

# BETHELITE

JUNE 16, 2021: VOL. 70, NO. 12

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## The Butterfly Effect: A Bethel Perspective

*M*ighty Morphin Power Rangers is an American superhero television series that premiered on August 28, 1993, part of Fox Network Kids programming. It quickly became a 1990's pop culture phenomenon along with a large line of toys, action figures, and other merchandise. The key to the show's appeal was the characters' ability to "morph." Ordinarily they were normal adolescents, but as needed they could access a power beyond themselves to become martial arts heroes for justice. Their rallying cry in moments of crisis was "It's morphing time!" and they would be transformed. Of course, it's not just young children who want to morph. The desire for transformation lies deep in every human heart. This is why people enter therapy, join health clubs, get into recovery groups, read self-help books, attend motivational seminars, and make New Year's resolutions. The possibility of transformation is the essence of hope. Psychologist Aaron Beck says that the single belief most toxic to a relationship is the belief that the other person cannot change. This little word "morph" has a long history. It actually comes from one of the richest words in the New Testament. *Morphoo* means the inward and real transformation of the essential nature of a person. Paul used this word in his letter to the Galatians: "...until Christ is *formed* in you." In Romans, Paul writes to the Christians to be "conformed to the image of God's Son." Still another form of the word appears in Romans when Paul says we are not to be conformed to the world around us but



Captivated by the beautiful creature before her



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“transformed by the renewing of your minds.” This word is *metamorphoo*, from which comes the English word metamorphosis. A creeping caterpillar is transformed into a soaring butterfly.

Until recently, the only way to study how a caterpillar changes into a butterfly was to cut open the chrysalis or x-ray it—both with fatal results. But a recent issue of *National Geographic* reported on new micro-CT scans that show how metamorphosis takes place. Research shows that the insect’s makeover is a mix of destruction of old ways of being and thinking combined with brand new ways of being and thinking. While certain cells die and body parts atrophy, other cells -- in place since birth -- rapidly expand. The adult emerges completely remodeled,



## SIRRINA LYTLE, 3, reacts to a butterfly flying near her during Blooming Butterflies at in the Bolz Conservatory at Olbrich Botanica Gardens in Madison

capable of flight and possessing a completely rewired brain.

The butterfly has long been a Christian symbol of the resurrection, for it disappears

into a cocoon and appears dead, but emerges later far more beautiful and powerful than before.

The three stages of the butterfly’s metamorphoses are symbolic of the three stages in the life cycle of Christ and the Christian.

The caterpillar’s non-stop eating reminds us of normal earthly life where people are often preoccupied with taking care of their physical needs. The caterpillar’s life also reminds us of Jesus’ life on earth. Caterpillars then “entomb” themselves in what appears to be lifeless cocoons conveying the death and burial of Jesus and of all people. The third and final stage is the appearance of a butterfly with jewel-colored wings and the ability to soar,

which points to the resurrection into a new and glorious life free of material concerns and restrictions. A major theme in Paul’s teachings is that “we shall all be changed” (1 Cor. 15:51). The Christian hope is that what

is sown in the grave as a weak mortal body will be raised an indestructible spiritual body not subject to temptation, sorrow, death, or pain (1 Cor. 15:44-54). In the world of the Bible, the primary purpose of a Christ centered spirituality is human transformation. It is not making

sure people know where they are going after they die. True, in Christ, you know where you will be after you die. But your place with Christ in eternity is the result of the transformation he has brought about in your deepest sense of self. This makes the first goal for Christ centered spirituality a proclamation that ignites deep change. This makes the first goal for Bethel the transformation not only of ourselves but of the entire Madison community. 🌈

“It’s  
morphing  
time!”

# TRANSFORMED & FREE

## Bethel Reaches Out to Provide Memorial Service



There are so many tragedies from the Coronavirus Pandemic, it is hard to keep track. Perhaps among the most painful of tragedies after accounting for the many deaths, illnesses, mental health burdens, economic fallout, and stress on both the Health Care and Educational systems is the fact that so many people lost a loved one during a time when there was no opportunity to have a funeral. It is traumatic enough to lose a loved one, but to do so without the critical support of a community gathered around in memory compounds the loss.

Bethel has not forgotten all those in the community who have had such a loss. While we were not able to provide the sort of large-scale funeral or memorial service with singing, that day is coming this summer.

Working in collaboration with the three other churches near the square, Bethel is planning a wide-open public service of mourning, celebration, and remembering our faithful departed during the pandemic. This event will be a joint venture between Bethel Lutheran, First United Methodist, Grace Episcopal, and St. John's Lutheran churches.

