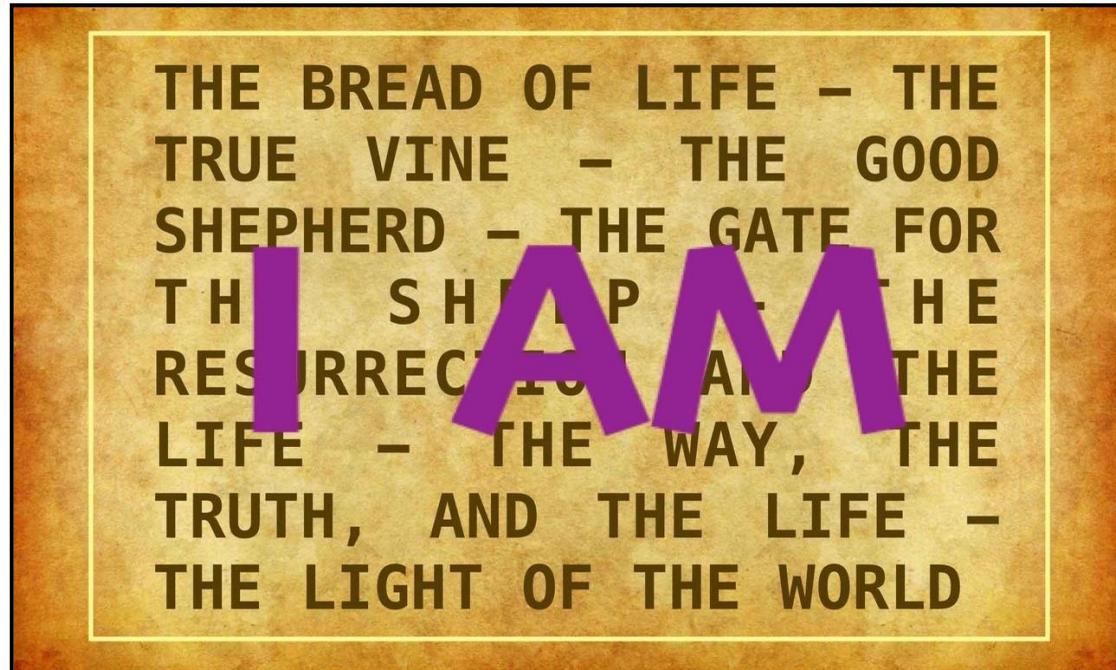


# First Sunday of Lent

Sunday, March 6, 2022



John 8:31-59  
"I AM"

## Bethel Christian Reformed Church

Pastor Rick Vanderwal  
521 S. Halleck St., DeMotte, IN 46310

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

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

219-987-2005

9:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Services

**Welcome to Bethel Church!** Whether in person, or online, we hope your time spent worshipping the Lord will be a blessing. Visitors, please take a mug from the table in the back of church.

**Today is the first Sunday in Lent.** Lent is a 6-week time period before Easter that has traditionally been used as a time of reflection 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 into saints and children of God. We will use this Lenten season to consider who Jesus is in the words and from the perspective of Jesus himself. In the gospel of John, Jesus declares who he is SEVEN times - when he says: I AM...the bread of life. I AM...the good shepherd. I AM...the gate..., and so on. In declaring who he is, Jesus also teaches us how he meets our deepest needs and offers himself as our greatest satisfaction! We look forward to journeying together with Jesus, the great I AM this Lenten season!

First Christian Reformed Church of DeMotte invites us to join them for a **Mission Emphasis** service, **TONIGHT, March 6th at 5PM.** Sermon text will be Genesis 12:1-6 and will focus on the theme of how all nations are blessed through our work as Christians in this world.

**Next week**, Lord willing, we will be celebrating the sacrament of the Lord's Supper during the morning worship service. May God use this gift he has given through his Son Jesus to affirm our faith and draw us closer to him.

**PRAISE AND WORSHIP NIGHT Coming NEXT Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 5pm -- Celebrating the Life of Jesus.** Mark this on your calendar and invite your family and friends for a great service of praise and the story of Jesus life in song. It will be enjoyed by all!



**"SHOW ME JESUS"** Sunday School for all PK (4 yr.) – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade and **Catechism** for all 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders meets downstairs right after the morning worship. Visitors are always welcome!

### **SERVING TODAY**

Nursery:	<b>March 6</b> Pam VS, Sue B
Piano:	Amy
Usher AM:	Andrew D.
Media Shout	Schaafsma's
Offering	Ministries of Bethel and DMCS Inc.

