

**PRAYER OPPORTUNITIES**

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

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**TUESDAY JUNE 9**  
6:30 pm Youth Group  
6:30 pm Adventure Club

**WEDNESDAY JUNE 10**  
6:30 am Men's Breakfast

**FRIDAY JUNE 12**  
6:30 pm Ladies' Night

**SUNDAY JUNE 14**  
9 am Fellowship Coffee  
After the Service Church Picnic

**FRIDAY JUNE 19**  
2 pm Annelieke & Laine's  
Wedding

**SUNDAY JUNE 28**  
After the Service VBS Meeting

**MONDAY JUNE 29**  
7 pm SLB Meeting

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

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

*Faithfulness has nothing to do with feelings.*

**MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS**

**Children's Church**  
We are thankful to consistently have around 15 children attending Children's Church each week. It is a joy to watch them grow in their knowledge of God and to see parents faithfully investing their hearts in teaching their children the ways of the Lord. Children's Church will pause in July and resume in September. Please pray for our young families during these months—that they would enjoy meaningful time together, grow stronger in their relationships, and continue to grow in their walk with the Lord. May their lives be a Christ-centered example to those around them.

**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 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**
  - 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**  
Scripture: 1 Cor. 7: 10-16  
When Marriage is Hard

**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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**Lead Pastor:**  
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**Assistant Pastor:**  
Daniel Lara  
[daniel@bethanybaptist.ab.ca](mailto:daniel@bethanybaptist.ab.ca)  
**Church Admin & Children's Ministry Coord:**  
Lilian Lara  
[lilian@bethanybaptist.ab.ca](mailto:lilian@bethanybaptist.ab.ca)

**March Financial Report**

General Fund Donation	Monthly Budget	Received
	\$31,835	\$26,382.62
Missions Giving	First Quarter Received	March
	\$13,835	\$3,625

**OFFERING**

E-TRANSFER: [treasurer@bethanybaptist.ab.ca](mailto: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.

### Ric & Darlene Munro

1) One of the motivations for the church building was to be able to host events like the South East Turkiye Ladies' Conference. This unique annual event is organised by and for the believing ladies living in the east of Turkiye. There was an amazing blend of believers, some who have walked with the LORD for years, and many who are under two and for some one year old in the LORD. We had believers from mainstream Sunni background, Alevi background and Orthodox Christian background. They all gathered to worship the LORD and to grow in grace. God is good. Praise the LORD for this conference and all the people who came, supported and served.

2) The Ladies' Conference was focused on four promises of God. The main teaching sessions were on them, and the small groups also focused on the promises. Each participant was given a framed decorative print of one of the promises. One lady made her confession of faith at the conference, and several stated they were challenged to live in the promises of God in their lives. Please pray for these ladies.

3) Praise the LORD, we had 23 helpers who came from eleven churches across Turkiye... some (Turks) from as far away as İstanbul and some visiting Americans came to assist by cleaning and serving the food. There were about 130 ladies from twelve different fellowships. We had several trained counsellors ready to help and encourage the ladies. Praise the LORD.

4) Oh, how much I yearn to share good news. All the physical works and paperwork have been completed. "The gas metres will be installed within three to five working days", they said. When I heard that, I was encouraged. This was before the Ladies' Conference. That would mean we would have hot water for those staying in the church, and we would have hot water for those staying at the ministry centre<sup>(1)</sup>. Alas, they did not come, and the metres are still outstanding. I suppose the good news is that there is neither an impediment nor outstanding works hindering the installation. The not-so-good news is we are still waiting. Praise the LORD for all that has been done - we are ready. Praise the LORD, the lack of hot water did not disrupt or impact the Ladies Conference. Please pray for the gas metres to be installed.

5) Hamdullah and Elmas are doing well. They have been refreshed with a recent break near Antalya and labour to properly pace themselves in all things that must be done. They have long since taken on board the fourth commandment that God has given, to rest. Please pray for them to continue to grow in grace, to be gifted with wisdom and insight, and yes, daily physical strength.

6) As a fellowship, we are part of the Turkish Evangelical Alliance, the South East Region Association of Churches (GÖK) and also part of the four churches in the Diyarbakır Protestant Foundation. The Foundation is active in encouraging, training and building up the various churches in the Foundation. Part of this activity is to have the various leaders travel to and share in the other fellowships. On 15 May, Hamdullah and Elmas travel to Adiyaman for the quarterly meeting of the GÖK. They will stay on, and Hamdullah will speak on Sunday. Please pray for the travel of all the participants and for building up the church.

