NOVEMBER 15 **WEEKLY BULLETIN** **2026**



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 Sunday School
10:30 AM Worship Service & Children's Church during the sermon
6 PM Prayer Meeting

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

Sermon

Speaker: Pastor Peter

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 12: 1-11

Many Gifts, One Spirit: Part Two- Gifted by Grace

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

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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

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

- Health Needs: Lorraine Hort, John Eng

→ Email us your prayer requests or to join the Prayer Line!

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Marriage Check-up Dessert Night

Marriage is established by God and is sacred. It is meant to reflect His sacrificial love to the world. We hope this Marriage Check-Up Night will help couples recognize the hidden patterns that quietly erode intimacy and learn how to cultivate a deeper connection with one another.

As Christians, we must remember that marriage is not our ultimate goal; rather, it is one of God's means of sanctifying us and shaping us to become more like Christ.

Let us pray for all the couples at Bethany, that they would remain faithful first to the Lord, then to their marriage vows, and to one another. May their marriages bring glory to God and reflect the love of Christ.

"This life is not about getting all the pleasure you can, but rather about preparing for the glorious pleasures to come."- Paul Tripp

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUE NOVEMBER 17
6:30 pm Adventure Club
6:30 pm Youth

WED NOVEMBER 18
6:30 am Men's Breakfast
9:30 am Seniors' Ministry

THU NOVEMBER 19
7 pm Council Meeting

FRI NOVEMBER 20
6:30 pm Youth Night

SAT NOVEMBER 21
6 pm Marriage Check-up Dessert Night

TUE NOVEMBER 24
6:30 pm Baptism Class
7:30 pm Membership Class

SUN NOVEMBER 29
12 pm Newcomers' Lunch
6 pm Church-wide Quarterly Prayer

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

September Financial Report

General Fund Donation	**Monthly Budget**	**Received**
	$31,835	**$27,555**
Missions Giving	**Received YTD**	**September**
	$35,835	**$3,900**

OFFERING
E-TRANSFER: treasurer@bethanybaptist.ab.ca

OR DROP OFF YOUR EVELOPE 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

Ric & Darlene Munro

1) Elifsu continues with her chemotherapy in Adana. With no oncology department in Hatay province, she must travel to the nearest large city for treatment. As in the past, after treatment, she was in a bad state and had to stay in the hospital overnight. After treatment, she is to be kept away from people as her immune system has been affected by the chemo… but how does she get back home to Antakya? Today (Friday 6 November), she was released, and a visiting believer drove over to Adana to pick her and mum up and bring them home. Mum's backup plan was to use an intercity coach to return to Antakya. To me, this is a frightful option for her health and recovery. The doctors explicitly say that for the week after treatment, no visitors of any kind. Please pray for Elifsu and her parents at this time.

2) A Western church has a mix of believers, some old in the faith and some brand new. In the book of Hebrews, the difficulties in a church are illustrated when they are chastised for still needing milk when they should have grown and moved on to more solid food. Now, imagine a church full of young, immature, Biblically ignorant believers. Yes, they have been saved by grace, and yes, they are walking in the Way. But they are easily stumbled: the old habit patterns and addictions continue to influence them as they begin to grasp the power, freedom and liberty in Christ. Please pray for Hamdullah and Elmas as they negotiate the minefield of people's emotions, reactions and difficulties that their old natures kick up. It is not easy. They must always release the problems and people to the LORD and His grace and His dealings. Please pray for them as they travel this tangle of human frailty and fallen nature.

4) GÖK Preaching/teaching conference for many years, in partnership with a Christian teaching ministry in the UK, the associations of Southeast Turkey Churches (GÖK) have held annual four-day seminars with teaching for church leaders and those who teach or minister in the local church. This year, the seminar will be hosted in our church here in Antakya. The goal of this time is to be better equipped as servants of God in sharing the Word, and also to strengthen the fellowship among the various people serving over a large area. Pray that God will build up the church, strengthen the leaders and equip those He has called to lead the various fellowships.

5) The dust is settling, the new city is rising, and people are moving into their new homes. The climate and attitude of the city are changing. We have seen the rise of opposition from the local leaders of the Alevi community (Muslim - not Sunni, tending towards Shi'ite), warning families not to send their children to our activities. We have seen some families stop sending their children and even enrolling them in the lessons put on by the local Alevi leader. We still have a good number of children coming to special events, but we also see the decline. Please pray for the children, for the doors to open again, for many to be engaged and taste and see that the LORD is good.

6) Solar project - we continue to wait on the LORD. God is good - always. He has provided 68% of the total we need. We have received a second quote for the work, and it was basically the same as the first. As winter crowds in upon us, the days shorten and the electrical cuts seem to be more frequent. This would really make a difference for us. Also, in a turbulent time of ever-increasing utility costs, the ability to generate our own electricity would be a tremendous boost. Please pray with us as we wait on the LORD.

