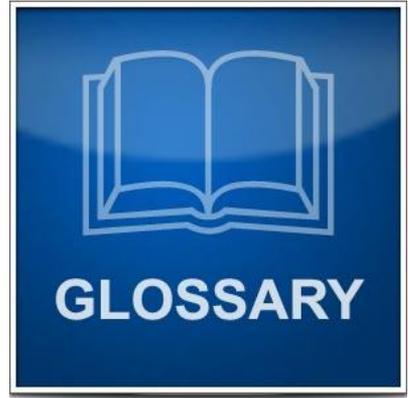


# The Bethel Mission Glossary

Summer 2016  
Sermon Series



June 9 & 12	Park Bench
June 16 & 19	Disciple
June 23 & 26	Pray-Eat-Love
**June 30 & July 3	Series Break / Guest Pastor**
July 7 & 10	Intentional
July 14 & 17	Spiritual Conversations
July 21 & 24	Care in Community
July 28 & 31	Missional
August 4 & 7	Shepherded
August 11 & 14	Generosity



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# June 9 & 12: Park Bench



a place to invite others to sit and rest and talk; a gathering place; a tool to bring people together in relationships that lead to spiritual conversations; benches are within the congregation in order to help Christians build each other up; benches are out in our worlds where we have the chance to build relationships with those who need Jesus.



# June 16 & 19: Disciple

## DISCIPLESHIP

At Bethel, our mission is to help people be Disciples—life-long learners & followers of Jesus Christ.

Discipleship means God awakening Disciples from head knowledge of the faith to “heart life”.



### **Disciple...further description**

one who is walking on the road with Jesus to find out about Him; a seeker of divine Wisdom; follower of Jesus; learner; even from the very moment that someone begins asking questions about Jesus, they are on the path of discipleship;

For those who already believe, it means to identify oneself as a lifelong follower, a lifelong learner; head knowledge becomes heart-life; we have not “arrived” but continue to grow; faith plays out in my daily life; “The supper is ended./Oh, now be extended/The fruits of this service/In all who believe”<sup>①</sup>; transparent and vulnerable in relationship with other disciples for accountability towards transformation by God’s Spirit; “internal spiritual transformation of the believer”<sup>②</sup>; servant leader for the sake of the Gospel; grow, go & be.

<sup>①</sup> “Sent Forth by God’s Blessings,” Omer Westendorf, *LSB 643*

<sup>②</sup> Francis Pieper, *Christian Dogmatics*, Vol. III, 4.

# Strategic Initiative #1

*Developed in 2012, these initiatives led to or reflect much of what is now the Bethel Mission*



## DISCIPLESHIP

As a congregation we will intentionally call our members to an ever deepening discipleship—lifelong learning and living in Jesus. We will create spaces that nurture Christian education and growth, developing deeper relationships within the congregation that empower us to strengthen relationships in our community, while encouraging one another to speak the truth of God’s message to all people.

Becoming a member of the gathering of Disciples at Bethel means:

1. Trusting that Bethel is seeking to teach faith in Jesus according to God's Word as best expressed in Lutheran theology according to the Lutheran Confessions, knowing that even if you have trouble understanding every teaching, Bethel seeks God's truth and not our own truth.

What does “membership” mean?

# Backpack Values



**What 5 VALUES (items) do we want YOUTH to have in their backpacks when they go to college?**

**What 5 VALUES (items) do we want ANY PERSON to have in their backpacks when they “leave” Bethel?**  
(whether they are just going home after worship, going out in the community, moving to another area, etc.)

## **Learning (Bible)**

- Faith in God’s love and forgiveness
- Recognizing that God is present in my life
- Security & strength in what you believe

## **Living (Water Bottle)**

- Thirst for knowledge of the Lord
- Willingness to continually learn
- Experiences in learning

## **Relating (Pictures of Family & Friends)**

- Ongoing, intentional, spiritual relationships
- Congregation is home base: people invested in you
- Learned what it means to be a friend in Christ

## **Serving (Toolkit)**

- Respect and serve others
- Skills to connect with other people
- Opportunities to use your own gifts

## **Sharing (Flashlight)**

- Ability to share God’s love
- Ready to encourage others in faith
- Spiritual conversations (with all ages of Christians)

# June 23 & 26: Pray-Eat-Love

## Our Framework

for Life Together as Church

*Our framework is meant to give a memorable, simple, easily identifiable, cyclical way to speak about what we are doing together as a gathering of brothers and sisters in Christ on God's Kingdom mission. This framework, is adopted from GO! Together—a partnership of Gurnee churches. We have slightly altered the descriptions to apply to the rhythm and missional life of disciples at Bethel.*

