



Bethel
Lutheran
Church

Making Disciples!

May 16– June 6, 2024

E-Memo



To the Saints



LCMS

Stewardship

Ministry

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship

More Than a Negative

Even if you've never had to testify in court, a thousand TV shows have made you familiar with the question, "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" Why not just make people swear to tell the truth? Or make them promise not to lie?

Any parent who has ever had to interrogate a child about a broken cookie jar or a scuffle over a toy knows the answer. There are plenty of ways to try to get out of trouble without *technically* lying. You tell *just enough* of the truth to skate on by.

We often play the game of seeing *how close* we can get to sinning without *technically* going over the line.

But in our heart of hearts we know that this is not what God intended when He gave us the commandments. He's not giving us a merely negative rule and challenging us to just barely stay away from this or that. There is much more to each commandment than a prohibition. We shouldn't just avoid murdering people — we should be of service to our neighbor.

For each negative prohibition in the commandments there is a positive good that we are to cherish and protect. In the Eighth Commandment, that gift is the reputation of our neighbor and our relationship with him:

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Your relationship with your family members (who are your nearest neighbors), the other members of your congregation, your coworkers and your friends is one of the most precious gifts you have been given. You need to exercise good stewardship with this gift just as much as you need to exercise good stewardship with your life, resources, time and income. This is an especially fragile gift because it's easy to ruin a relationship with slander and talking behind someone's back.

But speaking well of your neighbor in Christian love is absolutely free; it costs you nothing, yet it pays you great dividends. If you find this challenging at times, if you are tempted to speak ill of others, just remember that this other person is also a beloved child of God for whom your Lord Jesus suffered and died. Your Lord Jesus loves you both.



NAME TAGS

We want to encourage you to wear your name badges! This is a quick way to get to know each other and can even help us identify who among us might be guests. Also, the recent *Life with God* group of new members are now getting their name badges, so if you see someone with a name badge that has a small star on it, please greet them and welcome them to Bethel.

Two Prayer Quilts in Narthex

One for Dottie Garrison and one for Nathan Spence. Please stop by to share some comforting scriptures, prayers, hymns for them. These are always very comforting to those who receive them. Thank you.



**Come to Bethel's Regular Scheduled
Voters Assembly at 1:15 pm
Sunday, May 19, 2024**

**Congregational
Meeting**



The purpose of this meeting will be to Elect Board and Council Members
Nursery/Child Care will be provided. Bethel's LWML will serve a lunch
from 12:15—1:00 for a freewill donation.

Bethel votes for half the Boards in even years and the other half of the Boards in odd years. Below, even year Board members are on the left and odd year Board members are on the right, under their Board heading. This being an even year, those Board positions are up for election. Those who have served 1 term can serve a 2nd term. Those being elected on May 19, 2024 have (elect) by their name or the term they are being elected for—1T=first term, 2T=second term. Those with (appt) by their name are being appointed since they are odd year positions.

**Bethel Lutheran Church
Church Council & Board Members
2024-2025**

Candidates for Election

President: Steven Klose (elect)
Vice-President: Terry Paholek (elect)
Head Usher: Lance Lindsey (elect)

Sitting Church Council Members

Secretary: Meagan Brown
Treasurer: Kim Rutledge
Financial Secretary: Rosie Schoenfeld

Board of Elders

Candidates for Elect	Sitting Board members
David Fleeger 1T	Marty Criswell
Eric Jones 1T	Mike Sadler
Ian Janda 2T	Arthur Forsyth
Glenn Frazier 1T	Jacob Brown
Kyle Kasper 1T	Caleb Groves
Craig Murphy 2T	Matt Hagemann
Robert Pali 1T	Charlie Coble (appt)
Rusty Pfeffer 1T	Jeremy Drager
Steve Lawrenz 1T	Preston Kissman

Board of Parish Education

Candidates for Elect	Sitting Board members
Jennifer Massey 1T	Jenna Smitherman (appt)
Kristie Clark 2T	Sara Galow
Joalla Shilling 1T	Alex Janda (appt)
Kinsey Johnson 2T	Meghan Ullmann
Kari Ramirez 1T	Amy Dahmann

Board Community Service

Candidates for Elect	Sitting Board members
Joyce Jones 1T	Liz Adcock
Robyn Forsyth 2T	Valerie Markert
Cassie Jackson 1T	Bob Beard
	Katy Ellison

