

# Bethel Baptist Church

# Vision

March 2012

## Pastor Dave's Corner

We have learned (or I hope we have learned) that you cannot trust everything that you read in print. Newspapers and magazines routinely slant information to lead us in a specific direction. The Internet has opened the door for anyone who put their views out for the world to see. Many of these are skillfully crafted and convincing. Yet just because we read something in print or on the Internet does not make it true. For example, take one of my favorite topics, coffee. One web site will tell you that drinking coffee is bad for your health, while another will tell you that drinking coffee is actually good for your health. If you look closely at these sites you will discover some truth and much speculation.

What has happened to us as a people is that we have become skeptics. We are often quick to discount information that doesn't fit our personal data base. Because, at times, it is hard to separate the re-

liable information from the unreliable, we discard it all. This attitude has infiltrated many people's spiritual lives. We all have a tendency to be our own "experts" and judge everything according to our standards. When it comes to faith, this might feel freeing but it is very dangerous.

When I worked in the hospital lab I had to measure all of the tests that I performed against a known standard. If I did not get the correct result on the standard, then I could not trust the results of the test. Having an absolute standard was essential for producing results that were accurate.

By this time you are wondering what I am trying to get at. Here it is: the standard against which we need to judge everything else is the Bible. As followers of Christ we hold that the Bible is the final authority for our lives. Paul summarizes the role of the Bible for us in 2 Timothy 3:16-17.



### A Word to Be Trusted

**All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.**

Let me briefly highlight a few things from this passage. First, God is the author of the Bible. These are His thoughts, recorded for us in a variety of ways. They have authority because they come from the creator of all that is. We most often think of God as the creator of our material world, but we forget that He is the creator of our emotional, spiritual and intellectual world as well.

Second, the Bible is a tool that God uses to shape and mold our lives. Through the

(Continued on page 11)

Inside this issue:

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Bethel Worship Notes	2
Youth Group	3
Children's Ministry	4
Missions Page	5
Senior Adults	7
The Global Leadership Summit	8
Go The Distance	10

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Special points of interest:

- Join the Easter Choir
- Youth MegaRally & Spring Blitz Coming
- Ping Pong Tournament
- 3 Bible Studies Beginning in March
- Guitar Clinic
- Go The Distance Dinner Event

## Bethel Worship Notes

This past week I was helping my son Aaron replace the drum heads on his vintage Slingerland drum set. As we pulled the old heads off we found old yellowing socks (possibly 25-30 years old) stretched over 3 of the drum heads. I would guess that at one point in time the previous owner was attempting to quiet down or eliminate a ringing sound in the drums. Aaron and I put on the new drum heads and then I had the drums properly tuned. Yes, drums do need tuning in order to get the best possible sound out of them. The difference in sound was like the difference between night and day. Before the new heads and the socks were removed, even tuned up the drums had a poor thudding non-descript sound. The socks not only muted the sound of the drums they took away all of the good characteristics and appropriate controlled ring drums need to have in order to sound good. This change brought life, fullness, and vitality back into the sound of Aaron's drums. There may be things in my life and yours that have been with us for many years (like the old socks in the drums) that need to be eliminated in order to fully experience and maximize the fullness of our lives in Christ.

Hebrews 12:1 says:

**“Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.”**

What might some of those “old socks” be? How about the attitude, “I can’t change, I have always done it this way.” Or maybe the old, “if it ain’t broke don’t fix it.” Or consider the church that hired a church consultant; and as he met with the church board to present his findings, he made this statement: “Why doesn’t your church ever mow your parking lot?” The church members who attended this church had “tunnel vision” and not noticed the grass growing knee high through the cracks in the church parking lot.

What sins, prejudices, attitudes, bad habits, etc... may be throwing us off track weighing us down or tangling our efforts to know Christ better, or tell others about Him? I firmly believe Christ wants to do greater things in all of us. We regularly sing “God of this City” with lyrics that state “Greater things are still to be done here.” What is it that may be hindering your worship of Christ today? Is there greater vitality, fullness and life yet to be experienced in you? Let us get rid of the “old socks” that just might be holding us back, dampening our spirits and hindering us. When need be, let’s mow our parking lot!

Our worship ministry at Bethel seeks to lead others to respond to the Goodness, Greatness and Grace of God. God’s richest blessings to all of you.

