



Happy
Mother's Day

Jesus loves you. Walk with Him.

BETHELITE

MAY 4, 2022: VOL. 70, NO. 9

THIS ISSUE:

CIRCLE OF LOVE: PROJECT UKRAINE

Help Bethel Support Ukraine

MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

*May 8 from 10am-12:30pm
in Borgwardt Hall*

NANCY GIFFEY ART SHOW "TESHUVAH IN THE TIME OF COVID"

Now-June 30 in Emmaus Hallway Gallery

BETHEL GIVES BIBLES TO KIDS

May 8 at the 9am service

GIFT BOOK ON MOTHER'S DAY

A Free Booklet From Pastor Mike



BETHEL

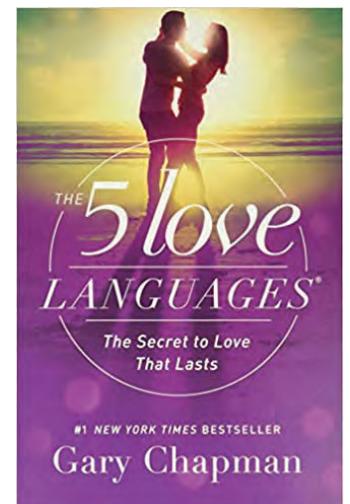
LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Color Bethelite provided in part by
Bethel Endowment Foundation*

HOW TO SAY AND HEAR "I LOVE YOU"

You probably express affection to your significant others regularly, but are you communicating it the way your partner, family, or friends can recognize it? Even love can sometimes get lost in translation when people speak different "love languages". That is the view of Gary Chapman who wrote a book in 1992 that would become a New York Times best-seller, *The 5 Love Languages*. In it, he helps people understand how to communicate the most fundamental human emotion—love. The five love languages are simply five different ways of expressing and receiving love. They include words of affirmation, quality time, receiving gifts, acts of service, and physical touch. Not everyone communicates love in the same way, and likewise, people have different ways they prefer to receive love. Discovering you and your loved ones primary love language and speaking that language regularly will help generate a better understanding of each other's needs and support each other's growth.

1. Words of affirmation. People with words of affirmation as a love language value verbal acknowledgments of affection, including frequent "I love you's," compliments, words of appreciation, verbal encouragement, and often frequent digital communication like texting and social media engagement. Written and spoken shows of affection matter the most to these people, couples. These expressions make them feel understood and appreciated."



New York Times
Best-seller

312 Wisconsin Ave, Madison, WI 53703

608.257.3577 www.bethel-madison.org



Pastor Mike

pastormikebrown@bethel-madison.org

419.345.2836



Donna Rae Brown, Pastor Mike's mother, at 18 years old working as a waitress before meeting her future husband

2. Quality time. People whose love language is quality time feel the most adored when their partner actively wants to spend time with them and is always down to hang out. They particularly love when active listening, eye contact, and full presence are prioritized hallmarks in the relationship. This love language is all about giving your undivided attention to that one special person, without the distraction of television, phone screens, or any other outside interference.

3. Acts of services. If your love language is acts of service, you value when your people go out of their way to make your life easier. This love language is for people who believe that actions speak louder than words. Some express their love by maintaining the yard, cleaning the house, or providing for those around.

4. Gifts. Gifts is a pretty straightforward love language:

You feel loved when people give you “visual symbols of love,” as Chapman calls it. It’s not about the monetary value but the symbolic thought behind the item. People with this style recognize and value the gift-giving process: the careful reflection, the deliberate choosing of the object to represent the relationship, and the emotional benefits from receiving the present.

5. Physical touch. People with physical touch as their love language feel loved when they receive physical signs of affection, including kissing, holding hands, cuddling on the couch, and sex. Physical intimacy and touch can be incredibly affirming and serve as a powerful emotional connector for people with this love language.

