

01.21.2024

**Welcome** to you and your family! We are glad you've joined us this morning. The service can also be viewed in the fellowship hall and nursery (up the stairs, first door on the left). Kindly silence your electronic devices during worship.

**Congregational Survey** -- Adults, join Pastor Jim in the fellowship hall today after worship for an evaluation and pre-planning session. Your input is helpful.

**Winter Small Groups** are gearing up now. See the handout and consider joining one of our winter small group Bible studies. You'll be glad you did!


**2024 Night to Shine** -- Volunteer training will be today at 3:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and Monday, January 22 at 6:30 p.m. All training sessions will be at Hope Church, 200 North Fremont in Coldwater. See Amy Lonczkowski or Jennie deAraujo with any questions. If you wish to donate to Night to Shine, there are envelopes in the lobby.


**MINNET meeting** -- Next Sunday, January 28, following worship service.

**2024 Personal Worksheets** are available in the lobby. Pick up one after the service and take some time to contemplate God's direction for your life in this coming year.

**Women's Fellowship** 2024 schedules are in the lobby. They meet again on February 13.

**In Case of Inclement Weather** -- Worship service will be available on Facebook or YouTube at 9:30 a.m. Pastors Jim and Dave will normally be at church for those who want to brave the weather and venture out. *Please remember those with mobility issues and leave the parking spaces closest to the entry doors open.*

 **Peace-today.com**-- an online resource for podcasts, books, research and testimonials on some of the topics from this summer's sermon series. Scan the QR code to the left or pick up a flier in the lobby.

 **Ways to Give:** Offering plates are in the lobby. Donations can be made online by going to [bethelgilead.org](https://bethelgilead.org) (Donate tab), or by scanning the QR code to the left and using PayPal. You can authorize a monthly debit from your bank account -- contact the office.

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*Be the Church  
Live the Life  
Extend the Kingdom*

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Bethel Gilead Community Church  
876 Block Rd. Bronson MI. 49028

## Announcements and Opening Prayer

**Opening Worship:**     *This Is My Father's World* – Hymn 58, verses 1,2,3  
                                 *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* - Hymn 435, verses 1,2  
                                 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms* – Hymn 354, verse 1  
                                 *Fairest Lord Jesus* – Hymn 88, verses 1,2,3

### **Jacob: A Model of Restoration and Renewal (Part III)**

Behold, I am doing a new thing. Now it springs up. Don't you perceive it?  
([Isaiah 43:19](#))

Introduction:                      ***The Saga Continues.....***

#### I. Jacob's Journey Home ([Genesis 31](#))

- \*God speaks ([Genesis 31:1-3, 13, 16](#)) (Note [28:15](#))
- \*Fleeing Laban ([Genesis 31:17-31](#))
- \*Making peace with the past ([Genesis 31:38-55](#))

#### II. Preparing to Face Esau ([Genesis 32](#))

- \*Restitution and Reconciliation!  
*God has given us the ministry of reconciliation* ([2 Corinthians 5:18](#))
- \* Esau's coming! "Preparing for the worst, hoping for the best"
- \* Rehearsing the Promise of God ([Genesis 32:9-12](#))
- \*"A dark night of the soul" ([Genesis 32:22-30](#))
  - Wrestling with God
  - A new name/a new nature/a new start!  
([2 Corinthians 5:17](#)) *If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation....*  
*.....behold all things are made new.*

#### III. Reconciling with a Brother ([Genesis 33](#))

- \*Receiving and extending mercy and grace
- \* Mercy = not getting what you deserve!
- \* Grace = getting what you don't deserve!

The power of forgiveness ([Ephesians 4:30-32](#))

### **Application**

1. Are you running from your past?
  2. Do you understand the principle of reconciliation? ([2 Corinthians 5:18](#))
  3. Have you received God's mercy and grace? (ie. forgiveness)
  4. Will you extend God's mercy and grace to others? (ie. forgiveness)
- "To forgive is to set the prisoner free, only to discover that the prisoner was you."*

## Prayer Concerns

### Recent additions

Veronica Hannah -- Heart arrhythmia  
Wanda Debolt - in hospice care  
Flo Cabrera's brother, Lalo -- stage 4 stomach cancer

### Praises

Andrew and Jennifer Labadie's new son, Hudson Ray.  
Melvin and Barbara Stutzman's new daughter, Olivia Rose.

### Continue to Remember Those in Need

Jim Wickey -- lower back pain  
The Carpenter Family  
Lisa Franks -- pain management  
Dale Davis -- dialysis

### Remember Our Homebound/Shut In Members

Betty Carpenter -- Laurels  
Don Rubley -- at home

### Pray for our nation and the world during these uncertain days

### Our Mission

*"We honor God through regularly assembling together to worship Him as Lord,  
study and obey His word, and attend to the needs of His people.  
When we leave, we go out commissioned as Christ's representatives  
to a needy world."*