

# BELIEVE

## CHRISTMAS EVE AT BETHEL:

10:00AM - CHILDREN'S SERVICE  
HIGHLANDS CAMPUS

2:00PM - TRADITIONAL SERVICE  
HIGHLANDS CAMPUS

4:00PM - CONTEMPORARY SERVICE  
HIGHLANDS CAMPUS

6:00PM - CONTEMPORARY SERVICE  
HIGHLANDS CAMPUS

8:00PM - TRADITIONAL SERVICE  
DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

## CHRISTMAS DAY AT BETHEL:

10:00AM HYMNS AND STORY  
HIGHLANDS CAMPUS

 **DETAILS AT  
BETHELHUDSON.ORG**

CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS WITH US! WE HAVE SEVERAL SERVICES ON CHRISTMAS EVE AND HOPE THAT ONE OF THEM WILL FIT INTO YOUR FAMILY'S SCHEDULE. CHRISTMAS DAY IS ON A SUNDAY THIS YEAR AND WE WILL HAVE A SPECIAL HYMN AND STORY SERVICE AT THE HIGHLANDS CAMPUS AT 10AM IN PLACE OF OUR REGULARLY SCHEDULED SERVICES.

 **BETHEL**  
CONNECT. GROW. SERVE  
920 Third Street  
Hudson, WI 54016

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit  
Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Hudson, WI  
54016  
Permit #79

Please check  
for the latest updates  
regarding worship,  
classes, and events at:  
[bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org)



**December  
2022**  
Volume 7  
Issue 12

# BETHEL CONNECTIONS

## Poinsettia Orders

We will soon be decorating both Campuses with red poinsettias. You may purchase poinsettias "In Honor Of", "In Memory Of", or for "Blessings Received"

Order online at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org) or use the envelopes marked "Poinsettia Orders" at Sunday Services. They are \$12 each and may be ordered until Monday, December 12.



SCAN HERE  
TO ORDER  
ONLINE

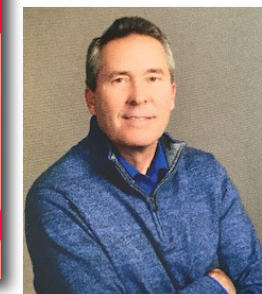


## Preparing for What Lies Ahead of Us

Prepare! How do we "prepare"? The season of Advent is about preparing the way for Jesus. During this season we will hear words from the prophets in scripture which invite us to "prepare the way of the Lord".

Many of us love listening to all of the Christmas music, and putting up all of the decorations. These, in their own way, prepare us for and point the way to Jesus.

We prepare ingredients in our kitchens when we are baking something. Recently I baked an apple crisp for the very first time. There were the soft ingredients which I needed to prepare ahead of time for the recipe: lots of brown sugar, a great amount of butter, nutmeg, cinnamon, and apples, of course. Then there were the top ingredients: (you guessed it) more brown sugar, more butter, pecans, and flour. All these ingredients made for a tasty Dessert. When our kids and grandkids prepare for things, there is all kinds of excitement in the air. You can literally reach out and touch



it. Our grandson, Beckett, had his bag packed for two days before he would have a day all to himself with Grandma and Grandpa at the cabin. Do you know what he did? He was so excited, and so filled with joy, that he sang all throughout the day at the cabin.

Are you excited for what lies ahead? It is this kind  
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IN-PERSON WORSHIP AT BETHEL SUNDAYS AT 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00AM

SUNDAYS 8:00AM | TRADITIONAL SERVICE | BROADCAST ON  
WEVR RADIO | LIVESTREAMED ON BETHEL'S WEBSITE,  
FACEBOOK PAGE, & YOUTUBE CHANNEL

SUNDAYS 9:30AM | CONTEMPORARY SERVICE | LIVESTREAMED  
ON BETHEL'S WEBSITE, FACEBOOK PAGE, & YOUTUBE CHANNEL



Bethel Lutheran  
Church, Hudson, WI

[facebook.com/blchudson/](https://facebook.com/blchudson/)

 Stay Connected



**PASTORAL STAFF**

Randy Fett, Interim Senior Pastor  
Kris Kurzejeski, Adult Education Pastor  
Ladd Sonnenberg, Youth & Families Pastor

**YOUTH MINISTRY STAFF**

Jake Summerville, High School Ministry  
Cindy Halunen, Middle School Ministry  
Carole DeJardin, Children's Ministry  
Marcie Andrews, Youth Ministry  
Communication Director

**MUSIC MINISTRY STAFF**

Skip James, Traditional Music Director  
Craig Koehnen, Contemporary Worship  
Director  
Sonja McGill, Handbell Director

