Bethel Banner

“God’s Grace”

Nicky Cruz was the leader of one of the toughest gangs in New York City. His Satanist parents abused him brutally, so he grew up a hardened man void of love and full of hate.

“I wanted to do to others what my mother did to me,” Nicky says. “I used to feel good when I hurt some people.”

But privately, he didn’t feel good. Privately. When I was alone, loneliness became like a seductive woman that crawled inside my chest and ate me. I was there twisting and fighting. I felt so lost.”

Only two people saw the desperate condition of Nicky’s heart. One was a psychologist. “He told me about five times. ‘There’s a dark side in your life that nobody can penetrate. Nicky, you are walking straight to jail, the electric chair, and hell. There’s no hope.’”

The other was a pastor named David Wilkerson. He risked his life to tell Nicky Wilkerson’s rallies. One by one, they gave up their lives to Christ. It was the crucifixion of Nicky’s heart.

“I heard his voice: ‘God has the power to change your life.’ I started cursing loudly,” says Nicky. “I spit in his face, and I hit him. I told him, ‘I don’t believe in what you say and you get out of here.’”

Nicky never expected what he heard Wilkerson say next.

Wilkerson replied, “You could cut me up into a 1000 pieces and lay them in the street. Every piece will still love you.”

Nicky says, “If I did damage. Good [damage] in my brain and in my heart. I began to question, and for two weeks I could not sleep thinking about love.”

Nicky and his gang showed up at one of Wilkerson’s rallies. One by one, they gave their lives to Christ. It was the crucifixion – Jesus’ death on the cross – that grabbed Nicky.

“I was choked up with pain, and my eyes were fighting and tears became to come down and more tears and I was fighting and then I surrendered,” says Nicky. “I let Jesus hug me, and I let my head rest on His chest. I said I’m sorry. Forgive me, and for the first time, I told somebody I love you.”

The love Nicky got in return radically changed his life.

“When I had opened my eyes, I got a new heart. I’d been born again. I’m a child of the Lord.”

This is taken for a poplar book, “The Cross and The Switchblade”, that was required reading in my Youth group when I was 16. What Nicky discovers is God’s Grace and what was true then, is true now. God’s Grace is sufficient all the time!

There are four things the “God’s grace” will personally do:

God Will Restore
If your life is falling apart, God can restore it! If your marriage is falling apart, God can restore it!

Some of you look at the mess you are in and wonder how you will ever get back. I want you to know that God restores lives in the midst of suffering.

God Will Establish
God will establish His church in you! No Matter what comes against you God’s grace will protect you

God Will Strengthen
God will strengthen you in your time of need!

No matter what.

God Will Support
God did not create you to abandon you! “I know the plans I have for you...” is not an empty promise.

I want you to notice something before we continue: “Suffered a little” can also be translated to say “a little while,” or “a small extent.” This is important because our focus is not on the temporary; our focus is on the eternal. Remember, God works in and for eternity. If you don’t feel like God is answering your prayers, be patient. One day, all your suffering will be gone. Our rock foundation is in the hope of heaven.

We’ve been studying Ephesians on Wednesday Nights as we revamp Wednesday Night Prayer Meeting. Starting in February we included a true Bible study so that we may truly become prayer warriors.

What we been discovering is God’s eternal love not only for His church, but for all His people. How He wants His church to function, but more importantly, how He demonstrates His love by showering us with His grace.

God’s Grace is sufficient all the time!

On The Journey Together,

Pastor Gary
## Bethel Baptist Upcoming Events...

### Nursery

- **February 4, 2018**
  - Crystal & Hannah Loving
- **February 11, 2018**
  - Gina Bullock & Kim Noel
- **February 18, 2018**
  - Becky & Johnny Wright
- **February 25, 2018**
  - TBD

### Children's Church

- **February 4, 2018**
  - Mike & Shannon Carter
- **February 11, 2018**
  - Jennifer Hamm & Gusty McIntyre
- **February 18, 2018**
  - Crystal Loving, Carol Jarrett & Harry Bradshaw
- **February 25, 2018**
  - Becky & Johnny Wright

### Counting Committee

- **February 4, 2018**
  - Sandy Jett, Nancy Galyen & Bootsie Bullock
- **February 11, 2018**
  - Crystal Loving, Carol Jarrett & Harry Bradshaw
- **February 18, 2018**
  - Carla Cooper, Pennie Walker & Bobby Samuels
- **February 25, 2018**
  - Joanie DeShazo, Tammy DeJean & Mike Short

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### Awana Grand Prix Car Painting

**February 7th at 6:30 pm**

### Youth Movie Day

**Saturday, February 17th**

Details coming - Lunch at CiCi then a movie!

