



# Bethel News

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- **Pre-school soccer & t-ball camp sign-up is now open on the church website! (Camp dates: June 7-10)**
- **First Family Festival will be June 10. Let the office know if you are interest in being part of the planning team!**

## Faith Story - Alex Brozel



In the last few months, more has happened in my walk with Christ than in the few years before that. I was, for a long time, dead set on going to North Western University in Minneapolis to become a pastor. I love Jesus and this seemed like what God was calling me to do with my life. Praying

about it, talking to family about it, and trying to listen to God were all part of figuring out if this was right for me.

I was so set on doing this that I even started to change the classes I was taking in high school to prepare me for becoming a pastor. Then, in the fall semester of this year, I had a bit of a surprise on my schedule: Ag. Mechanics. This class is all about learning the parts of an engine, how to mix and pour concrete, how to

weld, and how to wire basic circuitry.

At first this seemed like a major road block. The material covered in this class had really nothing to do with pastoring. I was a bit bummed out about it until after the first week. It was super fun to learn! And the teacher is really good at what he does.

My favorite part of this was wiring. This is why next year I will be going to SDSU to study Electrical Engineering. There are a few reasons why I will not

## Robertson's Ramblings- Read Good Books!

I love to read and I love to recommend books that I have enjoyed and benefited from. It is one of the reasons that in the foyer you will see recommended reading books based on the current sermon series that you can purchase. There is a two-fold purpose for having

these books be recommended. First, they will fit nicely with whatever the current sermon series is. When we are learning about the same theme/ topic in different formats it increases our knowledge and our growth. Secondly, I love seeing people read good Christian books!

Sadly, there are a lot of bad Christian books out there. So every book that is recommended is one that I (and many others) would consider a good, solid, Christian book! Here is a little bit of information about the two books that are being recommended now based on our new sermon series, "Growing  
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Our Graduating

Seniors:

- Brandon Berndt

Open house at the Berndt home

May 15 following graduation ceremony

- Alex Brozel

Open House at Bethel in the Café

May 21 from 4-7 PM

- MacKenzie

Caldwell

Open House at Bethel in the Café

May 28 from 10AM-12PM

*“God has called a beautiful team of Coordinators to pass the torch of leadership to.”*



# Faith Story (continued from page 1)

be a pastor. One of them is because I realized that I am meant to do something hands-on with my life. The main reason though, is that I realized that the reason I wanted to become a pastor was so I could run away from the world, not go somewhere to be trained in loving the people of this world.

A Bible verse that has come up in all sorts of places for me lately is Romans 8:28 “And we know that for those who love God, all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose.”

## Ministry Highlight - MOPS

By Jodi Ysbrand

\*MOPS stands for “Mothers of Preschoolers”, but is actually a program for pregnant moms through moms of kindergarten aged kids. The purpose of MOPS is to encourage mothers in their parenting with Jesus Christ as their ultimate source of power and strength to be the best moms they can be.

The real highlights of MOPS are the testimonies given to us through surveys and comments in regards to the program.

“MOPS is helping me understand how to be a Godly wife, mother, and friend.”

“I recently had a stroke in February and was hospitalized for 10 days. The outpouring of love, prayers, and generous acts of kindness shown to me and my family from my MOPS friends was unbelievable! MOPS has been a huge blessing in my life. I thank God every day for bringing me to MOPS!”

“MOPS has not been just a group of women to me. It has been an instrument for me to see the goodness in people again and that God is all around me. I am still asking questions and seeking a church, but in the meantime, MOPS has provided me a warm and loving place to nurture my relationship with God for myself, as well as my family.”

As I wrap up my 7<sup>th</sup> year on Steering and 5<sup>th</sup>, and final year, of coordinating the Day Program, I want

to thank Bethel for trusting me with the leadership of the MOPS program. Recently, I have had time to reflect on the provisions that God has displayed not only at MOPS, but in my own life. I know that I will always look back on this time period of my life with awe and thankfulness of what God revealed to me.

God has called a beautiful team of Coordinators to pass the torch of leadership to: Jennie Bauske and Charis Prunty from Bethel will be the core leaders with help from Angie Andreason who attends Gracepoint. I will still be leading the Night MOPS program and, if it is God’s will, that program of 22 women could also grow and reach more moms for the Glory of God.