*Pastor Glenn*

*email: [pastorglenn@bethelmankato.com](mailto:pastorglenn@bethelmankato.com)*

PS. I would love to meet potential New Computer power point Operators, New Singers, New Band members, and New Choir Members. Please contact me if interested!

### Join the Easter Choir

**Rehearsals: March 8, 15, 22, 29,  
April 3, 7, 8.**

Choir rehearsals begin Mar. 8<sup>th</sup> from **5:30-6:30pm** each Thursday night up until the week of Easter. Easter week rehearsal is Tues. April 3<sup>rd</sup> at **6-7pm** & Sat. April 7<sup>th</sup> from **10-11:30am**. We had a great Christmas Choir experience with over 20 members participating. I am looking forward to Easter and that great time of celebrating Christ’s Resurrection.



### Twin Cities Worship Ministry Tour

(in April or May)

We are rescheduling this trip for all of those interested in our worship ministry to attend a Saturday worship service(s) at some of the larger churches in the Minneapolis/ St. Paul area (ie...Eagle Brook, Woodale Church, etc.). Most likely we will leave early afternoon on a bus together along with the Cross View Covenant Worship Team and attend a couple of services, have dinner and return home later that Saturday night. I am hoping many or all of you will be able to attend. Please watch your email in April/ May for dates and times.

# Youth Group News



## MegaRally

**March 4th** is our next MegaRally date at Bethel University which will feature speaker Greg Speck and worship by Rapture Ruckus. Event will cost \$6 at the door. We will meet at Bethel Baptist at 3:00 p.m. and be back around 10:00 p.m. Remember to bring \$\$ for food on the way up.

## Broomball

Both Junior & Senior High are scheduled to play broomball over at All Seasons Arena on **March 7th**. Please make sure to dress warm and prepared to have all kinds of fun!! Bring a friend.



## March Schedule

<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>TIME</u>
3/4	MegaRally	3-10 pm
3/7	Senior & Junior High-Xplode! Broomball	6-8 pm
3/14	Senior High-iMPLODE! Junior High-Xplode! Service Project	6-8 pm
3/18	GTD Dinner Event	5-7 pm
3/21	Youth Worship Nite!	6-8 pm
3/24	Ping Pong Tournament	10 am-12 pm
3/28	Senior High-Xplode! Service Project Junior High-iMPLODE!	6-8 pm

## Spring Blitz

Mark your calendars for this year's Spring Blitz: **April 27-29, 2012** in Rochester, MN. The theme is "Connected" based on John 15:4. Our speaker is Nick Hall and our band is Finding Favour. Cost is \$79 + \$\$ for food for 7 meals. We will be leaving at 3:15 p.m. from Bethel on Friday. Students must sign up and pay by April 11th. A \$20 scholarship will be available for those who participate in a to-be-determined service project. Contact Harrison for more details. (Make all checks payable to Trout Lake Camps.) Need Medical Release Forms & Conduct Pledge turned in by **April 11th**. Check out troutlakes.org for more info.



*"On March 18th there will be a Go the Distance meal served by the youth. This will help with our mortgage payment. So make sure to get that date on your calendar."*





## Children's Ministry

*Londa Krueger is our Nursery Coordinator. If you are interested in helping out just call her at (507) 385-1374.*

### Nursery

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Infants</u>	<u>Preschool</u>
3/4	8:30	Rich & Carissa Delestre	Steve & Amber Rick
	9:45	Matt & Kristi Borowy	Sunday School
	11:00	Angie Cherney & Jodi Mansfield	Jerry & Gretchen Bohl & Sam Mansfield & Rachel Anderson
3/11	8:30	Bryce & Jacki Anderson	Carolyn Baker & Amber Lundsten
	9:45	Philip & Abby Bailey	Sunday School
	11:00	Scott & Angie Hoffman & Evelynne Larson	Jody Bryant & Family & Ashley Anderson
3/18	8:30	Mike & Kari Hennager & Abby Cherney	Melanie Burton & Megan Cherney
	9:45	Carol Edwards & Coralyn Musser	Sunday School
	11:00	Chad & Brooke Riely	Caryl Zernehel & Jennifer Neufeld & Ally Kroehler
3/25	8:30	Dawn & Natalie White	Melissa Alexander & Boys & Lauren Daly
	9:45	Candace Kolander & Monica West	Sunday School
	11:00	Shawn & Gwen Berry	Sarah Ruggless & Sandra Tambi & Faith Milton



*"Bethel Baptist offers loving care in our nursery during all services."*



Meets from 6:00-7:45 pm every Wednesday night.