Board of Stewardship

Candidates for Elect	Sitting Board Members
Bentley Nettles 1T	Jennifer Dunkin
Wes Hall 1T	Marcy Ullmann
Jim Anderson 1T	Cullen Galow
Dana Mortimer 1T	Barbara Kasper

Board of Early Childhood Education

Candidates for Elect	Sitting Board Members
Katrina Whitten 1T	Dena Favors
Terra Bissett 1T	Jennifer Klose
Karen Theiss 2T	Ryan Ullmann (appt)
Karen Hall 1T	Pat Wallace

Board of Trustees

Candidates for Elect	Sitting Board Members
Mark Deike 2T	Brad Hildebrandt
Jonathan Dahmann 2T	Matt Hannes
Wesley Bissett 1T	Jeremy Shilling
Rodney Murphy 2T	

Board of Witness & Outreach

Candidates for Elect	Sitting Board Members
Randy Moerbe 1T	Deedra Rodriguez (appt)
Josh Addison 2T	Kayla Klose
Pierce Young 2T	Mary Yarbrough

Board of Finance

Candidate for Elect	Sitting Board Members
Mary Hagan (elect)	Tim Donathen
	Sally Coble
	Martin Erickson

Who is a Voting Member? According to Bethel's By-laws... "All communicant members of the congregation who have attained the age of eighteen (18) years and have signed the Constitution and Bylaws shall be eligible to vote unless otherwise restricted by the Bylaws."

**Hope Pregnancy Center
Baby Bottle Boomerang**



Hope is raising \$36,000 to add 24/7 nurse chat to their website, and to meet the 20% increase in the number of clients they are seeing!

Pick up a Baby Bottle and Return it by **Father's Day! Boomerang!** Simply find the table in the narthex with all the Baby Bottles, pick one up, and sign the sheet on the table. Then take your Baby Bottle home and fill it with coins, cash, or check and return them! It's easy! We appreciate your tremendous support for saving lives of the unborn! This is a great opportunity to let your children help save the money for Hope! They can watch the bottle fill up and know that they helped.



**Brazos Church Pantry
May Food Drive
Need a Grocery "Idea" list?**

Canned vegetables, Canned meats (tuna, chicken, spam, or ham), Canned fruit, Macaroni and cheese, Dried beans, Cereal, Toilet paper, Bath soap, etc. So bring your non-perishable items to the Basket in the Donation Location by the Parish Hall doors. Thank you from the Board of Community Service.

THE BEE COMMUNITY—Work and Belong

www.thebeecommunity.com

Save the Date!

**July 20th 10am—1pm At The Bee for an
Open House & Shred—A—Thon**

Sponsored by: Fries Financial

Thanks to your incredible support and contributions, we are settling into our additional space which is allowing us to expand our store, add two work rooms, a packaging area, and a small art studio! This expansion will allow us to begin employing several new artisans with meaningful work and an environment filled with belonging!



The BEE invites you to come check out our new space! Thanks to Fries Financial, we will be opening our doors wide on Sat. July 20th from 10am -1pm for an Open House and Shred-A-Thon. In celebration of Fries Financial 40th Anniversary, we are so honored to be chosen as a recipient of a matching grant up to \$4,000. On Sat. July 20th, all proceeds from products sold in our store, shredding service fees and any donations will be matched up to \$4,000! If we reach our goal, that's \$8,000 for BEE which will allow us to purchase new commercial grade shredders for our Shredding Service. Start cleaning out those files and come on by to see the new space! This event is free to attend - no registration needed.

† **Preschool News**



**May 6th – 10th was Teacher
Appreciation Week!**

We spent the whole week celebrating our teachers with special treats each day. We Started the week by

“Espresso”ing our thanks and ended the week with a “Taco ‘Bout our Appreciation” bar provided by the parents of our preschoolers. We are so thankful for our entire staff here at Bethel Lutheran Preschool. The work our teachers do everyday is making an impact on God’s Kingdom! If you see one of our teachers, please share your appreciation with them.



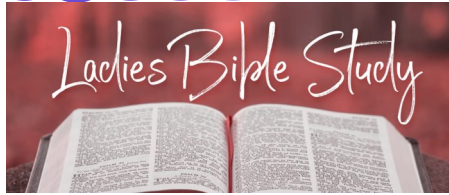
We are still registering for the upcoming 2024-2025 school year with 10 total spots remaining! Call the office today to see about registering your child.

*In Christ,
Shelly Schultz*

**Director
Bethel Lutheran Preschool**

Bethel Lutheran Preschool admits students of any race,color, and national or ethnic origin.





