



# Bethelite

A publication of Bethel Lutheran Church distributed twice monthly.



[bethelmadison.org/bethelite](http://bethelmadison.org/bethelite)

## LIONS, TIGERS, AND BEARS! OH MY!

Making it through

Pastor Mike Brown

I suspect that most of us have seen the movie *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*. The scenes are familiar to millions. With her life upended by violent and unpredictable forces, Dorothy is carried to a bewildering and exotic place where she, Toto, Scarecrow, Tin Man, and Cowardly Lion travel the yellow brick road in search of the Wizard. In the movie, they approach the Wizard's city as it sparkles emerald-like on the horizon. But, in L. Frank Baum's original book version of the story, the city is not green at all. It only appears to be made of emeralds. What makes it look green are the green-tinted glasses the Wizard has all the inhabitants wear. In having the people wear these glasses, the Wizard brings all the varied experiences, shapes, and characters of the people of Oz into a single perspective. Everyone, that is – except Dorothy. A single perspective cannot account for every one of Dorothy's experiences because throughout the movie she lives out of two stories. The most colorful story, of course, is the multicolored and winding story of Oz with its unfamiliar surroundings and

fantastical characters. The second is the story of Kansas with its familiar faces, basic shapes, and black and white simplicity. She often longs for the simplicity and longs for a way to go back. For the majority of the book and the movie, Dorothy is never fully in one or the other. She is displaced. She is lost and uprooted. She is out of place.



**"Toto, I have the feeling we're not in Kansas anymore."**

Much of the story of the Bible happens among people who live with a pervasive sense of being uprooted. The first people stories in Genesis lay out this theme as Adam and Eve are cast out of the Garden of Eden, and Cain is sent away to be a wanderer for murdering Abel. As the story winds on, we see Abraham and Sarah and all the patriarchs living as migrants. Even Jesus would later say "Foxes

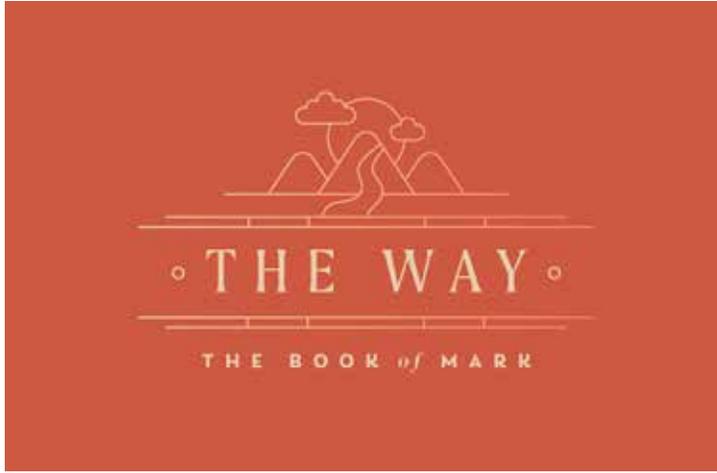
have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head" (Luke 9:58). A feeling of being without a place is widespread and shared by Jesus.

It is important for us to remember these things, my good people, because in these times, we are "out of place." This pandemic has cast

us out of our familiar surroundings, routines, and rhythms. It continually generates feelings of being unsettled, out-of-sorts, and disoriented. And it brings fears that it will never end. But we can take comfort that God joins us in this moment and in this "no-place". In fact, the writer of Colossians (2:7) writes "My counsel for you is

simple and straightforward: Just go ahead with what you've been given. You received Christ Jesus, the Master; now live him. You're deeply rooted in him. You're well-constructed upon him." In a world that displaces us over and over again, God makes a permanent place for you in the life of the Son Jesus Christ. 🌈

## Sermon Series: The Way – The Book of Mark



Beginning with the first Sunday of Lent this year, Pastor Mike begins a new series of messages on the Gospel of Mark. 2021 is the year of Mark in the lectionary and throughout the year the entire gospel is the main focus for the gospel readings in liturgical churches across the world. Join us this Lent for a deep dive into the book of the Bible that was the very first written gospel.

