



February 2026

COMMUNICATOR

A PUBLICATION OF BETHANY BAPTIST CHURCH

"Hope for Our Youth and our Christian Future"

"Don't let anyone look down on you because you are young, but set an example for the believers in speech, in conduct, in love, in faith, and in purity." – 1 Timothy 4:12

By many measures the status of our young people today is discouraging. Standardized testing shows that the majority of kids finishing high school lack proficiency in basic skills like reading and doing math. Our young people are fatter and in poorer physical shape. They are struggling with depression, anxiety, gender identity, and loneliness. They come from too many broken families and come from public schools which promote values often contrary to our own.

But there are also signs of hope. In the aftermath of the assassination of Charlie Kirk, his Christian organization reported that they had 120,000 inquiries about starting local chapters at colleges and high schools around the country. There has been an outbreak of spiritual interest on public college campuses. In the recent college football playoffs many players were wearing eye black in the shape of crosses. Several winning players were giving glory to God in interviews with the media.

Last year at Auburn University 5000 students came to a Christian event and 200 were baptized. At Ohio State college football players hosted an event where they gave out 10,000 Bibles. Florida State, which according to one ranking, is the second biggest "party school" in the country had a Christian event attended by 4500 students which was followed by 300 baptisms. A recent Barna survey found that Generation Z and millennials are now the demographic group in the country with the highest church attendance rate.

Many of the bad philosophies which have infected our country have had their origin in Europe. Being of Swedish ancestry and having a missionary friend there I have followed the religious climate in that country a little bit. Sweden for many years has had a reputation for being a leader in secularism. One of the evidences of their anti-Christian bias is that they were the first country in the world to have their national health service pay for gender transitioning for minors. (They recently stopped that because of the bad outcomes they were finding.)

But things are changing. Today every major Swedish newspaper has a theologian among their columnists. Between 2005 and 2010 5000-6000 people applied for membership in the Church of Sweden. As of November of last year there were 18,000 applications for the year. Young people have been leading the charge. According to one survey the number of young Swedes who are attending church regularly has risen from 17% in 2020 to 34% in 2024. Swedish media commenting on one such survey labeled Jesus "Influencer of the Year."

"A global Ipsos study registered the change already in 2023: In highly secular societies, zoomers tend to be more religious than their boomer parents. Nowhere, the study concluded, was that pattern clearer than in Sweden, once the poster child of secularism." (Joel Halldorf, Comment Magazine, 1/8/2026) There are signs of this renewed spiritual interest in other European countries, including France, which saw ten times more teenagers baptized on Easter 2025 than in 2019.

In a sometimes bleak and difficult world there is hope for the future. It may lie with young people and their turning to Jesus.

Pastor Kurt

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, February 14, 8 AM- Guys, join us in Emmaus Hall on the church campus for a hearty breakfast followed by a stimulating Bible Study.

CHURCH HIKE

Saturday, February 28, 8 AM- Men and women, boys and girls, show up at the church parking lot for our monthly hike where we explore God's great outdoors. We provide a lunch and great fellowship and significant exercise.

TRIP TO ISRAEL

March 13-20- Pastor Kurt will be leading a group on a trip to Israel where the tour will be led by his seminary friend who serves as pastor of Jerusalem Baptist Church. See Pastor Kurt for details.



Youth Nights

**1st, 2nd and 3rd
Fridays of every month
at 6:00 pm**

Joy For Our Journey (Widows)

"Forever Faithful and Fit" Meets Tuesday & Thursday, 2pm Chair Exercise, strength and Balance. In Emmaus Hall.

Saturday, February 7, 10:30 Book Study (Hannah) at Jenny's.

Saturday, February 28, 10:30, at church is Joy for Our Journey meeting. Pat Amon will be sharing about Tai Chi. She will share the history and give us a demonstration. We will have a Baked Potato Bar. Bring toppings for baked potatoes.



NURSING HOME OUTREACH

Saturday, February 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



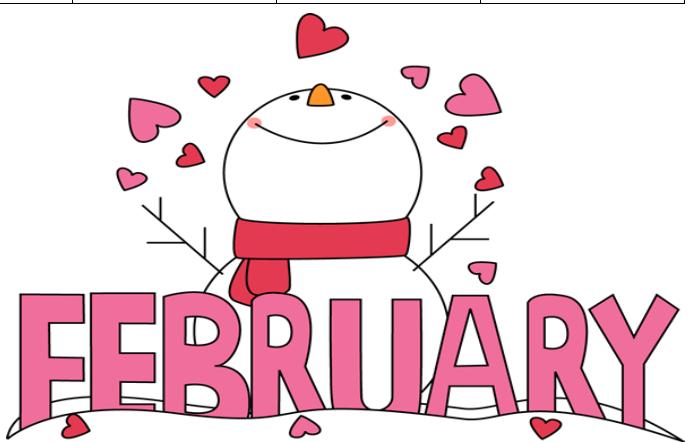
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7 CareHome services 9:45 @ BC Hosp. JFOJ Bible Study 10:30 am
8	9	10 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	11 Ladies Book Club 10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	12 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	13 Youth Night 6 pm	14 Men's Breakfast @ 8 am
15	16 Presidents' Day	17 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	18 Ladies Book Club 10a Prayer Meeting 11 am	19 2 pm Forever Faithful & Fit	20 Youth Night 6 pm	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 8am Joy For Our Journey 10:30 am
						

February Birthdays

14th Patti Childress

22nd Irv Childress

26th John Ritenour



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Youth & Families Director - Dan Chapman - danielvernonchapman@gmail.com*

WEEKLY EVENTS

Outside Service: 8:00 a.m.

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 - Daniel 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.