



January 2025

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

“Ending Well”

“I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith; in the future there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will award to me on that day; and not only to me, but also to all who have loved His appearing.” ---Paul in 2 Timothy 4:7-8

As we close out 2024 many in our congregation are painfully aware of the reality of deadlines. During this past year we have seen the departure from our midst of Larry Gibbs, Carolyn Casey, and Dan Bunch. We trust that the Apostle Paul’s comments in 2 Timothy apply to each one of these dear saints.

Because we are a somewhat older congregation, that death deadline is not so far off for many of us. But first we expect to experience “retirement.” Retirement is a relatively new concept in the grand scheme of things. Otto von Bismarck was the first leader to develop a pension system. He introduced a pension for German workers who reached age 70. Most workers in 1889 didn’t live that long. So the program wasn’t too expensive.

In 1935 President Roosevelt proposed the Social Security system. In the intervening years that system has taken on other responsibilities besides providing money in retirement. It is also becoming financially unsustainable in its current form. But other sources of funding have developed to sustain us in our older age: pensions, 401ks, reverse mortgages, annuities, etc. For some of us these retirement plans enable us to retire even in our 50s and to live quite well financially.

The big question is: What does God think of all of this? In Numbers #4 in the Old Testament the Lord relieved priests of their duties in the tabernacle at age 50. Originally these priests were charged not only with the work of dealing with animal sacrifices but also with hauling around in the wilderness the parts of the tabernacle. So certainly God recognizes that as we age we may lose some energy and physical strength which obviously can limit our abilities.. But otherwise the Bible does not recognize a time this side of the grave when we are supposed to cease from work.

Perhaps the most subtle and perfidious temptation is to think of retirement as our reward for an earlier life of hard work. Pastor John Piper (*Rethinking Retirement*, 2009) observes that Americans so often believe that “we must reward ourselves now in this life for the long years of our labor.” The retirement life of ease and pleasure and travel and golf is “the world’s substitute for heaven since the world does not believe there will be heaven beyond the grave.”

The Apostle Paul recognized that Christians should look for a reward beyond the grave. In the meantime we are to be about the Lord’s business, whether we have an employer who pays us a salary or not. For those of us who find ourselves in “retirement” that means serving our family, volunteering in the community, helping out at church, and promoting the kingdom of God. Let’s finish well. We will have eternity to enjoy the fruits of our labor.

- Pastor Kurt

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2nd Barbara Path
6th Cassandra Williams
8th Samuel Buchanan
10th Tina Selb
11th Adam Katzenbach
22nd Barbara Lomen
26th Doris Roederer
27th Diana Petri
30th Sharon Daniel
31st Barbara Forcum



JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1st Don & MaryJo Scott



YOUTH MEETING

Friday, January 3,10,17,31 6-8:30 PM -- The youth will meet for food and fun and fellowship in Emmaus Hall.

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, January 11, 8 AM- Men, join us in Emmaus Hall for our monthly breakfast where we enjoy great fellowship, a hearty breakfast, and a stimulating Bible study.

CHURCH HIKE

Saturday, Jan. 25, 8:00 AM- Join us at Emmaus Hall for our monthly church hike. We usually don't try to undertake a hike that is more strenuous than participants want to try. We usually are back in town by early afternoon. Bring water, camera, and snacks.

BLOOD DRIVE

Saturday, Feb. 8, 9 AM- 1 PM- Vitalent will host a blood drive in Emmaus Hall. They supply blood for our own Boulder City Hospital. Watch for news about signups.

Joy for our Journey

Jan 1- noon

Ring in the new year at Jenny's.
Fun and games! Bring your favorite snack.

Jan 4, 10:30

Be Joyful study at Jenny's

Jan 25, 10:30

Joy for Our Journey-at church
Topic: Beginning a new year (changes)
Lunch: Chili
Toppings
Veggies

NURSING HOME OUTREACH Saturday, January 4, 9:45am
Join Rob Hedlund at BC Hospital for a service at the LTC unit
followed by a visit to Mountain View Nursing Home

*Bethany's Vision
Statement*

To Glorify Jesus

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.

Happy New Year

2025

Always Be Joyful,
Always Keep On Praying,
No Matter What Happens,
Always Be Thankful
For This Is God's Will
For You Who Belong To Jesus Christ

2025

January 2025

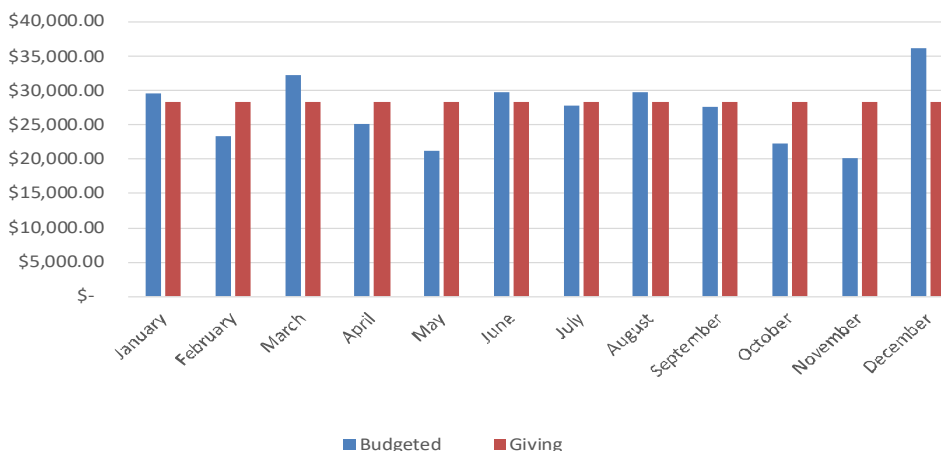
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 JFOJ 10:30a Fun & Games	2	3 Youth Night 6-8:30 pm	4 9:45 a Care Service BC Hospital JFOJ Study
5	6	7	8	9	10 Youth Night 6-8:30 pm	11 Men's Breakfast 8a
12	13	14	15	16	17 Youth Night 6-8:30 pm	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Day	21	22	23	24	25 Hike 8am JFOJ 10:30 am
16	27	28	29	30	31 Youth Night 6-8:30 pm	

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 2024 budget was based on receiving offerings averaging \$28,280.48 each month.

Year to date budget requirement was \$339,365.76.

YTD giving, through December, \$325,142.66

The difference was (\$14,223.10) short of budget.

Bethany Baptist Church

210 Wyoming Street

Boulder City, NV 89005

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

Admin Assistant / Music Director - Don Scott don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

Youth and Families Director - Daniel Chapman dan.bethany@coxbusiness.net

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

2025 Boards

Board of Elders - Mike Barth, Chairman

Board of Deacons - Dan Chapman, Chairman

Board of Deaconesses - Patti Childress, Chairwoman

Christian Education Board - Eva Chapman, Chairwoman

Property Maintenance Board - Eric Eskam, 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.