As I write this, Mother’s Day a little over a week away. While not a perfect person (none of us are), I am so very aware and thankful for my mother’s love language. Her own childhood family was a traumatic and broken place to be, affected by alcoholic parents, divorce, abandonment, hunger, and periods of homelessness. As the oldest, she dropped-

out of school in the 8th grade to work and provide food and clothes for her siblings. At 18 years old, she married my dad and had her first child. In the terms of the book, her “love language” was acts of service. She served her children and her husband like it was her mission in life. She made sure that her three children had a momma to come home to every single day, ate three meals a day, had a clean

cozy bed, and went to the doctor when they were sick. As a child, I saw her work endlessly making homemade breads, experimenting with new recipes, planting and pruning rose gardens around the house, using the roses to decorate the kitchen table, attending and teaching Bible

studies, reading to her children, signing them up for Scouts, Little League baseball, and as church acolytes, praying daily with and for her family. Through it all, she was on a mission — to love. Of course, as a child, I did not know her traumatic background. But I do now, and for that and for her, I give thanks and deeply blessed. — Pastor Mike 🌈

*She was
on a
mission
— to love.*

BETHEL GIVES BIBLES TO KIDS



Bethel joyfully resumes its tradition of giving Bibles to children on May 8, at the 9am service. The tradition which was interrupted by the pandemic in 2020 picks back up with Bibles to all the kids who did not receive them on the past two years. First and second graders receive the *Spark Story Bible*, an incredible well illustrated Bible that brings God's word to life through colorful art and rich retellings of 150 of the most popular Bible stories.

Designed for Sunday school and church settings, the *Spark Story Bible* is perfect for reading aloud and includes entertaining activities and questions to keep kids engaged with the text. The 150 stories provide an excellent foundation for a biblical education that is both inspiring and fun. There are many strengths to this particular Bible for kids.

Illustrators, Peter Grosshauser and Ed Temple, create dynamic, vibrant illustrations in a cartoon style. They're simple and often comedic in presentation. Additionally, they are large enough to make for effective storytelling to a group.

Appropriately Illustrated Characters: Figures are shown with olive skin and dark hair, honoring the Bible's Middle Eastern context.

Table of Contents Included: Having a table of contents makes for easy reading, especially if a child has favorites they like to return to repeatedly.

Digestible Story Length: The stories, which are retold compilations of several chapters, are short. This aspect makes it easy to hold the attention of young readers.

Classic Stories Included: All the classic stories you'd hope for from a children's Bible are included here. This exposes children to the foundational texts of the faith.

Mostly Familiar Story Titles: The story titles aren't all the same as those found in the Bible. However, the ones that are different are so similar to the biblical ones that the children likely wouldn't have trouble transitioning to a Bible.

Large Font Size: The font size is large enough for children new to reading, making it easy for them to stay motivated and focused on the story.

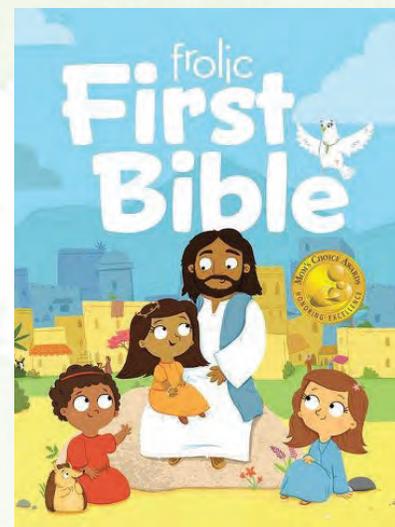
Activities and Questions Included: At the end of each story, there is an activity or question for the children to explore. These neither moralize nor editorialize the story but simply invite participation. 🌈

BIBLES FOR 2 AND 3 YEAR OLDS

Little Steps Big Faith

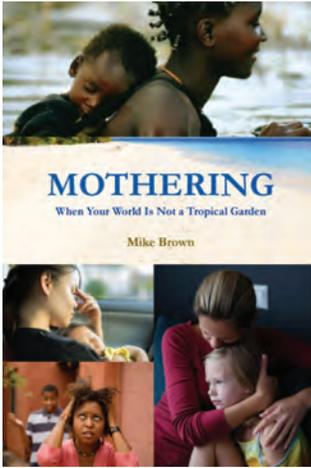
How do you talk to your toddler about God? How do you pray with your child? How do you help your child see God in the world around us? Sparkhouse's Bible for toddlers, Frolic, focuses on giving caregivers tools to help small children become people of faith.

