

## Annual Pastor's Report 2020

*I pray that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith,  
as you are being rooted and grounded in love," Ephesians 3: 16-17*

### Some significant events from 2020:

- 1) **Covid-19:** Well, what can I say but that this is a year like we have never seen before! This year has provided amazing challenges, as well as unique opportunities. A once in a generation pandemic has caused us to rethink and reimagine our lives and this is certainly true in the church. I am so pleased that our congregation has stayed active with worship and ministry never ceasing but evolving. We could not have done this without the wonderful leadership of our council and staff as well as the generous support of each of you.
- 2) **200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video:** Unfortunately, we could not celebrate our 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as we had planned to do so. However, the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Video was a huge hit and a meaningful way to honor this incredible milestone. We plan to do something "in person" in 2021 so look for updates.
- 3) **Virtual Ministry is here to stay:** One of the new realities of Covid-19 is that virtual ministry is here to stay. We are currently making plans to livestream and post our worship services (and perhaps other ministry experiences) online because the "online community" is becoming understood as a new mission field.

There are wonderful benefits for members and guests alike with this happening. If you are out of town, or unable to be at "in person" worship, the availability to access our worship and learning experiences remotely will be necessary. We will be honoring our Lutheran motif of "both/and" by moving toward a time where we offer "in person" and "virtual" experiences at the same time.

Along with this, I feel strongly that Zoom gatherings for education and fellowship will also be something we keep as we move forward. I have found that more people have been able to attend and participate if a class is virtual. I fully anticipate that we will continue to offer virtual classes in the future.

I believe it is incumbent upon us to be forward thinking when it comes to this "new reality." We must begin to "think differently" i.e. considering our "online audiences" just as we consider our "in person" audiences. It will be a paradigm shift for us, but one that speaks to the changing world of ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Several of us on the council are reading a book entitled, "Grace and Gigabytes: Being Church in a Tech-Shaped Culture" to help us begin learning how best to do this.

- 4) **Servant Ministries Never Take a Break:** From the Lenten Day of Service (March 1) through Returning Thanks (384 cookies, 23 Rice Krispie treats, 30 face masks and along with two bags of apples donated them to the emergency room staff at Winchester Medical Center), through lunch for the Homeless at CCAP, through Harvest Sunday where we shopped and enjoyed fresh fruits and vegetable and homemade goodies with proceeds totaling \$2000 going to Lutheran World Relief to support work in Yemen and Lebanon, through Gods Work Our Hands Day (September 13), through collecting school supplies during September for Bright Futures, through collecting 24 boxes of stuffing, 14 cans of gravy, 42 boxes of potatoes, 17 boxes of cake and brownie mixes, 11 cans of fruit, 8 cans of sweet potatoes, 24 cans of vegetables, 9 containers of frosting, 5 bottles of oil, 6 cans of cranberry, marshmallows, vanilla extract, quinoa, and a canned ham to donate to CCAP for their Annual Thanksgiving Meal Giveaway, through our annual serving at WATTS (December 6-12), through offering our annual Global Missions Christmas which raised \$3915 to continue supporting our partners in Tanzania, India, Philippines, and Guatemala, and finally through our Christmas winter clothing drive for CCAP we were active and visible servants with our community and world! So thankful to Beth Garner for her efforts to keep us on track during a difficult year.
- 5) **Payroll Protection Program Support:** Bethel was proactive in applying for and receiving over \$45,000 from the Payroll Protection Program that the government put in place during Covid-19. This, along with your continued support, was instrumental in Bethel concluding 2020 in as good a financial position as we have experienced in a while.
- 6) **Staff Retirements:** Two longtime, influential staff retired this year. **Terri Hollingsworth** moved to Delaware after her husband Bob retired from Kraft. Having served as our Office Administrator for over 10 years, Terri was an awesome “first face of Bethel” for us and was a tremendous staff member and congregational leader.

Likewise, **Pat Shields** retired after 20 years of both volunteer and paid staff service to Bethel as our database guru, financial secretary, and administrator. Pat was instrumental in organizing our congregational database, helped guide us through our most recent organizational restructuring and was always an able and supportive staff member and congregational leader. We will definitely miss them both and their wonderful gifts.

I have been and am so blessed by our Bethel staff. **Terri Hollingsworth, Kim Williams, and Pat Shields** led with wonderful grace and energy this year, even as we faced such a difficult time. With Terri and Pat’s retirements, Kim will now be serving as our Office Administrator, and **Shari Fletcher** will be joining our staff as a volunteer secretary three days a week.

