

The Sentinel

WE
STAND
WATCH

DISTRIBUTED BY EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH



January, 2023
VOL 7 • NO 1

Standing on the Rock

By Pastor Troy Bassham

Therefore, whoever hears these sayings of Mine, and does them, I will liken him to a wise man who built his house on the rock: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it did not fall, for it was founded on the rock.

Matthew 7:24-25 (NKJV)

As the years have passed, there has been an increasing defection from the people who view God's Word as infallible and authoritative. There are many variations on this disturbing trend, but, like blight, it continues to spread and we reap the deadly consequences.

It is expected that a rebellious and fallen world would reject the words of its Creator. It is a greater concern, however, when God's own children disregard His Word and buy into the

lies being levied against Scripture.

Questioning & Ignoring

Many people who call themselves followers of God no longer view the Bible as an authority. God's clear commands are explained away. Portions of His revelation are seen as "spiritually insightful" but not actually factual. People try to maintain a relationship with God while questioning and ignoring the very words He has spoken to them. This is a recipe for disaster.



Spurgeon said (of those who willingly set aside the instruction of Scripture) **"lacking bread they feed on ashes, rejecting the way of the Lord they run greedily into the path of folly."**

Disturbing Departure

The Barna Research Group has continued to document the

→ Please see "Rock" on page 2.

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Deadline for February ISSUE is:
Monday, January 30, @ 5:00 pm

know. grow. go.

Rock

← (Continued from page 1.)

disturbing departure from Christian belief in practice in our society. This is a relocation from the secure rock to a foundation of sand.

When the waves sweep in, such people are at risk to be swept out to sea.

Firmly Fixed

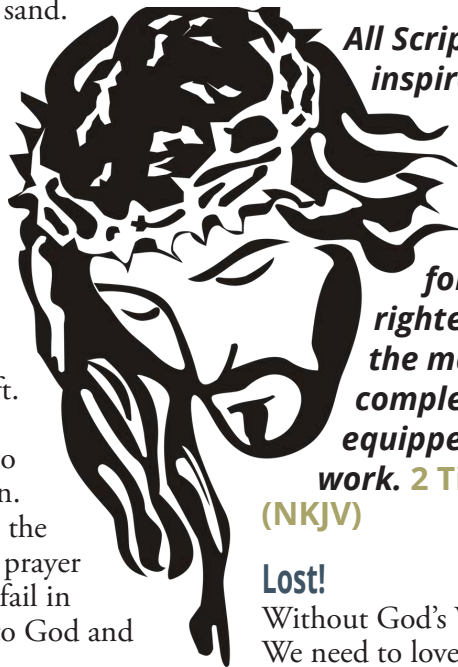
But we are *NOT* called to tread water. We are *NOT* called to drift. *Rather*, we are told to be firmly fixed to a secure foundation. That foundation is the Word of God. My prayer is that we will not fail in our commitment to God and His Word.

As for God, his way is perfect; the word of the LORD is proven; He is a shield to all who trust in Him. 2 Samuel 22:31 (NKJV)

The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God stands forever.

Isaiah 40:8 (NKJV)

For this reason, we also thank God without ceasing, because



when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you who believe. 1 Thessalonians 2:13 (NKJV)

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work. 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NKJV)

Lost!

Without God's Word we are lost. We need to love it, read it, and let it set the course for our lives. I hope we will set our feet solidly on the rock.

I will meditate on Your precepts and contemplate Your ways. I will delight myself in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word. Psalm 119: 15-16 (NKJV)

Or we can be swept along by the dangerous currents of a culture that does not know or revere God . . .

The following source was helpful in the writing of this article.

[CRC_AWVI2021_Release04_Digital_01_20210608.pdf](#)
(arizonachristian.edu)

But everyone who hears these sayings of Mine, and does not do them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand: and the rain descended, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house; and it fell. And great was its fall. Matthew 7: 26-27 (NKJV) †

Mission Connexion Northwest

By Sylvia Thomas

Mark your calendar to attend the major missions event of the year—**Mission Connexion Northwest**.

There are special speakers planned, such as **Will Graham**, and many short seminars to select from. It will be held at Sunset Church in Portland.

The conference is **FREE**, but reservations are required. Register online at www.missionconnexion.global †

But we are NOT called to tread water. We are NOT called to drift. Rather, we are told to be firmly fixed to a secure foundation.

Life Ministry Team Update

By Darren & Sandi Radke

LMF Update

By Joyce Harms

1 Corinthians 12:12

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves[d] or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. (ESV)

Happy New Year from the Life Ministries Team!

