

First Sunday of Lent

Sunday, February 21, 2021



Romans 8:26-27

“PRAYER”

Bethel Christian Reformed Church

Pastor Rick Vanderwal
521 S. Halleck St., DeMotte, IN 46310
www.bethelcrcdemotte.org
bethelcrc@netnitco.net
219-987-2005
9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Services

Welcome to Bethel Church today. Whether in person, or online, we hope your time spent worshipping the Lord will be a blessing. Today is the first Sunday in Lent. Lent is a period of 40 days from Ash Wednesday, (yesterday) to Easter, meant to mimic the 40 days that Jesus spent being tempted in the wilderness following his baptism. Originally a tradition mainly within the Roman Catholic Church, it is a tradition that has, over the last few decades or so, been embraced by more Protestant denominations. Lent can certainly have a lot of legalistic tendencies, such as trying to abstain from certain foods or practices simply because it's Lent and that's what you do during Lent. But its value is that it is a time for reflection on one's relationship with God. Personal devotions, sermon series, scripture readings, prayers, and more, can all be used as a way to cultivate an awareness of the sin that can separate us from God, as well as develop a greater appreciation for what it cost Him to reconcile us with himself.

This Lenten season we will be focusing on those "disciplines" that can help enrich our spiritual lives by helping us cultivate a deeper faith. **"Rhythms of a Deeper Faith"** will explore things like Prayer, Reading Scripture, Fasting, Confession, Worship, Silence, and Gratitude as those biblical practices that can bring us closer to God. This morning we look at the discipline of prayer.

During the 5 pm worship service, we will look at Mark 7:24-37, and Jesus' encounter with a foreign woman of great faith!



Sunday School and Catechism **“SHOW ME JESUS”** for all children PK (4 yr.) – 6th grade meet downstairs immediately after the morning service. **Pastor Rick's CATECHISM** for all 7th thru 12th grades meet in the room next to the kitchen. Visitors are welcome!

SERVING TODAY

Nursery
Piano
Usher AM:
Media Shout
Offering

February 21

Bailee Jansma, Anna Vanderwal
Marla VanderMolen
Wes VanBruggen
Scott VanVlymen
Ministries of Bethel and Brett & Sue VanderMolen

SERVING NEXT WEEK February 28

Nursery
Piano
Usher AM:
Media Shout
Offering

Jori Jansma, Heidi Dunham
Dan Zylstra
Wes VanBruggen
Todd Nanninga
Ministries of Bethel and Tuition Assistance

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!

THIS WEEKS MEETINGS

Sunday	10:50am	Sunday School & Catechism
	6:15pm	YPS Meets
	7:00pm	Executive Team
Wednesday	9:30am	Coffee Break
Saturday	11:30am	YPS Outing - Meet at First CRC

MORNING WORSHIP

Adoration

Welcome

Song: "Open The Eyes of My Heart"

Prayers of Praise

God's Greeting

Time of Praise

- "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"
- "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Communion with God

- Through Confession

Isaiah 55:6-7

Prayer

- Memory Verse: 1 John 4:7-9
- Song of Response – "You Shall Love the Lord"

- Through Intercession

Prayers of the people

- Through God's Word and Spirit

Scripture: Romans 8:26-27

Sermon: **Rhythms of a Deeper Faith – Prayer**

Thanksgiving

We Respond in Prayer

God's Parting Blessing

Song of Response: "The Lord's Prayer"

EVENING WORSHIP 5 PM

Welcome

Opening Song: "Come, Thou Almighty King"

Prayer

Scripture: Revelation 7:9-12

Songs:

- □□□□□ "Salvation Belongs to Our God"
- □□□□□ "The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear"

Time of Prayer

Scripture: Mark 7:24-37

Sermon Study of Mark: **Of Dogs and Crumbs**

Prayer

Closing Song: "You are My All in All"

CHURCH FAMILY:

Continue to keep Ted and Donna Hoekstra, Frances Kros, and Elmer VanderMolen in prayer with their health struggles each day.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Joint **MISSION EMPHASIS SERVICE** is scheduled for March 7 at **5:00 pm here at Bethel**, The focus will be on the work of Renee (Holwerda) and Tim Aupperlee and their work with Barnabas International in partnership with Resonate Global Ministries. The message will be given by Rev. Tim Holwerda, currently serving in Byron Center MI. The Aupperlees and Rev. Holwerda have served in overseas missions. Renee and Tim attended Bethel when they were younger. More info will follow.

Council President Russ VanderMolen wants to increase Bethel's focus on the **GO** Part of our **Gather, Grow, Go** motto. The reorganized Outreach Team met this week to review our current work with such things as Phil's Friends and nursing home services. We also talked about ways to increase our congregation's awareness of the missionaries we currently support and how we can increase our involvement with them. You will be hearing more of our teams efforts. If you would like to join us, contact any of the team's members: Cindy Musch, Marla VanderMolen, Gary Devries, Larry Ouwenga.

