Household-Estate Sales

Oct 26-27 Cherokee-large sale

Nov 9-10 Far West

Address Info: Pat Bruden: 246-1813

Christmas-Save the Dates

The Sunday School Christmas Pageant is Sunday, **December 18** at 4:00 pm. The rehearsal and Family Craft Brunch will be on **December 17** starting at 10:00 am.

Wreath Sales - Youth Group



Order: **Nov. 6** and **13**

Pick-up at Bethel **Nov. 20** and **27**

XYZ-PrimeTimers Day Trip

Sign-ups Oct. 23 in the Emmaus Room for this *White Christmas Fantasy* trip, **Dec. 10**. Start the day at Ethnic Heritage Museum, travel to Theatre in the Pines, Sycamore, IL for lunch and play.

Lutheran College Tour

The South Central Synod will host this tour for grades 10-12, **Oct. 27-29**. Visit 4-5 campuses, \$25 includes lodging, meals and transportation. Anita Grue: 257-3577

Free Spanish Classes at Bethel

Call Einstein Gonzalez: 257-3577 x 337.

Haunted Forest at Schuster's

Youth event for grades 6-12 on **Oct. 21**. Cost is \$15, 4:45 - 9:00 pm

Women's Ministry

Nov. 6 is Women's Ministry Sunday, featuring exhibits in the Emmaus Room. Learn about Blanket Workshop, Lutheran World Relief, Lydia's House, Hope House, Women of the ELCA, book clubs and so much more! Finish by joining one of the 19 Circles of Bethel. Jo Thomley: 838-8091.

LYDIA'S HOUSE

Dinner at 5:30 pm and program at 6:00 pm on **Oct. 24**, featuring our Interim Pastor for Latino Ministry, Jaime Dubon.

Volunteers Needed

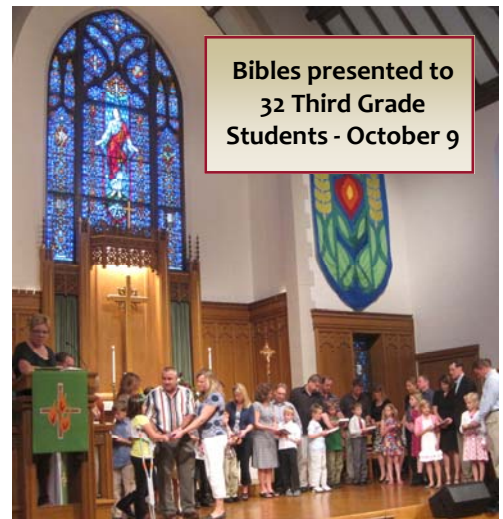
Help with school age children on **Oct. 27** and **Oct. 29** from 8:45 am - 5:00 pm each day. Transportation to Bethel Horizons and meals provided. Info: Lindsey, 608-574-3993, or Lindsey@bethelhorizons.org.



All school age kids are invited to join the fun on **Oct. 27** for a day trip to Bethel Horizons. Bus leaves Bethel's parking lot at 8:45 am and returns at 5:00 pm. Cost for transportation, food and activities is \$20. Jacqui Shanda: 257-3577 x 333.

Thrivent Thank You

Thank you to members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who have designated \$8,225.00 as of Oct. 12, 2011 to Bethel Lutheran Church through Thrivent ChoiceSM. For many years, Thrivent members were able to add to their donation through a matching gift program. Now with Thrivent Choice, instead of matching gifts, eligible Thrivent members can periodically authorize funds sent directly from Thrivent to Bethel. (Since these are not donor funds, they do not add to your charitable contributions). www.thrivent.com/choice





