

DEC/JAN 2025/2026



Bethel Lutheran Church
5232 Irvine Avenue NW,
Bemidji, MN 56601
218-444-4746
www.bethelbemidji.org

Church Office
M-F 8:30 a.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Bethel Child Care Center
M-F 7:00 a.m.—5:30 p.m.

Rev. Mark Kindem
Pastor
pastorkindem@hotmail.com

Sally McIntyre
Office
adminsec@bethelbemidji.org

Cody Blomberg
Youth Director
codyblomberg243@gmail.com
218-368-5224

Glenda Kindred
BCCC Manager
bccc@bethelbemidji.org
218-444-4789

PRAYER CHAIN
Karen Tank — 586-2544
or
Church Office — 444-4746

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:00 a.m. Worship
10:00 a.m. Fellowship

BETHEL BEACON

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH, 5232 Irvine Avenue NW, Bemidji, MN 56601



From
the
Pastor

Why December 25?

Under an old calendar used before our current one, the winter solstice fell on December 25, the shortest day of the year, after which the sun shines for longer periods each day. In the pagan religions, the sun god was reborn this day. The church turned this festival to focus on the Son of Righteousness: Jesus, the light of the world. As we begin this Advent and Christmas season, we all know that we need the light of the world. We are reminded that God sent his son because the world was dark; it needed the illuminating power of Christ's presence, the light of the world. Christmas reminds us that in the middle of the hopes and fears of all the years, Jesus glows in grace and truth. Night gives way to day, darkness to light. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness shall not overcome it. That is not just a statement of faith, it's the Gospel truth!

-Pastor Mark Kindem



Wednesday Advent Services

12noon,
followed by potluck lunch.

December 3 ~ 10 ~ 17

Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
4:00 p.m.



02 Leroy Tennyson
 07 Gail Pederson
 12 Tina Siems
 17 Lennard Bergstrom
 21 Kylie Thomas (7)
 22 Andy Powell
 23 Kinley Carlson (9)
 28 Holly Vind
 30 Alex Powell

01 Jerry Tank
 04 Melissa Thomas
 09 Peter Dreyer
 21 Seth Dreyer
 22 Byron Rock
 24 Sue Sandell
 27 Evan Copiskey

Butch & Linda Schramm

December 10, 1971 (54)

Andrew & Kerin Hanson

December 16, 2006 (19)

Gary & Judith Cater

December 19, 1992 (33)

BETHEL DEATHS



"For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His."

Ray Lincoln Suther

Birth: February 12, 1938

Death: October 10, 2025

Funeral: October 18, 2025



Brothers Rhett, Rowan, and Riggs Muller were welcomed into the Christian family through Holy Baptism on Sunday, September 28.

Their parents are Joshua and CeeGee Muller and their sponsor is Lisa Eklund.

Council Highlights

The mission of the Church is to Glorify God.

Sunday, October 12, 2025

Doors:

A new kitchen door was installed in October. Thank you to Rod Beck.

Bazaar:

The Bazaar grossed \$3,710.25 as of October 9.

Sunday School:

Salli Kolstad has volunteered to teach for the '25-'26 school year.

Consecration Sunday:

43 Pledge cards were returned as of October 9 for total of \$130,100 pledged. (As of November 7, 52 cards returned with total pledges of \$145,640.

Sunday, November 9, 2025

There was no meeting due to lack of a quorum of half the council.

-Submitted by Sally McIntyre,
Council Secretary



Annual Church ELECTION

Congratulations to everyone elected Sunday, November 16!



Church Council:

Sara Dreyer, Robert Hoyum,
Adam Lundeen, Jerry Tank

Bethel Foundation Board:

Ione McIntyre, Shirley Sherman

BCCC Advisory Board:

Kelly Kindem, Katie Smith

Thank you for serving!



OFFICIAL NOTICE to the CONGREGATION!

Congregational Meeting



Sunday,

January 25, 2026

following the 9:00 a.m.

Worship Service there will be the
Annual Congregational Meeting.

Church in Mission

"GO THE EXTRA MILE"

ON THE SECOND SUNDAY OF

EACH MONTH BETHEL HAS A

"GO THE EXTRA MILE"

RETIRING OFFERING

FOR LOCAL AND GLOBAL MISSIONS.

*"IF ANYONE FORCES YOU TO GO ONE MILE,
GO WITH THEM TWO MILES."*

-MATT. 5:41

COLLECTED OFFERINGS FOR

OCTOBER 12TH:
**BATTERED WOMEN'S
SHELTER**
\$ 391.00

NOVEMBER 9TH:
SALVATION ARMY
\$ 385.00

Thank You!



