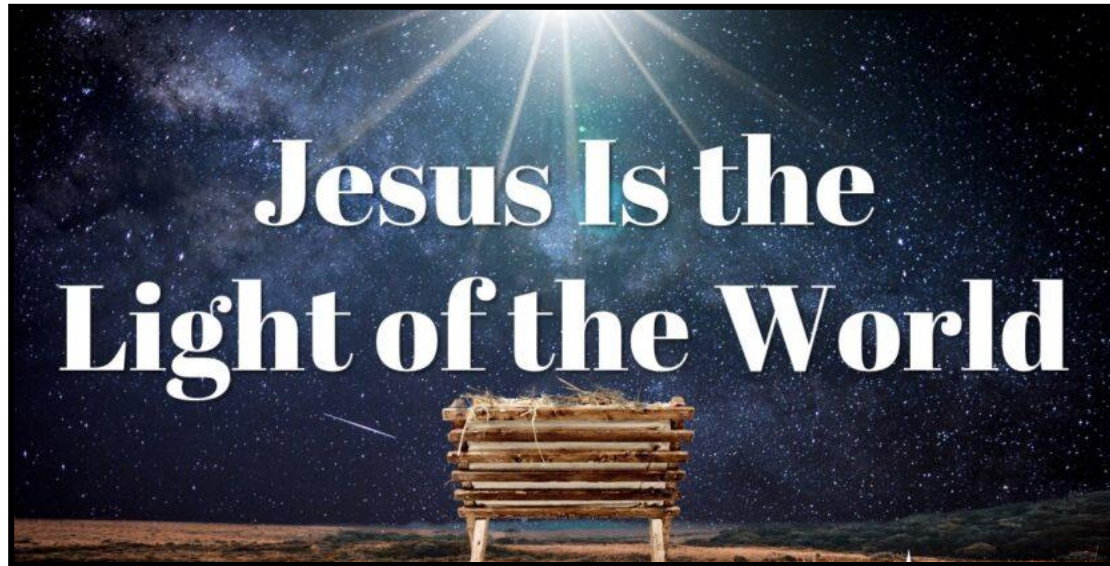


December 31, 2023



## Bethel Christian Reformed Church

521 S. Halleck St., DeMotte, IN 46310

[www.bethelcrcdemotte.org](http://www.bethelcrcdemotte.org)

[bethelcrc@netnitco.net](mailto:bethelcrc@netnitco.net)

**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.

We focused our Advent this year on **Jesus – the light of the world** as we anticipated Christmas and the promise of the coming Christ Child. We pray that the light grew in each of you and you will carry it with you into the new year!

Pastor Dan Bloesch will lead us in worship – “The Glory of Christmas” from Luke 2:1-12.

We will also have **installation of new elder and deacon**. Elder: Mike Zickmund and Deacon: Rich Buiet. Thank you to our outgoing: Russ VanderMolen and Todd Nanninga. Thank you for serving.

Next week we welcome Brett VanderMolen as he leads us in our worship time from Mark 6:30-38 – “Obedience Through Compassion”. They will also give us an update on their work in Cambodia.

The Ray VanderLaan videos will resume on January 7 in the council room.

There will be **NO CHILDREN’S WORSHIP** December 24 -- January 7. See you on January 14<sup>th</sup>

## MORNING WORSHIP

Welcome

\*Please Stand for Opening Song: “Jesus Messiah”

\*God’s Greeting

\*Mutual Greetings

\*Time of Praise:

“Jesus, the Light of the World”

“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

Please Be Seated

Installation Service of new Elders and Deacons

Elder: Mike Zickmund

Deacon: Rich Buiet

We Offer Our Prayers to God

Offering will be received for: Ministries of Bethel and Gideon’s

During offering we will sing: “As with Gladness Men of Old” vs.1,4,5

Scripture: Luke 2:1-12 (pg. 1590)

Message: **The Glory of Christmas**

Prayer

\*Please Stand for the Parting Blessing

\*Closing Song: “Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Bethel has made the decision to extend a call to **Pastor Jeremy Oosterhouse**. We invite you to send them an encouraging note as they seek God’s guidance and leading. His email is [joosterhouse@gmail.com](mailto:joosterhouse@gmail.com) and Rachel’s is [rachel.ooms@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.ooms@gmail.com) There address to send snail mail: 12606 S. Menard Ave, Alsip IL 60803. Lift them up in prayer along with Bethel as we seek God’s will.

We will be having a 9:30 am service here at Bethel each week –You have the opportunity to join with First CRC for their 5pm worship time. They will NOT have a 5PM Service on Dec. 31.