If you are not sure what we are all about, we are a relatively new team that consists of **Darren and Sandie Radke, Jim and Jackie Neufeld, Larry and Guyna King.**

Duties

Some of our duties are:

- ✦ Facilitating comfort and care of the body in whatever circumstances come up
- ✦ Visitation.
- ✦ Facilitating the yearly planning of the greeting ministry and Welcome Center staffing.



✦ Acting as custodians of the elements when communion is served.

Additionally, we came up with the idea of another Welcome Center in the breezeway because so many people come in there and miss being greeted. It is another location where you can give tithes and offerings.

We have current Sunday school class offerings available in the centers also. It is important to have staffing to assist as needed in directing newcomers to find their way around our complicated campus and are working to get new maps and diagrams of the building. We meet on a monthly basis.

Let's all do our part to make everyone feel like EBC is a loving and welcoming place to call their own.

Our Challenge to YOU!

We challenge you all with a New Year's resolution, to make each one who walks through our doors feel welcomed, loved, and encouraged.

Please, church, reach out and learn everyone's name the best you can and try to introduce yourself to someone you don't know each week.

Praise the Lord we have so many new faces to meet each week! Let's all do our part to make everyone feel like EBC is a loving and welcoming place to call their own. ✦

Ladies Missionary Fellowship (LMF) enjoyed their Christmas meeting as we celebrated with our soup lunch held at the church. There were approximately 30 people that attended.

Guest Speaker

Linda and Ian McFarland shared from their mission work in Ecuador. After singing some carols, we gave Christmas centerpieces to **Joy and Jerry Franz** and **Judy and Mike Perkins** in appreciation of their ministry to LMF this past year. Each month they faithfully set up our potluck lunch and cleaned up the dishes afterward.



On Friday, December 16, the leadership team met at the church kitchen with cookies and candies. We filled about 60 Christmas bags which we distributed to some of our senior folks.

2023 Here We Are!

We're looking forward to the beginning of 2023 and our January 3 meeting. Any lady that enjoys getting together once a month and tying quilts or doing other hand crafting, come join us. Work time begins at 9 am and our meeting with a devotional and prayer time begins at 11 am followed with a potluck. ✦

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 Nat Thomas
Chairman, Board of Elders

The leadership team wishes the congregation of Evangelical Bible Church a very Happy New Year! *May God bless you and yours in the coming year!*

Potential Hire

This month we are considering hiring an associate pastor.

For those that are newer here, I will give a short summary for that action. During the interim period in 2018, a study of future needs identified having an associate pastor with skills in administration as helpful to church leadership and communication.



Four years later, after gaining a new senior pastor, a search team was formed to fulfill this recommendation in June of this past year.

Fast Forward!

Fast forward to November when an application and resume caught the search team's attention. **Galen Harms** set up an interview and the search team was impressed enough to recommend **Mike Fast's** name to the elder team.

After reviewing his application/resume and contacting Mike's references, the elders made an appointment to interview Mike in December. We were also impressed and after praying about it decided to set up the candidate weekend of January 7 and 8.

Weekend Plans

The weekend schedule starts on Saturday morning at 9:00 when the elder team will meet with them.

Pastor Troy will also then meet individually with Mike to discuss ministry. Later in the afternoon, **Mike and Lora** will attend a dinner with the chairs of committees and staff hosted by our great kitchen team.

On Sunday morning, Pastor Troy will introduce Mike and Lora to the congregation in both services. Mike will share his testimony at that time.

After the services, at noon, there will be a church potluck during which time Mike and Lora will host a Q&A session to answer any questions the congregation has.

They will return home that afternoon. We trust that God has been leading each step of the way. The search team and the elders have been seeking God's direction through prayer and diligent research, and seeking wisdom from Him.

Closing a Chapter

As 2022 came to a close, we are grateful for the body of Christ here at EBC—working together, praying together, studying together, crying together, laughing together, talking together and showing the love of Christ to each other.

Thank You!

Thank you one and all for your being a part of the intricate workings of Christ's body. God bless each one. ✝

Blood Drive Coming Soon!

Share Life!

By Sherri Fobert and the Healthcare Ministry Team

A blood drive will be held in the Activity Center on **January 9, 2023, 11 am to 4 pm**. Each donation can help save three lives! You can sign up with **Alison** in the church office or register online at www.redcross.org. Walk-ins are accepted but you must arrive no later than 3:15 pm.

This is an opportunity where you can really make a difference in the life of a person who is facing a physical health crisis. Spread the word and encourage your friends and neighbors to consider being a donor. May you find the courage inside to overcome a needle aversion if that is what is holding you back. I don't like needles either, but I tell myself in 30 minutes the needle part will be over and with that, I can find myself being a donor. ✝

From the EBC Office!

