

## **Profile of Bethel Baptist Church**

Bethel Baptist was founded in 1887 as the Bethel Norwegian Baptist Church. We later became affiliated with the Baptist General Conference.

Bethel Baptist Church is located in Park River, a small rural community with a population of 1340, located in the NE corner of the state of North Dakota. You can get acquainted with our town on the website [www.parkrivernd.com](http://www.parkrivernd.com).

The church government, in addition to the pastor, consists of a board of three Deacons and three Trustees. Our current church activities include Sunday morning service, Sunday school for all ages, and Wednesday night AWANA children's club. We support four missionaries on a regular basis. They are located in Zimbabwe, Paraguay, Kenya, and Texas (with OMF). Three of them have come out of our church. Close to 1/3 of our total budget goes to missions. We have no outstanding debts. We support a Baptist General Conference Bible camp located in Lake Bronson, MN. For more information on New Life Bible Camp, see their website at <http://newlifebiblecamp.org/index.html>.

We currently have approximately twenty active members, but our average Sunday morning attendance is thirty to forty. Our Sunday School attendance consists of three elementary-age children, four teens, and approximately 12 adults. We draw our members from a 20-mile radius of the church.

The current building was built in 1920 and has been well-cared for. Many improvements have been made over the years. The sanctuary seats 100. In addition to the sanctuary, the building has a fellowship room with kitchen, pastor's study, three classrooms, and a nursery. We also have a large open area in the basement used for AWANA game time and another open area that has been used for additional classes. The parsonage was built in 1983, and is located three blocks north of the church. It is a ranch-style house with four bedrooms, three bathrooms, an attached two-stall garage, and a big backyard.

We are a conservative group and consider our congregation as family.

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