

## OPPORTUNITIES TO SERVE

### Deacon Ministry

*Consider joining our team as we visit those in hospital or care homes.*

Contact: Gail Henry (204) 489-3843

### Naomi House Ministry Team

*Ministry to refugees.*

Contact: Pat Hill (204) 287-8106

### Union Gospel Mission Team

*Gospel ministry to the homeless.*

Contact: Darrell Falk (204) 799-1965 or  
[technoscottcharlie@gmail.com](mailto:technoscottcharlie@gmail.com)

## BETHESDA CHURCH MIDWEEK MINISTRIES

**English Conversation Class, Wed. Eve., 6:30-8pm, Fellowship Hall.** Neil Craton

**Wed. Eve. Bible Study, 6:30-7:15pm, Upper Lounge, in-person or Zoom**  
([www.bethesdachurch.ca](http://www.bethesdachurch.ca)). Pastor Mark

**Wed. Evening Prayer, 7:15-8pm, Zoom**  
([www.bethesdachurch.ca](http://www.bethesdachurch.ca)) or Bethesda Upper Lounge! Pastor Mark

**Wed. Eve. Youth Bible Study, 7:15-8:15, Lower Lounge.** Our study of 2 Timothy resumes, plus food & fun! Pastor Yuri

**Men's Thurs. Morning Prayer Meeting, drop-in anytime, between 7-8:30am!**  
We meet downstairs in the Bethesda Lower Lounge. Pastor Yuri

*Please pray diligently for our church leadership – staff, elders, and Council – as we navigate a few matters and look to the future Jesus has prepared for us.*

### Bethesda Church Office Information

Admin Hours: Tues-Fri, 10am-3pm

Phone: 204-987-2890

1350 Grant Ave., Winnipeg, MB  
R3M 2A7

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### TODAY: Special Meeting to present & approve 2024 Bethesda Church Budget!

*Please plan to stay after church for our specially called meeting with lunch to follow. After our service concludes, please move forward toward the platform as far as possible to facilitate hearing and discussion in the meeting. If you do not wish to take part in the meeting, please make your way out of the sanctuary as soon as possible. (All are welcome; only members vote.)*

**BBYOL Update** – Please join us after our service and meeting, this morning, in the Fellowship Hall, downstairs! **A BIG THANK YOU** to all who've joined us on Sundays for lunch and fellowship. **A SPECIAL THANKS** to all who've volunteered to provide food to share, helped prep, and cleaned up! Finally, **A HEARTFELT THANKS** to Anna, Carol W, Lucia, Rina, and Rose who've volunteered to keep the food table full and the kitchen cleaned up each Sunday.

A special note for **\*\*December 24<sup>th</sup> and December 31<sup>st</sup>\*\***: You are very welcome to bring food for yourself, your family, or to share at lunch and stay for fellowship after these services. **BUT** there will be **NO** food provided from the kitchen. The kitchen will reopen/resume on Sun., Jan. 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**FINALLY & PTL! E, S & THEIR CHILDREN ARE ON THEIR WAY TO CANADA!** No, we're not kidding; they really are on their way, this time ... this week, in fact! We've received word that E, S & and their kids will depart on Tues., Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>, and arrive here in Winnipeg on Wed., Dec. 13<sup>th</sup>! Let's continue to pray them through all the way to their new home, here in Winnipeg! ***We say again: PTL!***

**Christmas Sunday morning and Christmas Eve services, Dec. 24th!** Please join us for both our [regular] Christmas Sunday Worship Gathering at 10AM & our Annual Candlelight Christmas Eve Service at 6PM! These are two of our favorite services of the year. Please consider bringing family & friends with you!

### **The Bethesda library has been renewed!**

All items have been relocated to the Upper Lounge. Our resources – books or DVDs – are available for anyone to check out. Just sign out items on the clipboard in the plastic bin located on the bottom shelf of the last bookcase. Please contact our librarian Patti Poirier with any questions.

**2024 Bethesda Church Calendars!** Pick up your new Bethesda Church wall calendar for the New Year, either from the back table in the sanctuary or the table in the foyer! They are an excellent addition to your décor, as well as effective outreach tools!

**A family from Ethiopia with a 1-year-old daughter arrived, this week (Fri., Dec. 8<sup>th</sup>),** with nothing but personal effects. They have a place to live but need help furnishing it. Please contact Shanlee Birrell at 204-452-2919 if you have the following items to donate: queen bed, queen-sized bedding, 2 dressers, living room furniture, winter clothing (male- M/L, female S/M), dishes, cutlery, mugs, glasses, and anything else you think may be useful. The Birrells have access to a truck and will pick up any donations. Thank you for your generosity!

