



BETHANY
BAPTIST
CHURCH

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. 2:13-16

Speaker: Pastor Peter Erratt

Part Two: Spiritual Wisdom and the Mind of Christ

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 Burris

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

PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES

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

MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

Men's Ministry

Join us in our monthly Men's Nights, where we gather to study Scripture and strengthen one another in discipleship, striving to live worthy of our calling (Eph 4:1). Please pray for our men: that we would walk in personal holiness and lead with godly integrity in our homes, workplaces, and communities.

- Jonah Braun

BIRTHDAYS (FROM DIRECTORY)

January

- 1 Peter Braun
- 2 Laine Unger
- 2 Rema Iwata
- 3 Zadok Braun
- 12 Laughlin Leniuk
- 16 Morgan Duke
- 17 Yurii Audriushchenki
- 19 Barbara Marian
- 20 Lois Collier
- 22 Rebecca Erratt
- 29 Daniel Lara
- 29 Nancy Erratt

UPCOMING EVENTS

TUESDAY JANUARY 13

6:30 pm Adventure Club

6:30 pm Youth Group

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 14

6:30 am Men's Breakfast

9:30 am Seniors' Ministry

FRIDAY JANUARY 16

6:30 pm Ladies' Night

SUNDAY JANUARY 18

10:30 am Baptism Sunday

12:00 pm Newcomers' Lunch

MONDAY JANUARY 19

7:00 PM SLB Meeting

WEDNESDAY JANUARY 21

6:30 pm Baptism Class

7:30 pm Membership Class

FRIDAY JANUARY 23

6:30 pm Men's Night

SUNDAY JANUARY 25

10:30 am Baby Dedication(Oceana)

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 8

10:30 am Mission Sunday

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

"The jar of meal was not emptied, neither did the jug of oil fail, according to the word of the LORD that he spoke by Elijah." - 1 Kings 17:16

November Financial Report

General Fund Donation	Monthly Budget	Received
	\$32,829	\$28,798.26

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

Vance & Korelei Nelson

Though winter can be cold, it can also be beautiful. This reminds me of what Scripture says in Isaiah 52:7: "How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!"

It is at Christmas that we remember the birth of Jesus Christ. He was God in the flesh as John 1:14 tells us: "The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth." When the world was getting politically correct and we went from saying Merry Christmas to "Seasons Greetings" or "Happy Holidays," the Bible never changed, which was why some pushed back on the secular greetings which removed Christ as the "Reason for the Season." The reality is, Jesus was God in the flesh, who came down to dwell with us, and pay the penalty for sin that all who place their faith in the finished work of Christ will spend eternity in a perfect place where there is no death, disease, or disaster. Pain, suffering, and words like cancer will no longer be in the vocabulary of those saved by faith in Christ.

Still in the gospel of John we read this: "He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name...." (John 1:10-12). This is why Jesus came; to save the lost. This is ultimately what our ministry is about; seeing people come to faith in Jesus Christ, and having full confidence in Him and His Word.

Our Work the Last Few Months

Vance has been working on a "final" expansion of his book *Dire Dragons*. This expansion will contain some edits as well as new material supporting the Biblical view of dinosaurs. In 2011 this book started at 140 pages; the third edition saw that grow to 180 pages. Lord willing, the final edition will grow to over 200 pages and contain some of the best evidence to date on this topic. This has been our number one selling book worldwide.

Besides this, Vance has been working on a journal paper along with a colleague, Dr Brian Thomas from the Institute for Creation Research on the same topic.

Please pray for us late this month as we speak on dinosaurs at a venue in Edmonton, Alberta. Pray God will speak to the hearts and minds of the people who will attend, and that the Lord will give Vance strength and wisdom.

Starting at the end of January, Vance will be starting to work on the next book in the series. Lord willing, this will be the sixth hardcover book, and the seventh book in total. As with the other books, this will cost money to procure the necessary fossils, travel to complete research, and get many laboratory tests done. One of the sections in this new book will deal with Living Fossils, a term Charles Darwin coined to describe how many fossils bore a startling resemblance to their living counterparts. Genesis chapter one puts it in another way, that God created organisms to reproduce after their own kind. Below are just a few of the many Living Fossils Vance has been collecting for this book. You can see the fossil along with the closest living counterpart. Evolution does not happen in the real world (fossils vs. living). This collecting has been occurring for almost 25 years. He now has hundreds of examples which will be used for a section in the new book.

Help us continue to reach our world with Biblical truth and the gospel of Jesus Christ. We are so grateful for those who have helped financially, and in prayer. Consider furthering the cause of our ministry:

- [Purchase our Materials](#)
- [Help with the Finances](#)
- Pray for us

GOT QUESTIONS ARTICLE

How can I have the mind of Christ?

In [1 Corinthians 2:16](#), Paul quotes [Isaiah 40:13](#) and then makes a statement concerning all believers: "We have the mind of Christ." Having the mind of Christ means sharing the plan, purpose, and perspective of Christ, and it is something that all believers possess.

Having the mind of Christ means we understand God's plan in the world—to bring glory to Himself, restore creation to its original splendor, and provide salvation for sinners. It means we identify with Christ's purpose "to seek and to save what was lost" ([Luke 19:10](#)). It means we share Jesus' perspective of humility and obedience ([Philippians 2:5-8](#)), compassion ([Matthew 9:36](#)), and prayerful dependence on God ([Luke 5:16](#)).

In the verses leading up to [1 Corinthians 2:16](#), we note some truths concerning the mind of Christ:

- 1) The mind of Christ stands in sharp contrast to the wisdom of man (verses 5-6).
- 2) The mind of Christ involves wisdom from God, once hidden but now revealed (verse 7).
- 3) The mind of Christ is given to believers through the Spirit of God (verses 10-12).
- 4) The mind of Christ cannot be understood by those without the Spirit (verse 14).
- 5) The mind of Christ gives believers discernment in spiritual matters (verse 15).

In order to have the mind of Christ, one must first have saving faith in Christ ([John 1:12](#); [1 John 5:12](#)). After salvation, the believer lives a life under God's influence. The Holy Spirit indwells and enlightens the believer, infusing him with wisdom—the mind of Christ. The believer bears a responsibility to yield to the Spirit's leading ([Ephesians 4:30](#)) and to allow the Spirit to transform and renew his mind ([Romans 12:1-2](#)).

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

1. What situations most quickly expose your default settings, and how do those moments reveal whether you are thinking with the world's wisdom or the mind of Christ?

2. Paul says the gospel is "imparted" in words taught by the Spirit. How does this shape the way we listen to preaching, teaching, or Scripture reading each week? What does it look like to come expecting the Spirit to teach us?

3. In what ways does sharing what God is teaching you actually deepen your own understanding and spiritual growth? How have you seen imparting truth turn learning into formation?

4. Paul says everyone lives with "default settings." What are some ways you notice the world's wisdom shaping your instincts, reactions, or decision-making, especially under pressure? How does the gospel of Christ challenge or rewrite those defaults?

LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

5. Why do you think the Corinthian believers reverted to worldly wisdom under pressure, even though they knew the gospel? Where do you see that same drift happening in your own life?

6. What does it look like, in real life, to "judge all things" through a gospel lens without becoming proud, harsh, or defensive? Where do you most need gospel-shaped discernment right now?

7. Which of the four daily rhythms—surrender, Scripture, sacrifice, or share—do you most naturally practice, and which one do you most often neglect? How might growth in that neglected rhythm reshape your thinking and choices?