**Ladies Tuesday Bible Study
Will Break for the Summer
Last Day will be May 21**

Tuesdays at 10:00 am in Room 239.
Pastor Bard leads this Bible Study. Child
Care is provided.

Young Women in Christ

Come join Young Women in Christ as we
study the book of Romans together. YWIC is
a bible study group for young women ages 14
-21. Our next meeting will be Sunday, May
19 at 3:00 pm @ the home of Katy Ellison.
Contact Emily 979-422-0085 with any ques-
tions. This group will take a break during the
summer.



**Friday Men's Bible Study at 6:30
am with Breakfast In Room 239
Simon Peter: The Rough Fisherman**

Join Rev. Wayne Palmer in this nine part series
on the origin story of the undisputed leader
among the twelve disciples, Simon Peter.
[Simon Peter: The Rough Fisherman
\(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=...)

**Monday Evening Men's
Bible Study & Fellowship
Mondays at 7:00 pm in Room 242
A LifeLight Bible Study:
The Minor Prophets**

Call George McIlhane 979-229-0020 if
the doors are locked when you get here.

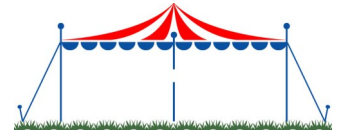
**Summer Sunday School
starts June 2nd!**

This means that we may be combining some classes and Summer curriculum begins. We encourage our regular Sunday School teachers to take a break. However, they maintain the option to continue on during the summer. If you are interested in helping teach or be an assistant during summer it would be a blessing to our students. Pray about maybe helping us out then give Jeff or Connie a call.

YOUTH NIGHTS!

Senior High and Junior High Youth will be meeting on Wednesday from 6pm -8pm May 15, May 22, May 29, June 5, and June 12th.

**Children's Sunday
School Offering:**



Teaching our children about giving -

A portion of the funds will be used to purchase a tent for *Way of the Cross Ministries* in Harlingen. We hope to deliver and set up the tent during the Youth Mission trip.

Youth mission Trip 2024

The mission trip is scheduled to leave Saturday June 29th—Returning Saturday July 6th. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the Narthex. The mission trip will be to Har-

lingen, Los Fresnos area of South Texas. We will be partnering with the Way of the Cross ministries. If you have question about the mission trip, please see DCE Jeff or Connie Bard.



Breakfast Tacos

Bethel's Youth are serving breakfast tacos for a donation on Communion Sundays as a fundraiser. Thank you for your continued support of our youth. Students are encouraged to sign up to help make breakfast tacos. The students who work are given money that goes into an account that helps them go on events and trips through the youth group.



Don't Miss Out on the Fun and Fellowship!!

Devo & Games Afternoon

Sunday, June 2nd at 3:00pm– 6:00pm

Our next Devo and Games afternoon will be June 2nd from 3pm – 6pm. Devo and Games is a time for devotion and fellowship while playing board games. Please bring a dish to share. Also, if you have a game you would like to bring it is encouraged. Sign up is in the Narthex. We will have child care if that is needed.



Confirmation

Some of our Youth here at Bethel will be confirmed on Sunday, May 19. We pray for these young Christians as they prepare their hearts and confess their faith.

Greet them at a cake reception held in their honor between services in the narthex.



Give Kids Answers to Their Questions

Every day, our kids are bombarded with questions: Did God really create everything? Why do bad things happen? Was Noah's ark real? Why do I need to be saved? Can I trust the Bible?

At this VBS, your kids will explore the biblical answers to these questions as they set off on an epic adventure from Genesis to Revelation. Amid sloths, butterflies, river dolphins, and dart frogs, your children will sail along on a fun jungle cruise, stopping at seven ports of call. These ports are the 7 C's of History: Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, and Consummation. Kids will discover how these events shape our world, and they will learn to reconnect the Bible to their everyday life.

Prepare to swing into fun as we head out on *The Great Jungle Journey*!



Registration is OPEN for

Vacation Bible School

The Great Jungle Journey

June 16th–20th

6pm–8:45pm

Meals starting at 5:15pm

\$5/person with max of \$20/family

Go online to Register your child

Or to Volunteer to Help

<https://blcbcs.myanswers.com/jungle-journey/>

Mission (LWML)

LWML will gather June 3 with a devotion at 6:30 pm. The Mission Service project is collecting items for the TX District LWML Convention. All Bethel ladies are invited to come see how we help in the mission world.

