

Get Involved

BETHEL MINISTRIES

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Lead: [Brian Schuette](#)

Bethel Choir

[Melody Wright](#)

Our adult choir meets Thursday evenings at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary and sings at the early service on most Sundays at 8:45am worship. Come sing with us!

Contemporary Worship Team

[Clayton Johnson](#)

Singers and instrumentalists (including guitar, drums, bass, piano, brass, woodwinds, and strings) are encouraged to join our 10:45 band-led contemporary worship team. We rehearse Sunday mornings at 8:45am.

A Joyful Noise Handbell Choir

[Chris Hogan](#)

Handbells are easy to learn how to play, even if you don't read music. All ages and experience levels welcome. Rehearsals are Sundays 6:30-8:30pm and we play during both worship services about once a month.

Children's Choir

[Barbara Larsen](#)

Children 2nd to 6th grade meet on select Sundays following the 10:45am service in the Music & Ed room. Lunch included. Occasional accompanists also needed.

Ushers

[Lloyd Darknell](#)

Key tasks include greeting people while handing out bulletins, guiding people up to communion, and circulating the offering plates. Usher for the service you prefer and as often as you wish.

Deacons

[Mark Evashenk](#)

Deacons assist the pastor by serving communion and leading the prayers during worship (rotating schedule).

Lectors

[Mark Evashenk](#)

Sign up to read the lesson and Gospel at either service once or twice a quarter.

A/V Tech Team

[Tom Hoegel](#)

Creative uses of sound and video screens are used for Sunday worship and other special events. Volunteers are needed to advance the slides, run the soundboard, or broadcast our Live Stream services. We have three robotically controlled cameras and switching gear which provides a great combination of tech and artistry as the operator chooses and broadcasts the shots. Contact Tom for details and training.

Altar Guild

[Marion Abney](#)

Each team helps prepare the altar for worship and Holy Communion four times a year.

Sunday Coffee Hosts

[Marion Abney](#)

Brew and set up our coffee cart on Sundays to be served during the 9:30-10:45am fellowship time. All supplies provided. Time commitment is about two hours on four Sundays a year.

Altar Flower Dedication Ministry

[Karen Ewers](#)

Commemorate a special date by donating toward the cost of our Altar Flower arrangement on any Sunday you choose (two \$40 slots per week). Your dedication will be printed in the bulletin on that special day. Just sign up on the chart in the Narthex and you will be contacted when the date approaches.

Altar Flower Delivery

[Cathy Stahl](#)

Bouquets are created from the Sunday's altar arrangement and delivered by volunteers to people needing some cheer. List of addresses provided. Please sign up on the chart in the Narthex and contact Cathy with any questions.

Offering Counters

[Minnie Sudarsanam](#)

Our Sunday morning offerings are counted by two-member teams. Each team counts one service on one Sunday a month.

Children's Activity Bags

[Amanda Laughlin](#)

Help replenish the Sunday Activity bags provided for our younger children during worship each Sunday. Rotation is approximately once every ten weeks and takes less than an hour.

Visual Arts/Décor

[Mary Deutscher](#)

The Visual Arts team create visual displays for liturgical seasons, i.e. Easter and Advent/Christmas. Contact the office if you'd like to help.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

[Patrice Sera](#)

[Angela Brown](#)

Kid Connection (Sunday School)

[Amanda Laughlin](#)

For ages 3 through 5th grade meets in Classroom 1 of Zoar Hall on Sundays from 9:50am-10:40am (Sept-May). Helping hands and volunteer teachers also needed.

First Bible Class

Amanda Laughlin

For Grades 3 to 5, this class is taught in the fall during Kid Connection. It explores how the Bible can be used in everyday life. Each child receives their own Bible.

First Communion Class

Amanda Laughlin

For Grades 3 and up, this class introduces children and their families to the meaning, significance, and practice of Holy Communion. (*Led by the Pastor in the spring.*)

3rd-5th Grade Youth Group

Amanda Laughlin

This group meets for special events on occasional Sunday afternoons. Activities include Game Day, Pumpkin Carving, Cookie Baking and more.

KCHO (Kid Connection Hang Out)

Amanda Laughlin

One Sunday a month (as scheduled) from 11:45am to 1:30pm KC aged children have a great time for fun and games (and lunch). (And mom and dad get a little break!)

Children's Choir (See Worship & Music)

Vacation Bible School (VBS)

Amanda Laughlin

A week-long adventure (at Bethel) full of Bible stories, crafts, games, snacks, and more. Held during the summer and for children who are in preschool through 5th grade. Volunteers 6th grade and up are also welcome.