**Feb 21:** Making an About Face

**Feb 28:** Healing the Dark Side

**Mar 7:** Avoiding Food Fights

**March 14:** Hidden in Plain Sight

**March 21:** Pushing the Envelope

**March 28:** The Turning Point 🌈

## Community Solar Program by MG&E

Feb 18 at 3:30pm via Zoom

MG&E will provide a presentation and a Q&A session for all interested on Feb 18 at 3:30pm on MG&E's Community Solar Program and how Bethel can participate in this program. This presentation will allow us to consider the Community Shared Program and compare it to the installation of our own Photo Voltaic Solar Panels on the rooftop of Bethel. Jillian Page, Senior Account Representative for MG&E and Matt Matenaur, Senior Account Manager from MG&E will be our presenters.

Please join us! This presentation is sponsored by the Property Resources Team of Bethel.

**Login Link:** <https://zoom.us/j/94363045673> 🌈

## Brian L. Schroeder Virtual Art Show

Now – April 30

Within my art, my goal is to make present the spiritual dimension and the flow of energy within ourselves and the Universe in which we live. I look upon my artwork as expressing a certain meditative spirituality.

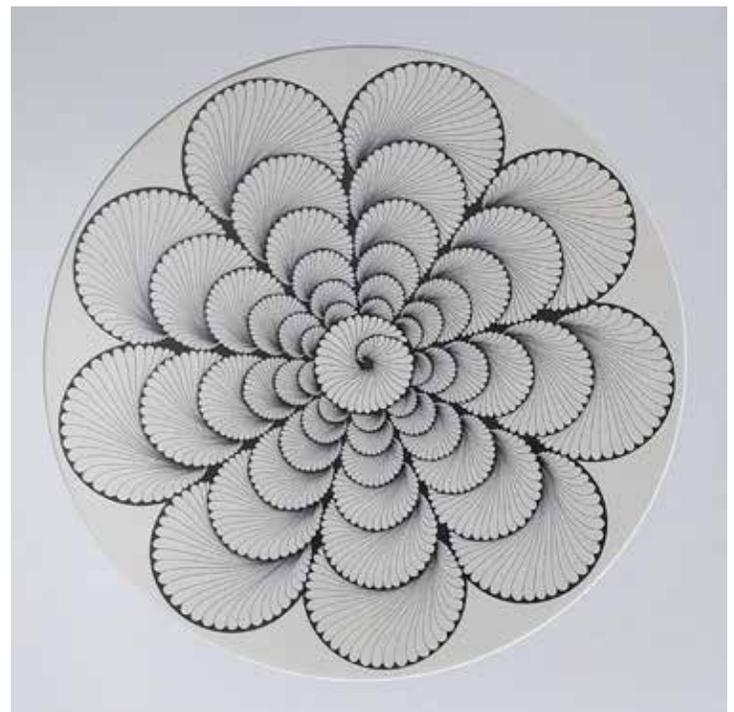
In my art, I express myself with pattern and geometric shapes, linear flow, and movement. The mediums are primarily pen and ink, colored pencil, and gouache (opaque watercolor).

Most of my artwork is in the shape of a mandala with a symmetrical format and a definite middle. I find this very healing, centering, and calming. Some of the mandalas also function as talismans or protective shields.

As an artist, I admire the geometric motifs, pattern, flow, and creativity in Celtic and Islamic Art. My Art education began at the University of Wisconsin - Madison, where I completed my B.S. and M.F.A. degrees in Art.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at [bschroeder@wisc.edu](mailto:bschroeder@wisc.edu).

**View Virtual Art Show:** [tinyurl.com/dtocar7e](https://tinyurl.com/dtocar7e) 🌈



# Lent Bible Study

*Oh, the Things We See*

Wednesday Midday at 2pm with Pastor Mike  
February 24 - March 31  
<https://zoom.us/j/95053961136>

Wednesday Evening at 7pm with Pastor Mike  
February 24 - March 31  
<https://zoom.us/j/98436092143>

In the book *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, what makes the Emerald City sparkle green are the green-tinted glasses people wear. This simple fact shows how the lens people use to see the world color how things are understood. This year's Bethel Lent Bible study on Mark takes a similar approach. It offers four different "lens" to read the Gospel of Mark. In the six sessions of this study, you will be invited to look at a passage with a historical, literary, Lutheran, and devotional lens. Each will color the passage in a certain way to draw out greater detail and perhaps even a hidden meaning. As you work through this study alone or within a group, you will also add other lenses. These are the ones you bring. You and any others with you look at the world, and therefore these passages, with your own personal lenses. Your lenses are the sum total of your personal experiences, temperament, personality, gifts, strengths, values, and passions. These also color how you see and understand the meaning of the Bible. As you study, discuss, and perhaps journal your thoughts, give yourself permission to share your own perspectives. And listen carefully to the perspectives of others. These also help bring out details and meaning from the words of scripture. As you move back and forth between the various lenses, and even overlay them one on another, powerful and sometimes previously unseen and hidden messages appear.