- *To PRAY is to seek God's Word which creates, builds, and refreshes our faith.*
- *To EAT is to develop authentic friendships with the people around us, to share life with them.*
- *To LOVE is to look for opportunities to have deeply personal, spiritual conversation with our friends.*



*The three parts of the framework will likely often blend into one another in any one action or moment in the work of the congregation, but they are handles on which to identify our overall purpose in helping people grow as disciples so that they can invite others into following Jesus.*

# The Points of Our Framework

**PRAY:** Building up people in faith and mission  
*Anything in the life of the congregation that is meant to help people to grow in their faith... worship, Sunday School, Bible studies, new discipleship courses, youth ministry, Confirmation...along with all of the support components to making those things happen...leadership, music, choir, board meetings, property improvements.*



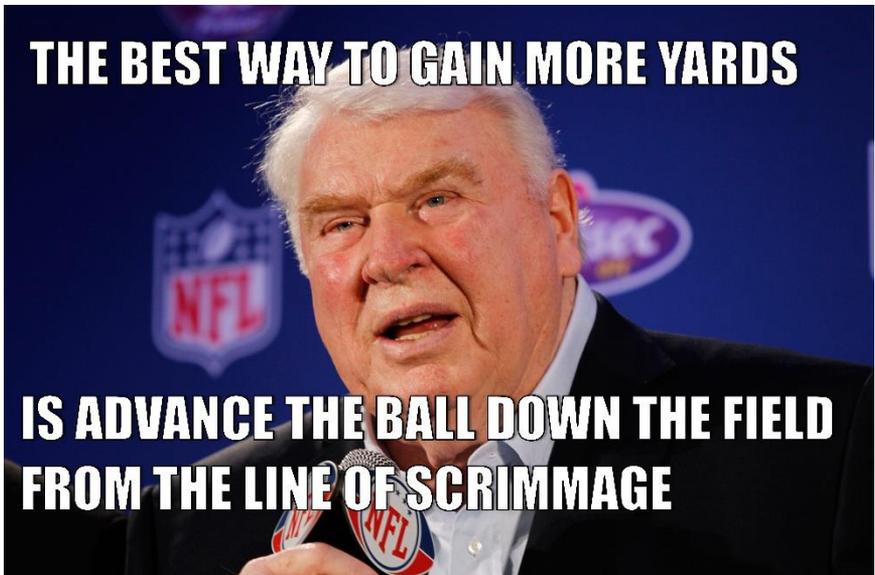
**EAT:** Building relationships with others  
*Anything in the life of the congregation that leads to current disciples getting to know other disciples better, or leads to disciples to meet and grow in friendship with those not currently following Jesus. Park benches. It is the congregation encouraging members to know one another; it is the congregation making sure that its members—even leaders—have time to spend in their day-to-day circles so they can build those outside friendships.*

**LOVE:** Building towards  
intentional, personal, spiritual conversations  
*Individual disciples talking to other disciples about what is happening in their personal experience of God. Individual disciples making the intentional effort to ask their fellow disciples about their “heart life.” This is discipleship huddles, pastoral care, Elders reaching out, members seeking out missing members, Christians accountable to one another. This is also individual disciples looking for opportunities to speak of spiritual things with their friends who do not already know Jesus, are distant from Him, or are seeking answers for their faith questions. This is the congregation creating conversation spaces for spiritual seekers; this is our members spending time in their “neighborhoods” and being encouraged to ask spiritual questions.*

## July 7 & 10: Intentional

# INTENTIONAL

we will not simply speak *about*  
God's mission for the Church;  
we are taking a step forward;  
we are moving off of the starting block;  
we are getting out of the garage and  
driving the car; we are getting out of the  
kitchen and serving dinner;  
we aren't going to call fair catch  
—we're going to advance the ball.



Value: Relating

# July 14 & 17: Spiritual Conversations

talking about spiritual things that are the source and foundation for life, values, identity and actions; build relationships and friendships that include these conversations.

## **Strategic Initiative #3**

*Developed in 2012, these initiatives led to or reflect much of what is now the Bethel Mission*



### **INTENTIONAL SPIRITUAL OUTREACH**

We will intentionally go into our community to provide places to begin, develop and deepen spiritual conversations that lead toward the Gospel of Jesus Christ. These conversations will not only happen in the church, but also in the community: homes, neighborhoods, workplaces, schools, coffee shops and pubs. We will work cooperatively with all Christians in our community to build spiritual connections and conversations.

