



# Ten Days

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## BETHANY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

(Disciples of Christ)

*“Where Blessings Happen”*

10453 Springwood Drive | El Paso, TX 79925 | [www.bcc-elp.org](http://www.bcc-elp.org)

office 915.592.5977 | Senior Minister Robert Arnold |

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# **LOVING** *God.* **LIVING** *for Christ.* **LISTENING** *to God's Spirit.*

September 22, 2019

10:45 a.m.

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

## **THE GATHERING TIME**

"Please enter the sanctuary in reverence and prayer and leave it with joy and fellowship."

## **RINGING OF THE CHIMES**

### **THE PRELUDE**

*O How I Love Jesus-Thygereson*

Ruth Crenshaw

## **BRINGING IN THE LIGHT AND HOLY SCRIPTURES**

## **THE WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE**

Please fill out the welcome sheet and place in the offering plate when passed.

## **THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

### **† THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: The Spirit and the bride say, "Come!"

**C: And let the one who hears say, "Come!"**

L: Let the one who is thirsty come;

**C: and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life.**

### **† THE INVOCATION**

God of Abundant Life and Living Water, the world's allurements provide only temporary satisfaction. In You alone, do we find light and life that endures.

We turn from seeking the things of this world, to pursue fulfillment in drawing near to You and in giving You praise and honor. Attend now our praise and our prayers. Be enthroned among us in our hearts, in our minds, and in our fellowship. Amen.

## **WORSHIP THROUGH PRAISE AND PRAYER**

† **THE HYMN OF PRAISE**      When Morning Gilds the Skies      No.100(vs.1,4)

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

**THE CALL TO PRAYER**

Silent Prayers

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer (using "debts" and "debtors")

**SPECIAL MUSIC**      Cornerstone      Bethany Choir

## **WORSHIP THROUGH MEDITATION**

† **THE SCRIPTURE LESSON**      Daniel 1:3-19

**THE SERMON** A Life of Blessing Versus a Life of Indulgence      Pastor Bob Arnold

## **WORSHIP THROUGH DECISION AND DEDICATION**

† **THE INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP**

*(If you desire to make a public profession of belief in Jesus Christ or to transfer your membership to Bethany Christian Church, please come forward as we sing this hymn.)*

† **THE INVITATION HYMN**      Take My Life and Let it Be      No.609(vs.1,3,6)

**HEALING MINISTRY**

## **WORSHIP THOUGH COMMUNION**

† **THE COMMUNION**      When I Survey the Wonderous Cross      No.195(vs.1,3,4)

† **THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

In unison

"I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God, and my Savior."

**THE COMMUNION MEDITATION**

**THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**THE COMMUNION PRAYERS**

## RECEIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

(All believers in Jesus, the Christ, are welcome to share in the Lord's Supper. Please receive the bread and the cup as they are distributed and return the empty cup to the tray.)

## WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### THE STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

### THE RECEIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

### † THE DOXOLOGY

No. 46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### † THE PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### † THE HYMN OF SENDING

On Eagle's Wings

No. 77(2x)

“And I will raise you up on eagle's wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the  
sun, and hold you in the palm of my hand.”

### † THE BENEDICTION

### † THE POSTLUDE

God of Earth and Sea and Heaven-Welsh Melody

† *Please stand as you are able*

## WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

**ELDERS:** Trish Baxter(C) Don Baxter (B)

**WORSHIP LEADER:** Mike Harmon

**GREETERS:** Carol Frank & Wanda Gibbons

**REFRESHMENTS:** Jennifer Howell

**PREPARER:** Linda Phillips & Eleanor Corral

**SERVING:** Paula Wulff, Martha Morris,  
Dottie Widmer

## STAFF & VOLUNTEERS

**SENIOR PASTOR:** Rev. Robert Arnold

**ORGANIST:** Ruth Crenshaw

**AUDIO:** William See

**MONDAY'S BIBLE STUDY:** Jerry De Frank

**OFFICE MANAGER:** Samantha Flores

**SUNDAY DAYCARE:** Laura Perez, Lupe Diaz

**PIANIST:** Anna Longo

**VIDEO:** Ken Blystone

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES:** Chris Marquez

## LAST SUNDAY RECAP

**Attendance:** 56

**Tithes and Offerings:** \$2,183.39

**Sunday School Offering:** \$17.00

**Total:** \$2,325.39

**Kitchen Remodeling:** \$125.00

**Pastor Bob's Bible Study** is on **Tuesdays, 1:30 p.m. in the Meeting Room.** The topic to be discussed is the Gospel of John.