It will take place in public outdoor setting, which has yet to be secured as of the publication of this issue of the Bethelite, such as the lawn at the State capitol, Monona Terrace, or other downtown location. Open to all members of these churches and all members of the public, we will remember, pray, sing, and release butterflies into the air.



## Active Learning For Kids

During the month of July, Bethel will provide butterfly garden kits to as many children as want one. Along with the kit, children and families will receive a booklet explaining the symbolic connection between butterflies and the resurrection of Jesus. During July, the kits will be kept in the Good Shepherd Chapel for parents, grandparents, and guardians to pick up, limit one per child. 🌈





Carrie Bernhardt,  
Council Member

## THANK YOU'S TO CARRIE FOR RAISING A GREAT QUESTION

Carrie Bernhardt, a longtime member of Bethel, has been thinking about columbaria for several years, wondering if it might not be a wonderful opportunity for Bethel to provide even more support for families during the difficult experience of losing a loved one. With cremation becoming more and more common, many people have the cremains, or ashes, of their loved one with them at home. But this is only a temporary resting place since at some point, even the surviving loved one is going to need a final resting place. What better place to have a final resting place than at the location that nourished one's mind and soul for so many years? This has prompted Carrie to suggest the idea to the church council which supported an investigation into the possibility. 🌈



# REST IN

## Bethel Investigates Columbarium

A horse, a horse, my kingdom for a horse! says Shakespeare's King Richard III. We have always known that King Richard died in battle but never knew where he was buried, until recently. In 2013, his body was found located under a parking lot in England. Most of us "commoners" as they say in merry old England would no doubt prefer to have a more dignified and permanent place to rest our mortal remains.

Burial in the ground, of course, has been used for millennia. However, the more famous amongst our ancestors often chose to place their remains above ground or partly underground in a columbarium so that their fame would not fade and worshipers had a place where they could gather and still offer

their condolences and sing the great one's praise.

Bethel's church council has created an exploratory committee to investigate the possibility of building a columbarium for the ashes of Bethel members on its downtown Madison campus. So far, the committee has gathered photos of all sorts and styles of columbaria, both inside of church buildings

and outside, as well as copies of the brochures and other documents that have to be developed in order to let congregants know the specifics involved in establishing a columbarium. This committee, lead by Greg Smith, hopes to find an ideal location that will foster an atmosphere conducive to meditation, prayer, and respect. When the committee feels it has gathered and considered enough information, it will make a formal recommendation to the Property Team and then to the Finance Team. After that, the Council will decide what steps, if any, to take.

If you have not already done so, think about how you want to have your remains handled after you leave this mortal life and consider whether or not you wish to be cremated



and have your ashes interred in a possible Bethel columbarium. It will take a certain minimum number of people interested in buying space in the columbarium in order for it to be financially sustainable. If the Council approves the creation of a columbarium and a design is approved, the committee will then be able to tell you how much each niche will cost. 🌈

# PEACE



I know my Redeemer lives!  
-Job 19:25

Columbarium at Mt. Olive Lutheran Church

## Columbarium Basics

A columbarium is a display vault in a wall or structure specifically designed to hold cremation urns. It's a stately choice for a final disposition available at many cemeteries, churches, and funeral homes.

decorative structures or a simple room with shelves. It can be indoors or outside. The front can be clear glass to display the urn or tucked away behind a metal door.

Similar in purpose to a mausoleum (which holds non-cremated remains), the columbarium is a sacred final resting place and should be treated with the same respect.

*Remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return.*  
-Ash Wednesday Service

There may also be larger, fancier (and more expensive) niches and smaller, simpler (and more budget-friendly) niches in the same columbarium. The specific sizes and options will vary with each location and design.

Also known as a cremation niche, a columbarium niche is a single compartment within the columbarium that holds a person's cremated remains. The niche can be part of elaborate,

Columbaria are one of the meaningful ways people have found to care for the cremains of loved ones and are found all over the world. 🌍

## Grief Support

Bethel offers regular grief support group. Normally meeting for 4-5 weeks at a time, people of all ages with a variety of losses come together for encouragement. To join the upcoming support group, contact John Hueschen at [johnhueschen@gmail.com](mailto:johnhueschen@gmail.com). There is a place for you.





