



The Bethel Lighthouse

Season Three - Episode One - January 2015

Shining the Light of Christ to a broken world.

From the Pastoral Staff

Dear Bethel Family, Thank you for the lovely Christmas love gift. I have used it to tune up my bicycle which I hope to be able to ride again soon. I have a new front tire, shifter and brake cables, new chain and a brand new LCD headlight. With that and a good cleaning that bike is ready to roll again as soon as I am. Thank you for your generosity. Exalted Savior, Anchor us in HOPE. It's good to have hope again. - Pastor Wes.

Youth Pastor Abe has been hired as a Prison Guard for the Monroe Correctional Complex and began working there on January 8th. He also will be continuing as Youth Pastor on a part time basis. Abe has always had an interest in law enforcement and justice so this fits in with his desire to impact the people around him in a positive way. Please remember to pray for Abe's protection and safety on the job.



Bethel Men - Continuing their study of the "Measure of A Man" by Dr. Gene Getz.

Bethel Trustees - Our Trustee chairman Les Lewis and his team have been very diligent in building maintenance over the past year. Members of the team are Bill Bruce, Ed Baines, Thomas Harp, Carol Toikka, Sally Cox and Daigo Katagiri. The list of tasks accomplished and "to do's" is long and covers every aspect of the building inside and out. Many of the things done by the Trustees go unnoticed but they make sure the building serves in a functional and smooth fashion. Here are a few of the things the Trustees' have done.

- Security System upgrades - Emergency lights.
 - Repairs to the Youth Room - Fire escape repair, fixed handrail & painted stairwell.
 - Outside building maintenance - Fixed drainage issues, inspected roof, stapled screens, trimmed trees, installed parking barriers.
 - Minor and routine indoor maintenance - repaired holes, replaced lights, cleaned storage areas, fixed toilets and replaced a heater
 - Replacing the Crosses on the Bethel Tower.
- There are also some major projects "in the works".
- Carpeting in the Fireside Room -
 - Pressure washing for Spring 2015
 - Annex roof replacement
 - Back Porch Project update

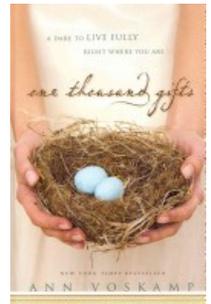
Thank you Trustees for stepping up to the challenge of keeping our building in shape!



The Women In Our Lives - Bible Teacher Beth Moore Coming in February! Several Bethel Women are already planning to attend. Contact

Theresa for details. Cost is \$69.00.

New Women's Bible Study - Our Bethel ladies have begun to read "One Thousand Gifts" by Ann Voskamp. The author invites you to embrace everyday blessings and embark on the transformative spiritual discipline of chronicling God's gifts. In expressing gratitude for the life we already have, we discover the life we've always wanted... a life we can take, give thanks for, and break for others. This Bible study is facilitated by Sally Cox and Gretchen Saari. Come along and join us.



Missions - Please remember to PRAY!

Rick & Carol Stark - Recently retired from serving in Rio de Janeiro. They are in transition now and hope to begin ministry in the Portland area soon. They are attending API here at Bethel.

Larry & Mary Harris - Oaxaca, Mexico. Lord willing, by the end of 2016, we could have just the short book of Philemon and Jude left in order to finish the translation of the New Testament in the Mixtec Language! Praise God! The New Testament could be ready to publish in 2018! Please pray for good progress for this project.

Jami Strandberg - Guanajuato, Mexico. Teaches Old Testament II and Theology of Adoration and Introduction to Christian Education in the Seminary. It's rewarding to see students being challenged while being confronted with Biblical truth and how to apply it to their lives and ministries. Pray that God would stir up revival in the land of Mexico.

Bruce & Carol Ingram - Bruce had to delay going to Ethiopia this January due to severe muscle and nerve pain in his hip and leg. While deeply disappointed, he can see God given opportunities for important ministry. He is trusting the Lord for further ministry in Ethiopia in the future and also planning a trip to Orissa, India April 1-10, 2015. He also will be speaking at a Men's Breakfast in Tillamook Oregon on February 7th with ACTION missionary Jerry Bingham. Please pray for continued healing and strength for Bruce to travel abroad.