**<<< Please contact the Church Office to be added to our Church Information, our Prayer Chain, and/or our Missionary Update list(s). >>>**

# The Sovereign Goodness of God in the Coming of Messiah & Christ



Bethesda Church  
December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2023  
[bethesdachurch.ca](http://bethesdachurch.ca)

The Central Truth of Our Message for this Morning:

*Jesus Christ **IS** The [One & Only] Way, [Embodied] **WORD** & [Eternal] Life; no one comes to the Father but through Him!*

**OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

*Bethesda Church exists to glorify God by joining Jesus in making His disciples from all nations, relying on God's Spirit and Word to guide and equip us.*

**ARE YOU VISITING WITH US TODAY?**

*Please accept our warm welcome as our guests!*

Would you consider filling out a welcome card from the pew rack and place it in the offering plate?

*We'd love to begin to get to know you, and you us!*

Please be assured that we will never sell, distribute to third parties, or misuse your information.

*Welcome to Bethesda!*

**SUNDAY MORNING CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**

**KIDS CHURCH IS BACK!** We invite our children back to our children's Sunday school designed just for them. Join *Carol & Soufhiea* (3-5 years) and *Ruth & Rose* (6-11 years)!

Our unstaffed **NURSERY** (upstairs, at end of the hall to the RIGHT) is available for parents of small children to use at any time during any of our events.

**WORSHIP WITH BETHESDA**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship, Pastoral Welcome & Prayer**

*Psalm 40*

Pastor Mark Wilcoxson

**Children's Blessing/Lighting of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent Candle**

**Announcements**

Michelle Mourre

**Prayer for Our Missionaries and the World**

*Jaeho Cho, Samjin Byun & Eean Cho*

Eunice Hill

**Worship in Reflection on *THE WORD***

**The Public Reading of *Holy Scripture* & Prayer**

*Isaiah 9:1-7; Romans 4:13 and 4:23-5:5*

Kate Craton

**The Ministry of God's WORD to God's People:**

**THE SOVEREIGN GOODNESS OF GOD IN THE COMING OF MESSIAH & CHRIST**

***"Peace with God, Now & Forevermore"***

*Romans 4:13 and 4:23-5:5; Isaiah 9:1-7*

Pastor Mark Wilcoxson

**Worship in Response to *THE WORD***

**Benediction and Closing Prayer: *Romans 5:8-11***

Pastor Mark Wilcoxson

**Postlude**

**PRAYER & INTERCESSION**

*Please join us in prayer for **Jaeho Cho, Samjin Byun & Eean Cho**, our Gospel partners with **OM Arts**.*

**Prayer Chain:** If you want to partner in prayer, or you have a request to share, please contact office in the office.

**Pray with us for the unwell among us** – in hospital (H), personal care home (PCH), or just having an especially difficult time:

**\*Afghan Refugee Families (esp. E&S!)**

**\*Mona Behrens**

\* Gail Barnes

\*Betty Campbell (PCH)

**\*Lawrence & Selma Churchill**

**\*Kathy Clow** (diagnostic testing)

**\*Venus Coté** (our NCEM missionary)

\*Anshula Donalld (pressure inside brain; walking/talking; pray for husband Ajay)

\*Edwin & Kamala Henry (Esther's Dad & Mom) surgery recovery, stamina & rest

\*Ron De Hoff (Patti's brother)

**\*Helen Hooker**

\*Andrew Friesen (our AIM missionary)

\*Bernice Gruenke (health & diagnosis)

\*Marion Hill (Susanne's Mom)/Susanne

**\*Homaira & Sejed**

**\*The Jewish People, God's Chosen**

**\*Mujeeb** (Homaira's brother)

**\*Mujeeb/Homaira's parents (in Pak.)**

\*George Manalang

\*Joan McRae (Misericordia Place)

**\*Laylee Moterrased**

**\*Her boys, Omid & Bijan;**

**\*Her Mom (Shereen) & Sister (Shalla)**

**\*The Palestinian People, esp. in Christ**

**\*Andrew Poirier** (mental health)

**\*Patti Poirier** (health and strength)

**\*Peace of Jerusalem (Ps. 122:6-8)**

**\*Russian People & Church**

**\*Sean Smith** (Evelyn's son)

**\*Ukraine – the nation, the Church, our brothers & sisters in Christ & refugees**

**\*Chris Wilcoxson** (mental & heart health; residential program, Seattle)

**\*Cheryl Warax** (Pastor Mark's sis: heart; mass on kidney, biopsy Tues., Dec. 19<sup>th</sup>)

**\*Andrea & Rick Wittebolle**

**\*\*Please contact office to get your name (or a loved one's) put on this list.\*\***