

The Sentinel

WE
STAND
WATCH

DISTRIBUTED BY EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH



September, 2022
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Think on These Things . . .

By Pastor Troy Bassham

For as he thinks in his heart, so is he . . .
Proverbs 23:7 (NKJV)

As a man thinks, so shall he become
Plato

You've heard the saying, you are what you eat. This truism certainly has merit. A good diet is essential to a healthy body. Inadequate nutrition can lead to adolescents failing to reach their growth potential. Neglect your vitamins and you might end up with scurvy or rickets.



In other words, scientists have discovered that your brain is a lot like a never-ending game of Tetris®, constantly laying down new pathways based on your experiences (Doidge, N. 2007. [The Brain That Changes Itself](#)).

Rewiring

The article which was specifically about addictions (*drugs, food, porn*) was telling how our thoughts and experiences actually rewire our brain hardware.

That thought alone was sobering. Not all of this is new information—we have been warned that what we entertain ourselves with influences our thoughts and perception. There

→ Please see **"THINK!"** on page 2.

In Addition ...

It has also been stated that we are what we think. I was reading an article on recent brain research and came across the following: One of the most exciting developments in our understanding of the brain in the last two decades is the discovery of something called *neuroplasticity*, "neuro" meaning brain and "plasticity" meaning changeability.

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Deadline for October ISSUE is:

Monday, September 26,
@ 5:00 pm

know. grow. go.



have been many studies regarding the influence of TV and behavior.

Studies show that violence on television *does have* an adverse affect on children and the way they think and act. This is true not only for young children, but some recent studies indicate that watching violence on television can even impact adults (**Dr. Gail Gross**).

Watch What You Watch!

Certainly the average American is exposed to hours of violence, illicit sex, and themes that stand in opposition to God's holy Word. *Are we allowing minds to be re-programmed by what we willingly consume?*

At the same time, what would happen if we filled our minds with thoughts of God?

Hide His Word In Your Heart!

We should remember the **Psalms**, **"Your word I have hidden in my heart, that I might not sin against You" Psalm 119:11 (NKJV)**. The *longest* chapter in the Bible devotes its lines to the *blessings* associated with knowing God's Word.

Again, we should heed the words of **Philippians 4:8**? **Finally, brethren, whatever things**



are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things. (NKJV)

WHY?

✠ *So why is it that we don't read God's Word?*

✠ *Why don't we meditate on His teaching?*

✠ *Do we really expect that a few minutes listening to a quickly forgotten Sunday sermon will be enough to undo a week's of thinking about the wrong things?*

✠ *Do we think a quick glance at a daily verse will undo the damage done by a regular diet from filling our minds with filth or bitterness?*

What We NEED To Do...

✠ We need to **think God's thoughts.**

✠ We need to **flee from wickedness in thought and deed.**

✠ We need to **let God remake our mind** so that it reflects Him.

Consider YOUR Thoughts!

I *encourage* you to consider what it is that you think about.

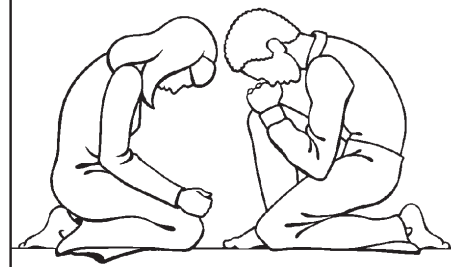
✠ *What things do you spend most of your time dwelling on and contemplating?*

✠ *What is it that you are feeding your mind?*

✠ *Who is it that you want to become? ✝*

The Prayer of the Righteous is Powerful and Effective.

James 5:16



Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land of which the Lord swore to your fathers to give them, like the days of the heavens above the earth.

Deuteronomy 11:18-21 (NKJV)

Shoebox Ministry of Samaritan's Purse OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

By Kay Whitney
EBC Coordinator, Operation Christmas Child



Many stores have now started to get their Christmas items out! It's just around the corner.... As you shop, please consider purchasing the following items to be included in this year's shoeboxes:

✦ **Toiletry items:** bar soap (original packages), washclothes, combs, brushes. No toothpaste or deodorant.

✦ **School Supplies:** Crayons, spiral notebooks (*Walmart \$.35 each*) small rulers, blunt scissors, index cards, solar powered calculators, markers

✦ **Girls:** Hair ribbons, bows, barrettes, hats, scarves, flip flops, socks, sunglasses, purses

✦ **Boys:** Cars, socks, flip flops, foam balls, plastic tools, hats, scarves, socks, sunglasses

✦ **Both:** Play doh, yoyos, Etch A Sketch, small frisbees, kaleidoscopes, marbles

You HAVE Options!

If you would prefer to pay for postage, it is \$10 per shoebox. Please make checks payable to *Samaritan's Purse* or put cash in a church envelope with OCC on the outside.

Thank YOU

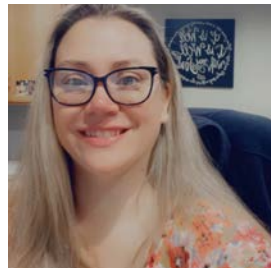
Thank you so much for your contribution to bless children who have so little. ✝

From the EBC Office!