YOUTH MINISTRY

Tom Hoegel (Director)

Marianne Nadell

Mark Evashenk

6th-8th Grade Confirmation

Robyn Winegardner

Susan Leavitt

Middle Schoolers meet Sunday mornings during the school year, (Sept-May), from 9:30am to 10:45am and on the 2nd Sunday of each month we add Worship and Lunch to our extended time together. Class includes the basic teachings of Luther's Catechism (the cornerstone Lutheran teachings), both the old and new testament, worship, prayer, ethics, service, and the hope, joy, and love we have been promised through Jesus. All 8th graders are then invited to confirm their faith during Bethel's Affirmation of Baptism worship service in the Spring.

Senior High Ministry

Tom Hoegel

Our high school youth group meets Sunday mornings and most Wednesday nights weekly. It's a mixture of discussion, food, and other annual events, like River Float, Mission to Mexico, Winter Retreat, Ice Skating & Caroling, Youth Conventions, and more.

Mission to Mexico

Tom Hoegel

Each spring a group of youth and adults from Bethel travel to Tijuana, Mexico to join forces with Esperanza International, an organization that works to build houses, schools, etc for the local community. We work side-by-side with families and the Esperanza staff, mixing concrete, pouring tiles and beams, digging trenches, and more. (Spring trip is open to all ages, and the fall trip is adults only.)

EDUCATION & DISCIPLESHIP

Wednesday Night Speaker Series

Mary Deutscher

Special guest speakers of a variety of topics present on the first Wednesday of the month (as scheduled) from 7pm to 8:30pm, followed by a light reception and fellowship. No sign-up needed. Also, if you have a topic you are interested in sharing with us or wanting to hear about, please contact us.

Library Team

Margaret Lund

The Library Committee meets most Wednesday mornings to prepare books, videos, DVDs, CDs, and other media for circulation.

Martha Bible Study

Vera Edstrom

This women's Bible study group meets the third Monday of each month in the Fireside Room from 12pm to 2pm, studying the magazine "Gather," a publication of the Women of the ELCA. Bring your lunch.

Sunday Morning Adult Education

Mary Deutscher

Adult Education meets on Sundays at 9:50am in the Fireside Room on scheduled Sundays. Join us for the opportunity to deepen your faith through various programs and discussion. See website for dates and details as they are scheduled —no sign-up necessary.

Women of Wednesday (WOW)

Kathryn Montano

The Women of Wednesday meet on Wednesdays, September to June, from 9:45am to noon in the Fireside Room. Enjoy food, fellowship, prayer and Bible study.

New Member Lunch

Mary Deutscher

Once a year or so a Sunday lunchtime meeting is planned, inviting anyone interested in becoming a member or just to learn more about Bethel Lutheran Church. Meet the staff and get to know each other. Lunch provided. Watch your Sunday bulletin or website for the next scheduled event.

Young Adult Meet Up

Harumy Miura

If you are college/young adult age, you and any friends are welcome to our new Young Adult Meet Up, scheduled on various times throughout the year. Contact Harumy to get all the details and specific dates.

MISSION OUTREACH

Mark Evashenk

Creek Clean Up Day

Hella Bluhm-Stieber

Scheduled a few times a year, we work to clean up a specific section of our local creek. The group meets up after worship on a scheduled Sunday. Signing up is encouraged.

Quilters (and Lutheran World Relief)

Joann Weberg

Bethel Quilters create and send hundreds of quilts to local organizations and all over the world through Lutheran World Relief. They meet each Monday morning from 9am to 12pm in the Fireside Room. LWR works with Lutherans and partners around the world to end poverty, injustice, and human suffering. Bethel Quilters and volunteers also create School Kits and Personal Care Kits in the fall for LWR to distribute worldwide. www.lwr.org

Rotating Safe Car Park (RSCP)

Hella Bluhm-Stieber

Robyn Winegardner

Bethel provides volunteer support and our parking lot (from 7pm - 7am) for one month for the Rotating Safe Car Park (RSCP) guests. All guests are vetted into the program and safety and hospitality are priorities. Volunteers are needed during the hosted meal times (30 min in morning and/or evening) or to provide additional support.

Family Supportive Housing (fka Family Shelter Breakfast)

Mark Evashenk

Family Supportive Housing (FSH) provides temporary housing and assistance for homeless families in Santa Clara Co. Every other month on the 3rd Sunday, Bethel provides groceries and cooks breakfast or dinner for families at the shelter. You may also help by preparing food for either breakfast or dinner.

Sacred Heart Community Services

Mark Evashenk

Sacred Heart works to build a community free from poverty. Bethel participates by donating items and assembling layettes for expectant mothers once a year. Watch for more info about what is needed and when.

Grafted Families (fka Help One Child)

Mark Evashenk

Grafted Families supports post-adoption families and young adults who are aging out of the foster care system. Watch for more info about how you can help.