Sign up Sheet on Youth Bulletin Board

### 12th Annual Bethel Baptist Church WILD GAME DINNER

**FREE**

*Donations always welcomed!*

**Saturday, March 10th**

5:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Doors open at 4:45 PM

*Donations always welcomed!*
What’s Happening

Special Called Business Meeting
February 7th at 7:00 pm

Card Making Class
February 24th 10:00 am - Old Fellowship Hall
See Carol Samuels for more information

February 4, 2018
Mike Carter 540-710-5142
February 11, 2018
Bruce Sullivan 540-907-8696
February 18, 2018
Buddy Beard 904-556-9032
February 25, 2018
Bootsie Bullock 540-371-8056

See Pastor Gary for sign up!
Please join us for our
Spring Craft Show
Saturday, March 17, 2018
Snack Bar and Door Prizes
Lots of Handcrafted Items
For more Information Please Call
Carol Samuels 540-571-5724 / chsams@earthlink.net
or Troy Kirtley 540-514-4595 / cowboyjohn16@msn.com

Card Making Class
February 24th 10:00 am - Old Fellowship Hall
See Carol Samuels for more information
Prayer List

Hospital
Sandy Collier-MWH-Palliative Care-1/31/18
John Fimian-Kidneys-1/31/18
Charles Fisk - Hospital in South Dakota 1/3/18
Lucy Garner-Fell Broke Hip-Health South-1/31/18
Joseph Lange — Walter Raed — Dawn 1/3
Amanda Lewis — Rehab in Henrico — Karen S. 1/10
Alexis O’— 1/31/18
Brenda Sullivan-MWH-1/10
Shelby White-1/31/18
James White-MWH-1/31/18

Home
Alfred Arocho 1/3
Daniel Arocho 1/3
Turner Ashby-Dizzy Spells – Betty B. 1/3
David Berry 1/3
Jewell Berry – Edith 1/3
Ruth Clark - Betty B 1/31/18
Wanda Clatterbaugh-Betty B. 1/31/18 a
Martha Covington-Bone Cancer-1/31/18
Brenda Stern Blake – Edith 1/3/18
Kitty Blake – Edith 1/3/18
Roy Blankenbaker – Rudy 1/3/18
David Bromley – Becky@1/3/18
Linda Brown – Edith 1/3/18
Doug Carr-Had another shot-helping-1/31/18
Nancy & Bobby Carter – Edith 1/3/18
Ricky Carter – Edith 1/3/18
Jake Chilton – Anne 1/3/18
Kyle Davidson – Brian P. 1/3/18
Joyce Dempsey – Jeannie1/3/18
Denise DeShazo-1st round chemo 1/31/18
John Dobson-1/21/18
Pam Emgto – Mouse 1/31/18
Ann Fires-Mini Stroke-Blood Pressure Edith-1/21/18
Lindsey Fortune – Betty B. 1/3/18
Tommy Grissom – Betty B. 1/3/18
Allen Hall - William 1/3/18

Angela Henson-Chemo-Two more spots – Barbara
Mary Jane Harmon-Davies – Edith 1/3/18
Michelle Hutchinson – Edith 1/3/18
Linda Jamison – Bootsie 1/3/18
Jason and Brad – Mouse 1/3/18
Jeanne Keller – Edith 1/3/18
Tommy Kirley1/3/18
Jim Lewis – Karen Smith 1/3/18
Hazel & Donald Lipscomb – Jeannie 1/3/18
Alice McGil – Dawn 1/3/18
Carol Marbaker – Bubba 1/3/18
Jonathan Margrave – Betty1/3/18
David & Sandy Meggs – Rudy 1/3/18
Stacy Mowry – Edith 1/3/18
Helen & Carl Neff1/3/18
Ann Newton-Foill in Walmart-1/31/18
Joe Newton-1/31/18
D.P. Newton – Mouse1/3/18
Gloria Noel-(MS)1/21/18
David & Donna Norford – Edith 1/3/18
Joshua Pann 1/3/18
Austin Payne, Jr. 1/3/18
Jennifer Poole – Nancy1/3/18
Diane Portner – Mouse1/3/18
Sandy Poynter – Rose M. 1/3/18
Pete Puffenbarger – Edith1/3/18
Dorothy Pulliam-Fell and broke pelvis-1/10-18
Maggie Quinn-Broken Leg1/10
Brian Scott – Edith 1/3/18
Kennedy Silsson-Denise Silsson-Eye Doctor
Brian Thompson – Edith1/3/18
Jean Trainer – Not released from PT-1/3/18
Jeanette Taylor3/18
Wilma Tuttle – Sandy1/3/18
Freddie Vess – Had to remove finger - Edith 1/31/18
Shelby White – Edith 1/3/18
Sean Williams1/3/18
Steve & Christine Williams – Edith1/31/18
Barbara Wise – Memory Lapses-Edith 1/3/18