## How to Participate

1) Join an existing or form a new group. If you would like to join a group but have not yet, please contact Judy at [judy@bethel-madison.org](mailto:judy@bethel-madison.org). Or, 2) you are welcome to join Pastor Mike on Wednesdays at 2pm or 7pm. To get a copy of the book, simply email the church at [recep@bethel-madison.org](mailto:recep@bethel-madison.org) or call 608.257.3577. 3) Conduct your own private Bible Study using the Online Bible Study with a video introduction by Pastor Mike found on the Bethel website.

The Bible Study is also available online as a Flipbook at [www.bethel-madison.org/lent](http://www.bethel-madison.org/lent).

# Lent Wednesday Services

Evening Prayer

Each Wednesday from 6:30-7pm, Bethel will gather for worship on Facebook and YouTube as a part of our Lenten experience. The worship will be Holden Village Evening Prayer setting.



"Let my prayer rise up  
as incense before you."

## Profiles in Faith A Grandmother Who Loves Children

"We wanted to share a story of giving by a Bethel member of more than six decades. This grandmother who loves children is 93 years old. We are going to call her "grandmother" in this story. One of the ways grandmother provides for the needs of Bethel is through a 'several times each year' donation of gift cards for children. The gift cards are for those 60 or so children to purchase what they want or need, under the supervision of an adult. Grandmother shared that sometimes children buy candy or items needed for school (like shoes), but children most often use the gift cards to buy something for someone else in their lives. What an incredible and thoughtful gift from this grandmother. A gift that opens a door for giving and receiving. She closed our conversation with "these children are the next people developing the country."

Story shared with permission by "A grandmother who loves children".

# We will miss you, Chelsea Lauing



How do I put into words all the attributes of one of my favorite musicians here at Bethel? Chelsea and her husband Ben are going to be moving to Chicago in the Spring. I invited her to write a letter about her new adventures in the

Windy City, and she has some exciting news! It was written from her heart, to our hearts. I first met Chelsea when I played guitar for the "Silent Night" soloist in 2012. I loved her hilarious side cracks, the fact we both got teary-eyed during the pageant (those KIDS!), and our love of fun dresses. She is down to earth, fun, an excellent singer, and a fantastic actress (2020 "Inside Out" Drive In Movie extravaganza). Chelsea, I'm going to miss you terribly, and I wish you all success in this new chapter of your life!

**View Chelsea's Goodbye Letter Here:**  
[tinyurl.com/181qx1or](https://tinyurl.com/181qx1or) 🌈

—Amy Hartsough, Director of Music

# Win-Win Proposal for Businesses Downtown Churches Working Together

The Chair of **Grace Episcopal Church's Mission and Outreach Committee** has contacted **Bethel's Homeless Ministry** with a novel idea on how homeless friends can be successful in the workplace. Along with the expertise of an experienced Social Worker, these two gentlemen have spawned a creative idea of how a homeless person could be a useful employee to an open-minded employer. If you, as an employer, are interested in exploring this unique concept, please let us know at **Bethel's Homeless Ministry** by contacting Bev Thom either via email ([bjthom@me.com](mailto:bjthom@me.com)) or 608.576.7245. This is another opportunity for **Bethel** to partner with churches of the Madison community. 🌈

# Thank You Hephatha Lutheran Church



**Greetings from Hephatha Altar**  
From right to left: Aayreon, Aprice, Alexander, Pastor Mary Martha.  
We thank God for you, dear partners.

We at Hephatha wanted to take a few moments out of this New Year to say thank you. Thank you to our Partners for helping us get through the many hardships caused by the pandemic. We know churches everywhere suffered (some more than others) in many ways. I believe that we can truly say, "nobody would've ever thought the doors to God's house anywhere would have to close."

