



October 2020

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

“Filling the Earth”

“God blessed them; and God said to them, ‘Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth, and subdue it...’
Genesis 1:28

During my college years the cultural elites were influenced by Stanford biologist Paul Ehrlich who wrote *The Population Bomb*, in which he famously pronounced, “The battle to feed all of humanity is over.” He went on to predict that hundreds of millions of people would be starving to death by the end of the 1970s, including 65 million Americans. England, he predicted, would not exist by the year 2000.

He was wrong. Other American scientists like Norman Borlaug produced the Green Revolution which developed high-yielding plants and effective agricultural techniques that dramatically improved food production around the world. Meanwhile the world poverty rate decreased from 36% in 1990 to 10% in 2015, according to the World Bank.

In my college days there were groups on campus calling for drastic measures to reduce population growth to save the planet. The concern now among many of the supposed experts is that the world is facing a depopulation problem. The fertility rate is the average number of children produced per female. An average rate of 2.1 children per woman is needed for any population to sustain itself over time. The current world-wide rate is estimated to be 2.4. But it has been dropping rapidly in recent years and is projected to be 1.7 by 2100 by the “experts.”

The fertility rate in China has dropped to 1.68. In Russia it is 1.76. In Europe it is 1.55. In the US it is 1.77. Our overall population in the US keeps increasing largely because of immigration. For some reason there are not a lot of people who want to immigrate to China and Russia.

The problem is that declining fertility rates produce societies where there are fewer people to sustain aging populations. In his book *What to Expect When No One’s Expecting* author Jonathan Last warns that without enough babies, societies age and become top-heavy as the labor force and tax base shrinks. That makes it more difficult to finance programs like Social Security.

Widespread contraception, legalized abortion, education, careers, urbanization, and economic insecurity have all played a part in this fertility decline. Some also suspect that cultural attitudes that disparage mothers and motherhood play a part. These things should be of concern for us as Christians. The Bible calls children “blessings.” We should be promoting motherhood and encouraging the healthy growth of families. Researchers have found that childbearing rates among conservative Protestants have become “statistically indistinguishable” from non-Christians. Colson Center for Christian Worldview president John Stonestreet says, “Even among Christian couples, the idea of not only delaying children but choosing to not have them at all is, in many circles, noncontroversial.”

God seems to want the world to be full of “blessings.” We should do what we can to encourage the growth of healthy families.

– Pastor Kurt

October Birthdays

2nd Valerie Legler
 9th Janie Tibbs
 13th Ethel Webster
 15th Pam Carstensen
 20th Ken Braithwaite
 23rd Carol Tyson
 25th Bill Belknap
 27th Lomalee Rapp
 29th MaryJo Scott



October Anniversaries

1st Terry & Janie Tibbs
 26th Jim & Carol Tyson

Bethany Ladies

3rd Saturday Fellowship

October 17, 2020, 11:00AM

Movie and Popcorn

With all safety precautions in place.

A donation basket will be available to help cover the cost.

Your RSVP is needed and greatly appreciated.

sepwilbur@gmail.com

Mission of the Month October 2020



Pray for
Operation
Christmas Child

Each shoebox you pack helps a local church around the world tell a child about Jesus, God's Greatest Gift. Many of them will grow in their faith and learn how to tell friends and family about Him through our discipleship program called The Greatest Journey.

In a new initiative, we are going island to island in the Pacific to take the Gospel to a half a million children over the next few years, as part of our commitment to "proclaim the Gospel to the whole creation" (Mark 16:15, ESV).

In sending the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we are also sharing God's Word with dozens of unreached people groups and going to hard-to reach places to make His Name known.

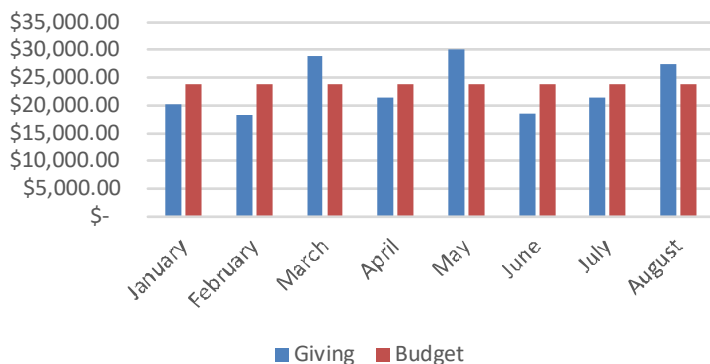
This has resulted in more than 2 million children making decisions for Christ and over 1,000 churches being started in one year! For example, there's now a church in a remote village in Namibia among the Himba unreached people group.

