June 14, 2021

Dear Covenant Partners and Friends of Bethel,

PastorDr. Jerry Kasberg

Associate Pastor Rev. Mike Horst

Director of Student MinistriesJordan Crawford

Interim Director of Family and Children's Ministries Ryann Potter

> Organist / Choir Director Susan Rose

Next Generation
Assistants
Keri Horst
Daniel Casper

Nursery Coordinator Sarah Chadwell

Treasurer Ernie Krebs

Office Manager Danielle Wright It is time! It is time to be the church, certain of its mission and ministry, in the midst of one of the most uncertain times in our history. We are certain that God is in control. We are certain that He has a Plan. We are certain that His timing and His Plan include us because we are here, and we are the church for such a time as this. I am so proud of how you, the Covenant Partners and Friends of Bethel, have hung in there, stepped forward, and have not made this time about you.

So, while we are doing all we can to move forward as a congregation, making a difference for the Kingdom of God, I would like to challenge us to step out on faith one more time. I believe the Lord wants us to pay off the mortgage on the Church building in the next 45 days. Our plan all along was to build the building and then, in two significant campaigns, to pay it off. We began dreaming of a new facility in 2011; we built it in 2013, we paid off half of the \$1.1 million debt in 2018, and now it is time to pay off the remaining balance of \$492,000 by the Fourth of July. That's right; we are going to be debt-free by the Fourth of July.

Think this is crazy? On the surface, it may be. However, I believe our congregation is ready to take our debt off the backs of the next generation of Bethel. We saw the need. We had the dream. We took the responsibility to build it and are enjoying its blessings. Now, it is time for us to pay it off.

So, with the Lord's help, here is how we are going to accomplish this very doable task. The "Debt Free By The Fourth" Campaign will publicly begin on Father's Day, Sunday, June 20. The Campaign will run for two weeks. On Sunday, July 4, we will celebrate a great victory with one service at 11am! We are asking for cash donations, stocks, or bonds, which we will cash out in order for us to be able to go to Park National Bank by July 31 and pay off the loan.

Here is the Amazing Thing! In hearing of the possibility of paying off this debt, three of your fellow Covenant Partners approached me with \$152,000 in cash, hoping it would motivate you, me, and the rest of our congregation to do everything in our power to give generously to pay off this debt. Almost 1/3 of the cash needed is already in hand! The remaining 2/3s are in our pockets. So, lets pay this debt off and be Debt Free By The Fourth!

Please prayerfully consider making a generous donation so that we will be "Debt Free By The Fourth!" and return your commitment card by Sunday, July 4. We ask that the funds be available by July 15 so we can present the check to the Bank on July 31. Thank you for your faithfulness and your generosity!

We know not everyone has cash readily available right now. So, if you can only pledge at this time, please indicate that on the commitment card because we do not want you to miss out on joining us celebrating the amazing blessing of paying off this debt by the Fourth.

Proud to be Your Brother, Pastor, and Fellow Minister,

Jerry