

# Bethelite

A publication of Bethel Lutheran Church distributed twice monthly.     [bethelmadison.org/bethelite](http://bethelmadison.org/bethelite)

## Many Thanks

Dear Friends in Christ at Bethel,  
As you are aware, I will conclude my intentional interim pastoral ministry with you on June 10, the Sunday when our text speaks of seeds, and seedtime, and harvest of the new crop. We will have journeyed together in faith a full 17+ months. It has been a rewarding ministry for me, and I trust so for you as well. Let me punctuate my closing words with those that St. Paul used in his farewell to the congregation at Philippi (words from chapters 2 and 3 in “The Message” translation by Eugene Peterson).

- *Having become human, he (Jesus) stayed human. It was an incredibly humbling process. He didn't claim special privileges. Instead, he lived a selfless, obedient life and then died a selfless, obedient death – the worst kind of death at that: a crucifixion.*
- *Because of that obedience, God lifted him high and honored him far beyond anyone or anything, ever, so that all created beings in heaven and on earth – will bow in worship before this Jesus Christ, and call out in praise that he is the Master of all, to the glorious honor of God, the Father.*
- *What I'm getting at friends, is that you should simply keep on doing what you've done from the beginning. When I was living among you, you lived in responsive obedience. Now that I'm separated from you, keep it up. Better yet,*

*redouble your efforts. Be energetic in your life of salvation, reverent and sensitive before God. That energy is God's energy, an energy deep within you, God himself willing and working at what will give him the most pleasure. Do everything readily and cheerfully....*

- *And that's about it, friends. Be glad in God! I'm not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for me. Friends, don't get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but I've got my eye on the goal, where God is beckoning us onward – to Jesus. I'm off and running, and I'm not turning back.*
- *So let's keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision – you'll see it yet! Now that we're on the right track, let's stay on it.*

My only regret in our in-between time together is that the 440 miles between Madison and my Minnesota home has made it difficult for many of you to get to know my wonderful wife Susan. In my absence, she has continued her counseling ministry with Northern Pines Mental Health in Pine River, Minnesota. She has faithfully tended the “home

fires” at our Island Lake home and she and our trio of English Springers have welcomed me on each of my recurring visits there. Understanding my specialized ministry as she does, and supporting me in it, I have remained blessed and am grateful to her.

And so I say ‘mange takk’ for the partnership in ministry. I thank my pastoral partners John, Margo, Lisa and Martha for their faithful and willing spirit of cooperation and collegiality. I am grateful to each of the faithful staff members for sharing their ministry with me. I am grateful for a supportive synod bishop and staff. I thank each of you at Bethel for the gifts of time, talent, and treasure that you have shared for the health and well-being of our Lord's mission among us. I have learned a lot while at Bethel and I intend to keep right on learning about life and ministry as I come to serve Trinity Lutheran Church in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. It is a deeply wounded congregation saddened by the abrupt and troubling consequences of professional misconduct. I look forward to establishing collegiality with its associate pastor and staff. May this wonderful God of Grace and Mercy remain generous in his blessings upon each of you as you greet your new future in Christ Jesus. 🌈

—Pastor Paul N. Svingen

# REMEMBERING MATTERS

June is the month set aside to learn and share facts about dementia, which is a general term for a decline in mental ability severe enough to interfere with daily life. Each person is unique and experiences their symptoms differently, however over time symptoms become more similar. Many will have other unrelated health conditions, which have an effect on how they experience their symptoms. The support someone receives and his or her own individual personality also greatly affects how a person experiences dementia.

Types of dementia include: **Alzheimer's** which is the most common; **Vascular Dementia** caused by interruptions to the blood supply to the brain--sometimes as a result of mini strokes; and dementia with **Lewy Bodies** which is a less common type that often manifests in hallucinations. Diagnosing dementia requires a medical specialist with experience.

Churches are able to offer people with dementia a sense of value and dignity. Dementia is a considerable challenge for those living with the disease—they can often find themselves ignored and isolated from their community. Being a dementia friendly church is about more than welcoming people with the disease. It can involve making adjustments and adaptations to the facilities and worship practices in order to allow people with dementia to continue to participate in the life of the church.