**SUPPORT STAFF**

Gwen Cossin, Business Administrator  
Tammy Huberty, Administrative Assistant  
Kathy Jeska, Worship Support Coordinator  
Hannah Erickson, Communications Director  
Koreen Theisen, Event Coordinator  
John Lischewski, Donations Accountant  
Patrick Willson, Media Technician

**FACILITY & CUSTODIAL STAFF**

Cory Wong, Facilities Manager  
Will Jeska, Facilities Support Specialist

**BETHEL HIGHLANDS PRESCHOOL**

Missy Austreng, Director of Programming  
Allie Sulflow, Director of Business Operations  
Staff can be reached via email through  
bethelHUDSON.org/about/staff

**DOWNTOWN CAMPUS**

920 Third Street | Hudson, WI  
715.386.8821

**HIGHLANDS CAMPUS**

504 Frontage Road | Hudson, WI



**A NOTE FROM PASTOR RANDY**

Continued from page 1

of preparation that we are talking about, all of the music, all of the decorations, all of the ingredients, all of the packing, and all of the excitement. During Intentional Interim time we can say that we are engaged in a time of preparation; preparation for the future of the church, preparation for the direction and visions of Bethel Lutheran in Hudson, and preparation for the calling of a new pastor to serve among the staff team here at Bethel.

An Intentional Interim Ministry "Transition" Planning Team is being invited to come together and start gathering the ingredients; where Bethel has been, what you have done, and who Bethel is today, the culture of church and spirituality these days, and the needs of the neighbors, generations, and families in Hudson. We won't be baking an apple crisp but all of the preparations that we make together as one body, as the church, will be helpful in preparing Bethel for what God has in mind next. It is our prayer that you will carve out the time this season to breathe, to take it all in, to pray, to worship, and to ponder, to celebrate all that God has already done for you in Christ, and is still doing today, to sing those favorite carols, and to enjoy the tastes of the season. Thank you for your partnership with Bethel, for your commitment to the church, and for your gifts. May Christ, Immanuel, God's peace, be with you.

Peace, love, and happiness,  
Pastor Randy Fett



**THANK YOU!** to all who offered a blessing and contributed to the Quilt and Kit Shipping Fund Donation of \$823 to help get all the Quilts and Kits made by the Women of Bethel to those in need.

**Advent Happenings**  
Sunday, December 4 | 10:30am - noon  
Highlands Campus  
Event is free and lunch is included  
Details at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org)

**New Years Service**  
JOIN US FOR A SPECIAL PASTRIES AND PRAYER SERVICE!  
Saturday, December 31 | 10:00AM  
Bethel Downtown Campus  
Details at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org)

CONNECT WITH US ONLINE  
BETHELHUDSON.ORG

Facebook: FACEBOOK.COM/BLCHUDSON/  
YouTube: YOUTUBE: BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH HUDSON WI  
Instagram: INSTAGRAM: BETHELHUDSON  
Email: BETHEL@BETHELHUDSON.ORG



Visit Bethel's Facebook page to view more photos from recent events

**Youth** **2022-2023 YOUTH PROGRAMMING**

Nursery during 9:30am worship

Classes for Sunday School through Confirmation. Details & Registration at [bethelhudson.org/youth](http://bethelhudson.org/youth)

**YOUTH MINISTRY Key Dates**

<b>DEC 7</b>	<b>6:00-8:00PM</b> Pizza & Props for the Sunday School Christmas Program
<b>DEC 16</b>	<b>6:00-8:00PM</b> Pizza & Practice for the Sunday School Christmas Program (select roles only)
<b>DEC 17</b>	<b>9:00-11:00AM</b> K-5 Christmas Program Rehearsal & Video Taping
<b>DEC 18</b>	<b>9:30AM</b> K-5 Christmas Program <b>11:00AM</b> Preschool Christmas Program
<b>DEC 21</b>	No Wednesday Classes (6th -9th Grades)
<b>DEC 24</b>	<b>10:00AM</b> Children's Christmas Service
<b>DEC 25</b>	No Sunday School
<b>DEC 27</b>	<b>7:00PM - 7:00AM</b> High School Youth Group Movie & Gaming Marathon
<b>DEC 28</b>	No Wednesday Classes (6th -9th Grades)

Grades 6-8  
**Middle School LOCK-IN**  
January 13 | 6-11pm  
Downtown

pizza | ga-ga | salvation  
laser tag | and more

Details & Registration at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org) or scan **HERE**



SUNDAY SCHOOL  
**CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS**  
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18 DURING WORSHIP  
8:00AM - K-5 PROGRAM VIDEO  
9:30AM - K-5 PROGRAM LIVE  
11:00AM - PRESCHOOL LIVE