Oct 23 Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

- 7:45a Coffee Fellowship (*Fireside Gallery*)
- 7:55a **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 8:30a Childcare available until 2:00p (*Nursery*)
- Genesis Café Open (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- Fair Trade Coffee Sales (*Parking Lot Foyer*)
- 8:45a Library Open until 11:45a
- 9:15a **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- Sunday School
- 9:45a Worship Rehearsal for 10:45 (*Choir Rm*)
- 10:15a Reception for New Members (*Emmaus Room*)
- Cherub Choir (*Rm 202*)
- Children's Choir (*Rm 216A*)
- Junior Youth Choir (*Pentecost Rm*)
- 10:30a ESL Class (*Rm 216B*)
- Bethel Series-New Testament (*Library Media Room*)
- Bhutanese Support Group Meeting (*Youth Rm*)
- 10:45a **Worship Service** (*Sanctuary*)
- 11:00a Sunday School, bi-lingual (*Rms 204, 210, 212*)
- 11:45a Latino Children's Choir (*Rm 202*)
- 12:00p Confirmation Prayer Friends-Year 3 (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 12:30p **Worship-La Santa Misa** (*Sanctuary*)
- 1:30p Refrigerio (*Borgwardt Hall*)

Oct 24 Monday

- 8:30a Friendship Pad Volunteers (*Rm 104*)
- 5:30p Lydia's House (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 7:00p Bethel Series-New Testament (*Rm 200*)

Oct 25 Tuesday

- 8:00a Homeless Book Club Movie (*Fireside Gallery*)
- 9:00a Library Open until 12:00p
- 10:00a Homeless Support Services (*Pentecost Rm*)
- 10:30a Homeless Spiritual Support Group (*Pentecost Rm*)
- 3:30p Southdale After School (*Pentecost, Fireside*)
- 4:30p Refugee Support Meeting (*Library Media Rm*)
- 5:00p Grupo Latino Practica de Musica (*Sanctuary*)
- Hope House Board Meeting (*Room 100*)
- Endowment Foundation Meeting (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 5:15p Women's Choir (*Choir Room*)
- 6:00p Latino Computer Class (*Pentecost Rm*)
- 6:30p Creative Worship Singers (*Choir Rm*)
- Latino Senior High Youth Group (*Youth Rm*)
- Spanish Class (*Room 216*)
- Rebuilding at Bethel (*Rm 101, Good Shepherd Chapel, Library*)
- 7:00p Conversational Norwegian (*Library Media Rm*)
- Bethel Outreach Board Meeting (*Rm 105*)

Oct 26 Wednesday

- 9:30a **Worship Service** (*Good Shepherd Chapel*)
- 10:00a Homeless Support Services (*Pentecost Rm*)
- 12:00p Urban Site Committee Meeting (*Room 201*)
- 3:30p Southdale After School (*Pentecost, Fireside*)
- 5:30p Bethel Ringers (*Rm 202*)
- 6:30p Hot Topics (*Youth Rm*)

Oct 27 Thursday

- 7:00a Current Christian Concerns (*Library Media Rm*)
- 8:45a Spooktacular Bus Leaves (*Parking Lot Foyer*)



- 9:00a Blanket Workshop (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 10:00a Homeless Support Services (*Pentecost Rm*)
- 12:00p Grief Support Group (*Rm 100*)
- 3:30p Southdale After School (*Pentecost, Fireside*)
- 5:00p Spooktacular Bus Returns (*Parking Lot Foyer*)
- 7:00p Bethel Choir (*Choir Room*)

Oct 28 Friday

- 7:00a Men's Book Study (*Borgwardt Hall*)
- 9:30a XYZ (*Fireside Gallery, Pentecost Rm*)
- 5:30p Latino Women's Meeting (*Rm 216*)

Oct 29 Saturday

- 8:00a Bible Study (*Library*)
- 9:00a Confirmation Rehearsal and Photo (*Sanctuary*)
- 5:00p **Worship Service** (*Pentecost Room*)

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 Newsletter email: bethelite@bethel-madison.org *Bethelite* Editor: Annette Durkin

If you have material for the *Bethelite*, please contact the Editor.
 We reserve the right to edit all submitted material.
 The deadline for each issue is the Wednesday prior to the issue date.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 23 7:55 AM 9:15 AM 10:45 AM
PASTOR PETER STROMMEN
12:30 PM-SPANISH PASTOR JAIME DUBON

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 Matthew 22:34-46

TELECAST INFORMATION

<u>Madison</u>	<u>Green Bay*</u>
10:00 am WKOW-TV 27	8:30 am WACY-TV 32
<u>Eau Claire</u>	<u>Milwaukee-Cable 15*</u>
10:00 am WQOW-TV 18	9:30 am WPXE-PAX 55
<u>La Crosse</u>	<u>Wausau*</u>
10:00 am WXOW-TV 19	9:00 am WFXS-FOX 55
<u>Dubuque*</u> 9:30 am & 9:00 pm	KFXB-TV 43

*Telecast delayed one week.