Red Hot Dixie Band

## PARKING LOT CONCERT & WORSHIP

July 25  
Sunday  
4-6pm

July's parking lot concert and worship service will be led by the Red Hot Dixie band. Starting at 4pm, the band will wow with exciting dixie jazz versions of classic church hymns as well provide other entertaining music before and after. Park in the parking lot or in the city garage and pull up your lawn chair. A food truck will be on site to supply all your needs for sustenance. 🌈

# DRIVE-IN FAMILY WORSHIP & MOVIE

Alliant Energy Center  
June 19, Saturday, 6:30pm

Bethel brings a second season of creative community programming with a new series of Drive-In Worship and Movie events. The first of these takes place at the Alliant Center parking lot in front of the Exhibition Hall. Inspired by memories of Drive-In movie theaters from years gone by, Bethel creates a Drive-In Movie experience with two large high-definition screens, powerful sound systems, FM radio transmission, a stage, and outdoor portalets.

The first Drive-In movie will be the award-winning movie, Finding Dory, from Pixar. Prior to showing the movie, Bethel will offer a short worship experience of song, scripture, and a message that relates to the movie, helping people learn something of Jesus in the movie.

In the movie, Dory, the forgetful fish, is separated from her family and is trying to find her way back.

There are so many ways people in our community are trying to find their way. And this is one of the main gifts that Bethel offers, finding your way to family and community. Finding your way in God's Family is the theme for this event.

Please join us and others from around Madison in this unique and wonderful outreach experience. Simply show up by 6:30pm or come earlier to volunteers. To offer your help as a volunteer, please contact Cindy at [cindy@bethel-madison.org](mailto:cindy@bethel-madison.org). 🌈

**DRIVE-IN  
FAMILY WORSHIP  
AND MOVIE**

- Saturday, June 19 at 6:30pm
- Alliant Energy Center Parking Lot
- 30-40min worship (Finding Your Way in God's Family) followed by Disney's Finding Dory movie

Disney · PIXAR  
**FINDING  
DORY**

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

COMING SOON



## Bethel ACTJAM: In Their Own Words

For Bethel women, being together on Wednesday morning, June 2, for the first in-person ACTJAM event felt special. It was a BYOC event (bring your own coffee!) under the covered patio at Capital Brewery in Middleton. We were there to learn about health disparities for Black women as part of our ACTJAM focus on racism and healthcare along with fellowship and an update on Lutheran World Relief kits and quilts.



Alia Stevenson

Alia Stevenson, Chief Programs Officer at the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness (FBBWW) told her story of nearly dying when she was 26 and expecting her third child. She ended up in the emergency room only to be told that what she was experiencing was normal. It wasn't. She had heart disease and didn't know it.

As a Black woman, Alia's story is not unusual. According to the American Heart Association (AHA), 49% of African American women age 20 and older have heart disease but most don't know it. Per the AHA, only 36% of African American women know that heart disease is their greatest risk. Not knowing compounds the risk. Black women have the highest heart disease and cancer death rates of women of any race in the U.S.

Alia also shared with us how walking out the door everyday as a Black woman elevates stress that shows up in the huge disparities in Black/white health markers like cardiovascular disease. The term for this is "weathering." Learn more about it here: <https://bit.ly/3cpvVFY>

After Lisa Peyton-Caire's mother died of heart disease at age 64, Lisa went on to

start the Foundation for Black Women's Wellness (now based in Madison) with a mission to educate and empower Black women about wellness. The Foundation has national stature and was recently featured in a Mayo Clinic Health Letter: <https://bit.ly/3wODbjv>

Education is step #1 for everyone. It's why ACTJAM is devoting many months to learning how racism affects our community from housing to healthcare.

Fun Fact: Alia is the granddaughter of Pastor Stan Klyve who was an associate pastor at Bethel in the 1950s. Pastor Klyve went from Bethel to be senior pastor at Midvale Community Lutheran Church, where Alia was baptized and confirmed. 🌈



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**BETHEL**

LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Aaron & Felicia  
Dettmann

**NEW  
MEMBERS**

Aaron and Felicia found Bethel online with the livestream of the contemporary service during January. The sermon series Inside Out sermon focused on the feeling of anger and the solo “Don’t Let the Sun Go Down on Me” by Elton John spoke powerfully to the couple who had experienced rejection in churches in the past. Both Matt and Felicia work in public education and are happy to have a church home that welcomes all people.

They have made Bethel their church home this Spring along with Suzanne McMillan; Marcus Alzine; Bethany Rasmussen/Dan Crombie; Aaron/Felicia Dettman; Alex Wranovksy/Bridgette; Matt/Jenny Brooks; Stuart/Michelle Rittenhouse; and Matt/Alex Endress. 🌈



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**Worship Times:** Sunday at 7:30am & 9am - Traditional; 11am - Contemporary