



Dear Bethel Family,

Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. (Luke 3:9)

This Sunday we will hear part two of the Lukan version of the John the Baptist story. John speaks a prophetic word that calls people to repent and prepare for the coming Messiah, instructing them to bear fruit worthy of repentance. In other words, repentance is not merely an internal change of heart, but an outward change in behavior that becomes a blessing to others. Join us Sunday as dig into more depth as we seek to bear good fruit.



Blessings,
Pastor Ben Sandin

December 15
2nd Sunday of Advent
message given by Pr. Ben Sandin

8:45am - Traditional Worship
10:45am - Contemporary Worship



[Click here to see the bulletins](#)

The Week Ahead at Bethel

Sunday, December 15

8:45am - Traditional Worship Service
9:30am - Confirmation Class
9:50am - Kid Connection Sunday School
9:50am - Sr High Gathering
9:50am - Madrigals Concert at Bethel
10:45am - Contemporary Worship Service

Monday, December 16

9:00am - Men of Monday
9:15am - Quilters
12:00pm - Martha Bible Study

Tuesday, December 17

10am-1pm Office Open
7:00pm - Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, December 18

10:00am - Women of Wednesdays
10am-3pm Office Open
6:30pm - Sr High Fellowship

Thursday, December 19

10am-3pm Office Open
7:30pm - Bethel Choir Rehearsal

Friday, December 20

Saturday, December 21

Bethel Staff Meeting

Click on the adjacent image and watch a clip from the December 3 staff meeting.



Christmas Concert: Harpers Hall Ensemble

Saturday, December 14, 7-9pm in the Sanctuary

Come to Bethel to hear the harps of the Harpers Hall. Admission is free, but donations are welcome and will support the Bethel Music Program concert expenses. Visit bethelcupertino.org for more information.

Nativity Photos Requested

send by December 19

Do you have a Nativity set that you would like others to see during Christmas services?





Mountain View High School Madrigals at Bethel

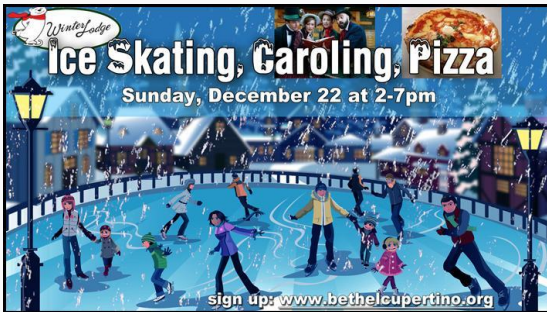
Sunday, December 15, 9:50am-10:20am

Experience the spirit of Christmas in an a capella concert given by the Mountain View High School Madrigals, led by Jill Denny.

Kid Connection Christmas Program

Sunday, December 22
at the 10:45am service

Our kids will be acting out the Nativity Story " Christ is Born in Bethlehem ", while Amanda narrates.



Ice Skating, Caroling, Pizza

Sunday, December 22, 2-7pm

All are welcome to our annual Skating/Caroling/Pizza Extravaganza. We'll start out skating at the quaint outdoor rink at Winter Lodge in Palo Alto. Then we'll bring some Christmas Cheer to some Bethel loved ones that can't get out, and finish with some yummy pizza from Tony & Albas. Take a break from the Christmas rush and re-center and give some to others

at the same time. See the flier [here](#). Sign up [here](#). See all the details at our website: www.bethelcupertino.org.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

Tuesday, December 24 at 5pm & 9pm

This Christmas Eve honor and celebrate the birth of Jesus at one or both candle lighting services. At 5pm, celebrate with a family theme as you sing with and listen to the Worship Team, led by Clayton Johnson. At 9pm, celebrate in a traditional, more meditative style, with traditional music, led by Melody Wright. Nursery will be available at the 5pm service.





Young Adult Meet Up

December 27, at 5:30pm in the Youth Room

Meet for kicks and giggles. Bring friends if you wish. Contact Harumy Miura for more information.