As always, I am so thankful for **George Donovan** who has been instrumental in continuing the excellence of our worship and music ministry. George has creatively sought to offer meaningful and energetic worship even amidst the ever changing realities of Covid-19.

The entire Worship team (**Sue Correll, Darline Demott, Alex Kimble, Charlene Romano, and Barbara Simmons**) have been awesome as well, along with our regular vocalists **Ron Lauck** and **Karen Nguyen**. To everyone who has participated this year with the Worship Team, thank you! I love working with such talented and faithful people.

**Patty White, Cliff Crowder** and **Gretchen Meade** are valuable team members whose efforts behind-the-scenes, while changed this year because of Covid-19, continue to be a gift to us.

A very special THANK YOU to **Traci Shoberg** who finished her time with us as Council President in 2020. Her leadership over the past 2 years has been instrumental and invaluable in helping us move through some difficult times to a time full of future hope. She faithfully navigated a turbulent 2019, led us toward a vision for the future, and then, just as we were about to begin shaping that vision, helped us reimagine Bethel after Covid-19. Throughout her many years on council, she offered sound advice, faithful support, and a willing spirit. I am truly thankful for her leadership and friendship. Esther 4:14!

Also, a sincere thank you to **Julie Shanabrook** for her time with us on the Council as well. Her thoughtfulness, leadership, and ongoing commitment to helping Bethel be a place that serves others was truly engaging and inspiring.

Likewise, the rest of the council members were able and faithful leaders, who led us through difficult decisions during 2020. I could not be prouder to have worked with such blessed leaders: **Lee Braithwaite, Dustie Fisher, John Fredericksen, Beth Garner, Michael McKiernan, Betty Puffinberger, and Vonda Wilt**. I am looking forward to the addition of **Bruce Lothrop** and **Curt Grymala** who are joining us for 2021.

While 2020 has been, at best, a difficult year, it has also been a year where I was reminded again and again of the amazing faithfulness and resilience of the people of Bethel.

We have been around for 200 years, not because we are perfect, but because when the going gets tough, we find a way to do the “next right thing.” For this, I am humbled and thankful to serve with such a beautiful congregation who continues to be a light even when darkness pervades our lives.

I offer a sincere and heartfelt **Thank you** for all the ways that you have gone above and beyond to help support Bethel as we strive always to be *a community growing deeper in faith and wider in love!*

In Christ,  
Pastor Dave

**MINISTRY INCOME**

**REGULAR TITHES & OFFERINGS**

	\$355,715.1	
Envelope & Loose Offerings	0	
<b>SUBTOTAL TITHES &amp; OFFERINGS:</b>		<b>\$355,715.1</b>
		<b>0</b>

**FACILITY USE INCOME**

Other Facility Use	<u>\$6,390.00</u>	
<b>SUBTOTAL FACILITY USE:</b>		<b>\$6,390.00</b>

**OTHER INCOME**

Interest & Investment Income	\$103.76	
Misc Funds (Thrivent Choice, Amazon Smile)	<u>\$1,009.75</u>	
<b>SUBTOTAL OTHER INCOME:</b>		<b>\$1,113.51</b>

**TOTAL MINISTRY INCOME:** **\$363,218.61**

**MINISTRY SPENDING**

**COMMITMENT TO THE WIDER CHURCH**

Virginia Synod Benevolence Commitment	<u>\$20,000.00</u>	
<b>SUBTOTAL WIDER CHURCH:</b>		<b>\$20,000.00</b>

**WORSHIP**

Altar & Sanctuary Care Ministries	\$1,057.09	
Music Ministries	\$3,234.74	
Resources & Publications	\$2,315.61	
Special Events-Christmas in a Barn	\$233.49	
Other	<u>\$8,470.02</u>	
<b>SUBTOTAL WORSHIP:</b>		<b>\$15,310.95</b>

**LEARNING**

Curriculum & Supplies	(\$127.64)	
Annual & Special Events	\$76.12	
Vacation Bible School	\$0.00	
Other	\$0.00	
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<b>SUBTOTAL LEARNING:</b>		<b>(\$51.52)</b>

**CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

Youth	\$47.35	
Adults	\$395.00	
Annual & Special Events	\$283.60	
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<b>SUBTOTAL CONGREGATIONAL LIFE:</b>		<b>\$725.95</b>