Office News and Notes

By Alison Johnson
Office Manager



January is here which means we made it through the scheduling and busy times that the holidays bring.

There are some important things coming up in January that we will be working on. Continue reading!

Annual Meeting Packets

January 15, I will have the packets posted on the big bulletin board by the gym, near the breezeway entrance and at the welcome centers for the annual business meeting. There will be a stack available for you to take home as well to review.

As this is the annual meeting, there will be written reports from the committees for the meeting and not verbal. These will all be included in the packets along with financial reports from 2022, the projected budget for 2023 and any items that will need to be voted on. The annual business meeting will be on January 29.



Contribution Receipts COMING SOON!

I am aiming to have contribution receipts ready and available to be picked up on January 22 and 29 on Sunday mornings. After the 29th, I will mail them to you on January 30. You can also pick them up in the office during the week after the January 22.

Building Closed on 1/24!

The church building will be closed January 24 for a community event with the county. I will be available by email and check messages, but to ensure the event goes smoothly for them and that the building is secure we are locking most of the building off and there will not be access that day. *Thank you so much in advance.* †

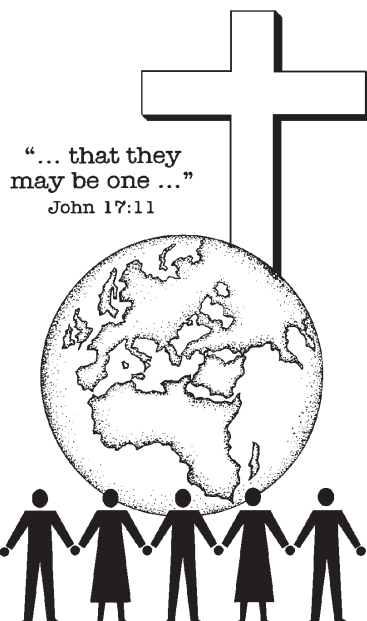


Missionary Christmas Gifts

By Kay Whitney

THANK YOU to all of you who contributed to the monetary Christmas gifts from the congregation of EBC to the missionaries that are supported by EBC. A significantly larger amount was collected than last year.

The missionaries often let the Missions Committee know how much these gifts mean to them.



“... that they may be one ...”
John 17:11

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



January 3, 2023

Happy New Year! I pray that God will move powerfully among our churches this year, and I thank you for the many ways you faithfully continue to minister within your own community.

This month, I will just share some updates, thoughts, and prayer requests.

The FEBC International Board of Directors meets in person twice each year—once at **Connect** in the summer and once in the winter. This year's winter meeting will be held January 13–14. Please pray for the directors as they consider the future of our Fellowship together, establish a budget, set vision, and wrestle with various issues.

Over the coming months, we will be hosting retreats for our pastors and their wives. These events are designed to provide rest and relaxation for your pastoral couple in a setting where they can connect with other ministry leaders for mutual support and encouragement. Retreats will occur in Nebraska in January, Saskatchewan in February, and Manitoba in March. Funds are available to assist pastors in making the trip—so please encourage your pastor to attend!

Connect23 Planning Underway

Plans for **Connect23** are well underway, and I am excited to announce that our keynote speaker will be **Dr. J. Paul Nyquist**. Dr. Nyquist served in the FEBC for many years before eventually becoming the president of Avant Ministries and later the president of Moody Bible Institute.

Financial Prayers Appreciated

Finally, I ask that you pray for our financial situation. For the past few years, the FEBC budget has been designed to use our reserves to cover ministry expenses. The goal is to provide better ministry support to your church—but in the long term, this plan cannot be sustained without increased support from churches and individuals. The reserves will run out, and the current economy has presented additional challenges. Please pray about whether God would have you contribute more, either as a church or as an individual donor. We know that God will provide for every need. Would you ask God if he wants you to be part of that provision?



Thank you for your continued support, prayer, and encouragement! May God be glorified!

Serving Him together, †

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EBC Women's
Ministry

IN HIS IMAGE

January Journey

By Alison Johnson
Chairwoman, EBC Women's Ministry

January Journey has begun. I am so thrilled to work through this book with so many of you this month.

Book Impressions

As I read this book in preparation for the January journey last year I kept thinking to myself how refreshing it was. The book itself does not have a lot of reading each day and the scripture reading is not



overwhelming—even for a super busy overscheduled mom. I pray that those of you that are reading it are encouraged as well. The wrap up event for January Journey will be February 3 at 7:00.