Details at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org)

**HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP MOVIE & GAMING MARATHON**

**BETHEL DOWNTOWN**  
7PM TUESDAY, DECEMBER 27 -  
7AM WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 28

DETAILS AT [BETHELHUDSON.ORG](http://BETHELHUDSON.ORG)

High School  High School Youth Group **MICHIGAN SKI TRIP** College-Aged Young Adults

One Destination: Two Distinct Trips  
**January 19-22**  
Upper Peninsula of Michigan

For details & registration go to [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org) or scan the QR Codes 

**MIDDLE SCHOOL SKI TRIP**  
FEBRUARY 10-12  
SPIRIT MOUNTAIN | DULUTH

DETAILS & REGISTRATION AT [BETHELHUDSON.ORG](http://BETHELHUDSON.ORG) OR SCAN HERE 

High School Youth Group 2023 Mission Trip  
**PROVIDENCE RHODE ISLAND**  
June 23 - July 1

Details & Registration at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org) or scan the code 

Details & registration coming soon for the **Summer 2023 Middle School Mission Trip**



Bethel offers a variety of options for you to grow in your faith with Bible Studies.

**Dorcus Gathering:** December 8 | 9:30AM | Downtown Fellowship Hall

**Mary Gathering:** December 8 | 1:00PM | Downtown Fellowship Hall

**Ruth Gathering:** December 8 | 2:00PM | Downtown Lounge

**Naomi Gathering:** December 12 | 1:00PM | Janet Gavic's Home

**ABC (Adult Bible Class):** Mondays | 8:30AM | Via Zoom  
ABC strives to promote an atmosphere where all feel welcome to join the discussion, there is no prep needed! During the one hour class, members discuss the Gospel reading found in the Christ in Our Home Devotional. Contact Karen at: [kypavlis@gmail.com](mailto:kypavlis@gmail.com) for information & the Zoom link.

**Women's Bible Study:** Thursday, December 1 & 15 | 9:30AM | Downtown Engedi Room

**Men's Bible Study:** Saturdays | 8:00AM | Via Zoom  
This group welcomes any man who would like to attend. Contact Aethan at [hartav@comcast.net](mailto:hartav@comcast.net) for the Zoom details.

**Men's Fellowship Breakfast and Bible Study:** Meet at Key's Cafe on the first and third Wednesday of each month at 7:00AM. New members are always welcome. Contact Curt at: [Truclarson1@gmail.com](mailto:Truclarson1@gmail.com)

**LIANE MORIARTY**  
#1 New York Times bestselling author of APPLES NEVER FALL

**What Alice Forgot**

**BETHEL BOOK CLUB**  
All who love to read and discuss books are welcome to join!

Wednesday, December 7 | 1:00PM  
Downtown Campus, Fellowship Hall  
'What Alice Forgot' by Liane Moriarty  
Details at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org)

**BETHEL BREWS & BROS**

Friday, December 16 | 5-7pm  
Hop & Barrel, Hudson  
Details at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org)

**SENIOR ADULT LUNCHEON**

Monday, January 16 | Noon - 1:30pm | Bethel Highlands Campus

Join the Bethel pastors as they highlight the 2022 Annual Report and review the 'State of the Church', enjoy a catered lunch, and special music from BHP students!

Details and Registration at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org)

**ACTIVITIES**

Women of Bethel invite you to be a part of the following activities:

**Quilting**  
Friday, December 9 & Tuesday, December 27  
Downtown, Fellowship Hall | 9:00AM

**Hardanger**  
Thursday, December 1 & 15  
Downtown, Conference Room | 1:00PM

**LIFE EVENTS**

**Baptisms**  
Hadlee James Amborn, November 6, 2022

*Stories from the Holy Land*



Presented by Natalie Wussler  
Tuesday, December 6  
9AM & 6PM | Downtown Engedi

Come and learn about Natalie's experience in the Holy Land!

*A cheerful heart is good medicine*  
PROVERBS 17:22

**BETHEL WOMEN'S RETREAT 2023**  
APRIL 21 | HUDSON, WI



Logo created by Bethel member, Nathan Datt.

# CARING FOR GOD'S CREATION IN OUR COMMUNITY



**Bethel**  
Creation Care

On April 17, 2021, the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin approved a "Resolution in Support of Creation Care" that urges all members to exemplify personal and institutional care for creation. The Bethel Church Council has embraced this resolution and chartered the Bethel Creation Care Team. The purpose of this team is to invite and engage the whole Bethel community in restoring and protecting God's creation. God has given each of us the role of caretaker of His creation (Genesis 2:15). When we love the earth, we love our God who created it, and we love our neighbors who suffer from the effects of harm to our planet.

