

# Parent & Family Handbook 2025-2026



# **Helpful Resources**

Academic Enrichment and Support Center | 651.638.6416 bethel.edu/undergrad/academics/support Accessibility Resources and Services | 651.638.6833 bethel.edu/accessibility Business Office | 651.638.6208 | bethel.edu/business-office Campus Ministries | 651.638.6041 | bethel.edu/campus-ministries Campus Store | 651.638.6202 | bethel.slingshotedu.com Counseling Services | 651.635.8540 | bethel.edu/counseling-services Dining Services | 651.638.6015 | bethel.edu/dining-services Financial Aid | 651.638.6241 | bethel.edu/undergrad/financial-aid Health Services | 651.638.6215 | bethel.edu/health-services Information Technology Services (ITS) | 651.638.6500 bethel.edu/its | bethel.topdesk.net International and Off-Campus Programs | 651.638.6549 bethel.edu/international-studies Provost Office (Academic Affairs) | 651.638.6370 | bethel.edu/provost Residence Life | 651.638.6300 bethel.edu/undergrad/student-life/residence-life Safety and Security | 651.638.6000 | bethel.edu/safety-security

Student Life | 651.638.6300 | bethel.edu/undergrad/student-life

The Studio for Vocation and Calling | 651.638.6460

<u>bethel.edu/studio</u>

#### **Office of Family Relations**

651.638.6462 | parents@bethel.edu <u>bethel.edu/parents</u> Facebook: <u>@betheluniversityparentsandfamilies</u> Instagram: <u>@bethelparentsandfamilies</u> Bethel University Parent & Family Connection: <u>bethel.edu/parents/resources/parent-family-connection</u>

## **Engage with Bethel University**

- <u>Pray for Bethel</u>
- <u>Chapel</u>
- Parent & Family Events Calendar 🌮
- <u>Athletics Calendar</u> 🌮
- <u>Performing & Visual Arts Calendar</u> 🌮

# Letter from Jennifer Scott

Welcome to the Bethel family! We are thrilled that your student chose Bethel as their home for the next few years. Their enthusiasm, passion and faith inspires our community.

Bethel is a special place! Within my role as the Senior Director of University Relations, I oversee our parent, family and alumni events and communications, and general resourcing/care for these groups. Our team is here to provide support and services to all parents, families and alumni.

We hope you find a place of belonging at Bethel as you walk alongside your student in their years ahead. Please reach out if you'd like to be engaged as a volunteer, have questions or need support.



God's Best,

Jennifer Scott '95, S'02 Senior Director of University Relations

# Letter from Ross Allen

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the Bethel family and the fall of 2025!

We're thrilled to kick off another exciting year on campus. If you're new to Bethel, I want to extend a special welcome as we celebrate the beginning of a new partnership. If you're a returning Bethel parent, I look forward to reengaging with you in an even more meaningful way.

As your student starts their Bethel journey, I want you to know that God is present here. Bethel's community provides students with unique opportunities to grow in faith and knowledge. We are committed to walking alongside your student and providing a truly excellent experience as they discover the calling God has for them.

The days ahead will be filled with joys and challenges. I ask that you join me in regularly praying for your student as they pursue their passions, develop lasting friendships, and encounter the transforming love of Jesus.



Ross Allen '84 President

#### **Academic Enrichment and Support Center**

ASK at the AESC! The Academic Enrichment and Support Center (AESC) provides supportive coaching for time management, test-taking strategies, and methods to curb test anxiety and read textbooks effectively.

AESC provides help sessions and individual tutors for almost every course if needed. Check us out at <u>bethel.edu/undergrad/academics/</u> support and come in for a conversation!

#### Office of Accessibility Resources and Services

The Office of Accessibility Resources and Services (OARS) supports students with disabilities by arranging reasonable accommodations that provide equal access to living and learning at Bethel. Students qualify for services upon self-disclosure of a disability, the presentation of appropriate documentation, and completing the OARS registration process. Students are encouraged to connect with OARS as early as possible, ideally before the semester begins, to assist with a smooth transition to college. Although the accommodations process is led by the student, parents and other supportive individuals are welcome to join meetings if the student chooses. Learn more at <u>bethel.edu/accessibility</u>.

#### **Business Office**

The Bethel Business Office is here to help you understand and manage your student account and financial responsibilities. We know managing finances can sometimes come with challenges and uncertainty. That's why our team is available and happy to answer your questions and walk with you through the process. Visit <u>bethel.edu/business-office</u> for more information.

## **Office of Campus Ministries**

Mission: To provide opportunities for the Bethel community to engage in faith, experience God and extend service to others in the name of Jesus Christ.

**Vision:** To equip our community in a strategic and integrative approach to campus ministry that will allow our campus to transform together to look more like heaven every day.