Office News and Notes

By Alison Johnson
Office Manager

This summer was not the quiet time of year that I have become accustomed to. I am not complaining by any means, but that means that there are a lot of good things coming for all of you. Be sure to look at all the new studies, classes, and opportunities coming up. What a fun time to be a part of EBC.



In the office, September means I am looking at the start of the last third of the year and the coming end of the year and all the events that come with the holidays.

The calendar starts to fill up fast. Be sure to check early if your ministry wants to host an event in the last few months of the year. We have new facility use forms rolling out now too. This is just an update to our current ones.

Annual Church Picnic:

Our annual church picnic will be September 11, after 2nd service at the Dallas City Park. *Join us and bring your appetites!* Along with your appetites, bring your own tableware and utensils. If your last name starts with:

- ✦ An **A-L** ... bring a *dessert* to share.
- ✦ An **M-Z** ... bring a *salad or side dish* to share.



We will be providing drinks and some *delicious* rotisserie chicken. This is a lot of fun and a great time to connect and enjoy time with others in our church. We have reserved the big covered area on the Allgood side of the park. See you there!

→ Please see "Office News" on page 6.

YOUR Board of Elders



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Keep watch over yourselves and all the flock of which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers. Be shepherds of the church of God, which he bought with his own blood.

Acts 20:28 (NIV) †



Elders' Epistle

By Nathaniel Thomas

One of our good friends and ministry colleague, **Arne Halvarson**, passed away on July 13 this past summer.

He was a visionary that started **Romania Outreach Ministries (ROM)** thirty years ago with which our family served alongside for 20 plus years.

Arne frequently made reference to two passages of Scripture when preaching, teaching and giving devotions to groups. These two passages were foundational when he was making plans and seeking direction in his own life.

Arne was respected for his ability to set a vision, then recruit people to implement the vision while locating resources to set the ministry in motion. He positively influenced scores of people around the world.

Plentiful Harvest!

The first passage that guided Arne in so many ways is **Matthew 9:37-38**, *The harvest is truly plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers (NKJV).*

Sylvia and I served in administration and teaching at the Bible school Arne set up in western Romania. Every spring during our time there we make plans with Arne for an all school (30 students) evangelism outreach to areas in Romania that were *ripe for harvest*. Several times we went to southern Romania to a region called Oltenia where the students would engage a

group of village youth to a soccer match with an evangelistic outreach after the game. Other times we would hold evangelism meetings in a town hall. Our students learned the importance of outreaches as well as some ideas on how to reach non-believers.

The Same Approach

Here at EBC, *today* we are using that same passage from Matthew 9 to motivate our ministries through the Awana® program and the Mom to Mom® program.

As we invite friends and neighbors to outreach events, as we individually share the gospel, we have many opportunities to incorporate that passage into our lives.

Rock Solid!

The second passage Arne used as a compass for his life was **Matthew 16:18** *"...and on this Rock I will build My church and the gates of hades will not prevail against it" (NKJV).*

Jesus was telling His disciples that Christ is the Son of the Living God and is the foundation of the church. At the Bible school the students were taught to *feed the sheep* with the pure Word and doctrine. They were given training on how to preach, how to teach classes and engage in youth work.

Arne frequently worked to build up the church both physically and spiritually, reminding others of the

great love Jesus has for His church. In Romania there were many villages that had evangelical churches in poor repair and some villages had no evangelical church at all. When a church was identified as lacking resources, Arne would work to find money to help them.

Other times he would raise money to help build it from the ground up. In our work in Romania this past month, Sylvia and I visited a church plant in the village of Negoii which ROM helped to purchase the property. The church is currently under construction.

We ARE Blessed

Here at EBC we are also blessed with receiving the pure Word and doctrine as the foundation of all of the ministries of the church.

We have the opportunity to learn more about God's Word in adult Sunday School classes.

Pastor Troy's sermons are based on Scripture; we can participate in Bible studies during the week. As we go about our involvement at EBC, we are engaging in the work of spiritually building our church on the Rock of Jesus, our Savior, so that we can effectively go out and be part of the laborers of the harvest.

BE An Influencer

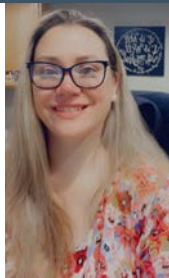
Our friend Arne was an influencer; not like the social media influencers who gain prestige by the number of "likes", but as an influencer of bringing people to *know* Christ.

Have you considered who you are influencing? Are there gifts that you have but may not be using to influence

→ Please see "Elders" on page 6.



Office News



← (Continued from page 3.)

Harvest Party

It's baaaaack! The Annual Harvest Party is back again this year. Last year we were able to meet so many new people from the neighborhoods from around the church and had such a great time. This year we are going to do it again, but a little simpler. We will mostly do the trunk or treat outside. If the weather is as great as last year, we will also do the cupcake walk.

We need you! We need volunteers that are willing to decorate their trunks and hand out candy or treats to kids. They do not have to be super extravagant or fancy. We also need people willing to donate candy. Last year we ran out, **twice!** We were so surprised by the great turn out.

