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JANUARY 2023

# BETHEL church

For more information check out our website [www.bethelnazarene.org](http://www.bethelnazarene.org)

## A WORD FROM OUR PASTORAL STAFF

### A New Year Has Come!

J.B. Phillips in his paraphrase said this: "Happy are the kind-hearted, for they will have kindness shown to them! Happy are the pure in heart, for they will see God!" (Matthew 5:7-8)

"Happy New Year," we hear this a lot this time of year. Is it because we want to be friendly or is it a prophecy of good things to come in the months ahead? Happiness is not something that depends significantly on where I am or what is done to me. It does not come from the outside in, but rather from the inside out. Happiness is God's good gift to those who are rightly related to Him and to the people around them. I cannot find happiness by searching for it. I cannot even pray for happiness and expect God to give it. I can, however, earnestly seek to find God's will for my life. In doing His will I may confidently expect to find life's ultimate satisfaction. I can give myself in honest effort to help another and discover happiness in helpfulness. But the happiness is always a by-product of loving God and sharing myself with my fellowman.

When I wish someone a Happy New Year, I am wishing that this shall be a year in which he/she shall walk with God and do something for folks who are near them. And for myself, I must keep my spirit open to the presence of God and keep my heart open to the needs of men.

When the Son left our earth, He sent the Holy Spirit to dwell in us (see John 14-16 and Acts 1:8). Today, God's Spirit can fill our hearts. Here and now, He can walk with us. Because of His help, hunger is easier to bear, and thirst is not impossible torture. Our crying is hushed, and our pain is eased. The most blessed hours in this life are those in which God's presence seems most fully to surround our hungering spirits.

~Pastor Weldon Shuman

## Church Events

- Jan. 4 - Lunch Bunch
- Jan. 8 - Liberty Quartet
- Jan. 9 - Upward Basketball & Cheer Starts!
- Jan. 13 - Meet & Greet Pastor; District Marriage Conference
- Jan. 15 - House of Prayer
- Jan. 16 - Secret Sister Party
- Jan. 17 - 50-UP
- Jan. 18 - Board Mtg
- Jan. 20 - Game Night
- Jan. 21 - KIDS Quiz Meet
- Jan. 22 - W&W Kenya Mtg; NMI Council Mtg



# Look what's happening...

## **Liberty Quartet in concert!** Sunday, Jan. 8 @ 6pm

Join us for this fun night of Southern Gospel music! We will be taking a Love Offering to support their ministry. Please make gifts out to "Liberty Quartet".

**Single Again Lunch Bunch** - We will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Jan. 4th at Noon. Bring a sack lunch. Call Bertie @ 208-800-7541 if you have any questions.

**50-UP Jan. 17th @ 5:45pm** - Entertainment this month will be Sisters Promise from Canyon Hill Nazarene. The meal will be Homemade Soup. Please sign-up at the Welcome Desk to bring a pot of soup.

## **Secret Sister Reveal Party - Jan. 16th @ 7pm**

Join us as we reveal the 2022 sisters and draw new names for 2023! Please bring a snack to share. There are new Secret Sister forms available on the gift table or stop by the office. Secret Sister is first and foremost a prayer ministry. It gives you the opportunity to pray specifically for a sister in Christ throughout the year. The monthly gift should just be a small token (\$10 or less) to say you're thinking about them. Talk with Tammy Wightman if you have questions.

**Christmas Cards!** Check the "mailbox" in the foyer for cards you may have received! We also collect "old" cards for Carol Cox who likes to do projects for the kids with them. She'll take old calendars as well.

## **Pastoral Candidate Meet & Greet Friday, January 13 at 7pm**

The Church Board has vetted, interviewed and voted to bring the name of a potential pastoral candidate for consideration to Bethel Church. Everyone is invited to join us for a special time to meet this Pastor and his wife and to hear their heart for ministry. Then, on Sunday, January 15, members of Bethel Nazarene age 15 and older are asked to vote yes or no on the nomination of our potential new pastor. Plan now to be here that weekend. Please direct any questions to the Church Board members.

**Family Game Night** - Friday, Jan. 20 @ 6pm - EVERYONE is invited to join in. Please bring a favorite game and a snack to share. We'll also have Pickleball and Corn Hole setup in the gym. Don't prefer games? Come for the fellowship!

**Ladies' Bible Study (started) Tuesday, Jan. 3 @ 9:30am**  
"God of Freedom" by Jen Wilkin. This is a 10 week study of Exodus 19-40. Books are \$25 on Amazon. This study is led by Tammy Wightman. It's not too late to start! Childcare is available for kids age zero to Kindergarten.

**2022 Contribution Statements** - Statements will be emailed to the address we have on file by the end of January for donors having given a single gift of \$250 or more in 2022. We will not be providing printed copies for everyone. If you need a printed copy of your statement, please contact Amy in the church office.

# KIDS Dept. News...

## **Upward Basketball & Cheerleading**

Our season starts the week of January 9 with practices and our first games will be Saturday, Jan. 14! Come out on Saturdays to support all our participants. The teens going to N.Y.C. this summer will be hosting the concession stand. All donations will go toward their trip.

## **AWANA January Service Project**

Our AWANA program kids will be collecting NEW backpacks for South Middle School and NEW shoes for Iowa Elementary School. These items will go in their resource rooms to help out kids that go without. There will be a collection bin in the foyer through the month of January. Talk with Pastor Kym or Pastor Kaleb if you have questions.

## **Celebrate Recovery ~ A New Year has begun!**

We are starting with Lesson 1 on Thursday, Jan. 5. Denial ~ "a self-protecting behavior that keeps us from honestly facing the truth". And Principle 1 "Realize I'm not God. I admit that I am powerless to control my tendency to do the wrong thing and that my life is unmanageable." Come find help for your hurts, habits and hang-ups every **Thursday night at 6:30pm**.

## **District Marriage Conference January 13-14, 2023**

**At College Church of the Nazarene**  
Special Speakers Shaunti & Jeff Feldhahn

Cost is only \$40 per couple/\$20 per individual!

Register at <https://brushfire.com/intermountaindistrict/marriageconference2023/544571>