

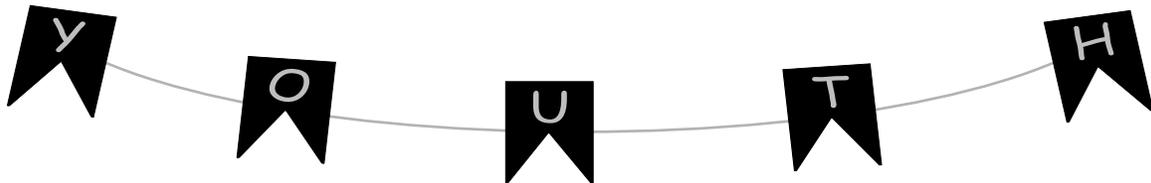
BETHEL ENDOWMENT FOUNDATION

Foundation Life newsletter

www.bethel-madison.org

Bethel Lutheran Church Endowment Foundation

Spring / Summer 2018



It is important for young people to feel a strong connection to their church community and understand their valuable role in the church of today.

The Discipleship Development arm of Bethel's Student Ministries extends

hospitality and helps young people understand their faith. In turn, more young people are engaging in the life of the church.

"Participating meant a sense of community. Belonging. An understanding of one's belovedness in the eyes of Christ," said Bethel youth recently as they described their experiences with youth ministry.

"We aim to extend hospitality, purchase resources and continue to develop disciples so that as they navigate adolescence, they might turn to their church community to walk with them," said Elisabeth Pynn Himmelman, Student Ministries Coordinator. "As they prepare to go out into the world after high school, our church will be a place that has encouraged them to know they are beloved children of God, called to love and serve."

Activities planned for Bethel youth have included:

- A bi-monthly gathering for Bible study, games and faith formation.
- A fall retreat to Chicago.
- A spring synod retreat to Elkhorn.
- Concerts, service projects and other outings.

"In our student ministry, the focus is on transforming lives with the love and grace of gospel," Elisabeth explained.

Funding from the Bethel Endowment Foundation supports Bethel's Student Ministries and the numerous opportunities it provides.

Gearing up for ELCA Youth Gathering

Later this summer, 41 Bethel participants will join 31,000 Lutheran youth from around the country for the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston. This event, which takes place every three years, includes service, interactive learning, worship, Bible study and a nightly gathering for faith formation.

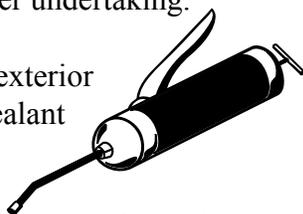
"Youth will have an opportunity to understand the fierce love that God has for them just as they are, and that by grace, through faith, they have been saved," explained Elisabeth Pynn Himmelman, Student Ministries Coordinator. "When young people (or really any age person) truly claim this reality, it indeed changes everything."



Some TLC for windows and floors

Maintaining any facility is an ongoing task. When it's a large building like Bethel, it can be an even greater undertaking.

Applying exterior window sealant is a major project that was completed in April. The large two-and-a-half story windows along Wisconsin Avenue and Johnson Street needed caulk sealing.



The joints between each window, between the windows and the building, and between the glazing were all failing. There were areas where a joint was open as the previous sealant had deteriorated, allowing water to infiltrate the window system. It was impacting the concrete frames and rusting

the steel lintels.

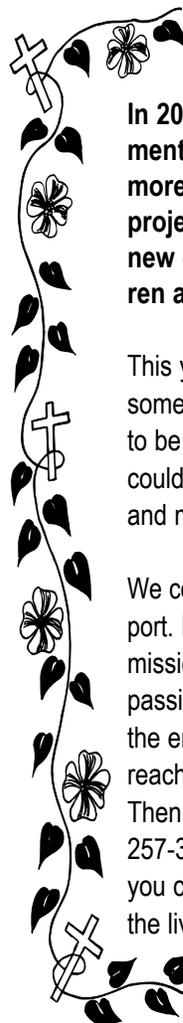
“This work was critical for maintaining the integrity of the building facade,” said Steve Lawrence, Building Manager.



