



Sunday, March 16, 2025

Bethel Christian Reformed Church

521 S. Halleck St., DeMotte, IN 46310

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Pastor Jeremy Oosterhouse

WE WELCOME YOU TO WORSHIP whether in person or online. We welcome any visitors who have chosen to join us! Please take a welcome mug from the table in the back of church.

Today is the second Sunday in Lent. Lent is a 6-week time before Easter that has been used as a time of reflection and renewal for believers to consider the purpose and the cost of the cross of Jesus, the Savior who gave his life for sinners, to redeem them as Children of God. May our "Holy Habits" be a means of encountering this fellowship and renewal with God.

This week we take up the fourth spiritual discipline of our "Holy Habits" series, which is "**Fasting & Filling**" from Matthew 6:16-18. While fasting is not a common practice in the Reformed world, we will study the Biblical basis for this form of worship and how it can help us today know God and discern his will.

Holy Habits Discipleship: Please join us at 4 pm at church on Sundays, March 16, 30, and April 13 for a time of discussion about spiritual disciplines. **TODAY**, on March 16th we will discuss the practices of prayer and fasting.

- **Nursery care** is available to those under the age of 4 who need it, both for members and for guests during our morning worship service. They meet in the church's lower level.
- **PRE-K-2nd Grade** Children's Worship meets during the church service. They are dismissed after the time of Praise. Go to the back of church where they will meet their teachers. **Children's Worship will NOT meet next week, March 23 for Spring Break.**
- **Sunday School/Catechism:** for all 3rd-12th Grades meet from 11:00-11:30am in the church's lower level. Visitors are welcome! We will NOT meet next week!
- **ADULT Class** will meet in the council room and continue with the Ray VanderLaan videos. Grab your coffee and snack and come join us!

THIS WEEK'S MEETINGS

Sunday	11:00am	Sunday School, Catechism and Adult Class
	4:00pm	"Holy Habits" Study
Tuesday	1:30pm	Ladies Afternoon Bible Study – Lesson 11 "Lord, Over Land and Sea"
Wednesday	6:15pm	GEMS
Thursday	7:00pm	Elders

MORNING WORSHIP

**We invite you to stand in body or in spirit during the service as indicated.*

Welcome

*Opening Song: "Come, Thou Almighty King" LUYH 492

*God's Greeting/Mutual Greetings

*Time of Praise:

"10,000 Reasons"

"Seek Ye First" LUYH 899

Please be Seated – Children are dismissed for Children's Worship

Scripture: Matthew 6:16-18 (pg.1504)

Sermon: "**Holy Habits – Fasting**"

*Offering will be received for Ministries of Bethel and Giffords

During offering please stand and sing: "Yet Not I, But through Christ in Me"

Prayers of the People

*Closing Words

*God's Parting Blessing

*Closing Song: "New Doxology"

THOSE IN SERVICE

Nursery

Children's Worship

Piano/guitar

Usher

Greeters

Media Shout

Offering

March 16

Velma & Asher

Bailee & James

Marla

Larry

Marlene & Ashley(E)

Jon & Phyllis (S)

Scott

Ministries of Bethel

and Gifford's

March 23

Rachel O. & Rachel B.

Spring Break

Will

Larry

Marlene & Ashley(E)

Jon & Phyllis (S)

James

Ministries of Bethel

and Birthright of Rensselaer

You can continue to give online at www.bethelcrcdemotte.org. Thank you!

OUR CHURCH FAMILY: Please remember the following items in prayer:

1. Delores C, staying with her son and daughter-in-law as she continues to recover. She welcomes visits.
2. We continue in prayer for Velma O, who experienced a setback and was not able to be transferred to a step-down unit yesterday. She remains at Franciscan Hospital. Continue to pray for healing for her; for the Lord to restore the full function of her lungs; and for the strength of the Spirit to be with Velma and Larry both.
3. Laura H. surgery scheduled for last Friday has been postponed to April 25; our prayer is that insurance pre-approval will be worked out by then.
4. Josie B, four-year-old great-granddaughter of Jim and Janet B, scheduled for heart valve repair in Boston on March 21.
5. Tom P, recovering at home from a hospital stay last weekend for an intestinal blockage.
6. Our members who have ongoing health concerns: Mary R, Ruth DV and Andy W.
7. Our members in assisted care facilities: Barb E, Rich K, and Donna H.
8. Glen V, the son-in-law of Rich K, on hospice care, and his wife Kori, as she cares for him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR EASTER LILY YET? The Worship and Decorating Teams are ordering Easter lilies for Easter Sunday, and we invite you to purchase lilies in memory of a loved one or in honor of a loved one. The lilies will be available for pickup after worship on Easter Sunday. Please use the link that was sent in the mid-week email to sign-up. They are \$10 each. (You can also talk to Shiela in the office to add your name to the list.)

Holy Habits Resources: The Worship Team invites the congregation to share devotionals during this Holy Habits Series. If you have a devotional you would like to share, please mark it with your name and place it on top of the mailboxes by Pastor Jeremy's office. And, if you are looking for a new devotional to try; please feel free to take one from the stack and return it when finished.

Oak Grove Ministry: Sunday, March 30, Bethel is scheduled to lead worship at Oak Grove at 2:00pm. Please consider joining us that afternoon as Pastor Jeremy shares the message and Leah plays the piano for the time of worship. Volunteers are needed to help pass out songbooks.

As work on the lift continues, please check the **TOP** of the mailboxes outside Pastor Jeremy's office for the materials normally put in the mailboxes. Be sure to check it weekly!

A Big Thank You to all those who gave generously to Elim's latest project. They feel truly blessed. Thanks, Ruth B.