**Monday Morning Bible Study** starts at **9:30 a.m. in the Meeting Room.**

September 23 - Philippians 4:6-7

September 30 - Philippians 4:8-9

October 7 - no meeting

October 14 - Philippians 4:10-13

October 21 - Philippians 4:14-23

October 28 - Amos



### Advent Devotional Book by Bethanyites



For the past two weeks we have published the guidelines for the Advent Devotional Book that we are going to create this year. The guidelines will be printed in the October and November newsletters but they are just guidelines. The definition of advent is “A season observed in many Christian

churches as a time of expectant waiting and preparation for both the celebration of the Nativity of Jesus at Christmas and the return of Jesus at the Second Coming.” All of us have wonderful memories of Christmas and we want you to share those with us. Even though Christmas is almost four months away, you know how busy fall can get. Take some time to sit down and share a memory, a thought, a hope, an anticipation that we can share during this holiday season. Your submissions should be turned into the church office by November 17.



Here are the important dates – October 13, 20, 27!!  
On those evenings, from 4:00-6:00 p.m., we will have Vespers!

The theme will be **Lost and Found** based on the parables of the lost sheep, lost coin and lost son.

In addition, there will be games, songs, crafts and food for folks of all ages.

Make plans to attend!

## **Transformation: God's Spirit Beckons**

***Friday & Saturday, September 27 & 28 at FCC Ruidoso***

Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Wally Ford, DOC Clergy, former Director of the New Mexico Conference of Churches. Keynote speaker scheduled for **10:15 a.m. on Saturday morning.**

**Youth:** Middle and High School youth will have a pizza party Friday evening at the church and activities in the Fellowship Hall after 10:15 a.m. on Saturday and join the adults at 3 p.m. for Worship.

There will be a free dinner for pastors/spouses on Friday evening at Cattle Baron, 657 Sudderth.

Lunch on Saturday will be catered by the Village Buttery.

Reduced hotel rate of \$127 per night at Hotel Ruidoso 110 Chase Street, 575-257-2007  
For reduced hotel rate, please reserve hotel room by September 17. Please state you are with First Christian Church. There may also be homes available provided by FCC Ruidoso church members.

\$10 registration before September 27. \$5 Kids 18 and younger. Register/sign up at:  
**<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/tres-rios-area-assembly-tickets-66900498191>**

\$15 registration day of the event starting at 9:30 a.m. at FCC 1211 Hull Road, Ruidoso.  
For full schedule and additional information, contact Raymond Morgan:  
[raymond.morgan64@yahoo.com](mailto:raymond.morgan64@yahoo.com)

We have a challenge for everyone to help us at this assembly.

We are giving a call to action in order to discern God's will for how the Tres Rios Area is to proceed in it's transformation while continuing to listen for God's beckoning.

## CAPERS

CAPERS is a time when we gather for fellowship around the table and enjoy some fun and laughter. This month's gathering will meet on **Thursday, October 3, 11:30 a.m. at Julio's 8050 Gateway Blvd. East.** A sign-up sheet is located in the Narthex for those interested. Our October's hosts are Gia & Bob Arnold.

## Disciples Women/October

The October meeting of the Disciples Women will be held on **Tuesday, October 15 at 9:30 a.m.** in the Meeting Room. We will be learning about Christmas Card Decoupage. We invite all ladies to join us – just bring a small pair of scissors. The women will be engaged in two upcoming projects:

**Dress a Doll Project** – Cornelia, our resident doll collector, will provide us with dolls and we will provide the clothes. Each lady will be given a naked doll and then she will buy a set of clothes for the doll. The dolls will then be given to Ft. Bliss for their Santa project. If you do not plan to attend the meeting, but you would like to dress a doll, let Jerry De Frank know by October 13 so she can secure a doll for you. The dolls need to be returned by November 18.



**Church Banner Project** – The ladies will also be working on a Resurrection Sunday banner for the church. If you have scraps of felt or any other geegaws that will add to the beauty of the banner, please drop them off in the office. We hope to see you on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

## Annual Congregational Business Meeting

The annual congregational business meeting will be held on Sunday, October 20 after the morning service. The purpose of the meeting will be to elect the new church officers and to approve the church budget for 2020. Please make plans to attend.



## Art Show Committee Meeting

Join us in the Commons Room this Sunday, September 22, after service. Everyone is welcome.

## PRAYER CONCERNS

*"If one member suffers, we all suffer together. If one member is honored, we all rejoice together."  
(1Corinthians 12:26)*

### Week Ending September 21

Sandra Blystone  
Carol Frank  
Wanda Gibbons  
Teresa Thompson  
Dodie Wicker  
Christopher Hulsey  
(Dennis & Beatriz Ruffner's grandson)  
Bill Baldwin  
(Larry & Bonnie Baldwin's son)  
Karla Rodgers  
Gloria Holguin  
Zachary Ruffner  
(Dennis Ruffner's son)  
Mike Rappe  
(Sibyl Rappe's son)  
Douglas Franklin  
(Carol Hollschwandler's brother)

### Week Ending September 14

Teresa Thompson  
Dodie Wicker  
Sandra Blystone  
Karla Rodgers  
Gloria Holguin  
Joyce Cummings  
Carol Frank  
Giovanna Arnold  
Christopher Hulsey  
(Dennis & Beatriz Ruffner's grandson)  
Bill Baldwin  
(Larry & Bonnie Baldwin's son)  
Wanda Gibbons  
Zachary Ruffner  
(Dennis Ruffner's son)  
David Johnson  
(Carol Beatty's neighbor)  
Andrea Berta  
(Sandra Blystone & Lucy Snelson's friend)

