

JUNE 2017

Volume 2  
Issue 6

# BETHEL CONNECTIONS

## WE SALUTE 2017 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES!

Thanks to all the graduating seniors who shared their faith and led us in worship on Sunday, May 28. Their leadership in all aspects of the service provided a wonderful worship experience for our Bethel congregation!

May these seniors continue to be a blessing to others as they move forward on their faith journey and share God's love wherever they go.



Years ago, the great American humorist Mark Twain wrote, **"When a child turns twelve, put him in a barrel and feed him through the knot hole. When he turns sixteen, plug the knot hole!"**

Twain undoubtedly recognized adolescence as a time of "storm and stress" for young people and their families. It's a time of testing values and boundaries. It can also be a time of flaring tempers as hormones run wild. Yet, Twain was wrong in suggesting we exclude and alienate our young people.

From all that we know of the Bible, Jesus never spoke a discouraging word towards young people! In fact, he encouraged, **"Let the children come to me."** (Matthew 19:13-15) Young people have a

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## THIS MONTH'S ISSUE:

### CONNECT

Young At Hearts invites seniors on a Mississippi River Cruise.

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### GROW

Read about the upcoming 500th Anniversary of the Reformation.

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### SERVE

American Red Cross Blood Drive scheduled in June.

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#### PASTORAL STAFF

John Lestock, Senior Pastor  
Ladd Sonnenberg, Youth & Families Pastor  
Kris Kurzejeski, Associate Pastor  
Bob Bipes, Visitation Pastor

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Cindy Halunen, Middle School Ministry  
Missy Austreng, Faith Milestones  
Marcie Andrews, Communication Assistant

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Eric Possehl, Contemporary Music Director  
Sonja McGill, Handbell Director  
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Sharon Sippel  
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#### BETHEL HIGHLANDS PRESCHOOL

Kari Jo Fore, Director

Staff can be reached via email through  
[bethelHUDSON.org](mailto:bethelHUDSON.org).

#### DOWNTOWN CAMPUS

920 Third Street | Hudson, WI  
715-386-8821

#### HIGHLANDS CAMPUS

504 Frontage Road | Hudson, WI

## A NOTE FROM PASTOR JOHN

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very special place and importance in the Kingdom of God; just read the accounts of Jeremiah (1:6-10), Eli (1 Samuel 3:1-19), or Paul's words to Timothy (1 Timothy 4:12-14).

Here at Bethel, we want to uphold these biblical stories and examples, making it clear children and youth are always **welcome**, **wanted**, and **needed**. Not just at youth events, but in all of our congregational life. The old adage from years ago, "Children are to be seen, not heard" is not at all what the scriptures teach, nor what we believe here.

We need to not only see, but also hear from our young people as we **worship together** (and their helping with ushering, acolyting, reading, music, etc) as we **serve together** (Feed My Starving Children, teaching VBS, summer mission trips, etc) and **reaching out together** as we invite others into our faith and congregational life.

We also need the input and ideas of our young people with our committees, and on our Church Council. (More and more of our high school youth are serving in these type of positions.) Youth are not "second class citizens" in the church because of their age. Youth are not simply "the church of tomorrow." Youth are a crucial part of the church today! Ours is not a healthy or balanced family of faith without them having a voice and playing active roles.

Friends, children and young people are some of our greatest gifts from God, and some of our most valuable resources with all their: energy, enthusiasm, idealism, courage, questions, insight and sense of adventure. So let us continue to encourage our young people in every way we can...affirm them, invest in them, and learn from them! Most of all let us pray for them. These are certainly difficult and challenging days to be a child or young person, so perhaps our youth need our prayers more than ever! They need to know we are **with them**, **for them**, and **thankful to God** for them. May God continue to shape, polish and shine these "newly cut diamonds" entrusted to us here at Bethel.



