

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 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT** –Our Advent Series this year is “The Journeys of Christmas” as we look at Bethlehem, the journey of the shepherd, the Magi from Persia seeking the King, taking refuge in Egypt and the Incarnation. 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 15-16 – “Obedient to Death on a Cross!”



“**SHOW ME JESUS**” Sunday School will NOT meet today. All PK (4 yr.) – 6<sup>th</sup> Grade are invited back next week to join us immediately after the morning service downstairs. Pick up is at 11:45am. **Catechism** for all 7<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> graders will meet with Pastor Rick in the room next to the kitchen.

**SERVING TODAY**

**November 28**

Nursery: Amy D., Sue B.  
Piano: Dan Z.  
Usher AM: Dan W.  
Media Shout Todd N.  
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. Also, you can use our online giving at [www.bethelcrcdemotte.org](http://www.bethelcrcdemotte.org). Thank you!

**SERVING NEXT WEEK December 5**

Nursery: Kim K., Lisa Z.  
Piano: Amy D.  
Usher AM: Todd N.  
Media Shout Schaafsma’s  
Offering Ministries of Bethel and DMCS Inc.

Next week we will be having a representative of “Anew”, an organization that financially helps women who had been considering abortion. We will be having an offering for Anew on December 12.

**CHURCH FAMILY** --Please keep in prayer:

- John B. –continue to pray for God’s strength for John, but also for his family.
- Wes VB family - pray for Judy and all her extended family as they mourn Wes’ death.
- Fran K - is now a resident at a rehab home in Lowell. Pray that she might gain strength and endurance.
- Tom P is home and is feeling well - pray for continuing healing.
- Elmer VM – continue to pray for strength.
- Bill VW -- Please be in prayer for Duane and Cindy as they strive to get Bill the help he needs and encourage a safe and healthy way forward.
- Wayne VV as he struggles with Covid

**MORNING WORSHIP**

Welcome

Opening Words:

I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,  
and in his Word I hope.

My soul waits for the Lord  
more than those who watch for the morning.

***There is no darkness with you, O Lord.***

O Israel, hope in the Lord!

For with the Lord there is steadfast love,  
and with him is plenteous redemption.

***There is no darkness with you, O Lord.***

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

***There is no darkness with you, O Lord.***

Song: “Imagine”

Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope – Steve and Alice Reimers

Following the lighting:

***God of Hope,***

***As we wait for you, please send your Spirit  
to renew our longing for the days***

***when all will be made right in our relationships  
with you, one another, and your creation.***

***As we wait for those days,***

***give us eyes to see your faithfulness***

***and ears to hear of your goodness***

***so that our hearts may be humbled***

***and filled with hope for Christ’s coming Kingdom.***

***In Jesus name we pray, Amen.***

God’s Greeting

Time of Advent Praise

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

Prayers of God’s People

Scripture: Luke 2:1-7

Message: **The Journeys of Christmas: Bethlehem**

Prayer

God’s Parting Blessing

Closing Song: “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”

## AFTERNOON WORSHIP

Welcome

Call to Worship – 1 John 4:10-12

Song of Praise – “What Wondrous Love” – vs. 1-3

Prayer

We Continue in Praise:

- “All Glory Be to God On High”
- “Oh, to See the Dawn”

Confession of Faith: Contemporary Testimony paragraphs 23, 24, 25a

23. Remembering the promise

to reconcile the world to himself,

God joined our humanity in Jesus Christ—

the eternal Word made flesh.

He is the long-awaited Messiah,

one with us and one with God,

fully human and fully divine,

conceived by the Holy Spirit

and born of the virgin Mary.

24. As the second Adam,

Jesus chose the path we had rejected.

In his baptism and temptations, teaching and miracles,

battles with demons and friendships with sinners,

Jesus lived a full and righteous human life before us.

As God’s true Son, he lovingly obeyed the Father

and made present in deed and word the coming rule of God.

