

Raymond
Campus

BETHANY CHURCH

Sunday Services

9:00 and 11:00am

November 16, 2014

Current Sermon Series



**Are You Ready To Run?
“The Race Marked Out”**

Learn more at:
www.bethanychurch.com

WELCOME VISITORS!

Greetings from our Campus Pastor!

Thank you so much for visiting our Raymond Campus! Our desire is to make your first experience a warm one. Please feel free to help yourself to complimentary coffee, and an assortment of baked goods in our Café. Rest peacefully knowing your children will be taken care of and taught by a team of well-trained individuals who make safety a top priority. You'll also find relevant messages that are rooted in sound biblical theology, and a contemporary worship service which we believe will greatly bless your heart. I try to meet new faces, but if I miss you, please make it a point to introduce yourself to me at any time. God bless you and your loved ones! *Mark Rivera*

The Café

Our Café is open before and after services on Sunday mornings and you are welcome to enjoy your coffee during the service. The Café will close 15 minutes into the service in order to eliminate any distraction to those worshipping and will re-open for fellowship at the end of the service.

In Need of Prayer?

If you are in need of prayer, members of our prayer team are available after each service. Prayer cards are located in the pocket on the back of the chairs for anonymous requests. You may place your cards in the offering plate or in the box at the Information Center.

Nursery

Our caring nursery team is ready to welcome your baby during the service. The nursery is located to the right at the bottom of the stairs. Nursing Moms are also welcome and will be able to see and hear the service.

Membership at Bethany

If you are interested in becoming a member of Bethany Church, please contact Jen Violette (Jenv76@comcast.net).

Communion

All communion elements are gluten free, so that everyone who wants to participate may do so. Our Cafe also has a list of the ingredients. If you have any questions please ask the Cafe host or one of our ushers.

Lost and Found

There is a large bin labeled, "lost and found," located downstairs in the big classroom. Check it out if you are missing anything.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Operation Christmas Child Ends Today!

If you have a box please bring it back today.

EVENTS

"A Night Of Hope" - Greenland Campus Tonight, 6:00pm

Contact: *Kim O'Brien (Kobrien@bethanychurch.com)*

If you thought a Night of One was special wait till you see and experience what we have in store for A Night of Hope. Tonight, beginning at 6:00pm, join Bethany Church, area churches, and the seacoast community in celebrating hope resurrected through an evening of classic and contemporary worship. The evening is free and open to all.

From The Heart - Greenland Campus December, 9 and 10 - 7:00pm

Contact: *Kim O'Brien (Kobrien@bethanychurch.com)*

Ladies, our 21st annual From the Heart Christmas event, will take place the evenings of Tuesday and Wednesday, December 9th and 10th at our Greenland Campus. Our guest speaker is Sarah Theberge, author of *The Invisible Girls*. Tickets are now on sale at the back Information Table or online at www.bethanychurch.com.

PARTNERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Ministry Partner Opportunities

Contact: *Ali Bousquin (ABousquin@bethanychurch.com)*

Sharing God's word with our preschoolers is truly a blessing. Experience the blessings for yourself, join our preschool team and assist one Sunday a month during our 9:00am service. There are also once a month serving opportunities in our nursery during the 11:00 am service. If you like connecting with people then join our Family Ministry Welcoming Team. Serve once a month, greeting families and checking them in on the computer.

BETHANY CARES

Join Us For Our

5th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner

**Thursday, November 27 - Greenland Campus
Service: 10:00am - Dinner: 11:30am**

Contact: *Pat Fuller pfuller@bethanychurch.com 603.570.9033*

Please join us for our 5th annual Thanksgiving Dinner! The popular Thanksgiving service is at 10am and then stay for dinner starting at 11:30. This dinner is fully funded by the generosity of Bethany families.

We look forward to another wonderful day of giving thanks to our Lord who has blessed us all so much! If you'd like to go, or volunteer, please sign-up at the back Information Table.



Are You Ready To Run? The Race Marked Out

Hebrews 11:1 – 12:2
THE GREATEST PRE-GAME SPEECH
November 2, 2014

MEMORY VERSE:

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.”
(Hebrews 11:1, NIV84)

“And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.” (Hebrews 11:6, NIV84)

OVERVIEW

Having just mentioned what was expected of those who responded to Christ and his offer of mercy, we are treated to a working definition of faith (Hebrews 11:1-3). We are then given a roll call of those who were righteous, faithful, and tested (Hebrews 11:4-40), culminating in a clarion call to join their ranks (Hebrews 12:1-2).

NEXT WEEK:

Hebrews 12:3-17

“In the Training Room”

SERMON NOTES: Hebrews 11:1 – 12:3

Question: “What does it mean to live by faith?”

