

January 2017

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Thinking Christianly about Life and Death

“The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.” Job 33:4

“...in Thy book they were all written, the days that were ordained for me, when as yet there was not one of them.”
Psalm 139:16

As we approach the 43rd anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision legalizing abortion throughout the country, we Christians can be encouraged that 75% of evangelicals are willing to tell pollsters that “having an abortion is morally wrong.” The Christian and Biblical basis for this is our understanding of the sacredness of life. When it comes to end of life issues, our evangelical thinking is not so correct. A Lifeway Research study found that almost 40% of evangelicals agree with this statement: “When a person is facing a painful terminal disease, it is morally acceptable to ask for a physician’s aid in taking his or her own life.”

If our life is in His hands, and if He is the Giver and Taker of life, then we have no right to take our own life. Much of the problem is the modern notion that people should not have to suffer. The Bible tells us that we Christians should have a different attitude. “Consider it all joy, my brethren, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.” (James 1:2-4) The Apostle Paul encouraged Christians, saying, “Through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God.” (Acts 14:22)

Colorado just became the most recent state to approve physician-assisted suicide. The approved law there does not even require psychiatric evaluation for patients who are simply depressed. Europe has had a longer experience with euthanasia and the results of their liberal views should be chilling to us. According to Dr. Peter Saunders of the Care Not Killing Alliance, “In the Netherlands... dementia patients are euthanized, mobile euthanasia clinics operate and the ‘Groningen protocol’ allows euthanasia for disabled babies. In Belgium, organs are harvested from euthanasia patients and 32% of all euthanasia deaths are ‘without consent.’” In 2012 a Dutch clinic euthanized 11 people whose only complaint was being “tired of living.” According to Belgian law professor Etienne Montero, “What is presented at first as a right is going to become a kind of obligation.”

As Christians we have a responsibility to love our neighbor, to help those who suffer. Fortunately, we live in an age when there are many medical options that are able to help people with physical and even emotional suffering. There are legitimate reasons and situations where we are not obligated to extend life with medical care. But we Christians should not put doctors and other medical workers in a situation of asking them to take the lives of creatures created in God’s image. - Pastor Kurt

MUSIC LEADERSHIP UPDATE

With the departure of the Allison family the Board of Elders is convinced that we need some outside help in leading our worship and providing music for our services. We are grateful to have several people who are willing to play the piano and help out with music on Sunday. But each one of them is facing individual challenges, and we have no one person who is able to provide overall leadership for music and worship help on Sunday mornings.

So we are looking for a part-time music and worship leader. We have several candidates who have expressed interest in this position. We will be having some of them visit in the next few weeks and assist in providing music on Sunday mornings. Ultimately the church will have to approve the expenditure for this. The job description will be tailored somewhat to the abilities and time available for the person that we find. Joann Kenneston, Dave Legler, John Barth, Suzy Hedlund and Pastor Kurt have all volunteered to help in finding the person that God would have for us. We appreciate your prayers.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

3rd Minnie Williams
 4th John Barth
 7th Bob Miller
 8th Samuel Buchanan
 10th Dan Bunch
 Tina Selb
 Carlos Suarez
 12th Joanne Good
 16th Julie Jules
 Joyce Murphy*
 26th Doris Roederer
 30th Sharon Daniel
 31st Barbara Forcum

*indicates a missionary family member



XYZ Potluck

Our XYZ Potluck will take place on Thursday, the 15th. Over 50? Bring a dish to share and come to the 5PM meal!