Mission Statement: "The Bemidji Food Shelf is a faith-based, caring place that listens to those who are experiencing food insecurity. We work with our partners to be inclusive and to provide fresh, nourishing foods for those living in Beltrami County and the Bemidji School District."

Thank you to individuals, churches, and the community who have helped the Food Shelf during this very difficult time.

Len Ochowicz, Council of Churches Board Member, shared the following:









"On behalf of the Bemidji Community Food Shelf Board of Directors please accept a huge "thank you" from all of us for an amazing response of support for all the donations of food items to help those in our community who use our services! If you have not heard yet we have also received a gift from an event that was held in Bemidji this past Thursday evening put on by an organization called 100+ Women Who Care. Their event raised \$16,300 which they gifted to the food shelf. In addition, the local Stuff-a-truck event for both North and South Lueken's presented food items totaling \$11,129 between the two stores. A special thank you to anyone who attended and participated in either event. The Board of Directors greatly appreciate it!!"

Thank you to all of Bethel's volunteers who help clients at the Food Shelf and for food items and plastic bags that members donate.

-Anita Spangler, Food Shelf Representative

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>2025</div>	<div>1</div> <div>7:00am Men's Group 9:30am Weight Watchers</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3</div> <div>10:30am Bible Study 12noon Advent Service and Potluck Lunch 11:45-3:30 Bethel's Day at Food Shelf 5:15pm BCCC Board Meeting 6:30pm Youth Group</div>	<div>4</div> <div>BCCC Open 7:00am - 5:30pm</div>	<div>5</div>	<div>6</div> <div>9:00am 9am—6pm Bell Ringing</div>
<div>7</div> <div>Food Shelf Sunday 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Fellowship Hour 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am Finance Committee Mtg.</div>	<div>8</div> <div>7:00am Men's Group 9:30am Weight Watchers</div>	<div>9</div>	<div>10</div> <div>10:30am Bible Study 12noon Advent Service and Potluck Lunch</div>	<div>11</div> <div>BCCC Open 7:00am - 5:30pm</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div>
<div>FINANCE COMMITTEE</div>	<div>5:00pm Weight Watchers</div>		<div>6:30pm Youth Group</div>	<div>CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 5:30pm BCCC Christmas Program</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div> <div></div>
<div>14</div> <div>"Go the Extra Mile" for Evergreen Y&FS 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Fellowship Hour 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am</div>	<div>15</div> <div>7:00am Men's Group 9:30am Weight Watchers</div>	<div>16</div> <div>BCCC Open 7:00am - 5:30pm</div>	<div>17</div> <div>10:30am Bible Study 12noon Advent Service and Potluck Lunch</div>	<div>18</div> <div>CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 5:30pm BCCC Christmas Program</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div> <div></div>
<div>Church COUNCIL</div>	<div>5:00pm Weight Watchers</div>		<div>6:30pm Youth Group</div>	<div>5:00pm Heartland Program in Sanctuary</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <div></div>
<div>21</div> <div>9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Fellowship Hour ? Sunday School?</div>	<div>22</div> <div>No Public School until 1/5/26 7:00am Men's Group 9:30am Weight Watchers</div>	<div>23</div> <div>BCCC CLOSED all week</div>	<div>24</div> <div>10:30am Bible Study ? 4:00pm Candlelight Service No Youth Group</div>	<div>25</div> <div></div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div> <div></div>
<div>28</div> <div>9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Fellowship Hour ? Sunday School?</div>	<div>29</div> <div>7:00am Men's Group 9:30am Weight Watchers</div>	<div>30</div> <div>BCCC Open 7:00am - 5:30pm</div>	<div>31</div> <div>BCCC Closed 10:30am Bible Study ? No Youth Group</div>	<div>31</div> <div>BCCC Closed 10:30am Bible Study ? No Youth Group</div>		



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11 2 nd Mile Sunday 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Fellowship Hour 10:15am Sunday School 10:15am 	12 7:00am Men's Group 9:30am Weight Watchers 5:00pm Weight Watchers	13	14 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group	15 BCCC Open 7:00am - 5:30pm	16	17
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25 9:00am Worship Service 10:00am Potluck followed by Annual Congregational Meeting 	26 7:00am Men's Group 9:30am Weight Watchers 5:00pm Weight Watchers	27	28 10:30am Bible Study 6:30pm Youth Group	29 BCCC Open 7:00am - 5:30pm	30	
					31	