Although Frolic is aimed at children ages 0-3, the real audience of this curriculum is parents and caregivers of very young children. Frolic First Bible goes through 10 stories from the Old Testament and 10 from the New Testament while using child-friendly language and providing a short take-away point to help apply the lesson of each story to your child's own life. 🌈



Award winning

GIFT BOOK On Mother's Day



A free booklet from Pastor Mike

Turning to Jochebed, the biological mother of Moses, for insight, Pastor Mike shares important lessons for living not just mothers but women in general. Jochebed's story began like many today, with the joy and excitement of holding a newborn in her arms.

At about the time she gave birth to her baby boy, the political rulers enacted a new policy of ethnic cleansing among the Hebrews. She was a Hebrew. Though no census worker went door to door to get a head count, the political rulers decided that there were too many Hebrews. Therefore, all Hebrew male newborns were to be killed, drowned in the Nile. Could there be a worse time to bring a child into the world? Like Jochebed, many mothers today are aware there are real challenges and threats to their offspring. What to do? In *Mothering: When Your Life Is Not a Tropical Garden*, Pastor Mike offers a few simple encouragements based on the life of Jochebed for any woman in need of encouragement. 🌈



MOT

Strangers Are Leaving Strollers, Diapers, & Toys At The Border For Ukrainian Moms

An image recently shared around social media of empty strollers on a Polish rail border crossing has inspired a mountain of donations for Ukrainian refugees. Now at Przemysl Station, women, children, and infants fleeing the war are being greeted by mountains of clothes, stuffed animals, strollers, diapers, and more after they step

volunteer told ABC. The effort has become more organized over the weeks, which has spread like wildfire mostly by word of mouth. The Medyka border crossing from Ukraine involves taking a train to Przemysl Station, which has become the center of the relief effort. The rooms of the train station are now being transformed from waiting rooms into



off the train. ABC NEWS reported that the number of spare carriers and strollers from Polish mothers have been particularly inspiring, with many donators leaving handwritten notes behind, with words of support. "We see on the television and hear on the radio what happened, and we say 'okay we can help,'" one Polish mother and

warehouses, for food, diapers, and clothes. Beyond the station, people from across Europe have been seen waiting in cars offering to drive incoming refugees to wherever they have relations, or a place to stay. Bethel has started a Ukrainian Relief Fund. To make a contribution, go to: <https://onrealm.org/bethelmadison/Give> 🌈

MOTHERS' DAY



To My Mother, by Edgar Allan Poe

Because I feel that, in the Heavens above,
The angels, whispering to one another,
Can find, among their burning terms of love,
None so devotional as that of "Mother,"
Therefore by that dear name I long have called you—

You who are more than mother unto me,
And fill my heart of hearts, where Death installed you
In setting my Virginia's spirit free.

My mother—my own mother, who died early,

Was but the mother of myself;
but you
Are mother to the one I loved so dearly,
And thus are dearer than the mother I knew
By that infinity with which my wife
Was dearer to my soul than its soul-life. 🌸



MOTHERS' DAY

BRUNCH

SUNDAY

MAY 8

10am-12:30pm

**\$10/person
\$30/family**

NANCY
GFFEY
ART SHOW
"TESHUVAH
IN THE TIME
OF COVID"

Now-June 30 in
Emmaus Hallway
Gallery



The title of Nancy's exhibit is "Teshuvah in the Time of Covid". In her words, "Teshuvah is Hebrew for Return, a Spiritual Return. Each piece of art is in some way related to a Psalm or Biblical quotation. The pieces are not illustrations: each was inspired by a state of mind, or an emotion. After they were completed, I searched for the words that fit each piece of art, not the other way around."

More information about the artist may be found at:
www.bethel-madison.org/artshow

Meet the Artist will be on May 15 at 10:15am in the GS Chapel. 🌈

CIRCLE OF LOVE: PROJECT UKRAINE

Bethel has been in partnership with Borodyanka, Ukraine for over 20 years. The Circle of Love Project raised money to bring children and community center staff to Madison for 6 weeks during the summer: the community is 60 miles from Chernobyl and, at that time, the fresh air, uncontaminated food and water rid them of respiratory problems. They were also immersed in English and received extensive dental care. The project brought a child over once, but many host families chose to have their Ukrainian child return with subsequent delegations and some families visited Borodyanka. The unexpected outcome was the deep friendships and love between families. As the program developed, we partnered with the community center to establish dental care for children in need.