Another project at hand that received grant funding is replacing carpet in a high-traffic space on the main level, like the Bride's Room/Room 100.

This project will be under way soon.

Grants from the Bethel Endowment Foundation help cover the cost of these efforts that keep the building in good condition and make it an enjoyable place for members, visitors and staff.



In 2018, the Bethel Endowment Foundation will give more than \$650,000 to projects that will create new experiences for children and adults.

This year, like past years, some projects are not able to be funded – projects that could touch hearts, grow faith and make a lifelong impact.

We continue to need your support. Be part of this valuable mission. Think about your passion. Is it art and music, the environment, media outreach or youth and the elderly? Then call Alice Mowbray at 257-3577, to talk about ways you can make a difference in the lives of others.

Gifts and memorials spread happiness

Thank you for your generous gifts that enable the Bethel Endowment Foundation to contribute to many special programs.

Bethel Lutheran Church has established memorials for each deceased member since 1964. You may add to one of these, start a special fund or offer general contributions.

Memorials were established for the following Bethel members between October 1, 2017, and March 31, 2018:

Naomi Bekkum
Roy Berg
Robert Caspersen
Alan Christenson
Mary Connery
William Dewey
DeEtte Eager

Harland Emerson
Leonard (Mike) Fahien
Rachel Favour
John Fett
Mary Filipowicz
Marilyn Kay Fischer
Timothy Frazier
DuWayne Gilbertson
Rodessa Good
Ethel “Mae” Jensen
Myrtle Knutson
James Langdon
Joyce Lowe

Kay McGuire
Jeanette Paul
Dolores Ramsey
Kay Roe
James Rose
Chalis Sherven
Elizabeth Skowlund
Else Solberg
Doris Sundt
Fred Wertz
Diane Wiedenbeck
Margarita Wilson
Marlene Woehler

(cont'd. on page 6)

What's the next best step to take?

Such a whirlwind of changes in and around Bethel – we're still in a time of general transition, we're just on the other side of a time of interior remodel, we're all living into the new tax law changes and keeping our fingers crossed about the rebound of our own personal economy. But wait a minute – it can't all be about us and these inward expressions, can it?

The Bethel Series was authored nearly six decades ago – right here at Bethel, and now as of a few weeks ago, is officed back here, “at home.” The synergy of it continuing to happen within our midst just feels right.

Bethel Horizons came into existence nearly 50 years ago – and is on the path of thriving with its care-full leadership.

Media ministry has morphed from radio to the addition and expansion of television presence and settled into its local

market outreach arm of Bethel's service of the Word.

Latino ministry is not presently what we thought 16 years out looked like – but every week, worshippers from past encounters or new residents sit next to us in pews and chairs, adding to the rich fabric of our church life experience. Our connectedness to Puerto Rico remains robust.

Your Endowment Foundation is poised for seeking and partnering with the next worthy significant investment to make in stretching the focus of mission and ministry beyond the walls bordered by Wisconsin Ave, Gorham, Carroll and Johnson streets. Leadership and setting a vision are in the near view. What is it that catches our collective imagination? Where is the next opportunity to be the Bethel in the world, near or far?

Together with inspired partners from within our congregation, and the greater community – we can accomplish much. Since your Foundation began gifting grants more than 50 years ago, more than \$11.8 million has done good in the world.

Featured on the front page, is the story about the upcoming Youth Gathering – in Houston this year. In 1973, a teenage me also attended the massive Lutheran Youth Gathering – in Hous-



Alice Mowbray

ton that year as well. I loved every moment of it – the fellowship, the bus trek there and back, the overnight in Oklahoma en route, the fancy hotel in the big city, turning 16 right after I got home ... and the featured musician for the electric event: Herb Brokering, a newish songwriter and musician in the Lutheran world at that time, but his words and tunes were so poetic and memorable.

The theme this summer is based on the Bible passage from Ephesians 2:8 “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God.”

Can this Change Everything?
Yes please – we invite it to be so.