If you want to help with coordinating this event, decorating your car, or bringing candy, contact the office. There will also be sign ups at the ministry fair on September 18. ✝



Associate Pastor Search Update



By Galen Harms
Chairperson, Associate Pastor Search Team

In the previous edition of *The Sentinel*, we informed you of the work of the Associate Pastor Search Team.

Beth Lyman joined the Team in July so that there were seven members. She joined **Cheryl Loewen, Patty VanWell, Jim Fowler, Larry King, Ken Quiring, and Galen Harms.**

This was a dedicated group that was tasked with finding candidates for the position of Associate Pastor, to forward to the Governing Board of Elders.

Hard Working Team!

The team met a total of eight times in June, July, and August. Each session began with a devotional and prayer time led by Larry. In addition to the meetings, team members spent time reading applications/resumes, researching applicants online, and, in some cases, watching online an applicant's message presentation. The final meeting was a telephone interview.

Though the position vacancy was announced on the websites of several Christian colleges, universities, and seminaries, all applications came from a church recruiting website (www.churchstaffing.com) or directly through our church website (www.ebcdallas.org).

Official Update

On Sunday, August 28, the congregation heard from **Pastor**

Troy regarding the status of the search. The Search Team has passed the process on to the Elders as had been planned. The Elders have held an online interview and, if the candidate is of the standard expected, he and his family will be invited to visit EBC. After these steps—and per our church constitution—a congregational vote will be held.



One can see that the entire process takes quite a bit of time.

Thank you for praying for the Search Team.

Now the focus of our prayers should be on the Elders and the eventual candidate. Pray that all involved will sense and follow God's guiding to the conclusion of the process. ✝



← (Continued from page 5.)

others to know Christ? Is there some ministry that you could be involved with to help build the church of Christ?

Look For the "Little" Things!

We don't have to be a great visionary to influence others. Even small things that we do influences others. We need to ponder the direction of our influence—is it towards knowing Christ? *When someone reflects on your life, what influence would you like to have had?* ✝

Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches
News from FEBC!
By Kevin Stone
President, FEBC



September 1, 2022

We have so many new faces in the FEBC!

Just in the past few months I have met several new pastors for the first time, such as **Timothy Harris** from Winnipeg, MB; **Bryan Conrad** from Henderson, NE; **Caleb Symons** from Kenora, ON; and **James VanderVeen** from Waldheim, SK. I was able to participate in installation services for two of these men in August.

This is exciting to me, as it is a visible representation of God's provision for our churches. In the past year or so, seven of our churches have called a new lead pastor! Two more new pastors (**Leymin Alvarado** from Omaha, NE and **Tim Johnson** from Beloit, WI) have been added by way of their church joining the FEBC.

Answered Prayers

Many times over the past couple of years we have asked you to pray for your fellow churches seeking pastors, and it is exciting to see those prayers answered. It is also exciting to celebrate with these churches, as the calling of a new pastor is a time of anticipating what God might do in the life of the church and in the life of the pastor. Fresh ideas and fresh vision bring a renewed sense of enthusiasm and encouragement.

But what really excites me about this moment in our history is the character of these men. As I have reviewed their *Applications for Ministry*, watched their process with the local churches, discussed their character with local church leaders, and met with them to chat about ministry, I have been very impressed with the caliber of men our churches continue to call.

I am also grateful for the not-so-new faces—the men who have come before and laid such a tremendous foundation of faithfulness for these new men to build upon.

God is working in our churches, and I cannot wait to see what he does through you.

Please continue to pray for our churches that are still seeking a lead pastor: Abbotsford, B.C.; Riverbend, MB; Butterfield, MN; Lustre, MT; Swift Current, SK, and Marion, SD.



Thank you for all you do to support your local church and this Fellowship of churches!

Serving Him together, †

Office: 402.965.3860 📞 Cell: 402.541.6099

www.fellowshipforward.org 📧 president@febministries.org



Bible Studies

In View of God's Mercies

Wednesday @ 9:30 lead by **Joy Franz**

Thursday @ 9:30 lead by **Carrie Cruickshank**

Precepts @ 9:30am or 6:30pm in the Builder's Room

Old Testament

Thursdays @ 9:30
lead by **Alice Morris**
✝



If you have questions about how to become a part of EBC Women's Ministries, please contact **Alison Johnson at 503.623.2331! ✝**

2022-2023 Women's Ministry Leadership Team

We want you to know our team! Feel free to contact us with questions or comments.

Position	Name	Phone	Email
Chairwoman	Alison Johnson	503.623.2331	office@ebcdallas.org
Recording Secretary/Treasurer	Julie Brewen	503.917.8431	brewen5@msn.com
Publicity	Sue Dunham	503.510.5950	sue@dgd.bz
Hospitality (weddings, receptions, & showers)	Ruth Quiring	503.930.6137	ruthmarieq@gmail.com
Edification (Bible studies)	Sylvia Thomas	503.931.4565	natandsylvia@gmail.com
Events	Lizette Chaffee (503.831.1924); Alison Johnson (503.510.4010); Colleen Shinn (503.507.0310); Cassie Kroeker (503.910.7819); Lori Bassham (760.271.1936).		

