

Are you listening to me?

A question like this usually carries with it a sense of urgency. Often it's a parent calling out to their child to respond to them, or a teacher trying to get through to a distracted student. Built into that call to listen is the expectation of a response, namely, obedience. In English, we have two words for this sequence of events, "listen," and "obey." In Hebrew, it's one word, "listen / hear" and "obey" are actually the same word: *shema*. I don't think there is any doubt about God's intent here. God calls out to his people to listen and obey, to do both of them. Deuteronomy 6:3 says, "Hear, Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you." In the New Testament, the same connection is taught by James in chapter 1, where he says:

²² Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. ²³ Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror ²⁴ and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. ²⁵ But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.

James presents the connection between hearing and obeying so strongly that to fail here is equated with actually forgetting what you look like immediately after looking in a mirror. God minces no words is making His pronouncement on how we are to live in response to His Word. So, first, we have to read it. If we don't know what God says we will waver in our following. Psalm 119:105 says that God's Word is "a lamp to our feet and light to our path." May we read that Word, walk in it, and discover the joy, blessing and peace that is promised.

matthew mill

Bethany Church

Reach. Serve. Love.



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 9:00AM - masks required

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10:30AM - masks optional

- **10-10:30 AM Sunday School**
- **7 PM Wednesday Night Classes**
- **Jr & Sr High Youth Group check the website**

Every other pew will be roped off to help maintain proper distancing.

Sanctuary and communal spaces will be sanitized between services.

Disposable masks are available at the welcome center desk.

Facebook livestream times may vary. Notices will be sent out with livestream information.

222 MAIN STREET N | CLARA CITY MN

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 687

320.847.3322

*Bethany Doors will be open: Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday & Sunday 8:00 am – 1:00 pm*

Office email : bethany@hcinet.net

Bethany Prayer Chain email : info@bethanychurch-mn.com

[Give | Bethany Church - MN](#)

Anyone who would like a DVD of the services or know of someone who would like to receive one call the church office at 847-3322 or send an email to bethany@hcinet.net.

BETHANY DIRECTORY. <https://mobiledirectory.lifetouch.com/158305/bethany-reformed-church>

Access code is BRC20. The information can also be changed. If your contact information and anything else in your listing has changed, please contact the church office at 847-3322 or email at bethany@hcinet.net

SUNDAY GATHERINGS

“Let us not give up meeting together as some are in the habit of doing...” Heb 10:25

Directives

Bethany will have disposable masks available.

Hand sanitizer is provided.

NO nursery or Children’s Church.

NO gathering in The Hub after the service.

Offering plates are set out at the back of the sanctuary.

Please exit the sanctuary after the service and visit outside.

Maintain proper distances while entering & exiting the sanctuary.

Please be seated in family groups and social distanced from others.

Remain in primary gathering spaces; sanctuary, entrance and bathrooms.

Singing is great! But not required.

If you are feeling sick or are anxious about returning, please remain at home and join in on our FACEBOOK PAGE LIVESTREAM

Directives for General Building Use

Please note that throughout the church building, rooms contain a spray bottle with a cleansing solution in it and a clean rag. Anyone using rooms during the week are asked to spray and wipe the areas used. Any questions can be directed to staff.

Stay Safe Guidance for Places of Worship

- Stay home when sick.
- Stay at least 6 feet apart from other people.
- Wear face coverings.
- Wash your hands often.
- Cover your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze.

NEWS

Winter Weather Notifications. In the event of Sunday morning winter storms, closure announcements will be posted on the Bethany Facebook Page, the Bethany website, sent out via Prayer Chain, KDMA Radio in Montevideo or KWLM - Willmar and website: willmarradio.com

PLEASE REMEMBER TO CHECK YOUR CHURCH MAILBOXES!!

MISSION NEWS



We are sending two shipping containers to Haiti in 2021! Help us fill them up!

Children of the Promise faced unprecedented challenges as an organization in 2020. Acquiring the resources our ministry needs to thrive was one of the biggest challenges. Instability in Haiti has forced us to significantly limit travel, drastically adjust according to exchange rates, and limit short-term volunteers... and that was before the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to these factors and uncertainty surrounding international travel, we plan to send shipping containers full of the resources needed to sustain and enhance ministry in Haiti. Here is a list of current and ongoing needs.

