



SEPTEMBER 2024 BETHEL BEACON

See a Sermon



2400 Central Ave, Nebraska City
Worship Service: Sundays @ 10AM

Current Series

Examining Exodus



Deep Dive into the Book of Exodus

Join us as we Seek to Understand
this Powerful Biblical Story
& Apply it's Lessons

Next Series

David:

A Man After God's Own Heart



A Character Study Into
The Person of David

BETHEL BEACON

Current Series Information

Exodus the second Book of the Bible includes 40 chapters and 1,213 verses. Exodus means departure. The deliverance of the Israelites from Egyptian bondage (slavery). The introductory chapters portray the oppressive conditions of the Israelites and the birth of Moses, who is a great great grandson of Jacob and great grandson of Joseph.

God utilizes Moses through the last 37 chapters to communicate between (God and Pharaoh) and (God and the Israelites).

Upon reaching the Sinaitic peninsula, God provided 10 laws (commandments) at Mount Sinai along with the instructions to build a tabernacle as a place to worship God. The Israelite people struggled with keeping the 10 laws, just as people do today nearly 3,500 years later. God never abandoned the Israelites.

Upcoming Events

- Wednesday, September 4 — Fall Adult Bible Study 6:30 AM & 6:30 PM
- Sunday, September 15 — 2024/2025 Confirmation Class (8:30 AM on Sunday mornings)
- Sunday, September 15 — 2024/2025 First through Grade 12 (8:30 AM on Sunday mornings)
- Sunday, September 15 — Belated Community Labor Day Brunch 11:15 AM
- Apple Jack Festival
Saturday, September 21
Parade with Bethel Church Float
- Saturday, October 5, at Bethel Church
Wissmann Family Concert 6 PM
- Sunday, October 6 @ 10 AM Service a guest speaker

SCHEDULED TO SERVE IN SEPTEMBER

	<u>September 1</u>	<u>September 8</u>	<u>September 15</u>	<u>September 22</u>	<u>September 29</u>
<u>LAY READERS</u>	Jason Holman	Nick Brown	Nancy Brown	Cindy Kreifels	Nancy Brown
<u>USHERS</u>	Katie Chapin Judy Nienkamp	Nancy Brown Bonnie Wurtele	Carrie & Landon Ferguson	Carrie & Landon Ferguson	Spiritual Council Communion
<u>SOUND SYSTEM</u>	Kassi Holman	Norman Brown	Norman Brown	Dennis Marshall	Dennis Marshall
<u>ACOLYTES</u>	Morgan Barrett Braellen Wieckhorst	Bryon Wieckhorst Braxton Wieckhorst	Makenzie Johnson Addison Ferguson	Kizen Adams Lexi Graham	Morgan Barrett Braellen Wieckhorst
<u>MOWERS</u>	Larry Wieckhorst	Michael & Brenda Wieckhorst	Dennis & Carol Marshall	Brian Ried	Stephen Luther
<u>COOKIES COFFEE</u>	Cindy Roemer Nancy Hunt	Cindy Roemer Nancy Hunt	Cindy Roemer Nancy Hunt	Cindy Roemer Nancy Hunt	Cindy Roemer Nancy Hunt
<u>FLOWERS</u>	Nancy Brown	Nancy Brown	Nancy Brown	Nancy Brown	Nancy Brown

SCHEDULED TO SERVE IN OCTOBER

	<u>October 6</u>	<u>October 13</u>	<u>October 20</u>	<u>October 27</u>
<u>LAY READERS</u>	Norman Brown	Christine Luther	Dennis Marshall	Kassi Holman
<u>USHERS</u>	Larry & Tracy Wieckhorst	Larry & Tracy Wieckhorst	Jane Kreifels & Katie Chapin	Spiritual Council Communion
<u>SOUND SYSTEM</u>	Jason Holman	Jason Holman	Nick Brown	Nick Brown
<u>ACOLYTES</u>	Bryson & Braxton Wieckhorst	Makenzie Johnson & Addison Ferguson	Kizen Adams & Lexi Graham	Morgan Barrett & Braellen Wieckhorst
<u>MOWERS</u>	Dale & Michelle Francis	Dennis & Carol Marshall	Brian Ried	Stephen Luther
<u>COOKIES COFFEE</u>	Cindy Kreifels & Bonnie Wurtele	Cindy Kreifels & Bonnie Wurtele	Cindy Kreifels & Bonnie Wurtele	Cindy Kreifels & Bonnie Wurtele
<u>FLOWERS</u>	Nancy Brown	Nancy Brown	Nancy Brown	Nancy Brown

