# "American History and Ingratitude"

"We are trying to do a futile thing, if we do not know where we came from or what we have been about." President Woodrow Wilson

The Center for Survey Research and Analysis at the University of Connecticut several years ago surveyed 500 seniors from 55 top US colleges and found that 65% of them failed a basic high school level test on US history. According to the American Council of Trustees and Alumni only 18% of US colleges require a course in US history.

The additional problem, which Douglas Murray points out in his recent book The War on the West, is that American young people too often learn little history besides that of slavery and the civil rights movement. Murray says, "Our whole history is a pro-Western whitewash" and we must learn to see through every remaining bastion of "structural racism" in our society.

The author argues that American young people lose perspective. They are too often taught to focus upon all of the shortcomings of American failures in the past and lose appreciation of all of the good things that have happened in our nation's history. As C. S. Lewis remarked in his book The Abolition of Man, "to see through everything is the same as not to see at all."

Douglas Murray argues that there are three basic problems with the teaching of American history in our public school systems. First, all historical perspective is lost. Shortcomings and failures are emphasized. Historical figures are analyzed through the lens of perfect standards. Difficulties and hard circumstances which are forefathers faced are too often overlooked. There is a failure to teach about the virtues they exhibited which helped to make our country great.

Second, we lose all contemporary perspective. Sins for which we beat up ourselves, like slavery and racism, are a blot upon our history. But the US is made to look like the origin of evil. The progress that has been made is overlooked. Also we fail to realize that such sins are much more pervasive in other parts of the world. Slavery is a reality in parts of Africa and China. China is happy to take advantage of our western preoccupation with beating up on ourselves.

Third, Murray says that we lose sight of a good way forward. If we decide that our society is hopelessly infected with structural racism and imperialism, little hope is offered for the future.

The best approach to history is to study the Bible. For it gives us a correct understanding about what is good and what is bad. It also shows us that sin is indeed a problem which infects humanity. But it also shows us that there is a sovereign and gracious God who is ultimately directing history to a conclusion in which Jesus will return to earth and His kingdom will be established upon the earth. For history is ultimately His story.

August 2025

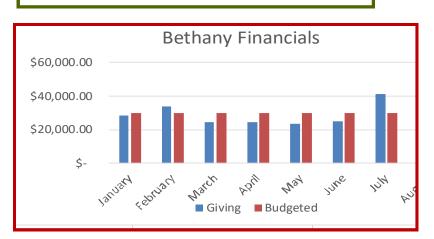
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Youth Night	Care center Visits 9:45 am
3	4	5 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	6Ladies Book Club 10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	7 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	8 Youth Night	9 Men's Breakfast 8am
10	First day of school	12 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	13Ladies Book Club 10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	14 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	15 Youth Night	16 Women's Fellowship 10am
17	18	16 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	20Ladies Book Club 10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	21 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	22	23 Church Hike 8am Joy For Our Journey 10:30
24	25	26 2 pm	27 Ladies Book Club	28 2 pm	29 Youth Night	30
31		Forever Faithful & Fit	10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	Forever Faithful & Fit		

Bethany's 2025 budget was based on receiving offerings averaging \$29,843.66 each month.

Year to date budget requirement was \$208,905.02.

Year to date giving, through June, totaled \$201,614.95.

Difference is (\$7,290.07)





### WEEKLY EVENTS

Sunday: Outside Service - 8 a.m.
Worship Service - 10:00 a.m.
Adult Bible Study @ 11:15 a.m.
Ladies' Sunday School @ 11:15 a.m.

Bible Study @ 6 pm

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

## **August Birthdays**

3rd Judy Spinkelink

4th Susan Cunningham

5<sup>th</sup> Debbie Oliver

8<sup>th</sup> Frances Mayfield

10<sup>th</sup> Nate Crawford

11<sup>th</sup> Ralph Nelson

19<sup>th</sup> Jay Grandberry

21<sup>st</sup> Melba Wood

24<sup>th</sup> Cecil Forcum

27<sup>th</sup> Verna Miller

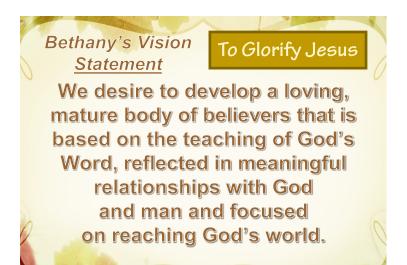
29<sup>th</sup> Pat Amon

30<sup>th</sup> Mick Casey



### **August Anniversaries**

Samuel & Dee Dee Buchanan



<u>MEN'S BREAKFAST</u> Saturday, August 9, 8 AM--- Men join us in Emmaus Hall for a hearty breakfast and some great fellowship. We will see a challenging message from Irwin Lutzer from Chicago's famous Moody Memorial Church.

<u>CHURCH HIKE</u> Saturday, August 23, 8 AM--- Show up on our church campus for a hike on the cooler climes of Mt. Charleston. We will provide a lunch and embark upon an adventure in God's creation.

**YOUTH NIGHT** The Chapman family will host youth nights from 6-8 PM on Friday evenings, All of the kids are invited for a fun time which will include food, games, and a devotional.

### **JOY FOR OUR JOURNEY**

Our exercise classes "Forever, Faithful, and Fit" continue to meet every Tuesday and Thursday at 2 pm in Emmaus Hall.

At our August 23 meeting at 10:30 in Emmaus Hall, we will meet for an Ice Cream Social. We will be sharing any summer trips we have gone on and plans for other travel plans.

Bring a topping for our ice cream.

### **WOMEN'S MINISTRY**

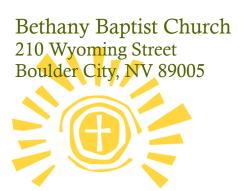
Third Saturday Fellowship will meet Saturday, August 16 at 10 AM in Emmanus Hall for a movie, "A Carpenter's Prayer", an inspirational movie based on a true story. Popcorn and beverages will be provided. All ladies are invited to join us. Hope to see you there!

# ALWAYS BE JOYFUL ALWAYS KEEP ON PRAYING NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS ALWAYS BE THANKFUL FOR THIS IS GOD'S WILL FOR YOU WHO BELONG TO JESUS CHRIST



# **GOD IS WITH US**





Senior Pastor - Kurt Hedlund - kurt@bethany.lvcoxmail.com Admin Assistant / Music Director - Don Scott don@bethany.lvcoxmail.com Youth & 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

# 2025 Boards

Board of Elders - Mike Barth, Chairman
Board of Deacons - Dan Chapman, Chairman
Board of Deaconesses - Patti Childress, Chairwoman
Christian Education Board - Eva Chapman, Chairwoman
Property Maintenance Board - Eric Eskam, 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.