For 4 year olds to 6th grade.

### March Schedule

7 - Something Cold Night

14 - Regular Club Night

21 - Backwards Night

28 - Regular Club Night



## Missionaries of the Month - Paul & Ana Hill

**Paul and Ana Hill** are church planters in Santiago del Estero, Argentina, with Converge Worldwide (BGC). They are presently on home assignment and living in Illinois while connecting with their supporting churches.

Paul grew up in Argentina as the son of BGC missionaries. Ana is a native of Argentina. They have 5 children: Sara & Amy (attending college in Argentina), Paul (just returned to Argentina to study veterinary medicine), Mark & Laura (in high school in the U.S.).

In Argentina, Paul & Ana focus on leading their church plant in a middle-class neighborhood, teaching and developing leadership, evangelism and discipling new believers, and planting a rural daughter church in Lomitas.



### Some prayer requests from the Hills:

- ◆ Safety in travel and good contacts with churches.
- ◆ Progress in dealing with health issues while here in the U.S. Ana has migraines and Paul has sleep issues.
- ◆ Pray for the 3 oldest kids in school in Argentina. Pray for jobs for Sara and Amy. Pray for the transition back to Argentine schools for Mark & Laura.
- ◆ Pray for additional financial support (\$1,000 per month) by the end of April.

### BETHEL COUPLE CURRENTLY ON MISSIONS TRIP!

**John and Cindy Hoines** from our Bethel family are currently on a missions trip to Bolivia (Feb. 25-March 10). They are with a team of 70 people who will be holding a 2-week eye clinic in the mountain town of Sucre (Population 200,000). Please pray for them!

- ◆ Pray for safe travel for the team to and from Bolivia.
- ◆ Praise God for an abundance of supplies donated. Pray that they will arrive safely and be just what is needed.
- ◆ Pray for John as he performs eye surgery and Cindy as she helps.
- ◆ Pray for the health and unity of the team.
- ◆ Pray for the hearts of those given physical help to be receptive to the gospel. Local pastors will be on hand to tell the people about Jesus as they come.

*“Please pray for John & Cindy Hoines who will be in Sucre, Bolivia where they will be holding a 2-week eye clinic.”*

## Praise & Prayer

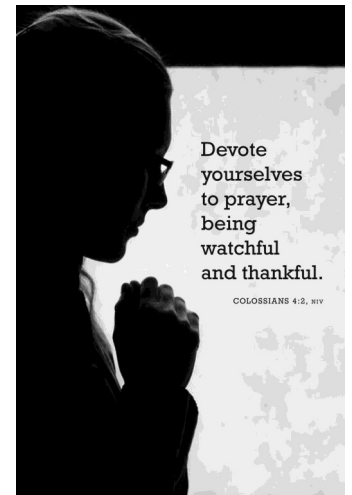
There is a prayer group that meets on Wednesdays at 4:00 p.m. and also on Saturdays at noon to pray for our attendees, their families & friends, and those in our community. If you would like to be part of this group, contact Suanne Banfield at (507) 388-4432 or banfield@hickorytech.net or just come and meet us at church on Wednesday and/or Saturday.

- ◆ Praise for a new grandson, **Solomon Baker**, born on Jan. 17. Grandparents are **David & Carolyn Baker**.
- ◆ Pray for **Solomon** who was in the hospital with health concerns but is home now
- ◆ Pray for **Marion Hansen** who has suffered a stroke is recovering at Mapleton Community Home
- ◆ Pray for **Tim & Angie Cherney & family** in the loss of Tim's father. Praise God that **Grandpa** is with **Matt** in heaven!
- ◆ Pray for **Lynne Gillen** whose 16 yr. old son, **Austin**, passed away from muscular dystrophy. Grandparents are **Ron & Sandy Dick**.
- ◆ Pray for **Alvin Peterson** who is in hospice care
- ◆ Pray for **Daryl Biehn** who is recovering from heart surgery
- ◆ Pray for **Heather Milton & her family** as they grieve the passing of her father
- ◆ Pray for **John & Cindy Hoines** who are on a mission's trip to Bolivia
- ◆ Pray for our missionaries of the month: **Paul & Ana Hill**
- ◆ Pray for **God's leading and blessing** in our days of growth & change
- ◆ Pray that **Bethel** will be a church that is culturally relevant & a transforming power in our community
- ◆ Pray that we will **see people coming to faith** in Jesus at Bethel on a regular basis
- ◆ Pray that **we all reach out** to others & plant seeds of hope in Jesus
- ◆ Pray for **sister churches in Votlivka & Tenovka, Ukraine & Cadunan, Philippines**