### **SERVING NEXT WEEK March 13**

Nursery:	Mel S, Riley S., Bailee J
Piano:	Amy
Usher AM:	Andrew D
Greeters	Hank & Marlene (S), Jon & Phillis (E).
Media Shout	Katie E.
Offering	Ministries of Bethel and Jasper County Recovery House

No offering will be taken during the service, but offering boxes are available by the sanctuary doors to place your gifts. Beginning next week, we will once again receive the offering during the service. You can continue to give online as well at [www.bethelcrcdemotte.org](http://www.bethelcrcdemotte.org). Thank you!

## MORNING WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship:

Lord God, in this season of Lent we look forward to our remembrance of Jesus' death and our celebration of his resurrection.

We pray that your Spirit will renew in us today our anticipation for these events and our awareness that Jesus' death and resurrection are a sure source of hope and life.

In the power of Jesus' name we pray. **Amen**

Song: "You Are God Alone"

God's Greeting

"I Will Sing of My Redeemer"

"Amazing Grace/My Chains Are Gone"

Prayer of Confession:

Reader 1: If you, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness; therefore, you are feared.

Reader 2: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I put my hope.

My soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen wait for the morning,  
more than watchmen wait for the morning.

Reader 3: Almighty God, our Redeemer, in our weakness we have fail  
to be your messengers of forgiveness and hope.

**People: Renew us by your Holy Spirit, that we may follow your commands  
and proclaim your reign of love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Song: "I Will Wait for You"

Preparation for Communion: God's Will for Us

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture: John 8:31-59

Sermon: **I AM**

Prayer

Blessing:

Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ who gave himself for our sins to rescue from the present evil age according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

Closing Song: "Shine, Jesus, Shine"

**CHURCH FAMILY – Please continue to pray for:**

- We extend our sympathy to Gary and Dianne DeVries who grieve the loss of Gary's mother Dolly DeVries, who passed away early on Monday morning. The visitation and funeral was held on Friday at Smits funeral home in Dyer. We pray that the Lord will bless and keep those who mourn with the comfort of our shared hope in Jesus.
- Please continue to keep Elmer VM, Corky B, Ted and Donna H, and others who are currently confined to home or struggle with health issues.
- Please remain in prayer for the situation in Ukraine, and the unwarranted attack by Russia on that country. Pray for an end to the conflict, and a stop to the aggression.

### MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday 10:45am Sunday School & Catechism

Tuesday 7:00pm Council

Wednesday 9:30am Coffee Break  
6:15pm Cadets Meets at Frist CRC till 8:15pm

Thursday 6:30pm Men's Bowling

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Beginning next week Sunday morning for our celebration of communion we will be using the fresh instead of pre-packaged elements. Deacons will receive the offering once again as a part of worship. Also, we will re-introduce mutual greetings at the beginning of morning worship.

**CALLING ALL ASPIRING ARTISTS:** During this Lenten season Pastor Rick will begin a sermon series on what Jesus says about himself. There are 8 instances in the gospel of John where Jesus declares: "I AM". We would LOVE to have the artists in our church, our young children who love coloring pictures that often adorn their refrigerators at home, to create bulletin covers for our series. I AM I AM...the good shepherd. I AM the gate for the sheep. I AM the bread of life. I AM the light of the world. I AM the vine. I AM the way, the truth, and the life. I AM the resurrection and the life. Can any of you help our church bulletins look fun, like your refrigerator? Can any of you help us celebrate your awesome artistic gifts to help us think about Jesus? Please send them to Pastor Rick!

**INSPIRE 2022 - Aug. 4-6, Tinley Park, IL.** INSPIRE 2022 is an event designed for ministry volunteers and leaders from the CRC and Reformed churches across North America. Whether you're a deacon, elder, Sunday School leader, Bible study attendant, worship leader, mission team member, or fill another role in our church community, you will return to our local congregation with new ideas, renewed passion and a deepened commitment to God's kingdom. To learn more about INSPIRE 2022, including all workshops offered and schedule, go to [crcna.org/Inspire](http://crcna.org/Inspire) We will be holding a meeting after the morning service on March 20 for all interested in attending or if you have questions. If interested but cannot attend meeting, let Cindy Musch know. Thank-you, Outreach Team

**ATTENTION ALL MEN OF BETHEL!!** Enjoy a night out with the guys bowling at Wheatfield Lanes! When: **THIS Thursday, March 10** at 6:30. Don't care to bowl? just come and hang out. Bowling & shoes only \$4. Let Kurt 219-869-3523 or Russ 219-869-8759 know if you plan on coming.

**COFFEE BREAK** meets on Wednesday's from 9:30am-11am. Nursery Provided.

**Baskets are still out** for our Outreach Opportunity for Anew Ministry & Teen Mother Choices. Toilet paper, paper towels, laundry & dishwashing detergents, size 4,5,6 diapers, women's razors, cotton balls, Q-tips, hair products, (hairspray, styling products, hair ties, etc...) Thank you!