SEPTEMBER

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Birthdays

Madison Tietz 1st, Ryden Hunt 4th, Linda Brooke 6th

Chloe Barrett 11th, Abby Marshal 13th

Greg Ramold 14th, Dean Biere 15th

Christian Tietz 16th, Cailyn Heye 17th

Janice Holman, Kay Nannen, Kendra Rowh 18

Aspen Kreifels 25th

Anna Marie Meadows 26th

Jacob Sinner 27th

Anniversaries

Lenny & Jenifer Tietz & Scotty & Laura

Kipatricks 2th

Michael & Allison Mills 5th

Emily & Benjamin Juilfs 12th

Molly & Tyson Hermann 25th

Dennis & Carol Marshall 28th

Prayer Requests

Sarah Hotsenpillar

Vera Orton,

Louella Hauptman

**Gail Lewis (Bonnie Wurtele & Connie
Jensen's niece)**

Logan Drabek (cousin of Jen Tietz)

Provide prayer requests to:

Pastor Jacob (402) 955-9635 or

Church Office (402) 873-6218 or

Bonnie Wurtele (402) 873-4411

2024 Monthly Budget \$12,680
2024 Giving & Interest & Expenditures

	Receipts	Expenditures
January	\$11,961.37	\$18,229.02
February	\$ 6,342.55	\$ 8,267.43
March	\$ 6,616.99	\$ 9,229.04
April	\$ 5,079.82	\$ 9,596.91
May	\$ 5,267.04	\$ 18,640.45
June	\$ 5,940.22	\$ 1,623.49
July	\$ 9,935.34	\$ 9,850.44
August	\$ 6,022.97	\$ 8,960.04

Set Weekly Dates

****AA in Fellowship Hall Monday, Tuesday & Thursday 12 P<****

**** Choir Practice Wednesday 7 PM****

**** Bible Study Wednesday 6:30 AM and 6:30 PM ****

**** Confirmation class Sunday 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM****

**** First through 12th grade Sunday School 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM ****

Sunday, September 1st — Food Pantry Donations

Wednesday, September 4th — Board of Christian Education Meeting 6 PM

Sunday, September 8th — PreK to 12th grade Sunday School Kick Off 9-10 AM

Tuesday, September 10th — Women's Fellowship Meeting at noon in Duensing Chapel

Thursday, September 12 — Food Pantry Truck 10-11 AM North Parking Lot. October the time changes to 10:30—11:30 AM

Sunday, September 15th — Belated Labor Day Brunch following the service

Monday, September 16th — Church Council Meeting 6 PM

Thursday, September 19th — Homemade Blessings 4-6 PM; Spiritual Council Meeting 6 PM

Saturday, September 21st — Apple Jack Parade 1 PM — Bethel Church has a float in the parade. Women's Fellowship food stand on Central Avenue

Monday, September 30th — Bethel Team Meeting 7 PM

Saturday, October 5th — Wissman Family Concert 6 PM

Church Council Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2024, meeting called to order @ 6:05 pm by president Wieckhorst.

Members present included: Larry Wieckhorst, Nancy Hunt, Michael Wieckhorst, Dale Francis, Cindy Roemer, Teri Stukenholtz, Pastor Jacob, Sharon Kluck, and Michelle Francis.

Pastor Jacob opened the meeting in prayer

Approval of Agenda: Michael made a motion to approve the agenda with a 2nd by Rick.

Member Comment Time: No Comments

Approval of Minutes: Michael made a motion to approve minutes with a 2nd by Teri.

Approval of Bills and Financial Report: Jason provided all information by email and was also provided in council packet. Discussion was held regarding bills and financial report. Proposed 2025 budget is needed.

Motion was made by Michael and 2nd by Teri to pay bills and approve the financial report.

Pastor Report – Pastor Jacob gave his report, he has remained very busy and active with members. Preaching included; Began Exodus Series. Discipling; Prepared for Bible study ordering curriculum and meeting with board members and church council. Prepared for Confirmation ordering curriculum and meeting with BOCE and church council. Prepared for Sunday School, ordered curriculum and met with BOCE. Preparing for possible FPU (finances) and Griefshare small groups, this still to be determined. Managing; Bimonthly meeting with church secretary, monthly meetings with Bethel Team, Spiritual Council, and Church Council, 3 meetings with BOCE, and continuing to meeting with Ministerial Association and with Ministerial Association President. Leading; Working on restructuring Homemade Blessings. Working on restricting Discipleship, working on restructuring audio support. Administrating; Worked on website, maintained You Tube (average 41 views weekly), working on creating a budget/financial plan for Bethel. Pastoring; Weekly premarital counseling, prep and organization for Wedding on 8/31, 6 nursing home visits, 4 meetings with members, 1 radio interview (Mybridge Ministries).