Bunco

On January 13 we will be hosting a bunco night. This is always a well attended evening so bring a friend and a snack to share. We will see you at 6:30. ✝

This Journey Is as Perennial as the Seasons...

GraceLaced

GraceLaced is about more than pretty florals and fanciful brushwork—it's about flourishing. With carefully crafted intention, this beautiful volume of 32 seasonal devotions from artist and author **Ruth Chou Simons** encourages readers in any circumstance to become deeply rooted in God's faithful promises. GraceLaced

→ Please see "GraceLaced" on page 15.



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
Chairwomen	Alison Johnson Lori Bassham	503.623.2331	office@ebcdallas.org
Recording Secretary/Treasurer	Linda Baton		
Publicity	Sue Dunham		
Retreat Coordinator	Lori Bassham		
Bible Study Coordinator	Sylvia Thomas		
Hospitality (weddings, receptions, & showers)	Ruth Quiring		
Affection	Lizette Chaffee		
Events	Allison Brown, Colleen Shinn, Cassie Kroeker		

The Attributes of God

God is Immutable

By Gwen Griffiths

Editor's Note: This is the fourth part in a series on the Attributes of God.

Stay tuned!

Not too long ago, I found myself paging through my scrapbook. The last few spreads showed my senior year: competitions, events, senior photos, and prom. And I didn't have to do much investigation to realize that I have changed quite a bit over the past couple of decades. My glasses have been replaced by contacts, my hair is much shorter, and there's a weird vertical line between my eyebrows.

Of course, the changes aren't just physical—my ideas and beliefs have shifted and matured over the years, too.

People Change!

People change constantly. Our bodies age and morph as our health declines or advances. Life experiences mold our preferences, habits and thinking. As the saying goes, *"The only constant in life is change."*

Now, stop and consider that God

never changes. His character and His nature are the same today as they were before the dawn of time, the same as they will be millennia from now. This attribute of God is called *immutability* and is described in one of those verses many children learn early in life: **"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever" Hebrews 13:8 (NKJV).**

When I consider that I've changed since yesterday (*got a haircut, learned something new*), I find it almost incomprehensible that God has never changed. And the world around me has changed, too! Technology progresses, my children continue to move towards adulthood, information increases.

God IS the Constant

And in the midst of all that, there's a constant: our God. He is as wise, truthful, and loving in this moment as He was in the beginning. His grace and mercy are just as abundant as ever. There's not even any danger that He will run out of patience with His fallible people!

Long ago you laid the foundation of the earth and made the heavens with your hands. They will perish, but you remain forever; they will wear out like old clothing. You will change them like a garment and discard them. But you are always the same; you will live forever.

Psalm 102: 25–27 (NLT)



This one attribute alone gives us reason to place complete faith in Him—and informs how we interact with Him!

As **Pastor Troy** has recently pointed out during his Genesis sermons, we can look back to see His faithfulness and then confidently place our trust in Him. We can trust fully in each aspect of His character, know that it has never changed, never failed.

Honoring God

And as we consider how to interact with others in light of God's immutability, we remember that God's rules and principles for how we treat others don't change. No matter how each person acts toward us, we are still called to act towards them in a way that honors God and shows Him to each person we encounter. While we are *not* immutable, God's unchanging nature can show through us. ✚

Men's Ministry Update

By Rich Saum

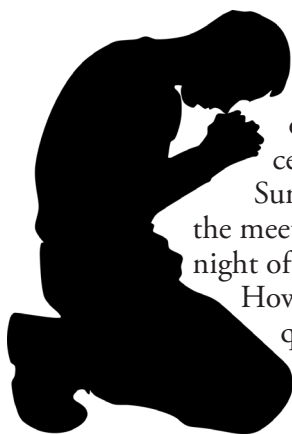
Men's Ministry: 31 Day Journey Discussion Group

"The Strength of a Man"

This group will be meeting on Monday evenings in the Ambassador room from 6:30-8:00 pm, during the month of January.

Dick Fobert will be facilitating this discussion group to coincide with the reading of **Dave Roper's** book. He will be facilitating the discussion on the material according to the schedule below. He has attempted to organize similar chapters after a quick overview of the material.

Dick will be providing some questions for thought to consider for the following week's material. The first week's material will be available to be picked up at the church office or welcome center on Sunday prior to the meeting or the night of the meeting. However, the questions are for discussion. He



encourages you to ask questions that come to mind and comment freely. This is *not* a class. **It is a chance to discuss.**

Reading schedule:

- January 2, Week 1:**
Definition and Training
☒ Chapters 1, 2, 3, 7, 17, 21, 27, 33, 38, 49
- January 9, Week 2:**
Training
☒ Chapters 4, 5, 23, 34, 35, 39, 40, 41, 44, 46
- January 16, Week 3:**
Handling a Man's World 1
☒ Chapters 6, 8, 10, 11, 20, 22, 24, 26, 28, 29
- January 23, Week 4:**
Handling a Man's World 2
☒ Chapters 30, 31, 32, 36, 42, 43, 45, 47, 48, 50
- January 30, Week 5:**
Other Topics
☒ Chapters 9, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 18, 19, 25, 37

Plan to Attend?