7) You may recall we have a small group of ladies meeting for a Bible study. This is a more intimate setting, and all are new believers. This is working well. They study a passage, one verse at a time, with each one giving her understanding of the verse, and then they discuss each other's answers. It is a guided study with Elmas or another mature believer leading the study. Many ladies find the studies extremely helpful. Jesus said He was the Way, the Truth and the Life. In these studies, the ladies are digging into the Truth for both learning the Way and living the Life. Please pray for these Bible studies.

Sometimes the challenges seem to be overwhelming. The answer is clear and true - but sometimes people have lived through so much trauma; sometimes there are mental health problems; sometimes life seems to overwhelm people, and we are cast back on the LORD. It is He who makes us light, and makes us salt. We deeply appreciate your prayer partnership with us in what God is doing in the Antakya Christian Church. It is because of His great love for us, because He is faithful, that we can be part of what He is doing. LORD, set these people free. Now is the year of the LORD's favour. God is good.

Got Questions Article

What is the difference between a talent and a spiritual gift?

There are similarities and differences between talents and spiritual gifts. Both are gifts from God. Both grow in effectiveness with use. Both are intended to be used on behalf of others, not for selfish purposes. First Corinthians 12:7 states that spiritual gifts are given to benefit others and not ourselves. As the two great commandments deal with loving God and others, it follows that one should use his talents for those purposes. But to whom and when talents and spiritual gifts are given differs. A person (regardless of his belief in God or in Christ) is given a natural talent as a result of a combination of genetics (some have natural ability in music, art, or mathematics) and surroundings (growing up in a musical family will aid one in developing a talent for music), or because God desired to endow certain individuals with certain talents (for example, Bezalel in Exodus 31:1-6). Spiritual gifts are given to all believers by the Holy Spirit (Romans 12:3, 6) at the time they place their faith in Christ for the forgiveness of their sins. At that moment, the Holy Spirit gives to the new believer the spiritual gift(s) He desires the believer to have (1 Corinthians 12:11).

Romans 12:3-8 lists the spiritual gifts as follows: prophecy, serving others (in a general sense), teaching, exhorting, generosity, leadership, and showing mercy. First Corinthians 12:8-11 lists the gifts as the word of wisdom (ability to communicate spiritual wisdom), the word of knowledge (ability to communicate practical truth), faith (unusual reliance upon God), the working of miracles, prophecy, discerning of spirits, tongues (ability to speak in a language that one has not studied), and interpretation of tongues. The third list is found in Ephesians 4:10-12, which speaks of God giving to His church apostles, prophets, evangelists, and pastor-teachers. There is also a question as to how many spiritual gifts there are, as no two lists are the same. It is also possible that the biblical lists are not exhaustive, that there are additional spiritual gifts beyond the ones the Bible mentions.

While one may develop his talents and later direct his profession or hobby along those lines, spiritual gifts were given by the Holy Spirit for the building up of Christ's church. In that, all Christians are to play an active part in the furtherance of the gospel of Christ. All are called and equipped to be involved in the "work of the ministry" (Ephesians 4:12). All are gifted so that they can contribute to the cause of Christ out of gratitude for all He has done for them. In doing so, they also find fulfillment in life through their labor for Christ. It is the job of the church leaders to help build up the saints so they can be further equipped for the ministry to which God has called them. The intended result of spiritual gifts is that the church as a whole can grow, being strengthened by the combined supply of each member of Christ's body.

To summarize the differences between spiritual gifts and talents: 1) A talent is the result of genetics and/or training, while a spiritual gift is the result of the power of the Holy Spirit. 2) A talent can be possessed by anyone, Christian or non-Christian, while spiritual gifts are only possessed by Christians. 3) While both talents and spiritual gifts should be used for God's glory and to minister to others, spiritual gifts are focused on these tasks, while talents can be used entirely for non-spiritual purposes.

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

1. Why do you think God has chosen to equip believers differently rather than giving everyone the same gifts and abilities? How can differences in gifts, personalities, and areas of service strengthen a church rather than divide it?

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2. Why are we sometimes tempted to compare our ministry or contribution with someone else's? What can we learn from Paul's reminder that the same God works through everyone?

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3. What might be some indications that God is using you to strengthen, encourage, or help other believers? How can the response and encouragement of other Christians help us recognize where we can serve effectively?

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4. Some Christians spend considerable time trying to identify their spiritual gifts before becoming involved in ministry. Why might it be better to begin serving and discover along the way how God uses you?

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5. How can we guard against thinking that some ministries are more important than others simply because they are more visible? What does faithfulness look like when nobody notices or recognizes our contribution?

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6. Verse 11 reminds us that the Holy Spirit distributes gifts according to His will. How should this influence our attitude toward the gifts and opportunities God has given us?

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7. Where do you see a need in our church that you could help meet? Is there a practical step you could take to serve someone, encourage another believer, or become more involved in building up the body of Christ?

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