



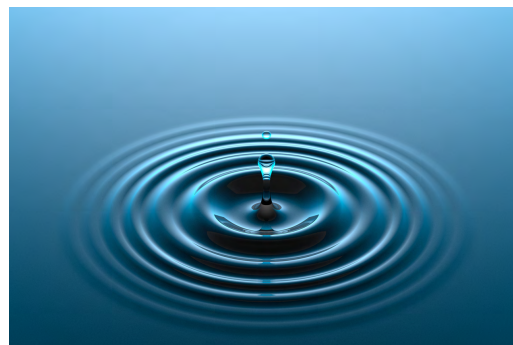
## Bethel's Weekly eNews

- January 11, 2024 -



This weekend, we celebrate the Baptism of our Lord and recall the great promises given through the water and the Word. Both Mark's gospel and the story in Acts make clear that it is the Spirit's movement that distinguishes Jesus' baptism from John's. The Spirit has come upon us as upon Jesus and we are called God's beloved children.

Through our baptism, our lives shine forth the light we receive from the Light of the World, Christ at work in and through us.



**Preacher: Rev. Anjanette Bandel**

Scripture Readings for This Weekend's Worship:

**First Reading:** Genesis 1:1-5

**Second Reading:** Acts 19:1-7

**Gospel:** Mark 1:4-11

**Subscribe to our Text Messages!**



If you are not receiving our text messages already, you can subscribe by texting "[Subscribe](#)" to our church phone number (507-288-6430)

## Worship with Us - In Person or Online!

*Join us for worship!*

SATURDAY

6 pm - Worship with Holy Communion

SUNDAY

9 am & 10:30 am - Worship  
(Holy Communion on 1st & 3rd Sundays)

10:10 am - Gate of Life Worship in the Chapel  
(Holy Communion every Sunday)

**Live Stream Worship this Sunday at 9 am:** visit [our YouTube channel](#).

The worship services will be available for playback on [YouTube](#) immediately after the Live Stream ends. A video of the worship service will also be available on our website by early Sunday afternoon.

## Spotlight

### Farewell to Julie Allhiser

It has been such a blessing to be part of the Bethel staff for over 12 years. I have enjoyed every minute of my time with the children and youth of Bethel!

There have been so many wonderful opportunities for me to connect and share the faith journey with students and families, and I will cherish all of the experiences we have shared.

At this point in my life I have made the decision to resign from my position in youth ministry. This was not an easy decision but, the best decision for me

and my family at this time. My last day in the youth ministry position will be January 28<sup>th</sup>.

My family and I have been members at Bethel for over 30 years and we will continue to attend worship and share fellowship with our church family at Bethel.



## Bethel Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day



Bethel Lutheran Church will be closed on Monday, January 15 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

## Join Us For Snowtubing!

Join the Children, Youth, and Family Staff at **Ironwood Springs Christian Ranch** for an afternoon of snow tubing on **Jan. 21st from 3-5 pm!** Warm up with a potluck dinner at 5 pm.

Bethel has reserved the hill and the warming lodge. Bethel is contributing to the registration fee so it's \$10 to snow tube. Parents are welcome to observe. Youth can invite a friend. Scholarships are available for anyone by simply checking a box on the registration form.



The main dish as well as lemonade and paper products will be provided for the potluck. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Registration is required. To register, visit: [bit.ly/snowtubing2024](https://bit.ly/snowtubing2024)

## Bethel Annual Meeting



**The Bethel Annual Meeting of the Congregation** will be held on **Jan. 28th at 11:45 am.**

There will be 2 chapel chats available prior to the annual meeting for members to ask questions about annual meeting agenda items, such as the proposed 2024 budget.

These meetings will be **Tuesday, Jan. 16th at 7 pm** in the Chapel and **Sunday, Jan. 21st at 11:30 am** in

Fellowship Hall. **The annual report will be available the weekend of Jan. 14th.**



## Join Us to Welcome Our New Staff Member, Alyssa!

I am the new Business Administrator here at Bethel Lutheran Church, currently living in Mantorville but born and raised in Rochester.

I have a fiancé, Ketin, as well as my daughter, Riley (8), and my son, Kohin (1).

During the Spring and Summer months, I love to experiment with my vegetable garden, try new recipes, hang around the golf course and watch my daughter play soccer! The Fall and Winter months have us dreaming of a warm vacation, cheering on the Vikings, catching up on movies, and playing in the snow!



## Are you looking for a sewing project?



Kits to sew backpacks are available in a bin in the Narthex. **We hope to make at least 300 backpacks.** They will be filled with school supplies in the fall and shipped to **Lutheran World Relief for distribution throughout the world.**

Directions are beside the bin. Finished backpacks may be left at the church office.

## Blood Pressure Monitoring

Let's begin the New Year by monitoring your blood pressure monthly.

The Parish Nurse will be in the conference room of the office on **January 28th from 8:30am-10:45am**, and will record your BP reading. Please stop by if you have any questions about your BP or other issues.