Today's Madison area telecast is given in honor of the 65th wedding anniversary of Virginia and Eldred Swingen by JoAnn Six Plesko



Stewardship

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. 1 PETER 4:10



What Is That in Your Hand?

One of the most amusing dialogs in the Bible occurs between God and Moses. Here is Moses, in the presence of Holy God via a burning bush. He must take off his sandals before the great "I am."

But, once Moses grasps the magnitude of what he is called to do -- stand before the Pharaoh himself -- it seems that Moses is more afraid of Pharaoh than confident in God. And what follows is a long line of excuses as he tries to convince the Almighty that he is not the right man for the job!

Moses gives a series of five arguments that eventually try God's patience. Personally, that's why I find the dialog amusing. The fact is, all the great characters of the Bible reveal the most common of human traits, and here Moses tries everything to get out of this job. And mostly, it's out of a sense of inadequacy. Many can identify with Moses.

Finally God asks him this question: "What is that in your hand?" It happens to be his shepherd's staff. Moses finally relents as God demonstrates, through that staff, the power he will give to and through Moses. Nevertheless, it takes some real convincing.

Trevor Hudson (*Questions God Asks Us*), identifies three things "in our hands" that God regularly uses: our abilities, our life experiences and our inadequacies. If the last of these surprises you, give it some thought. It's really true. Like Moses, one of our greatest failings is to underestimate what we have to offer when consecrated to God. This includes even our weaknesses (which Paul described as opportunities to rely all the more on God!).

Imagine God asking: "what is that in your hand?" You hold abilities and resources, life experiences and weaknesses. Nobody in all creation will hold exactly what you hold. Nor will any other congregation hold exactly what Bethel does. Do you believe God has an important call for you and for Bethel?

Stewardship has everything in the world to do with God's purpose for us in this time and place. Through God's amazing grace, things of eternal significance can be done through you and your fellow travelers. Yes, like Moses it is not unnatural to offer excuses. But really, don't we hope God wins the argument and we step forward in both faith and generosity?!

-- Pastor Peter Strommen



Commitment Sunday

October 30
Please return your Estimate of Giving

the Bethel idea

Bethel Lutheran Church (BLC) was established in 1855, and has been a downtown church for 156 years. In 1922, land was purchased for the present site, with building construction in 1941. Also in 1941, BLC began to purchase the houses on our block, including the purchase of the Steensland House in 1959. By the mid 1960's, Bethel owned the entire block.

Major church remodeling doubled the size of the Sanctuary in the mid 1960's.

Urban Site Committee

An anonymous donor approached BLC with the offer to build and donate a community center in a low-income neighborhood with the stipulation it would be run as a faith-based center. A committee was formed to study this offer. A recommendation was made by the church council to decline the offer, but further explore our current campus and the possibilities of building here.

The Urban Site Committee (USC) was formed in early 2008 to study the possibility of expanding our urban campus, and to examine the challenges we might face with the historically registered Steensland House, situated in the parking lot.

In 2009, BLC was apprised of the Mansion Hill Neighborhood draft plan, an advisory document to the City of Madison zoning revision. This plan identified Bethel's parking lot as residential "infill development." We have since become active with the city and neighborhood organizations to assert our authority to maintain control of our property.

MISSION STATEMENT

Urban Site Committee

Study and offer recommendations for the expansion of Bethel Lutheran Church's downtown campus to enable Bethel to better serve its existing ministry and broaden its outreach by offering programs that not only strengthen Bethel's relationship with its current members, but also develop new ministry programs for youth, young adults, young families, seniors and downtown workforce.