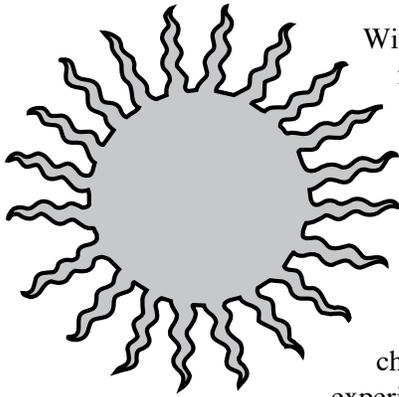
A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Alice Mowbray".

Alice Mowbray

2018 Bethel Foundation grants

Exterior window sealant	\$ 31,382
Sanctuary, bride's room, stairwell carpet	\$ 10,000
Wisconsin Ave. entrance name branding	\$ 2,532
Borgwardt Hall LED lighting	\$ 1,450

Summertime = intern time



With warmer weather on the way, it's time to plan for our summer intern program. This summer, Seminarian Anne Wickland will join us. She will focus on activities related to Circle of Love and Vacation Bible Camp.

“This is again an excellent opportunity for her to see the inside workings of the church and to explore the different aspects of what running a church is like in a leadership role. She will gain experience managing volunteers and liturgical practice,”

Deacon Lisa Huber explained. “For Bethel, we are inspired by the enthusiasm that she will bring and look forward to her participation on the staff.”

Anne recently completed her first year at Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago where she is seeking a Masters of Divinity to become an ELCA pastor. A longtime Bethel member, this will be her third summer in our intern program.

The Bethel Endowment Foundation has helped support the intern program for nearly 15 years.

2018 Bethel Foundation grants

Bethel Horizons' total	\$101,818
Barn Retreat Center exterior upgrades	\$ 32,400
Scholarships	\$ 15,000
Bat guano removal	\$ 10,000
Business Manager part-time position	\$ 10,000
Camperships	\$ 10,000
Program Director's quarters	\$ 9,345
Camp House improvements	\$ 9,100
Bob Westervelt honorary camperships	\$ 4,250
Barn Retreat Center tables and chairs	\$ 1,723



Pack your bags, it's time for camp

Children and adults alike are already anxiously awaiting Vacation Bible Camp (VBC) at Bethel Horizons. This exciting journey begins July 30 and ends with a family picnic on Aug. 2. More than 100 people typically attend.

Participants will have an opportunity to discover how God changes everything! Action-packed days will be filled with stories, songs, crafts and exploration in the morning – followed by swimming and beach fun in the afternoon. VBC is an exciting way to explore the Bible and nature.

Support from the Bethel Endowment Foundation makes educational opportunities at camp available for more children.

**THIS
CHANGES
EVERYTHING**

Hope in the Midst of Chaos

Lent 2018 was a time of growth and change – a time to deepen faith and our relationship with God. Through our theme, *Hope in the Midst of Chaos*, we focused on daily Bible reading and prayer, weekly worship, study and service to those in need. This year, our activities included:

- Wednesday worship services with readings from *Overheard: Conversations by the Cross*, as well as speakers and classes on the Small Catechism.
- The Ash Wednesday fish fry and weekly soup-and-sandwich



lunches and suppers that provided fellowship and nourishment.

Additionally, Bethel members volunteered almost 100 hours at Second Harvest Foodbank – providing more than 11,000 meals to those in need.

Holy week

Holy Week began with the drama and pageantry of the first Palm Sunday with Cry of the Congregation as the crowd waved palms and lived through the events of Holy Week at worship.

Special Holy Week activities and snack bags reinforced the events for our children during the Sunday School hour. Musicians also played an important role throughout Holy Week, including on Good Friday at the Tre Ore.



Bethel members make a difference by volunteering at Second Harvest Foodbank.

Support from the Bethel Endowment Foundation helps cover the cost of special Lenten activities.

Spreading the word about Bethel

“Everyone finds out information differently, and we need an opportunity to get Bethel’s brand out there in multiple platforms to reach a multitude of people,” said Christal Swiggart, Director of Communications.