Relationships!



By Gwen Griffiths

Life is about relationships. It is through relationships that we connect, that we show Christ, that we grow and change. Hurt and joy often come through or because of relationship.

And it seems to me that, as Christians, our relationship with God greatly impacts our relationship with others. The closer our hearts are bound to the heart of God, the better our relationships are. We reflect Him more accurately as we seek to love those around us with a love that honors God. If this is true, then it stands to reason that pursuing a better relationship with our King would improve every relationship we have.

The Author ...

Since God is the Author of relationship and the Model for interaction with others, it pays to examine His standards for relationship and our relationship with Him.

God created us for relationship. Remember Adam and Eve? Every day God came to walk with them in the garden, to communicate (*relate*) with them. He even said that it was not good for man to be alone (**Genesis 2:18**). It wasn't until sin entered



the picture that the relationship fractured and awkwardness crept in.

God KNOWS Us

As our Creator, God knows us intimately, completely. He knows our thoughts, our motivations, our joys and insecurities.

And He wants us to know Him. Sometimes that can seem like a futile pursuit—we will never fully know Him this side of heaven. But study of His Word and His ways, prayer, contemplation and meditation—these things lead us to a deeper understanding of God and His ways. We learn to see and respond to His hand in our life.

As we grow in our understanding of God, we grow in the fear of the Lord. I've come to view "the fear of the Lord" as a correct understanding of my place in my relationship with God. Every time I view myself as better or more important than I am, every time I set out to accomplish my purposes rather than His, I am setting myself up as my own god rather than recognizing Him as King of my life.

Learning to Fear

But as I learn to fear Him—to have reverence and respect for His God-ness—I must have the humility

to bend to His will, to give Him all praise and glory, to seek to make my life a worship-song for Him.

One way to develop the fear of the Lord is to study His attributes. Sure, we all know that He is loving and patient, but do we give much thought to His immutability,

transcendancy, wrath, or justice? As we learn more and more about Him and seek to see each attribute at work in the Scriptures and in our lives, we respond accordingly. I plan to explore some of these attributes in future articles, and I hope you'll join me in exploring each facet of our Creator's God-ness.

As our Creator, God knows us intimately, completely. He knows our thoughts, our motivations, our joys and insecurities. And He wants us to know Him.

In the meantime ...

✠ **Let's pursue** relationship with Him.

✠ **Let's dig** into His Word—on our own and with others.

✠ **Let's bring** our concerns to Him and see to be like Him.

✠ **Let's build** our relationship with our King

... and then watch how our relationships with others grow, too. †

Financial Peace??

By Randy Flaming

As **Dave Ramsey** says, those are two words that most people don't think go together. But it doesn't have to be that way.

Beginning September 12!

Beginning on September 12,

I will be teaching Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University video class again. During that class Dave will walk us through the **7 Baby Steps** to financial peace beginning with the baby emergency fund and going through getting out of debt, paying off your mortgage early and finally building wealth—and giving a bunch of it away!

Imagine!

Can you imagine how freeing it would feel to not owe anybody anything—even having your home paid for?

Many people cannot even imagine how that

would feel. But

a lot of people

who have

taken this

class know

how it

feels—and

let me tell

you, it takes

a huge amount

of stress out of

your life and out of

your marriage too. **And**

if you think that would be a really nice feeling, just think about how freeing it would be to not have a mortgage payment during retirement!

Think Again...

Or perhaps you are like me when I first took the class. I thought we were doing very well financially, *thank you very much.* **But** ... taking that class showed me how wrong I really was. I was also skeptical that Dave was really just a get rich quick con man. By the end of the first class I saw that he was not that at all—and he sure wasn't boring either. He made finances fun, interesting

and presented it from a Biblical perspective.

The Details

Now for some details: The class is 9 weeks long and each class will begin at **6:30 at EBC**. The room is **TBD**, but I want to have it in the room across from the kitchen. You do not need to be a member of EBC to attend, so if you know people who

would benefit from

the class, please

pass on the

information

to them.

There is a cost for the class, and it is \$100.

(As I have said many times before, Dave is a

businessman!) But

as I have also said, if you will apply what you learn in the class you will get every cent of that money back and amazingly quickly.

Limited Enrollment

However, I only have 10 sets of materials, so when they are gone, I have to stop taking more members. For that reason, I need you to let me know that you want to attend the class **BEFORE** the first night of class. The one exception to that statement is this – if you have taken the class before at some time and simply want a refresher course, then the class is free, but you also will not get a new set of materials.

Are YOU Ready?

So, if you are ready to change your life, potentially your marriage, the lives of your children, or others that you love then please give me a call and let's talk. My number is **503.409.8257**. ✝



Purchase tickets ahead of time from Ken or the Church Office.

Trap Shoot artwork by Gwen Griffiths.

Romania Update

By Nat and Sylvia Thomas

Nat and I want to give a snapshot of our missions work in Romania this past month. We have worked in Romania Outreach Ministries for over 20 years and have had the delight of seeing the spiritual growth of people and the progress of outreach programs each time we go back.