Our planet is in peril...the warming of the earth's atmosphere is intensifying disasters – fires, floods, hurricanes, drought; plastic is piling up on beaches and in our oceans.... These frightening realities can make us feel hopeless and powerless. And, we know that God is at work in us, and in our world. Every action we take now to care for this earth will alleviate future suffering. When communities of faith lead the way, through God's power, we can create a new reality in our world. All things are possible!

The Bethel Creation Care Team invites every member of Bethel to participate in this hope, and take joyful action to care for the earth God has given us. Watch for the Creation Care Tip of the Week, articles in Bethel's monthly newsletter and other opportunities to learn more about how you can make a difference. If you are interested in joining the Creation Care Team, please contact Pastor Ladd.

## BETHEL HIGHLANDS PRESCHOOL

**Calling All BHP Alumni!** You know the drill... we need you to come and help sing the verses in the favorite carol "Go Tell it On the Mountain!" Our preschoolers look up to you and are amazed to know that YOU used to attend BHP! Come to BHP and share the stage with them for this tradition! Choose a program time (or two):

- Monday, December 5, at 5:30 & 6:30PM
- Tuesday, December 6, at 5:30PM

**BHP Students Sing in Church** On Sunday, December 11, at 9:30am, BHP students will bring their gift of the Christmas story to the Bethel congregation. Come hear these preschoolers tell the story in a sweet way!

**THANK YOU!** Many families generously donated non-perishable foods for the food shelf during our Trunk or Treat event. A huge thank you for these gifts!

**KEEP UP TO DATE ON REGISTRATION!** Make sure to follow us on Facebook / Instagram or check our website for registration information and open house opportunities. Registration dates will be set soon for February, and you will want to make sure you get enrolled for 2023-2024 school year. See [bethelhighlandspreschool.org](http://bethelhighlandspreschool.org).



# VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH



Volunteers at Bethel are those who comprise many ages and stages of life, who do so much to serve God and others with a generous heart and humble spirit.

Showing exemplary leadership is longtime member — since 1971 — Cynthia Huntley, who has seen numerous changes at Bethel and has volunteered extensively.

Cynthia was born in Fargo, ND, moving frequently due to her father's military career. She and her husband, Charles, moved to Hudson in 1970 with their young boys. Cynthia's teaching career started in Osseo School District. She stepped away for several years to raise the boys, but ultimately went back to teaching at Hudson Middle School in special education before retirement. Cynthia and Charles also have eight grandchildren.

For more than 50 years Cynthia has been involved with volunteering at Bethel with a cheerful heart. She was the Sunday School Superintendent for 21 years as well a teacher, including VBS, and was part of the education committee for several years. Cynthia started congregational life, served on the council and a call committee, and has been active in the Scandinavian Food Fest.

Cynthia also has had a hand in community volunteerism. She was on the hospital auxiliary as well as the community action board. And, she assisted with Boy Scouts (all three of her sons being Eagle Scouts). In addition, Cynthia and Charles have volunteered several years together at the Medora Musical, a family focused event in Medora, ND, near Roosevelt State Park. In her free time, Cynthia loves reading, cooking, music and family time.

We thank you, Cynthia, for all the ways you joyfully volunteer and serve God. You shine with inspiration by offering your time and talents with your Bethel family and community.

"Well done, you good and faithful servant."

**BLOOD DRIVE**  
FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16  
Noon-6PM  
Bethel Downtown Campus  
Details & Registration at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org)

Become an Altar Care Volunteer!  
-Prepare the Altar for communion  
-Fill Communion Trays and Place on Altar  
-Friday/Saturday flexible scheduling  
Please contact Kathy at [kjeska@bethelHUDSON.org](mailto:kjeska@bethelHUDSON.org) with interest!

**EQUAL EXCHANGE**  
FAIRLY TRADED ORGANIC COFFEE, TEA, AND COCOA  
Available on Sunday, December 4 after the 8AM and 9:30AM Services. Details at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org)

**Hudson Outreach Meals for Everyone**  
The H.O.M.E. committee serves FREE meals in the Fellowship Hall and to-go meal boxes to EVERYONE on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month. Volunteers always welcome!  
Upcoming Meals: Thursday, December 1 & 15 5-6PM | Downtown Campus  
Details at [bethelHUDSON.org/serve/local](http://bethelHUDSON.org/serve/local)

**FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN**  
JOIN A TEAM FROM BETHEL AT FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN!  
Saturday, December 17 11:30AM-1:15PM  
FMSC in Eagan, MN  
Details and Registration at [bethelHUDSON.org](http://bethelHUDSON.org)