25. Standing in our place,

Jesus suffered during his years on earth,

especially in the tortures of the cross.

He carried God's judgment on our sin—

his sacrifice removed our guilt.

Song: “I Stand Amazed”

Prayers of God’s People

Scripture: Isaiah 53

Confession: Heidelberg Catechism Lord’s Day 15-16

Sermon Study: **The Humiliation of Christ**

Prayer

Closing Song: “Man of Sorrows What a Name” – W/C 175

## MEETINGS & ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday 10:45am Sunday School & Catechism will NOT meet today

Wednesday 9:30am Coffee Break

6:30pm GEMS

7:00pm Worship Team

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**THANK YOU!** Thank you, Bethel Church family, and council, for your kindness expressed last month during pastor appreciation month, with the BIG CARD, as well as the gift. It is much appreciated! In Christ: Pastor Rick and Brenda

Save the Date for our **CANDLELIGHT/CHILDREN’S PROGRAM**— “Christmas Around the World” which will be on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 5pm.

**Have you signed up yet?** Thanks to all who have helped out with cookies after church. We have put out a **NEW SIGN-UP ON THE COFFEE TABLE** in the back of church. If there is a Sunday you would be able/ willing to share your favorite snack or cookies, please sign up. Thanks very much!! 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!

**GEMS** meets this week Wednesday from 6:30pm-8pm at First CRC. Questions contact Steph K.

**Worship Team** will meet this week Wednesday at 7pm.

The next **COUNCIL MEETING** is December 7. The newly elected elder and deacons are requested to attend.

At our Congregational Meeting held last week Sunday morning the following names were selected to serve as elder and deacons. Elder – Todd Nanninga and Deacons – Scott VanVlymen, Will Jansma, and Dave Werblo. The Lord provided the hearts willing to serve/lead at this time in these respective church roles here at Bethel. A heartfelt thanks is expressed to retiring Council members Ron Bakker, Michael VanSchouwen, Jeff Jansma and Jeremy Visscher. Both the proposed budget and pew upholstery project passed.

The December Birthday/Anniversary Calendar is in your mailbox. If you have any changes or additions please let Shiela or Barb W know.

### ***SCHOOL ANNOUNCEMENTS***

**DON'T FORGET!** If you ordered poinsettias, wreaths, garland or swags from a 7th or 8th grade student, please pick up your orders at DMC on December 1-3, from 8:15am-3:15pm.

**CHICKEN DINNER:** The “famous” chicken bus will deliver delicious dinner to Covenant on Tuesday, November 30 from 5-7 pm. This year, we’ll offer both drive-thru and in-person dining! Two and three-piece meals will include chicken, potato wedges, cole slaw, rolls and homemade cookies for just \$6 and \$8. Plan now to join us!

### **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).

Covenant Christian HS is looking for someone with **construction experience** that is interested in teaching our construction class for the second semester. The class would be from 7:50-8:37am each day, leaving the rest of the day to work. This could easily be a hybrid course where part of the class is at the school and part is at a job site where students can gain practical experience in the field. Anyone interested should contact Rick DeFries at Covenant Christian HS at 219-987-7651 or by email at [rdefries@dmcsemail.org](mailto:rdefries@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](mailto:rdefries@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](http://www.demottechristianschools.org) or contact Mr. Hucks at [lhucks@dmcsemail.org](mailto:lhucks@dmcsemail.org) or 219-987-3721.

**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](mailto:jstruble@dmcsemail.org).

### **DMCS Important Dates:**

November 30:	Chicken Dinner @ CCHS (5:00-7:00pm)
December 2:	Band/Choir Concert (grades 5-8) at DeMotte Christian Grade School (7P)
December 14:	Winter Concert at the High School (6:30P)
December 16:	Christmas Program (Grades 2-5, at 6:30pm at DMC)
December 22:	End Quarter 2
December 23-Jan 4:	DMCS Christmas Break
January 5:	Students Return for 2nd Semester