



We Journey with the Wise Men Seeking Jesus!

www.bethelcrcdemotte.org,
bethelcrc@netnitco.net
 219-987-2005

Welcome to Bethel Church. If you are visiting with us we are glad you've joined us. Visitors, please take a mug from the table in the back of church which includes all of our contact information. Any questions we would love to hear from you.

Today is the **THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT** –Our Advent Series this year is “The Journeys of Christmas.” We have traveled to Bethlehem and journeyed with the shepherds looking for Jesus. This week we join the Wise Men still seeking Jesus! Come take the journey with us!

During the 5pm service Pastor Rick will continue his walk through the Heidelberg Catechism “Back to the Basics” focusing on Lord’s Day 18 – “The Benefits of the Ascension!”

Our **CANDLELIGHT/CHILDREN’S PROGRAM**— “Christmas Around the World” will be on Sunday, December 19th at 5pm. Come share the good news of Christmas!



“**SHOW ME JESUS**” Sunday School for all PK (4 yr.) – 6th Grade. Today the classes will be practicing for the Candlelight Service. Pick up is at 11:45am. **Catechism** for all 7th – 12th graders will meet with Pastor Rick in the room next to the kitchen. Visitors are welcome!

SERVING TODAY December 12
 Nursery: Mary B., Heidi D.
 Piano: Amy D.
 Usher AM: Todd N.
 Media Shout: Katie Eenigenburg
 Offering: Ministries of Bethel and ANEW

No offering will be taken during the service, but offering boxes are available by the sanctuary doors to place your gifts. Also, you can use our online giving at www.bethelcrcdemotte.org. Thank you!

SERVING NEXT WEEK December 19 (5pm Candlelight Service)
 Nursery: Mel & Riley S., Laura V.
 Piano: Marla VM
 Usher AM: Ryan S.
 Media Shout: Scott VV
 Offering: Ministries of Bethel and Mobility Ministries

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE December 25
 Nursery: Stephanie K, Anna V.
 Piano: Marla VM
 Media Shout: Scott V
 Offering: World Renew

MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday 10:45am Sunday School Program Practice & Catechism
 Wednesday 9:30am Coffee Break
 6:15pm Cadets Christmas Party at DMC
 6:30pm GEMS

CHURCH FAMILY --Please keep in prayer:

- John B. –continue to pray for God’s strength for John, but also for his family.
- Fran K - resident at a rehab home in Lowell. Pray that she might gain strength and endurance.
- Elmer VM – continue to pray for strength.
- Wayne & Carolyn VV as now she struggles with Covid
- We extend our sympathy to the Van Schouwen family as they mourn the loss of a mom and grandmother and great grandmother. Alyda VanSchouwen’s visitation and funeral were held on Tuesday. We wish Jack and Joy, Marv and Laurie, Mike and Pam, Brent and Suzy, and all their families the Lord’s comfort and blessing during this time....

Dear Bethel family: We want to express our thanks to you for your acts of kindness, prayers and cards, at the loss of our dear sister Addy Monix, who is now rejoicing with the Lord.

Mae DeVries, Corky Becker, and Ken and Ruth DeVries.

MORNING WORSHIP

Welcome

Song: "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Joy

People of God:

God of Joy,

may your Spirit renew in us

the joy of our salvation.

Lead us to share this joy

with those around us.

The light of this joy shines in a world

full of darkness,

so that all may see the path

to the deep well of salvation.

So we proclaim the joyous name

of Jesus today!

In Jesus' name we pray, amen

God's Greeting

"Emmanuel" (hallowed Manger Ground)

"We Three Kings"

"On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Response: "On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry"

Prayers of God's People

Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon: **The Journeys of Christmas: Wise Men Still Seek Him**

Prayer

God's Blessing

Closing Song: "As with Gladness Men of Old"

AFTERNOON WORSHIP

Welcome

Revelation 4:1-5, Revelation 5:6-10

Song: "Wonderful, Merciful Savior"

Prayer of Praise

God's Greeting

Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed

Songs of Praise

"Rejoice the Lord is King"

"Jesus Shall Reign"

Time of Prayer together

Scripture: Acts 1:1-11; Lord's Day 18

Sermon Study – The Benefits of Christ's Ascension

Prayer

Benediction:

May the love of the cross,

the power of the resurrection,

and the presence of the living Lord

be with you always.

And the blessing of the eternal God, creator and sustainer,

risen and ascended Lord and Savior, giver of holiness and love,

be upon you now and evermore.

Amen.

Closing Song of Praise: "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is a **SIGN-UP ON THE COFFEE TABLE** in the back of church if anyone would like to sign up to bring cookies/snack to share for after our morning services. Any questions talk to Steph K!

COFFEE BREAK meets on Wednesday's from 9:30am – 11:00am. Join us for our study on Matthew. Invite a friend or neighbor! Nursery is provided!

CADETS will have their Christmas Party this week Wednesday at 6:15pm at DMC School.