We started out the time with holding a teen camp at our conference grounds for 80 campers plus about 30 staff, many of whom are graduates from our Bible school. The weather was sweltering, but the mountain night air refreshed us.

Right Living!

The theme this year was “*Right Living in a Crooked World.*” Teens came from many locations in western Romania, including places where there is a high level of poverty.

One leader brought non-Christian kids from a gypsy village in hopes that they could see that there was a different life that they could be a part of.

We had the typical issues that arise, scraped knees, hyper night-owls, unkind teasing, etc. But, we also had great devotional times, biblical teaching, sports, games, and talks on issues pertinent to teens. God used



Morning Bible Study

the time to draw people to Him and many accepted Christ and also committed themselves to following Him more closely. *Please pray for them to be mentored by another Christian near to where they live.*



Ministering in the village of Rast. In the middle is Pastor Adi Gaspar and his family. He will be the speaker at our mission conference in October!

Connections!

One purpose we had was to make contact with, get reports from, and to encourage others in our circle of ministry. We traveled to connect with a graduate of our school who is involved in food and clothing distribution to about 150 poor families in 7 different villages.

He also focuses on evangelistic outreaches there. He and his wife work full time and do this ministry on the weekends. Their dedication of time and effort is humbling. Please pray for **Cristi** and his wife, **Claudia**. She has a rare condition



that is weakening her—24 non-malignant tumors on her brain.

Many Blessings

After spending time with them, we drove to the village of Rast, where one of our graduates pastors a church that ROM planted in 2007. They are now planting another church in a nearby village and we visited the construction site of that church. We were a part of the Sunday ministry in Rast via preaching and music. It is always a blessing to visit this vibrant church pastored by **Adi Gaspar**.

We then traveled to connect with another couple on our camp team who work with teens in their village. It is a tough area of Romania, and just giving them a chance to talk, share their problems, and have fellowship meant a lot to them. Sometimes the small things mean the most.

Busy Work

In addition to preaching in six churches, we also gave a marriage and family seminar to a group who is starting a family ministry in their church.

→ Please see “Romania” on page 12.



We had a planning session and debriefing with the two graduates who lead the Discipleship training schools we support. These schools train laypeople in village churches to teach when the pastor isn't there, (*a frequent occurrence*), and to lead in children's ministry. It is a three-year program of teaching one day once a month. So far, we have had 14 schools over the 7 years of this outreach. Two schools will continue this Fall and *please* be in prayer as a 3rd school is being considered.

Sad Time

The last project was to conduct a memorial service for the founding director of our ministry who died suddenly in July. He was a visionary who will be greatly missed after serving in Romania for close to 30 years. We also had to spend time with administrative details and paperwork that resulted from his death, and so were unable to make a trip to Ukraine as we had planned.

MANY Thanks!

Many thanks to those of you who prayed for us while we were sick, for our travel, for the camps, and for the ministry. We are grateful for you, our church family, who expressed your care and love in this way. ✝



Nat preaching in the city of Resita.

Is This YOU???

Please prayerfully consider being part of a short-term bookmaking mission trip to Bolivia in April, 2023. We are in the initial planning stages to assemble a team to assist **Dan and Judy Burke**.

Additional Information?

If you would like additional information, please contact **Ron Brooks (503.623.9087)** or a member of the Missions Committee!

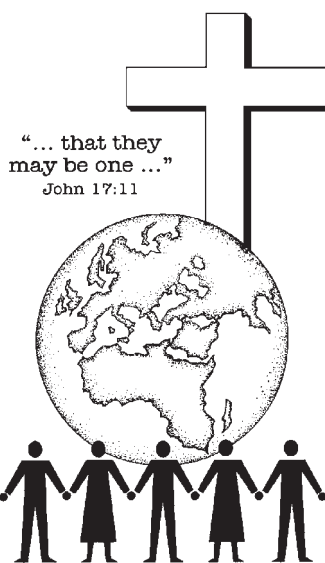


2022 Missions Conference

By Carolyn Stent

What in the world are you doing for heaven's sake?

God delights in using his children to share the love and saving grace of Jesus. He gave all of us the assignment to invite people into the Body of Christ. *Are you on board?*



In October, we're going to learn together about local and global missions and how we can participate in them.

Get Ready!

Mark your calendars for October 22–23. The conference will begin with a meal on Saturday evening at 5:00 pm, followed by an international movie night.

On Sunday we will be challenged and encouraged by a guest speaker in both worship services. In the evening we'll hear reports of what God is doing here and around the world. Throughout

the conference you'll have opportunities to learn more about the local ministries that EBC supports, too. It will be an inspiring weekend, and we hope you join us! ✝

Concerning Our Missionaries ...



Positive Reassuring Action Yielding Eternal Results

P.R.A.Y.E.R.

Submitted By Patty Van Well
EBC Missions Committee

Weekday Bible School: Please pray that Weekday Bible will have a strong start to the new school year, with many students registering for Bible classes.

Stent: The family is meeting new friends and continuing their study of the Turkish language.

Schmidt: They will be ministering to their missionaries in Mali in September and hosting a team of students from Prairie College.