Awakenings Prayer Institute
Praying Our Triumphs and Challenges
Retreat

February 13-15, 2015.

At this retreat we work with our timelines to reflect on God's Presence during the high and low points of life. Cedar Springs is a top notch Christian retreat facility, with wooded trails, hills to climb, comfortable accommodations and outstanding food. The cost is \$230 for a private room and \$260 for a shared room. To sign up for this retreat register online at AwakeningsPrayer.org or contact Theresa at awakeningsPrayer@gmail.com

Ground Zero Youth Group - There are between 12-14 kids who show up at GZ on Friday nights and also 6-10 kids come to Sunday School each week. Ground Zero greeted the New Year with a New Year's Eve Bash. Even though it was not an "all-nighter" as in years past, those who attended had a great time of games, movies, food and time spent in the Bible.



What are you up to? Our mission at Bethel Church is to Adopt, Nurture, Prepare and Serve. We would like to shine a spotlight on the Service component of our mission. We are blessed by and joyfully celebrate the generous spirit of service we have observed in the members of our church family. We'd like to get a better picture of what that service looks like in the wider communities of Everett. Where are our people serving? In service clubs like Kiwanis and Lions? Neighborhood associations? Where are you volunteering? Look for a survey to come out soon that asks the following questions: 1) How are you serving the community outside of church? 2) How are you serving the community inside the church? 3) What do you like best about serving? 4) How could you

UPCOMING
EVENTS



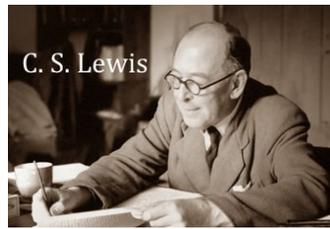
Sunday February 1st - SUPERBOWL! Kickoff at 3:30 p.m. (PST) Go Seahawks!

Tuesday February 3rd - First Tuesday Fast & Pray. Theme is Marriage & Family.

Saturday February 14th - 9:30 a.m. Church Work Day & Second Saturday Sewing Circle.

Friday & Saturday February 20th & 21st - Beth Moore Women's Conference at Overlake Church. Contact Theresa for details.

Saturday February 28th - 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 Noon Family Project with Dr. Mary.



C. S. Lewis

Man's Free Will

"God created things which had free will. That means creatures which can go wrong or right. Some people think they can imagine a creature which was free but had no possibility of

going wrong, but I can't. If a thing is free to be good it's also free to be bad. And free will is what has made evil possible. Why, then, did God give them free will? Because free will, though it makes evil possible, is also the only thing that makes possible any love or goodness or joy worth having. A world of automata -of creatures that worked like machines- would hardly be worth creating. The happiness which God designs for His higher creatures is the happiness of being freely, voluntarily united to Him and to each other in an ecstasy of love and delight compared with which the most rapturous love between a man and a woman on this earth is mere milk and water. And for that they've got to be free.

Of course God knew what would happen if they used their freedom the wrong way: apparently, He thought it worth the risk. (...) If God thinks this state of war in the universe a price worth paying for free will -that is, for making a real world in which creatures can do real good or harm and something of real importance can happen, instead of a toy world which only moves when He pulls the strings- then we may take it it is worth paying."

C.S. Lewis, *The Case for Christianity*



From the Church Council - Financial report for 2014 - General Fund received 192,785.00 Expenses were 192,601.00 Balance of 184.14. God provided for us very well in 2014!

Also, the revised 2015 Budget Vote passed by unanimous vote (25 ballots cast).



GiViNG

With the passage of the 2015 Budget, designated giving is once again being accepted as a part of our church giving. Thank you for your generosity over the years.

WANTED:



Please bring your non-perishable items to Charlie's Closet. We are in need of canned goods, pasta dinners, prepackaged snacks, cereal, rice & beans, Top Ramen (or similar) noodle soups, peanut butter & jam and anything else that will not spoil. Thanks!



Dr. Mary Hoppa is available for personal or family counseling on Sunday and Monday afternoons and into the evenings on Mondays. You may sign up for an appointment on your blue registration card, or contact Dr. Mary personally at 425.879.5283 or by email at lighthousecounseling@frontier.com