Donations can be brought to the Willmar office by **March 1**: 1020 Hwy 71 NE Suite 202

- Appliances
- Basic Toolsets
- Cleaning Supplies
- Children's Summer
- Clothing/Sandals
- Diapers & Wipes
- Facilities Maintenance
- Formula
- Household Items
- Non-Perishable Foods
- Office Supplies & Technology
- Printers, Laptops, Projectors
- Adaptive Playground
- Washing Machine, Gas Range
- Dish Soap, Hand Sanitizer
- Newborn - Size 7 Diapers
- Bug Spray, Yard Tools
- Mattresses, Linens, Towels

NEWS

MN Classis Committee Opportunities

Ministry Revitalization encourages and counsels congregations and pastors toward faithful and fruitful ministry emphasizing renewal, spiritual care, and resolution of differences.

Church Multiplication exists to nurture and expand fruitful ministries in the local church, as well as encourage the development of new ministries.

Please contact Pastor Matt if interested or for more information.

Sunday, March 7 Communion Service

Communion is open to all who have been baptized in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Communion is open to all who confess their sin and gratefully receive forgiveness by God's grace through faith. Communion is open to all who desire to grow in the Christian faith.

Profession of Faith instruction for the 11th grade class will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 PM during our regular class time. The class will meet with the Elders on Monday, March 15 at 7:30 PM. The class will culminate on **Palm Sunday**, March 28, with student making profession of faith during morning worship.

LENTEN CALENDAR

Men's Lenten Breakfast. Wednesday morning's at 6:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Coffee and rolls will be available.

Profession of Faith. Palm Sunday, March 28 during morning worship service. Time TBD.

Maundy Thursday Service.

Thursday, April 1 at 7:00 PM

Good Friday Women's Service.

Friday, April 2 at 6:30 AM

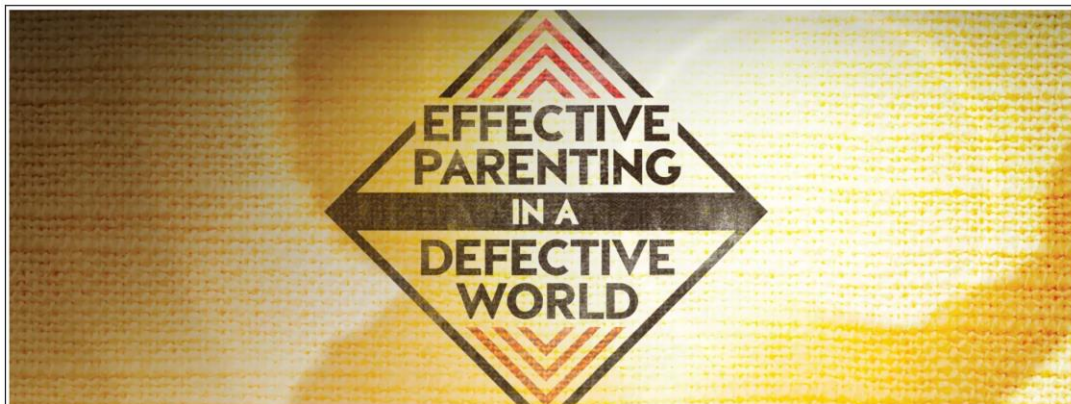
Featured Speaker: Tara (Lalim) Griess

"Bound for Glory"

OPPORTUNITIES TO GATHER & GROW



Sundays @ 4:30 PM
in the Sanctuary



ENCOURAGEMENT FOR PARENTS

Ways we can equip our children to thrive →

Teach them to suffer well.

“Life is not fair. Life is hard. God is with us. God is our strength.”

Work unto the Lord.

Give them chores and opportunities to develop. Coach them.

Manage life wisely.

Stewardship—everything is the Lord’s. Be responsible in the little things.