Kruse: For God to provide adult leaders, that the *Leader In Training* program goes well and for wisdom in starting a new City Life program.

Hedeen: Pray for God's abundant grace and provision for this transition back to service in PNG.

Praise The Lord!

P.T.L.

Schmidt: Praise for 15 Biblical worldview trainings with the Paths to School Improvement, during the month of August.

McFarland: They are thankful to the Lord for providing the strength and wisdom they needed in saying farewell to Ecuador. ✝

Ministry Fair Coming Soon!

The next Ministry Fair will be on **Sunday, September 18, between morning worship services.** As with the previous Fair, tables will be set up in the gym for each of our ministries giving you a chance to learn about all of them in one location. As you peruse the displays and talk with the people at each table, be thinking of how **YOU** can become more involved in the exciting ministry opportunities at EBC! ✝

Missionary of the Month

Commit Your Plans To God

By Andrew Kruse
City Life/LIT Director
Tacoma Area Youth for Christ

Cell: 360.550.2553
www.tacomayfc.org
www.facebook.com/tacomayfc

Proverbs 16:9 says, *“The heart of man plans his way, but the LORD establishes his steps.”* (ESV)

Have you been making a lot of summer plans? Or long-term family plans? An education plan? If you have, then you know how it feels when your plans are going smoothly or how it feels when they are derailed.

Making Plans

In our ministry to young people this year we had made a lot of plans. Some of them went well and some of them went exactly the way the Lord had planned for them to (*which means at some point they were a lesson in trusting God*).



For example, I was able to hire a new leader and co-lead City Life ministry in Lakewood for much of this last school year until I was promoted to the Director of City Life for the whole Tacoma Area. Now that leader, **Eldie**, is developing more volunteers and young leaders to share Christ with teens at our City Life Center and Apartment ministry outreach.

Another example is that we decided to participate in a middle school camp experience and had hoped to get ten students to participate. We only had five sign up, but thankfully one of those students gave their life to Jesus.

I would have loved to have ten students come, but I was even more thankful that one of them gave their life to Jesus!

New Cohort Started

Probably the biggest and most difficult plan that was made, just in the last 4 months, was to start a Leader In Training (**LIT**) cohort to develop Christian leaders from young adults in our county through a year-long process of service, learning and building relationships.

We launched this LIT program on Saturday, August 27. Putting together the curriculum, finding mentors and LIT candidates, and promoting this opportunity to

Prayers, PLEASE!

Please pray for:

- ✠ Continued favor and guidance over the LIT program
- ✠ Safety for our City Life staff as we minister in rough areas throughout Tacoma
- ✠ For **Brendan**, as he starts preschool this year, that he will enjoy it and grow into a godly young man.

God Bless!

young adults in local churches has been a very difficult undertaking.

Thankful!

However, I am so thankful for the team effort of the YFC staff and my wonderful wife, **Rachel**. It has shaped up to be a fantastic opportunity, with four amazing LIT's so far.

God is so good to provide so many wonderful young people and

→ Please see "PLANS" on page 18.

The Mission of Presence

By Sylvia Thomas

I was thinking about the mission field in general after recently returning from working in Romania. Over the years, we have been in contact with many different missionaries, mission organizations, and short-term groups.

Different Goals and Methods

Their goals vary, as do their methods. Some are very effective, some unrealistic; some address a specific physical need, others are there for the long term development of a people group; some are pioneering in nature, others are maintenance of established work. But there is, or should be, a central unifying purpose—to build the Kingdom of God in some way. Although this may be carried out in multiple ways, there is one effective missionary outreach that is common to all—the “*Mission of Presence.*”



The Mission of Presence can be practiced overseas when you don't know the language but can still convey the kindness and love of the Lord in you.

The Mission of Presence can be practiced with your neighbor or co-worker, demonstrating a different attitude than a non-Christian might have.

When we accepted Christ as Lord, He began, through the Holy Spirit, to live His life in us and it should be making a visible difference in our life. We could say that our life blood changed and He made us into a new creation. People should sense the aroma of Christ in us. Everywhere around us then becomes our mission field. Every smile at the store check-out stand becomes a place to practice the Mission of Presence—His Presence in us.

Opportunity?

While on the plane home from Romania, I had a chance to practice the Mission of Presence, *but I blew it.* There was a screaming child in the row near us. This wasn't just crying, which I can tolerate, but it was screaming. It went on and on. The parents did nothing to try to stop him.

I muttered to **Nat** that, *of course*, they would have to be sitting right there. *Out of a hundred seats, why next*



to us? I commented to Nat that they should give him Benydrill, that they should have babies in the back of the plane in a separate compartment behind plexi-glass!

After turning to glare at them a few times, it finally occurred to me that I should pray for them—that the mother needed prayer. Sadly, I had been practicing the Mission of *Self.* I repented, and meekly tried to smile at them. It was deflated effectiveness in any spreading of the awareness of Christ in me.

Our Mission Mindset

Our mission mindset should not be reserved for a few missionaries, for a specific trip or project. The mission field is *anywhere* where you are. And one easy way to remember this is to be conscious throughout the day of the Mission of Presence each day. The aroma of Christ in you paves the way for the love the Jesus to draw others to Him. ✝

Our mission mindset should not be reserved for a few missionaries, for a specific trip or project. The mission field is *anywhere* where you are.