In March, Borodyanka was invaded and the community center completely destroyed along with the devastation of the city, leaving our friends in great need! In response, Bethel established a fund to receive monetary donations to be distributed to the families involved with Circle of Love and the work of the community center, which is now working out of a room in a school with a phone but no electricity, water or heat.

We have distributed our first two gifts to Tanya S, the assistant director of the community center who chaperoned the group 5 times and Dima S, one of the eight children who came the first year, 2000. After a harrowing trip out of Borodyanka amidst gunfire and bombs, they are safely sheltering in the Slovak Republic, hoping to return to Borodyanka as soon as it's safe.

We are working with the community center and host families to identify the greatest needs and plan to continue to adjust as the situation is ever volatile. Your prayers are needed and appreciated. As the war was in its early days, I asked how we could help: the answer was, 'Pray for us.' We continue to pray and humbly ask for your monetary support.

Project Coordinators: Craig Jolly, Tatyana Kudinenko, Kathy Pielage, Jacqui Shanda

Give Online:

<https://onrealm.org/bethelmadison/Give>

If you would like to give by check please make it out to Bethel and put "Project Ukraine" in the memo line. 🌈





Wayne Raether, craftsman and all around good guy, shows his recent gifts to Bethel

ADAPTING WITH THE TIMES

BETHEL NOW PROVIDES URN "CASSET"

More and more people are choosing to be cremated at the end of life. Now and Bethel has a mini casket that a small container with ashes can be placed in for a memorial service.

Bethel member Wayne Raether does lovely woodworking. He has hand-crafted a beautiful mini casket to be used at a memorial service that is kept at Bethel. It can be carried down the aisle or displayed with the urn at the front of the church, depending on the wishes of the family. Not shown in the photo above is an inner velvet liner and pillows custom made by Mary Olson who volunteers regularly with the Blanket Workshop has made velvet liner

pillows and a very special Pall. You will want to consider this new option when planning a loved one's memorial service.

How did this come about? Bethel member,



Hank Starkey's mother died a few years ago just short of her 100th birthday. The service was performed in Hank's home church, Gloria Dei Lutheran Church in Duluth, MN. A mini casket was used for her service and Hank immediately thought, "Bethel needs to have something like this". He obtained the measurements from Pastor Carlson in Duluth and the rest is recent history.

Please ask Pastor Mike Brown to see this as it is here for use by Bethel members. Many Thanks to Wayne Raether for his woodworking skills, and to Mary Olson for her creative sewing skills! 🌈

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED
DATED MATERIAL: REQUESTED IN HOME BY MAY 6 2022

NONPROFIT ORG
U.S. POSTAGE

PAID

MADISON, WI
PERMIT 602

HOMELESS MINISTRY DONATIONS

Summer Items Wanted



Bethel's Homeless Ministry volunteers are busy transitioning our warm winter clothing to spring/summer clothing. If you have gently used or new clothing that you would like to offer to this Ministry, please feel free to drop off your items either with Jeff at the reception desk or in the Pentecost Room any Tuesday or Thursday from 8:30am-4:30pm. The volunteers will gratefully accept your donations. Items we particularly could use would include: rain gear of any sort, tennis shoes, light weight jackets, reading glasses and hygiene items such as mosquito spray, sunblock, deodorant, shaving cream and plastic razors, toothpaste.

We are appreciative for all the lovely donations we receive from you, Bethel's congregants, as well as those in the community who are supportive of Bethel's Homeless Ministry.

Thank you and God's continued blessing. 🌈



BETHEL

LUTHERAN CHURCH

312 Wisconsin Avenue
Madison, WI 53703



bethel_madison



Bethel.Lutheran.Madison.WI



bethelmadison



BethelLutheranTV

Worship Times: Sunday at 7:30am & 9am - Traditional; 10:30am - Contemporary
Saturday at 5pm - Acoustic Casual

