



March 2026

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

“Understanding the Iranian Theocracy”

“Fight those who do not believe in Allah...” Surah 9.29 The Qur’an
“Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you...” Matthew 5:44

A number of people from church were hoping to go on a tour of Israel this month with my friend from seminary who is pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church. But that is appearing to be unlikely to happen, given the looming conflict with Iran which is likely to involve Israel as well as the US.

In order to understand the hatred of the Iranian leadership toward Israel and the US it is important to understand the theology of their Shia leadership. They believe that the twelfth Mahdi, Muhammad al-Mahdi, a descendant of Mohammed, was born in 868 AD. He supposedly went into a state of occultation at age 6, meaning that Allah caused him to miraculously disappear until Allah brings him forth at the end of history to take over leadership of the Muslim world and then to conquer all of the world.

This brand of Shia Islam believes that their followers have a responsibility to remove the barriers to the return of the Mahdi. An apocalyptic showdown requires the destruction of the two greatest enemies of Islam, the greater Satan (the USA) and the lesser Satan (Israel).

Iran’s 1979 Constitution calls upon the Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) to take a lead in waging war upon Allah’s enemies. In 2015 the head of their intelligence agency in a speech called upon its corps members to “remove the obstacles to the emergence of the Imam of the Age, the most important of which is the existence of the usurper regime of Israel.”

In 2015 Ayatollah Khamenei, the absolute ruler of Iran, wrote a book entitled Palestine, in which he laid out his vision for the Middle East which includes occupation of all of the land of Israel and placement of the country under sharia law. At the beginning of the book he declares “Israel has no right to exist as a nation.”

As we see our leaders negotiating with the Iranian government, we also must understand what these Shiite leaders think of dealings with nonbelievers. Generally lying is discouraged in Islam. Exceptions are made involving the principle of taqiyya. Lying is permitted when the cause of Islam is advanced and when unbelievers are involved. Muslims are, in fact, encouraged to gain the trust of unbelievers to draw out their vulnerability and to defeat them. There are circumstances in which a Muslim may be “compelled” to deceive others for a greater purpose.

There are two practical lessons that we can learn from this. The first is that Iranian Shiites of this theological persuasion want to kill Americans and Israelis. They want to do us in. The second is that we cannot trust any agreements or treaties that they make with us. They have broken agreements in the past. They are sure to break them in the future. Barring a miraculous turning to Jesus, we need to pray and oppose these evil leaders.

- Pastor Kurt

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, March 14, 8 AM- Guys, join us in Emmaus Hall as we enjoy great fellowship, tasty food, and stimulating spiritual encouragement.

CHURCH HIKE

Saturday, March 28, 8 AM- Any of you who are interested in participating in outdoor exercise and enjoying God's creation as well as Christian fellowship are invited to show up at the church parking lot. We provide a lunch and usually return by 2 or 3 PM.

Joy For Our Journey

Book study, March 7, 10:30 study of Anna at Jenny's house.

Exercise classes
continue every Tuesday & Thursday at 2:00 pm.

Saturday, March 28, 10:30- Picnic in the Park Let's meet at Veteran's Park (across from the splash pool).
Bring a sack lunch.

NURSING HOME OUTREACH

Saturday, March 7, 9:45am
Join Rob Hedlund at BC Hospital
for a service at the LTC unit
followed by a visit to
Mountain View Nursing Home



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- 2nd Angel Mullis
- 3rd Marla (Turbo) Crawford
- 5th Doris Roush
- 7th Debra (DeeDee) Buchanan
- 10th Sandy Crawford
Robyn Radig
Bart Hedlund
- 11th Linda Hann-Ford
- 14th Cherry Aton
- 28th Kitty Ritenour



MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 31st Cecil & Barbara Forcum



Joy For Our Journey

Saturday, March 7, 10:30 at Jenny's house,
1290 Browder Place.
Study of Anna.

Forever Faithful and Fit"
Every Tuesday and Thursday, 2:00 Chair Exercise,
Yoga and Balance. We meet at the church.

Join us Saturday, March 28, 10:30
Picnic in the Park Let's meet at Veteran's Park
(across from the splash pool).
Bring a sack lunch.

March 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	4 Ladies Book Club 10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	5 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	6 Youth Night 6 pm	7 Care center services 9:45am @ BC Hospital JFOJ (widows) Study @ 10:30am
8 	9	10 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	11 Ladies Book Club 10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	12 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	13 Youth Night 6 pm	14
15	16	17 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	18 Ladies Book Club 10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	19 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	20 Youth Night 6 pm <i>Spring!</i>	21
22	23	24 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	25 Ladies Book Club 10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	26 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	27	28 Hike 8:00 am Joy For Our Journey 10:30 am
29	30	31 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit				

WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday: Outside Service @ 8 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.
Ladies' Sunday School 11:15 a.m. in Emmaus
Adult Bible Study 11:15 am in the worship center
Bible Study @ 6 pm

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



Bethany's 2026 budget is based on receiving offerings averaging \$29,975.89 each month.

Year to date budget requirement was \$59,951.78.
Year to date giving, through February, totaled \$63,844.00.
The difference was \$3,892.22.

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 danielvernonchapman@gmail.com

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

2026 Boards

Board of Elders - Mike Barth, Chairman

Board of Deacons - Mick Casey, Chairman

Board of Deaconesses - Tina Selb, Chairwoman

C.E. Board - Dan Chapman, Chairman

Property Maintenance Board - Eric Eskam, Chairman

Missions Board - Doris Roush, 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.