Dr. Ruth Law a consultant in Integrated Geriatric Medicine at Whittington Hospital in the UK wrote, *"So much of our personhood is held in faith—from the routine and tradition of church attendance and the relationship we form with other worshippers, to the identity we find in Christ. As dementia strips people of these anchors, we as a church have the opportunity to help those living with dementia preserve this essential portion of 'self' that is encompassed by faith."*

**On Saturday, September 29** Bethel Lutheran Church will host and co-sponsor an afternoon program for Madison area Faith Communities to learn what it means to be Dementia Friendly, and how churches can replicate the highly successful nationally recognized Wisconsin Alzheimer's Institute (WAI) outreach program in Milwaukee's African-American community. The program will include a Sing-a-Long with Milwaukee's Amazing Grace Choir, which began as a WAI outreach program in 2014. The choir has grown in numbers and has made numerous public appearances. Many members are African-Americans who grew-up in the black church and have been singing four-part harmony all their lives. The choir practices every Saturday and has created a supportive community for those with dementia and their care partners. Mark September 29 on your calendar and attend this special program. 🌈

—Sigrid Knuti

## Canyon Scholars Forum

Four Bethel couples and individuals will be honored on Sunday, June 17 for five or 15 years serving as "godparents" of Mexican youths working their way out of poverty in Mexico through schooling. Retired former Bethel pastor Willard Lund will come from Stoughton to celebrate five years with Canyon Scholars, a non-profit association founded in the year 2000 by eight Bethel couples and individuals.

Canyon Scholars, led by Bethel member Pastor Rennard Svanoë of Anahuac, Chihuahua, Mexico, has given a boost to 613 mountain- and canyon-dwelling Mexican youths to date, half of them indigenous Tarahumaras and Huichols. George Holt has 15 years as an American godfather, along with Phil & Mary Dzick and Ed & Margaret Eklof. They will be presented with collages of the photos of their students over the years, to also be put on display on Bethel's bulletin boards. Also present will be retired pastor, Terry Kinney, and his wife, Cindy, of Sturgeon Bay, WI, celebrating five years as Canyon Scholars sponsors. Terry grew up at Bethel, but has been away from Madison since 1963.

In a time when Mexicans alternatively receive condemnation for immigrating illegally and commiseration for innocently growing up in an undocumented family, Canyon Scholars offers a non-controversial option to help Mexican "dreamers" stay in Mexico successfully. For more information, attend the adult forum in the Good Shepherd Chapel on Sunday, June 17, at 10:15am, or call Jack Westman, US Coordinator of Canyon Scholars, at 608.238.0858. 🌈

—Pastor Rennard Svanoë  
Mexico Coordinator  
of Canyon Scholars

## Faithful Stewardship

### BETHEL HORIZONS

**Bethel Horizons' 2018 Budgeted Operating Revenue:** \$785,000

Following is a summary of the portion dependent on gifts and fundraising.

	2018 Goal	2018 YTD May
Fundraising for Operations	\$100,000	\$42,613
Bike-A-Thon	\$30,000	\$18,369
Scholarships/Camperships	\$80,000	\$29,195

*Note: May results include a generous gift via a Charitable Remainder Trust from Betty Skowlund who passed away in mid February at the age of 101. She was a member of Bethel for 72 years! We are very appreciative of Betty's stewardship to Bethel Church and Horizons!*

**Youth Milestone Ministry Worship** - Whether you weren't able to worship at Bethel at 9am on May 20 or were here and thought that once wasn't enough, you can see it streamed on Bethel's YouTube under the worship tab at [www.bethel-madison.org](http://www.bethel-madison.org).

**Homeless Ministry Need** - It is mosquito season and the Homeless Ministry is looking for donations of mosquito wipes and small spray bottles of repellent. They are also requesting men's underwear. These can be dropped off at the reception desk. Thank you!

**"Earthly Harmonies" by Patricia Freres Stinger and Charles Stinger (Now-June 29)** - "Earthly Harmonies," exhibit of paintings by Patricia Freres Stinger and Charles Stinger, are on view in the Fireside Gallery until June 29. The paintings include landscapes and other related subjects, in oil and in pastel. Charles and Patricia, enthusiastic amateur artists, have been especially captivated by their explorations of Wisconsin since their move here in 2011. Their recent paintings take inspiration from the beauty and harmony found in our natural places, depicting scenes that inspired the artists' creative attempts to capture the colors, light, forms and moods they experienced.