"Before we had never heard of Jesus," said Pastor Kuyelia, leader of the new church. "Now, we have abandoned witch doctors and seek God alone in prayer and worship."

We're thankful for all those who have faithfully prayed for Operation Christmas Child, a Samaritan's Purse project. You can join us in packing shoeboxes so that more children in the remote corners of the world can hear the Good News of the Gospel. May God bless you.

- Franklin Graham President, Samaritan's Purse

Bethany Financials



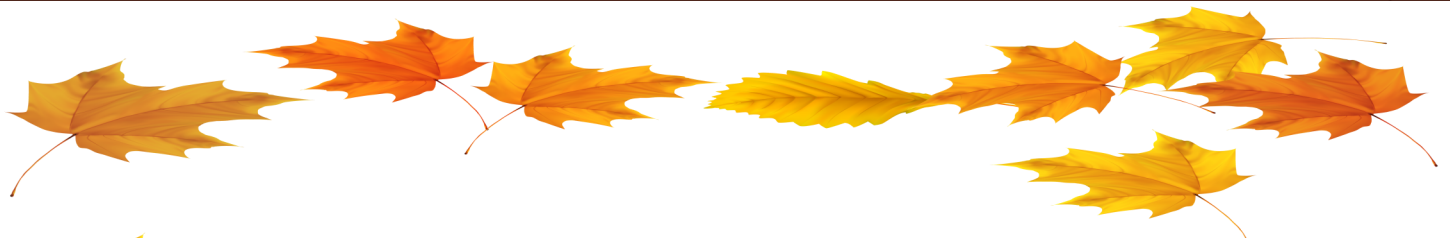
Bethany's 2020 budget was based on receiving offerings averaging \$23,733.67 each month.

Year to date budget requirement was \$189,689.36. Year to date giving, through August, totaled \$186,362.90. The difference was (\$3326.46). Bethany's 2020 general budget, through August, was underspent by \$9,827.73.

OCTOBER 2020



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12 Columbus Day - Church Office Closed Bob Miller Memorial 1pm	13	14	15	16	17 Women's Fellowship 11 am Movie and Popcorn
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28 Elder's Meeting 10 am	29	30	31 



WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday:

Worship Services - 8:00 am & 9:30 am
Ladies Sunday School @ 11:00 am in Emmaus
Adult Study Via Zoom @ 11:00 am w/Mac J
Bible Study @ 6 pm Via Zoom w/ Rob H

Wednesday:

Ladies Book Club-10:00 am Via Zoom w/ Tina S
Prayer Meeting - 1:00 pm Via Zoom w/ Rob H

Welcome!

BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

At Bethany, it's our mission to help you explore your relationship with God and improve those meaningful relationships in your family life. Whether you are new to town, looking for a church home or just passing through on vacation, we invite you to come and worship with us!



Bethany Baptist Church
210 Wyoming Street
Boulder City, NV 89005

The **Communicator** is published monthly as a ministry of Bethany Baptist Church.

For birthday and anniversary additions; changes in address; or removal from our mailing list please contact the church office at 702-293-1912 or e-mail don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com.

2020 Boards

Board of Elders

- *Mike Barth, Chairman*

Board of Deacons

- *Jerry Wilbur, Chairman*

Board of Deaconesses

- *Sue Wilbur, Chairwoman*

Christian Education Board

- *Jenny Fletcher, Chairwoman*

Property Maintenance Board

- *Jerry Wilbur, Chairman*

Missions Board

- *Rob Hedlund, Chairman*

Sunday Service Times:

Outside 8:00 a.m. Inside 9:30 a.m.

Office Hours:

Monday-Friday, 8:00 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

Telephone:

702.293.1912

Web Site:

www.bcbethany.com



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Church Administrator - Donald Scott
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