## Antiracism Team Science Museum Trip

The Bethel Antiracism Team invites you to a bus trip to the RACE Exhibit at the Science Museum of Minnesota on **Monday, February 19, 9:00am-4:00pm.**

**\$30 per person** includes bus, exhibit and lunch.



**In RACE: Are We So Different?** You can examine our shared history and current reality.

Understanding the past, acknowledging harm, and joining the conversation are the first steps toward a fairer future. Through this experience, we will connect in a safe

space to discuss and ask questions to understand how race affects our culture and how we connect with others.

We will have Todd and Anna Williams from TBWC guide us on a tour of the exhibit, with thought-provoking questions and discussions.

Please register using this link: [bit.ly/antiracismteamsciencemuseumtrip](https://bit.ly/antiracismteamsciencemuseumtrip)

## Bethel College Age Care Packages

Every year we reach out to our recently graduated (1-4 years) Bethel members with a small care package and notes from our Bethel youth. These care packages are meant for all of our recent Bethel graduates whether they are attending college, have joined the military, are working, etc.



If you are a recent graduate or have a recent graduate in your family that attends Bethel please sign them up for a care package. All names and addresses must be received by **Friday, Feb. 2nd** to ensure that we can prepare for the youth service day on Feb. 4th. For more information and to provide mailing info visit: [bit.ly/collegecarepackages2024](https://bit.ly/collegecarepackages2024)

## 9th Grade Mentor Ministry Service Event



The 9th Grade Mentor Ministry Service Event will be on **Sunday, Feb. 4th @ 1:30pm.**

Pastor Lisa will lead our mentorship group through a meaningful afternoon of fellowship and service. We will assemble care packages to be sent to college-aged young adults that will be received just in time for Ash Wednesday and Valentines' Day.

Our hope will be to remind college students of God's love and encourage a faith practice in the season of Lent. **For more information and to register** for Feb. 4th: [bit.ly/mentorministryservicejan24](https://bit.ly/mentorministryservicejan24)



Blessed are those who die in the Lord Jesus Christ, for they know his salvation.

**Carol Yeadon** passed away on January 7, 2024, surrounded by her family at Seasons Hospice in Rochester.

Carol is survived by her husband Frank, sons Bradley (Michele) Yeadon; Bryan Yeadon; Bruce (Val) Yeadon; daughter Melyssa (Dan) Bush; and 9 grandchildren and 4 great grandchildren.

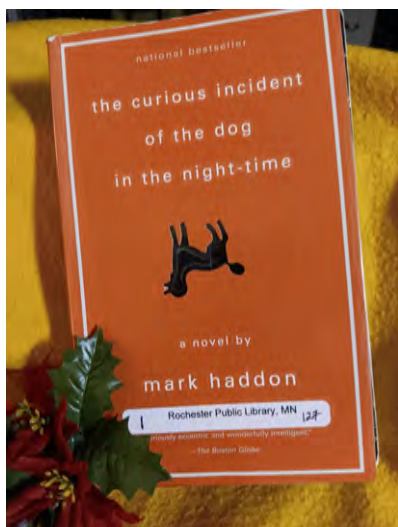
A funeral service will be at 11am on Thursday January 11, 2024, at Bethel Lutheran Church. Visitation will be from 4 pm to 7 pm on Wednesday, January 10th at Griffin-Gray Funeral Home in Stewartville and 1 hour prior to the service at Bethel.

Preview her obituary here: [bit.ly/carolyeadonobituary](https://bit.ly/carolyeadonobituary)



# General News

## Bethel Book Club



The Bethel Book Club will meet on Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at 3:30 pm in Room 115.

We will be discussing the book "**The curious incident of the dog in the night-time**" by Mark Haddon. It is about a 15 year old autistic boy and how he sees the world. He has a mystery to solve. Looking forward to discussing it.

Happy New Year!

## Annual Blood Drive

Bethel's annual blood donation event will occur on **February 13**. There is an urgent need for donors, particularly during this time of the year when many are ineligible to donate because of illness.

Mayo Clinic's mobile unit will be at Bethel 2/13 from **8:00am-3:30pm**.

A minimum of 15 donors and maximum of 23 is ideal. A Health Cabinet member will be present at services on 1/27 & 1/28, and 2/3 & 2/4 with a sign-up sheet for your convenience, and to answer questions.



Anyone who last donated before 11/19/23 and is healthy is invited to sign up. They always have tasty cookies for donors.

## Bethel Membership Milestone Anniversaries



100 Bethel members were recognized a couple of weekends ago for their membership milestone anniversary which occurred this October - December. Thank you for your faithful and active membership!

View the anniversaries here:  
[bit.ly/memberanniversaries](https://bit.ly/memberanniversaries)



## Snowman Display

We are planning a display of Snowmen in the glass cases in the commons area. It will remain in place until the end of February.

We can use figurines, toys, drawings, paintings, needlework, ornaments, or whatever else you have. Please help make this display a success.