### Family & Friends Serving Overseas

- ◆ **Amanda Larsen**-granddaughter of Mike & Alice Jensen
- ◆ **Ryan Marti**-brother of Kris Edwards
- ◆ Pray for **our troops** around the world





## Senior Adults Ministry

**Men's Coffee & Bible Study** - Mondays at 9:00 a.m.

**Senior Adult Lunch** - Wednesday, March 21 at noon.

**Senior Adult Game Day** - Saturday, March 24 at 12:30-3:30 p.m.



Fun for Seniors

## 2012 Quilting Retreats at Trout Lake Camps

There are 4 Quilting Retreats available at Trout Lake Camps this spring. These provide the opportunity to get away from it all and enjoy the peace and quiet of Minnesota's northwoods while learning or continuing to indulge your interest in quilting. Dates are: March 16-18, March 19-22, March 23-25, May 16-20. Costs range from \$145-\$195. For more information contact the church office for a brochure.



*"Make sure to sign up for the new women's Bible study starting in March!"*

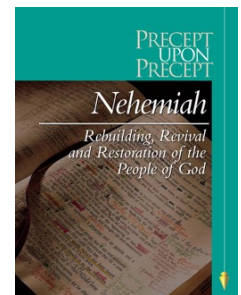
## Women's Bible Study

A 5 week spring Bible study on the book of Nehemiah: Rebuilding, Revival and Restoration of the people of God will begin on **Tuesday, March**

## Women's Bible Study

**20th** from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Nehemiah shows us leadership and obedience in the face of opposition, as well as God's miraculous blessing and provision. We will be studying 2-3 chapters of Nehemiah in depth each week. Books are \$11.25. To order a

book or for more information please contact Cindy Hoines at (507) 345-8069 or by email: hoines@hickorytech.net



## Ping Pong Tournament

On **Saturday, March 24** from 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon we will be hosting a Ping Pong Tournament here at Bethel. A \$5 donation is requested to help with more equipment and to go towards refreshments during ping pong times. Sign up in the ping pong room.



# THE GLOBAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT

It is time to start thinking about early registration for **“The Summit”** **August 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2012.**

More information will be coming soon, contact Heather Milton. (507) 351-2426 or call church office.



## Bible Study

*“Understanding Cults and Other False Teachings”* is a new Bible study that will begin on **Monday nights beginning March 12th for six weeks from 7:00-8:30 p.m.** The intention of this class is to better prepare Christians to better

New Study Groups Begin

defend their faith against all the ungodly thinking of our age. We will discuss Mormonism and Jehovah Witness doctrine along with other so called Christian beliefs that distort the truths of scripture. This class is open to anyone no matter where in their faith journey they are. You are welcome to bring your unbelieving friends! We might have a Mormon president! Wouldn't it be good to understand what he believes?

*“Sign up for the new Bible study that will be starting March 12th. Contact the church office.”*

## Financial Secretary Position Filled

We are pleased to announce that Sandy Wolter has accepted the role of Financial Secretary at Bethel, effective February 1st. One of the Financial Secretary's primary responsibilities is to review and ensure that the weekly deposit was made correctly and that your tithes and offerings are designated to the intended areas. The other main responsibility of the Financial Secretary is to ensure giving statements are published. We do the best we can to get those out twice a year, but with limited human resources last year, we only accomplished this in January. Sandy will join a Finance Team which already includes Alice Jensen, Torrey Carlblom, and Rick Krueger. We would like to welcome Sandy aboard and thank her for her commitment to serving the kingdom.