Secretary Report – Sharon gave her report and has also stayed very busy over the last month. Sharon made packets for each council member for the August meeting that included July 2024 financial report, Pitney Bowes lease contract, meeting agenda, copy of the July church council notes. Marketing; Distributed the July/August Beacon with Homemade Blessings meal delivery on August 15th. Miscellaneous; Welcome notes sent to Sunday Service Visitors for the 3 Sundays thus far in August. Ordered and received gluten free communion wafers, ordered and received Bible Study materials for September study program, North door replacement began July 23rd, Door hung without hardware. On July 24th hardware was installed on the door. Still awaiting interior trim. There is a gap below the door on the east side. Not releasing payment until these items are resolved. Ordered A-1 lock services a key drum. Still on order. Once received the keys that worked on the old door will work on this new door. July 24th the electronic door monitoring system began installed on the north and southwest door. Installation completed on July 29th. Sara Horstmann wishes to use fellowship hall on 9/29/24 for a birthday party. Michael and Brenda Wieckhorst wish to use fellowship hall on 9/14/24 for a bridal shower.

Memorial Report – Larry gave report. \$89,435.06 in Memorial Fund.

Spiritual Report – No report, see monthly minutes.

Board of Christian Education – No report, see monthly minutes.

Church Council Meeting Minutes

Building and Grounds— Michael and Dale gave report. Yard work to be done. Roof in Kitchen over stove. \$1300 estimated would be needed for new tiles. Dale has been working on this. Better exhaust is needed in the kitchen.

Organ is in need of repair. Rick is doing some research on this. Spoke to the organ company, they would do an estimate. Company is Bedient Organ Company out of Lincoln. Rick is going to continue working on this and see about getting an estimate. So, the council knows what needs to be done. Ruth (organist) would like to be included in this process.

Motion was made by Dale to get on the schedule and get an estimate of organ repairs needed with a 2nd by Nancy. Motion passed.

Men's Brunch (AKA: Labor Day Brunch) September 15.

Bethel Team: Meeting later this week. Upcoming Applejack (Sept 22nd) float, Concessions at Applejack by Woman's' Fellowship, Trunk or Treat, 11/2 Turkey Trot with GG Wellness Center, December 20 & 21 will be Living Nativity one weekend only (volunteers will be needed).

Old Business:

Church Security/Key Fob System/Recording Camera/Active Shooter— New north door installed.

Sound System Update: Still in progress, regarding wiring.

New business:

Payroll Options: Larry has spoken with 3 Accounting Firms. Quote received from Heather

Pemberton, she does other churches in the community. Will do direct deposit, w-2's/1099. \$60 per month +\$5 for the direct deposit fees/payroll expenses. Mike made a motion to hire Heather Pemberton, CPA to do payroll services with 2nd by Cindy. Motion passed with Rick abstaining.

Motion made to go into executive session by Teri and 2nd by Mike, motion passed. Board went into executive session at 8:01 pm.

Motion made by Mike and 2nd by Rick to adjourn Executive Session at 8:29 P.M., motion passed.

Cindy made a motion to add Nancy Hunt to the general fund account as incoming president for 2025 and remove Sandy Reid from account, then the following years the presiding president will become signee. Michael 2nd the motion. Motion passed.

Michael made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 P.M. 2nd by Teri, motion passed.

Meeting closed in the Lord's Prayer.

Next Church Council Meeting to be held September 16, 2024.

Submitted, Teri Stukenholtz

Spiritual Council Meeting Minutes

Spiritual Council Minutes – August 8, 2024

The meeting was called to order by President Nick Brown at 6pm in Duensing Chapel. Pastor Jacob gave an opening prayer. Council members present were Nick Brown, Sue Griepentstroh, Sherry Smith, and Debbie Shallenberger. Pastor Jacob was also present.

Motion to approve the agenda made by Sue, seconded by Sherry. Motion carried. Debbie read the minutes from the previous meeting. Sherry moved and Sue seconded to approve the minutes as read. Motion passed.