**Pray-Eat-Love**

**Value: Sharing**

# July 21 & 24: Care in Community

talking about spiritual things that are the source and foundation for life, values, identity and actions; build relationships and friendships that include these conversations.

## **Strategic Initiative #2**

*Developed in 2012, these initiatives led to or reflect much of what is now the Bethel Mission*



### **CARE IN COMMUNITY**

We will build relationships by serving others or serving together with them, providing for physical and emotional needs through direct action, building a network to provide resources, caring for those already at Bethel while also engaging those outside of Bethel. We will build supportive relationships, not just short-term aid, allowing opportunities for spiritual conversations—staying friends even if the spiritual conversations do not immediately lead them to faith in Jesus.

**Pray-Eat-Love**

**Value: Serving**

# July 28 & 31: Missional

“actually *doing [God’s] mission* right where you are. *Missional* means adopting the *posture of a missionary*, learning and adapting to the culture around you while remaining biblically sound. Think of it this way: *missional* means being a missionary without ever leaving your zip code....

[A] particular congregation or denomination can be *mission-minded* without being *missional*”<sup>③</sup>

[i.e. send money/resources somewhere else to have someone else do missions].

③ Ed Stetzer, *Planting Missional Churches*



# August 4 & 7: Shepherded

Becoming a member of the gathering of Disciples at Bethel means:

What does  
“membership”  
mean?

2. Asking to be shepherded (cared for in your faith) and be held accountable in your life as a believer in Jesus.
3. Committing to encourage fellow believers at Bethel in their faith.



# August 11 & 14: Generosity

## generosity

➔ moving toward life that is truly life



God is the first and most generous giver.



God's power abounds in a community of generous givers.

Becoming a member of the gathering of Disciples at Bethel means:

What does “membership” mean?

4. Serving the community around us—  
God's Kingdom—in partnership with this gathering of believers,
5. Supporting the mission of the congregation to bring the Gospel to those who need Jesus.

**Generosity**

**Grace**

**Gift**

**Genuine**

**Giveaway**

**Glean**

**Guest**

**Goodwill**

**Guarantee**

**Grant**

**Grand**

**Grafted**

**Guiltless**

**Genes**

**Gospel**

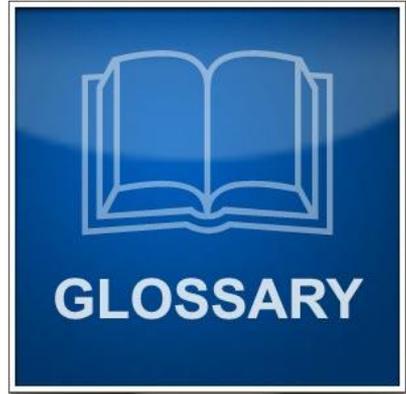
**Good News**

**Generous**

**God**

# The Bethel Mission Glossary

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## Weekly Scripture Readings

**June 9 & 12**      **Park Bench**

- ⇒ Deuteronomy 6:4-9
- ⇒ Acts 18:1-4
- ⇒ Luke 7:36-8:3

**June 16 & 19**      **Disciple**

- ⇒ Psalm 23
- ⇒ John 6:35-40,60-71

**June 23 & 26**      **Pray-Eat-Love**

- ⇒ Colossians 4:2-6
- ⇒ Mark 12:28-34
- ⇒ Luke 19:1-10

**\*\*June 30 & July 3**      **Series Break / Guest Pastor\*\***

**July 7 & 10**      **Intentional**

- ⇒ Romans 12:1-21
- ⇒ John 17:1-8

## **July 14 & 17      Spiritual Conversations**

- ⇒ 2 Thessalonians 2:1-20
- ⇒ Luke 10:38-42

## **July 21 & 24      Care in Community**

- ⇒ Jeremiah 29:1,4-14
- ⇒ Proverbs 13:23,14:21,14:31,19:17,  
21:13,29:7,31:9
- ⇒ Luke 12:13-31

## **July 28 & 31      Missional**

- ⇒ Genesis 12:1-8
- ⇒ 2 Corinthians 5:14-21
- ⇒ Colossians 4:2-6

## **August 4 & 7      Shepherded**

- ⇒ Galatians 5:13-6:3
- ⇒ James 5:13-20
- ⇒ Luke 17:1-6,10

## **August 11 & 14      Generosity**

- ⇒ Psalm 95:1-7
- ⇒ Romans 5:1-10
- ⇒ Matthew 19:30-20:16