

B E T H E L
ENDOWMENT
F O U N D A T I O N

F o u n d a t i o n L i f e n e w s l e t t e r

www.bethel-madison.org

Bethel Lutheran Church Endowment Foundation

Fall / Winter 2020

Extra and special music during this unusual year

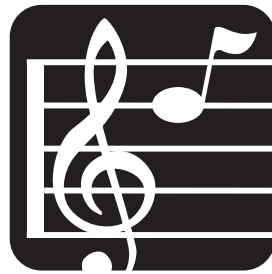
Many Bethelites are excited and inspired to see and hear special music when we live stream worship services on Sundays, or when we tune in to Channel 27 for the regular 30-minute service of the Word or when we check out YouTube anytime that fits into our schedules for worship on the go.

Director of Music Amy Hartsough sought to reallocate a related music grant to be used instead for hiring special music/musicians for most all of our worship experiences in the past months.

Musicians are grateful – and we are likewise grateful for the enhancement and variety this provides. A note received recently from a trombone player:

I would like to offer you heartfelt gratitude and thanks for including me in the music at Bethel this fall. When you contacted me to play in September, I hadn't had any music work since March 12. The Madison Symphony (where I work) is closed for the pandemic as is virtually all other work in live music.

It has been a real treat to be a part of worship services, to be able to



contribute my craft and to have felt so very welcome at Bethel by Amy, Gary, Pastor Mike and others. Thank you for including me and for what is so much more than just a chance to work and make music.
-- Benjamin S.

And Amy followed this up with a note of her own:

Extraordinary times! Your generosity is amazing, and I would like to share with you my heartfelt gratitude for your support and generosity of Bethel's Music program. I have been able to hire a myriad of artists, singers, players and dancers, and everyone has expressed relief and gratitude that Bethel has been able to support them financially during this very challenging time. You make a huge difference in our lives! Many blessings, good health, and thank you.

Horizons 50th Appeal:

How your Foundation helped!

More than 230 Bethel families have been involved to date with providing for a pledge toward the Bethel Horizons capital campaign recognizing the first 50 years of our wholly owned camp being in existence.

This \$3.5 million dollar campaign that is now fully pledged as of October, will position the beautiful camp property to increase capacity for growth into the next 50 years.

To this end, the Bethel Endowment Foundation has now committed \$50,000 toward this effort, as voted on at the July quarterly meeting – and as a symbiotic bookend, Bethel Lutheran Church Council has likewise committed \$50,000 from a recent bequest received to support this once in a lifetime effort supported by so many Bethelites.

The campaign committee and Horizons board is so grateful for these two significant major gifts. We truly are all in this together.

Intentional outreach

The way to grow a church is to reach new people. This means spreading the word about Bethel to various ages, groups, ethnicities and backgrounds of people through multiple platforms.

Bethel is doing exactly that through vehicles like Facebook advertising for events such as drive-in movies, drive-up church and other events.

Another strategy is sending welcoming postcards, one of which is sent monthly to people who move within three miles of Bethel.

“It is important to keep Bethel in front of Madison residents and students consecutively to keep familiarity with our church,” said Christal Swigart, Director of



Communications. “Once we get people in the doors of Bethel, they stay.”

Funding from the Bethel Endowment Foundation helps cover the cost of advertising and outreach efforts.

Gifts and memorials make dreams come true for many

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 April 1 and Sept. 30, 2020:

Harold Anderson
Janice (Jan) F. Anderson
Bruce A. Bollerud
Mike Bunting
James Conant
Margaret B. Dukerschein
Bernice Dunhouse
Judith Froseth
Robert Lee Gay

Judy Grobe
Alice Hansen
Hazel Hiemstra
Jane Hilsenhoff
Roger Housner
Florence Elizabeth Hughes
Joan Langdon
Helen Marble
Ardell M. May
Corinne McVey
Gary Meyer
Eileen Morgan
Eleannor (Ellie) Munson
Margaret Olson

Norm Olson
Barbara Overton
Leland Powers
Deb Przywara
Arlene Rickli
Arlyn Sandow
Irene Skattum
Darlene Smith
Lou Unverzagt
Melanie Walker
V. Paul Young

(cont'd. on page 6)

What does the Middle East have to do with Bethel?

