

March – May 2015

Stay Tuned to Bethel



A publication for viewers of
Worship at Bethel



On weddings

One of the best things I do as a pastor is preside over weddings. I meet with couples ahead of time and talk about how they met, what they struggle with, why they want to get married and who their role models are for a healthy relationship. Then comes the big day. Couples have a glow on their wedding day – a joy that cannot be diminished even when nothing goes as planned.

We gather in the front of the sanctuary. The couple is before me, flanked on both sides by friends and siblings. Beyond them is a crowd of people that promise to support and pray for the couple. It's a powerful thing, and I have an amazing view. The crowd sits. There are readings. The Word is present in God's promises. And in the midst of those, the couple makes their own promises.

People cry at the vows. Promises like these are weighty and witnessed by their families and friends. Here is what is incredible about standing up with couples at this moment – they've been through a lot to make it there. Deaths of parents and friends. Long distance relationships. Family drama. Even heartache. This is when I remember my favorite promises from God.

Weddings are a beautiful time to think about the richness of God's promises and that there are good things in store for all of us. We celebrate how God is at work in all of our stories, working to prosper us.

I can't wait to officiate for more amazing couples. I'll try not to cry at the vows (*no promises*).

With love,
Pastor Alison



Did you know?

Pastor Alison Williams . . .

- ✝ Has favorite snack foods – Xtra Cheddar Goldfish or Cheez-It Duoz.
- ✝ Describes herself with three words: sunshine, ginger and sassy.
- ✝ Babysat for years and years before she got an official pay-check for working as a hostess at a restaurant. That restaurant closed two weeks after she began working there!
- ✝ Would take someone she loves, a bible and sunscreen if she were going to be stranded on a deserted island.

Bethel pastoral staff

Scot Sorensen, *Senior Pastor*

Joe Brosious, *Director of Congregational Outreach*

Antonio Cabello, *Director of Latino Ministries*

Curtis Everson, *Visitation & Worship*

Paul Petersen, *Bethel Horizons*

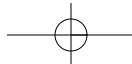
John Swanson, *Director of Congregational Life*

Alison Williams, *Director of Congregational Care*



Welcome to Lent 2015:
bethel-madison.org/lent





Gifts and memorials help share God's word

Gift / memorial summary

Nov. 16, 2014 – Feb. 15, 2015

Total contributions. \$54,913

Additionally, bequests were made to Bethel's Media Ministry by:

Shirley Blumer Estate

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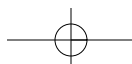
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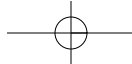
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In memory of Dolores Barr, Bonnie Schansberg, Donald Thompson by Linda Christianson

In memory of Melvin L. Dole by Susan Dole

In memory of Dorothy Fischer by Elaine Phelps

In honor of Kay Guelzow & Louise Affholder by Richard Affholder Rev. Trust

In memory of Donald Heeren by Della (Koester) Vivien

In honor of Arlyn & Grace Helm's 70th anniversary by Arlyn & Grace Helms

In memory of Wylina Kerl by Gregory & Lorie Ballweg, John & Nancy Barden, Robert & Faye Danz, William & Jean Danz, Carl & Barbara Evert III, Julie Gilbertson, Richard & Marilyn Hahn, Kimberly Kahl, Virginia & Stephen Nelson, Wilma Matz-Di Rienzo, Paul & Joyce Schoepp, Keith & Teresa Schult, Wisconsin Vietnam Veteran, Inc.

In memory of my mother Virginia Krohn,

who passed away on July 26, 2014 by Susan Kratz

In memory of Roland Paul by Bethel Christian Men's Fellowship, Thomas Holum, Chrystie Jackson, Lois Landsee, Phyllis Lorenz, Jeff & Janice Martin, Donna Marie Marx, Michael & Cynthia McKenna, Marlys Mittlestadt, Mrs. W. Sundquist, Shirley Swenson, Della (Koester) Vivien, Arnold & Deborah Wickland

In memory of Art Peterson by American Arts, Orley & Karla Jensen, Russell & Edna Lucknow, Odana Bunch

In memory of Joseph Ponchik by Kim Ponchik

In memory of Melvin Schulenburg by Kathleen Schulenburg

In memory of my husband Richard Slabey by Elvera Slabey

In memory of Glen & Ardene Smith by Cindy

In memory of Dorothy Solheim by Mark Solheim, The Kiplinger Foundation Inc. – Matching Donation

In memory of Helen Whitney by Dean Whitney

In memory of Helen, Ray, Vern & Jerry by Sue Belz

In memory of my family who passed on with the Lord by Mildred Smith

In memory of my husband Ken, passed away 3/26/14 by Ramona Strohbusch



Looking for more?

Live streaming of our Sunday service is available online!

bethel-madison.org

(Select Streaming from the Worship tab at the top of the page)

or

[youtube.com/user/BethelLutheranTV](https://www.youtube.com/user/BethelLutheranTV)

Sponsored telecasts

- ◆ **Nov. 29: In memory of Arden & Ethel Erdman**
- ◆ **Dec. 20: In loving memory of Roger Loff** by his wife Lois
- ◆ **Dec. 28: In memory of Leona Heiking**
- ◆ **Jan. 18: In memory of Charles Thomley** by Jo Thomley, family and friends
- ◆ **Jan. 25: In memory of Joseph Hoel** by Lorraine Hoel & family

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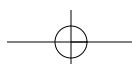
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All gifts are welcome!

Please return the donation envelope provided. Call Alice Mowbray to learn about various giving options – appreciated stock, charitable gift annuities, bequests: 608-257-3577, Ext. 222.





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10:00 a.m. WKOW-TV 27

**Eau Claire, LaCrosse,
Milwaukee, Wausau /
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Viewers: Although the telecast is no longer aired in these areas, you will continue to receive this publication.

** delayed one week*

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Bethel Lutheran Church calendar

2015 Sundays	First Reading	Second Reading	Gospel
March 1	Gen. 17:1-7, 15-16	Rom. 4:13-25	Mark 8:31-38
March 8	Exod. 20:1-17	1 Cor. 1:128-25	John 2:13-22
March 15	Num. 21:4-9	Eph. 2:1-10	John 3:14-21
March 22	Jer. 31:31-34	Heb. 5:5-10	John 12:20-33
March 29	Isa. 50:4-9a	Phil. 2:5-11	Mark 14:1-15:47
April 5	Acts 10:34-43	1 Cor. 15:1-11	Mark 16:1-8
April 12	Acts 4:32-35	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
April 19	Acts 3:12-19	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b-48
April 26	Acts 4:5-12	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18
May 3	Acts 8:26-40	1 John 4:7-21	John 15:1-8
May 10	Acts 10:44-48	1 John 5:1-6	John 15:9-17
May 17	Acts 1:15-17, 21-26	1 John 5:9-13	John 17:6-19
May 24	Acts 2:1-21	Rom. 8:22-27	John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15
May 31	Isa. 6:1-8	Rom. 8:12-17	John 3:1-17

