

## PRAYER & PRAISE NOTES

- Remember in prayer those you know who are experiencing health struggles.
- Pray for the ministry of the West Liberty Cares Food Pantry, and for those families who utilize its resources. Pray that as a society we can work towards a more just economy and responses to poverty.
- Continue to be in prayer for Bethel's renovation project and workers. Pray also that final details for the guest house will come together. Pray for God's guidance as we look ahead to using these resources to serve our congregation and community.
- Pray for local, state, national, and global leaders, that they would make wise decisions, speak the truth, and reject selfish ambition.
- Pray for the many people and animals affected by the fires on the west coast. Remember those who are trying to recover following hurricanes. Pray for the earth, and for human willingness to make choices that lead to healing of the earth.
- Pray for success for the Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale online auction event that runs from Sept. 26 to October 3 (to support the work of Mennonite Central Committee). Give thanks for the skills and generosity of those who contributed items to the auction.
- During the months that Deb Bylxr has been confined to her home in Guatemala, she has written 12 study booklets for Mennonite women that are ready to be edited by a Kekchi woman, and she hopes to complete nine more. Pray that God's empowering love will be communicated through these booklets.

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**Office hours:** T & F 9:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.,  
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**Administrative Assistant:** Miriam Lxpp ([secretary@bethelchurchwl.org](mailto:secretary@bethelchurchwl.org))

**Office Hours:** W and F 9:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

**Elders:** Elaine Newcomxr, Dick Lindemxr, Carol Bxck, Byron Kauffmxn,  
Doug Steinxr

# Bethel Mennonite Church

*"Serving Jesus, Loving Others"*

Vol. 62

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No. 38

## God's Power and Purpose

Announcements

Lighting the Peace Lamp – Proverbs 14:30 (NIV)

A heart at peace gives life to the body,  
but envy rots the bones.

Prelude

Welcome and Call to worship

Congregational song

Prayer of confession:

***Sovereign God, hear our confession.***

**We have used our power to pursue our own agenda rather than yours.**

We have exalted the proud and powerful, put down the weak,  
**saturated the rich with good things, neglected the poor.**

We pray for transformation of our hearts and the world.

**May the nations, leaders, and peoples of this planet turn from  
self-centeredness**

and embrace Christ's way of humility, charity and service.

**Empower us to speak the truth**

**and oppose the seductive powers of domination in our day.**

Show us your mercy; teach us your wisdom

***that we may do what is truly your most holy will. Amen.***

Words of assurance:

Brothers and sisters,

the God of our Lord Jesus is merciful and redeems us from sin.

Therefore, let us live as people set free from the power of sin,  
and let us share Christ's peace with the world.

Offering prayer

Scripture: I Kings 21:1-11, 15-21a

Message: Power abused, power used

Response song

Sharing: reflections on the scripture, joys, requests, thanksgivings

Intercessory prayer

Sending song

Benediction

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rebecca & Andrew will be out of town (a short vacation) from Sunday afternoon through Tues. afternoon. Contact Cheryl S. or Carl N. in case of an urgent pastoral care need.

We are exploring the idea of beginning **in-person Sunday School** again. Please sign up on the bulletin board if you are interested in participating. Details regarding when and how are to be determined.

**Annual reports** are due in the church office by Monday, Sept. 21. Thank you. Miriam

**Gifts Discernment nominations** are in your mailboxes. Return forms by the morning of September 27.

**Annual Business Meeting.** Sunday, October 18 following worship at 10:20 a.m.

**Mennonite Disaster Service:** Due to COVID-19, MDS was not active from March until now. Now accepting volunteers for Dayton (now), and for Florida and N. Carolina in October and November from the tornadoes and hurricanes. See bulletin board for details of dates and [places.to](#) volunteer, or talk to Carl Newcomxr.

**Ohio Mennonite Relief Sale** Quilts are now available to preview before the Online Auction (September 26 to October 3). See at <https://www.ohiomccreliefsale.org/> to look at the quilts and see other auction options.

**Bethel's Covid-19 Response:** Thank you for continuing to wear masks, wash hands, keep distance, and self-quarantine as needed - these are essential actions for the health of our congregation and community!

## THIS WEEK

### TODAY

**9:00 a.m.** – Worship. Rebecca Kauffmxn, speaker.

### WEDNESDAY

**12-2:00 p.m.** – West Liberty Cares

**4:15 p.m.** – Our Daily Bread

### NEXT SUNDAY

**9:00 a.m.** – Worship. Speaker, Rebecca Kauffmxn

Scripture focus – II Kings 5:1-15, the story of Naaman

**PASTORAL CARE THIS WEEK:** Carl Newcomxr

## LAST WEEK

Worship attendance 32

*Your generosity empowers our collective work for  
God's kingdom purposes. Thanks.*

### OUR THANKS TO THOSE WHO SERVE

This Week – September 20

**Worship leader:** Ken Shxnk

**Music leader:** Janet Wilkxns

**Speaker:** Rebecca Kauffmxn

**Greeters:** Carol & Chuck Bxck

**Sound:** Andrew Bloxnt

**Media:** Andrew Bloxnt

**Prelude:** Ellen Steinxr

Next Week – September 27

**Worship leader:** Cheryl Shxnk

**Music leader:** Byron Kaufmxn

**Speaker:** Rebecca Kauffmxn

**Greeters:** Carol & Chuck Bxck

**Sound:** Lori Lehmxn

**Media:** Andrew Bloxnt

**Prelude:** Elaine Newcomxr