

# Bethel Lutheran Church

## A Look Back at the Past Decade

### 2007

Bethel celebrated its 50th anniversary of ministry and service and welcomed back many former members and most of our former pastors at a November event.

### 2010

The *Out & About* ministry formed and focuses on monthly excursions for the congregation to enjoy using the Bethel bus.

Bethel added an Adult Ministry Coordinator who helps coordinate many of the various ministries and provides hospitality and care to the congregation. Patricia Myerholtz continues to hold this position and we are thankful for her love and dedication.

The first annual Celebration of the Arts showcased the works of the congregation and school with art activities for the whole family.

### 2011

Pastor Gabriele Schroeder accepted our call as Associate Pastor.

### 2012

Pastor Randy retired and Pastor Gabi's responsibilities increased to cover the gap and provide consistency with the interim pastors.

*With membership numbers decreasing due to internal and external struggles, the congregation took some time to look back at who we have been, and to look forward to who we're going to be in a drastically changing Silicon Valley.*

### 2014

Mission to Mexico celebrated its 50th trip helping our neighbors south of the border.

CELEBRATING  
**60**  
YEARS



Front Row: Pastors Bancroft, Walz, Place, Pabst, and Clausen  
Back Row: Pastors Torvend, Gutknecht, Cords, and Sherrill



Pastor Gabriele Schroeder



Mission to Mexico

## 2015

Pastor Ben Bergren accepted a call to Bethel as the lead pastor.

The congregation took time to evaluate our core values, including a renewed commitment to Children's Ministry with the expanded role of the Children's Ministry Coordinator.

Marion Abney retired as Bethel School principal. Dawn DeBois-Weber was hired as principal.

The Fireside Room received a facelift.

Pastor Ken Bancroft retired as Visitation Pastor.



Pastor Ben Bergren

## 2016

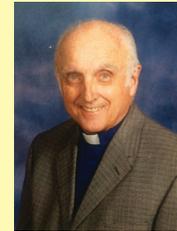
Bethel embarked on a capital campaign to replace the old Bethel bus that was beyond repair. People generously gave and allowed us to purchase a brand new bus for many of our off campus events.

Our new bus arrived.

The "First Wednesday Speaker Series" began. Every month we invite a different speaker to share with Bethel their experiences. We have hosted: a Rabbi, a Imam, our Congressman, our Bishop, and someone from the Justice Project.



Marion Abney and Pastor Ben



Pastor Ken Bancroft

## 2017

The Sanctuary received a facelift including new carpet and lighting upgrades.

Dave Denny started as Spiritual Care Coordinator.



Blessing of the new Bethel Bus

*As we celebrate our 60th year, there is renewed energy and purpose as we have clarified our core values. At Bethel we value: Hospitality, Christ Centered Community, Spiritual Growth, Responding to Needs and Generosity! We discovered that there is joy in our ability to live into these values of ours. As we welcome, worship, grow, care for and give to God and others we sense that Christ is present and moving us forward. Although Bethel is smaller in membership, we are stronger in faith and joyful in the journey that God has placed before us.*