**SERVANT**

WATTS	\$0.00	
Feed the Need	\$0.00	
Other	\$0.00	
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<b>SUBTOTAL SERVANT:</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>

**CARE**

Welcome Baskets	\$0.00	
Greeting Cards	\$0.00	
Funeral Receptions	\$0.00	
College Care Packages	\$0.00	
Faith Community Nursing	\$0.00	
Other	\$0.00	
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<b>SUBTOTAL PRAYER &amp; CARE:</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>

**STEWARDSHIP**

Leadership Development and Recruiting	\$1,031.59	
Communication	\$2,560.16	
Devotional Materials	\$308.00	
Supplies and Materials	\$0.00	
Other	\$0.00	
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<b>SUBTOTAL STEWARDSHIP:</b>		<b>\$3,899.75</b>

**STAFF PAYROLL**

	\$169,747.0	
Salaries	0	
Taxes & Benefits	<u>\$46,273.53</u>	
		<b>\$216,020.53</b>
<b>SUBTOTAL STAFF PAYROLL:</b>		<b>3</b>

**ADMINISTRATION**

Office Supplies	\$1,752.70	
Shipping & Postage	\$1,446.39	
Copier Lease and Printing	\$5,319.06	
Other	\$200.00	
Equipment Repairs & Upgrades	<u>\$1,693.92</u>	
<b>SUBTOTAL ADMINISTRATION:</b>		<b>\$10,412.07</b>

**UTILITIES**

Alarm Monitoring/Safety	\$4,326.57	
Electric	\$7,944.16	
Ga s	\$13,863.66	
Telephone/Internet Access	<u>\$6,848.71</u>	
<b>SUBTOTAL UTILITIES:</b>		<b>\$32,983.10</b>

**FACILITY**

Repairs & Materials	\$12,021.30	
Lawn Care & Snow Removal	\$6,197.50	
Trash Removal	\$739.94	
Pest Control	\$829.00	
Cleaning Supplies	\$3,395.39	
Insurances & Licenses	\$10,251.00	
Hospitality Ministries	\$445.68	
Other	<u>\$2,974.28</u>	
<b>SUBTOTAL FACILITY :</b>		<b>\$36,854.09</b>

**MORTGAGE LOAN EXPENSE**

Mortgage Loan Payments	\$25,644.0	
	<u>0</u>	
Line of Credit Closing Costs	<u>\$2,545.66</u>	
		<u>\$28,189.66</u>

**TOTAL MINISTRY SPENDING:** \$364,344.58

**INCOME (LOSS):** (\$1,125.97)

**PPP Loan Funds** \$45,200.00

**NET INCOME (LOSS) WITH PPP  
LOAN FUNDS** \$44,074.03

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**MORTGAGE LOAN**

Principle remaining as of December 22, 2020	<u>\$145,252.25</u>
Contributions needed each year to pay monthly mortgage	\$25,644.00

**JUBILEE CAMPAIGN RESULTS**

Principal Balance at December 31, 2012	\$797,768.00
Principal Balance at December 22, 2020	\$145,252.25
Overall Decrease in Principal Balance	<u>\$625,515.75</u>

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**DESIGNATED MINISTRIES GIVING IN 2020**

**FOR THE WORLD**

World Hunger Appeal	\$302.00	
Tanzania Missions	\$285.00	
The Philippines Missions	\$10.00	
CCS Sponsorships	\$2,160.00	
Guatemala Missions	\$45.00	
India Missions	\$10.00	
General Missions	\$80.00	
Global Christmas	\$3,914.91	
Harvest Sunday	\$1,876.00	
	<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$8,682.91</b>

**FOR THE COMMUNITY**

CCAP	\$958.00	
Good Samaritan	\$2,167.97	
WATTS	\$160.00	
Bright Futures	\$50.00	
Lenten & Advent Food Drives cash	\$300.00	
Jones/Joyner Music Fund	\$3,837.81	
	<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$7,473.78</b>

**FOR THE BETHEL COMMUNITY**

Student Mission Scholarships	\$180.00	
	\$11,230.0	
Mortgage Principal Payments	0	
Youth (Easter, other)	\$1,675.00	
Seminarian Fund	\$0.00	
	\$10,850.0	
Bethel Park & Scatter Garden	0	
88 Keys Piano Fund	\$100.00	
200 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary	\$500.00	
Memorials	\$559.70	
	<b>SUBTOTAL:</b>	<b>\$25,094.70</b>

**TOTAL DESIGNATED:** **\$41,251.39**