LWML Mite Collection

May 25 & 26

Mites (coins, cash, checks) will be gathered at all 3 worship services. All monies collected here and at other LCMS churches fund 42 mission grants in Texas, the US and around the world.

Mission Spotlight: The Feeding Haitian Children Through Gospel and Meals grant will allow Trinity HOPE to feed approximately 538 children, teachers, and cooks each school day for two academic years at Paul et Isabel Lutheran School in Hinche, Haiti.

They are fed physically and spiritually every day they are in school and become missionaries to their families, bringing them out of the darkness of voodoo, a national religion, and into the light of Jesus.

Bethel's Helping Hands Mission Quilters



Will NOT meet on May 27th
They WILL meet on June 10th at 9 AM in room 242

We put Mission quilts together for Lutheran World Relief. You don't need to know how to sew or quilt. We just need helping hands to tie the quilts. Join us for Christian Fellowship.

We take Donations

If you have items these are some things we can use.

- Flat Sheets (twin size is big enough)
- Fabric suitable for quilt top (cotton, cotton blends, corduroy, wool, upholstery fabric) We make 60"x80" quilts.
- We cannot use fabric that has religious symbols or messages, patriotic symbols, or camouflage since they are donated through Lutheran World Relief all around the world. <https://www.lwr.org>

If you wish to donate money for the purchase of batting, you can write a check to Bethel and on the Memo line write that it is for Helping Hands Quilting.

THE CHAPEL | Summer Missions & Leadership Scholarships Available

University Lutheran Chapel is grateful to offer financial scholarships to qualified students and young adults for select summer missions and leadership events in 2024

- Concordia University Texas GO MISSION Trips
- Concordia Mission Institute Summer Conference—July 7—13—Concordia, Missouri
- Beta Sigma Psi Lutheran Fraternity Leadership Summit—July 18—21—Denver, Colorado.

Other similar summer mission endeavors or leadership events may be eligible for scholarship funding.

Scholarships are generally limited to current students at Texas A&M University and Blinn College Bryan and young adults, who are connected to University Lutheran Chapel, Bethel Lutheran Church – Bryan, or Holy Cross Lutheran Church – College Station.

It is important for interested students to act quickly to notify Chapel staff of their interest, as certain registration deadlines, cost-breaks, and best prices for air travel are a part of good stewardship. Students should talk with either John Karle or Dorinda Werner as soon as possible at 979.846.6687— Website: ulctamu.org

Camp Lone Star BBQ & Auction Fundraiser—July 28, 2024

<https://camplonestar.org>

The last weekend in July each year, Camp Lone Star hosts the annual BBQ and Auction Fundraiser to support Camp and all that this ministry does to transform lives and grow God's kingdom. This event is one of the main events which supports Camp Lone Star each year and we work hard to be good stewards of the financial resources entrusted to us in order to best glorify God and transform lives through Adventurous Christ-Centered Experiences.

The day includes an outdoor worship service followed by that good 'ole Texas BBQ. After that, enjoy the great fellowship and fun of the live and silent auctions—you won't want to miss it!

Auction Items Needed

We are collecting auction items, and we need your help! This day is only successful because of the generous outpouring of gifts we receive through auction item donations! If you would like to donate an item, please fill out this [Auction Item Form](#). All donations are tax-deductible as provided by law.

Happy Birthday!!

To Our Bethel Family

May

Jennifer Bolting	16
Cheryl Dinwoodie	16
Nathan Sinclair	17
Mason Smith	17
Jim Wuthrich	17
Katy Ellison	18
Josh Addison	19
Eric Jones	19
Mary Yarbrough	19
Ryan Bedford	20
Timothy Eden	20
Dalton Noack	20
Mardell Byer	21



Cullen Galow	21
Richard Hammerness	21
Henry Nettles	21
Katy Hoffman	23
Pastor Randy Bard	24
Sarah Bellach	24
Michael Clark	24
Faith Clark	24

Tilly Cheshire	25
Trey Schultz	25
Virginia Becker (92)	26
Kamryn Crocker	26
Sylvia Kraeft	26
Heather Clark	27
Kristin Paholek	27
Brittney Samford	27
Andrew Jungklaus	28
Beverly Catalina	29
Connie Silber	29
Lauren Hightower	30
Jenna Beyer	31
Amanda Pannkuk	31
Kaylie Scheffler	31

June

Anna Dombrowski	1
Eli Dahmann	2
Conley Nored	3
Foster Ullmann	3
Stacy Lucht	5
Jack Montgomery	5
Lance Hausenfluck	8
Steve Silber	8
Hannah Hildebrandt	9
Bob Pottberg	10
Peter Young	10

Happy Anniversary!!