Missionaries & Ministries EBC Supports!

Note: EBC is committed to supporting missionaries. Some supported missionaries are purposefully omitted from this page to protect their safety in hostile political or social climates.



Tim and Sondra Armstrong
Wycliffe

the_armstrongs@the-armstrong-family.net

- ✘ Serving in Chang Mai, Thailand
- ✘ Tim is involved with training nationals in linguistics and Bible translation
- ✘ Structuring online class training for staff
- ✘ Sondra is involved in new member orientation and human resources within their organization



Tim and Mallory Brooks
Missionary Aviation Fellowship
tbrooks@maf.org

- ✘ Serving in Winema, Indonesia
- ✘ Tim is a mechanic for MAF planes on the base
- ✘ Both Tim and Mallory are studying to gain proficiency in the language
- ✘ Support for team members on the MAF base



Joshue and Diana Bulande
SIM
dianaafrica@gmail.com

- ✘ Serving in Lichinga, Mozambique
- ✘ Church planting, discipleship training
- ✘ Women's Bible training
- ✘ Children's ministry and tutoring



Dan and Judy Burke
Ethnos 360 (formerly New Tribes Missions)
dan_burke@ntm.org

- ✘ Serve in Bolivia in Cochabamba and San Borja
- ✘ Development of a discipleship center in northwestern Bolivia
- ✘ Work with the Chimane people group
- ✘ Write and produce books and commentaries in Chimane for the tribal people
- ✘ Teaching, construction, leadership development



Kevin and Jennifer Domes
IN FAITH
kjdomes.ministry@yahoo.com

- ✘ Work at Bethel Bible Camp in Wellfleet, Nebraska
- ✘ Involved in youth ministry, maintaining the camp facility
- ✘ Teach in the Awana program, lead a high school youth ministry
- ✘ Administrate retreats
- ✘ Jennifer also works in food preparation for the summer camps



Ivan and Mary Goossen
Avant Ministries
ivary@avmi.org

- ✘ Serve in Mucambo, Brazil
- ✘ Involved in evangelism and discipleship

→ Please see "EBC Supports" on page 17.

EBC Supports

← (Continued from page 16.)

✘ Administrate programs such as a coffee shop outreach

✘ Long time involvement with a Christian radio ministry



Eric and Judith Hedeem

Ethnos 360

eric_hedeem@ntm.org

- ✘ Serve in Papua, New Guinea
- ✘ Mentoring new missionaries to the field
- ✘ Translation work
- ✘ Judith works in the medical clinic and member care
- ✘ Leadership development among the indigenous people



Andrew and Rachel Kruse

Youth For Christ

andrew@tacomayfc.org

- ✘ City Life/Leader In Training with Youth For Christ in Tacoma, Washington
- ✘ Andrew provides training, supervision and mentoring in three sites, reaching youth between 11–19 years of age
- ✘ Has an outreach program at Joint Base Lewis-McChord military base for military connected youth and their friends

✘ Rachel is involved in mentoring youth and a group for young mothers



Ian and Linda McFarland

Reach Beyond

mcfarland7@gmail.com

- ✘ Serve in Shell, Ecuador
- ✘ Administration of medical team outreach to rural areas via medical Caravans
- ✘ Administration of a program for repairing cleft lips in children
- ✘ Help with relief programs for families



Steve and Mikki Schmidt

SIM Missionaries

steve.schmidt@sim.org

mikki.schmidt@sim.org

- ✘ Steve is the SIM regional Director for West Africa
- ✘ Supervises country directors in 11 countries
- ✘ Both Steve and Mikki work in SIM's Global Leader Development Program
- ✘ Mikki does educational consulting work, and also works in the Paths to School Improvement program which trains Christian school leaders throughout Africa



Andrew and Jerusha (Dressel) Yount

Proclaim Aviation Ministries

andyandjerusha@gmail.com

- ✘ On staff with Moody Bible Institute's Mission Aviation School
- ✘ Learning Avionics in preparation for future Missionary pilot position ✚

Other Outreach Ministries We Support:

- ✦ Awana
- ✦ Crisis Pregnancy
- ✦ Prison Ministry
- ✦ Village Missions
- ✦ Mission Connexion
- ✦ CEF
- ✦ River of Life
- ✦ SAT-7 (Dennis & Cindy Wiens)
- ✦ Weekday School of the Bible

Busy Times Ahead!

Mom to Mom

By **Lena Calef**
EBC Coordinator, Mom to Mom

Mom to Mom ended our 2021–2022 year in May. **THANK YOU** to **Jessie Rediger** and **Carrie Cruickshank** for sharing during our Tea and Testimony. And a huge **THANK YOU** to whomever donated the tea cups, each of our moms was able to take one home!



For our last meeting our team put together lists and handouts for activities for families throughout the summer. In addition, our team hopes to be able to plan several gatherings this summer.

During our last meeting we introduced our curriculum for next year, which is from Mom to Mom Ministries and titled “*Real Mom Life*.” Along with a fun planning craft courtesy of **Gwen Griffiths**.

