

**PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES**

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 24**  
9:30 am Summer Moms Group  
6:30 am Men's Breakfast

**SATURDAY JUNE 27**  
8:45 am Youth Amazing Race

**SUNDAY JUNE 28**  
9 am Fellowship Coffee  
After the Service VBS Meeting

**MONDAY JUNE 29**  
7 pm SLB Meeting

**July 6 - 10**  
9am to 12 pm VBS  
(Age 4 to Grade 6)

**TUESDAY JULY 14**  
6:30 pm Baptism Class  
7:30 pm Membership Class

**Sept 4 - 6**  
Family Camp

*Choose the most mundane activity of your daily life and think of a way you could practice the presence of God while doing it.*

**MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS**

Audio and Visual (AV)

Our Audio Visual Team plays an important behind-the-scenes role each Sunday, helping with PowerPoint presentations and the sound system to ensure our worship services run smoothly. We are very grateful for their faithful service and dedication.

Please keep Tim, the team leader, in your prayers as he trains team members and coordinates the schedule. Also pray for the AV team members: Jayden, Rocket, Dave, Ruth, Myles, and Zadok.

If you are interested in serving with the AV Team, please contact Tim or the church office for more information. We would love to have you join this 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

**May Financial Report**

General Fund Donation	Monthly Budget	Received
	\$31,835	\$29,694.81
Missions Giving	Received YTD	May
	\$22,835	\$4,150

**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.



**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 AM Fellowship Coffee**  
**10:30 AM Worship Service & Children's Church during Sermon**

Nursery is available in the supervised room downstairs or the unsupervised room in the back of the sanctuary with audio

**Sermon**

**Speaker: Pastor Peter**

Scripture: 1 Cor 7:17-24

Live faithfully in the situation God has placed you

**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](mailto:elders@bethanybaptist.ab.ca)

**GET TO KNOW US**

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**Church Admin & Children's Ministry Coord:**  
Lilian Lara  
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## MISSIONARY UPDATES

### Jim and Cathy Hansen

Last week we saw 90 students graduate from Ethnos360 Bible Institute. Here is a photo of the graduating class, well almost. If you count carefully, you will see that the number falls short of 90.

I was surprised to see the number of graduates standing off to the side when this photo was taken. I approached them and inquired why they didn't stand for the photo. They informed me that they all were aiming to serve in restricted countries where missionaries may not be welcome. The result is, they are cautious about their online profile. An online photo of their face graduating from a missionary Bible school might prevent them from getting a visa. I was greatly moved. Not standing with their classmates for their graduation photo is another offering they give to the Lord to go where Jesus is calling them.

On the last day of class, this graduating class presented me with a thank you card. A little bigger card than usual. I will miss this group.

Our enrollment for the fall has reached 225 and is now nearly full. This will be our largest enrollment ever. Praise the Lord! I am told there are now only eight beds left for single students who still wish to apply, and just a few apartments open for couples and families.

We are also praising God for supplying our new elevators (now finished) and for new windows in our main building (being installed right now).

### Prayer requests

- Pray that EBI will produce spiritual growth and understanding of the truth as we live out our motto: "Where Bible Education and Missions are One."
- Pray for a leader for our kitchen staff. We now have enough staff, but we are still praying for a missionary who will lead and manage the team.
- Pray for me as I will be traveling to Bolivia this month to teach a graduate course on the Chronological Life of Christ at the Cochabamba Bible Seminary. Pray for safe travels, good health, and for spiritual fruit.
- Pray for strength for Kathy as she is finishing her last week of classes at the elementary school.

## LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What area of your life are you most tempted to think, "If only this changed, then I could really follow Christ faithfully"? How does Paul's teaching in this passage challenge that way of thinking?

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2. Paul repeats the command to "remain" in verses 17, 20, and 24. What do you think he is trying to emphasize, and why is it so important?

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3. Think about a time when you believed changing your circumstances would solve a spiritual struggle. What did you learn from that experience?

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4. What difference does it make to know that you were "bought with a price" and belong completely to Christ? How should that truth shape one area of your daily life?

