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FEBRUARY 2024

# BETHEL church

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

## FROM THE HEART OF THE PASTOR

I dropped into Blimpie last week and while there I observed an interesting decorative scene. It was a Christmas-like tree, trimmed in Valentine's décor, including hearts designed to look like the little sweethearts candies with phrases like "kiss me." It took me back to my elementary school days where we shared little Valentine cards with classmates. Don't you miss those simple days? February still remains as the month where people think about or emphasize love. Well, at least for one day of the month known as Valentine's Day, people may try to show their affection by exchanging cards, giving candies, or taking their sweetheart out to dinner. However, love is a much deeper concept that cannot be bound to one day, especially for Christians. I mean, if you only buy flowers or chocolates for your sweetheart once a year, you might need couple's therapy.

But let's deal with love briefly here. We so often turn the concept of love into getting things, or expecting gifts from others to feel loved, rather than giving and demonstrating the sacrificial love of God toward others. Our Father in heaven has loved us so much that He sent His Son to die for us. God didn't just say He loved us, He acted on it. Christ giving His life for us is the ultimate act of love! A selfless and self-giving way of life is radically different than what most consider to be love in our present culture.

The apostle whom Jesus loved wrote, "Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth" (1 John 3:18). By this we learn that in Christianity, it's not merely about saying, "I love you." It's about having hearts filled with the love of God so much so that it spills over into deeds. So here it is, this February, regardless of how long you've been a Christian, challenge yourself to love in new sacrificial ways. You can start this by not only telling people that you love them, but also demonstrating it with selfless and sacrificial deeds throughout the year!

~Pastor Derek Elkins

## Church Events

- Feb. 4 - House of Prayer; Grandparent Matters starts
- Feb. 7 - Lunch Bunch
- Feb. 9 - Men's Retreat
- Feb. 10 - Church Night @ NNU Basketball
- Feb. 11 - Super Bowl Event
- Feb. 19 - Office Closed
- Feb. 20 - 50-UP
- Feb. 21 - Board Meeting
- Feb. 25 - Teen Fundraiser Lunch
- Feb. 27 - Upward Award Night
- Feb. 29 - 50-UP Field Trip



# Look what's happening...

**Lunch Bunch** - We're revamping Lunch Bunch! ALL WOMEN (young, old, married, single) who want to have fellowship together are invited to join in on the 1st Wednesday (**Feb. 7th**) of every month at **11:45am** in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a sack lunch and come meet new people! Call Bertie @ 208-800-7541 if you have any questions.

**50-UP Feb. 20th @ 5:45pm** - Entertainment this month will be the Mangums and Kathy Durfey. We are providing the whole dinner this month! You just need to signup for either the **Roast Beef** meal or the **Chicken** meal. Also signup if you need a ride.

**Church Elections** - A Sunday morning in February.

Plan now to help us elect our church leaders for the next church year. All members age 15 and older are encouraged to vote. If you are unsure if you are a member of Bethel, feel free to call the church office. A sample ballot will be available ahead of time.

**Teen Guatemala Fundraiser Lunch** - Sun., Feb. 25 @ noon

Join us in the Teen Center for a yummy Sunday lunch! We will be serving different varieties of soup, a green salad, bread and ice-cream. All donations will go toward the teens going to Guatemala this summer.

**Super Bowl Party** - Feb. 11 @ 4pm in the Teen Center. Bring your favorite snack to share!

**Upward Basketball** - come support our kids in the program Friday nights starting at 5pm or Saturday mornings starting at 9am. The Teen Guatemala team is hosting concessions: fresh donuts, Breakfast Burritos, pretzels, hotdogs! All proceeds help the teens get to Guatemala this summer.

**Church Night at NNU Basketball** - Feb. 10 starting at 5pm. Kids & Teens get in free, General Admission is just \$4!

The Upward players will be doing halftime.

**Award Night** - Feb. 27 @ 7pm. All the players and cheerleaders are invited to this fun night to celebrate the season! We'll have fun games and prizes for every Upward participant.

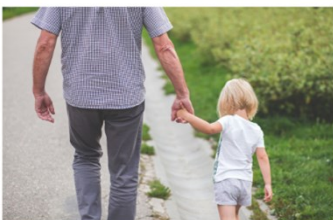
## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

- **Safety Team:** we need volunteers to help keep watch during Sunday/Wednesday services and special events. See Pastor Bob.
- **Media Desk:** we need volunteers to run the slides during 2nd service and anybody interested in helping with our Live Stream. See Pastor Josh, Eric or Lynn .
- **PromiseLand:** In January, four new babies were born to some of our Bethel families! That is amazing! With that and the other babies born in the last several months, we have some volunteer opportunities in the nursery. We want these families to have time away from serving while their babies are little. If you would like a short-term opportunity to care for babies and toddlers\* during either 1st or 2nd service, contact Pastor Kym at [pastorkym@bethelnazarene.org](mailto:pastorkym@bethelnazarene.org) or contact the office.

**\*volunteers in PromiseLand must pass a background check and be interviewed and approved prior to serving.**

### Heritage Builders

EQUIPPING & SUPPORTING GRANDPARENTS  
IN THEIR BIBLICAL ROLE AS THEY LOVE &  
INTERACT WITH THEIR GRANDCHILDREN



### Grandparenting Matters Class starts again!

Sunday, February 4 from 6:00-8:30pm. The curriculum we will be studying is "Grandparenting Matters". We will meet in the Fellowship Hall and Bob & Sharon Pilkinton will host the evening. The study is 6 weeks and workbooks are \$10 each. Talk with Pastor Kym if you have questions.

**GriefShare** - Due to loss in leadership, we will not be hosting a GriefShare class this winter/spring. If you need a group, please contact Karcher Church of the Nazarene or check out their website [GriefShare.org](http://GriefShare.org).