#### **Men's Current Christian Concerns**

(Every Thurs at 7am in the Community Rm)

**June 7** - Old, Frail, and Called by God

**June 14** - Has the Wine Gone Bad?

**June 21** - Diamonds are Forever? | **June 28** - Our Changing World

**XYZ Activities: June 8: Chapel (9:30am)** - Lois Seymour; **Lunch (11:45am)** - Ham & Cheese Subs, chips, cookie; **Program (after lunch)** - James the Magician" has been a magician for more than 25 years. "How did he do that?", "Is the hand quicker than the eye?" be prepare to assist James as he keeps us in suspense. Part of his program is having the audience assist him on stage. **June 15: Chapel (9:30am)** - Rev Jeff Quinto; **Lunch (11:45am)** - Hotdogs, pork-n-beans, macaroni salad, ice cream; **Program (after lunch)** - Dwayne Keyes "Harmonica Hour" will entertain with music and laughs. **June 22: Chapel (9:30am)** - Sister Ruth Hanson; **Lunch (11:45am)** - Scalloped Potatoes n Ham, corn, fresh fruit; **Program (after lunch)** - Jerry Apps' latest documentary "One Room Country School" March 2018.

**Social Justice Book Discussion (June 10)** - Please join the next Social Justice Book Discussion on Sun, June 10 at 10:15am in Room 120. We will be discussing *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving. Bring suggestions for our summer reading choices.

**Feed & Read (June 18)** - Come to room 120 at noon on Mon, June 18 to have lunch and discuss *Nine Irish Lives: The Thinkers, Fighters, and Artists Who Helped Build America* by Mark Bailey. This book is a collection of short stories about the extraordinary lives of nine people whose struggles are universal and causes relevant to today. Feed & Read will be on vacation during July and August, but will return on Mon, Sept 17 to discuss *Every Note Played* by Lisa Genova and on Oct 15 for *The Blessing Way* by Tony Hillerman.

#### **Save the Date! Bethel Summer Socials: Sundays (June 24 & July 15)**

Let's get together after the 9am service for a chance to visit and play! If weather cooperates we will be heading to James Madison park

with our packed lunches (bring your own) and whatever gear you would like to have - hats, sunscreen, frisbees, balls, swimsuits and towels, chairs, blankets...anything! More details as we get closer to June 24. Hope to see you there!

**Bethel's Summer Choir (June 24, July 29 & Aug 19)** - Please join Amy this summer as part of Bethel's Summer Choir Crazy Fun on Sundays June, 24, July 29 and Aug 19! We will meet at 8:10am in the Choir Room (below the Sanctuary), and learn one song. We will sing during the offertory at 9am worship, from the balcony. No robes or experience required...just your voice, and a willingness to sing and make friends with others!

**Social Justice Group (June 24)** - The social justice group is encouraged to attend the synod's next Racial Equity Ministry event featuring Jail Chaplain Christa Fisher who will speak on "The Realities of Incarceration." Sun, June 24, 4-6pm; New Life Church, 7564 Cottage Grove Road, Madison

**Blanket Workshop (June 28)** - Meets from 9am-2pm in Borgwardt Hall.

**News from the Food Pantry** - A huge and sincere THANK YOU to the Bethel congregation for your loyal, on-going support of the Bethel Food Pantry! The Easter Food Pantry donations this year total \$4,985! This tremendous response makes it possible for us to continue to reach out into the community to serve those in need. The food pantry ministry is made possible through the generosity of Bethel members and the dedicated team of volunteers who keep the pantry stocked and open to the community 6 days every week.

How critically important is this ministry? For the month of April, the pantry served 247 households for a total of 692 individuals. This breaks down to 47 seniors (over age 60), 391 adults, and 254 children. It is important to note that 25.9% of the households report no income. So on behalf of all those who utilize your pantry, thank you for your ongoing support!

If you are curious about learning more about the pantry or are interested in hearing about opportunities to get more involved in the operation, we would love to hear from you! Please contact Cheryl Frazier at 608.240.1770.