If possible, please let the church office know if you plan to attend or contact **Dick Fobert** via text or phone at **503.949.5189**. ☒

From the Back Cover

The Strength of a Man

Real men are supposed to like Monday Night Football, power tools, fast cars, and hunting expeditions. But **David Roper** paints a different picture. Observing that many men spend their lives propping up sagging egos, he calls us to a more honest look at real manhood. Then he leads us back to the real beginning—to the time when God first breathed life into dust.

→ Please see "Strength" on page 11.

Strength

The Year Ahead for Men's Ministry

By Rich Saum

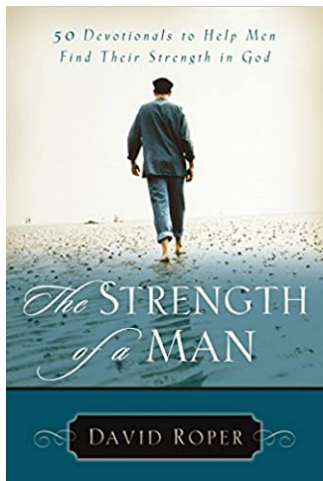
← (Continued from page 10.)

God designed men, and men cannot know themselves until they know God. So you will see yourself in the pages of *The Strength of a Man*; you will see more clearly God's design for those who dare to be real men. In his thought-provoking way, the author explores topics that mean the most to men and then examines them from God's perspective.

"There is a freshness and honesty about David's comments. Few expositors have the ability, as David Roper has, to open up a verse or even a phrase from the Scriptures and made it gladden the heart--or explode like a bomb in the brain!" —From the Foreword by **Ray Stedman**

About the Author

David Roper served as a pastor for many years. Now, he and his wife, **Carolyn**, offer encouragement and counsel to pastoral couples through Idaho Mountain Ministries. David is author of more than a dozen books, including *Every Day Is a New Shade of Blue*, *A Burden Shared*, *The God Who Walks Beside Us*, and *Seeing*



God, and is a regular and popular writer for *Our Daily Bread*. Nearly one million of his books are in print. †

This new year provides us with the opportunity to look ahead in anticipation of what the Lord has in mind for us in our service for Him. There are about 220 men in our church, and our Men's Ministry team hopes to be a source of encouragement and assistance in helping each of our men to find that uniquely special place he has in serving this local body of believers.

The kickoff event, of course, is the **31 Day Journey** in January, using **Dave Roper's** devotional book, *The Strength of a Man*, and concluding with a Beefsteak Celebration Dinner on

→ Please see "Men's Ministry" on page 13.



Sound & Media Team

Interested in technical things?

Want to serve behind the scenes?

The Sound & Media Team needs sound and media technician help! Available positions include:

Presentation Techs

- Operates computers to run service slides, videos, etc.
- Operates, manages service or event recordings

Sound Board Techs

- Run digitally-controlled sound board

Camera Operators

- Manages cameras recording services

Studio Producer

- Manages streaming software
- Controls camera views, scenes
- Run cameras

Float Positions

- Operate equipment as needed during special events or to cover for other team members

Team Support

Training is provided
Weekly & monthly rotations are available
Flexible scheduling is available

Interested? Contact Sheldon Schmidt at 503.580.0597

ebcdallas.org



Youth Perspective

Fighting for a Change!

AdobeStock

By Natasha Griffiths
FORGED! Youth Reporter

New year, same us. A sea of possibilities; but we have a ball chained to our ankle. We cling to the idea of “possibility” as a child clings to their imaginary friend—*hopelessly dreamy*.

Why?

I’m not sure why many of us teens post and celebrate a new year. *Maybe* it’s because we like the excuse to stay up late, but this time the rest of the world is awake with us. *Maybe* we like the 2022 recap posts on social media because we feel as though we need to prove we did something with our year. *Maybe* we talk about our New Year’s resolution because that’s what we’re supposed to do. From my perspective, a New Year means next to nothing.

What Change?

Yes, I love staying up to welcome in the tomorrow; yes, I love making resolutions and posting about the past year. *But what change can we really make?*

My generation tends to have a defeatist attitude toward our dreams. Which is funny for how hopeful we are. But we tend to believe we’ve failed before we can even start.

