



Congregational Information Form

I. Part One - Information

A. BASIC INFORMATION AND CONTACTS

1. Name of congregation – Bethel Church

Address: 3185 Wayland Road, PO Box 96, Wayland, IA 52654

Church telephone (319) 256-8531

Website: www.bethelwaylandchurch.org

2. Search Committee Contact Person: Ranee Reschly

Address: 312 E. Front St., Wayland, IA 52654

Telephone (319) 750-5175 email: raneereschly@gmail.com

3. Affiliation: Bethel is an independent, nonaffiliated church.

4. Year in which the congregation first began meeting or was organized 1950

B. MEMBERSHIP

1. Average Sunday worship attendance during the last 12 months: 106

Highest attendance during that time 138 Lowest attendance during that time 80

2. Total current attendees: 137 (Children - approximately 23%)

3. Age of attendees – adult and children:

0-11	16	12%	36-50	18	13%
12-18	15	11%	51-64	21	15%
19-35	10	7%	65+	57	42%

C. COMMUNITY

1. Character of community your church serves or in which it is located: Rural
2. Which best describes this community; growing, stable or declining? Stable

3. Describe racial or ethnic composition of the community served by your church.

85-90% Caucasian

4. List two or three primary business/industries in the community.

MD Orthopedics, Eichelberger Milling and Farms, Agri-Way, and Wayland Mennonite Home Association.

5. Identify significant issues confronting your community.

The community is becoming more unchurched.

6. Describe what you believe to be distinctive assets of your community.

The size of the community allows you to get to know and help each other. It is a fairly conservative and friendly community.

7. How does your church participate in community affairs and interchurch programs?

The local Food Pantry, Women’s & Men’s Refuge House, VBS, Financial Support of Christian group at local junior/high school, WACO Ministerial Association, JYF (community Junior Youth Fellowship), Word Alive and United (Youth Group).

D. CHURCH ADMINISTRATION AND PROGRAM

1. Identify the primary governing body which represents the congregation.

Council	Meets Monthly	Members: 10 + Pastor
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2. Identify five other significant leadership/programming bodies:

Elders	Meets Monthly	Members: 3 + 2 Pastors
Christian Ed Committee	Meets Bi-monthly	Members: 11 + 2 Pastors
Worship Committee	Meets Quarterly	Members: 9 + Pastor
Trustees	Meet as Needed	Members: 3
Outreach Committee	Meet as Needed	Members: 3

3. Describe your youth fellowship:

Our youth group is named United and it is made up of students from 7th-12th grade. They meet Wednesday nights at the church. Our doors open at 6:30 and our service runs from 7:00-8:30. Our service consists of a quick game, worship (student led), and a message. United is made up of youth from our community, not just Bethel.

4. Does your congregation have an active small group organization?

Yes. We have adult Connection that meet weekly or biweekly for bible study and fellowship. Other groups include a girls' club for 3rd – 6th graders, a boys' club for 3rd – 6th graders, JYF (a community group for junior higher) and United for our junior and senior high schoolers.

5. In the next five years, do you anticipate a membership increase, remain stable or decrease?

We anticipate to increase as we are praying and believing that God will bring those He wants to our congregation.

6. Worship and Music:

Order of Service for Sunday Morning Worship:

Welcome & Prayer

Worship in Song

Dismiss students (nursery – 6th grade) go to the basement

Scripture and Message

(We have 2 main song leaders who choose the songs, contemporary or hymns, they will lead. Nine other adults and seven youth help on the worship team(s) also.)

7. Are there community programs or groups who also utilize your church facilities? Who are they and how often?

Currently: Blood Drives

In the Past: AA Meetings (when requested), a Homeschool art class

E. CHURCH BUILDING AND PROPERTY

1. Seating capacity of sanctuary or worship area 275 – 300
2. Date of construction of church building 1949
3. Describe the educational facilities: 6 adult classrooms and 6-7 children's classrooms
4. Describe the fellowship and/or recreational facilities. The fellowship hall seats 150 with an adjacent kitchen.
5. Describe the church office location and equipment: The pastor's offices are located beside the sanctuary as well as an assistant's room.
6. Are building and equipment adequate for an effective program? Describe any special assets or liabilities of the building. The building is handicap accessible and equipped with an elevator for access to the basement and main floor.

F. CHURCH FINANCES

1. Church budget:

Who makes recommendation regarding pastoral and staff salaries? Elders and Council
Who determines church budget or makes recommendation to congregation? N/A - No Budget

2. Is there church indebtedness? No

3. Approximately 30% of Bethel's giving went to missions for the past two years.

G. CURRENT STAFF POSITIONS

<u>Title</u>	<u>% of full time</u>
Pastor	100
Youth Pastor	100
Church Administrative Assistant	50
Custodian	20
Lawn Care	(when needed basis)

II. Part Two - Beliefs

A. What is the mission of your congregation?

Mission Statement:

God calls us through Jesus Christ to share the gospel to the world. We will, with the Holy Spirit's power, seek to strengthen our relationships, equip and encourage people to minister God's love and grace, and bring healing and hope to people we meet.

Condensed Mission Statement:

Receiving – Responding – Reaching Out

God has called us to be a refuge, a city on a hill. Members and attendees are encouraged to serve in missions here and abroad.

B. Make a brief statement about your congregation and the overarching theological commitments important to you.

We believe the whole Bible is the inspired word of God. We believe in Believer's Baptism and that Jesus is the Son of God, born of a Virgin, He died for our sins, was resurrected and left His Holy Spirit to empower us as we make disciples for Him and that Salvation is found in no other person or thing but Jesus. We will serve and care for those in need locally and around the world in Jesus' name. We will listen to the Holy Spirit and follow His leading as we walk out His plans and purposes.

Search Committee:

Doyle Grieser, Nathan Grieser, Donna Hooley, Ben Leichty, Fred Leichty, Lynelle Leichty, Ranee Reschly, Shirley Wade and Mark Yutzky

Date of completion: 5/23/2023