Thanking God for modern technology, our closed door led to an open window via Zoom. Doing this we were able to keep Hephatha open, and because of your support, Hephatha was able to maintain the ministries that have become valuable to, not only our members, but the community we reside in.

Please visit our website, [Hephatha100.com](http://Hephatha100.com), to see what Hephatha's ministries are doing these days; and you're always welcome to join our Zoom Communion Worship service on a Sunday (10:30am) or Wednesday (7pm), or both! The worship service is approximately 30 minutes. We would love to have our partners worship with us.

We are extremely grateful and very humbled for the support that you have given us, and the spirit of brotherhood in Christ we share. On behalf of our Pastor Mary Martha Kannass, the Church Council and the members of Hephatha I say with all my heart,

**Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!**

Linda Riley  
Council President  
Hephatha Lutheran Church 🌈

# You're Invited

## Join the Community Ministry Team

Are you looking for an opportunity to share your gifts of community building and hospitality? If so, consider being a member of Bethel's Community Ministry Team! Here's an overview of what we do:

- Community outreach through activities such as Rocktoberfest and hosting highly engaging speakers such as Nadia Bolz-Weber.
- Work in cooperation with the Outreach Pastor to create genuine opportunities to connect to the community in meaningful ways.
- Support church hospitality through training of greeters, coordinate guest gifts, and follow up with new members to welcome them and support their involvement in church life.
- Coordinate celebrations for new members, special occasions and our church picnic.
- Work with the Communications staff to increase Bethel's visibility in the community through advertising and media outreach.
- Coordinate Sunday refreshments served by staff's Sunday Host.
- Create a positive impression of public spaces through coordination of volunteers to maintain the front patio, foyer, Welcome desk and the Emmaus/Community room.

**Team Members:** Pastor Mike, Bonnie Orvick, Chris Hartmann, Euan Ford, Faith Kelley and Sue Rogers.

Contact Sue Rogers at [oldawgs@yahoo.com](mailto:oldawgs@yahoo.com) for further information or to join. 🌈



# Realm Corner

## Skills and Interests



In this time of pandemic, many people have said that one benefit of this time of isolation is that it has given them more time to reach out to people they know and love with a card or a gift dropped off at a doorstep.

Lately, I've been thinking about the time after the pandemic. I'm sure we won't be going back to life as usual so let's take some of those lessons learned during the pandemic with us into our future.

The staff has been talking about getting ready for the "Reopening" of Bethel. I'm sure it will be wonderful to worship and meet in person again. I'm excited about that, how about you? What will be needed to be ready? One thing I know, we will need you. As we think about future programming, we would like to know what you are interested in and what your skills are so that we might better match you with one of the many program and worship ministries at Bethel. Have you thought about how you will be a part of this new beginning?

To help us know how best to match your interests/skills with a Bethel ministry please go to Realm and update your skills and interests.

### To do that on your computer:

1. Log in to Realm...Onrealm.org
2. Put in your email and password
3. Click on your name in the top right-hand corner
4. Click My Profile
5. Edit Profile
6. Personal information
7. Click on skills and choose the ones that apply
8. Click on interests and choose the ones that apply
9. Click save

### To do it on your phone:

1. Choose your Realm Connect app on your phone (you can get it in the APP store, it is free)
2. Log in
3. Choose more in the bottom right corner
4. Click on profile
5. Scroll down to Manage Skills, click the ones that apply...Click save
6. Manage Interests, click the ones that apply... Click save

View Video Here: [tinyurl.com/6d90ukus](https://tinyurl.com/6d90ukus) 🌈

# A Call to Justice and Mercy Celebrates Black History Month



*As we looked into the history of Madison's segregated neighborhoods past and present, we discovered the following story.*

Around 1900 African Americans in Madison established a neighborhood on the near east side around East Dayton and Blount Streets. Today this area is a National Historic District.

Note: Through the 1950s, Madison's near east side was one of three neighborhoods where clusters of African Americans lived, along with Greenbush and South Park Street. All three were redlined in 1937 as "hazardous" for loans. Redlining, restrictive covenants and real estate codes segregated neighborhoods in northern cities. For more, watch *Jim Crow of the North* and check out the ACTJAM web page: [www.bethel-madison.org/actjam](http://www.bethel-madison.org/actjam).