**Engage & Equip:** Our team of pastors and staff are theologically trained and passionately committed to journeying with your student during their college years. Through biblically-rooted preaching, discipleship, and training in spiritual disciplines, your student will be given the proper tools to be able to navigate a complex world through a gospel-centered lens.

**Experience & Transform:** Growing into the image and likeness of Christ requires personal and spiritual discipline. Our team is excited to walk alongside your student as we strive to be more like Jesus in all we do.

**Together:** We need one another to grow and to fulfill our calling to be the body of Christ. Our Campus Ministries team partners with the entire campus to ensure that every student finds their unique voice, place, and space at Bethel. With Jesus at the center of all that we say and do, students will grow and flourish into the person God has called them to be!



Learn more about how we serve students at <u>bethel.edu/campus-ministries</u>.

#### **Campus Store**

The Bethel Campus Store is operated by Slingshot! All required course materials are provided to students automatically based on enrollment. Orders will be packaged and delivered right to your dorm room, or available at the Campus Store for pickup. All new students and transfers are already opted in, but existing students can opt themselves in by logging into their student portals at <u>bethel.slingshotedu.com</u> and updating their preferences. Shop the Campus Store online or instore for Bethel apparel and gifts! You'll find school supplies and more in the Campus Store. Campus Store gift cards are great to celebrate events or moments. Learn more at <u>bethelgear.com</u>.



## **Counseling Services**

Life in college is fun, but it can also be challenging and stressful. Our counselors are ready to help, providing support, encouragement, and guidance. Whether it's anxiety, depression, relational conflict, family stressors, or other issues, counselors meet the need with short-term counseling and consultations. Learn more about this free resource at <u>bethel.edu/counseling-services</u>.

## **Dining Services**

Dining in community is a major part of college life. Sodexo Dining Services offers an all-you-can-eat buffet in the Monson Dining Center, along with our made-to-order 3900 Grill restaurant, and Royal Grounds coffee shop. Pre-order at 3900 Grill and Royal Grounds for easy pick up between classes using our OrderAhead app. Learn more about meal plans at <u>bethel.edu/dining-services/meal-plans/plans</u>.

Our registered dietitian partners with the Office of Accessibility Resources and Services to oversee our dietary accommodations for students with unique dining needs; email accessibility-resources@bethel. edu for more information. Be sure to stop by our on-campus garden just north of Chalberg Hall to see our campus-grown produce and our bee hives when you come to share a meal with your student at Bethel! For more information, check out<u>bethel.edu/dining-services</u>.

# **Office of Financial Aid**

The financial aid process may at times be confusing to students and families as they navigate through federal, state, private, and institutional aid opportunities. The Financial Aid Office is staffed with knowledgeable financial aid counselors who are eager to assist you through the financial aid process. In the early stage of applying for admission, you are assigned a financial aid counselor who is dedicated to assisting you throughout your college years. Please familiarize yourself with our financial aid website. It is a wealth of valuable information geared to help you finance your college education. Learn more at bethel.edu/undergrad/financial-aid.



#### **Health Services**

Health Services provides oncampus medical care to students while enrolled in the university. Our experienced team of Registered Nurses and a Nurse Practitioner strive to ensure that students leave our clinic feeling better as well as more informed about their condition and ways to provide good self-care.

We're here to keep our students healthy, and thus better able to enjoy the Bethel University experience. Learn more about this free resource at <u>bethel.edu/health-</u> <u>services</u>.

## Information Technology Services

Technology is meant to be helpful, and easy to use. We will do everything we can to make your experience with technology seamless. Some of the common services ITS provides are WiFi,



printing, and personal service for IT related issues from our walk-up Help Desk.

To get started visit <u>bethel.edu/its/getting-started</u>. Please call 651.638.6500 or email helpdesk@bethel.edu with any questions.



#### **Office of International and Off-Campus Programs**

The Office of International and Off-Campus Programs is excited to support students in life-changing academic experiences around the United States and the world. Our team is committed to connecting students with programs that will meet a diverse set of interests and academic needs. Working with our study abroad advisors, students are empowered to explore and choose from over 600 program offerings in over 60 country locations. Off-campus experiences are available for January, summer, fall, and/or spring terms. Learn more at bethel.edu/international-studies.

#### **Office of the Provost (Academic Affairs)**

The Office of the Provost leads the academic programs as they foster teaching and learning infused with the Christian faith. While most students do not interact with our office directly, they experience the impact of our work.

Academic Affairs includes faculty, academic programs, advising, class scheduling and registration and many other teams supporting teaching and learning. You may contact the academic Dean who supervises a specific area of interest, or we can connect you to the academic departments and offices on campus who support students in many ways. Learn more about our office at <u>bethel.edu/provost</u>.

#### **Office of Residence Life**

By living on campus, students immerse themselves in a community where they belong—a community that will support them as they grow into who they are meant to be.

