



# The Bethel Lighthouse

Season 1 - Episode 9 - November 2013  
Season 4 - Episode 11 - November 2016

*Continuing to shine the Light of Christ to a broken world.*

*This issue of the Bethel Lighthouse is somewhat visionary but could very well be a reality. God has given us the desire—could he also give us the tools to make it so? Come join in the adventure!*

*Current events are in blue  
Visions and dreams are in green.*

## **From the Pastoral Staff**

2013 Our Pastoral Staff submitted annual reports at the last Congregational meeting. The proposed budget for 2014 was presented with the final vote being taken on Sunday November 24th. Please look over the budget and come to the Congregational meeting at 9:30 a.m. on the 24th.

2016 *Serving Generously* - Spiritual gifts of service, mercy and compassion too numerous to count are shown on a daily basis both inside and outside the church.

*Evangelism* - A team of 20 participated in the door to door canvassing of Everett last week. Tracts were left at each house and several of us had great conversations with people about spiritual matters.

*Discipleship* - *Spiritual maturity & preparation for service.* Current curriculum in our weekly Bible Classes is "Irresistible Evangelism". This course is also being offered online via the church website.

## **The Good Men of Bethel**

150 Men Attend Retreat - 25 men made life changing decisions to follow Jesus Christ and will be mentored in small groups meeting in homes. Plans are being made for another retreat in the Spring.

## **The Women In Our Lives**

2013 Both Men's & Women's group are continuing to study the "Peacemaker" series by Ken Sande.

A joint fundraiser for missions and women's ministries is planned for the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 30th. It will be a brunch with a silent auction and live auction of craft items, and gifts from around the world.

2016 *Hospice Ministry* - 10 women volunteered to assist hospice care workers; shopping for them while they cared for their patients. They also helped with meals, read Scripture to the patients and gave encouragement.

## **Men's & Women's Ministries Joint Venture**

2013 We are again partnering with Delta Community Church for distribution of Christmas Baskets. Please continue to bring items (*pop tarts, ham, sliced cheese, spaghetti sauce, jelly, hot chocolate, syrup, toilet paper, paper towels, socks, hats & gloves*) and place them in the drop off boxes that are placed around the church. Assembly of Christmas

Baskets is on Friday December 20th and Distribution will be on Saturday December 21st. Both events begin at 10:00 a.m.

## **Outreach and Missions**

2016 *Youth Group Interns in Toronto* - Bronte Cox led a group of 5 Bethel teens who spent September and October with Urban Promise. Their focus was to assist Jeremy & Jessica Reurich in ministry to the inner city children.

## **Children's Ministry**

2013 Additional safety features are now in place for our Children's Ministry. In order to comply with insurance regulations, background checks are a priority for everyone who works with children. Also, the Annex door will be locked during Sunday School and Children's Church and the annex bathrooms are to be used exclusively by the children and staff during those times.

2016 *Kid's Carnival A Success!* Seventy five children and their parents attended the "Carnival Extraordinaire" and were treated to an appearance by Thomas Harp (a.k.a. Santa Claus). The highlight of the event was the *Animal Puppets & Magic Show* and the message of Salvation was given. Fifteen children accepted the Lord into their lives.

"Back to Basics in Raising Children" Seminar - the third in a series was presented by Dr. Mary Hoppa. She enlisted Bethel Young Adults to host a group of foster children at the park for a hiking trip. The topic of discussion was *Creation: Fact or Fiction*.

## **Ground Zero Youth Group**

2013 The Annual Nightmare Night was again a great success with 45 kids attending. The church building was amazingly transformed into a place suitable for Nightmare fun. Thanks to everyone who stayed up until the very wee hours of the morning, diligently putting everything back into place.

Attendance at Youth Group events is consistent at between 15 or 20 each time.

We have been able to increase our leadership staff by two. Bronte Cox and also a student from Trinity Lutheran College have been added to our staff. PTL.

2016 *Youth Pastor Abe enlists additional staff.* We are delighted to welcome four more people to help with the increased numbers as both the Junior High and High School groups.

*Mentoring* - The youth leadership team is also involved in meeting with junior high and high school kids after school in a program designed to teach them life skills and healthy relationship building. There is also a daily Homework Hotline with a staff of five tutors.

**From the Church Council**

2013 In order to have better communication between the Church Council and the congregation, the agenda, minutes, budget, financials and calendar will be available in a notebook that will be placed on the table in the overflow room. Copies of these documents will be available either by email or postal mail upon request.

2016 Church Council approves initiation of Master's class in Evangelism. The instructor for this class will be Dr. Linus J. Morris from Bakke Graduate University.

