

Pastor's Pen

Out of them shall come songs of thanksgiving, and the voices of those who celebrate. I will multiply them, and they shall not be few; I will make them honored, and they shall not be small. -Jeremiah 30:19

Dear Bethel Church family and friends,

Grace to you and peace from our Merciful King. I pray this finds you well and looking forward expectantly to slowing down on Thursday and thanking the Lord for His abundant providential blessings. While we're on the subject of Thanksgiving, I want to say thank you to you saints. I am truly blessed by God's goodness and mercy to be called to Clover to serve as your pastor. What a gracious God we serve. May HE be forever praised for His amazing grace showered on the children of men!

This month, I am going to take a holiday break from studying God's precious promises to us, as His people, to share a letter from the Bethel Session with you. If you have any questions or concerns about the letter, please feel free to reach out to me or your shepherding elder for clarification.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Blessings in Christ, Pastor Chris

Fall 2025

Johna Griesman

& Danielle Austin

Dear Bethel Church family,

Grace and peace to you from our glorious Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. It is our prayer that this letter finds you well and enjoying the autumn weather with which the Lord is blessing us.

Can it be that we're already nearing the end of another calendar year? Realizing this, it's time again to give thanks to God for all that He put in your hearts to do for Bethel in 2025. Energized by God's Spirit, you've done far more than simply helping us keep the lights on!

You've contributed your time, treasure, and talent to do the work of ministry, serving women and men, young and old. Thank you! Some of you have been stretched and prodded to move in new directions. Others have returned to a previous place of service and found their spiritual juices flowing again. Still others are seeking new places to serve as fresh ministry opportunities develop among us. Wherever you find yourself in the mix at Bethel, we're delighted you're here with us.

As your session, one of the joyful responsibilities Almighty God has entrusted to us is a yearly review of the membership status of our congregation. We do this not only to uphold our ordination vows, but also to ensure that each member does the same. One of the vows you took upon becoming a Bethel communing member was the solemn promise to the Lord and this body that you would "support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability" (BCO 57-5 vow 4). Sadly, because of household moves, changing health, or other providential reasons, some of you are no longer able to keep this promise. Others are seeking new places to use the spiritual gifts the Lord has given you. Whatever the case, if our upcoming review shows signs of weakness here, we'll be sending you a letter encouraging you to return to regular participation in Bethel's weekly worship and work, if possible. Please know this process is not personal. We simply desire to honor the Lord and faithfully shepherd the flock He's entrusted to us.

We are grateful for what God has done in the past year, and we again extend to you our prayers that you and yours will have a blessed celebration of our Lord's birth and a wonderful new year.

Yours in Christ, The Bethel Session

schedule

this week	Sunday's sermon:	Christmas in the New Testament: The Name Above All Names	Philippians 2:1-11
events	Christmas Decorating 11/30 @ 5:00 pm	Diaconate Meeting 12/2 at 7:00 pm	MOC 12/1 at 5:00 pm
	Circle #1 12/2 at 10:30 am	Men's Bible Study 12/3 at 6:00 am	GriefShare 12/3 at 1:00 pm
volunteer	<u>Infant Nursery</u>	<u>Toddler Nursery</u>	Worship Training

Marissa Robinson

& Sylvia Price

Jessica McMullen &

Nathalee Cuffman