FAITH _____

HEBREWS 11:1–3 (NIV84)

1 Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

2 This is what the ancients were commended for.

3 By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God’s command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Faith is our response, internally and externally, _____

Faith provides the ability to perceive _____
_____ (cf. 2:8)

FAITH _____

HEBREWS 11:4–40 (NIV84)

4 By faith **Abel** offered God **a better sacrifice** than Cain did. By faith he was commended as a righteous man, when God spoke well of his offerings. And by faith he still speaks, even though he is dead.

5 By faith **Enoch** was taken from this life, so that he did not experience death; he could not be found, because God had taken him away. For before he was taken, **he was commended as one who pleased God.** 6 And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him.

7 By faith **Noah**, when **warned about things not yet seen**, in holy fear built an ark to save his family. By his faith he condemned the world and became heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.

Faith pleases God and _____
(cf. 11:6; Ro. 3:21-26)

HEBREWS 11:8-16

8 By faith **Abraham, when called to go** to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, **obeyed and went**, even though he did not know where he was going. **9** By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. **10** For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

11 By faith Abraham, even though he was past age—and Sarah herself was barren—was enabled to become a father because he considered him faithful who had made the promise. **12** And so from this one man, and he as good as dead, came descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as countless as the sand on the seashore.

13 All these people were still living by faith when they died. **They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance.** And they admitted that they were aliens and strangers on earth. **14** People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. **15** If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. **16** Instead, **they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.**

Faith is _____

HEBREWS 11:17-38

17 By faith **Abraham**, when **God tested him**, offered **Isaac** as a sacrifice. He who had received the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, **18** even though God had said to him, “It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned.” **19** Abraham reasoned that God could raise the dead, and figuratively speaking, he did receive Isaac back from death.

20 By faith **Isaac** blessed Jacob and Esau **in regard to their future.**

21 By faith **Jacob**, **when he was dying**, blessed each of Joseph’s sons, and worshiped as he leaned on the top of his staff.

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE: Hebrews 12:3 - 17

OPENING

- In your group, can you recall a few examples of how a disadvantage actually proved to be a decisive advantage?

GOING DEEPER

- What are some things that are weighing you down in your life of faith? How does the teaching we received in Hebrews address these issues?
- Discuss a few ways to build our endurance to run the race of faith?
- What was the primary reason Jesus persevered? How does your answer relate to Hebrews 11:1?

CHALLENGE

In his book Outliers, Malcolm Gladwell tells the strange story of Christopher Langan, a genius with a staggering IQ of 195. (For some perspective, Einstein's IQ was 150). During high school, Langan could ace any foreign language test by skimming the textbook 2-3 minutes before the exam. He got a perfect score on his SAT, even though at one point he fell asleep. But Langan failed to use his exceptional gifts and ended up working on a horse farm in rural Missouri.

According to Gladwell, Langan never had a community to help him capitalize on his gifts.

Gladwell summarizes the story of Langan in one sentence: "[Langan] had to make his way alone, and no one—not rock stars, not professional athletes, not software billionaires, and not even geniuses—ever makes it alone."

Malcolm Gladwell, Outliers (Little, Brown and Company, 2008), p. 115

- In Hebrews 12:1-17, what help does God provide that will keep us in the race?

were sawed in two; they were put to death by the sword. They went about in sheepskins and goatskins, destitute, persecuted and mistreated— **38** the world was not worthy of them. They wandered in deserts and mountains, and in caves and holes in the ground.

Faith made them _____

A CALL _____

HEBREWS 11:39 - 12:2 (NIV84)

39 These were all commended for their faith, yet none of them received what had been promised. **40** God had planned something better for us so that only together with us would they be made perfect.

1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the **race marked out for us**. **2** Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Live your life with a _____ **!**

Determine to finish _____ **of the race**

Keep your eye on the Jesus and you will _____

CONNECT GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE: Hebrews 11:1 – 12:2

OPENING

- As you gather to discuss today's passage, discuss some of the most inspirational movies you can remember. What made the hero/heroine stand out? What motivated their actions? Did they always have clarity?

GOING DEEPER

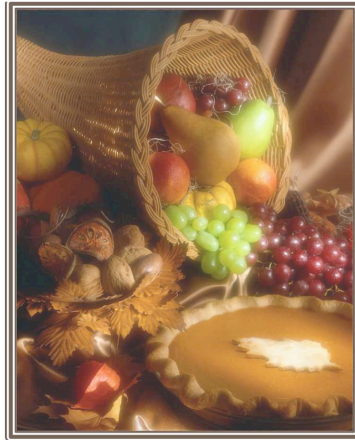
- Hebrews 11:1-3 provides a working definition of faith. What two qualities are mentioned in this text? How would you define "what we hope for"? What are we to see with certainty? (Remember all that has been shared regarding the work and ministry of Jesus in the previous chapters)
- Hebrews 11:4-40 cites numerous examples of men and women who lived lives of faith. Pastor Bruce mentioned that God saw them as righteous; they obeyed to God's call; they endured times of testing because of their confidence in God's promise. However, many of these were imperfect examples: Noah got drunk; Abraham lied; Jacob was a deceiver; Moses had a temper; Gideon doubted; Samson was unrestrained; David was an adulterer. How do you reconcile the writer using them as examples?

