



Bethel Lutheran Church

Congregational Profile

We are community centered ministry of Jesus Christ affiliated with the North American Lutheran Church. We seek a full-time Pastor to preach, preside, and serve God with us.

Located at 20650 Cumberland Road
in Noblesville, IN 46062

www.bethellutheranchurch.com

Office: 317.773.4315

Janet Guyer, Office Coordinator/Secretary

Email: janet@bethellutheranchurch.com

Call Committee Chair: Kristen Wells

317.695.0401

Email: wkljwells@comcast.net



Clergy and Staff Profile

Rev. David J. Smith (Interim Pastor) and part-time staff: Office Coordinator/Secretary, Worship Leader, Administrator/Systems Support, and Accountant. Our Worship, Music, and office staff are supported by dedicated volunteers.

We worship approximately 124 across two weekend services comprised of a Saturday 5:30pm and Sunday 10:00am community services. There are midweek services during Advent and Lent Seasons, and a First Wednesday Healing Service.



Our Community Beyond the Walls

Noblesville (the county seat of Hamilton County, population 379,704) is a medium-sized city of approximately 75,239 residents as of July 1, 2024. It is one of several “outer ring” suburbs surrounding Indianapolis, which has a metropolitan population of 2,174,833. Since 2000, the population of Noblesville has grown 145%, which has created both growing pains for the community and ministry opportunities for local churches. Nearby Morse Reservoir and the Innovation Mile are key catalysts of new growth resulting in sustained residential construction and visitors to our area.



For more information on Noblesville and the surrounding area, the following links are offered:

[Hamilton County Quick Facts](#)

[Hamilton County City-Data](#)[Noblesville City-Data](#)

<http://www.bestplaces.net/>

The surrounding area is primarily Caucasian, middle class, largely professional with a fairly even distribution of all ages.

| Demographic Profile | Zip 46062 | State of Indiana |
|-----------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Population | 39,915 | 6.8 million |
| Median Household Income | \$109,825 | \$66,785 |
| Total Housing Units | 14,880 | 2.9 million |
| Median Age | 37.2 | 38.2 |
| Education (% with college degree) | 54.9% | 29.6% |
| Children Under 18 in HH | 26.2% | 23.0% |

A Legacy in Mission with Christ

Bethel has a long history. The church was founded in rural Hamilton County in 1856 and moved to downtown Cicero (4 miles north of its current location) in 1936. The congregation chose intentionally to move to its current site in 1994 and then worked with Mission Builders twice to build its sanctuary and office complex (1998) and its 10,000-square-foot education wing (2003). These facilities all reside on a **33-acre plot of real estate, poised for future growth and service to the community and beyond.**



Notable Events in Bethel's Recent History

1. Scouting USA – Bethel charts Troop 183 (boys) and Troop 222 (girls) (2021/2022)
2. Classical Conversations – homeschool group that meets at Bethel on Mondays during the school year
3. Legacy Preschool uses the Education Wing and other rooms during the week (2023)

Our Mission and Vision



Our vision is to be a dynamic, life-changing church of fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ. Our mission is to **engage** the curious, **encourage** the convinced, and **empower** the committed to be fully devoted disciples of Jesus Christ.

We are called to mission and to share God's blessings beyond Bethel.

Church is a time to be re-energized before heading back out into the mission field.

In accordance with our mission statement, our near-term priorities and goals guide our church council's leadership:

1. Grow disciples for Christ as we engage the congregation beyond weekly worship.
2. Reach out to our local, national, and international mission field.
3. Develop our Sunday School and Youth Groups.

How We Worship

At Bethel, we celebrate communion weekly at all services. We are blessed to offer two services each weekend. Our music ranges from traditional hymns to contemporary Christian songs.



Services have a liturgical foundation, and we generally follow a Lutheran three-year lectionary with the occasional special sermon series using resources from Sola Publishing.

Christian Education

We have offered a variety of spiritual formation opportunities for children and adults. While we continue with Confirmation classes, we currently do not have an active Sunday School for younger children.

We have Adult Study on Sunday mornings starting at 9:00am, as well as small group gatherings throughout the week. Bethel is a satellite host site for a women's Bible Study Fellowship (BSF) group, a weekly non-denominational community-run Bible study.



Men's Sausage & Scripture on Saturday mornings

Like many churches with an eye trained on the future, we understand the importance of bringing younger families and worshipers into our congregation. We have been intentional in this respect, having invested in over 10,000 square feet in our adjacent educational facility.



In 2023, our Christian preschool merged with the preschool of Legacy Christian School of Noblesville and are housed in our education wing. We recently agreed on expansion of the preschool to add in the remaining Legacy preschool classes that did not join us in 2023. This is a great opportunity that brings more families through our doors and has the potential for further expansion into more grades and related activities.