**And the people said:**

**We started with 8-10 men** meeting at IHOP a few years ago. Now look at us here in 2016, 50+ strong in numbers, meeting once a week for prayer, study & fellowship. We are involved with service projects both in and out of our church, doing visitation regularly, providing strong support and encouragement for those in need, We are helping other churches develop men's ministry programs and we are now actively involved in building the new facility Sally needs to feed more than 150+!

*Jake Englet*

**Bethel's congregation has grown** more than 30% due to prayer, great preaching, dynamic, Christian mentoring, outreach and fellowship on the part of long term core members. In addition, the mean age of the membership has dropped dramatically. This insures a long future for Bethel's body of Christ. Praise the Lord!

*Ed Baines*

**Prayer and Support** - Standing firm at this time, the sisters and brothers of Bethel, in grief and in joy, continue to be supportive and nurturing toward one another. When each of us is in crisis we have continued to find it is safe to reach out to one another. There is no condemnation in Christ, even for those who are broken and ask for support in their healing. I am pleased that we have continued to walk in this way, following in the dust of Jesus' sandals. In Christ, *Mary Hoppa*

**It is Thanksgiving 2016** and we are celebrating the third and newest member to our Spiritual Gifts Teaching Team, that is trained and qualified to teach and mentor those seeking to serve using their gifts. We are excited to announce that the SG course starting after the new year is already fully booked. The completion of this next course will mark the first time that over half of our members have completed the course and their SG Internship and are serving in ministry! Halleluiah!

*Steve Mosman*

**Winner's Circle** - Just celebrating its second year, Winner's Circle helped 72 school kids last year to succeed in school by offering one on one and small group tutoring every Tuesday and Thursday during the school year. With a pool of 23 volunteers from 12 different churches, help is offered in every possible subject. *"I used to hate math and would use every excuse to skip that class. Now I don't mind because I'm not flunking anymore,"* said one student who has been with "Winner's" for just four months. *"It's mostly just a matter of having someone go over their homework with them. We start where they are and just stay with them through a lot of repetition,"* says volunteer coordinator, Kay Bishop, a retired teacher who attends Madison Community Church. *"One of the factors behind our success is that we use other students to help tutor the younger ones. High school students help tutor middle school kids and middle school kids help tutor elementary level students. But another successful approach is using*

*"grandmothers and grandfathers" to read to students and to listen while students read to them. Winner's Circle is a "win-win" for everyone!"* For more information on how you can invest in the next generation, call Suzie Cool at Winner's Circle, (425) XXX-4567.

**Increased Growth** - Our church membership has increased by 25 during the last few months. There have been several new families who have expressed a desire to become more involved in ministry here at Bethel. Our Children's Ministry staff has added five Sunday School teachers.

The Children's Choir will present a Christmas Cantata during the month of December. There will be six performances. They will be videotaped by the Bethel Young Adult Club.

Also, we have seen 27 people follow the Lord in Baptism.

**Awakenings Prayer Institute**

**(API Seminars and Retreats)**

**"My Soul Within Me" Awakenings Prayer Retreat**

2013 Fifteen people from 6 different churches attended the Retreat. They experienced God in the beauty of nature, through extended time in focused prayer on specific Scripture texts and group interaction. In addition, each one created a personal Breath Prayer centered in God's mission for their soul's deep need. The Art of Soul Friendship was explored using shifting roles between 1). the teller, 2). the listener and 3). one who prays during the dialogue.

2016 Awakenings Prayer Institute is now in its fifth year with 20 staff members and 15 interns. Our guest speaker for this month's seminar was Richard Foster, author of numerous books on Contemplative Prayer. The next monthly retreat will take place at our new Awakenings Prayer Retreat center located at Lake Chelan. Richard Foster will be joining us at the retreat and feature his new book. Scholarships are available.



**Weekly Sack Lunch Ministry continues to THRIVE!**

2013 As the weather gets colder, we are looking for donations of hats, gloves, scarves etc. for the people who are in need.

Please bring all contributions to the downstairs kitchen.

2016 The Bag Ladies + One ministry served 100 sack lunches last week. Our expanded outreach with other Everett churches is serving nearly 200 dinners three times a week in our new facility. We now have more than 30 volunteers working with both projects.

<b>Stewardship 2013</b>	
Total General Fund Income Year To Date	\$ 181,383.00
GF Budget Needed Through Nov. 17th , 2013	\$ 193,982.00
Percent <b>Surplus / Deficit</b> Budget	- 6.5 %
Monthly General Fund Need	\$ 18,275.00
General Fund Giving for November	\$ 17,644.72
Designated Fund Giving for November	\$ 650.87
Total Giving for November	\$ 18,296.59
Total Giving Year to Date	\$ 219,216.48