Evangelism 1/3/18
Alfred Arocho
Douglas Family
Randy Pinneta

Shut-Ins 1/3/18
Robert & Annie Catlett
Norman Frost
Leila Loving
Gerry Stewart – Hospice
Stanley Walker

Nursing Home 1/3/18
Sandy Buchanan – Woodmont
Nannie Dobson – Hughes Home
Peggy McGann – Greenfields #2
Annette Samuels – Golden Living

Military 1/3/18
Haley Armentrout – Graduated OCS School
David Barbour – Afghanistan
April Dawson – Texas
Brandon Embrey – Virginia
Adrian Hamm – Virginia
Jake Kirtley – Ft. Benning GA
Mason Madison – Washington State
Tyler Raynor – Ft. Hood
Travis Schafer – Virginia
Riley Watts – North Carolina
### January Church Calendar

**Bethel Baptist Church**

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<td>7 AWANA Grand Prix Car Painting</td>
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<td>11 Deacon’s Meeting</td>
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<td>17 Youth Movie Day</td>
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<td>21 AWANA Crazy Hair Night</td>
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<td>24 Card Making Class</td>
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#### February

- **02/01** Eddie Crosslin
- **02/04** Stephen Smith
- **02/06** Elizabeth Kirtley
- **02/07** Samantha Hall
- **02/08** Dawn Murphy
- **02/12** Jacob Pinneta
- **02/12** Alician Seaman
- **02/12** Stanley Walker
- **02/13** Vallerie Krahn
- **02/15** Alec Pinneta
- **02/15** Hurley Samuels
- **02/18** Albert Traylor
- **02/20** Buzz Green
- **02/20** Randy Pinneta
- **02/26** Phil Carter
- **02/26** Jean Trainor
- **02/28** Jackson McIntyre

### On the Menu for February:

- **02/07** Tacos
- **02/14** Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread
- **02/21** Breakfast
- **02/28** Grilled Cheese and Soup

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Hello Bethel families!!

Hard to believe that January is over already! We had a great month in the Children’s Ministry. We started a six-week segment called Bible Art in children’s church that we will continue into this month. February is no time to slow down!! Lots of fun times going on in AWANA … if you haven’t checked us out on Wednesday night, come on down. It’s not too late!!

I would like to say a special thank you to the Willing Worker’s class for the lovely card with all of the prayers and words of encouragement. It means so much to me.

And another special thank you to ALL of you at Bethel for giving me the opportunity to do this job. I love each of your kids like they are my own. They teach me as much about being a Christian as I could ever hope to teach them.

Many blessings to you all,

Shannon Carter

THE GOOD

Youth Lock-In was a great time! Over 22 Students stayed up all night (well most of them anyway) playing Kickball, Beach Volleyball, Nerf War, Football, and my favorite “Caterpillar Hide and Seek”. No one hurt, just a little tired. Keep an eye out for our Youth Movie day, Lunch at CiCi’s then a movie! Sign up sheet on Youth Bulletin Board! Also it’s sign up for Planet Wisdom and Impact VA! Have questions see Pastor Gary or anyone on Youth Committee!
Music Ministry

Make a Joyful unto the Lord
Psalm 98:4

Dear Bethel Baptist Family:
Rehearsal has begun for this year’s Easter cantata, Where Love and Mercy Meet. If you are looking for a chance to join the choir, whether it be just for Easter or for the whole year, this is a great opportunity to try it out! Please join us Wednesday nights at 8 pm!

Elena

Youth Ministry Events...
On the Menu:

2/7  Tacos
2/14 Spaghetti, salad, garlic bread
2/21 Breakfast
2/28 Grilled Cheese and Soup

Please make sure to get your information in to the church office by the 21st!

Worship Schedule

Sunday
9:00 AM  Praise Team Practice
9:15 AM  Deacon Prayer Ministry
9:30 AM  Coffee Fellowship
10:00 AM  Sunday School
11:00 AM  Worship Service

Wednesday
5:45 PM  Dinner-Outreach Center
6:30 PM  Awana-Old Fellowship Hall
6:30 PM  Youth Group-Youth Room
7:00 PM  Service and Bible Study
8:00 PM  Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary

Bethel

THE CHURCH ON THE CORNER

1193 White Oak Road (Route 218)
Fredericksburg, VA 22405

Phone: 540-371-3650
www.bethelbaptistva.org

Return Service Requested

Sunday
9:00 AM   Praise Team Practice
9:15 AM   Deacon Prayer Ministry
9:30 AM   Coffee Fellowship
10:00 AM  Sunday School
11:00 AM  Worship Service

Wednesday
5:45 PM   Dinner-Outreach Center
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« Courtesy Title » « First Name » « Last Name »

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« City », « State » « Postal Code »