7) Sadly, our time here is coming to an end soon. This is the limitation of the visa we enter on. There is much that happens in the summer months, such as children's camp, family camp and other activities. Please pray that the LORD of the harvest would provide all that is needed in the life and ministry of the church. Also, we began on 8 May, a prayer meeting. First, we met at the ministry centre<sup>(1)</sup>, and later it will be moved to the church. Prayer, real Christian prayer, is something new for the believers - this is not a repetition of some text but from the heart. Please pray that the saints will grow in their understanding of prayer, speaking from the heart with God and praying for one another.

(1) You may notice I use the term ministry centre with lower-case letters. When the home for Hamdullah and Elmas was built, funds were given for their home, and it was built as their home. But there was also a recognition that their home, pre-earthquake and now post-earthquake, is at the service of the church. Meetings, children's activities, and, for example, 34 ladies who came for the Ladies' Conference were housed there. It is a ready, much-used space as a ministry centre, but it was not funded or built as a Ministry Centre. It is the recognition that we freely use the space for children's meetings, ladies' meetings, prayer meetings, Bible study, hospitality and any other activity that is needed.

Thank you so much for your prayer partnership in what God is doing in Antakya. We are all part of God's family, the one universal church and look to Jesus, not only as the author and finisher of our faith, but also to Him who is the head of the church. God is good - always. In these turbulent times, even more we need to remember and focus on Him who does not change and whose word is "yes and amen" in Jesus Christ our Saviour.

## Got Questions Article

### What should a Christian do if he or she is married to an unbeliever?

Being married to an unbeliever can be one of the most difficult challenges in a Christian's life. Marriage is a sacred covenant that joins two people together in one flesh ([Matthew 19:5](#)). It can be very difficult for a believer and an unbeliever to live in peaceful harmony ([2 Corinthians 6:14-15](#)). If one partner becomes a Christian after the marriage, the inherent struggles of living under two different authorities quickly become apparent.

Often Christians in this situation will look for a way out of the marriage, convinced that this is the only way to truly bring honor to God. His Word, however, says the contrary. It is very important not only to be content in our situation, but also to look for ways to bring glory to Him out of our challenging circumstances ([1 Corinthians 7:17](#)). The Bible specifically addresses those who are married to unbelievers in [1 Corinthians 7:12-14](#): "...If any brother has a wife who is not a believer and she is willing to live with him, he must not divorce her. And if a woman has a husband who is not a believer and he is willing to live with her, she must not divorce him. For the unbelieving husband has been sanctified through his wife, and the unbelieving wife has been sanctified through her believing husband..."

Christians married to unbelievers will need to pray for the power of the Holy Spirit to enable them to profess Christ and live in the light of God's presence ([1 John 1:7](#)). They should seek God's transforming power to change their hearts and produce the fruit of the Holy Spirit ([Galatians 5:22-23](#)). A Christian wife is obligated to have a submissive heart, even toward her unbelieving husband ([1 Peter 3:1](#)), and she will need to remain close to God and rely on His grace to enable her to do so.

Christians are not meant to live solitary lives; they need to find support from outside sources such as the church and Bible study groups. Being married to an unbeliever does not alter the sacredness of the relationship, so it should be the priority of every Christian to pray for his or her spouse and set a good example, allowing Christ's light to shine brightly ([Philippians 2:14](#)). May the truth found in [1 Peter 3:1](#)—that an unbelieving spouse is "won over"—be the hope and goal of every Christian who is married to an unbeliever.

## LIFE GROUP QUESTIONS

1. How is the biblical view of marriage different from the way our culture often views marriage today?

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2. What challenges do you think new Christians in Corinth would have faced when the gospel entered their marriages and homes?

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3. Why do you think Paul spends so much time addressing marriage and divorce in this chapter?

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4. What do you think Paul means when he says the believer brings a sanctifying influence into the home?

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5. What stands out most to you about Paul's instructions in verses 10-16?

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6. What does it mean to be "gospel fluent" when facing relational disappointment, conflict, or uncertainty? What truths from the gospel do you need to preach to yourself in those moments?

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7. Paul says the believing spouse brings a sanctifying influence into the home. How can a transformed life be a powerful witness to family members who do not yet know Christ?

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8. Paul says, "God has called you to peace." How is biblical peace different from simply having conflict-free circumstances? How can we pursue that peace in difficult situations?

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