





# Every Sunday Morning

9:30 AM

Remembrance Service/Lord's Supper 11:00 AM

Family Bible Hour

#### December

6<sup>th</sup> - John 8:48-59 Before Abraham Was... Frank Parker

13th - John 9:1-41 Man Born Blind Trefor Higgins

20<sup>th</sup> - Christmas Message George Idema

27<sup>th</sup> - John 10:1-42 The Good Shepherd Luc Tremblay January

3<sup>rd</sup> - John 11:1-57 Resurrection & Life George Bódy



Taking notes of the weekly sermon is a good way to remember the speaker's points and to help understand the Word of God.

Pre-printed 'Sermon Notes' pages are provided on the trolley at the entrance to the auditorium for everyone's use.



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**



# Face Masks

In accordance with the latest AHS directives, face masks are now mandatory for all in-person church services.

# Children's Programs

**Nursery** – AHS restrictions do not allow us to offer nursery services at this time. Parents can still supervise their own children in the nursery as necessary.

**Sunday School** - Please pray for the Sunday School and those teaching the children.

#### Fellowship Time

Pre-packaged snacks and beverages are available in the fellowship hall between meetings. As per following Covid protocol as well as for your and others safety, we ask you please use wipes on the taps and press buttons of our machines before and after each use, as these are considered "high touch" areas. Used beverage containers should be put in the blue recycling bins, rather than the garbage. Please maintain social-distancing protocols as you visit! Thank You from the Social Committee.

#### **Bethel Online**

We will continue to offer **Bethel Online via Zoom from 9:30** (Breaking of Bread) until the end of the Family Bible Hour. Those wishing to participate audibly in the Breaking of Bread, should use the Zoom 'Chat' feature first, so that the host can un-mute you. Please be patient with the sound techs as technology can be unpredictable.

#### **Focus**

FOCUS wrapped up the final study for the fall semester. Thank you for your all your prayers; we will resume FOCUS in the new year, during the winter semester. We look forward to meeting with the students then and please continue praying for wisdom and encouragement during these trying times. Thank you!

# **Bethel Food Pantry**

We are currently hosting a Food Bank initiative for our neighbourhood. Non-perishable food stuffs are available free of charge **every Monday afternoon**, **3-5:00 PM**. If you, or anyone you know, is in need of some extra food assistance, access to the food storage can also be arranged during the week. For more information, or to help out, talk to Frank Parker.

#### Christmas Eve at Bethel

Pending any further government-imposed restrictions, we are planning to have a time of singing traditional (and maybe some not so traditional) Christmas hymns on **December 24th (Christmas Eve) at 6:00 PM.** More details to follow!

#### **Bethel Bulletins**

The bulletin is now ONLINE on the website for those who are unable to come in to church to receive one. Just go to the Bethel Website and enter the password on the 'Member's Page' to access it and other Bethel Information such as the Annual Meetings etc.

# Past Sermons on Tape

Several years ago the Bethel Library sent a number of boxes containing Bethel's Sermons to a person in the U.S. who intended to convert them into a digital format. Unfortunately, soon after we sent them, the gentleman suffered a stroke and was no longer capable of continuing to convert these tapes. Recently, we have converted several sermons from around 2006 that didn't make it to the States, and they are now stored in a separate sermons folder on our website. If you have other past audio cassettes of Bethel's Sermons from years gone by, please consider forwarding them on to George or Sonja to be converted and added to the website. Thank You.



## **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

#### Men's Bible Study

The men's theology Bible study meets **on Tuesday mornings at 6:30 AM via Zoom**. For more information talk to Frank.

#### OTHER WEEKLY ACTIVITIES SUSPENDED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



## **MONTHLY DUTIES**

Listed below are the people serving with the following duties for the month of **December Persons on Duties subject to change.** If you are not able to fulfill your duties, please remember to arrange for an alternate. Thank you.