There's a reason why a majority of Bethel students live on campus during their entire college experience. Our community is unlike any other—it's a place where students find belonging, discover lifelong friendships, and become more authentically themselves. And that starts in our eight residence halls, where you'll find options ranging from traditional rooms to suites and apartments.

We want Residence Life at Bethel University to be an integral part of your educational experience. The intent of a liberal arts education is to help individuals develop their full potential in all areas of life. As we seek to become whole and holy people, we understand that learning opportunities don't just happen in the classroom. At Bethel, the residence hall is more than just a place to sleep and study; it is a place to connect with people, which is one of the most significant aspects of the college experience. It is in the residences that social, spiritual, physical, emotional, and intellectual life blend together as in no other campus environment. Learn more about residence-life/halls.



## **Office of Safety and Security**

Safety and Security is committed to fostering a safe, secure, and welcoming environment that provides a home base for students to belong and become. Our professional staff focus on prevention and preparedness through relationships, proactive engagement, and crisis readiness.

Find resources, campus crime statistics, emergency procedures, and information on parking and campus access on our webpage at <u>bethel.edu/safety-security</u>.

## **Office of Student Life**

College isn't just about getting a degree. It's also about personal growth and becoming well-rounded. It's about doing things that matter, living out our faith, and building relationships along the way. Life at Bethel is active and there are a lot of opportunities for leadership, growth, and fun within student life.

We recognize that what we do at college isn't just about us. Beyond the fun, we want to work hard and be challenged so we're ready to serve wherever God sends us. Learn more about opportunities to do so at Bethel at <u>bethel.edu/undergrad/student-life/leadership</u>.

Everything we do in Student Life is for our students. Whether you're looking for career advice or need to talk to a counselor, we want to connect you to the right people and resources. To see the many services offered to students at Bethel visit <u>bethel.edu/undergrad/student-life/</u><u>services</u>.

Get ready to have some fun! There are many clubs and activities to participate in. Get ready to sport outrageous outfits at the homecoming cheer, discover your love for disc golf, or plan events that make your classmates smile after a long week. Check out the fun at <u>bethel.edu/undergrad/student-life/activities</u>.

# The Studio for Vocation and Calling

The Studio for Vocation and Calling is dedicated to ensuring every student has a clear, supported path from college to career. As President Ross Allen states, "Bethel is not a place where you'll wait until senior year to think about your future. From your first visit to campus to your first job offer, and beyond, Bethel is intentionally preparing you to discover your gifts, deepen your faith, and step into your calling with confidence."

Under The Studio's umbrella, the Office of Career Development and Calling supports students and alumni with career strategies and exploration. We understand that knowing what to do with one's education is just as important as the degree itself.

We provide tools and opportunities that promote growth throughout students' time here and success beyond Bethel. Our staff facilitates conversations one-on-one, in seminars, and in classrooms about career discernment, strategic planning towards vocation and calling, and skill-building for finding internships and jobs. We offer services like personality assessments, resume and cover letter reviews, networking, and job/internship searches, with preparation increasingly embedded into the academic experience.

As part of The Studio, we partner with other Bethel departments to create skill-building events and host employers to inspire connections. The Studio for Vocation and Calling, launching in Fall 2025, strengthens Bethel's commitment to mentorship, academic rigor, and real-world experience, bringing together faculty, staff, students, and external partners to achieve this mission. Visit our website <u>bethel.edu/studio</u> to learn more about our services!







#### **Parent and Family Association Volunteer Team**

Parent and Family Association Volunteer Team members are passionate about supporting Bethel as a Christ-centered university, have a currently enrolled undergraduate student, and serve for one year with the possibility of being asked to serve an additional year. These volunteers know the value of a Bethel education and are eager to share their Bethel story with other parents.

Parent and Family Association Volunteer Team members will choose 1-2 areas in which they are interested in participating as a member of the Bethel University Parent and Family Association Volunteer Team:

- Admissions Advocate
- Campus Events Host
- Off Campus Volunteer Partner

Learn more at bethel.edu/parents/advisory-council. 🌮

#### **Parent and Family Association**

The Bethel University Parent and Family Association's mission is to support and encourage the university, its students, and families in very intentional ways. Made up of parents and family members dedicated to seeing their sons and daughters thrive at Bethel University, the association is helping create close connections for families on and off campus.

Your involvement supports the university in many ways, but none as important as contributing to your student's success. Students whose parents and family members are informed and involved tend to have a higher degree of academic and social success.

The association informs by providing resources parents and family members find invaluable in advising their students in the college experience resources such as The Bethel University Parent and Family Connection, the Parent and Family Handbook, Parent and Family Facebook and Instagram pages, along with events, regular emails and quarterly newsletters. The association helps fund Family Weekend and local events for parents and families and looks for ways to encourage our students throughout the year. Learn more at <u>bethel.edu/parents/parent-and-family-association</u>.







Office of Family Relations 651.638.6462 | parents@bethel.edu bethel.edu/parents