CALENDAR

Wednesday, February 24

- 6:30 am Men's Lenten Breakfast
- 7:00 pm Catechism Classes
- 7:00 pm Jr High Youth (YA)
- 8:00 pm Sr High Youth (AFC)

Sunday, February 28

- 3:00 pm Effective Parenting in a Defective World (Sanctuary)
- 4:30 pm The Truth Project (Sanctuary)

Monday, March 1

- 7:00 pm Deacon's Count

Wednesday, March 3

- 6:30 am Men's Lenten Breakfast
- 7:00 pm Catechism Classes
- 7:00 pm Jr High Youth (YA)
- 8:00 pm Sr High Youth (AFC)

Sunday, March 7 Communion

- 3:00 pm Effective Parenting in a Defective World (Sanctuary)
- 4:30 pm The Truth Project (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, March 10

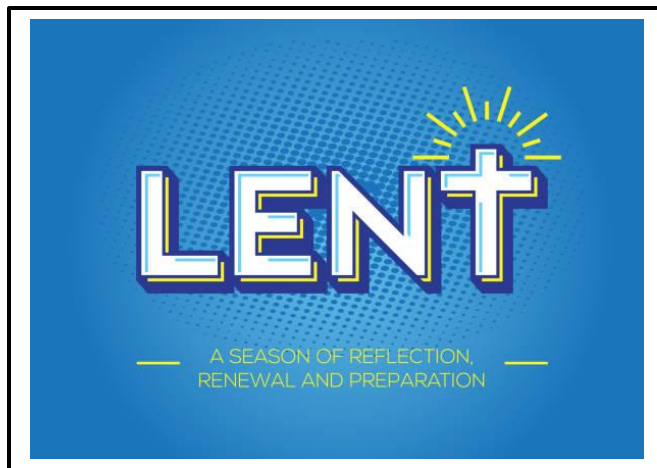
- 6:30 am Men's Lenten Breakfast
- 7:00 pm Catechism Classes
- 7:00 pm Jr High Youth (YA)
- 8:00 pm Sr High Youth (AFC)

Sunday, March 14

- 10:00 am Youth Board (Family Room)
- 3:00 pm Effective Parenting in a Defective World (Sanctuary)
- 4:30 pm The Truth Project (Sanctuary)

Monday, March 15

- 6:45 pm Elder's Meeting (**7:30 pm w/ Profession of Faith students**)
- 7:00 pm Deacon's Meeting
- 8:20 pm Consistory Meeting



PRAYER

PRAYERS for STRENGTH & HEALING

- † Bruce Hinrichs
- † Ruth Johnson
- † Deanna Meints
- † Milt Wubben
- † Vivian Reiners
- † Darren Melin
- † Gary Slagter
- † Heather Thielen
- † Easton Epema
- † Care Center & Assisted Living Residents.

The Care Center is open for visitors. There is a limit of 10 guests in the facility at any given time, so please contact the Care Center office before coming to ensure they are within the limit — (320) 847-2221

Sharon Lenore Asche, 78, died Friday, February 12th at the Clara City Care Center. Her funeral was at 10:30 AM on Thursday, February 18th at Bethany. Sharon did daycare for over 38 years, retiring in 2015, known to so many as “Grandma Sharon.” She spent many hours at the ballfields and gym watching her kids and grandkids. She loved visiting with friends over a Coke. Sharon was a lifetime member of Bethany Reformed Church.

THANKS

Mentors.

Thank you to all who participate in mentoring at Bethany. Your willingness to serve in this way is an encouragement to our young people and a great example of leadership.

Dear Bethany, I am so thankful for your support and love. God is faithful, and continues to give me strength and courage. Thank you for the flowers, memorial gifts and many cards, and most of all your prayers, in helping us through this crisis! Elaine Vreeman

YOUTH NEWS

ROCKY

- **Needed 1 female sponsor for Rocky Mountain High.**
- **Leaving the evening of July 30 – Mid afternoon August 4th.**
- **Contact Todd if interested.**

Power Connection

- **Needed 1 female sponsor for Power Connection.**

Youth Board will be Sunday, March 14th from 10 – 10:30 AM in the Family Room.

