

March 2017

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

Muslim Refugees and Jesus

The focus of much news in our country in recent days has been the effort of our President to ban refugees from seven Middle Eastern countries for a limited time period. Certainly all countries have the right to determine what foreigners are allowed into their countries. There has been an understandable concern in western nations in recent years about Islamic terrorism. We also hear reports about the trouble that many European countries have had with integrating Muslim immigrants into their societies. In some parts of France, for example, police are reluctant to enter parts of their country that are dominated by Muslim immigrants.

What has not received any attention is the things that the true God is doing with many of these Muslim immigrants. My wife and I have a missionary friend who has worked in Vienna, Austria, for many years. Evangelical churches are quite small in most of Europe and have difficulty in having effective outreach to native Europeans. Last year thirteen new members were added to her church. Eleven of them were Iranians. The church has found considerable openness among Muslims to the gospel.

We also have a missionary friend in Sweden. Sweden has taken in more refugees per capita than any other European nation. Our friend's church recently opened up its basement to refugees. At one point they were housing thirty people, mostly from the Middle East, at the same time. They have had many opportunities to talk about Jesus.

A network of new churches for Muslim converts has sprung up in several European countries. One church in Berlin added 1,200 former Muslims in three years. Most of them were Afghans and Iranians. At a church in Hamburg last year a largely Iranian congregation had 600 Pakistanis and Afghans baptized during one service. *The Daily Beast* reports that thousands, perhaps even tens of thousands, of Muslims have become Christians across northern Europe.

Javad migrated from Iran to Athens in 2008. A roommate there asked him to come to an Iranian church. He had never heard of such a thing, but he went. He soon embraced the gospel. Now he is seeking out other Muslim refugees in Greece and sharing the gospel with them. He says that he sees two or three Muslims each day decide to trust in Jesus. Javad also works in a refugee center that provides practical aid. He says that more than 2,000 Muslims there have become Christians in the last eight years. (Breakpoint, 11/4/2016)

The lesson for us is that we should pray for Muslim refugees when we see and hear stories in the news about them. If we ever have the opportunity to encounter Muslim refugees or immigrants, we can't assume that they won't be open to the gospel. The true God may just have prepared them for an encounter with us.

Pastor Kurt

MAN CAMP

Guys, consider joining us 03/31-04/02 as we head to Prescott Pines, AZ, for a weekend retreat with men from churches in AZ and NV. We'll have an inspiring speaker, great food, quality fellowship, fun outdoor activities & delightful music.

We'll meet at the Bethany on Friday at 10 AM, have lunch in Kingman and arrive at Prescott Pines in the afternoon. We'll be home by late afternoon on Sunday. Cost for the weekend is \$128, but those who register by 03/02 get a \$15 discount. To register, go online to prescottpines.org. Sign up on the clipboard at church so that we can plan transportation.

Thank you!

John and I want to thank everyone for their prayers and concerns over the passing of his mother Jean. We continue to carry his father John Sr. in prayer as he adjusts to being on his own.

-Kitty Ritenour

I'm overwhelmed by your generous show of love and thoughtful gifts. Your kindness touched my heart. Thank you so much.

Frances Mayfield



Saturday, March 11, at 8:15 AM
We will have a hearty breakfast in Emmaus Hall! Besides great fellowship, we will hear an inspiring testimony from a man who has experienced some of the toughest challenges that life has to offer. Please show up.

XYZ Potluck

Our XYZ Potluck will take place on Thursday, the 16th. Over 50? Bring a dish to share and come to the 5PM meal!



Ladies: Save These Dates!!!

May 13, 2017 - Spring Tea
September 15-17, 2017 - Ladies'
Retreat at Prescott Pines

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 3rd Marla (Turbo) Crawford
- 5th Doris Roush
- 7th Debra (DeeDee) Buchanan
- 9th Mike Baker
- 10th Sandy Crawford
Bart Hedlund
- 11th Carla Carstensen
- 14^t Cherry Aton
- 19th Jeremy Allison
- 20th Eathen Paul Yazzie (07, son of Ben & Tillie)*
- 24th Rosamary Bittencourt*
- 28th Aline Jacques
Kitty Ritenour
- 29th Sue Wilbur

Bethany's 2017 budget was based on receiving offerings averaging \$24,366.21 each month.

Year to date budget requirement was \$24,366.21. Year to date giving, through January, totaled \$22,451.00. The difference was (\$3,915.21).

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 13th Doug & Nissy Cannon*
- 31st Cecil & Barbara Forcum

*indicates a missionary family

APRIL MISSIONARY BIRTHDAYS

- 14th Bianca Winston
- 30th Ted Winston

Missionary birthdays & anniversaries are listed a month in advance to allow time for mailing a card. Addresses for our missionaries are on the Missions Bulletin Board in Emmaus Hall.

March 2017



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Care Center Visit 9:45 am
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Men's Breakfast 8:15 a.m.
12  Daylight Saving Christian Ed Mting. 12:15 pm	13 	14	15	16 XYZ Potluck 5PM Property Mtnc. Mting. 6PM	17	18
19 Deacons' Meeting 11:15 am	20	21	22	23	24	25 Elders' Meeting 8:30 am
26	27	28	29	30	31 Men's Retreat	

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.
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 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!



Bethany Baptist Church

210 Wyoming Street
Boulder City, NV 89005

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

Music Director - Don Scott don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

Administrative Assistant - Joann Kenneston joann@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

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

Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 8:30 a.m.- 4:30 p.m.

Telephone:
702.293.1912

Web Site:
www.bcbethany.com

E-Mail:
staff@bethany.lvcoxmail.com

2017 Boards

Board of Elders - John Barth, Chairman

Board of Deacons - Michael Holiday, Chairman

Board of Deaconesses - Patti Childress/Linda Lamb, Chairwomen

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 staff@bethany.lvcoxmail.com.