



The purpose of Bethany Baptist Church is to bring glory to God by making disciples who reflect the character and priorities of Jesus Christ.

SUNDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE

- 9:00 AM Sunday School
 - 10:30 AM Worship Service & Children’s Church during sermon
 - 6:00 PM Prayer Meeting
- Nursery is available in the supervised room downstairs or the unsupervised room in the back of the sanctuary with audio

SERMON

Scripture: 1 Cor 5:1-5
Speaker: Pastor Peter

What we tolerate shapes what we become

OUR ELDER SHEPHERDING GROUP

- A-B → Lyndon Unger
- C-D → Tim Archibald
- E-H → David Street
- I-M → Pastor Peter Erratt
- N-R → Tom Smith
- S → Cory Leniuk
- T-Z → Dennis Burriss

According to the first letter of your last name, feel free to bring any questions or concerns to your assigned elder or email them at elders@bethanybaptist.ab.ca

GET TO KNOW US

- ✉ office@bethanybaptist.ab.ca
- 🌐 www.bethanybaptist.ab.ca
- ☎ 403-347-7900
- 📍 3901 44 St. Red Deer, AB T4N 1G7

Lead Pastor:
 Peter Erratt
peter@bethanybaptist.ab.ca
Assistant Pastor:
 Daniel Lara
daniel@bethanybaptist.ab.ca
Church Admin & Children’s Ministry Coord:
 Lilian Lara
lilian@bethanybaptist.ab.ca

- Health Needs: Lorraine Hort, Gord Rue
- Email us your prayer requests or to join the Prayer Line!

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Usher Ministry
 Our ushers help create a warm, welcoming, safe, and organized environment for all of our services. They play an important role in helping everyone feel at ease and enjoy a positive worship experience, especially as we continue to welcome many newcomers to our Sunday services.
 We are grateful for the new recruits who began serving as ushers last month. We are currently hoping to add 3–4 more ushers to the team.

Please pray for Luke Wagner, who leads this ministry and organizes the usher schedule. Pray also that all of our ushers would enjoy this opportunity to serve and know how grateful we are for their dedication. Finally, please pray that God will provide 3–4 additional people to join the usher ministry.

JOIN OUR LIFE GROUP

- EVERY SUNDAY AFTERNOON
 - Tim & Michelle Archibald
- EVERY OTHER SUNDAY
 - Martin & Lorna Scholz
 - Tom & Tina Smith
 - Peter & Nancy Erratt
- EVERY WEDNESDAY
 - Don & Jan Collier
 - David & Laurel Street
- EVERY THURSDAY
 - Mark & Shannia Guenther
- EVERY OTHER THURSDAY
 - Lyndon & Leah Unger

TUESDAY MARCH 17
 10 am Mum’s Fellowship
 6:30 pm Adventure Club
 6:30 pm Youth Group

WEDNESDAY MARCH 18
 6:30 am Men’s Breakfast
 9:30 am Seniors’ Ministry

THURSDAY MARCH 19
 7 pm Membership Council Meeting

FRIDAY MARCH 20
 6:30 pm Men’s Night

SUNDAY MARCH 22
 12 noon Newcomers’ Lunch

FRIDAY MARCH 27
 6:30 pm Women’s Night

FRIDAY APRIL 3
 10:30 am Good Friday Service

SATURDAY APRIL 4
 9 am Easter Egg Hunt @ Eastview Estates Community Hall

SUNDAY APRIL 5
 10:30 am Easter Cantata

SATURDAY APRIL 11
 9 am Apologetics Conference

TUESDAY APRIL 21
 6:30pm Baptism Class
 7:30 pm Membership Class

Following Christ may result in worldly losses and suffering injustice, but one day a great multitude that no one can number will reign with Christ in the new heavens and earth.
 – Joel Beeke

February Financial Report

General Fund Donation	Monthly Budget	Received
	\$31,835	\$26,795.35

OFFERING

E-TRANSFER: treasurer@bethanybaptist.ab.ca

OR DROP OFF YOUR ENVELOPE AT THE OFFICE

Donation Policy

The spending of funds received by Bethany Baptist Church is confined to Church approved programs and projects. Each gift designated toward an approved program or project will be used as designated with the understanding that when any given need has been met, or the specified program or project cannot be reasonably carried out or has not been approved, designated gifts will be used where needed most. Where appropriate, an official receipt for tax purposes will be issued as soon as possible after the year end.

MISSIONARY UPDATES

Andrew & Tanja Rokeby

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

We pray that this letter finds you anticipating the return of sunshine and warmer temperatures. The old calendar of Japan marks the change of seasons on February 3. Customarily, people toss roasted soybeans to drive away evil spirits and welcome in good luck. Also, a special uncut sushi roll called ehomaki is eaten while pointed in that year's auspicious direction. We are often told that customs like these are not religious practices, but it is difficult not to see the spiritual connections.

As you know, over the past year, we have been working diligently to find an internship for once we have completed our full-time language studies. We are pleased to report that we will be serving at Yokohama International Baptist Church (YIBC) after returning from home assignment. YIBC is a fully bilingual church made up of about 60% Japanese, 20% Filipinos, and the remaining 20% coming from all over the world. We are especially excited that the church is committed to supporting our continued language development and equipping Andrew to help lead a future church plant. Serving at YIBC will require us to move to Yokohama, so we are already grieving the loss of some of the close relationships we have formed in Nerima and at Saikyo Nozomi Chapel. Nonetheless, we trust that God has led us to YIBC for our good and His Glory.

