

December 2020

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

The Coming of the Truth

“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.” John 1:14

In 2013 China’s *People’s Daily* newspaper reported a story about how Kim Jong-un, the leader of North Korea and sometimes ally of the leaders of China, had been named the “sexiest man alive” by a respected American magazine. “With his devastatingly handsome, round face, his boyish charm, and his strong, sturdy frame, this Pyongyang-bred heartthrob is every woman’s dream come true.” Flattering pictures also accompanied the article. The reality is that the American magazine was *The Onion*, which is a satirical magazine. It was poking fun at the North Korean leader.

This is an example of what journalists call “confirmation bias.” All of us have biases. We have prejudices in terms of our politics, social views, religious views, sports views, etc. We have tendencies to accept information presented to us that supports those views, even though it may not be accurate.

This has been especially evident in the recent election. The mainstream media was clearly biased toward Joe Biden. Many of the polls which they commissioned predicted a Biden landslide. One ABC poll said that Biden was leading Trump by 17% in Wisconsin. He won by .7%. There were a few pollsters who predicted a Trump victory. International Church of Las Vegas Senior Pastor Denise Goulet prophesied during the President’s visit to her church that he would win the election. (So how does she justify her claim that she is speaking revelation from God?)

In this technological age much of the information that we receive comes from the internet. Like many of you, I receive lots of stories and information that people send to me via e-mail. Most of it supports political and religious and social views that I tend to have. But I find that much of it is not accurate. Sometimes I have found inaccurate stuff that claims to have been checked out by fact checking sites. Just because a friend has passed along this information to you, be cautious about passing it along to someone else until you have checked it out. We who claim to follow the incarnation of truth hurt our testimony when we deal with falsehood.

One of the beautiful parts of the Christmas story is the testimony of the magi. Somehow these easterners got information that the Messiah of the Jews had been born in Israel. They wanted to know if it was true. So they made a long and difficult journey to discover the truth. They were rewarded by the opportunity as Gentiles to welcome and worship the Savior who had entered the world of humanity. May we in our fallible way have such a concern for pursuing and promoting truth, especially the Truth.

Pastor Kurt

December Birthdays

4th Marti Barth
10th Lary Street
20th Rod Savage
23rd Bob Nycek



Boards and Committees

Reception 12/13 @ 6p

All 2021 and current Boards and Committee Members are invited to attend our annual meeting for a time of encouragement, information and fellowship!

Mission of the Month December 2020 Pray for Kathleen Hill Straight Ahead Ministries



Straight Ahead Ministries has focused on bringing the Gospel of Christ to incarcerated teens throughout the United States for over 32 years. My responsibility as state coordinator of Nevada and Arizona is to develop a solid, mature volunteer base from local churches who will commit to facilitate weekly bible discussion groups in various units of the major youth detention centers in.

That's my job description. Increasingly, my joy has become spending time with these precious young people who have been described as invisible and despised. Many, if not most of them, come from backgrounds of tremendous trauma and chaos that they didn't ask for. Many of these teens have been injured through violence. Almost all of them have a friend or relative who has died from violence.

The discussions are topical; and developed to encourage participation. The youth are so very hungry to be heard. Sometimes it's **not** comfortable to hear their story; yet so important that someone actually listens. The combination of the truths of God, blended with relationships with caring adults who invest in their lives, is a powerful remedy for what they know they're missing in life. Once trust has been established, these young people are tremendously engaged.

Although Covid-19 has restricted our volunteers from in-person ministry at the youth facilities, Zoom has proved a great blessing. Our volunteers actually facilitate groups in more units than we had access to before the pandemic. Once past the awkwardness of the Zoom meetings, there is definite growth in the youth's understanding of Christ's work in their lives. It's amazing.

If you would like to find out more about this wonderful outreach; or would like to be a part of my prayer/support team, please feel free to call and talk. My cards are in the foyer.

I'm so very thankful for all God is doing!

- Kathleen Hill - 702-420-4676

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday: Worship Services - 8:00 & 9:30 a.m.
Adult Study via Zoom @ 11:30 w/ Mac J

Ladies' Sunday School @ 11: a.m. in Emmaus
Bible Study @ 6 p.m. via Zoom w/ Rob H.

Wednesday:

Prayer Meeting - 1:00 p.m. via Zoom w/ Rob H. Ladies' Book Club 10:00 a.m. via Zoom w/ Tina S.

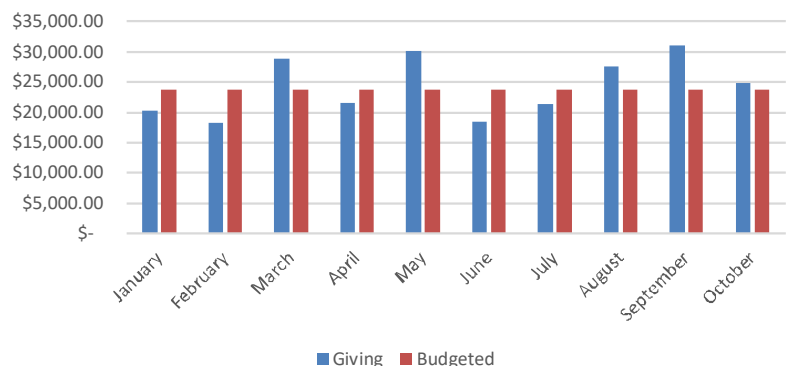
December 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 2021 Boards and Committees Mtg 6:00 pm	14	15	16	17	18	19 Ladies' Fellowship
20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve Service 6pm	25 	26
27	28	29	30	31 		

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

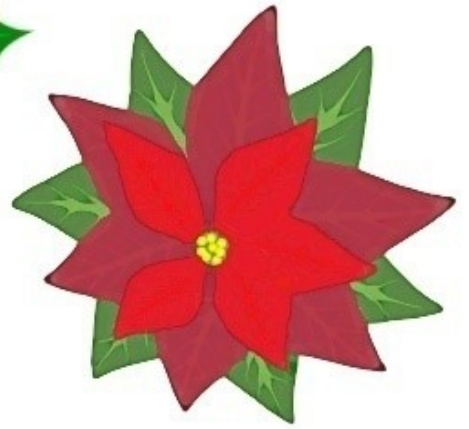
Year to date budget requirement was \$237,336.70. Year to date giving, through November, totaled \$242,231.82. The difference was \$4,895.12.

Bethany Financials





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, Chairman*

Missions Board - *Rob Hedlund, Chairman*

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

Administrator & Music Director - *Don Scott*
don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

Service Time: 8:00 a.m. & 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

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.