GEMS will meet at 1st CRC on Wednesday, December 12, at 6:30PM for our Christmas party. Please come in appropriate pajamas for a fun night and a fun snack. No uniforms required

Phil's Friends will NOT meet in December at the Connection Center. See you all again in January.

It is time to make a new usher schedule. We are **looking for some additional men to take a turn** throughout the year. You will be scheduled for just 2 Sunday's during a month and usually usher 2 times during the year. Please let Shiela know if that is a way that you could serve at Bethel! Young adult guys we would love to have you help out!

Oak Grove Care facility is restarting Sunday worship services. Bethel CRC has been invited to present the service on December 19 at 2:30 pm. Contact Larry Ouwenga if you are interested in offering special music or presenting a meditation. You are strongly encouraged to participate.

Salvation Army Bell-ringing. We are going to do something a little different this year. I have made the sign-up sheets for the Salvation army available electronically. If ringing the bell at Tysens/Stracks is something you want to do, please go to Bethel's facebook page, or check the email that was sent earlier this week, click on the links and see if there is a time slot that works for you. December 17 and 18 are options. Other churches will have access to the same documents so we'll be sharing responsibilities. Simply write your name under the volunteer column next to the time that you want to take. If you have any difficulties, please just let Pastor Rick know and I'll make sure your name gets on there. thank you!

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022 GOD'S CREATION CALENDARS

There are a few popular 2022 God's Creation Calendars available for \$12 in the DMC office. These make great gifts! Call DMC at 219-987-3721 for availability.

ALUMNI KNIGHT & UNIFORM SALE! December 21st at 7pm all DMCS alumni are invited to our Alumni Knight at CCHS! We will be having a uniform sale this night too, so be sure to check out the photos on our Facebook event (link below) of all our "vintage" uniforms!

We will also be recognizing the three 1000 point basketball club members with plaques that will be displayed at school in the trophy case! This along with a recognition of all the alumni in the stands will take place at half-time of the varsity game. Alumni will be asked to sign in and complete an updated alumni contact sheet to gain free entry into the event.

Old uniforms will be available to take home the night of the event for free will donation to the athletics department! Visit our Facebook event at <https://fb.me/e/1ulwdOfIL> for more information.

DMCS JOB OPPORTUNITIES

DMCS is looking to create a list of **substitute custodians** if any of our current custodians need additional help or are absent. If you are interested, please contact Superintendent Hucks at lhucks@dmcsemail.org.

Covenant Christian HS is looking for a part-time **Spanish instructor** for 3-4 periods per day, for the second semester of this school year. This could also be a part-time to full time position for the 2022-2023 school year. Anyone interested should contact Rick DeFries at Covenant Christian HS at 219-987-7651 or by email at rdefries@dmcsemail.org.

BUS DRIVERS NEEDED! Do you have a CDL with a passenger endorsement, or are you interested in obtaining one? DMCS is in need of bus drivers for the winter sports season! For more details, contact Jill Struble at jstruble@dmcsemail.org.

DeMotte Christian Schools is accepting applications for the position of part time **Admissions and Recruitment Coordinator**. Requirements include, but are not limited to, timely communication with prospective families; schedule shadow days, tours, and new family interviews; conduct Preschool and Kindergarten sign ups in January; monitor online applications in FACTS; have a knowledge and love for DeMotte Christian Schools. All applicants can apply online at www.demottechristianschools.org or contact Mr. Hucks at lhucks@dmcsemail.org or 219-987-3721.

Beginning January 7 at 8:00am, DMC will accept **SIGN-UPS FOR THE 2022-2023 PRE-SCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN CLASSES**. Call Admissions at 219-987-3721 x113 and leave a voicemail with the following information:

- Student's Name
- Grade (PS3; AM or PM Preschool 4; or Half Day or Full Day Kindergarten)
- Student's DOB
- Parent's Names
- Parent's Phone Numbers

Voicemails will be listened to in order they were received. Space is limited; all new families to the school will need to complete an application (available online at www.demottechristianschools.org).

Age requirements are as follows:

PS3 (T/Tham), your child must be 3 by August 1, 2022.

PS4 (M/W/Fam OR M/W/Fpm), your child must be 4 by August 1, 2022.

K (1/2 day or full day), your child must be 5 by August 1, 2022.

SAVE THE DATE! Mark your calendars and set your reminders! CCHS Service Dinner 2022 is scheduled for Friday, March 11 at 6pm. This event and our fall jog-a-thon are the only two fundraisers directed exclusively toward our students' Service Week trips in April. The evening will involve a delicious meal and a program featuring our students' reflections on last years' Service Projects.

DMCS Important Dates:

December 14:	Winter Concert at the High School (6:30P)
December 16:	Christmas Program (Grades 2-5, at 6:30pm at DMC) has been cancelled
December 21:	Alumni Knight & Uniform Sale @ CCHS
December 22:	End Quarter 2
December 23-Jan 4:	DMCS Christmas Break
January 5:	Students Return for 2nd Semester
January 7:	Pre-School/Kindergarten Sign Ups