Stewardship
Estimate of Giving
\$ _____ Total annual amount
To be paid \$ _____ weekly \$ _____ monthly
\$ _____ annually for 2012
608-257-3577
BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Please cut here and retain this portion for your records



Yes! I/we will support the mission and ministry of Bethel with this
Estimate of Giving \$ _____ Total annual amount

Amount to be paid \$ _____ weekly \$ _____ monthly \$ _____ annually

Name _____ Envelope # _____

Address _____

Signature _____ Date _____

____ I am interested in Electronic Fund Transfer (EFT)

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH 312 Wisconsin Avenue • Madison, WI 53703 • 608-257-3577



Financial Ministry

If your heart has been reformed by the Spirit, it makes use of both the useful and delightful things created and given by God in a holy manner and with thanksgiving. -- MARTIN LUTHER



The Financial Ministry of Bethel supports our Mission and Ministry through decisions and long-range planning made by your elected Church Council members. By their judicious management and stewardship of resources, Bethel continues in a strong financial position operating with a balanced operating budget.

The financial staff team at Bethel receives and accounts for all contributions. Quarterly statements are mailed to members, and to all other contributors. An annual statement of giving is provided by January 31 following the end of the year.

Every other year, a full audit is conducted by independent Bethel members. The next is scheduled for 2012.

SUPPORTED BY BETHEL

Through financial contributions and volunteer efforts, we support many ministries outside of Bethel:

Missionaries working world-wide. **Lutheran Social Services.** Two **Outreach Houses** serving mentally ill men who are able to care for their daily needs but can't live independently. **Skaalen** and **Oakwood Homes** for independent living and assisted care. **Jail Ministry** through the auspices of Madison Area Lutheran Chaplains (MALC). **Lutheran Campus Ministry** located on University Avenue. **The Salvation Army** of Dane County. **Eviction Prevention** through Porchlight. **Media Ministry** with telecasts throughout Wisconsin and northeast Iowa. **Hope House** for women and their children. **Habitat for Humanity** building homes in Dane County. **Grace Episcopal Church** shelter meals on fifth Fridays and Sundays. **Triangle Ministry** befriending residents and families through Bible studies, events and meals.

Giving Hope during the Holidays

Bethel will offer four opportunities for members to purchase Christmas gifts for local families and individuals:

The Kanopy Program formerly known as The Parental Stress Center, requests for gifts for 100 children whose families are served by the agency.

The Madison Area Rehabilitation Center (MARC) 25-30 gifts for adults with developmental disabilities who are served by MARC.

The Northeast Madison Senior Center The agency serves elderly, mostly Latino members. Gifts for the elderly and their grandchildren.

Bhutanese Refugee Ministry Gifts for our refugee families at Bethel.

Bethel Community Services Corp.

Established in 2006, this non-profit corporation accepts grant funding from outside

sources. Funded by two significant grants from an anonymous donor, over a two year period, \$300,000 has been received to serve at-risk Latino youth. Additionally, grants have been received from the Madison Community Foundation for Food Pantry expansion, Thrivent for the Circle of Love and the Seibert Foundation and Rennebohm Foundation for Juventura.



Two of Bethel's Bhutanese Families



HISTORY of Bethel Lutheran Church

Endowment Foundation, Inc.

Bethel's Endowment Foundation was established in the mid-1960's, shortly after Bethel received a large cash gift of \$100,000.

What was the prudent thing to do with this unexpected windfall? spend it, save it, or plant it as an acorn to grow and support all that Bethel was to be.



Our congregation leaders at the time chose the latter. And now, nearly 5 decades into the future – we continue to receive, invest and disburse funds contributed for the benefit of the mission of Bethel. This year, once again – grants totaling about \$500,000 were awarded. One of the 36 grants was to support a major choral work within our worship context – which we all enjoyed as performed twice on Sunday, April 10, when the Bethel Choir, accompanied by professional musicians, presented the Easter portion of Handel's Messiah. This total grant was \$10,400 – funded one third by our Household/Estate Sales group proceeds and two thirds by our Endowment Foundation. We



know that these special music Sundays have proven to be one of our best evangelism opportunities, as visitors come to experience – at no

charge to them – an awesome musical offering, set within a worship service, amidst our lovely acoustical Sanctuary. Thank you – to the underwriters who make this possible. . . to the choir members who devote their time and talent to making this happen. . .to God from whom all goodness flows.

-Alice Mowbray