For "everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved." How then will they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who preach the good news!" Romans: 10:13-15 (ESV)

Missions and Outreach

Bethel is blessed by its enthusiastic support of a rich variety of local, national, and international missions. Individually, our members and pastors have served on international mission trips to Jamaica, Latvia, Ethiopia, and Malawi, and we are working to plan for Bethel's first congregation-wide mission trip. We also support several new church plants in the U.S. in various stages of mission development and a brand new one in Ethiopia.



Senbete – new Bibles



School Backpacks



Operation Christmas Child



Disaster Response



Reading Buddies



Pantry

Fellowship and local outreach efforts include:

- Engagement cards for people to sign up for activities and missions
- Circle of Sisters arts and crafts sale
- Advent and Lenten midweek gatherings with community meals
- Youth night and special events such as a Comedy Night
- Food and Baby pantry
- School backpack donations to needy families (2025 goal reached 1,000)
- Grief workshops using GriefShare resources
- Legacy Christian School partnership
- Other annual activities include outdoor picnic, rummage sale, Fish Fry, and Fall Festival



For more details about Bethel's mission work, click on this link: [Bethel Mission Brochure-2026](#)

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” Matthew 28: 19-20

Pastor Attributes

From the workshop and subsequent meetings of the call committee, the following hoped-for attributes of our next Pastor were identified:

Biblically-Grounded Visionary

- Inspired by God and the Word to help move forward His plans for us

Spiritually-Guided Change Agent

- Motivates us to introduce new ideas that work in harmony with established practices, creating stronger and more fruitful ministries

Cultural Steward

- Helps us remain grounded and protecting of God's cultural truths, moving away from conflict and inspiring a culture of love and forgiveness

Gospel-Centered Preacher/Teacher

- Nurtures Christian faith and discipleship in all generations through engaging, passionate, relevant Gospel-centered preaching and teaching

Evangelistic Leader

- Fosters growth from our community, inviting others to join, thereby better enabling our missions to go and make disciples of all nations

Pastor Transition Team

Following acceptance of a call to Bethel, a group of Bethel leaders representing a cross-section of our flock is likely to constitute a transition team. This team will provide support to our new pastor and assist with every aspect of the transition into this community and church. The Team's primary goal is to ensure both the pastor and pastor's family will thrive in this new context for life and ministry.

"Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood." Acts 20:28

Intentional Interim Process

On May 5, 2025, Bethel began an intentional interim process with Pastor David (DJ) Smith. Initial goals, using a model developed by the Innovation Institute, identified the Interim Pastor's ministry focus centering on growing Bethel into the future; facilitating planning, communication, and healing; and to prepare our leaders and the congregation for our next pastor.

In November 2025, based on key areas identified during the first 6-months, Bethel began to address intentional items to prepare us for the next pastor. Leadership and staff assessed on-going activities to prioritize those that are 'high-impact' mission-driven efforts. We asked the

question...Is there anything we can let go of? Does 'it' keep us focused on Jesus and Bethel's core mission?

We prioritized three intentional items to address in 2026:

1. Office Restructure to provide enhanced support through staff, facilities, and volunteers for the new pastor.
2. Consolidate Ministry Teams to improve efficiency in our disciple-making, mission, and local outreach activities.
3. Deepen our commitment with partnership ministries to facilitate growth in youth and family ministries.

Congregational/Pastoral Financial Profile

Bethel Lutheran is governed by a constitution and a church council of which the Pastor would be a voting member. Please note following financial information:

| Pastor Compensation | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Base Salary with Housing Allowance* | \$70,000 -\$85,000 |
| Pension** | \$10,200 |
| Social Security Offset (6.2%) | \$5,270 |
| Health Insurance | 35,461 |
| Automobile Allowance | \$6,359 |
| Continuing Education | \$3,600 |
| Transition and Moving Allowance | TBD |

| ITEM | 2026 Budget |
|---|-------------|
| Total Budget | \$679,313 |
| Total Debt | \$1,029,242 |
| Checking, Savings, Reserves, Endowments | \$572,444 |
| Benevolence to NALC | \$6,800 |
| Benevolence (Other) | \$43,200 |

ANNUAL REPORT:

For Further Information, here is the link to 2024-2025 Annual Report (from June 2025):

[2024-25 Bethel Lutheran Church Annual Report](#)

Please see our video at: [Bethel Lutheran Church Video](#)

Summary Statement

INDIANA, Noblesville, Bethel: avg. att. 138. (64% of our membership weekly)

Bethel Lutheran Church seeks a full-time Pastor who will preach, preside, and serve God with us. We are praying for a welcoming, energized, Spirit-led visionary with a passion to see Jesus' disciples grow in number and realize spiritual growth.

Just 30 miles north of Indianapolis, our property comprises 30+ acres, the surrounding area has dedicated parks, recreational facilities, commercial, residential and farmland. Our worship center, fellowship hall, offices, and educational wing spans 29,000+ sq. ft. There is an additional farmhouse/barn/garden utilized for community ministries.

Approved by: The Bethel Lutheran Call Committee

Date: March 2026