This year has been one like no other. We keep saying that as if it's soon to be 'set back' or feeling more normal once again. But in reality, we don't know the resolution or the timing or what shall follow in terms of worldwide anxiety.

But in the midst of this, we read a news report or two or three of peace agreements struck in the Middle East between nations that have been warring forever, or for at least centuries.

And in maps detailing who lives where, it reminds me of the graphics we used to study over in Sunday School – to get a sense of where the Israelites trod, where Jesus walked and where Paul taught – halfway around the world from where we live.

The waters of the Dead Sea and the Sea of Galilee were in many stories, as water is so and was so all important to where people could sustain life.

Nearly two decades ago, I heard the analogy of these two Seas as they relate to charitable giving or stewarding the gifts given to each of us. I love the visual, comparing Scarcity and Abundance. The Dead Sea, while beautifully aqua colored, extracts life from its water but gives no life. It receives

nutrients and minerals from the Jordan River but has no outlet.

The depth of the river provides for the lowest point on Earth, and the desert around it receives just over two inches of rain annually.

Some say that the sins washed away in the many Jordan River baptisms, create this veritable pool of iniquity! This feels dead ended, self absorbed and dark as I write this story. It takes and takes in order to survive but provides for no creation. This must be scarcity.

The smaller and likewise beautiful Sea of Galilee has its water source to the north of the Dead Sea and then feeds into the Jordan River, which then flows into the stagnant Dead Sea.

But the Sea of Galilee is teeming with fish and sustained plant life along the shores. Surely this is abundance. Taking life giving water in but then having water flow out and onward.

Acts 20:35 says it's more blessed to give than to receive.

And so is the work of your Endowment Foundation – gratefully receiving gifts in through bequests or memorial



Alice Mowbray

gifts, stewarding/investing these accumulated gifts and giving back to the above and beyond creative, outreach work of Bethel Lutheran Church on a regular and planned basis.

Thank you for all the ways many Bethelites find to support their Foundation. It's our unique asset that provides for all matters of Bethel, be they programmatic, building related, youth and semi-narian support, or fellowship relational events.

Thanks be to God for the ebb and flow of our own ecosystem of life giving support.

Alice Mowbray
Director of Development



Families find joy at camp during COVID

“Discovering Bethel Horizons this summer was such a blessing for our family. As with everyone, our summer plans were drastically altered due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Bethel Horizons allowed my family to have a unique adventure while being safe. We were so thankful to have Phil Bramley leading our group. He snuck in lessons about bravery and making good choices while showing us the value of teamwork and how together we are stronger. My family (and the family of Bethel) are so lucky to have this wonderful resource just down the road and look forward to participating in their programs for years to come!”

. . . “the fact that we had a rare opportunity to engage in a safe, social activity during one of the most isolated times of our lives was really uplifting for our family. We feel fortunate to have been able to take advantage of this and hope to make more memories at Horizons.”

Funding from the Bethel Endowment Foundation allowed Bethel Horizons to continue offering camp opportunities to families throughout 2020.

Adventure Week @ Horizons

High school youth enjoyed Adventure Week at Bethel Horizons in August where they rock climbed, tubed down the Wisconsin River, slept under the night sky at the peak Perseid meteor shower and more. It was a wonderful opportunity for respite and community during the pandemic. A grant from the Bethel Endowment Foundation helped cover the cost of this adventure at camp. This grant was redirected from a canceled original mission trip grant.



From Generation to Generation

Just as many programs, events and activities were modified this year because of COVID-19, so was Vacation Bible Camp. VBC @ Home - From Generation to Generation offered something for everyone through Bethel's website.

At minimum, 20 people collaborated to create videos and activities ranging in age from 6 to 76. The program included 46 videos, accessible from the Bethel website, YouTube and/or social media, falling into six categories: Bible Story with Heather, Activity (art, environment education, team building and more), Connection (relating the bible story to your everyday life and community), Candle Talk, Music & Movement and Bible

Background & Encouragement for Parents.

The average number of views for VBC @ Home videos was 45, with some of our higher view counts being well over 100. Additionally, about 40 families picked up take-home materials.

A success

Participants found this year's online experience to be very rewarding:

"I checked out the VBC site last night and wow! It looks so amazing. It's beautifully laid out, with so much content. It's beyond my wildest dreams. You all have done a really great job."