This is the goal of Bethel’s advertising and branding activities. Funding from the Bethel Endowment Foundation helps cover the cost of:

- Facebook, newsletter and newspaper ads.
- *Welcome to the Neighborhood* postcards mailed to about 100 people per month who move within one mile of Bethel.
- Engagement pieces for visitors.
- Bottled water with Bethel labels distributed at various events.

Holy Week Worship
PALM SUNDAY WEEKEND
 Cry of the Whole Congregation (Interactive Drama)
 Sat, March 24, 5pm; Sun, March 25, 7:45am, 9am & 11:15am

MAUNDY THURSDAY
 Worship with Foot Washing and Stripping of the Altar
 Thursday, March 29, 6:30pm

GOOD FRIDAY
 Tre Ore - Worship with Lessons and Reflections
 Friday, March 30, 12-3pm

Tenebrae - Service of Increasing Darkness
 Friday, March 30, 6:30pm

HOLY SATURDAY
 Easter Vigil - Worship with Reflections
 Saturday, March 31, 6:30pm

Sunday of the Resurrection
EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 1
 7am - Son-Rise Worship - Decking of the Altar
 9am - Festival Easter Worship
 11am - Festival Easter Worship



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Ad that ran in the Isthmus for Easter.

“We hope these strategies will result in new faces at Bethel, as well as increased likes and followers on social media,” Christal said.

2018 Bethel Foundation grants

Development Director	\$57,199
Seminarian support	\$42,000
Vacation Bible Camp	\$34,000
Orange training and curriculum	\$16,150
Bethel Intern Program	\$15,000
Advertising/branding	\$ 13,520
Interim Senior Pastor assistance	\$10,000
Latino Ministry support	\$10,000
Women’s retreat	\$ 8,000
Lent 2018	\$ 5,000
Resettlement Ministry	\$ 4,750
Congregational picnic	\$ 2,000
God’s Work, Our Hands	\$ 1,000

Latino Ministry in 2018

Since 2002 when Bethel's Latino Ministry was established, many members of the Latino community have viewed Bethel as a special place to come together and worship.



“Our Latino members have contributed greatly to the fabric of our diversity—adding value for Latino members and the entire congregation,” said Alice Mowbray, Director of Development.

While we have endured leadership changes in this ministry, we want our Latino members to remain connected to Bethel so future ministry opportunities with a reinvigorated congregation may become a reality. Moving forward, this ministry may take a different shape, but we will continue to welcome our Latino friends and build on the solid foundation already in place.

Our Sunday service continues to be translated live into Spanish for Latino worshippers using a headphone at the service.

A grant from the Bethel Endowment Foundation helps support the outreach and fellowship aspects of the Latino Ministry.

2018 Bethel Foundation grants

Bethel Horizons	
Executive Director	\$ 50,000
Bethel Student Ministries -	
ELCA Youth Gathering	\$ 33,000
Bethel Student Ministries -	
discipleship development and pragmatic expenses	\$ 10,020
Stephen Ministry	\$ 2,200
Admin. & Publicity	\$ 50,000
Contingency reserve	\$ 18,750

Memorials

(cont'd. from page 2)

The following individuals contributed general gifts to the Foundation between October 1, 2017, and March 31, 2018, by these individuals:

Nyagoah Biel
Lola Cator
Connie Caucutt
Bruce & Suzanne Christoffersen
Karol Dillie
Carol Kalscheur
Kristine Kennedy
Robyn Kitson
Samuel Muon & Nyalam Diew
Joel & Sandra Zander
Randy Skram

Gifts, honorary gifts and memorial contributions were made to the Foundation from October 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018, by these individuals:

In memory of Lyle Barsness by wife, Betty & children

In memory of Ellie Bauer by Joan Bruce

In memory of Naomi Bakkum by Carol & James Conant, Alice Kvamme, Eugene Nordby

In memory of Roy Berg by Dorothy Berg

In memory of Robert Caspersen by Bill & Mauretta Mattison

In memory of Sandra Lee Shaw Courter by Bob Courter

In memory of William Dewey by Sue Baumblatt

In memory of Vernon N. Dodson by Martha Dodson

In memory of Shirley Dodson by Martha Dodson

In memory of Pastor Curt Everson by Karl & Vel Marquardt, Gordon & Ardell May, Nancy Olson, Stony Stondall