It is another new year! Even though 2020 is behind us, the needs of the congregation still stand before us in 2021. The **Service Team is looking for volunteers** who would be willing to help with a meal, grocery or pharmacy errands, or even small yard work, snow shoveling and possible uber services if needed to doctor appointments etc... We have been able to help several members already and greatly appreciate those who offered to help last year. Please prayerfully consider adding your name to the list to be contacted, should a need arise. I know it is greatly appreciated by those who have been helped in the past. If you added your name to the list last year, there is no need to do so again. If you would be willing to be on the list, please text, email or call Andrea Zickmund at 262-705-7280, andreaaffemt@yahoo.com or Judy Van Bruggen at 219-987-3230 to be added to the list.

Also, if you know of anyone who needs help, from the **Service Team**, please do not hesitate to contact us, and we will see what can be done to help. Thank you for your consideration! Service Team Wed and Judy Van Bruggen, Mike and Andrea Zickmund

The live-streaming setup is progressing! We got our laptop, and will be hooking it up soon for a more permanent installation that won't rely on wifi or an iPhone. We will be looking for someone to help run it, and of course, training will be provided. If you are interested in helping our livestream services be successful, please connect with Pastor Rick.

INTERESTED IN SERVING WITH THE YOUTH? We are looking for a helper for YPS (Young Peoples). Contact Russ VanderMolen if interested and with any questions.

YPS meets tonight at 6:15pm at First CRC.

EXECUTIVE TEAM meets Tuesday at 7pm.

COFFEE BREAK meets on Wednesday at 9:30am. Nursery is provided!

YPS OUTING TO JAK'S WAREHOUSE: Feb. 27 - leaving church at 11:30. Return time is around 4:30. RSVP your spot no later than Feb. 15. May bring a friend, but liability forms are required. Plan to eat lunch at Jak's. No cost besides extra for a snack. Church and Jak's warehouse *liability forms required* before attending the event. Contact Kim @ kmdvrs12@gmail.com with questions.

SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Though the year hasn't been everything we've hoped it would be, the Service Projects Committee is working hard on making a traditional(ish) service week a reality this year. In order to do this, we need your help. Mark your calendars and plan to enjoy a delicious "Thanks-GIVE-ing" turkey dinner on Thursday, March 4, 5-7pm! The drive-thru fundraiser will replace our annual catered Service Dinner and program this year. The turkey dinner meal cost is set at \$10 for adults and \$8 for children portions. We ask for your support to help us raise funds for our Covenant students to participate on their 2021 Service Week Trips scheduled (April 26-30). This will be our ONLY fundraiser for 2020-21 Service Week, thus like in previous years, we truly appreciate your freewill donation beyond covering the cost of the meal expense. If you are not able to come that night for our drive thru and wish to make a freewill donation, please send checks to DeMotte Christian Schools (or DMCS) with a note in the memo: CCHS Service Week. We thank you in advance for your continued support in helping make this week possible for our students. We ask for your prayers! "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." Hebrews 13:8

Superintendent Needed – DeMotte Christian Schools, Inc. is seeking applicants for the Superintendent position for the 2021-2022 school year. Applicants must hold at least a Master's degree in education administration or business (MBA), have at least three years of experience in educational administration or leadership, fully embrace the school's statement of beliefs, and is an active member of a church with a Reformed persuasion. Please contact David Ritter, at dritter@csionline.org for additional information

DMCS Important Dates:

March 1-15	Suds for a Cause Fundraiser
March 2:	DMCS Board Meeting - 7pm
March 4:	CCHS Service Dinner (drive thru) 5:00-7:00pm
March 18:	PIE Spring Dinner (drive thru @ CCHS)
March 22-26:	Spring Break
April 1	Suds for a Cause Pick Up @ DMC (2:45-4pm)
April 2 & 5:	NO SCHOOL
April 13:	DMCS Annual Society Meeting



In light of worshipping together with the social distancing restrictions still in place, we want to share some of the guidelines we are continuing to follow:

- There will be no greeters at church during this time.
- Usher will be present to help seat. Every other pew has been "cordoned off" by the placement of hymnals and Bibles on the seats.
- We ask and encourage that people adhere to CDC guidelines in terms of washing their hands, not touching their faces, and maintaining social distancing while we are together.
- We encourage if you are sick, have a temperature, or believe you are an "at risk" person, that you stay home and take advantage of the on-line service opportunity.
- We strongly encourage the use of face coverings as you enter and exit the building, however you will not be turned away should you find it difficult to do so. Our number one concern is the health of our church family as we gather in worship, loving our God as well as our neighbor.
- Nursery is available for the am service only.
- Bathrooms are available. Again, please follow CDC guidelines about good hygiene.
- No offering plate will be passed during the worship service, but offering boxes will be available by the sanctuary doors in which you may place your gifts. Again, online giving continues to remain an option.
- Following the service, there will be no coffee or snack time. You are encouraged to NOT linger in the narthex, wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines

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SERMON NOTES

9:30 a.m.

Scripture: Romans 8:26-27

Message: "Rhythms of a Deeper Faith – Prayer"

5:00pm Service

Scripture: Mark 7:1-24-37

Message: "Mark Sermon Study – Of Dogs and Crumbs"