Bethany VBS: Kids Under Construction

Monday, May 17 – Thursday, May 20 from 6 – 8 pm

Kids currently in K – 6th Grades

- ✝ If you are planning to send your children to VBS please fill out the forms by the welcome center (before Easter) & leave in the basket when complete. We are trying to plan for crafts. Thanks!!

WORSHIP NOTES

"Rest in the Lord and wait patiently for Him."

Psalm 37:7

Thank you to our vocalists who have led us through the second half of this month: Brooks Asche, Garrett Struxness & Carter Wrede this past Sunday. And this week, February 28, we look forward to Rachel DuHoux and our 6th Grade girls: Ellary Delbosque, Sadie Koenen, Anna Miller, & Kaysia Warne.

Also, a shout out to Andrew DuHoux on the drums, Susan Honken at the digital, Ella Bourne on the guitar and Joyce Hinrichs playing the bass guitar. Thank you so very much!

"Alphabet Memorization Challenge"

Contact Pam if you are interested in joining her in this! See her bulletin board for details and the scripture verses to be memorized.

	<u>SOUND</u>	<u>PROJECTOR</u>
February 7	Jerry Schwitters	Brenda Schwitters
February 14	Scott Tomes/Garrett Struxness	Carter Tomes/Logan Dirksen
February 21	Austin Sweep	Megan Struxness/Renae Epema
February 28	Landin Ahrenholz/Benny Miller	Nikki Niemeyer

Consistory Positions & Committees 2021

President

Pastor Matthew Miller

Vice President

Dan Wrede

Clerk

Chip Goeman

Chairman of the Deacons

Keith Klinghagen

General Fund Treasurer

Mark Hilbrands

Mission Fund Treasurer

Keith Klinghagen

Building Fund Treasurer

David Hinrichs

Cemetery Fund Treasurer

Wade Buss

Worship Committee

*Chip Goeman

Cory Sietsema

Kim Sandry

Pam Knapper

Leadership Committee

*Dan Wrede

Chuck DeGrote

Keith Klinghagen

Brad Hebrink

Riley Aeikens

Pastor Matt Miller

Education & Youth Committee

*Mark Hilbrands

Riley Aeikens

Wade Buss

Todd Henker

Mission/Outreach Committee

*Keith Klinghagen

Calvin Harms

Scott Ruiter

Fellowship/Congregational Care

*Dan Niemeyer

Roger Knapper

Ron Thomton

Property Committee

*Chuck Ammermann

David Hinrichs

John Hagemeyer

March

Anniversaries

- 4 Ivan & Deanna Meints
- 5 Calvin & Marsha Harms
- 12 Ron & Sue Honken
- 15 Jerry & Brenda Schwitters



Birthdays

- | | | |
|------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 George Poppen | 9 Betty Bohlsen | 23 Gladys Williams |
| 2 Steve Slagter | 9 Willie Miller | 23 Robert Dirksen |
| 2 Daniela Goeman | 11 Brenda Schwitters | 23 Ron Honken |
| 3 Jane Wrede | 12 Lois Ahrenholz | 24 Seth Hinrichs |
| 5 Kyle Goeman | 12 Jan Beyerl | 25 Anna Miller |
| 5 Emily Paz | 13 Ed Jansen | 26 Carin Hagemeyer |
| 5 Kailee Epema | 13 Conrad Rozeboom | 27 Levi Groen |
| 5 Miles Nelson | 14 Alice Korn | 27 Carter Wrede |
| 6 Joseph DeGrote | 14 Olivia Naatjes | 28 Diane Ruitter |
| 7 Harold Doesken | 15 Ethel Gabbert | 28 Lynn Koenen (Paul) |
| 7 Scott Ruitter | 17 Calvin Harms | 28 Mark DeGrote |
| 8 Bryan Caspers | 17 Noah Sietsema | 29 Terry Epema |
| | 19 Ivan Meints | 30 Darla Poppen |
| | 19 Mindy Ammermann | 30 Kenneth Koenen |
| | 19 Carol Forkrud | |

