

## Thanksgiving Eve Service

Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.  
with Communion in the Sanctuary



**Women's Bible Study** The **November 21** Women's Bible Study is being rescheduled to **November 28**. If you have questions contact Kathy Schwartz (kathyschwartz123@gmail.com).

**Poinsettia Orders** Red poinsettia plant orders are being taken to decorate our worship areas on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. The cost for a plant is \$11, and orders are due in the church office by Monday, **December 3**. Order forms are available on the Hub. Remember a loved one by purchasing a plant: In memory of..., In appreciation of..., To the Glory of God.



**Holiday Food Baskets** There are two ways to feed our Lake County families this holiday season: **1.** Holiday Gift Baskets for \$20. Donations can be placed in the offering with checks made out to Bethel & "C.O.O.L. Holiday Basket" marked in the memo. **2.** If you prefer to do your own shopping, there is a list of food items on the Hub. Non-perishable food donations may be dropped in the plastic container near the sanctuary. If you have perishables, contact C.O.O.L. at 847-662-1230 to schedule a drop off. Deadline for Bethel drop off is **December 9**.



## VBS is going through some wonderful changes!



In order to reach children who attend camps during the week and to encourage more adults to participate in a great outreach opportunity, next summer we will be offering a 3-day VBS. It will be held on a Friday evening, Saturday morning and early afternoon, and end with the celebration on Sunday in church. Currently, there is a need for a director (or co-directors). If you are interested, but nervous about what to do, Kylie Brazda and Jeremy & Andrea Little will be available to assist you! As director, you have the ability to choose the month and weekend for VBS. Contact Katrina Johns, Kylie (kbrazda3030@yahoo.com), or the Little's (alittlesong29@gmail.com) to learn how you can help!

**Sunday School** Today's lesson is about The Bronze Serpent from *Numbers 21*. Jesus compares the salvation that we receive to the people being saved from the snakebites in desert by looking at a bronze serpent. The serpent kept the people from dying, and so the cross of Jesus will keep us from dying eternally. As Paul said in Ephesians, God "made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions" (Ephesians 2:4-6). God made us alive through the One lifted up on the cross. Looking again at the story in Numbers, the story of the people and the snake in the desert, we realize that through Christ we are made alive. Yet, it does not always look like we're alive, having victory over death, having no need to fear Satan. The serpent bites and the impending deaths reminded the people that they needed God to save them, and God told Moses that He would save the people through a bronze serpent upon a pole. God would make the people alive, but this would come despite what the people might think about the means, despite what they might think about what God was going to use to save them. A serpent on a pole probably did not look like anything that could save them. After all, think about what this looked like to the people of Israel when Moses lifted up a bronze serpent. In the first place, to Israel snakes were unclean, something that God had forbidden them to touch or eat. If they did touch a snake, it would make them unclean, unable to come to worship, unable to be inside the camp, for seven days. More than that, now snakes were the enemy, since they were the ones bringing this dreaded death-bite. On top of it all, Moses said that God would save them if they looked at the bronze serpent after being bitten. They couldn't even touch it, which would have at least made it seem sure. No, God was offering them salvation, was saying that He would make them alive, but this promise comes despite what the means look like, despite what the bronze serpent looks like.

\*\*\* **November 25** will be the annual packing event. This year it will be for items that our mission "A Safe Place" can use. Children will be having fun packing items and also practicing for the Christmas program. Adults will meet in the fellowship hall. \*\*\* **December 9** is the Christmas program. Look for more details from Music Director, Ann Souza, as the date approaches.

\*\*\* **December 30** no lesson.

**Bethel Website:** www.bethelgurnee.org **Office:** 847-244-9647 **Preschool:** 847-244-9672 **Email:** office@bethelgurnee.org

**Pastor Ben Squires** Cell: 224-419-5519 / pastor@bethelgurnee.org

**Katrina Johns** - Equipping Coordinator Direct line: 224-623-0800 / katrina@bethelgurnee.org

**Linda Gifford** - Administrative Assistant linda@bethelgurnee.org

**Lisa Schwarz** - Office Manager lisa@bethelgurnee.org

**Karen Leicht** - Disciple Care Coordinator karen@bethelgurnee.org

**Donna Stutzman** - Preschool Director preschool@bethelgurnee.org

**Cleaning Help** Need a little extra help with cleaning? Roberto and Berty, the cleaning people for Bethel. They are available for any housekeeping you might need done. If you are interested in their services, contact Karen Leicht, Disciple Care Coordinator, at [karen@bethelgurnee.org](mailto:karen@bethelgurnee.org).