This morning we celebrate God’s provision for the leadership of our congregation as we install new elders and deacons. Those who will be serving as Elders this year are: Gary DeVries -President, Jon Dekker - Clerk, Mike Zickmund – Vicar and Dave Werblo and Rick Eenigenburg. Deacons: Nathan Vanderwal – Chairman of Deacons, Brent VanSchouwen – Treasurer, Will Jansma – Asst. Treasurer, Scott VanVlymen – Secretary of Deacons and Rich Buiet – Benevolence. Please pray for these men, that they will serve and lead well, and that together with the council, elders and deacons, they will be a blessing to the church body here at Bethel.

We want to express our thanks and appreciation to Russ VanderMolen and Todd Nanninga for their time of service to the Lord and his people. Thank you for serving!

**SERVING TODAY**      **December 31**  
Nursery: AM      Bailee & Sue  
Children's Leaders      Christmas Break  
Piano:      Marla  
Usher      Jon D  
Greeters      Rich & Mary(E), Ron & Sue(S).  
Media Shout      Scott  
Offering      Ministries of Bethel and Gideon's

You can continue to give online at [www.bethelcrcdemotte.org](http://www.bethelcrcdemotte.org). Thank you!

**SERVING NEXT WEEK** **January 7**

Nursery: AM      Suzy & Lyndsy  
Children's Leaders      Christmas Break  
Piano:      Amy  
Usher      Russ  
Greeters      Scott & Nanci(E), Brent & Suzy(S).  
Media Shout      Scott  
Offering      Ministries of Bethel and DMCS Inc.

**CHURCH FAMILY: PLEASE CONTINUE TO KEEP IN PRAYER:**

- Carollyn B for complete healing and gaining strength after her surgeries.
- Continued prayers for Donna Hoekstra for healing in her leg as she is now in rehab. Prayers for Ted also as he misses her and dealing with being alone.
- Andy & Cheryl, Barb E, Rich K, Ted & Donna, Ruth DV, Carolyn VV, Hank VW
- Be with all the sick and shut-ins especially during this time of year. Bless them all with a deep peace and that they are truly each enlightened by "Jesus – the Light of the World".
- Keep Bethel in your prayers along with Pastor Jeremy as we seek God's leading and His will for Bethel.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There is a **NEW SNACK SIGN-UP SHEET** on the table. Thank you to all who supplied us with snacks each Sunday morning to go with our coffee/tea in 2023. You are all very much appreciated.

**LOOKING FOR A WAY TO SERVE?** We are in need of a volunteer to serve one Sunday service a month in **SOUND & LIVE-STREAM** and also a volunteer to serve one Sunday service a month on **MEDIA-SHOUT** starting in January. It's not hard to do, we will show you how. Great opportunity to serve the Lord in Worship. Contact Gary. Thanks

There is an update in your mailboxes from Eric and Penny serving in Papua New Guinea. Keep all our missionaries in your daily prayers as they serve around the world spreading God's Light!

**UPCOMING 9:30 AM SERVICES AT BETHEL**

January 7 – Brett Vander Molen will lead us in worship along with an update on their work in Cambodia

January 14 – We welcome back Mr. Joel Trinidad from Mid-America Seminary

January 21 – Pastor Blake Campbell from First CRC will lead us in worship and we will also, Lord willing, share the Lord's Supper together.

On the evening of January 9, the **DORDT UNIVERSITY CHAMBER ORCHESTRA** will perform at 1st CRC DeMotte at 7:30pm. This free concert is part of a winter tour across Michigan, Indiana, Illinois and Ohio. A freewill offering will be taken to defray tour expenses. Join us for an evening of music for the Glory of God!

**Giving Thanks at Christmas** - Thank you for sharing God's love through the World Renew Gift Catalog during Advent. Your donation of a chicken, water filter, or goat can be a miracle for people who face poverty and hunger. You can also give in the New Year! Go to [worldrenew.net/gifts](http://worldrenew.net/gifts) or call 800-552-7972. Thank you!

Dear friends at Bethel CRC

Thank you for helping people around the world discover the life-changing power of Jesus! The work of introducing a person to the gospel can take a long time. Your missionaries, church planters, campus ministers, and other ministry leaders depend on congregations like yours to have a sustainable ministry. Thank you for giving them the opportunity to walk alongside those they minister to!

The impact you have through your support for Resonate reverberates through more than 40 countries. By sending ministry leaders you make it possible for them to bring the good news and offer continual support for believers and seekers everywhere.

I also want you to remember that mission work brings us together. It's an area of unity for our denomination, helping us forge a path forward together. Thank you for believing in God's purpose for the Christian Reformed Church—your giving is an encouraging reminder of what we can accomplish as the body of Christ across North America. We are grateful for your prayer, care, and support.

In Christ, Kevin DeRaaf, Director Resonate Global Mission