We need the snowmen no later than January 15th. Please bring them to the church office and be sure that you have your name on the item(s). We are looking for both the usual and the unusual!



## Join Our Adult Education Forums on Sundays!

**10:30 am in Room 115 - All Are Welcome!**



**January 14th: The Augsburg Confession II by Dr. Darrell Jodock**

We will first examine the definition/description of the church found in the Confession and discuss its implications for ecumenical relations. We will look at what it says about the role of governments. We will wonder together about the absence of an article on the authority of the Bible. And finally, we will give some attention to the explanation of changes in church practices made by the Lutherans.

**January 21: Faith Circled by Pastor Lisa Hawe**

To access the 2024 forums schedule and previous Adult Ed videos, please visit:  
[bethellutheran.com/adult-education/](http://bethellutheran.com/adult-education/)

## Children, Youth, and Family (CYF) Ministry Calendar/Activities

- **Jan. 14th** – 1st Grade Bible BINGO during Sunday School hour
- **Jan. 14th** – HS Youth Leadership Mtg @ Buffalo Wild Wings (16th St. SW), 12:30 pm
- **Jan. 21st** – Snowtubing @ Ironwood Springs, 3-5 pm, \$10/person, potluck to follow
- **Jan. 28th** – Birth – 3 Family Sunday School, 9/10:30 am, Nursery
- **Feb. 4th** – 9th grade Mentorship Service Project, 1:30 in youth hall (register online)
- **Feb. 11th & 12th** – Confirmation Orientation for 6th grade students & parents (register for 1 of the 2 meetings)





## Call Committee Update



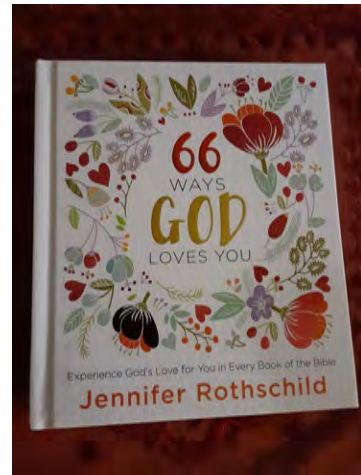
The Bethel Call Committee had a second interview with a potential Pastor on January 8th. We are excited to see how the opportunity may unfold as we faithfully discern next steps. We continue to ask for prayers that the Holy Spirit guide our work on behalf of the congregation. We have made it our highest priority to find the best pastor to serve Bethel as Associate Pastor of Visitation, Missions and Teaching and are grateful for your support in this important calling.

## Bethel's Library: Book Recommendation

Author Jennifer Rothschild, focuses on **God's unconditional acceptance** of us in her book titled- 66 Ways God Loves You. From Genesis to Revelation, each two page chapter pulls verses out from a book of the Bible and explores a distinctive way that God loves us.

A sampling:

- In Genesis, God creates us with His hands
- In Joshua, He gives us divine purpose
- In Job, God sustains us through our suffering
- In Jeremiah He sees our tears and gives us hope
- In Mark God stills the storm in our souls
- In Acts His Spirit comes to live within us
- In Romans He works all things together for our good
- 2 John shows us how to finish well



## January Mission of the Month - Paper Products for Gift of Life Transplant Houses

Quality, affordable, home-like accommodations are provided for transplant patients and their caregivers by the two Gift of Life transplant Houses. **Paper products include tissues, paper towels, disinfectant wipes, disposable tableware, plates and cups, napkins, stamps, note-cards, and more.**

In-kind donations may be left in the wooden mission bin in the Narthex. Monetary gifts may be left in the office or given online at [bit.ly/bethel-give](https://bit.ly/bethel-give). Please designate "Mission of the Month".



Thank you for supporting our January Mission of the Month!

## Submit & Sign Up for Volunteer Opportunities!

Want to share your time and talent for the good of our church and community? Check our weekly **Volunteer Opportunities** printed on the back of the 'Welcome to Worship' sheet at each of our worship services. You are encouraged to **sign up online by visiting our serving ministries**

page: [bethellutheran.com/servingministries](http://bethellutheran.com/servingministries).



**To submit volunteer opportunities**, all you have to do is visit our 'Announcement Requests' webpage: [bethellutheran.com/announcement-requests](http://bethellutheran.com/announcement-requests), select 'Submit Volunteer Opportunities' and fill out the form by 4 pm of the Tuesday of the week you want it published. Questions? Contact Rachel Hasley ([hasley@bethellutheran.com](mailto:hasley@bethellutheran.com)).

## Communication Request

Does your group have news that they want shared in the bulletin announcements, weekly e-News, or more? Now there's an easy way to do it! Simply go to [www.bethellutheran.com/announcement-requests](http://www.bethellutheran.com/announcement-requests), click on where you want your information published, and fill out the form! Please take note of the submission deadlines which are in place to ensure we can give you the best possible results. Thank you!



810 Third Ave SE  
Rochester, MN 55904

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

507.288.6430

