



September 2023



COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

"There's Something About That Name"

"A good name is to be more desired than great wealth..." Proverbs 22:1

At our church business meeting last year we mentioned the possibility of changing the church's name. There did not appear to be any objection to that general idea. The elders have continued to consider that possibility. We have looked at what other churches have done with name changes, especially Baptist churches.

Our perception is that the name "Baptist" has more potential negatives than positives in terms of attracting people to our congregation. Denominational names and affiliations in recent years have had less ability to attract those in younger generations.

When I first came to Boulder City, our church was part of what was called the Southwest Conference of the Conservative Baptist Association. Our association has twice changed its name since then. Most recently it has adopted the name Venture Church Network. The theology of the association has not changed. But the association itself and many of our associated churches have recognized that there is more potential in reaching our communities by dropping the name "Baptist." Where once the name Baptist said something significant about a church's theology, today there are all kinds of churches, including many with a weak theology, who call themselves Baptists. Recently Hope Baptist in Boulder City dropped the name Baptist from its title.

We elders have no particular name in mind to suggest for a change. We could just drop the name Baptist and be Bethany Church. That would maintain the name recognition that we may already have in the community. The downside is that the name "Bethany" does not communicate much to unchurched people. Perhaps there is a more effective name that we could consider.

In consulting with other churches and pastors who have gone through the process, they have suggested that there is benefit in not choosing a name that is used by many other churches.

According to church consultant Thom Ranier the most common new names adopted by churches in recent years include words such as journey, mosaic, foundry, bridge, generation, and cross (as in crossroads). There may be some benefit in connecting a name with a local physical location or with something of local historical significance. Perhaps there is a name which also has Biblical significance.

Pastor Steve Tomlinson was involved in changing his church's name from Manhasset Baptist Church to Shelter Rock Church. Shelter Rock was a physical rock in their location which had historical significance and also has Biblical connotations. It was also a unique name. He feels that the name change was a definite positive factor in attracting new people from his largely Catholic and Jewish area.

So we elders want to encourage you to think and pray about a possible name change for our church. Be creative. We have in mind that at our November business meeting that we will hand out cards and ask you to submit names that might be effective for our congregation. We will try to wittle the submissions down and present the most promising candidates for a vote at a later time.

- Pastor Kurt



September Birthdays

11th Lois Mathews
18th Phyllis Eskam
18th Norma Barth
22nd Valerie Chapman
22nd Stan Mullis

September tip-toed in last night,
Summer soon will end,
The children are back in school,
Joking with their friends.

September is a lovely time of year,
And in her pastel shaded dress,
She dances on cooler breezes,
Each hill and valley to caress.

O Lord, Of all creation,
I thank you for this time of year,
As we work our way toward winter,
With friends and family dear.

September Anniversaries

7th Nate & Sandy Crawford



Bethany Ladies 3rd Saturday Fellowship

September 16, 2023

We will meet at CJ's at 11:00AM.



Sign up sheet
will be in
foyer.

MEN'S BREAKFAST Guys, join us on Saturday, Sept. 9, at 8 AM in Emmaus Hall on the church campus for a hearty breakfast with great fellowship on the side. We will also enjoy a stimulating video from an inspiring speaker by the name of E. W. Jackson.

CRUZIN FOR CANCER CAR SHOW Our church neighbor Joe Reffner is organizing a car show for our church parking lot on Saturday, September 16, from 8 AM to 2 PM. There will be food, music, movies, and prizes for those who enter their cars. Money raised goes to cancer research, and a little bit to the church.

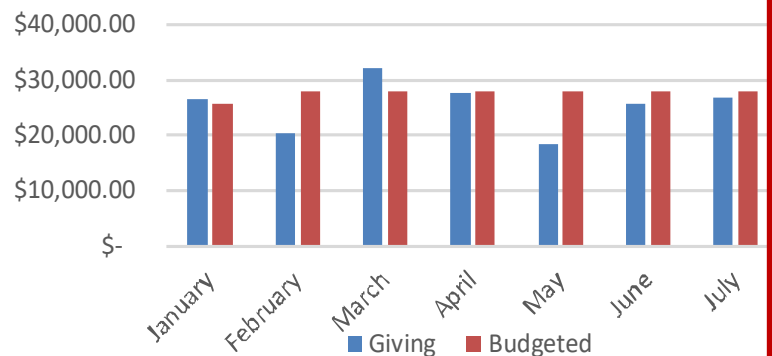
CHURCH HIKE Join our church hiking group on Saturday, September 23, at 8 AM as we explore the great outdoors. We provide a lunch. You have to provide the legwork.

Joy For Our Journey (Widows) LUNCHEON Join us on Saturday, September 23, 10:30 am in Emmaus Hall. Fran Jordan will be our guest speaker. Fran is the founder of the Anew widows group and a pastor's wife. A luncheon will be served with games and prizes. Please RSVP by September 15. Call Jenny Fletcher at 702-461-7037 or 702-293-1912 (church office).



Potluck on Sunday, September 24th
Sign up today!

Bethany Financials



September 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4 Happy Labor Day	5	6	7	8	9 Men's Breakfast 8:00 am
10	11	12	13	14	15	16 Ladies Fellowship 11:00 am Car Show 8am -2pm
17	18	19	20	21	22	23 Church Hike 8am JFOJ Luncheon 10:30am
24 Welcome Back Potluck @ 11:15a	25	26	27	28	29	30

WELCOME BACK!!

We can celebrate the joy that summer is almost over.
Yay! Everyone is beginning to return from vacations!



WEEKLY EVENTS

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

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

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.**

-Bethany's Vision Statement



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 & Families Director - Dan Chapman dan.bethany@coxbusiness.net

SERVICE TIMES

Worship Service: 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.