Our Childcare Coordinator is stepping down after this year, **THANK YOU Julie West** for all your help! While filling Julie’s shoes is a big position, it’s not a scary one! We are looking for help on our steering team, the Childcare Coordinator position consists of helping organize our volunteers and classes. Along with helping set up the classrooms and occasionally filling in if we are shorthanded. If you are interested in helping in this role, or any other way you can help, please contact **Lena Calef** at 503.805.4374 or caleflena@gmail.com

Here Comes 2022–2023!

Tuesday, August 30, 2022, was our 2022–2023 Kick Off. We met at the Dallas City Park 9 to 11 am for some play time and fellowship. This year, morning meetings are the **2nd and 4th Tuesday** of each month, unless stated otherwise, **starting September 13, 2022**. The Mom to Mom leadership team is also working on planning Mom’s Night Out events, which will be the 3rd Friday of each month to reach out to those mom’s who are unable to make our morning meetings.

Mom to Mom is continually looking for speakers with a heart for moms and the call of a **Titus 2** woman. This year we are going to focus on what “*Real Mom Life*” means and how each mom life is different. Yet through it all, **2 Corinthians 12:9** “*And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities that the power of Christ may rest on me.*” (KJV) is our solid foundation for whatever mom life throws our way. †

PLANS

← (Continued from page 14.)



mentors willing to step into this program.

I am so thankful for being able to take my concerns, needs, and desires

to the Lord so that he could guide me and mold my heart to prioritize his efforts and do it in his strength, rather than my own.

Who They Can Become

For me, leading young people and sharing the Gospel is not about showing them what they can do, but who they can become because of Christ and his amazing love, grace and truth.

I am so excited to be able to share how God is working in our City Life ministry sites and LIT program as we approach this new school year.

Rachel and I are so thankful for the support of Evangelical Bible Church in your prayers and generosity.

The Kruse family

(Andrew, Rachel, Brendan and Alyson) †



Stories from the FIELDS

Editor's Note: Stories from the FIELDS is produced monthly by Village Missions. They contain inspirational accounts from many of those supported by Village Missions who are currently working in the mission field.

If you would like to receive your copy directly from Village Missions or desire more information on this organization, please contact Tim Griffiths at:

tgriffiths@villagemissions.org.

Next Week?

I helped at our church's first Day Camp. My job was to teach kids to build birdhouses. While helping a teenage boy, I asked if he would like to meet regularly to study the Bible and learn woodworking skills. "Next week?" he eagerly responded. I told him I needed to get some things in order first. Another man has now agreed to help me with this. We're all looking forward to it!

Paul & Robin Crabtree
Manton, CA †

God Was There

We visited a former church member. When we arrived, she started crying because she was so happy to see us. We were shocked by her appearance—she had lost a lot of weight and looked much older. She explained that she had been sick for about a year. After months of rehab, she was learning how to walk again. We encouraged her and laughed and prayed with her. The next day she called to tell us she slept like a baby and was feeling much better. We reminded her that God had been helping and strengthening her all along.

Jimmy & Nevey Francisco
Defiance, NM †

Legacy Discovered

A man named **Doug** asked me to play on his golf team at a tournament. I don't remember meeting Doug before, but I agreed to play. Before the game, I ate lunch with the team. They asked me what I do, and I told them about Village Missions. The man across from me, Bill, said he was saved in a VM church in Green River, Utah, under the ministry of Jim Glazner. Pastor Jim is the man who led me to the Lord in his next field—Greenacres, Oregon. Bill and I had a lot to talk about!

Larry & Robin Walton
Bliss, ID †

Sunday Worship Services:

9:00 & 10:30 am Sunday Morning
Worship Services
10:00 am Coffee Time!

Awana: (September through April)

Wednesdays 6:30 to 8:00 pm

Please check the Sunday Bulletin and the EBC website for updated calendar items as they are announced.

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Email: bob.disher@charter.net

The opinions expressed herein are those of the author of the articles and are not necessarily endorsed by the leadership of EBC.

Thank you! ✝



yes!

Coming this Fall

Things to do @ EBC

- Awana Registration Sept. 7 6:30 pm
- Church Picnic Sept. 11 12:00 pm
- Mom to Mom Sept. 13 8:45 am
- Forged (H.S.) Returns Sept 13 6:30 pm
- Compass (M.S.) Returns Sept 15 6:30
- Ministry Fair Sept. 18 10:30 am
- Women's Ministry Fall Gathering Sept. 18th 6:00 pm
- Men's Trap Shoot Sept. 24th 8:00 am

**Article Deadline for October ISSUE is . . .
Monday, September 26, @ 5:00 pm!**

The Bible is a guide for our lives; for example **Psalm 119:105** tells us that ***Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.*** (NKJV).

This principle is certainly true for us as individuals, but is also true for organizations and ministries. *The Sentinel*, as a ministry, views **Romans 14:19** (***Let us therefore make every effort to do what leads to peace and to mutual edification.*** NIV) as a guiding passage for what to include and/or exclude for print. ✝

Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality.

Romans 12:9-13 (NIV) ✝