## **SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Restored Resale Inc.**

Restored Resale, a DMCS partner, is in desperate need of volunteers and monetary donations to get the store up and running. They have a great many needs to meet, so please consider how you may be able to help them. Contact them at [RestoredResaleInc@gmail.com](mailto:RestoredResaleInc@gmail.com) to find out more and get involved. Thank you!

### **DMC JOB OPENINGS FOR 2022-2023**

#### **2nd Grade Teaching Positions for 2022-2023**

DeMotte Christian Schools, Inc. is accepting applications for a full-time second grade teacher. Applicants should hold at least a baccalaureate degree in elementary education from an accredited college or university and be an active member of a church with a Reformed persuasion. Although not a requirement, it is preferred that candidates possess leadership qualities or a special education background. Opportunities to lead extracurricular activities or athletics are also available. Position will be posted until filled.

#### **Junior High Science Teaching Position for 2022-2023**

DeMotte Christian Schools, Inc. is accepting applications for a full-time Junior High Science teacher. Applicants should hold at least a baccalaureate degree in secondary education from an accredited college or university and be an active member of a church with a Reformed persuasion. Although not a requirement, it is preferred that candidates possess leadership qualities or a special education background. Opportunities to lead extracurricular activities or athletics are also available. Position will be posted until filled.

Contact: Mr. Dan Weaver DeMotte Christian Grade School  
Email: [dweaver@dmcsemail.org](mailto:dweaver@dmcsemail.org) Phone: 219.987.3721

### **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](mailto:lhucks@dmcsemail.org).

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 spring sports season and 4<sup>th</sup> quarter! For more details, contact Jill Struble at [jstruble@dmcsemail.org](mailto:jstruble@dmcsemail.org).

### **High School Employment Opportunities**

#### **High School English Teacher**

The applicant should be passionate about teaching English to students from a Reformed perspective. The applicant would teach classes including, but not limited to Composition, Literature, Speech, Film Literature, and Writing at the high school levels. The applicant should have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university. If interested, complete an application (found at [demottechristianschools.org](http://demottechristianschools.org)) and submit it to the contact below.

#### **High School Foreign Language Teacher**

The applicant should be passionate about teaching foreign language to students from a Reformed perspective. The applicant would teach either Spanish, French, German, or Latin at the high school level. There are potential opportunities to teach PE, Health, Child Development, or English, as well. The applicant should have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university. If interested, complete an application (found at [demottechristianschools.org](http://demottechristianschools.org)) and submit it to the contact below.

### **High School PE/Health Instructor**

The applicant will teach classes including 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade PE, Advanced PE, and Health at the high school level. The applicant may also teach classes such as English or Family and Consumer Science courses. Applicants should have a baccalaureate degree from an accredited college or university. If interested, complete an application (found at [demottechristianschools.org](http://demottechristianschools.org)) and submit it to the contact below.

Contact: Mr. Richard DeFries Covenant Christian High School Principal  
Email: [rdefries@dmcsemail.org](mailto:rdefries@dmcsemail.org) Phone: 219.987.7651

***If interested in high school level positions, direct questions/submit applications to Rick DeFries, CCHS Principal, at [rdefries@dmcsemail.org](mailto:rdefries@dmcsemail.org) (or call 219-987-7651). Applications may be found at [www.demottechristianschools.org](http://www.demottechristianschools.org), under the “About” tab drop down menu, “Employment Opportunities” tab.***

### **PIE PORK CHOP DINNER (MARCH 17, 5-7)**

PIE Annual Pork Chop Dinner is on Thursday, March 17 from 5 to 7 at CCHS. You have the option to dine in or pick up in a drive-thru format. \$10 for a 2 chop meal and \$8 for a 1 chop meal. Pork chops have been graciously donated by Belstra Milling. Sides include red skin mashed potatoes, green beans, and applesauce. Come out and support our school and have a great meal!

### **SUDS FOR A CAUSE (Feb. 28-MARCH 14)**

It's time to stock your laundry room with all the essentials! There are plenty of options and varieties, so be sure to contact any DMC student to order! Questions? Call the DMC office at 219-987-3721.

### **DMCS Important Dates:**

February 28:	Open Enrollment for 2022-2023
March 1:	DMCS Board Meeting
March 10:	Red Cross Blood Drive at Keener Fire Department: 1pm-6pm
March 11:	CCHS Service Dinner, doors open 6pm, dinner 6:30
March 17:	PIE Spring Pork Chop Dinner at CCHS 5-7 (Dine in and Drive Thru)
March 21-25:	Spring Break
April 8:	Grandparent's Day
April 8-9:	CCHS Spring Musical: ANNIE, 7pm both nights
April 12:	Society Meeting at CCHS @ 7pm
April 21-22:	DMC Junior High Musical