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5. Paul tells bondservants not to be consumed by their status, yet he also says to gain freedom if the opportunity arises. What balance does this teach us between accepting our circumstances and pursuing change?

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6. The sermon emphasized "gospel fluency" which learning to interpret life through the truths of the gospel rather than through circumstances. What would gospel fluency look like in a difficult situation you are currently facing?

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7. Paul concludes by saying we should "remain with God." What practical habits help you cultivate an awareness of God's presence in your everyday responsibilities?

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8. The conclusion emphasized seeking gospel clarity before making major life decisions. Why is it dangerous to assume that changing circumstances will automatically solve spiritual struggles?

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## Got Questions Article

### How should we live our lives in light of our identity in Christ?

Our identity in Christ is first and foremost one of newness. We are new creations in Christ ([2 Corinthians 5:17](#)). Identity is defined as “the collective aspect of the set of characteristics by which a thing is definitively recognizable or known,” so our new identity in Christ should be recognizable both to ourselves and to others. If we are “in Christ,” that should be evident, just as being “in the world” is equally evident. A further definition of identity is “the quality or condition of being the same as something else.” In the case of our identity in Christ, our lives should indicate that we are the same as Christ. The name “Christians” means literally “followers of Christ.”

In our new identity in Christ, we are no longer slaves to sin ([Romans 6:6](#)), but we are reconciled to God ([Romans 5:10](#)). This new identity completely changes our relationship with God and our families, just as it changes the way we see the world. Our new identity in Christ means we have the same relationship with God that Christ has—we are His children. God has adopted us as sons. We are able to call Him “Abba! Father!” ([Romans 8:15-16](#)). We are both joint heirs ([Galatians 3:29](#)) and friends ([John 15:15](#)) of Christ. And this relationship is even stronger than those we have with our earthly families ([Matthew 10:35-37](#)). Instead of fearing God as judge, we have the great privilege of coming to Him as our Father. We can approach Him with confidence and ask of Him what we need ([Hebrews 4:16](#)). We can ask for His guidance and wisdom ([James 1:5](#)) and know that nothing will take us from Him ([Romans 8:38-39](#)). We also rest in His authority and respond to Him with trusting obedience, knowing that obedience is a key part of remaining close to Him ([John 14:23](#)).

The family of God encompasses a vast body of believers who strive together to grow closer to God ([1 Corinthians 12:13](#)). It’s a family that is stronger for the gifts of each person in it ([Romans 12:6-8](#)). Members of this new family seek the best for one another ([1 Corinthians 10:24](#)), encourage each other ([Galatians 6:1-2](#)), and forgive each other ([Matthew 18:21-22](#)). Each member has a specific role, but the roles are acted out with respect and grace ([1 Peter 5:1-5](#)). Most of all, we respond to each other in love—not the feeling, but a selfless, conscious act of sacrifice, which is reflective of the agape love of the God who loved us and gave Himself for us ([Galatians 2:20](#)).

We are no longer citizens of the world but apart from it ([2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1](#)). We understand that we are a part of a heavenly, God-ruled kingdom. Things of the earth no longer draw us ([Colossians 3:2](#)). We don’t fear or over-emphasize suffering on earth or the trials we face ([Colossians 1:24](#); [1 Peter 3:14](#); [4:12-14](#)), nor do we place importance on things the world values ([1 Timothy 6:9-11](#)). Even our bodies and our actions reflect that our minds are no longer conformed to the world ([Romans 12:1-2](#)) but are now instruments of righteousness to God ([Romans 6:13](#)). And our new kingdom perspective means we understand that our enemy is not the people around us but the spiritual forces that endeavor to keep the people from knowing God ([Ephesians 6:12](#)).

All of this is the ideal—the character of a mature follower of Christ. One of the greatest blessings about our identity in Christ is the grace we’re given in order to grow into the spiritual maturity that truly reflects our new identity ([Philippians 1:6](#)). Our lives in light of our identity in Christ are filled with a heavenly Father, a large, loving family, and the understanding that we are citizens of another kingdom and not of this earth.