Why? A very common setback we (teenagers in general) tend to have is peer pressure. Sure, someone can tell me that I shouldn’t care what anyone thinks.



Pixabay

Trust me, I would love if I could walk into a room, confident enough in my title as God’s daughter that people’s whispers and weird looks didn’t bother me.

Confident?

If confidence were that easy, we wouldn’t have to fight for it. Not only do we have peer pressure, but we have the knowledge of our past. All the mistakes we make *over and over* again.

There are some mistakes, sinful habits, bad habits, that we just can’t seem to shake, not unlike the skin on our body. There are regrets we have that haunt our nights and shadow our every decision.

Not Easy

If it was easy to wipe our mistakes and regrets, we wouldn’t have to fight for a more Christlike version of ourselves. Lack of knowing where to start, and knowing how to start tie up these setbacks quite nicely.

Where to Start?

Sure, we may want to read our Bible for 30 minutes every day, be the “good Christian,” *but where do we even start?*

If we have a hard time focusing past 10 minutes, what’s even the point of

→ Please see “**Fighting**” on page 13.



Do you not know that in a race all the runners run, but only one gets the prize? Run in such a way as to get the prize. Everyone who competes in the games goes into strict training. They do it to get a crown that will not last, but we do it to get a crown that will last forever. Therefore I do not run like someone running aimlessly; I do not fight like a boxer beating the air. No, I strike a blow to my body and make it my slave so that after I have preached to others, I myself will not be disqualified for the prize.

1 Corinthians 9:24–27 (NIV)

Fighting Men's Ministry

← (Continued from page 12.)

trying? Another example is wanting to start a new hobby. But ...

- ✘ Where is the time?
- ✘ Where are the resources?
- ✘ How do we even find out the basics of the new hobby?
- ✘ What if it doesn't come easily?

FIGHT For It!

If doing something new was easy, we wouldn't have to fight for it.

Sooooo, what's my point in telling you all this? Why should I tell you why change is so hard for teens, for everyone, when this is normally a time of hope for change?

My reason is a reminder. To grandparents, to parents, to teens and to everyone in between, I want to give you the reminder that every change is a sacrifice and a fight. It will, most likely, take longer than we plan for our goals to come true.

Stick Together ... And Stick To It!

So let's stick together. Let's make goals, start habits, fight with sweat and blood for that change, with one another. As our parents and leaders, those reading this have the power to



Pixabay

Fighting Men's Ministry

← (Continued from page 11.)

Saturday evening February 4th at 6 p.m. in the gym. Both the book and the ticket for the dinner are included in the \$20 cost. Helpers for the preparations of this event can contact **Tim Griffiths** at **785.443.8119**.

David Roper's Book

This year, there also will be a discussion group on Roper's book that will be meeting every Monday night in January at 6:30 in the Ambassador classroom.

Dick Fobert will be the facilitator, and he has grouped Roper's chapters into five categories; copies of the schedule and the chapters to be read are available in the church office and at the Welcome Center.

Dick will prepare ahead of time some discussion questions for each

encourage our teens in the change they're trying to make. *You* have the power to help us, guide us, and invest in us.

God has given us a gift to change. So let us **band together** to see this change be made. Let us **pray** for one another and remember that encouragement and accountability can change the fear of peer pressure, the overwhelming past and the stand of hopelessness.

Let us **remember** that we are given the armor of God (**Ephesians 6:10-18**), we are **meant** to change and grow into a new life (**Ephesians 4:20-27**, **Romans 12:2**) and we are **told** that it will be a hard training as if for a brutal race (**1 Corinthians 9:24-27**). †

Monday night; these will also be available at the same location. If you have any questions, please contact **Dick** at **503.949.5189**.

Men's Breakfast
Beginning Saturday, March 25, there will be a **Men's Breakfast** at the church every other month throughout this year. **Dave Wolfe** will be the contact person (**503.551.2081**) for these bi-monthly events.

Volunteers to assist him in the kitchen, as well as setting up and taking down chairs and tables, are more than welcome!