**Christmas Tree Trimming** Everyone is invited to help beautify our worship areas in the sanctuary and the gym. On Thursday, **December 6** at 6:30 p.m. we will be trimming the trees. Contact Kathy Schwartz if you have any questions (847)975-9637.



**Ushers Sign-up** If you are an usher and would like to sign up you can do so on the side of the Hub or online at <https://tinyurl.com/bethelushersnov18>. If you have never ushered before and would like to, contact Bob Souza (847-345-2157) for free on the job training.



**LWML News** Kathy Schwartz is looking for Thanksgiving pies. Redeemer Lutheran in Waukegan is hosting Thanksgiving dinner for servicemen and women from Great Lakes. Last year 150 people attended. They would like help from each church in our zone to make 6 homemade pies. There is a sign up sheet on the Hub if you would like to help. Call Kathy Schwartz (224-575-2678) with questions.



*Hello Bethel Family, The LEARN Thunderbirds would like to thank you for all your support in helping the players have an extraordinary experience last season, learn responsibility, respect and appreciation for others, develop strong characteristics that will help them become not just good basketball players but great men. And ultimately grow towards our mission of providing them with the academic foundation and ambition to earn a college degree. Many of our 8th grade boys scored extremely high on their standardized test graduating at a high level of achievement. You've had an enormous impact on the life of each of our players. Many of our boys were accepted with full or nearly full scholarships to college preparatory high schools. Your support helps to make dreams a reality! Thank you! Please visit our team website ([learnthunderbirdbasketball.com](http://learnthunderbirdbasketball.com)) for the opportunity to donate this season!*  
-- John Jones (Coach JJ)



**DEADLINE for December Big Buzz**  
Monday, November 26 at 9:00 a.m.

**C.O.O.L. 5K/10K Run & Walk**



This event will take place in Libertyville at Old School Forest Preserve, Shelter C on Saturday, **November 24** at 9:30 a.m. Registration is available at:

Getmeregistered.com then search COOL 5k/10k. This event benefits COOL Food Pantry and Transitional Housing programs in Lake County.

**Fellowship Volunteers** Please consider signing up for Fellowship, the next two Sundays are **OPEN**. The sign up sheet is outside the kitchen door.



**This Week's Calendar**

**Monday, November 19**

- 12:30 p.m.—Staff Meeting
- 6:30 p.m.—Gideons in Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday, November 20**

- 10:00 a.m.—Gurnee Meadows Office Hours
- 11:00 a.m.—Gurnee Meadows Worship
- 5:30 p.m.—Basketball

**Wednesday, November 21**

- 6:30 p.m.—Thanksgiving Eve Worship

**Thursday, November 22**

**HAPPY THANKSGIVING**

**Friday, November 23** Pastor & Katrina's Day Off  
**Church Office Closed**

**Saturday, November 24** Pastor & Katrina's Day Off

**Sunday, November 25**

- 8:00 a.m.—Worship in Gym
- 9:00 a.m.—Fellowship
- 9:30 a.m.—Sunday School & Bible Study
- 10:45 a.m.—Worship in Sanctuary
- 12:00 p.m.—Fellowship Hall in Use

**Serving Thanksgiving Eve - 6:30pm**

- Elders:** Mike Bandman
- Comm/Asst. Elder:** OPEN
- Acolytes:** Jude Squires, Joseph Kaiser
- Lay Readers:** Karen Kozlik, Tony Young
- Ushers:** Lance Rasmussen, Sam Squires
- Greeters:** Paul & Susan Boardman, OPEN

**Worship Schedule**

Sunday 8AM & 10:45PM

**Communion**

1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday

**Office Hours**

Monday - Thursday 9AM—3 PM

Friday 9AM - 12PM

**Last Week's Attendance**

Sunday 8:00 AM—140

Sunday 10:45 AM—77

Sunday School—103

**Serving Next Week**

- Elders:**
- Comm/Asst. Elder:**
- Acolytes:**
- Lay Readers:**
- Ushers:**
- Greeters:**

- JJ Jones
- Mike Bandman
- Griffin Pavletic, Jacob Plapp
- Sam & Clint McDonald
- Don Heidlauf, Al Diercks
- Chuck & Julie Johnson,
- JJ & Janet Jones

- Fellowship:**
- Nov. Altar Guild:**
- Nov. Counters:**

- OPEN**
- Diane Mundrick
- Monte Stoltzman

**Sunday 10:45AM**

- Bob Souza
- Jack Warneke
- Jake Kruse, Kate Kruse
- Pat Rasmussen, Sheila Bunnell
- Jay Souza, Scott Mundrick
- The Pelletiere Family,
- Larry & Linda Peters

- Deborah Wuethrick
- Bill & Kathy Schwartz