In God's Great Name,  
Pastor John Lestock

**CONNECT  
WITH US  
ONLINE**



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BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH HUDSON](https://FACEBOOK.COM/BETHEL%20LUTHERAN%20CHURCH%20HUDSON)

## MAY LIFE

### EVENTS

**BAPTIZED:** Kade Decker Eggen,  
Son of Eric & Jaclyn Eggen;  
Frederick William Wolf,  
Son of Matthew & Jessica Wolf ;  
Lena Grace Anderson,  
Daughter of Leif & Kelly Anderson

**FUNERALS:** Mike Smith, Eunice Miller,  
Willettta Breault

**WEDDINGS:** Matt Harstad and Melissa

## BETHEL CLUBS

Connect with others through the variety of clubs held each month at Bethel. See more at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org).

**Bethel Book Club** meets Wednesday, June 7, at the Downtown Campus at 1pm. The Nightingale by Kristin Hannah will be discussed.

Women of Bethel invite you to be a part of these activities at the Downtown Campus:

**Quilting:** Friday, June 9, and Tuesday, June 27, all dates begin at 9am

**Hardanger:** Thursdays, June 1 & 15, at 1pm

**Embroidery:** Monday, June 12, at 1pm

## IN GRATITUDE

Thank you to my friends at Bethel for the kind thoughts, cards, meals and flowers at the recent loss of my mother. Many of you were with me through the journey of caring for my parents over the past few years and I was so grateful for your prayers and support. Lonna Possehl



## YOUNG AT HEARTS

On Monday, June 19, YAH will cruise from Harriet Island to Fort Snelling with sights of the St. Paul High Bridge, Pig's Eye's Cave, Minnesota River mouth and Pike Island. Depart from Downtown Campus at 12pm, lunch in St. Paul, then 1 1/2 hour cruise begins at 2:30pm. The all inclusive cost is \$29. Register with payment in the church office by June 5.

*Young at Hearts*

### MISSISSIPPI RIVER CRUISE



## FRIENDSHIP LUNCHEON

Seniors adults: make sure to mark your calendars and invite a friend to come along with you to the Friendship Luncheon on Monday, July 24, at the Highlands Campus from noon—1:30pm. You will enjoy a catered lunch and music provided by the St. Croix Valley Polka Band. You just may want to get up and showcase your best polka step. Stay tuned for details on program. You can register today at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org) or in the church office with the \$10 cost.

## FRIENDSHIP LUNCHEON



MONDAY, JULY 24 | 12PM - 1:30PM | HIGHLANDS CAMPUS  
\$10 FOR CATERED LUNCH

SPECIAL MUSIC BY:  
ST. CROIX VALLEY POLKA BAND



## MY BETHEL ACCOUNT



WORSHIP

MESSAGES

EVENTS

MY BETHEL ACCOUNT

Does this image above look familiar? This is Bethel's home page on [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org). You will see the bar titled **MY BETHEL ACCOUNT**. This is where you will securely access your account and update your data.

Please access this database this month to confirm a log in and review your profile. (You can also add a profile picture—this really helps the Bethel staff identify you!)

Once your log in is complete, you can access the database to review your records and also get contact information for others, similar to the White Pages.

Once you get comfortable using this database and maintaining your information, Bethel's records will be complete and up to date.



## BIBLE STUDIES

Bethel offers a variety of options for you to grow your faith with Bible Studies. You are invited to drop in at any of them. Below is a list of Women's Gathering Circles that are scheduled in June. You will find a comprehensive list of all opportunities at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org):

### Women's Bible Study Gatherings:

All women are invited to attend a gathering of their choice. See details online. Thursday Gatherings:

**Dorcas Gathering:** June 8 at 9:30am, Downtown Campus

**Mary Gathering:** June 8 at 1pm, Downtown Campus

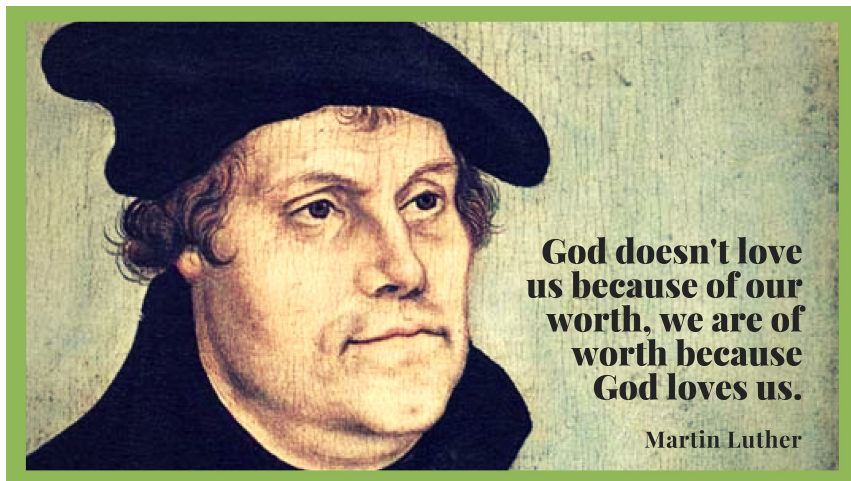
**Ruth Gathering:** June 8 at 7pm

Monday Gathering: **Naomi Gathering:** June 12 at 2pm, at the home of Karen Jilek (735 Aldro Rd., 715-381-1351).

## 500TH ANNIVERSARY

Did you know, October 31, 2017 marks the 500th Anniversary of Luther's Protestant Reformation? Martin Luther was born in Eisleben, Germany, in 1483, and went on to become one of Western history's most significant figures. Luther spent his early years in relative anonymity as a monk and scholar. But in 1517 Luther penned a document attacking the Catholic Church's corrupt practice of selling "indulgences" to absolve sin. His "95 Theses," which set forth two central beliefs—that the Bible is the central religious authority and that humans may reach salvation only by their faith and not by their deeds—was to spark the Protestant Reformation.

In the coming months, you will hear more about Martin Luther, his beliefs, his practices and how they impact and guide what we do at Bethel. Watch for opportunities to learn more and grow in your knowledge of this significant, historic event.





## SERVE CHURCH

Do you attend the Saturday evening 5:30pm service at Highlands Campus? Would you consider being a part of the usher team? These faithful servants set up for the service, hand out bulletins, help with communion, take the offering, and at the end of the service clean up and place the offering in the offering bag and in the office.

Does this sound like something you could help with on a periodical, scheduled basis? Perhaps once per month or more if you'd like? If so, contact Kathy Jeska at [kjeska@bethelhudson.org](mailto:kjeska@bethelhudson.org).



## SERVE LOCAL

You can serve on a local level by participating in the American Cross Blood Drive. We ask for your help in one of these three ways:

1. Donate blood on Tuesday, June 20 from noon-6pm at the Downtown Campus in the Fellowship Hall.
2. Work as a door greeter during a shift on this day to direct volunteers to the donation site.
3. Provide snacks for those who donate blood.

Register for one of these areas, or find more details, at [bethelhudson.org/serve](http://bethelhudson.org/serve).

## PHOTO NOTES

Row 1: Left: Senior League's Student-led Engedi Worship band. This worship is held on Wednesday nights through the school year. Right: Author, Connie Goldman, speaks on challenges at the Adult Education night: Changes, Challenges, Choices. Row 2: Left: 5th grade students study the Apostles' Creed during their Sunday School hour as part of Faith Milestone preparations. Right: 8th grade students listen to a speaker during their Wednesday night teaching time.



## EDUCATION UPDATES

Classes are complete and will resume in September for:

- Sunday School (preschool-5th Grade)
- 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> Grade Faith Formation
- 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmation

## SENIOR LEAGUE

Senior League continues on Wednesdays from 7-9pm throughout the summer. Check the Senior League's Facebook page (Senior League @ Bethel) each week to see the posted activity or event and meet us there. Your friends are invited, too!

## WALL OF ENVELOPES

"Get us to McCreary County, Kentucky"  
Wall of Envelopes will be at both campuses through June 21 only!

Join the excitement by partnering with us in mission on the Appalachia Service Project (ASP)! Here's your chance to help the group raise money for the 1,700 mile journey from Hudson to McCreary County and back home again. Both youth and adult disciples from Bethel will be serving three families in McCreary County, KY in both home repair and relational ministries. For more information on ASP see the link at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org).

