



## Spring Congregational Meeting Agenda May 3, 2026 at 11:12am

1. Opening Devotions
2. Receive the minutes of the December 14, 2025 congregational meeting minutes for information as approved by the council.
3. Motion to accept the absentee ballots
4. Elder and Deacon nominations and voting:  
You are asked to vote for ALL nominees that you prayerfully believe are qualified to serve. All those who receive 50%+1 of the vote will have their name in a basket and 3 elders and 3 deacons will be pulled.  
Elders: Kent Burghgraef, Bill Byma, Ken Haan, Paul Lindemulder, Jon Sliekers  
Deacons: Bob Bartlett, Glen DeYoung, Dale Hillegonds, Noah VanDrunen
5. Finance Update -John Brinks
6. Ministry Update -Pastor Kyle Beckrich
7. Thank you to the outgoing Elders and Deacons:  
Elders: Dave DeJong, Dan Rozendal  
Deacons: John Brinks, Mark Tillema, Nate Zirbel
8. Pull 3 elders and 3 deacons from all those that received at least 50%+1 votes
9. Closing prayer and adjournment

**Bethel Church**  
**Congregational Meeting Minutes**  
**December 14, 2025**

1. Josiah Luttjeboer called the meeting to order and opened with Scripture and Prayer.
2. Minutes of the Spring Congregational meeting approved by council were received for Information.
3. Pastor Kyle gave a ministry update.
4. John Brinks gave a 2025 Financial Update.
5. The 2026 Proposed Budgets
  - a. John Brinks presented the 2026 Ministry Fund Budget of \$48.00 per member per week. It was **approved** by the congregation
  - b. Tim Groenewold presented the 2026 Building Fund Budget of \$7.00 per member per week. It was **approved** by the congregation
5. Josiah Luttjeboer prayed and adjourned the meeting.



## Elder Nominees

### Kent Burghraef



Kent is married to Deb and they will be celebrating their 44th anniversary next month. They are blessed with four sons who are all married and live in the area and they are also blessed with 14 grandchildren and, Lord willing, expecting another in July. Kent & Deb live in Saint John.

Kent is recently retired. Most of his working career he has worked as a parts manager at Honda/Acura dealerships. The most recent at Honda of Downtown Chicago.

Kent & Deb have been members at Bethel for 15 years. They both served as youth leaders for a few years. Kent has sung in the choir and participated in small groups. He has served a couple terms as elder and was chairman of the most recent pastor search team.

Kent appreciates and loves that Bethel is grounded in the Word and our worship edifies and gives glory to God. Bethel is a family that cares for each other and supports each other. It is Kent's prayer that as a church we will continue to grow in our faith, embrace prayer and Bible study and share the gospel with confidence to Lansing and the communities we live in.

### Bill Byma



Bill is married to Judi and they will be celebrating their 40th anniversary in June. They are blessed with three married children and 7 grandchildren. Bill & Judi live in Lansing.

Bill is a retired funeral director and presently works part-time at the funeral home helping with documents and record keeping.

Bill & Judi have been members of Bethel for 35 years and Bill has served as an elder and he currently attends and helps lead the Men's Bible study group.

Bill appreciates that Bethel continues to be faithful in preaching the Bible. He also appreciates how members of Bethel step up when they are aware of needs and hope that that continues as together we face daily challenges.

## Ken Haan



Ken is married to Jo for 44 years and they are blessed with five children, two of which live out of state, and they're also blessed with 16 grandchildren. Ken & Jo recently moved to Cedar Lake after being residents of Lansing for 40 years.

Ken retired a year ago after working in the office furniture industry for 39 years.

Ken has been attending Bethel for 55 years. While attending Bethel, he has served as a deacon for three terms and as an elder for one term. Ken has also served as a chaperone on two mission trips with Student Life to Mexico and he & Jo participated in a church service trip to Alabama.

One of the most important things Ken loves about Bethel is that we are rooted in God's word, and the people here are like an extended family. Ken prays that Bethel will continue to be a shining light in our community.

## Paul Lindemulder



Paul is married to Deb for almost 42 years and they are blessed with 4 married sons and 6 grandchildren. Paul & Deb live in St. John and have been members of Bethel for almost 42 years.

