

"The Lord Is Our Banner"

"Moses built an altar and named it The Lord is My Banner." Exodus 17:15

The new year is traditionally regarded as a time for making new resolutions. According to the Reader's Digest (Nov. 2017), the most common resolutions are to get in shape, to lose weight, to enjoy life to the fullest, and to save more and spend less. Christians often include in the mix intentions to have a better devotional life and to break sinful habits. Most of these resolutions involve the promise of spiritual and personal battles against temptation.

One of the first battles that Israel faced as a nation upon its emergence from slavery in Egypt was a fight against the Amalekites. Moses stationed himself on a hill in sight of his warriors. When his arms with his staff were lifted up toward heaven, his forces were successful. When he tired and his arms fell, they were not successful. Aaron and Hur supported the arms of Moses, and the Hebrews won the battle. Afterward, Moses built an altar and named it "The Lord Is My Banner."

The background for this was the Egyptian cultural and religious practice. All of the temples of Egypt had banners associated with their various gods. Temple banners were on flag poles as tall as 200 feet. These banners had such a close association with the gods worshipped in these temples that the hieroglyphic figure for a god was a stick figure with a flag sticking out from it. The notion that was promoted was that by keeping your eye on Osiris or Horus or Ra or some other Egyptian god and his or her banner, success would be assured.

Thus Moses made the declaration after winning his battle against the Amalekites that the Lord was his banner. Numbers #21 describes a later incident in the wilderness when the Hebrews complained against God and Moses. The Lord sent fiery serpents among the people so that many died. When they cried out to God, the Lord told Moses to make an image of a fiery serpent and put it on a flag pole. When the people looked on it, they lived.

Jesus picked up on this imagery in John #3. He told Nicodemus, "As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up; so that whoever believes will in Him have eternal life." There is in this I magery not only a picture of Jesus' accomplishment in being crucified upon the cross, but also the necessity of looking at Him as our banner, out source of hope and strength.

The challenge for us is that in this new year in which we may make resolutions and in which we will face trials and challenges, we should look toward the Lord Jesus as our banner. He is our hope for victory in the battles that we will face.

Pastor Kurt

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Guys, join us on Saturday, Jan. 5, for a men's breakfast at 8:15 AM in Emmaus Hall. Besides enjoying a scrumptious breakfast, we will watch a video challenge from the Benham brothers.

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

- 3rd Minnie Williams
- 4th John Barth
- 7th Bob Miller
- 8th Samuel Buchanan
- 10th Dan Bunch Tina Selb Carlos Suarez
- 12th Joanne Good
- 16th Julie Jules
- 26th Doris Roederer
- 30th Sharon Daniel
- 31st Barbara Forcum

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

16th Bill & Doris Roush



XYZ Potluck

Our XYZ Potluck will take place on Tuesday, the 15th. Over 50? Bring a dish to share and come to the 12 Noon meal!

Bethany's 2018 budget was based on receiving offerings averaging \$23,700.74 each month.

Year to date budget requirement was \$284,408.88. Year to date giving, through December 23rd, totaled \$306,467.26. The difference was \$22,058.38. Bethany's 2018 general budget, through November, was underspent by \$16,096.50.



Bethany Ladies Third Saturday Fellowship January 19, 2019 - 9:30AM

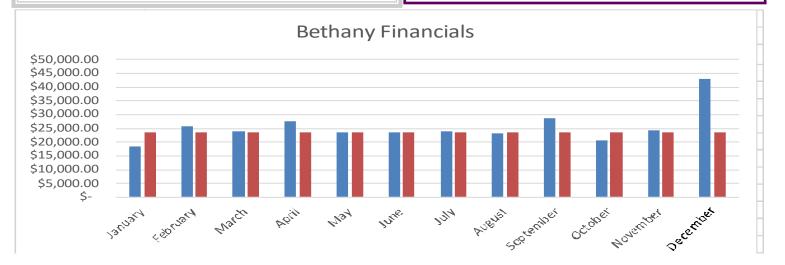
Emmaus Hall

Watch for details!

LAY TRAINING OPPORTUNITY:

Jay Grandberry and Jenny Fletcher both took courses last fall from Silver State Bible Institute in Las Vegas. They both had a good report about what they learned in Christian leadership and Christian education.

At least one of our members is taking a class beginning in January. The school has an open house scheduled for the evening of January 14. Weekly classes offered this next semester are Intermediate New Testament, Making Disciples, and New Testament Survey. Visit snba.net/ssbi for details.



January 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		l Office Closed	2 Prayer Time 7 am Praise Team 5:30 pm	3	4	5Men's Bible Study 7am Men's Break- fast 8:15am Care Center Visit 9:45am
6	7	8 Ladies Bible Study 9 am And 6 pm	9 Prayer Time 7 am Praise Team 5:30 pm	10	11	I 2 Men's Bible Study 7 am
I 3 Christian Ed Meeting I 2:30 pm	14	I 5 Ladies Bible Study 9 am And 6 pm XYZ Potluck @ noon	I 6 Prayer Time 7 am Praise Team 5:30 pm	17	I 8 Elders' Meeting I:00 pm	l 9 Men's Bible Study 7 am
20	2 I Martin Luther King Day	22 Ladies Bible Study 9 am And 6 pm	23 Prayer Time 7 am Praise Team 5:30 pm	24	25	26 Men's Bible Study 7 am
27	28	29 Ladies Bible Study 9 am And 6 pm	30 Prayer Time 7 am Praise Team 5:30 pm	31		

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday: Prayer Time - 9:15 a.m. Worship Service - 10 a.m. Sunday School - 11:15 a.m. Bible Study - 6:00 p.m. Tuesday: Women's Bible Study - 9:00 a.m. Women's bible Study - 6:00 p.m. Wednesday: Prayer Meeting - 7:30 a.m. Praise Team Practice - 5:30 p.m. Saturday: Men's Group - 7:00 a.m.



CARE CENTER VISIT

Our next Care Center & Hospital Long Term Area Visit will be on Saturday, the 5th. Meet at 9:45 AM. Come share time and sing some songs with the residents.

Spend a small amount of time with those not able to attend a Sunday service!

Bethany Baptist Church 210 Wyoming Street Boulder City, NV 89005

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 Administrative Assistant - Donald Scott don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

Service Time: 10:00 a.m. Sunday School: 11:15 a.m.

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

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E-Mail: don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com <u>2019 Boards</u>

Board of Elders - Mike Barth, Chairman

Board of Deacons - Lary Street, Chairman

Board of Deaconesses - Sue Willbur, Chairwoman

Christian Education Board - Jenny Fletcher, Chairwoman

Property Maintenance Board - Dave Legler, Chairman

Missions Board - Kathleen Hill, Chairwoman

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.