



Every Member a Minister

Live the Life



Be the Church



Extend the Kingdom



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

06 December
SUNDAY
2020

"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."

Order of Worship

Opening Worship:

*The First Noel
Joy to the World*

Hillsdale College "Singing Strings"

Message:

Contend for the Faith

(Jude 3)

In the last days scoffers will come who follow their own ungodly desires.

Jude 18

- I. The Antagonistic "Spirit of the Age"
(Anti Christ, Anti Christian, Anti Faith)
*3D Living: Discouragement, Depression, Despair)
- II. Worldview Wars
Naturalism vs. Supernaturalism
- III. The Bible: The Foundation of Faith
 1. Is the Bible true? ([Matthew 24:35, John 8: 20-32](#))
*Truth corresponds with reality.
 2. Is the Bible relevant?
The word of God is living and active....([Hebrews 4:12](#))
All scripture is inspired by God and useful...([2 Timothy 3:16-17](#))
 3. Is the Bible readable (understandable)?
Your word is a lamp unto my feet ([Psalm 119:105](#))
Man does not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God. ([Matthew 4:4](#))
- III. Faith Under Fire
Build yourselves up in your most holy faith.....Be merciful to those who doubt.
Snatch others from the fire and save them. ([Jude 20-23](#))

"Modern Scoffers"

Richard Dawkins, Sam Harris
Christopher Hitchens, Bart Erman

"Modern Apologists"

John Lennox, Ravi Zaccarias
Josh McDowell, Dinesh D'Sussa

Application

Can God count on you to "contend for the faith"?

1. Affirm what you believe.
 2. Live like a believer.
 3. Communicate your faith.
-and God will be on your side!

([Jude 24-25](#))

Closing: *In Christ Alone*

Live the Life with Prayer



Recent additions

Bart Burnside -- health issues
Keith McGuire -- recovering from eye surgery
The family of Eric Smotherman
Sherry McNees -- back pain
Lisa Franks -- dizziness and headaches
Dale Davis - blood transfusion, dialysis

Praises

Kerry and Elise Skinner - recovered from Coronavirus
Greg and Nikki Maertins' new twin grandchildren, Canon and Constance
Steve and Jen Byler's new granddaughter, Nora Jo
Quinn Alece Dules -- born to Chance and Kylei Dules on August 20.
Byler family - recovered from Coronavirus

Continue to Remember Those in Need

Russ Heckathorn -- immunotherapy for lung cancer
Jennie deAraujo's cousin's son, Nate, battling infection after transplant
Steve Byler's sister, Joyce - cancer
Sharon Shyrigh -- kidney concerns
Charlie Nussbaum -- 7 year old with brain tumor
Frank Cabrera's brother - Tito, cirrhosis of liver
Melissa Houtz's cousin, Holly Haynes Lamb -- colon cancer
Jim Wickey -- several health issues
Neil Hannah -- heart and lung issues
Kristi Long's dad -- prostate cancer
Arwen Mallay -- twelve-year-old being treated for stage 4 neuroblastoma

Remember Our Homebound/Shut In Members

Norita Skinner -- Maple Lawn
Shirley Bogen -- Drew's Place

Pray for our nation during these uncertain days

Welcome -- Today we welcome back “*The Singing Strings*” from Hillsdale College, who are joining us for worship.

Debate/The God Delusion -- Join Pastor Jim for his Adult Ed class today in the fellowship hall. We’ll be discussing *Atheism vs. Christianity*.

Potluck -- The potluck for today has been postponed until December 20.

Christmas Card Showers -- If you wish to send Christmas greetings to some of our homebound/most vulnerable attenders, please pick up a list in the lobby.

Christmas Memory Garden -- If you would like to purchase one of the poinsettias decorating the altar in memory of someone, please send a picture of your loved one to the office so we can include it in the Powerpoint presentation. Pictures can be emailed to office@bethelgilead.org, texted to 517.781.8000 or dropped off. Poinsettias are \$10.00 each and can be picked up after service on December 27.

Women’s Fellowship -- All women are invited to go to Shipshewana this Tuesday, December 8 (leave the church at 10:00 a.m.) for shopping and lunch. 2021 schedules for meetings are available in the lobby.

Offering --Offering plates are in the lobby. Donations can be made online by going to bethelgilead.org (Donate tab), or by scanning the QR code to the left. You can also authorize a monthly debit from your bank account by completing a form in the lobby (or contact the office) and turning it in with a voided check.



CONTACT INFORMATION:

PASTOR JIM ERWIN
pastorjim@bethelgilead.org
517.756.8001

ASSOCIATE PASTOR DAVID MINARD
pastor.david@bethelgilead.org
517.756.8000

CHURCH OFFICE
office@bethelgilead.org
517.369.1588

The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep
on a cold's winter night that was so deep.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel.

They looked up and saw
a star shining in the east beyond them far
and to the earth it gave great light
and so it continued both day and night.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel.

And by the light of that same star
Three wise men came from country far;
to seek for a king was their intent
and to follow the star wherever it went.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel.

This star drew nigh to the northwest
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest
And there it did both stop and stay
Right over the place where Jesus lay

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel.

Then entered in those wise men three
Full rev'rently upon their knee
and offered there in His presence
their gold, and myrrh and frankincense

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heav'nly Lord
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught
and with His blood mankind hath bought.

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the King of Israel.

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
let earth receive her King;
let ev'ry heart prepare Him room
and heav'n and nature sing
and heav'n and nature sing
and heav'n and heav'n
and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns
Let men their songs employ
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy
repeat the sounding joy
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found
Far as the curse is found
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness
and wonders of His love
and wonders of His love
and wonders, and wonders of His love.

In Christ Alone

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This Cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love
What depths of peace
When fears are stilled
when strivings cease
My Comforter my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone who took on flesh
fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
Till on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
for every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ!

No guilt in life no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from his hand
Till He returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.