



January 2023

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

“Our Need for Grace in the New Year”

“So he got up and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion for him, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.” Luke 15:20

We recently completed a series of messages on the parables of Jesus. One of the most famous of the parables is “The Parable of the Prodigal Son.” I omitted that in the series because I had preached on it within the last seven or eight years. The message of that parable, however, is always needed. We need repentance, and we need grace.

We live in a human society that is so often oriented toward works and rewards. Part of human society is built upon earning our way through life. In school we get grades that are based upon our academic accomplishments. In work we are paid at least partly on the basis of our contributions. In human interactions we are rewarded at least partly on our responses toward others. All religions except one indicate that our status in eternity is based upon our accomplishments in this life.

The Bible also does have an element of works and rewards. The Old Testament teaches about the law of God and the consequences of disobedience. Even in the New Testament we find the principle “for whatever a man sows, this he will also reap.” (Galatians 6:7) But the heart of the gospel involves grace. Paul writes, “For by grace are you saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is a gift of God, not as a result of works, that no one should boast.” (Ephesians 2:9-10)

Jesus taught about the nature of God’s grace in “The Parable of the Prodigal Son.” A missionary in Lebanon once presented this parable to people in a village who had never heard the story. Their Middle Eastern culture was similar to that of Judea in the first century. The missionary asked the villagers what stood out to them about the story.

There were two things. First, in claiming the inheritance early, the younger son was saying to his father, “I wish you were dead!” It was hard for these villagers to understand how a father could tolerate such an insult and agree to the demand of such a son.

Second, they noticed that in the story the father ran to greet his prodigal son. In the Middle East a man of stature walks with a slow, deliberate gait. He never runs. In Jesus' story the father runs to meet his wayward son. Such love and grace is hard to imagine. Such is the nature of the gracious God we serve. Such is the kind of grace which we need to display in this new year. (Yancey, What’s So Amazing about Grace, p. 80)

- Pastor Kurt

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

8th Samuel Buchanan
10th Dan Bunch
Tina Selb
22nd Barbara Lomen
26th Doris Roederer
30th Sharon Daniel
31st Barbara Forcum

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1st Don & MaryJo Scott



YOUTH MEETING

Friday, January 6, 6-8:30 PM--- The youth will meet for food and fun and fellowship in Emmaus Hall.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Guys join us Saturday, January 14, at 8 AM for a tasty breakfast, great fellowship, and a Bible study. We meet in Emmaus Hall on the church campus.

Ladies Third Saturday Fellowship

Saturday January 21, 2023. Details to follow.

CHURCH HIKE

Saturday, January 28, 8 AM--- Meet with us in the church parking lot as we go out to explore God's creation.

Joy for our Journey

Meeting Saturday January 28th at 10:30 in Emmaus Hall. Details to follow.



Thank you Pastor Kurt for twenty years of loyal, caring and gracious service...



Your Bethany family is deeply grateful for your commitment to us.



December 2022
Dear Bethany Family,
It's not possible to express how grateful we are for your prayers, calls, offers to help and loving support!
We praise God for working out problems that seemed impossible.
May God bless each of you!
Much love,
Pet & Valerie Amor

Bethany's Vision Statement

We desire to develop a loving, mature body of believers that is based on the teaching of God's Word, reflected in meaningful relationships with God and man and focused on reaching God's world.

January 2023

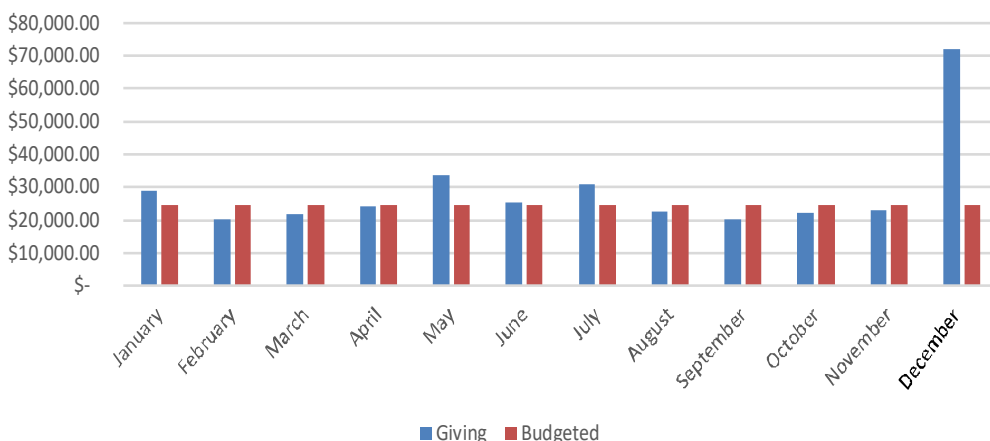
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2	3	4 Ladies' Book Club 10am Prayer 11am	5	6 Youth Night 6-8:30 pm	7
8	9	10	11 Ladies' Book Club 10am Prayer 11am	12	13	14 Men's Breakfast 8am
15	16 Martin Luther King Day	17	18 Ladies' Book Club 10am Prayer 11am	19	20	21 Ladies' Fellowship
22	23	24	25 Ladies' Book Club 10am Prayer 11am	26	27	28 Hike 8am JFOJ 10:30 am
29	30	31				

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday: Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.
Ladies' Sunday School @ 11:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study @ 11:15 am Bible Study @ 6 p.m.

Wednesday: Ladies' Book Club 10:00 am Prayer Meeting - 11:00 a.m.

Bethany Financials



Bethany's 2022 budget was based on receiving offerings averaging \$24,803.54 each month.

Year to date budget requirement was \$297,642.48.

Year to date giving, through December totaled \$345,383.36.
The difference was \$47,740.88

Bethany Baptist Church

210 Wyoming Street

Boulder City, NV 89005

Senior Pastor - *Kurt Hedlund* kurt@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

Administrative Assistant - *Donald Scott* don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

Service Time: 10:00 a.m.

Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.

Office Hours:

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

Telephone:

702.293.1912

Web Site:

www.bcbethany.com

2023 Boards

Board of Elders - *Mick Casey, Chairman*

Board of Deacons - *Don Scott, Chairman*

Board of Deaconesses - *Sandy Crawford, Chairwoman*

Christian Education Board - *Jenny Fletcher, Chairwoman*

Property Maintenance Board - *Nate Crawford, 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 don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com.