By 1900 there were nineteen African-American households in Madison including John and Martha Turner who moved to Madison from Kentucky in 1898 and purchased a home at 118 N. Blount St. The Turners rented a room to William Miller who moved to Madison in 1901 to work for Governor Robert LaFollette. Miller and his wife later bought a home around the corner at 637 East Dayton St., one of three buildings remaining today in the Historic District. Betty Banks, the Millers' granddaughter, said that W.E.B. DuBois "was a good friend of my grandfather's and often came to Madison to strategize what was going to happen to black people across the country. My grandparents were the contact people." Read Betty Bank's story here: [tinyurl.com/9zts3c5h](http://tinyurl.com/9zts3c5h).



The Turner home became a meeting spot for Madison's African American community. By 1901 Turner was holding Sunday school classes there. In April, 1902, Turner and Miller became the first trustees of the first African American church in Madison – St. Paul's African American Episcopal (AME).

But there was a problem. St. Paul's needed a building.



At the same time Bethel Lutheran Church needed more space.

Bethel's original frame structure located at the corner of Hamilton, Butler and Johnson Streets was built in 1863. By 1902 Bethel was ready to build a larger church on the same site.

We can only imagine how John Turner and William Miller negotiated with Bethel to buy the old building and some furnishings for the sum of \$150. Whose idea was it? Who approached whom?

St. Paul's purchased the old Bethel church and on March 11, 1902 moved it to 631 East Dayton St. The area at that time was marshland and the only means of getting to the church was by wooden boardwalks.



Photo credit: Wisconsin Historical Society

The St. Paul's congregation would continue to worship there for 63 years. Now in its third building and in a different location, St. Paul's AME is Madison's oldest African American congregation. Mt. Zion Baptist followed in 1911.

The history of the Black church in America is brilliantly told in a new documentary on PBS: **THE BLACK CHURCH: THIS IS OUR STORY, THIS IS OUR SONG**. The first two-hour episode airs Feb 16 and is repeated on Feb 22 on PBS Wisconsin. The second 2-hour segment airs Feb 17. We encourage everyone to watch! 🌈



# Fireside Chats



Pastor Mike will continue to host Fireside Chats on Tuesday evenings. Tuesday Fireside Chats are live-streamed at 7pm on Facebook or viewed on YouTube any time after 8pm except on the third Tuesday of the month. On the third Tuesday of the month, the Fireside Chat will be later due to the Church Council meeting that takes place at 7pm. It should start between

8:30-9pm. If you have any questions you would like to ask, please send them to [christal@bethel-madison.org](mailto:christal@bethel-madison.org). 🌈

## Men's Current Christian Concern (Thursdays at 8:30am)

Men's Current Christian Concerns continues to meet each Thursday morning via a Zoom video conference. The meeting starts at 8:30am instead of 7am during this temporary rearrangement.

**Feb 18** – Confronting Misinformation

**Feb 25** – Our Changing World

If you have questions, contact Larry Larrabee at 608.249.9982.

The Bethel **Men's Friday Book Study** will begin to read *The Second Mountain* by David Brooks on Friday, Jan 15. The Book Study's pandemic schedule requires meeting via Zoom every Friday morning at 8am. Men wishing to participate should contact Larry Larrabee in advance to obtain the Meeting ID and Passcode. His contact information is 608.249.9982 or [lar3car2@gmail.com](mailto:lar3car2@gmail.com).

**Wednesday Night Live Streamed Lord's Supper** - Join us on Wednesdays at 6:30pm for the Lord's Supper. Every Wednesday until we are able to celebrate in person, Pastor Mike will lead us in a live-streamed Lord's Supper at 6:30pm on Bethel's Facebook or you can watch any time after 8pm on our YouTube channel. Everyone is asked to have wine/juice and bread ready for the evening's communion.

## Thursday Contemplative Scripture Reading (Zoom)

Join Pam Shellberg for a time of interactive, contemplative scripture reading. During each 45-minute period, we will read a passage from scripture and reflect on it by way of the ancient practice of lectio divina. This involves engaging the scripture with our minds, imaginations, and hearts – along with good measures of silence and sharing. Links provided in the Thursday Daily Devotion email for joining this group. Send any questions to Pam Shellberg at [pam@bethel-madison.org](mailto:pam@bethel-madison.org).

