

A Shout Out! from Pastor Lynn

August 26, 2020

Hey Bethel!

The wait is nearly over! As I write this, **Pastor Geoff & Deb Safford** are packing & loading for their move from Erie, Colorado to North Platte, Nebraska. Wasn't it great to see & hear them on the video greeting last Sunday? They are obviously as excited about coming to Bethel as you are to have them here.

Anticipation is a wonderful thing. It allows us to start enjoying things before they actually happen, like engagement before marriage, pregnancy before birth, and packing for vacation. **Expectation** is another thing altogether. It can set us up for frustration and disappointment when everything doesn't go exactly as we thought. In **anticipation** of the Safford's arrival, let me encourage you to manage your **expectations**. They will not be just like **Dan & Sue Reimer, Andy & Lisa Pull, or Lynn & Lois Kent**. They have unique Spiritual gifts, Heart passions, Abilities, Personalities, and Experiences, aka S.H.A.P.E. They will approach life & ministry here differently as the Lord directs and the situation dictates. Please let them be who they are without unrealistic expectations. I believe you can **anticipate** wonderful things, which God will do in and through Bethel with Geoff's leadership, but don't limit this through specific **expectations**. Kapeesh? (Look it up). Another word for anticipation is hope, as in...

* **Romans 12:12** (GNT): *Let your hope keep you joyful, be patient in your troubles, and pray at all times.*

Here are some things to do in **anticipation** of the Safford's arrival.

* **Help them unload the truck on Monday, August 31st.** They will be using a storage unit for belongings until their house closes at the end of September. Until then, they'll move into the Kent's condo on Sandstone Drive. Contact the office or **Mark Mendenhall** if you can help.

* **Attend the service or tune into the live stream on September 6th at 10:00 AM.** That's when I'll pass the Baton of leadership to Pastor Geoff. It will be a historic day in the life of Bethel Church.

* **Contribute to the “Tunnel Walk” reception on September 13.** You can read the specifics below, but the team is asking everyone to provide selfies (pictures and greetings), fill envelopes, give gifts and especially extend personal invitations.

This coming Sunday, August 30, we'll conclude "**Cutting Edge Christianity...straight talk from James,**" with a message from **James 5:13-20**. I'm calling it "**Good Old Fashioned Prayer,**" for obvious reasons. This will start a 3-Sunday arc on this important

focus. September 6th I'll preach & pray the prayer of Jabez (1 Chronicles 4:9-10) before passing the baton of leadership to Pastor Geoff. Then, if I remember right, Geoff will preach Psalm 90, which is the prayer of Moses. What a great way to transition from one season to the next here at Bethel.

For the past 3 Sundays, our daughter **Susan**'s family has made the trek from Arvada to North Platte, so that their 3 little ones could be in Sunday School, after months of absence due to Covid-19 restrictions. The kiddos have loved their time with "Mr. Craig." They won't be here this Sunday, but **Lois & I** will. We look forward to seeing you then, if not before.

Pastor Lynn

Greetings From Your Bethel Office

CM Shout Out

AWANA will soon be starting.

September 2 at 6:30 pm is our Parents Meeting and registration night. Due to the Coronavirus guidelines, this meeting is extremely important for parents to attend.

September 9 will be the start of the AWANA clubs.

Registration forms are available in the foyer of the church or visit Bethel's web page at bethelnp.org, click in the Ministry tab, and look for Bethel Kids. There is a link to download a registration form. At this time, because guidelines, there is a limit of kids that can attend. 50 Sparks, and 50 T&Ts.

AWANA Leaders & Helpers Reminder: tonight is the second training in the Quad at 6:30 pm

If you have any questions, please contact me, Tami Littrell, Director of Children's Ministry at tlttrel@bethelnp.org or call 308-520-1743 or Glenn Littrell, AWANA Director at glittrell.82@gmail.com or call 308 – 520-1823

A Special **Reminder** ShoutOut from the Welcome Team:

We are very excited to welcome our new Lead Pastor, Geoff Safford, and his wife, Deb, to Bethel! On, September 13th between services there will be an open house to welcome them to Bethel and North Platte. We would appreciate your help in creating two very special gifts to present to them at that event.

First, we would like each family/individual to provide a "selfie" with your name(s) and a short note about you and/or your family...maybe how long you have attended Bethel or something about your job(s). Please text or email these to Mark Mendenhall at 308-530-3232 / mark.mendenhall@live.com or Earleen McNare 605-638-0966 /

cemcnare@gmail.com. These will be printed out and given to the Safford's in a notebook at our reception. We think this will be a great way of introducing our church family to Geoff and Deb.

Second, we are asking you to help us in filling envelopes with items the Safford's can enjoy later, perhaps they will open one envelope each day. Each item must fit into a #10 envelope or smaller. You can provide your own envelope, or we have decorative envelopes to use. You can share your name with the Safford's, or it can be anonymous. You can fill as many envelopes as you wish.

Please give your item(s) to one of the Welcome Team members below before September 12th or drop them off at the church office. Wouldn't it be great to have a box of 100 envelopes??!!!!

In addition to these things please feel free to invite them to a meal at your home or take them out to eat.

Let's gather on September 13th between services to welcome the Safford's. Join us in the fun! Donuts and drinks will be provided.

Loren and Peggy Berger
Jeannie Gilbert

Jami and Mark Mendenhall
Earleen McNare

A ***Shoutout*** from Julie Fletcher / Liaison for the ***Women's Resource Center***

The Women's Resource Center is *More Than Bricks!* The WRC has been serving our community for over 45 years. Plan to attend the 21st Annual Women's Resource Center Fundraising Banquet on Tuesday, September 15th to learn more about the ministry, how they serve our community, and how you can give of your time and talents. Contact **Julie Fletcher** at 308-368-5520 or the Women's Resource Center at 308-534-1440 for more information and/or to register for the banquet.