"Just a note to say how much we enjoyed VBC last week - the 4 kids watched the Bible Story video, song video, and we did the coat of many colors craft. They are all so excited to go to camp next year!"

"I had a lot of fun! Thanks again!"

Funding from the Bethel Endowment Foundation helped cover the cost of VBC @ Home.



Seminary Scholarships

2020-21 recipients: Laura Jasiczek, Lakeview Lutheran Church, Madison, Tom Kreis, Norway Grove Lutheran Church, DeForest, Kathi Matthews-Risley, St. John's Lutheran Church, Prairie du Sac, and James Ranney, Two Steeples Parish, Springdale Lutheran Church, Mt.Horeb, All of these students are enrolled at Wartburg Seminary.

The Bethel Endowment Foundation's Cephas Johnson Seminary Scholarship has provided financial assistance since 1990 to students (including non-Bethel members from Dane County) attending an ELCA seminary on ordination track. The cost for three academic years can easily exceed \$100,000, making this scholarship vital for many seminarians.

Bethel has helped fund the educations of more than 100 Lutheran pastors and is working on its second hundred. With close to 10,000 individual churches in the ELCA, few of those come close to Bethel's level of financial commitment in supporting the next generation of pastoral leaders. In the 1970s, Richard Shimon established a Bethel memorial fund to support seminarians. Then a decade later, 94-year-old Bethel leader Cephas Johnson died. But before he reached his heavenly destination, he reached deep into his pockets and left a \$1 million gift to the church. Of that bequest to the Bethel Endowment Foundation, much of it goes to support seminarians.

Energy efficiency efforts

It is important to maintain the space where we come together to make friends, support each other and worship. Last year, the Bethel Endowment Foundation funded an energy audit that identified improvements that would save energy and reduce utility costs.

One project was rebuilding or replacing steam traps. This work has been completed and should result in natural gas savings. We also have plans to replace leaking boiler valves.

Occupancy sensors

The process also is underway to add occupancy sensors to the areas of the building where lights tend to be left on when the space is unoccupied. Additionally, heater controls on three entrances to the facility have been installed. These controls allow for programming of occupied versus unoccupied times and can adjust the set point temperature accordingly.

Grants from the Bethel Endowment Foundation support efforts like this that help save energy and money.

Women's retreat

In October, a small group of Bethel women gathered for an annual retreat to connect, recharge and deepen their faith. They took time for fellowship, personal care and a study of Psalm 46:10.



Grants from the Bethel Endowment Foundation help cover the cost of educational retreats that allow women to come together, learn about themselves and deepen their spirituality.

Memorials

(cont'd. from page 2)

The following bequest was made to the Foundation between April 1 and September 30, 2020:

Karen Gould

The following individuals contributed general gifts to the Foundation between April 1 and Sept. 30, 2020, by these individuals:

Lola Cator
Karol & Jim Dillie
Phil & Mary Lou Dzick
Julie Eyers
Robyn Kitson
Christine Meinert
William & Linda Merz
Jane Stover

Gifts, honorary gifts and memorial contributions were made to the Foundation from April 1 to Sept. 30, 2020

In memory of Sharon Bachmann, Western Springs II by Mary Hugdahl

In memory of Brent Christianson by Kevin Gould, Larry Veleke

In memory of James Conant by Stephen Christenson, Mary Hugdahl, Tara & Bradley Miller, JoAnn Six

In memory of Karen Gould by Karen Gould Estate

In memory of Stan Grimstad by Peder & Jeanne Moren

In memory of Judy Grobe by Bradley & Barbara Armstrong, Karl & Velma Marquardt

In memory of Sherri Hahn by Dennis Hahn & family
In memory of Alice Hansen by Karl & Vel Marquardt, Peder & Jeanne Moren

In memory of Jean Hodel by Howard Hodel, Tricia Hodel

In memory of Mariellen Kuehn by Phil & Mary Lou Dzick

In honor/memory of Ruth and Bill Munkwitz by H. Sam Roth Estate

In memory of Norm Olson by Bradley & Barbara Armstrong, Kevin Gould, Karl & Vel Marquardt, Peder & Jeanne Moren, Jo Ann Six

In memory of Charles Pruett by Phil & Mary Lou Dzick

In memory of Arlene Rickli by Peder & Jeanne Moren

In memory of Betty Saxe by Alice & Bill Mowbray

In memory of Herman Scholz by Margo Martens, Alice & Bill Mowbray

In memory of my husband, Rod Ulteig, his birthday would have been April 20 by Donna Ulteig

In memory of Lou Unverzagt by Delma Baker, Kevin Gould, Karl & Vel Marquardt, Peder & Jeanne Moren

Trustee changes in 2020

This year has seen its share of changes to our Endowment Foundation trustee roster – after 27 years of faithful service, Fred Zimmermann retired from this volunteer position this past July. We are so grateful for his historic perspective and vision for so many matters that involved Foundation funding, due to his keen architect’s eye.