## Support Groups



NAMI-Mankato offers the Connection Support Group every Thursday at 6:30-8:00 p.m. This is for anyone who lives with a mental illness.

members. It meets the 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. Both groups meet here at Bethel.

[www.namihelps.org](http://www.namihelps.org)

For more information on mental illness go to:



There is also a support group for family

*“There is a lot of support to be found at Bethel. NAMI & DivorceCare are two areas that reach out to people who are in need & hurting.”*



Do you know someone who is hurting due to marital separation and/or divorce? It is very likely that they would be greatly blessed by some sound Biblical teaching and some caring support and encour-

agement from others who have also suffered loss. Please let them know. They can check out our website and/or give the office a call if they want more information about DivorceCare.

p.m. until April 10th. You can start at any time. To register contact the church office or go to our website:

[www.bethelmankato.com](http://www.bethelmankato.com)

We are meeting on Tuesday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30

## Guitar Clinic



Guitar Clinic – **Tuesdays from 5 pm to 6 pm** in the Sanctuary of Bethel Baptist Church. It’s for people interested in playing guitar at any level. Topics cover guitar basics, chords, scales, songs, rhythm, lead, hand exercises, and any questions about playing. Lead by James Soper-(507) 934-9140 or [messope@msn.com](mailto:messope@msn.com)



## Women's Bible Study

*"The Inheritance Series"* by Beth Moore beginning **Monday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm** here at church. This nine session lecture series is a topical study of Inheritance throughout God's Word. Each session is approx. one hour in length. Study guides available for those interested (\$7). Contact Londa Krueger (Facilitator) at (507) 385-1374 or [londa.krueger@agstar.com](mailto:londa.krueger@agstar.com) or church office if you are interested in attending this study.



## Go The Distance

*"Put the 'Go The Distance' dinner event on your calendar for Sunday, March 18th at 5:30 p.m."*

It seems like many people have caught on to "Go The Distance." We have seen some growth in the funding levels. But just so everyone catches on we want to make sure you are aware of the "Go The Distance" dinner that we will have on Sunday evening, March 18, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. You will be receiving an invitation and asked to R.S.V.P. This is a way again of celebrating the distance we have traveled in this cam-

paign.

When our team is up and running full steam ahead you will be seeing some brochures that we will use for new members and new attendees, showing them the opportunities available at Bethel. Stay tuned into the vision of "Go The Distance."

In Christ,

Go The Distance Team





Bethel Baptist  
Church

1250 Monks Ave.  
Mankato, MN 56001  
(Across from All Seasons  
Arena)

Phone: 507-345-4011  
E-mail: [office@bethelmankato.com](mailto:office@bethelmankato.com)  
Website: [www.bethelmankato.com](http://www.bethelmankato.com)

Transformed by the love  
of Jesus Christ.

*Senior Pastor: Dr. David J. Banfield*  
*Pastor of Student Ministries: Harrison Musser*  
*Pastor of Worship Ministries: Rev. Glenn Winch*

### Sunday Worship Services

Family 8:30 AM

Traditional 9:45 AM

Contemporary 11:00 AM

Sunday School 9:45 AM

*Nursery is Available During All Services*



BETHEL IS COMMITTED TO:

Connecting people to God and others

Equipping people to serve God and others

Engaging people in service for God and others

## Pastor Dave's Corner-Continued

Bible we are taught about who God is, who we are and the relationship between us. Through the Bible we are confronted with our sin and our failures. As Paul tells us, we don't even know what sin is outside of God revealing it to us through His word. Through the Bible we are guided back into a genuine relationship with God. God's purpose in showing us our sin is not to condemn us, but to help us get it right. Through the Bible we are equipped to live godly lives in harmony with our Creator.

Third, the pur-

pose of the Bible is to equip us to accomplish our purpose in the world. We have been created to live in relationship with God and in loving relationship with one another. As we study the Bible and then apply what it teaches to our lives, we grow toward maturity in Christ. Our desires and dreams begin to align more closely with God's desires and dreams for us. We begin to experience the joy of being who God created us to be.

In our world of confusing and often contradictory information, we do have a place to go

to help us sort it all out. We have a reliable standard that can help us navigate the challenges we face. The Bible is the solid foundation upon which we can take our stand.