Paul retired from Research and Development work. He is currently consulting part-time in the railroad industry, all while starting a business to develop a patented design for railroad crossings.

While at Bethel, Paul has served as a deacon, elder, catechism teacher and Student Life leader.

Paul loves the fellowship of Bethel members and how we love and care for each other as family. Paul enjoys the preaching and the challenge to daily living. His desire is to see Bethel grow in our ability to share our faith with our neighbors and to support world missions, especially to the unreached people groups.

## Jon Sliemers



Jon is married to Kathy for 26 years and they are blessed with three children; Hannah lives in Valparaiso and works at the Porter County Museum, Levi will be a sophomore at Calvin College, and Thomas will be a junior at Illiana Christian. They live in Lansing, between the library and Lan-Oak park.

As Jon writes this, he works in Campus Safety at Trinity Christian College, but, by the time anyone reads this, that chapter will be over as Trinity is closing after 67 years. He confesses to a great deal of uncertainty, and prays that his faith holds strong. God has always

blessed us and there is no reason to believe that will change.

The Sliemers family began attending Bethel shortly before the shutdown, and Bethel "officially" welcomed them in November 2021. Before that, they were highly involved at Peace C.R.C. in South Holland for 20 years. Jon's participation at Bethel has been almost entirely as a guest musician whenever brass is needed in a service. He is honored to play anytime a few wrong notes are graciously forgiven.

In the "head vs. heart" spectrum Jon leans heavily toward "head" and appreciates the true Biblical preaching we hear from Pastor Kyle and the love of learning he sees reflected in the congregation. Recognizing that, however, Jon hopes to develop a softer heart for others and wishes we could show Jesus to our neighbors more fully.



## Deacon Nominees

### Bob Bartlett



Bob is married to Connie for 22 years. They are blessed with four children, nine grandchildren and 1 great grandchild. They live in Lansing.

Bob works at Schepel-Cadillac as a parts counter man for almost 21 years and he plans to retire on June 1.

They have been at Bethel for 12 years. In that time, Bob has served one term as a deacon, a Cadet counselor for a number of years, and currently, Bob is the building patrol coordinator.

Bob & Connie love Pastor Kyle's leadership, the worship services and they treasure their Bethel family. They are so grateful for the support they've received over the years with their medical concerns.

### Glen DeYoung



Glen is married to Julie and they will be celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary in June. They are blessed with three children, Lorelee, Arie and Peter. Lorelee and Arie will be graduating from College and Peter from Illiana, all three in May. They live in Highland.

While working as a custodian at Highland Christian School for 18 years, Glen found enjoyment by using the gifts that God has given him to serve Him and others. He looks forward to all the work the Lord has planned for him to do in the future.

The DeYoung family has been attending Bethel Church for about 12 years. Glen has served as a Deacon, a Cadet counselor and on the live stream team at Bethel.

Bethel Church has always been very kind to Glen and his family. He has found that many members at Bethel have a strong passion to serve, which is a great motivator for Glen to give even more effort himself. Glen prays that Bethel Church would have more people from both the inside and new from the outside who make their time, treasure and talent for the Kingdom the most important thing for them and their families. If we have that, the Lord will bless us greatly.

## Dale Hillegonds



Dale is married to Camie for 37 years and they live in Dyer. They are blessed with 4 grown children and 3 grandchildren.

Dale teaches middle school science and history at Chicago Christian.

Dale has been a member of Bethel for 45 years. He has served as a deacon, on the building patrol team, a Sunday school teacher, and an usher.

Dale & Camie enjoy the community at Bethel. They pray for the continued pure preaching of the Word to guide and grow us in our faith, so that we may go out and share the Gospel in word and deed.

## Noah VanDrunen



Noah is married to Jessica for 10 years and they live in Cedar Lake.

Noah is currently working for Steel Services Inc. in Lansing as a welder and fabricator.

Noah & Jessica are lifelong members of Bethel. In the past, they have both served as youth leaders; Noah has served as a deacon for two terms and Jessica is currently on the Creative Worship Team.

Noah loves Bethel for the great Sunday services, its many faithful and committed members, and its ability to care and support those in need. Noah prays that Bethel Church will always remain focused on God and His word so that we may spread the gospel and be a light to others.