*Get us to Kentucky*  
WALL OF ENVELOPES



## SUMMER EVENTS

### CAMP WAPO BETHEL WEEK

**Youth Camp:** completed grades 4 – 9, August 6 – 11 (Registration is FULL, Waitlist only)

**Seeds:** completed grades 2 & 3, August 4-6

**One Day:** completed grades K - 3, August 9

Details and register at [bethelhudson.org](http://bethelhudson.org).



## REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: MAKER FUN FACTORY

July 17 – 21

For youth age 3 through entering 5<sup>th</sup> grade

Volunteers entering 6<sup>th</sup> grade – 105!

### New This Year - Preschool VBS!

Students ages 3 & 4 will begin their morning with all the students then move to separate classrooms with age specific activities, materials and content. It's a great way to include these younger students with age appropriate fun & learning! Preschool participants must be age 3 by May 1, 2017 and potty trained (bathroom independent).

Register today at [bethelhudson.org / youth](http://bethelhudson.org/youth).

NOW HIRING  
**Children's  
Ministry  
Director**



Are you a faith-filled, enthusiastic, nurturing, caring individual with excellent relational skills and a passion for sharing the story of Jesus' love? Your high energy, flexibility, organization, and Biblical confidence could be just the right match for Bethel's Children's Ministry Director! If you'd like to find out more and apply for this role - or know someone who might be a good fit - see details and apply at [bethelhudson.org / resources](http://bethelhudson.org/resources)!



## BHP NOTES

The last day of preschool is June 8! The K Prep kids will have their graduation/spring program on June 8 at 1pm.

What an amazing year of growth, learning, and fun we've had at BHP. Thank you to all of our families who choose BHP for their children, to our Bethel congregation, and our amazing staff. We feel so blessed to work with children every day.

## PHOTO NOTES

Top: BHP students prepare for their spring concert.

Bottom: Pastor John leads BHP students in song during Chapel.



The Bethel Highlands Preschool Carnival and Silent Auction was a huge success! We appreciate every one of you who made this day possible! Special thanks to the following donors: Alwin's Northside Service, Barker's Bar and Grill, San Pedro, Pedro's del Este, Bethel Lutheran Church, Lori Conley, Café Latte, Carbone's Pizza in Hudson, Carbone's Pizza- Willow River, Carissa Woodruff, Casanova Liquors, Christensen Vision, College Nannies and Tutors, County Market, Cozi Calendar, Croix Valley Pet Hospital, Croixview Chiropractic, Crystal Cave, Culver's, Wendy's, The Theobald Family, Emily Janisch, Family Fresh, First American Bank, Foss Swim School, Gehr Family, George Family, Gerlach Family, Graham Family, Green Bay Packers, Helmer Dance Studio, Hudson Bagel and Coffee Co, Hudson Flower Shop, Hudson Food Walk, Hudson Ford, Hudson Gymnastics, Hudson Mom's Group, Hudson Movie Theater, Inspiring Actions Yoga, The Lewis Family, Kelley Nelson, La Rue Marche, Sally Holter, Lotus Touch Massage, The Ludemann Family, Mama Maria's, Mataczynski Family, McDonald's, Milwaukee Brewers, Milwaukee Bucks, MN Lynx, MN Renaissance Festival, MN State Fair, Minuteman Press, Monkey House, New Richmond Golf Club, Oakwood Dental, Packard Family, Pastor Bob Bipes, Pastor Ladd Sonnenberg, Perpetual Motion, Pier 500, The Purple Tree, Science Museum of MN, Soccer Shots, St. Croix Skin Care, St. Paul Saints, Stages Theater, Summerfest, Tracey Berglund – Thrivent, Taco John's, Target, Three Bears Resort and Water Park, Trader Joe's, Urban Olive and Vine, The Koets Family, Valley Orthodontics, Vertical Endeavors, Wallace Wood Ornaments, We've Got it Covered, Wooddale Fun Zone, Yamry Family, YMCA Camp St. Croix, US Foods, Papa Murphy's, and the BHP Teachers and Families!





NOW HIRING

# Children's Ministry Director

SEE JOB DESCRIPTION  
AND COMPLETE  
APPLICATION AT  
[BETHELHUDSON.ORG](http://BETHELHUDSON.ORG)



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