# Easter Giving 2021

Please write separate checks for Easter Garden & the Madison Area Jail Ministry. The **Deadline is Monday, March 15**, to return this form and money to Bethel for donations to be listed in the Bethel Weekly.

## Easter Garden

CIRCLE ONE: In Memory In Honor

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

X \$20 = \_\_\_\_\_

# OF PLANTS TOTAL DUE

Flowers may be picked-up after the last worship service on April 4 or after.

## Madison Area Jail Ministry

CIRCLE ONE: In Memory In Honor

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

BY \_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT \_\_\_\_\_

CASH/CHECK # \_\_\_\_\_

ENVELOPE # \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

Return entire form to: Bethel Lutheran Church  
Attn: Easter Giving  
312 Wisconsin Ave, Madison, WI 53703

## TEXT TO GIVE

Text "BLC" to 73256 to give.

## GIVE ONLINE

[www.bethel-madison.org/giveonline](http://www.bethel-madison.org/giveonline)

## Bethel on Instagram

Scan the image below to follow us!



**VIEW MORE OPPORTUNITIES:** [www.bethel-madison.org/events](http://www.bethel-madison.org/events)



# BETHEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

312 Wisconsin Avenue | Madison, WI 53703

Bethelite (USPS 053-160) Published bi-weekly by Bethel Lutheran Church  
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Emergency Cell: 608.216.3600

## 1 LENT

Pastor Mike Brown - Feb 21 at 7:30am, 9am, & 11am

## 2 LENT

Pastor Mike Brown - Feb 28 at 7:30am, 9am, & 11am

### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 21

- 7:30a Worship Service (live-stream Facebook & YouTube)
- 9:00a Worship Service (viewed on Facebook & YouTube)
- 10:00a Virtual Coffee Hour (Zoom)
- 11:00a Worship Service (live-stream on Facebook & YouTube)

### MONDAY, FEBRUARY 22

- 9:00a Daily Devotion (Email)
- 12:00p Food Pantry Open 1-3pm (MWF)

### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 23

- 9:00a Daily Devotion (Email)
- 7:00p Fireside Chats (Facebook)
- 8:00a Fireside Chats (YouTube)

### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24

- 9:00a Daily Devotion (Email)
- 7:00p Lent Service at Home (Facebook & YouTube)

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25

- 8:30a Men's Current Christian Concerns (Zoom)
- 9:00a Daily Devotion (Email)
- 10:00a Contemplative Scripture Reading with Pam Shellberg (Zoom)
- 8:30p Contemplative Scripture Reading with Pam Shellberg (Zoom)

### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26

- 8:00a Men's Friday Book Study (Zoom)
- 9:00a Daily Devotion (Email)

### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 27

- 9:00a Daily Devotion (Email)

### PASTORAL STAFF

**Pastor Mike Brown - Lead Pastor**  
[pastormikebrown@bethel-madison.org](mailto:pastormikebrown@bethel-madison.org)

**Pastor Roger Black - Visitation**  
[roger@bethel-madison.org](mailto:roger@bethel-madison.org)

### SUNDAY FLOWERS

**Feb 7:** Altar Flowers are given in memory of Marlin Nelson by University Hill Farms Circle.



Hearing Loop available in all our worship spaces.

**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**  
**DATED MATERIAL: REQUESTED IN HOME BY FEB 19 2021**

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**PAID**

MADISON, WI  
PERMIT 602

We welcome you to Bethel. We see you as we see ourselves, vulnerable to the challenges of human relationships, and deeply beloved by God.

We welcome you who have ever felt excluded by the church because of race, sexual orientation, gender identity, age, physical or mental ability, family or economic status, or for a reason known only to you. We welcome you whether church life is familiar to you or your faith journey is new, whether you are certain in your beliefs or unsure what you believe.

We invite you here because God is inviting you to be here. Striving to create a place where all feel safe and can find peace, let us share the unconditional love of God and, in the power of the Holy Spirit, work together to extend grace, mercy, and justice – within Bethel, in our communities, and the world.