# Elder Report



EXALTING · EQUIPPING · EVANGELIZING

The elders are in the very early stages of developing a comprehensive Christian education curriculum that will be used for all ages at Bethel. We believe that Bethel is in need of having a better thought out plan for teaching all ages as together we strive to Exalt, Equip, and Evangelize!

As you can imagine this is a fairly large task, but a very important one. What we teach matters! We are also working to plan the curriculum in such a way that it will provide individuals who God leads to our community for just a few years (college students for example) to learn about what Scripture has indicated is core to our

faith and living out our faith in their sphere of influence.

In upcoming weeks, we will begin to meet with those who have an interest in helping develop this and those who have faithfully served as teachers here at Bethel over the years to get their input, direction, and assistance in this process. This will be a process in which the elders are working alongside many in the church body as together we develop a well thought out curriculum that will help us Exalt God's Name, Equip God's People, and Evangelize God's World.

If you have questions, thoughts, suggestions, or would like to be apart of this process please let one of the elders know! It is a joy to serve alongside you!

**“What we teach matters!”**

## Robertson's Ramblings (continued from page 1)

through the prayers of Scripture and the disciplines of faith.”

The first is the book, “Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life” by Donald Whitney. This book is a great introductory book discussing the purpose of Spiritual Disciplines and then spending a chapter each looking at ten specific spiritual disciplines. It balances well explaining the disciplines and giving specific helpful suggestions in how to actually engage in each of the dis-

ciplines that are looked at. The ten disciplines that are discussed in this book are: Bible, Prayer, Worship, Evangelism, Serving, Stewardship, Fasting, Silence and Solitude, Journaling, and Learning. This book will be useful, and encouraging to the person who has been following Jesus for most of their life, as well to the person who is just beginning in their relationship with Jesus.

The second book is, “Prayer: Experiencing Awe

and Intimacy with God” by Tim Keller. The reason for recommending this book is the thorough why in which Keller looks at prayer. Books on prayer typically tend to find themselves very strong in one of two areas. Some books on prayer are strong theologically. They do a good job of explaining prayer from a Biblical and theological perspective. Other books on prayer are good practically. They give lots of practical suggestions on how to actually pray. The reason I am recommending this book is

because it does both well. I trust that you will enjoy, benefit, and grow in your knowledge and practice of prayer as a result of this book.

Both books cost \$10 and can be picked up in the church foyer! Simply put the money in the offering plate, or one of the black boxes by the exits of the church and indicate, “recommend reading books.” Now go read a good book!



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**Exalting His Name...**

**Equipping His People...**

**Evangelizing His World...**

## Upcoming Events

**5/7 Men's Breakfast at Bethel 7 AM**

**6/7-6/10 Pre-school Soccer/T-ball camp**

**6/10 Family Festival at Bethel**

**7/9-7/10 Summer Arts Festival**

**7/22 Family Festival at Bethel**

**8/19 Family Festival at Bethel**

## Missions Focus - David & Beth Roberts

The Roberts serve in addictions recovery ministry and church planting. Argentina is a country of 43 million and recently identified by the United Nations as a major destination for drug trafficking. David collaborates with a rehab center for young men. The Roberts family is also working on a grassroots church planting movement outreach the unchurched in their city. Only 3.7% of the population identify as evangelical in their religion.

One of the realities of their work is relapse. A lot of time and resources are invested in individual lives in the hope that they will never fall back into their old ways. While they make tremendous chang-

es and exhibit much hope, many relapse causing much disappointment. While this is discouraging and can question the work being done, it reminds us to keep perspective.

The Roberts remind us that relapse does not mean the person is a lost cause. It can remind people that they aren't fully recovered and still need help. Last, remember that if



God has begun a good work, he will bring it to completion.

Current prayer requests:

- Zane started 3rd grade and Isabel started pre-school in March. They are both enjoying school and all of the new experiences.
- Zane and his literacy and Isabel for her language learning.

The Roberts most recent newsletter is available to read on the church missionaries bulletin board. If you would like to receive the Roberts newsletter directly, please contact the missions team or the church office.