



Joyful, Joyful

BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH - DECEMBER 1, 2024

9:30 Sunday School for all ages
10:30 Morning Worship (Auditorium)
Children's Church (ages 4-8, LL 3 & 4)

Song *Sing We the Song of Emmanuel*

Song *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

Announcements

Song *Light of the World*

Scripture Reading

Song *O Come All Ye Faithful*

Message Pastor Brandon

Communion *Behold the Lamb*

Benediction

Community Christmas Concert Rehearsal - Call times as follows:
5:30 Brass, 5:45 Orchestra, 6:00 Choir & 7:20 Dismissal

THIS WEEK

MON - SCS CHRISTMAS CONCERT - 7 PM IN THE AUDITORIUM

Concert will feature 6th-12th grade choir, band, orchestra and handbell ensembles. An evening of holiday music is a great way to kick off the Christmas season!

TUE - SENIORS AT BETHEL - "Thanksgiving Blessings"-10:30am in the Michael Room.

WED - BETHEL MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES

5:00pm Teriyaki Chicken Dinner ([RSVP by Tuesday](#))

6:00pm AWANA, Youth Group & Adult Bible Studies

FRI - MEN'S BOOK STUDY, 6 am in the Michael Room

FRI - CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY CHAPEL PERFORMANCE,
10 am in the Auditorium

FRI - MEN'S LUNCH, Noon at Maxfield's in Schaumburg

Next Sunday Dec 8th @ 6 pm - Children's Christmas Play

A festive holiday cruise turns perilous when a storm leaves them shipwrecked. Will they be found in time for the ship's big Christmas Concert? Spoiler alert: yes, they will! After all, Christmas is the story of lost people being rescued by the long-awaited Savior!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD TOTALS

600 Boxes: Filled during our church-wide packing party on Nov. 13th.

2,387 Boxes: On their way around the world after **50 volunteers** made it possible to be a regional collection site again this year. Thank you to all those who participated & Praise God!

Fighter Verse: For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living. ~ **Romans 14:7-9**

DECEMBER CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Congratulations to Pastor Mark Coleman, and his wife, Jan, for 30 years of dedicated ministry to the Deaf.

This year, our Christmas Offering will bless our missionary partners and contribute to a special project that celebrates the influence of our Bethel Deaf ministry. Here is how the funds will be distributed:

1. First \$25,000: Directly to our missionary partners.
2. Next \$10,000: To Central Africa Baptist University (CABU). Their Deaf Studies program and disability office trains deaf interpreters and national pastors who can plant churches & schools to reach the deaf. Thanks to a matching gift opportunity, our donation will be doubled!
3. Next \$10,000: Toward the purchase of an 8-passenger minivan for Bethel Deaf to help those who cannot drive or get to Bethel on their own.
4. Anything over \$45,000: Also to our missionary partners.

Please prayerfully consider how you will participate. Simply designate your gift "Christmas Offering" when you give in person, online or in the app.





DECEMBER



CHURCH/SCHOOL EVENTS



- 2 SCS Christmas Concert - 7pm**
Featuring 6th-12th Grade Choirs & Ensembles
- 8 Bethel Children's Christmas Play - 6pm**
"Away in a Mango" with the K-5th grade kids' choir
- 9 SCS 4th - 6th Grade Band Concert - 7pm** (Chapel)
- 11 Bethel All Church Caroling - 6pm** (Cafe)
- 12 SCS Preschool & Kindergarten Christmas Concert - 9am**
- 14 Bethel Deaf Christmas Party - 5pm** (A-Frame)
- 15 Bethel Community Christmas Concert - 6pm**
- 17 SCS Orchestra Concert - 7pm**
- 18 Kids' Christmas Parties - 6pm**
(AWANA & Youth rooms)
- 24 Bethel Christmas Eve Candlelight Service - 6pm**



All events in the Auditorium unless otherwise noted.

Winter is moving in quickly, and with the cooler temperatures comes a slower pace of life for us if not for our farmers/ranchers who are trying to get things done before the snow flies. We did have some more rain this year which helped the crops, but we're not back to normal. Please continue to pray for normal amounts of moisture.

Camp in June was kind of different this year as our time together was cut short due to scheduling conflicts with the camp we rent. We were thankful for the help of Brad's two sisters in the kitchen and with the younger kids, and we were blessed by the sessions. We also enjoyed a couple of special music numbers which we haven't had in recent years. We haven't been made aware of any decisions made this year but know the Lord promises that His Word will not return void.

Chris's parents came up in August, and we had a great time as a family fishing and spending time with each other. We are so thankful for the protection God gave to Chris's father who took a fall down some stairs. In just a few days, we will be taking a trip to the States to see them, attend a family wedding, celebrate American Thanksgiving and visit a couple of our supporting churches.

The end of August brought some exciting news. A refugee from the Ukraine came to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ and a couple weeks later was baptized. Not long after this he started dating one of our young ladies, and now we are looking forward to a wedding. It is always exciting to see how the Lord builds His church and puts together two sweet young people. Please pray for his mother who is here as well. She is not a believer and is rather skeptical of churches as all she has known is corruption. Another need for him is to receive his permanent residency so he will be able to get a better job.

September brought some changes as well. We are officially empty-nesters. Our youngest son Andrew decided to attend trade school in Denver. We took him down and got him all settled. From there we went to Ontario where Brad was the speaker for a missionary retreat. It was a wonderful time of refreshment. From there we swung back

into the States for a supporting church visit. It was wonderful to reconnect with many there and to meet many new ones. Brad also had the opportunity to speak at one session at a men's retreat in Alberta. He enjoyed reconnecting with many, a refreshing time of fellowship and being fed by the Word.

The church plant in Beechy continues to be in talks with a man in regards to his being their pastor. Please continue to pray with them and us for the Lord's will in this situation. Things in Swift Current continue to go well.

Brad has been able to strike up a friendship with a believer named Mike who recently moved to Saskatoon from Ottawa. A missionary couple we are friends with made the connection for us. He is here as a political refugee, and his wife and two small children are in hiding back home. Please pray for comfort and safety for this family and that Mike will be able to bring them here soon.

Our biggest need for prayer right now is due to our moving on from the church in Hanley. Brad is handing things over to local leadership, and we are looking forward to what the Lord has next for us in ministry. We need direction and wisdom from the Lord as does Community Baptist in the days ahead. We are so thankful for the opportunities to minister the Lord has given to us in the years we have been here and give Him the glory for all that was accomplished. Praying that our next prayer letter will be able to give you some exciting news as to what's next!

Other than Andrew, there is not much to report on the home front. Austin's two sons have started soccer which we have been really enjoying watching. His oldest son is also starting piano lessons in December. We are praying that the Lord will be able to use this for His glory in the future.

With Thanksgiving and Christmas coming quickly, our hearts overflow with praise to our gracious, loving, all-powerful heavenly Father for the things He has done in providing our salvation by sending His only begotten Son. To God be the glory! - Philippians 4:17-20