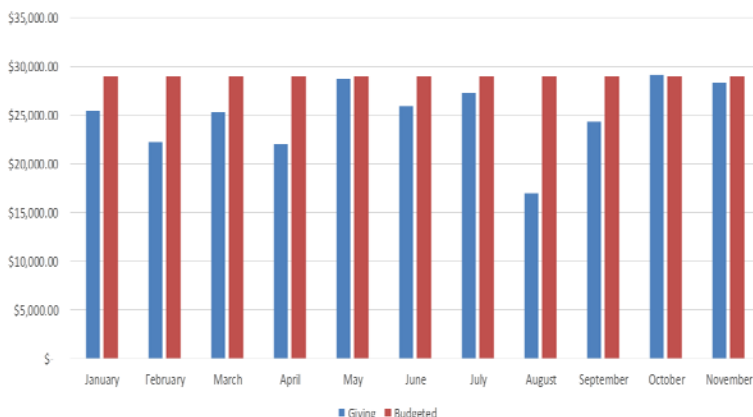
Bethany's 2016 budget was based on receiving offerings averaging \$28,946.69 each month.

Year to date budget requirement was \$318,413.59.

Year to date giving, through November, totaled \$275,872.85. The difference was (\$42,540.74).

Bethany's 2016 general budget, through November, was underspent by \$22,434.41.

Bethany Financials



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

16th Bill & Doris Roush

FEBRUARY MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS

20th Eathen Paul Yazzie

Missionary birthdays and anniversaries are listed a month in advance to allow time for you to send a card. Addresses for all our missionaries are on the Missions Bulletin Board in Emmaus Hall.

THANK YOU

To the wonderful people at Bethany Baptist Church,

I have, for the past many years, visited your friendly church and worshiped with my brother Jon and sister-in-law, Tina.

But in July your church took on a new meaning for me. You took me under your wings and made me feel part of your family.

I leave with bitter sweet memories. Thank you and may God bless each and every one of you.

Your friend in Christ, Jackie Selb MacDonald

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

*The Tuesday Evening Bible Study restarts on the 3rd. Sue Wilbur leads the group as it studies from the book "Boundaries".

*The Sunday Morning Bible Study begins again on January 8th. Debbie Smith leads the group as they begin a new series - Spoken: The Rhythm of God's Word.

God spoke His word with the same, systematic, measured approach. Each note of music in its proper place and time contributes to the music. Each 66 books of the Bible is different in style, purpose and/or authorship, but together they present a beautiful, complete picture of God's revelation.



CARE CENTER VISIT

Our next Care Center & Hospital Long Term Area Visit will be on Saturday, the 7th. Meet at 9:45 AM.

Come share time and sing some songs with the residents.

Spend a small amount of time with those not able to attend a Sunday service!

January 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 Office Closed	3	4	5	6	7 Care Center 9:45 am
8 Christian Ed Meeting 12:15 pm	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16 Martin Luther King Day	17	18	19 XYZ Potluck 5PM	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 Elders' Meeting 8:30 am
29	30	31				

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday: Prayer Time - 9:15 a.m.
Worship Service - 10 a.m.
Sunday School - 11:15 a.m.
Bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

Tuesday: Women's Bible Study - 9:00 a.m.
Women's bible Study - 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting - 7:30 a.m.
Praise Team Practice - 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: Men's Group - 7:00 a.m.

BETHANY CARES UPDATE

Beginning in January, the Three Square organization will take over delivery of weekend meals to the children in need within the Boulder City schools.

Bethany has done this outreach for many years and, without doubt, made a difference to many children's lives. With the departure of Jeremy and the beginning of a new year, it just seemed to be the right time to turn the task over to Three Square.

All children who currently receive food will continue to receive it under the Three Square program.

Bethany Baptist Church
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Administrative Assistant - Joann Kenneston joann@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

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Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.

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2017 Boards

Board of Elders - John Barth, Chairman

Board of Deacons - Patti Childress & Linda Lamb, Co-Chairwomen

Board of Deaconesses - Patti Childress/Linda Lamb, Chairwoman

Christian Education Board - Jenny Fletcher, Chairwoman

Property Maintenance Board - _____, Chairman

Missions Board - Rob Hedlund, Chairman

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 staff@bethany.lvcoxmail.com.