2025



NEW: Knitting Ministry

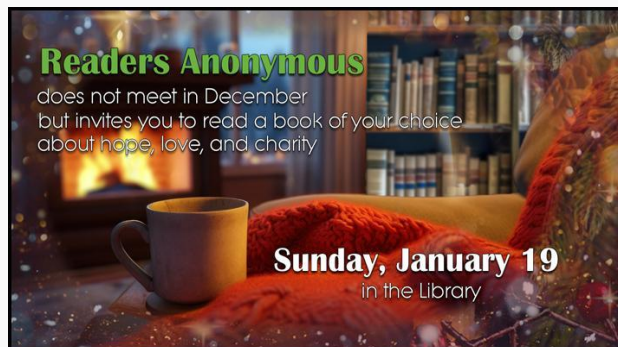
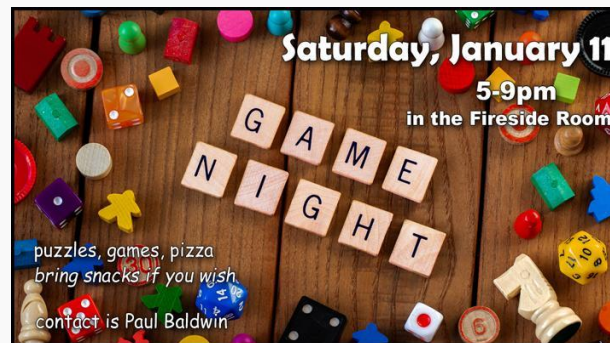
(Kids may also crochet)

Do you like to knit? How about crochet? Ellen Aist is starting a new knitting ministry, in January, to make hats for the unhoused. Yarn, and loom for crocheting, will be provided. If you would like to be part of this ministry, contact Ellen Aist or Amanda Laughlin.

Out 'n About Plays Games at Bethel

Saturday, January 11, 5-9pm

All are invited to come to the Fireside Room for a Game Night. Bring your favorite board game and/or puzzle and we'll figure out which ones we are going to play. Pizza is provided but feel free to bring snacks.



Readers Anonymous

Sunday, January 19 at 1:30pm, Library

We will not meet in December, but for this month's book selection, please select a book of your own choosing about the season of hope, love, and charity. Our next meeting will be Sunday, January 19, 2025 at 1:30 in the Library.

9th Annual Chili Cookoff

Sunday, January 26, noon-1:30pm,
Torvend Hall

It's time again for the Annual Chili Cook Off, so let's get cookin'! Whether you are 'in it to win it' with your best recipe, or just comin' for the great eats, RSVP via your bulletin insert (in January) and/or contact Mary Deutscher in the office (408-252-8500).

Break out your western wear and please bring a side dish, bread or dessert to share. We will provide chili toppings, chips, and beverages. Volunteers are needed for set up/clean up.



Sunday School
Preschool-1st Grade Group
Children's Choir
3rd-5th Grade Group
Parent Fellowship

Kid Connection Sunday School (for ages Preschool-5th grade)

Sunday, December 15 - Kid Connection meets at 9:50am-10:40am

Meet in rooms 9 and 1 to make Advent crafts, work on our knitting, see Christmas books from our Library shown by Margaret Lund, and practice for our Christmas Program.

Sunday, December 22 - Kid Connection Christmas Program at the 10:45am service

Meet at 9:50am for dress rehearsal. Our kids will be acting out the Nativity Skit "Christ is Born in Bethlehem," while Amanda narrates. Our Children's Choir will sing and there will be an opportunity for younger children and for those who are not in the choir to sing as well. We will be practicing during Kid Connection time.

Sunday, December 22 - Kid Connection Hang Out (ages Preschool-5th grade) 11:45am-2pm in Room 1

Your child(ren) will hang out with me so that you can go out to lunch and or do whatever you find helpful. Lunch is provided for children. A free will donation is appreciated to help offset the cost of lunch. RSVP to Amanda.

Children's Choir (ages 2nd grade and older)

Sundays, December 15 - Children's Choir will be rehearsing for the Christmas Program.

For more information and to receive the Kid Connection emails, contact Amanda Laughlin.



Confirmation (6th, 7th, 8th graders)

Straight to the point ... part 2.

What is the first question you will ask Jesus when you get to heaven? What "Jesus moment" would have made a positive impact on you if you had lived in His day and were around Him? This week we continue our look at Jesus moments in scripture. Do you have someone you can have conversations with about these questions? Maybe you are the one someone can have conversation with. Coins need both sides. Engage the flip.

For more information about the Confirmation program at Bethel, contact Robyn Winegardner.



Sr. High Students

Sundays

9:50am - Sr High Gathering

Wednesdays at 6:30pm

Sr High dinner and fellowship

For more information on Sr. High activities and to get on the email list,

contact Tom Hoegel.

Your Giving

Here are the monthly Benevolence Giving Reports:

<https://www.bethelcupertino.org/insideBethel/index.php#Benevolence>

Ways to give to Bethel:

Contact Fara Brock in the church office at 408-252-8500
or visit <https://www.bethelcupertino.org/giving>

*For more information on Bethel Cupertino
visit bethelcupertino.org*

Lead Pastor: Pastor Ben Sandin
Council President: Doreen Baldwin
Congregational Life: Tom Hoegel
Adult Ministry: Mary Deutscher
Children's Ministry: Amanda Laughlin
Business Administrator: Fara Brock

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