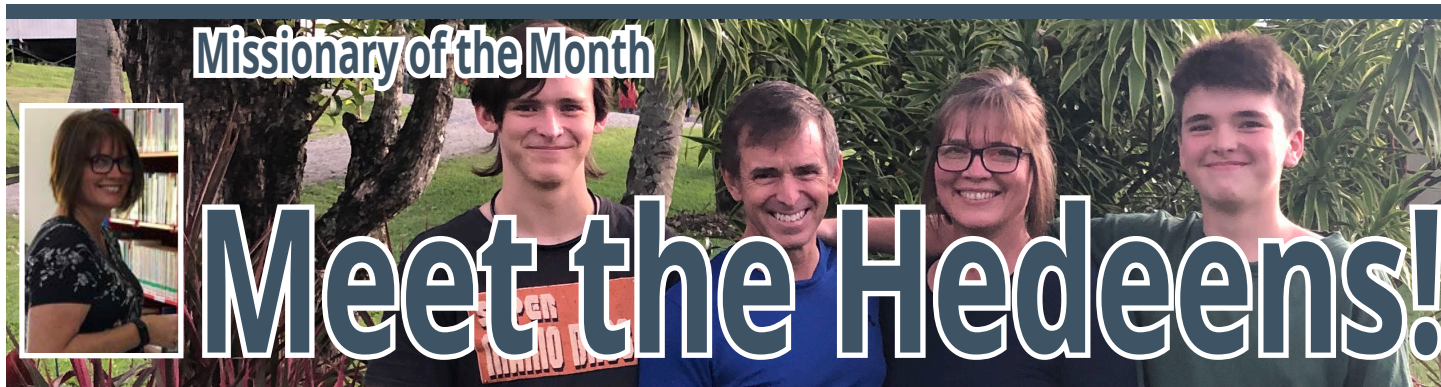
Other upcoming events and opportunities for service in 2023 will be forthcoming.

Men's Ministry Team:

Tim Griffiths is our fearless leader. Other team members include:

- ✘ **Nathan Brown**
- ✘ **Joe Cacka**
- ✘ **Rand Dow**
- ✘ **Darrel Hiebenthal**
- ✘ **Ken Quiring**
- ✘ **Rich Saum**
- ✘ **Dave Whitbeck**
- ✘ **David Wolfe**

This is *not* an exclusive group; if *you* are interested in joining this team, contact any of these men. Our most recent planning meeting was on Wednesday, January 3, at 7 pm at the Village Missions headquarters. †



By Eric and Judith Hedeens

As 2022 comes to an end, we have to say that it was one of the more challenging years in recent memory.

That being said, we can also say that the Lord was so faithful to us as we traversed the transition of our oldest son back to the US and the trip that came with that, a new school year for the other two boys, a new ‘mix’ of ministry responsibilities for me, some inflation in our regular living expenses here, and the list goes on and on.

The Lord has us here for a purpose and He has been faithfully providing His Grace that has been sufficient for each day.

Main Purpose

The main focus of this past year has been on overseeing the orientation program here at Lapilo and continuing to work as a consultant

with new missionaries who are learning the culture and language of the people groups that they are working with.

During this same time Judith has been helping me some with the orientation program while also helping in the school library and proctoring some tests and quizzes for students who need a bit more help in this area.

The downside to this workload is that I have not had any opportunities to get in to Malaumanda since a quick trip in May. My hope is that this will change in 2023.

Regardless of whether we are in Malaumanda, helping other tribal missionaries, or introducing new support missionaries to life here in PNG, we get to be a part of seeing the Gospel impact people’s lives.

What's Needed

As we look at the world around us, it is obvious that the Gospel is exactly what is needed. It is our prayer that our lives and actions will reflect the message of the Gospel and draw others to Him.

Upcoming Events

We do have a few events that are booked for 2023 already. Let me lay those out so that you can be in prayer for us.

✦ In mid-January we will be starting the next orientation class here at Lapilo. There will be 4 new families that are new to PNG and will need to be guided towards making this country their home.

✦ In mid-February I will be heading in to Malaumanda for a 1 week visit. My goal is to spend some time teaching the believers and discipling the leaders during this trip. My hope is that there won’t be any physical issues that need to be addressed while I am there.

→ Please see "Hedeens" on page 15.



As we look at the world around us, it is obvious that the Gospel is exactly what is needed. It is our prayer that our lives and actions will reflect the message of the Gospel and draw others to Him.

GraceLaced

← (Continued from page 8.)

extends a soul-stirring invitation to draw close to God while...

✠ resting in who He is

✠ rehearsing the truth He says about you

✠ responding in faith to those truths

✠ remembering His provision to sustain you, time and time again

More than 800 individual pieces of art came together in the crafting of this book, including dozens of new, hand-painted Scripture vignettes that Ruth is known for.

Who we are and who God is never changes, even though everything else rarely stays the same. Let this book point you to truth as you journey through the changing seasons of your heart.

Source: GraceLaced.com ✠

Thank You, EBC!

“The crew from Dallas was awesome!”

exclaimed Village Missionary **Darrell Weiland**.