This coming month will be both busy and a tad bit sad. On top of our language studies, we will be busy organizing our move to Yokohama and preparing for home assignment. Andrew will be finishing up sermon prep and working on presentations and our annual report. Tanja will have a big change this month as Anna finishes her year at Japanese kindergarten and starts kindergarten at what John has named "Rokeby Academy". Foremost, we are considering how we can best spend these last weeks in our neighbourhood. We love our community, so the pull to stay and continue to witness is strong. But Andrew was recently encouraged by a veteran missionary who told him, "Wherever you go in Japan, you will find people who need to hear the gospel."

If you would like to join us for our monthly prayer time, please see the info below. We would love to see you.

Prayers and Praises

1. We are currently searching for housing in Yokohama near our new church. Please pray that we will find suitable housing before returning to Canada for home assignment.
2. A move to Yokohama and a visit to Canada involve a lot of transitions and goodbyes. Please pray that God will give our family extra grace and comfort during this time of change.
3. Praise God for His provision of an internship at Yokohama International Baptist Church. Please pray that the Lord will send His Spirit before us to work in the hearts of our new neighbours and the people we will meet in the community.

1. When you hear the word discontentment, you probably think of something negative. What do you think "holy dissatisfaction" means, and why might it actually be healthy for the Christian life?

2. In what ways can churches today confuse tolerance with grace when dealing with sin?

3. Paul addresses the whole church, not just the leaders. Why do you think caring about the spiritual health of the church is everyone's responsibility?

4. Paul emphasizes that the church must act towards unrepentant sin when it is gathered "in the name of the Lord Jesus." Why is it important to remember Christ's authority when dealing with difficult situations like 1 Corinthians 5?

5. Paul's goal is ultimately that the person would be saved. How does that shape the attitude the church should have when confronting sin?

6. The passage reminds us that what a church tolerates shapes who it becomes. What kinds of attitudes help a church remain spiritually healthy and sensitive to sin?

7. Why is it important for Christians to hold together truth, holiness, compassion and love rather than emphasizing only one of those?

GOT QUESTIONS ARTICLE

What does the Bible say about confrontation?

To confront is to face someone or something, especially in a challenge. Some confrontation is unavoidable in life. We confront our fears so that we don't allow them to rule us. We confront error when to ignore it would cause harm. Jesus had several confrontations with those who opposed Him. God's apostles and prophets in the Bible were often forced into confrontations as well, as their message rubbed people the wrong way.

Confrontation can be either helpful or harmful depending on the situation, and the Bible gives examples of both. Harmful confrontation is motivated by pride, greed, or some other fleshly desire. Those who confront others in order to gain the upper hand or to make themselves appear better are abusing the art of confrontation. Street wars begin when one angry mob leader confronts another. Social media wars begin when everyone with access to a keyboard uses that platform to confront anyone who disagrees with them. Nothing is gained by such confrontations because the motives behind them are selfish. Jesus was often the object of harmful confrontation as He preached and taught in Judea. The chief priests, Sadducees, and Pharisees were motivated by pride, fear, misunderstanding, and the desire for power, so they were offended by what He said and did and took every opportunity to confront Him. Their final confrontation ended with His crucifixion, the greatest crime in human history.

Of course, not all confrontation is wrong. Jesus also confronted the Jewish leaders about their hypocrisy and false religious zeal ([Matthew 3:7; 23:13](#)). Twice, He drove the [thieves and charlatans](#) from the temple in an act of righteous confrontation ([John 2:15](#)). Paul confronted Peter when he learned that Peter was behaving hypocritically toward Gentile believers ([Galatians 2:11-14](#)). This was a helpful confrontation because it was motivated by love and a passion for the health of the church. In the Old Testament, God sent Nathan the prophet to confront David about his sin with Bathsheba ([2 Samuel 12:1-14](#)). This confrontation resulted in David's repentance and restoration. Nathan's confrontation was not selfish because its motivation was the best interest of the other.

Confrontation is an inevitable part of life. Others will confront us when we have wronged them or they believe us to be in error. We will confront other people when they offend or hurt us, and this is healthy as long as our motivations are right. When confrontation is used as a way to belittle, condemn, or take revenge on another, it is wrong. God says that He is the avenger, and He reserves the right to deal with offenders appropriately ([Hebrews 10:30](#)).

The manner in which we engage in confrontation is also important. Servants of the Lord will at times find themselves in confrontations with unbelievers. God's Word gives guidance in such cases: "Opponents must be gently instructed, in the hope that God will grant them repentance leading them to a knowledge of the truth" ([2 Timothy 2:25](#)). Note that the manner is specified (with [gentleness](#)) as well as the motivation (that God would grant repentance).

Avoiding confrontation may seem like a good thing, but there are times when it is necessary, and dodging it is wrong. If Jesus had refused to publicly confront the Jewish leaders, they would have continued their deception and burdensome practices. If Paul had not confronted Peter, Christianity may have veered off course in the first century and dissolved into legalism or a form of Judaism. If Nathan had refused to confront David when the Lord sent him, David may have never been restored to fellowship with God and the nation of Israel would have suffered. We would also be missing some of the great psalms, such as [Psalm 51](#), David's cry of repentance.

[People-pleasers](#) have a particularly hard time confronting sin in others because they dread the fallout. Refusing to engage in confrontation may give them temporary peace, but it could be at the expense of the other person's well-being. If someone is driving toward a drop-off, we don't think twice about warning him. We may even have to confront his opinion that the road is just fine. But we know better, and it is in his best interest to know what we know. As Christians, we know something the world needs to know. Some may not appreciate our message. Some may become angry and defensive when we call sin by its rightful name. But Christians are called to renounce error and proclaim [truth](#), even when it feels confrontational to the hearers. When the confrontation is clothed in love and humility, it can accomplish much good (see [1 Corinthians 13:1-13](#)).