Pastor Jacob's Report

- ♦ Preaching –Began Exodus series.
- ♦ Discipling - Prepared for Bible Study (ordering curriculum and meeting with board + church council); Prepared for Confirmation (ordering curriculum and meetings with board + church council); Prepared for Sunday school (ordering curriculum and meeting with board); Preparing for possible FPU (finances) and Grief-share (grief) small groups – TBD.
- ♦ Managing - Bimonthly meetings with church secretary; Monthly meetings with Bethel Team, spiritual council, and church Council; 3x meetings with Board of Christian Education (1x routine meeting, 2x confirmation planning meetings); Meetings with Ministerial Association and with Ministerial Association president.
- ♦ Leading - Working on restructuring Homemade Blessings (to fall under scope of Bethel Team and to appoint an assistant leader) - working with Michelle; Working on restructuring Discipleship (to fall under scope of Spiritual Council and to appoint an assistant leader); Working on restructuring audio support (to fall under scope of Spiritual Council and to appoint an assistant leader and to consolidate volunteers).
- ♦ Administrating - Worked on website; Maintained YouTube (avg 41 views weekly); Working on creating a budget / financial plan for Bethel.
- ♦ Pastoring - Weekly premarital Counseling; Prep and organization for wedding (8/31); 4x nursing home visits; 4x meetings with members; 1x radio interview (Mybridge Ministries).

Old Business

Nick is in process of reviewing communion rolls, and will discuss council members concerns regarding removing people from the membership rolls as noted in last month's meeting minutes.

New Business

In order to ensure future support for programs Pastor suggests that spiritual growth small groups be added to Spiritual Council's responsibilities. After discussion, council members agreed. Nick and Pastor will discuss these thoughts with Church Council.

In light of new confirmation curriculum, discussion was held on what the Spiritual Council should require of confirmands at their mandatory meeting with the Council. Council members and Pastor agree that presentations by confirmands should be changed to coincide with new learning curriculum, and that personal statements and growth are more important than rote memory recitations.

Three members sent requests to drop their membership, Tammy Barga who has moved and no longer lives in the area, Roger and Karen Pieper.

Nellie Swale has met with Pastor and expressed her desire to become a Bethel Church member. Debbie moved and Sue seconded to approve Nellie as a member. Motion passed, welcome Nellie!

Sue made the motion and Sherry seconded to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed. Members closed the meeting with The Lord's Prayer.

The next meeting will be held on September 12th at 6 pm in Duensing Chapel.

Respectfully submitted by Debbie Shallenberger, Secretary.

Bethel Team Meeting

The Bethel Team meeting was August 22, 2024 at 7 pm. Michael Wieckhorst, Sherry Smith, Nancy Brown, Sharon Kluck & Michelle Francis met in Duensing Chapel to discuss activities through the end of the year.

The Independence Day Celebration for 2024 turned out great! A Big thanks to those that made it a success. It takes a lot of work and dedication to make a go. We profited about \$2500. Vendors were happy with the day and we have many who wish to return next year. We will start talking about this event again in January. The 2025 Celebration will be held July 5th.

*Applejack – September 21, 2024 Parade Float information. Meet at 10 am in church parking lot to decorate float. We will have Steeple in the back of truck with bales of straw to set on the trailer. There will be apple trees on the float and buckets of apples. The words “Let’s Grow Together with Christ” will be on the sides of the trailer. There will be an announcement in church saying where our float is being parked before the parade. Come help hand out candy and T-shirts or ride the float.

*Wissmann Family Concert is at 6 pm on October 5th. Please come and listen to great music.

*Trunk or Treat is scheduled for Sunday, October 27th from 4-6:30, inside church basement. Hot Dogs, chips, a drink and a cookie will be provided. We will ask the church family to

*Turkey Trot planned for Nov 2nd. Sherry will ask Hope of GG Wellness to meet September 30th @ 7 pm in Duensing Chaple.

*Living Nativity will be Friday, December 20th and Saturday the 21st. It was discussed to ask a church to share the event or keep event in house. We will be talking more about Living Nativity around Nov 1st. We are adding a Scene to the Stable this year. Quick count there is a need of 15 actors per scene. So at least 30 people for two shifts, plus @ 3 inside and one music person. Around 35 people per night. I will get ahold of the Creative District to see if they will have the tour of lights again this year.

Inspirational Notes were discussed again. We have a list of businesses to contact. We will ask if they would partner with us to pass around good thoughts and inspiration in our community.

Our next meeting will be September 30th @ 7 pm in Duensing Chapel. As always, we encourage everyone to consider joining us as we discuss and implement community activities. **Many hands make light work !!**

Blessings Michelle Francis