The first of November, Village Missions contacted the EBC Missions Committee about a possible short-term mission trip to Bridge, Oregon.

Bridge Community Church had received money from a special grant fund established at Village

Missions. They used it to purchase new playground equipment for the church and the Christian School that meets there throughout the week. The church also has a weekly after-school program called Venture Clubs for over 30 kids.

On Saturday, December 3, six men from EBC along with a couple of local men assembled the play structure. **Ron Brooks**, EBC Short Term Mission Coordinator, organized and led the group.



THANK YOU, Ron and the men who stepped up to assist with this project!

THANK YOU, EBC, for your partnership in helping country churches thrive! ✠

Hedeens

← (Continued from page 14.)

✠ In April I will be attending a Leadership meeting hosted by a tribal church in the Sepik. This will be about 4 days of rubbing shoulders with a few of the Malaumandan leaders who will be there, as well as church leaders from all of the surrounding tribes.

✠ In June, right after school gets out, we will be traveling down to Wewak, in the Sepik, for most of the summer break. We will take a few days of break but plan to help on the centre there until sometime in July.

THANK YOU!

We do want to say a big word of **THANKS** to all of you who faithfully pray for us.



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

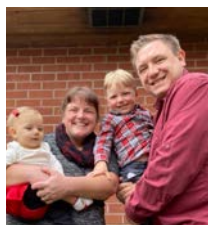


Eric and Judith Hedeem

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



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



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 ✚

Please Pray DAILY for our missionaries!



Concerning Our Missionaries ... Positive Reassuring Action Yielding Eternal Results

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

Submitted By Patty Van Well
EBC Missions Committee

Kruse: Please pray for the upcoming high school retreat coming February 10–12.

Yount: Pray that they would serve well in current ministry and have opportunities to share with unsaved friends.

Brooks: They will be taking a medical furlough (pregnancy) beginning in Feb. and ask for prayer as they deal with the logistics of making that happen.

Hedeen: They are looking for more opportunities to visit and engage with the Malaumunda church during 2023.

Village Missions: Pray that the new VM couples would experience God's blessings and provision as they develop ministry partners and wait to hear where they will be placed.

Weekday Bible: The Lyle Chapel needs extensive plumbing work (replacing old pipes).

Awana: There is ongoing need for volunteers and they are asking for prayer that the annual Grand Prix (*January 28*) will be a good outreach opportunity.

Domes: Pray for the upcoming board meeting and planning for the 2023 camps.

P.T.L. (Praise the Lord!)

Brooks: The family is expecting a baby, due in the spring of 2023!

Weekday Bible: Praise for an increase in students, especially at the middle and high school level.

Village Missions: All of the couples that attended Fall Candidate School were accepted to serve with VM. ✝

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.

Thankful for What?

Our church held a Sunday of Thanksgiving. We looked at what the scriptures teach about being thankful. I paused during the sermon and asked, "What are you thankful for?" The responses were very uplifting. One lady beamed as she spoke up: "I'm thankful that my grandson and his wife and new baby are all going to church and a weekly Bible study." We all praised God with her because we have been praying for this family for years!

Paul & Robin Crabtree
Manton, CA †

They Came Anyway

We held our annual Hunters Dinner. The weather was snowy, and roads were slippery, but 68 people came. Our speaker's message provided a natural segue for me to present the Gospel. Thirty people took Gospel tracts, and we are praying that God would water the seeds planted in hearts that night.

Josh & Crystal Smith
Rock, MI †

Ask a Pastor

Almost two years ago, I partnered with a church member to publish a weekly column titled "Ask a Pastor." The articles aim to present biblical answers to tough questions submitted by community members. We've covered topics ranging from where Cain got his wife to the biblical perspective on gender. The column started in our local county paper, but is now printed weekly in four papers covering four counties and over 10,000 subscriptions. We are prayerfully considering ways to expand the reach of this ministry, possibly bringing more people in to help. Please pray for wisdom.

Daniel & Kimberly Waide
Formoso, KS †

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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Comments, suggestions and/or constructive criticism
of the content and layout of this publication are
encouraged. Please use one of the following:

Text: 503.931.8239

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!** ✝

January Events

- Ladies Missionary Fellowship 1/3
- Candidating weekend 1/7-1/8
- Blood Drive 1/9
- Women's Ministry Bunco Night 1/13
- Healthcare Committee Clean Eating Seminar 1/14
- Mission Connexion 1/20-1/21
- Awana Grand Prix 1/28
- Annual Business Meeting 1/29



**Article Deadline for February ISSUE is:
Monday, January 30, @ 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. ✝

Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.

Matthew 11:28-30 (NIV) ✝