To Our Bethel Couples

Brent & Diedra Centilli	10 yrs	May 17
Norb & Lisa Mahnke	38 yrs	May 17
Rusty & Lori Pfeffer	22 yrs	May 19
Randy & Connie Bard	36 yrs	May 21
Pat & Barbara Kasper	43 yrs	May 23
Jason & Leigh Chipps	7 yrs	May 26
Richard & Trish Nipps	23 yrs	May 26
Jared & Stephanie Klatt	18 yrs	May 27
Craig & Andrea Murphy	29 yrs	May 27
Ross & Amanda Anderson	13 yrs	May 28
Wes & Karen Hall	25 yrs	May 29
Tetsuya & Julie Sugita	31 yrs	May 29
John & Linda Dalchau	54 yrs	May 30

Mark & Nikki Pratt	28 yrs	June 1
Chuck & Kathy Burgess	51 yrs	June 2
Pierce & Ellen Young	7 yrs	June 3
Brian & Dawn Spence	19 yrs	June 4
Keith & Taylor Kouba	10 yrs	June 7
Jimmy & Dena Favors	9 yrs	June 8
Jay & Molly Wilder	30 yrs	June 11
Jeremy & Crystal Drager	20 yrs	June 12
Dalton & Deanne Noack	64 yrs	June 12
Ryan & Sam Clements	15 yrs	June 13
Bryce & Ellen Sinclair	15 yrs	June 13
Milton & Beverly Catalina	55 yrs	June 14
Dave & Rachel Lewis	21 yrs	June 14
Bob & Jimmie Pottberg	64 yrs	June 14



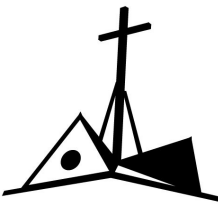
It's Never too Late to Fill Out Time & Talent Surveys!

Bethel's Board of Stewardship encourages everyone to complete our Time, Talent and Treasure Survey to have up-to-date information for all our members. There are paper copies of the Survey in the Narthex, you can go online to Bethel's website or use the QR code. Bethel needs YOU!



The 2024 Flower Chart for Altar flowers is in the Information Center by the elevator. The cost is \$50 per sponsorship. There are a lot of empty spots on the calendar. Please consider giving.

You can email the church office at office@blcbcs.org or call 822-2742 if you have any questions. Thank you.



Bethel Lutheran Church

4221 Boonville Rd, Bryan, Texas 77802
Phone: (979) 822-2742 | FAX: (979) 822-4082
www.BLCbcs.org | office@BLCbcs.org
Preschool phone: 485-9835 or cell: 446-1578

Staff:

- Rev. Randall Bard**, Senior Pastor, (979) 422-0046
- Rev. Tim Eden**, Associate Pastor
- Mr. Jeff Bellach**, Director of Christian Education
- Mr. Tetsuya Sugita**, Director of Parish Music
- Mrs. Shelly Schultz**, Dir., Bethel Lutheran Preschool
- Miss. Emma Schmeling**, Assistant Director, Preschool
- Mrs. Joyce Sutherland**, Director of Operations
- Mrs. Terry Frazier**, Bookkeeper
- Mr. Dave Lewis**, Facilities Manager
- Mrs. Ruthann Stroud**, Church Secretary
- Mrs. Connie Bard**, Children's Ministry Coordinator
- Mrs. Katie Bentley**, Tech & Communications Assist.

May 16—June 6, 2024



Join us for

Saturday -

Worship at 4pm & Bible Class at 5pm

Sunday Mornings

- 8:30 AM Divine Service (Traditional)
- 10:00 AM Sunday School & Bible Class
- 11:15 AM Divine Service (Contemporary)

THE LUTHERAN HOUR is on KAGC, 1510 AM on Sundays at 12:30 p.m. sponsored by Bethel. If you would like, you can sponsor a week's broadcast for \$25 or a month for \$100. **The 2024 Sign Up Chart is in the Information Center next to the elevator.**

The Lutheran Hour for the month of May is sponsored to the Glory of God by Rita & David Baumann.

Church Office Hours

Mondays—Thursdays 9am - 5pm
Fridays 9am—3pm