

January 14, 2021

Hello Bethel!

My heart has been so conflicted, wounded, and filled with sorrow over the course of the last week. We saw and experienced senseless destruction, chaos, and the aftermath of the protests and riots that have left our nation littered with brokenness, angst, fear, and conflict. We have seen liberty and freedom treated carelessly. My mind was once again drawn to Micah 6:8, "Mankind, he has told each of you what is good and what it is the Lord requires of you: to act justly, to love faithfulness, and to walk humbly with your God."

Israel, in the midst of judgment, because their identity had been lost, was desperately trying to find peace and hope *outside* of God. They missed the point of their identity in God, and their actions showed that their worship had been affected. Our identity as the Bride of Christ, and our security found in him alone should bring us to a place where we don't bristle and prepare for battle, but instead hit the floor on our knees and find our identity in Christ alone. We must act justly (seek and do what is righteous), love mercy (acts of kindness and gentleness), and walk humbly with our God (know the story is His, not ours).

I write this to my faith family because I know that each of you will respond the same way. You will pursue justice with passion. You will love fiercely knowing that love wins. You will walk with others through pain and suffering—knowing what is eternally right. Pastor Jim reminded us so well on Sunday, "Our identity is from Christ, our activity is with Christ, and it all is for the glory of God."

Pastor Geoff

Hello From Your Bethel Office!

AWANA Parents and Leaders

Next week is "Crazy Hair" night. So come with the craziest hairstyle you can think of. Also, Grand Prix car kits will still be available. The race is Wednesday, Feb 17. If you need help with cutting out the design, come to the church on Feb 6, and we will have tools and people to help. If Feb 6 does not work, contact the church.

I had a few parents ask if the Cubbies will be racing. The Cubbies will receive a "hot wheels" car to race down the track the night of the Grand Prix. The hot wheels car is theirs to keep. In His Service,

Tami Littrell

Director of Children's Ministries

Contact Information:

- *AWANA Director: Glenn Littrell, 520-1823 or glittrell.82@gmail.com
- *T&T Director (3rd to 5th grade): Kevin Domes 425-308-4203 or

kjdomes.ministry@yahoo.com

- *Sparks Director (K to 2nd grade): Brian Baxter, 308-530-9232 or brbbaxter@gmail.com
- *Cubbies Director (4 or 5 PreK): Mary Pedersen: 308-530-3502 maryep54@gmail.com
- *The Cubbies are available for Awana workers with Prek age children.

Online Giving Changes

If you are giving online presently especially if you have a recurring donation, you will need to go to our website, <u>bethelnp.org</u>, and re-enter your giving since our current program will end at the end of January.

With the new program, Planning Center, giving with a credit card we will be charged 2.5% of your donation plus a \$.30 service charge. If you use ACH automatic withdrawal from your bank account we are charged only a \$.25 service fee giving us a greater amount of your donation. You will also be asked if you want to pay the service fee adding to the amount of your donation. Some people also do automatic giving through their bank as Bill Pay, and the bank sends us a check (there is no cost to you or the church when giving this way).

Thank you for your faithful giving to Bethel!

A Note from Mary Hepburn

Due to Covid-19, I've been quarantined at Linden Ct since last March. I've listened to many sermons on TV and I read several devotionals every day, but it's just not the same as being in church. I miss my Bethel Church family!

Mary Hepburn

p.s. I love window visits!

We Need You!

Is Hospitality your gift? Looking for a place to serve at Bethel? We need Greeters, Ushers, & Coffee Ministries volunteers. If you would like to serve in any of these ministries, please call the office at 308.532.7040