CHALLENGE

- Hebrews 12:1-2 encourages us to take action. We are called to enter the race of faith, as those who went before us. The text mentions three things to encourage us to run. Discuss what concrete steps you can take in your life of faith? What are some things you can start to do? What are some things you should stop doing?

SERMON NOTES.....

Join us for our 5th Annual Thanksgiving Dinner



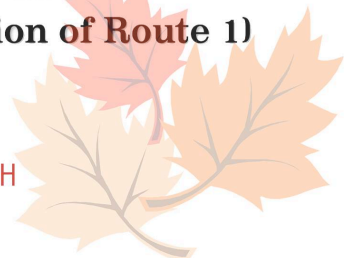
Thursday, November 27th
Service 10:00am
Dinner 11:30am

**Dinner is complimentary and
we even send leftovers home with you.**

Please RSVP by November 19th to 603.431.3646

Bethany Church

**500 Breakfast Hill Road (intersection of Route 1)
Greenland, NH**



BETHANYCHURCH

From ^{the} Heart ₂₀₁₄

December 9th & 10th, 2014

at Bethany Church in Greenland, NH

Doors open at 6:30pm
Program begins at 7:00pm

Enjoy fresh fruits and cheeses,
home-baked cookies and
decadent chocolate!



*This wonderful Christmas event is
for ladies age 7th grade to 100+*



Guest Speaker

Sarah Thebarge



With humor and unflinching honesty,
hear a story of loss, survival, recovery
and redemption as authored in her
memoir, *The Invisible Girls*.

Guest Music Artist

Rachel Taylor

Singer-songwriter with a creative
blend of alternative folk, 50's
country, and unplugged pop.
Founding member of the Indie
Roots band, Maeve.



Tickets:

\$8 cash/check, \$10 online (includes processing fee)

Available beginning November 2nd

BethanyChurch.com
603.431.3646

BETHANYCHURCH

500 Breakfast Hill Road, Greenland, NH 03840

ONE CHURCH | TWO LOCATIONS.....

Greenland Campus	Raymond Campus
500 Breakfast Hill Rd.	90 Chester Rd.
Greenland, NH 03840	Raymond, NH 03077

Raymond Campus Office Hours:

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00am- 5:00pm

Greenland Campus Office Hours

Monday - Friday 8:30am - 5:00pm

Bethany Main Number: 603.431.3646

After Hours Emergency Care:

Dial 603.431.3646 and press 2

www.bethanychurch.com

info@bethanychurch.com

OUR MISSION AND VISION.....

Our Mission:

To be a Christian community where the love of God is transforming us from the Inside Out and our love for God is drawing the Outside In.

Our Vision:

Bethany is a loving community, intentionally **connecting** with one another, so that we may be:

Comforted by the Grace of God

Changed by the Word of God

Challenged by the Mission of God

Financials - Operating Fund

Revenue / Expense Summary - 10 months through October 31

2014	Actual	Budget	Actual vs. Budget
Giving	\$196,562	\$191,500	\$5,062
Net Expenses	\$208,096	\$205,908	\$2,188
Income/(Loss)	\$(11,534)	\$(14,408)	\$2,874

**Special Summer Offering received through 10/31/2014
\$140,000**

CONTACT INFORMATION.....

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Rev. Dr. Dirk Rodgers - Executive Pastor
Executive Assistant, Pat Fuller
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Raymond Campus Staff

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Joya Anderson – Student Ministry Leader
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603.303.4288

Board of Elders

Elders may be emailed at
Elders@bethanychurch.com
Chair - Paul Fitzgibbons 603.964.2957
Vice Chair - Jeff Clark 207.363.5208

Board Members

Pauline Maloney 603.944.7993
Eric Savage 603.772.6259
Peter Schaeffer 603.436.5284
Jim Serpliss 207.363.4344
Francois Vorster 603.580.1981
Robert Goodman 603.661.5969

Bethany is on the air

TV - Portsmouth pmtv, Channel 98, Exeter,
Brentwood and Stratham Public TV, Channel 98,
Sandown TV, Channel 17, Raymond TV, Channel 13
and Epping Public TV. Check with your local carrier
for dates and times.

Radio: WSEW 88.7 FM, Sundays at 12:00pm

Web: Live broadcasts Sundays at 9:00am & 11:00am
Archives on demand 24/7.

CD and DVD: Full worship services available