



November 2020

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

“Christians and Debt”

“So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.”

Colossians 2:6-7

“...I have learned to be content in whatever circumstances I am.” Philippians 4:11

November is the month of Thanksgiving. As Colossians 2:6-7 reminds us, a spirit of thanksgiving should be a virtue demonstrated by every Christian. One evidence of genuine thankfulness is a spirit of contentment. In Philippians 4 Paul is talking about a financial and material contentment.

We live in an age of material discontent. In the last fiscal year the US government spent \$3.13 trillion more than it took in. Much of that was due to the coronavirus relief package. Most economists acknowledge that this extra spending was necessary to sustain the economy in this perilous time. Yet this spending has help to balloon the national debt to over \$21 trillion, which amounts to 102% of our Gross Domestic Product. The last time that this debt ratio was so large was the end of World War II. But then the country got serious about paying that debt down. There seems to be little concern nationally about doing that now.

I suspect that the government’s example encourages the same attitude among its citizens. According to *USA Today* (2/12/2020), the average credit card balance among us Americans is \$6200. Forty-seven percent of credit card carriers maintain a monthly balance. The average interest rate is 17.73%. That amounts to a lot of money spent on interest over time.

Journalist Joel Belz notes, “...Christians, of all people, should understand that the Mastercard mentality is not the way to master life. The pattern Jesus established was one of deferring desires--- not because the fulfillment of desire is wrong, but because ‘my time has not yet come.’” (*World*, 10/10/2020)

Sometimes those desires may not be legitimate. Sometimes we may want more that we should have, or than may be good for us to have. Pastor Tim Keller reminds us, “Jesus warns people far more often about greed than about sex, yet almost no one thinks they are guilty of it.” (*Counterfeit Gods*, p. 53)

In this Thanksgiving season, let’s be thankful for what we have, rejoice when we get more than we deserve, and be generous when we can.

Pastor Kurt

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

5th Shirley Thomas
9th Lois Wood
10th Carl Carstensen
18th Betty Moberger
23rd Ernie Eskam
26th Dave Legler
30th Pastor Kurt Hedlund
30th Sue Savage

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

8th Dave & Val Legler



Church-wide Decorating

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 29th, 11:00AM

Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Collection Week:

November 16-23

Shoeboxes available in church sanctuary:
November 1, 8, 15 & 22.



Pack a shoebox

Church Business Meeting

11:00 a.m. on Sunday, 11/8

All members are encouraged to attend this meeting. We will vote on new members, proposed nominees and the budget for 2021.

Mission of the Month November 2020

Pray for our missionaries in Fortaleza, Brazil

Tiana Nascimento

Maria Uries dos Santos

Rosemary Gomes

In Brazil the headmaster at each school is required to provide religious education as part of his curriculum. Some headmasters invite evangelical Christians to teach the Bible as unpaid volunteers. That is what Tiana, Uries, and Rosemary do, when we are not caught in a pandemic, each is different schools, teaching the Bible to children, using materials provided by Child Evangelism Fellowship. But now in this pandemic they have found alternative opportunities to teach.

How to Pray:

Tiana has decided to spend some time up the Amazon, since the pandemic has closed access to the schools. She has expressed great enthusiasm for this venture and visit to a missionary she has known a long time. She plans to make this long, slow journey starting Nov. 24 and returning Jan. 11, 2021. Her son, Kaleo who is 18 or 19 by now, will be going with her. Destination: Alto Solimões Amazonas in the city of Atalaia do Norte. Pray for Tiana as she prepares lessons to teach women, for safe travels and that they will be a blessing to her missionary friend and all they meet.

Uries writes: "I want to thank God for everything He has done for us in these days and months, as our God has taken care of us by giving us protection. We can overcome everything with our faith." Schools have not yet resumed classes, but God has opened doors in different places. Uries has been teaching in a local church, and holding classes under a tree. She is grateful for any opportunity to share Jesus.

Rosy writes: "A special student of mine died of pneumonia during the time of this pandemic. He was very loved by everyone in the school, including me. His name was: CLAUDIO HENRIQUE; he was 18 years old with the mind of a little child. His mother, Francisca, is suffering a lot. I am waiting for the return of classes so that I can pay her a visit. I ask you to please pray for her for comfort, and for me so that I have wisdom from above and know how to help her in some way. We look forward to the day schools open and we can again teach the Bible to the school children."



NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Biz info meeting 6p 	2	3	4	5	6	7 Men's Breakfast 8:00 am
8 Church Business Meeting 10:30 a.m.	9	10	11 Observed Veterans' Day Office Closed	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21 Ladies Fellowship Day
22	23	24	25 BCMA Thanksgiving Eve Service 5:30 pm Outdoors @ Bethany	26 Thanksgiving 	27 Office Closed	28
29 Decorate Church day 10:30 am	30					

WEEKLY EVENTS

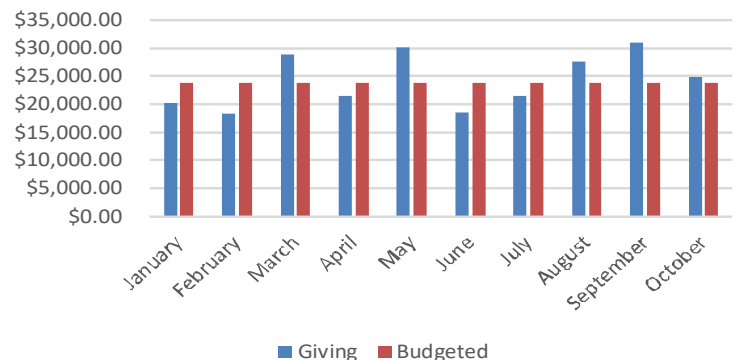
Sunday:

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

Wednesday:

Ladies Book Club-10:00 am Via Zoom w/ Tina

Bethany Financials



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

Year to date budget requirement was \$237,336.70.

Year to date giving, through October, totaled \$242,231.82. The difference was \$4,895.12.



Bethany Baptist Church
210 Wyoming Street
Boulder City, NV 89005

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, Chairperson*

Missions Board

- *Rob Hedlund, Chairman*

Service Time: 8:00 & 9:30 a.m .

Sunday School: 11:00 a.m.

Office Hours:

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

Telephone:

702.293.1912

Web Site:

www.bcbethany.com

Senior Pastor - Kurt Hedlund

kurt@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

Administrator & Music Director - Don Scott

don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

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.