



# Bethel

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

11211 E. Northwest Hwy. Dallas, Texas 75238-3826  
Church: 214-348-0420 – Fax: 214-348-7756 – Early Learning Center: 214-348-8375  
[www.BethelDallas.org](http://www.BethelDallas.org)

**Randall Haedge**  
*Senior Pastor*

October 2018

Dear Bethel Disciples, God's dear children who follow Jesus daily:

Grace, mercy, and peace to you!

We're doing something different this year in stewardship! We are still asking for your commitments of time, talent, and treasure, so that you may be generous to God and others with your money, your giftedness, your energy, your time. But, unlike in years past, where we have received commitments and THEN decided on a budget, this year your church council has diligently prepared a target budget and is now asking you to support our mission plans for 2019. We firmly believe that money follows mission, and we are challenging Bethel to go above and beyond in our mission this year.

The budget we would like to adopt has taken into account current actual year-to-date giving and estimates of 2019 expenses, most of which, as you realize, are involved in staffing and property. Our team has been diligent in calculating this, so the numbers accurately represent what we actually need. But we would also like to increase the ministry side of our budget this year by 60%. This area includes music, ministry to students and children, outreach to our community and the world. To do so, we will need \$13,600 more for next year than this year to meet expenses of \$636,300. This can be accomplished with a 3% increase in commitments over 2018. The leadership of Bethel is confident we can do this. But it will take all of us pulling together to make it happen.

There have been many positive changes in 2018. Let's build on what we have started so that we can follow Jesus into 2019 with joy and even more passion for the good news.

Enclosed with this letter is a commitment card. Please return it to the church by **October 21**. You may also commit online at [www.betheldallas.org](http://www.betheldallas.org), and sign up for online giving if you desire to do so. (You will find instructions on how to do this on the reverse of this letter.)

Bethel's leadership is excited about the ministry and mission God has laid before us. The theme verse for our stewardship emphasis is from Proverbs 11: 25: "A generous person will prosper; whoever refreshes others will be refreshed." As "times of refreshing" come to us, we know that our generous giving refreshes both us and others. God has refreshed us in Jesus; all that we have is His; we simply respond by giving to God from the abundance that is ours through Jesus.

Pray about your response to what God has before us. Respond generously and gratefully!

God's blessings be yours!

Pastor Randy Haedge  
Senior Pastor

**Sunday Worship:**  
Traditional- 8:30 a.m. ♦ Contemporary- 11:00 a.m.  
Sunday School and Bible Classes: 9:45 a.m.

(over) →

### **Giving Online:**

For some, giving online is a way to keep their giving to the Lord and His church consistent and faithful. The money is set aside, taken from their bank account on a set day, and given to the church's account. This can be set up on the church's website, [betheldallas.org](http://betheldallas.org), to an amount, interval, and time period of your choice, and can be modified at any time.

This is not for everyone. For some, the act of writing a check, or using cash, and placing an envelope in the offering plate is a tangible expression of their generosity that is meaningful.

Both methods are used by members of Bethel, and both reflect faithful stewardship of God's gifts.

If you would like to try online giving, specific instructions are given below:

#### **Steps to make your yearly commitment online:**

1. Visit [www.betheldallas.org](http://www.betheldallas.org)
2. Click on the pink box in the lower right corner that says "stewardship 2019"
3. Read the form and scroll down to enter your information: First name, last name, email address, commitment amount and then select from the options for the frequency/period of giving. If you would like to list areas for which you volunteer as part of your yearly commitment, you may do that as well
4. Once all of your information is entered, click the "authorization" box saying that you've read the disclaimer
5. Click the blue "submit" button
6. A new page will appear saying "your response has been recorded"
7. Pastor Haedge is the only one who will see your commitment and will send you a confirmation email within the next few days of receiving your commitment

#### **To set up online giving for your ongoing tithe or to use for other giving opportunities (memorials, altar flowers, Lutheran Witness, etc.)**

1. Visit [www.betheldallas.org](http://www.betheldallas.org)
2. Click on the "give" tab on the right of the screen
3. Drop down and select "electronic donations"
4. Click on the words "click here" to set up secure electronic giving
5. Under the "donations" box and under "offerings" and "general offering" type in the amount you wish to give for your tithe. (under the "special funds" section, you can choose to give electronically for things such as memorials, altar flowers, Lutheran Witness, etc. You can type in whatever you want to give towards and add in the amount.)
6. Under "donation frequency" click on the drop down arrow to set the frequency to which you want to give your tithe. *(Please note that the frequency will apply to ALL amounts entered, i.e. if you want to set up a weekly tithe and you also want to give a one-time \$40 for altar flowers, you will have to make these two separate transactions and start the second transaction over beginning at step 5.)*
7. Click "continue"
8. Under "donation Information" fill in all of the required fields
9. Enter the account type- checking or savings-and then enter in your routing number and account number
10. To the right of the screen is a "donation summary" box indicating what you have just set up
11. Would you like to save your profile before continuing? Click "select password"
12. When done, click "process"

Once finished, you may log on with your user name and password to the "online donation" page where you can review scheduled and completed transactions. On the right side of the screen, you will notice you can edit or delete any of your scheduled transactions. Below, under "my transaction history" you can view your giving history, including the amounts and frequency.

***\*If you have any questions about either of these methods of giving, contact the church office.***