

### "Sri Lanka, Sunday School, and Dying for Jesus"

"Then Jesus said to His disciples, "If anyone wishes to come after Me, he must deny himself, and take up his cross and follow Me." Matthew 16:24

Sri Lanka is an island off of the coast of India in the Indian Ocean. Seventy per cent of the people are Buddhist, 12 % Hindu, 10 % Muslim, and 8 % Christian. On Easter Sunday three churches and three hotels were attacked by suicide bombers. The death toll stands at 253 with hundreds more injured. Sri Lankan officials have arrested 76 local Muslim extremists along with one Syrian. The blame has been placed on a radical Muslim group called NTJ, which is suspected of having ties with ISIS. ISIS claimed that the attacks were revenge for the massacre that happened at a New Zealand mosque in New Zealand last month.

At Zion Church on Easter Sunday a Sunday School teacher and seminary student by the name of Prabha was teaching a class of children. He talked about repentance and the need to receive Jesus. A recent car accident had claimed the lives of six members of this congregation. Prabha used that tragedy as a basis for challenging the children and asking how many of them would be willing to die for Jesus. All of the children put up their hands and responded by lighting a candle.

Prabha then led the class toward the main service to join the rest of the congregation. They passed through a courtyard where a stranger was speaking with church leaders. He was asking when the service was to begin. A pastor invited him to take off his backpack. Then there was an explosion. Sixteen of the children died on the spot. Ten other adults were killed and 100 were injured.

The senior pastor of the evangelical church says, "We are hurt. We are angry also. But still--- as the senior pastor..., the whole congregation, and every family affected--- we say to the suicide bomber, and also to the group that sent the suicide bomber, 'We love you and we forgive you. No matter what you have done to us, we love you, because we believe in the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ on the cross, he said, 'Father forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.' We also, who follow the footsteps of Jesus Christ, we say, 'For the Lord, forgive these people." (*Christianity Today* online, 4/25/2019)

Commitment to Jesus can be costly, even for children. We have no guarantee of safety on this side of heaven. But the story of Easter, which those children heard on that Sunday, is that Jesus has risen from the dead, providing proof that we Christians can look forward to a resurrection of the dead for ourselves and a great eternity in heaven. - Pastor Kurt

<u>MEN'S BREAKFAST</u>: Men, join us in Emmaus Hall on Saturday morning, May 11, at 8:15 for a man-sized breakfast. After that, we will hear a message from pastor and author Tim Keller who will speak about how to deal with dark times.

## **May Birthdays**

1 <sup>st</sup>	Lidija Baker			
9 <sup>th</sup>	Jenny Fletcher			
15 <sup>th</sup>	Marge Cathcart			
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Rob Hedlund			
25 <sup>th</sup>	Marilyn Nelson			

### May Anniversaries

4<sup>th</sup> John & Kitty Ritenour

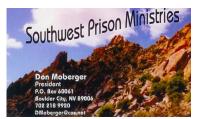
If you notice a that someone's birthday or a couple's anniversary is missing from the Communicator, please let us know! Just call the office (293-1912). Thank you!

### XYZ Potluck

Our XYZ Potluck will take place on Thursday, the 21st. Over 50? Bring a dish to share and come to the Noon meal!



# Mission of the Month May 2019 Don & Betty Moberger





### SOUTHWEST PRISON MINISTRIES

I created Southwest Prison Ministries in 2003 when Betty and I moved to Nevada for the purpose of ministering to inmates, ex-offenders, and members of their families. Bible studies and one-on-one mentoring are the pillars of this ministry.

How have we done? The Lord Jesus Christ living through us has, as His Word says, "... done exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever, Amen." (Eph. 3:20-21).

Each week volunteers from local Bible churches go into the Clark County Detention Center and other jails and prisons in Nevada bringing the "Good News" of the Gospel to hundreds of inmates and then continuing to aid them when released. Heaven will be populated by an army of the Lord's choice servants serving and praising Him forever. Glory to God!

### CARE CENTER VISIT

Our next Care Center & Hospital Long Term Area Visit will be on Saturday, the 4th. Meet at 9:45 AM.



Come share time and sing some songs with the residents. Spend some time with those not able to attend a Sunday service!

#### WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday: Prayer Time - 9:15 a.m. Worship Service - 10 AM Sunday School - 11:15 a.m. Bible Study - 6:00 PM Tuesday: Women's Bible Study - 9:00 AM Wednesday: Prayer Meeting - 7:30 a.m. Thursday: Women's Bible Study - 6:00 PM Saturday: Men's Group - 7:00 AM



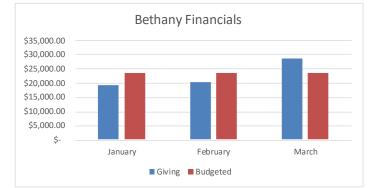


Men, join us again

for breakfast on Saturday morning, May 11, at 8:15 AM, in Emmaus Hall.

Bethany's 2019 budget was based on receiving offerings averaging \$23,610.48 each month.

Year to date budget requirement was \$70,831.44. Year to date giving, through March, totaled \$68,430.00. The difference was (\$2401.44).



# May 2019

	SUN	Mon	TUE	WED	ΤΗυ	Fri	SAT
				1	2 National Day of Prayer 7:00 pm @ Christ Lutheran	3	4 Care Center Visit 9:45 am Deaconess Meeting 9am
5		6 VBS Meeting @ 6:30 pm	7	8	9	10	11 Men's Breakfast 8:15 am Elders' 9:30 am
12	Happy Mother's Day!	13	14	15	16	17	18 Ladies Brunch 11:00 am
19		20	21 Missions @ 10:30 am XYZ Potluck @ Noon	22	23	24	25
26		27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

"And I will make them and the places all around my hill a blessing, and I will send down the showers in their season; they shall be showers of blessing."

Showers of Blessing Ladies Brunch

Saturday, May 18, 2019 11AM—1PM Emmaus Hall

Please sign up and pay no later than Sunday, May 12, 2019.

Senior Pastor - *Kurt Hedlund* <u>kurt@bethany.lvcoxmail.com</u> **Music Director** - *Don Scott* don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com **Administrative Assistant** - *Donald Scott* <u>don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com</u>

*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

*E-Mail:* don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com 2019 Boards

Board of Elders - Mike Barth, Chairman

Board of Deacons - George Fletcher, Chairman

Board of Deaconesses - Sue Wilbur, Chairwoman

Christian Education Board - Jenny Fletcher, Chairwoman

Property Maintenance Board - Dave Legler, 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.