

**July 15, 2022**



**Sunday, July 17, 2022 | Mark 10:17- 31**

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## **What is the Challenge Conference?**

What is the Challenge conference? Challenge is the EFCA (Evangelical Free Church of America) national student conference. The Challenge conference has been held every other year since 1986 (Challenge was held virtually in 2020). Fun fact: our very own Geoff Safford coordinated the Challenge conference for about ten years and was one of the main conference speakers in 2010!

The Challenge 2022 conference was in Kansas City, July 3rd-9th.

Challenge conferences are full of amazing worship, fun activities, challenging experiences, and solid teaching from God's Word. This year we sent a crew of 13 to Challenge (seven high school students, four leaders, and two volunteers)! The focus of this year's conference was to help students search for meaning and identity as they navigate the pressure and confusion of our current culture. The Challenge 2022 speakers worked together to walk the students through the book of 1 Peter helping students recognize their identity as God's people who can experience hope and joy as citizens of heaven while living as foreigners and exiles in this world.

I am very thankful for the help and support of our Bethel faith family to make our Challenge 2022 trip a great success. And now that you know a little bit more about Challenge and the Challenge 2022 conference, I would like to share some quotes from our students.

Question: How did God work in your life this week at Challenge?

"I learned that I am truly not alone and that the amount of people that only came to the conference was crazy and that doesn't include the rest that didn't come from these churches."

"I have seen Him (Jesus) work in my understanding of how to confront the base of my sin, and the worship was really powerful."

"He (Jesus) helped me to decide to surrender."

"I learned how to study the Bible and to observe the little things that matter."

"This week God answered a prayer and a question. What am I a fool for? He (Holy Spirit) revealed the thing I allow to fill my time in place of Him (Jesus)."

"He (Holy Spirit) cleared my head and all the thoughts and now I just feel closer to Him (Jesus)."

Question: What was your favorite thing about attending Challenge 2022?

“My favorite thing about Challenge was the huddles, specifically the sending huddle. We grew closer together and addressed how to move forward.”

Lots of fun stuff like joking in the van and making funny voices.

“My favorite part was the outreach.”

“Singing and praising God because I could really feel God in those moments.”

One of my favorite parts of the conference was when we went out for outreach. The work was hard at times but also really fun. I am glad that we were able to help.

I am very thankful to our Bethel faith family for making our trip to Challenge 2022 a reality. I would also like to thank Mara and Megan for volunteering as Challenge staff and Jeremy and Caleb for their team leadership. Finally, I am honored to express my gratitude to Devon, who led the trip. Devon did a great job and proved himself to be a growing leader as he led the team, kept us on schedule, kept the team together, and helped point us all toward Jesus.

-Pastor Jim

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## **We are grateful.**

We, as Bethel Faith Family, are grateful for the blessing of the facility and vehicles that God has provided for us to serve others. We all bear the responsibility to maintain these assets. Here are a few reminders of what that requires:

- Please leave the worship center, classroom, meeting room, automobile, or outdoor spaces better than you found it.
  - Clean up the trash: coffee cups, papers, wrappers, etc.
  - Wipe down and sanitize appliances, counter tops, tables, and seats
  - Wash any utensils used
  - Turn off the appliances, lights, and electronics when you leave
- Community spaces are difficult to maintain at a temperature ideal for everyone.
  - Thermostat schedules/temperatures are set by the office manager as per knowledge of the facility and established standards
  - Thermostats may be adjusted by the office manager or designated support personnel
    - Please be aware changing the temperature takes time and it may be easier to put on a jacket or dress to your personal preference according to the room you will be in
    - Be sure to sit where you can see and hear but also will be most comfortable

You are encouraged to reach out to office staff with any non-emergency communications, questions, or concerns during regular business hours via in-person (Monday – Thursday, 9 am to 12 pm and 1 to 4 pm), office phone (308.532.7040), or email [office@bethelnp.org](mailto:office@bethelnp.org).



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## Production Team opportunities...

Any and all are welcome to join our team!  
No prior experience is needed, we will provide the training.



- Soundboard
- Worship graphics
- Camera operations
- Live stream support

Come and see if this is an area that God is calling you to help in.

Contact KeleeAnn Littrell, Director of Production, at [klittrell@bethelnp.org](mailto:klittrell@bethelnp.org), 308.660.0761 for more details, or contact the Bethel office, 308.532.7040.

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## Bethel 2022 Events ~ Save the Date

July 17 to 20 – Joni & Friends at Maranatha Bible Camp

July 31 – Believers' Baptism

August 4 to 5 – Global Leadership Summit at New Life Church

August 12 to 13 – Elders Retreat at Maranatha Bible Camp

Oct 22 and 23 – Missions Conference

Nov 5 to 12 – Adult Mission to Guatemala

All events are subject to change.

Fall dates for Awana, Middle School and High School kick-offs coming soon!



On July 31, we will have the joy of participating in the believer's baptism of several folks here at Bethel on that Sunday morning. If you are interested in being baptized or have questions about what it means, please let us know on the connection card, or email us at [office@bethelp.org](mailto:office@bethelp.org). This is a great time of obedience in sharing with the world that you are a follower of Jesus, and want the world to know! If you have never been baptized as a believer, please consider this opportunity!

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