Esperanza International—Bethel's Mission to Mexico

Tom Hoegel

(See the Youth Trip for full description.) Adult Mission to Mexico is in the Fall, and our Youth/Intergenerational Mission to Mexico is in the Spring. Watch the Bethel website for details, or check out Esperanza: www.esperanzaint.org

West Valley Community Services

Mark Evashenk

Bethel participates in events and holiday food drives sponsored by WVCS—a non profit located in Cupertino dedicated to providing food and housing services in the community. www.wvcommunityservices.org

MI-KNIT-STRY

Amanda Laughlin

Ellen Aist

Our new intergenerational knitting ministry—we are creating hats to donate to the Phoenix Room, a non-profit for the unhoused. Knit-Along nights are from 6-8pm on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays in the Fireside Room. Drop ins welcome - supplies and help provided.

CARING MINISTRY

Joanne Stensaas

Caring Connections Team

Joanne Stensaas

The team meets on the 2nd Monday of the month from 1:30 pm to 2:30pm in the Conference Room. Our purpose is to help members of the Bethel community who are ill, recovering, in need of encouragement, or experiencing the loss or severe illness of a family member, etc. These members are contacted through visits, e-mails, or phone calls by Caring Connections members. Prayers and greeting cards are also a big part of Caring Connection.

Prayer Bytes & Prayer List

Robyn Winegardner

Help pray for others in our community and beyond by receiving daily bits ("bytes") of Bethel's prayer list via email. To subscribe, send an email to Dailyprayer-owner.

Your prayer concerns (and updates) can be shared through the ivory Caring Connections sign-in cards available during worship, by phone or email (above). Private prayer concerns can be shared with the Pastor (or a Caring Connection Member).

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Annual Chili Cookoff

Mary Deutscher

Amanda Laughlin

Are you a contender, or a judge? Who will win our "TOP CHILI" Award?! Join our fun Annual Chili Cookoff to find out! (Typically in January.)

Annual Labor Day Retreat

Molly Schrey

Tom Hoegel

This two-day retreat in the beautiful Santa Cruz Mountains is a chance to relax, hike, have fun, enjoy fellowship, and listen to and participate in speaker-led sessions. This event is for all ages and is held the Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day weekend in Felton.

Out 'n About Adventures

Molly Schrey

Enjoy monthly outings for the congregation using the Bethel bus or other means of shared transportation. Recent events have included trips to sports games, regional attractions, beer or wine tastings, museums, etc. *Sign up links are posted on our website as the events are scheduled.*

Brunchies

Robyn Winegardner

Three events a year are planned mid-week, during the day – fun, social events open to all. In the Fall, a walk down a city main street including brunch. Then in the beginning of the year, an on-site activity, art, craft, speaker, plus brunch. In May, a ride over to Santa Cruz and brunch on the Wharf. Tom takes us on the bus for the Fall and Spring adventures.

Readers Anonymous

Kathy Arnold

Readers Anonymous is a fun group that gets together on the 3rd Sunday of the month to discuss a great book which is chosen the previous month. For more information, please check the Sunday church bulletin or Bethel website.

FINANCE & STEWARDSHIP

Audit Committee

Jill Burkhart

The Audit Committee undertakes the annual internal audit of the congregation's finances and makes recommendations on improving accounting practices.

Endowment Trustees

Dave Larsen

Invests and manages the Bethel Endowment Fund for the long-term benefit of the ministry of our congregation.

Finance Committee

Dave Tribby

The Finance Committee works closely with the Pastor and Bethel's Director of Finance & Human Resources to monitor the congregation's income and spending, to develop the budget for the coming year, and to help provide sufficient funds for the congregation's ministries.

Nominating Committee

Brett Deutscher

The Nominating Committee works closely with the council president and the pastor to recruit qualified candidates for open council positions and advises ministries to fill their open positions.

TECHNOLOGY & ADMINISTRATION

eNewsletter

Elise Holst

Details about upcoming events, a message from the Pastor and other news are compiled each week for the eNewsletter (and weekly worship bulletins.) Signup to receive the eNews via your attendance card on Sunday, or email Elise.

Membership Data

Liz Tribby

Uses the congregation's Shepherd's Staff database to keep and update members records, e.g. emails, phone numbers, attendance, baptisms. If you would like to help please contact the [office](#).

Technology Support

Liz Tribby

Brad Martinson

The technology support team oversees tech needs for the church and provides technology support as needed.

Webmaster

Dave Arnold

Our website provides a comprehensive and current view of the activities at Bethel for visitors and members alike. The webmaster oversees development and upkeep of the church website.

BUILDING & GROUNDS

Bill Weberg

Men of Monday

Bill Weberg

A group of men who meet every Monday from 9am to 12pm to help maintain the church grounds.

Church Work Days

Tom Hoegel

This is a great opportunity for volunteers of all kinds of skill levels to help with church and school grounds projects. Look for days on bulletin and website.

Security Volunteers

Steve Emmert

These volunteers commit to one weekend periodically to check on the Bethel grounds on Saturday night and after worship the next day.