



August 2020

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

“A Biblical View of Statues”

“...when your children ask later, saying, ‘What do these stones mean to you?’ Then you shall say to them, ‘Because the waters of the Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the Lord; when it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off.’ So these stones shall become a memorial to the sons of Israel forever.”
Joshua 4:7-8

The Bible recognizes the value of monuments and traditions. We remember the Lord’s death through the Lord’s Supper. Israel in Joshua 4 was reminded of the miraculous crossing of the Jordan River by a monument. Even negative events in Israel’s history were to be remembered through physical objects, as Aaron’s budding rod was included in the Ark of the Covenant (Hebrews 9:4), reminding the people of the rebellion against Aaron and Moses and their authority.

So how are we American Christians to look at the recent statue topplings and desecrations in our country? By one count there have been 154 statues or monuments in the US which have been toppled, removed, or scheduled for removal since the George Floyd protests began. Many of them have a connection to the Confederacy, but others have included Christopher Columbus, the Founding Fathers, Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses Grant, and even Frederick Douglas.

Evangelical theologian Russell Moore suggests a threefold approach to the recent controversy about monuments. One category of monuments relates to historical events, which should be remembered for good or bad. Sites of Civil War battles should be remembered for what happened there. The USS Arizona memorial in Pearl Harbor does not glorify Japanese aggression but honors Americans who

died there and serves as a reminder about the need to be prepared for the aggression of other nations.

A second category of monuments honors people in spite of their imperfections for the positive contributions which they made to our national development. Statues of our Founding Fathers would fall into this category. We do not honor Thomas Jefferson or George Washington for their ownership of slaves, but for their contributions to the establishment of our nation and our shared values of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

A third category of monuments, according to Moore, honors people for their sins and evils. This would include monuments to slave owners and slave traders and people known primarily for bad things which they did. This category becomes more problematic. Is there a place for honoring those who died while serving the Confederacy? Moore suggests, “...a statue could have been erected for one purpose, such as remembering the Confederate dead or paying tribute to states’ rights. Over time, however, it comes to be viewed as glorifying slavery and rebellion. In this case, it should be removed and replaced.” Frederick Douglas suggested that some monuments should be left standing and others added to provide a fuller historical perspective.

As Christians we are responsible to Paul’s admonition in Romans 13:1 to be subject to the governing authorities. Mob violence and desecration is not defensible. But in our representative republic we do have the opportunity to exert public pressure to remove offensive monuments. We have the opportunity to do that in a civil way.

Pastor Kurt

August Birthdays

4th Susan Cunningham
5th Debbie Oliver
7th Janet Street
8th Frances Mayfield
10th Nate Crawford
11th Ralph Nelson
18th Suzy Hedlund
19th Jay Grandberry
21st Melba Wood
24th Cecil Forcum
27th Verna Miller
29th Pat Amon
Sharon Peterson
30th Mick Casey

August Anniversaries

8th Samuel & Dee Dee Buchanan

Mission of the Month August 2020

Continue to pray for
Doug and Nissy.
For updates on their ministry,
please contact Rob
or another Missions Board member.



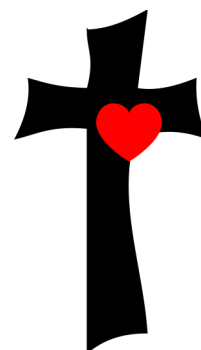
Bethany Ladies We are back!

IN PERSON Sunday School class in Emmaus Hall
Terri Dufresne will be leading us in a study on Obadiah and Joel,
beginning August 2nd at 11AM.
A Zoom option is available.

AND

3rd Saturday Fellowship,
August 15, 2020, 11:00AM

Brunch will be served with all safety precautions in place.
Your RSVP for brunch is needed and greatly appreciated.
sepwilbur@gmail.com



August 2020



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15 Ladies 3rd Saturday Fellowship 11:00 am
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Bethany's 2020 budget is based on receiving offerings averaging \$23,733.67 each month. Year to date budget requirement is \$166,135.69. Year to date giving, thru July, totals \$158,820.91. The difference is (\$7,314.78).

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday:

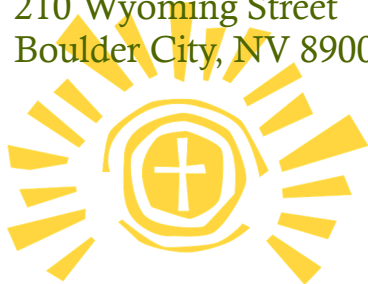
Worship Services - 8:00 am & 9:30 am
Ladies Sunday School @ 11:00 am in Emmaus
Adult Study Via Zoom @ 11:30 am w/Mac J
Bible Study @ 6 pm Via Zoom w/ Rob H

Wednesday:

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



Bethany Baptist Church
210 Wyoming Street
Boulder City, NV 89005



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

Music Director & Office Admin. - Don Scott
don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

Office Hours:

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

Telephone: 702-293-1912

Web Site: www.bcbethany.com

BOARDS & COMMITTEES

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

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.