In memory of Leonard “Mike” Fahien by Robert & Martha Cassens, Lorraine Fischer, Jeanne Fischer & Michael Kafoury, Carl & Mary Gulbrandsen, Mary Hugdahl, Roberta & Richard Johnson, Julie Ann Koch, Sharon Munkwitz, Martha Nack, Burt & Darlene Olson, Norman & Darlene Olson, Thomas Pierce, JoAnn Six

In memory of Mary Filipowicz by Judith & Thomas Griffin

In memory of Verne Forest by Stony Stondall

In memory of Tim Frazier by Les & Bev Ellis, Cheryl Frazier

In memory of DuWayne Gilbertson by Fjelstad Aldeen, Spencer & Barb Argall, Brad & Barb Armstrong, Delma Baker, Lucille Bartels, Norv & Carrie Bernhardt, Judy & Arlen Christenson, Abigail Circle, Robert & Marilyn Cleveland, Donald Clevon, Robert & Mary Cole, Marlene Cordes, Neil & Judith De Vries, Connie Dreger, Mary Lou & Phil Dzick, Linda Falkenstein & Bill Lueders and Stella,

Betty Forest, Helen George, Joan Gering, Linda Gerke, Joan Gilbertson, Judith & Thomas Griffin, Judy Grobe, Dave & Carol Groneng, Tom & Ethel Grundahl, Ann Gullick, James & Myrna Hanson, John & Lynne Harmon, Betty Ingwell, Robert & Mary Johnson, James & Judy Kachel, Joe & Joan Kellerman, Paul & Dawn Kellesvig, Joyce Koskelin-Ihm, Irene Kringle, Gisela & John Kutzbach, Alice Kvamme, Carol Lokken-Bostad, Gary Lorenz, Karl & Vel Marquardt, Henry & Karen Mattson, Ken & Ruth Melby, Mrs. Gary Menzel, Lou & Joe Moll, Peder & Jeanne Moren, Marian & Earl Mylrea, Robert & Hiroko Nelson, Dan, Stan & Nancy Nelson, Gary & Peggy Ness, Ron & Jan Opelt, Zoa Ott, Pam Ott, Cindy Pangallo, Thomas Pierce, Jeane Powles, Robert Rand, Harry & Lorna Ribbke, David Sam, Nancy Schmidt, Al & Wendy Schultz, John & Jacqui Shanda, Beverly Sherven, Donna Skudal, Gregory & Kathryn Smith, Scott & Michelle, Paige, Jenny and Katie Spencer, Sean & Karine Spencer, Flora & Phil Sprecher, Henry & Sharon Starkey, Ray & Harriet Statz, Dave & Sandy Statz, Beverly Strutt, Al & Astrid Swain, Barbara Swenson, Jo

Thomley, Wendell & Hilma Trollop, Tom Tuttle, Ted & Jan Tweed, Lou & Jean Unverzagt, Arnold & Carrol Vollmer, Barbara Weaver, Nancy Weinreis, Carolyn White, Bill & Diane Wiedenbeck, Duane & Carol Wosje, Ross & Judith Zanto, Bethel Christian Men's Fellowship

In memory of Doris Griebel, DeWitt IA by Jim Esmoil

In honor of Kathy Hunt by Mia Hunt (Medtronic Foundaiton Volunteer Grant Program)

In memory of Myrtle Knutson by Robert Kivela, Curtis Knutson, Barbara Prindiville

In memory of Lorraine Kulke (mother of Howard Kulke) by Catherine Buege, Norman & Darlene Olson

In memory of James Langdon by Joan Gilbertson, Joan Langdon and family and friends

In memory of Joyce Lowe by Connie Cautt, Debra Granger, Shirley Haidinger, Ramona & Dewey Johnson, Carol Kalscheur, June Paynter, Noreen Schmidt, Belle Stephenson, Charles Wirth