Dec	6 <sup>th</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	20 <sup>th</sup>	27 <sup>th</sup>	Jan 3 <sup>rd</sup>
LS Setup	John K	John K	John K	John K	TBD
Door Duty	John K	John K	John K	John K	TBD
LS Opening	John K	Luc T	Joe J	Dave W	Frank P
Announcements	Dave W	Dave W	Dave W	Dave W	Frank P
FBH Usher	Ethan F	Ethan F	Ethan F	Ethan F	Storme M
FBH Soundboard	Bethany I	Rob S	Theryn M	Bethany I	Rob S
FBH Chairman	George I	Frank P	Dave W	George I	TBD
LS/FBH Pianist	Dave W/ Sarah T	Dave W/ Anna \$	Sarah T/ Anna S	Dave W/ Sarah T	TBD

If you would like a visit from the elders, contact George Idema (780-433-7599), Frank Parker (780-479-1330), or Dave Walton (780-909-0638)



# Bethel Bulletin-Back Blog (BBBB)

Five Hundred Thirty-Fourth Posting
December 2020

Though Christmas is the celebration of the advent of Christ into the world by human birth, nobody should believe that Christmas marks the beginning of Christ, because the Son who rested on the bosom and fed at the breast of the virgin Mary for a little while had, before this world was, rested on the bosom of the Father-before "God sent forth his Son, made of a woman" [Gal. 4:4]. Jesus had glory with God before the world was [John 17:5].

Jesus Himself said, "Father, I will that they also, whom thou hast given me, be with me where I am; that they

may behold my glory, which thou hast given me: for thou lovedst me before the foundation of the world" [John 17:24].

His incarnation was literally an "enfleshment"—God assumed a living, bodily form. The Child of Mary was of the Holy Ghost. The power of the Highest overshadowed her. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, that body was formed within her—a body that partook of sin of neither man nor woman. And that body was God.

"And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."—I T im. 3:16.

"For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh."— $\mathbb{R}$ om. 8:3.

The apostle Peter speaks of Christ who "hath once suffered for sins" and who was "put to death in the flesh" [I Pet. 3:18]. God's "enfleshment" in Christ means that the preexistent Christ was embodied in human flesh, demonstrated in human life, exemplified in human action, crystallized in human form. That Child Jesus was the Saviour in miniature, in whom, without restriction of essence or suppression of functions, dwelt "all the fulness of the Godhead bodily" [Col. 2:9].

Christ was God manifest in the flesh—and His every muscle was a pulley divinely swung; His every nerve, divine handwriting; His every bone, divine sculpture. Christ who shares that plurality of deity expressed in the story of creation was "made flesh" and "made of a woman."

Coldly the world, which later cruelly thrust Jesus out on the point of a spear, received Jesus on a pallet of manger straw. Messiah's birth chamber was a stable—not a palace, not a human habitation.

What abasement! How wonderful for us that the Lord of Glory was so humbled and abased for us, the vile and sinful progeny of Adam. Thinking of Christ stripping Himself of His robes and roles of glory, Flavel said, "If the sun had been turned into a wandering atom, if the most glorious angel in heaven had changed into a fly, it had been nothing to the abasement of the Lord of Glory."

Born as the very poorest are born, without attendants, He was the One through whom God worked and works sublimities without display.

Listen at the manger! You will hear the voices of Heaven's singers.

Look upon the manger! You will see the Christ who came down from the heights of deity to the depths of humanity, down from Heaven's honors to earth's humiliation, down from Heaven's coronations to earth's curses, down from Heaven's delights to earth's defamations, down from the glory place to the gory place, down from Heaven's riches to earth's poverty.

At the manger, we understand the apostle's words: "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich" [ $\Pi$  Cor. 8:9].

#### Bethel Gospel Chapel

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#### Prayer Chain

Dianne Parker (780) 479-1330 <u>fparker@interbaun.com</u> **OR** Miriam Love (780) 456-5146 <u>theartroom@shaw.ca</u>

# Bulletin Info

Sonja Idema (780) 433-7599 sdidema@shaw.ca

Please have items for the bulletin sent to Sonja by the Thursday prior. Thank youl