### Week Ending September 7

Dodie Wicker  
Sandra Blystone  
Prayers for  
Midland/Odessa  
Christopher Hulsey  
(Dennis & Beatriz Ruffner's grandson)  
Bill Baldwin  
(Larry & Bonnie Baldwin's son)  
Carol Frank  
Giovanna Arnold  
Glenda Koenigsberg  
Joyce Cummings  
Gloria Holguin  
Prayers for the Bahamas  
Karla Rodgers  
**Our Homebound and  
in Care Facilities:**  
Alice McBee, Marvin Morris,  
Carol Hollschwandler



## WEEKLY CALENDAR

September 22-28, 2019

### **SUNDAY:**

Sunday Daycare	9:15 a.m.
Sunday School (adults)	9:15 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:45 a.m.
Vespers Team Meeting	12:00 p.m.
Art Show Meeting	12:00 p.m.
Sun City bell Ringers	3:30 p.m.

### **MONDAY**

Bible Study- Philippians 4:6-7	9:30 a.m.
Boy & Cub Scout Meeting	6:00 p.m.

### **TUESDAY**

YISD Retired Teachers	9:30 a.m.
Pastor Bob's Bible Study	1:30 p.m.
ACOA	7:00 p.m.

### **WEDNESDAY:**

Gamblers Anonymous	7:00 p.m.
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### **THURSDAY**

Choir	6:30 p.m.
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## Scripture Lesson

Daniel 1:3-19 NIV

Then the king ordered Ashpenaz, chief of his court officials, to bring into the king's service some of the Israelites from the royal family and the nobility— young men without any physical defect, handsome, showing aptitude for every kind of learning, well informed, quick to understand, and qualified to serve in the king's palace. He was to teach them the language and literature of the Babylonians. The king assigned them a daily amount of food and wine from the king's table. They were to be trained for three years, and after that they were to enter the king's service.

Among those who were chosen were some from Judah: Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah. The chief official gave them new names: to Daniel, the name Belteshazzar; to Hananiah, Shadrach; to Mishael, Meshach; and to Azariah, Abednego.

But Daniel resolved not to defile himself with the royal food and wine, and he asked the chief official for permission not to defile himself this way. Now God had caused the official to show favor and compassion to Daniel, but the official told Daniel, "I am afraid of my lord the king, who has assigned your food and drink. Why should he see you looking worse than the other young men your age? The king would then have my head because of you."

Daniel then said to the guard whom the chief official had appointed over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah, "Please test your servants for ten days: Give us nothing but vegetables to eat and water to drink. Then compare our appearance with that of the young men who eat the royal food, and treat your

servants in accordance with what you see.” So he agreed to this and tested them for ten days.

At the end of the ten days they looked healthier and better nourished than any of the young men who ate the royal food. So the guard took away their choice food and the wine they were to drink and gave them vegetables instead.

To these four young men God gave knowledge and understanding of all kinds of literature and learning. And Daniel could understand visions and dreams of all kinds.

At the end of the time set by the king to bring them into his service, the chief official presented them to Nebuchadnezzar. The king talked with them, and he found none equal to Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael and Azariah; so they entered the king’s service.

**L: The Word of the Lord.** C: Thanks be to God.

# **A Life of Blessing Versus a Life of Indulgence**

Daniel 1: 3-19

**Theme:** We can know the life of worldly indulgence, of luxury, or, by following Christ, we can know the life that God blesses. We must choose between the two.

**Introduction:** Faithful Servants in a Faithless Land (v. 3-4a)

**Part One:** The Allure of Compromise and Assimilation (v. 4b-7)

**Part Two:** The Decision for Sacrificial Living (v. 4a, 8, 12-13)

**Part Three:** Avoidance of Unnecessary Offense and Confrontation (v. 9-12a)

**Part Four:** God's Blessing on Sacrificial Living (Thriving in Life) (v. 15-19)

**Conclusion:** Let Us Abstain and Truly Live



The Special Offering is used to fund our Church's mission imperative to become a pro-reconciling and anti-racist church utilizing experiential education, inclusive worship and intentional dialogue. Our efforts to promote healing, relationship and restoration in

the whole family of God are enlivened by funds from this offering. Through it we are able to provide programs for leadership development, curriculum for dialogue and learning, and partnerships within the Church and our communities.

Recent events have reignited the conversation about human brokenness evidenced in the sin of racism and perpetuated in our institutional structures and systems. Your generous giving to Reconciliation Ministry is transforming lives and strengthening Christ's witness in the world showing that we love one another, even as Christ continues to love us!

*Donations on behalf of emergency grants on behalf of impacted communities and congregations toward healing for the communities of Ferguson, Staten Island, Charleston, S.C., and Baltimore can be directed to the Reconciliation Annual Fund/Racial Justice Response.*