In memory of Grace Lund by Betty Bridge, Gladys Olson White, Ross & Judith Zanto

In honor of Willard Lund by Donna Ulteig

In memory of Marianne Massie by Phil & Mary Lou Dzick, Karl Peterson, Thomas Pierce, Robert Rand

In memory of Bill Munkwitz by Kathy Hunt, Stony Stoddall

In memory of Jeanette Paul by Brad & Barb Armstrong, Judith Christenson, Joan Gilbertson, Peder & Jeanne Moren, Marian Osterberg, Lois Seymour, Jo Ann Six, Henry & Sharon Starkey, Mike & Bev Thom, Donna Ulteig, XYZ Members

In memory of James Rose by Bradley & Barbara Armstrong, Judy & Arlen Christenson, Bill & Karen Dunn III, Marsha & Roger Henson, Gary & Nancy Hertel, Raymond & Helen Kruse, Karl & Vel Marquardt, Allan & Michele Mickelson, Peder & Jeanne Moren, Annette Norsman, Norman & Darlene Olson, Jean Rennebohm, Carrol & Nancy Spencer, Donna Ulteig, Robert & Lucille Westervelt, Carolyn White, Kathleen Voit

In memory of Betty Skowlund by Bradley & Barbara Armstrong, Alinda Nelson

In memory of Leona Sonderegger by Thomas Finger, Nancy & Br. Charles Hannan, Elaine & William Klein

In memory of George Traut by David Traut

In memory of Rodney Ulteig by Donna Ulteig

In memory of James Underkofler by Alliant Energy Corporation Director's Charitable Award Program c/o Patricia L. Kampling

In memory of Carol Werndli by Todd & Jae Werndli

In memory of Fred Wertz by Martha Treutelaar

In memory of Diane Wiedenbeck by Bradley & Barbara Armstrong, Joan Gilbertson, Kevin & Sherri Honaker, Earl & Glory Mikkelsen, Michael & Iris Othrow, Chad Thomley, Donna Ulteig, Barbara Weaver

In memory of Margerita Wilson by John & Jacqui Shanda

Gifts, honorary gifts and memorial contributions were made to the Foundation's XYZ Fund from October 1, 2017, to March 31, 2018, by these individuals:

In memory of Joyce Lowe by Delma Baker, Kathryn Bartlett, Colleen Wincentsen

In memory of Dorothy McNicol by Delma Baker

In memory of Naomi Bekkum by Colleen Wincentsen



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One way to grow the Foundation

Investment results for 2017 were once again praiseworthy – with the posted gain of 13.7% from the diversified portfolio of holdings. (Not since 1928 had there been a 14-month stretch of positive gains made within the market – but harkening back to that long ago time, knowing what ‘correction’ came about soon after, gives many people pause. Ignorance is indeed bliss.) Our reality was invaded to a degree in the first quarter of 2018, when results posted were a loss of 1.3% for our Foundation’s portfolio. The look back at the trailing 20 years (or since quarter 2 began in 1998) holds an annual average gain of 6.6% - which outpaced the benchmark of 5.6% by a full point. Simply remarkable work, done by a group of volunteer professionals from within our Bethel membership – who meet together monthly for a 90-minute meeting to make solid, well-founded decisions in order to maintain buying power of our assets for the long haul. . . or perpetuity, to use an endowment-related term. For those of us old enough to remember, consider what happened in the marketplace in 2000 and also in 2008. The 20-year look back accommodates both of these ‘downturns’ and still seems outstanding in terms of growth for our invested gifts.

As of March end, the mix of holdings were as follows — domestic stocks: 47%, international stocks: 14%, emerging market stocks: 6%, bonds: 33%, cash: less than a half percent. Focus continues on finding and holding value stocks versus necessarily growth stocks, so in order to weather a variety of economic environments and produce returns necessary for longterm strength. The strength of our economy suggests that earnings growth should continue this year, quite possibly not with the same momentum as last year, due to more volatility in the market. Know that your investment placed in the stewardship purview of Bethel’s Endowment Foundation is well cared for.

Bethel Endowment Foundation Trustees

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* Denotes member of the New Projects Committee

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Writing and design: Effective Communications