Then in October, Arlen Christenson decided that after 32 years of serving this Foundation as Registered Agent, he too is ready to turn over the reins to another Bethel leader. We too are so thankful for his well respected legal expertise and interest in keeping Bethel the solid downtown force for good that it’s been for 165 years.

Imagine, trying to affix value to this nearly six decades of undying service to our church’s unique asset! To offer our heartfelt appreciation seems too little – so we did choose two similar art pieces crafted by an Adamah related clay artist that signify arms raised in celebration of such good works undertaken and stewarded so skillfully. These statues were presented to them each via the quarterly Zoom meetings, and then delivered to their homes, along with a small supply of Madison made quality chocolates.

Al Schultz has been named to replace Fred as trustee, and comes to this position with much Bethel history and leadership experience under his belt – having joined here with his wife Wendy in 1976. He recently retired from his long time executive position with Vita Plus, and has also been



In a related event, the photo above is from a dinner celebration in recognition of our Foundation’s 55th anniversary a year ago. This is what 112 years of volunteerism looks like! Pictured left to right are Bob Westervelt, who served as trustee and/or Investment Committee member from 1970-2015; Sam Arneson, who also served as trustee and Investment Committee member from 1974-2000; and Walter Meanwell, who’s been associated with the Investment Committee beginning in 1979, and whose son Walter is currently the Wells Fargo advisor named with the portfolio holding.

involved with UW Foundation – College of Agriculture and Life Sciences committees.

Al was Bethel church Council president a decade ago. The nominating committee appointed by the Endowment Foundation is now working on identifying a suitable replacement

trustee for Arlen’s position. In the meantime, current trustee and attorney Laura Vogel has been named Registered Agent for our Foundation. We continue to give thanks for the abundant talent and dedication offered to the ongoing fiduciary work of the Bethel Endowment Foundation.



BETHEL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

312 Wisconsin Avenue | Madison, WI 53703

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
MADISON, WISCONSIN
PERMIT NO. 602

Rebuilding at Bethel

Relationships can be difficult. The new normal created this year by COVID-19 doesn't make it any easier.

Rebuilding at Bethel is a program to help individuals navigate life after a break up. It offers a safe place to share thoughts and feelings as well as find information, guidance, support and friendship. Typically, individuals in the process of ending a significant relationship can participate in a social networking opportunity called Movin' On that offers various activities during the month. However, it has not been possible to meet face to face for things like birthday bashes, hiking, kayaking, movie nights or biking.

Instead, Margaret Lambert, Rebuilding at Bethel Administrator and Rebuilding Seminar Facilitator, has been running Zoom meet n' greets once a month. She will continue to run the program via Zoom until it is safe to gather in person. The support group, or Genesis portion of Rebuilding at Bethel, is also running via Zoom.

A grant from the Bethel Endowment Foundation makes this valuable support possible.

Bethel Endowment Foundation Trustees

President Walter Dewey	Registered Agent Laura Vogel*
Vice President Barbara Armstrong* <i>New Projects Co-Chair</i>	Members Jill Derr* <i>New Projects Co-Chair</i>
Secretary Sue Ullsvik*	Joseph Murphy Kathy Pielage*
Treasurer Abbie Wallhaus	Al Schultz
Assistant Treasurer John Stoneman	Ex Officio Members Mike Brown <i>Lead Pastor</i>
Council President Kim Kindschi	Alice Mowbray <i>Director of Development</i>
Immediate Past Council President Dirk von Below	Wendy Schultz <i>Recording Secretary</i>

* Denotes member of the New Projects Committee

Investment Committee

Walter Dewey, Chair	
Justin Fletchall	Joseph Murphy
Bruce Fox	John Stoneman
Walter Meanwell	Bruce Westervelt