**FUND FACT \$**

Bethel's Endowment Foundation has been in existence since 1964 - and has given out grants totaling nearly \$12 million over the past 50+ years.



312 Wisconsin Avenue | Madison, WI 53703

Bethelite (USPS 053-160) Published bi-weekly by Bethel Lutheran Church  
608.257.3577 | Email Christal Swigart: [christal@bethel-madison.org](mailto:christal@bethel-madison.org)

#### 4 PENTECOST

Pastor John O. Swanson - June 16 at 5pm - Sanctuary  
Pastor John O. Swanson - June 17 at 7:45am & 9am - Sanctuary  
Pastor John O. Swanson - June 17 at 11:15am - Sanctuary

#### 5 PENTECOST

Pastor Margo R. Martens - June 23 at 5pm - Pentecost  
Pastor Margo R. Martens - June 24 at 7:45am & 9am - Sanctuary  
Pastor Margo R. Martens - June 24 at 11:15am - Pentecost

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 10

7:45a Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
8:30a Childcare provided 8:30am-12pm in the Nursery  
Coffee Fellowship (Emmaus & Fireside)  
Library Open (Library)  
XYZ Table Sale (Emmaus)  
9:00a Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
10:00a Reception for Pastor Paul  
10:15a Nurturing Ministry Team Meeting (Library)  
Social Justice Book Group (Rm 120)  
11:15a Worship Service (Pentecost)  
2:00p Horizons Bus Departs for Camp (Parking Lot)

#### MONDAY, JUNE 11

12:00p Food Pantry Open 12-3pm (M-F) (Lower Level)  
BLCEF Investment Committee Meeting (Rm 200)  
1:30p Seekers Circle (Rm 120)

#### TUESDAY, JUNE 12

8:30a Homeless Support Services (T&TH) (Pentecost)  
9:00a Library Open (Library)  
1:00p Homeless Ministry Board Meeting (Fireside)  
6:15p Rebuilding at Bethel (Rm 100, 120 & Library)  
7:00p Horizons Board Meeting (Community)

#### WEDNESDAY, JUNE 13

6:00p Compassion Circle (library)

#### THURSDAY, JUNE 14

7:00a Current Christian Concerns (Community)  
8:00a Second Harvest Delivery  
12:00p Blessings Circle (Rm 120)  
6:00p Lead Pastor Call Committee Meeting (Rm 201)

#### FRIDAY, JUNE 15

7:00a Men's Book Study (Rm 120)  
8:30a XYZ Activities  
1:00p Horizons Bus Arrives from Camp (Parking Lot)

#### SATURDAY, JUNE 16

8:00a Meditation (Rm 213)  
9:30a Food Pantry Open 9:30-11:30am (Lower Level)  
5:00p Saturday Evening Worship (Pentecost)  
Bhutanese Worship in Nepali (GS Chapel)

#### PASTORAL STAFF

Deacon Lisa R. Huber, Director of Pastoral Ministries  
[lisa@bethel-madison.org](mailto:lisa@bethel-madison.org)

Pastor Margo R. Martens, Worship/Visitation Pastor  
[margo@bethel-madison.org](mailto:margo@bethel-madison.org)

Pastor John O. Swanson, Associate Pastor  
[jswanson@bethel-madison.org](mailto:jswanson@bethel-madison.org)



Hearing Loop available in all our worship spaces.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED  
DATED MATERIAL: REQUESTED IN HOME BY JUNE 8, 2018

NONPROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
MADISON, WI  
PERMIT 602



I am both humbled and overwhelmed with the thoughtful sentiments and generosity from you, my Bethel family, as I start my new journey into retirement. It has been my privilege to share both the most joyous events and moments of deepest sorrow with you as we travel down this road together. To watch babies grow and discover the gifts that God has given them – and then figure out how to use them; to applaud a group of passionate, gifted adults as they come together to share their knowledge and enthusiasm for the greater good; to share in the struggles of parents with children of all ages; are just a few examples of how blessed John and I are to be part of the community. We look forward in continuing to walk with you in new ways on our faith journey. Thanks be to God!

–Jacqui Shanda