

The Sentinel

DISTRIBUTED BY EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH



WE
STAND
WATCH

May, 2023
VOL 7 • NO 5

Adjustment

By Pastor Troy Bassham
Senior Pastor

***In all your ways
acknowledge Him, and
He will make your paths
straight.***

Proverbs 3:6 (NASB)

***He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.***

Psalms 147:3 (NASB)

Need Adjustment?

Now, you don't need to have suffered a severe physical trauma to be in need of an adjustment. That's what they call the process of moving the spine back into place. **Adjustments.** But, you can get out of alignment all sorts of ways, bad posture, an awkward fall, bad muscular fitness, etc.

My mom used to have to go to a chiropractor. It was part of her therapy and recovery following a serious car accident.



Isolating Experience

I remember a seminary professor telling us of the time, as a young man, that he

completely threw out his back. His family was out of town for the weekend and he was immobilized by the pains. He spent a day unable to reach the phone, drifting in and out of consciousness alone on his kitchen floor.

→ Please see **"Adjustment"** on page 2.

Out of Alignment

The purpose of chiropractic medicine is to bring the spine back into proper alignment. When your spine is out of alignment, things don't work as well and there is quite often related pain.

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Deadline for June ISSUE is:

Monday, May 29, @ 5:00 pm

know. grow. go.

Adjustment

← (Continued from page 1.)

Not An Advertisement...

Incidentally, this really isn't an advertisement for chiropractic medicine. As of the writing of this article, I have never, personally, been to see a chiropractor. But I can say that I have observed and experienced (*in minimal form*), a spine that is out of place causes great discomfort and limits productivity.

People seek help from doctors and chiropractors to make things right, to remove pain and return strength to the body.

We are broken people, but He is the great healer.

See the Connection?

There are similarities in the church and in our own lives. We too can get out of alignment. Sometimes we suffer a trauma. Often times our priorities do not match up with God's Word and His design for our lives. When this happens, we also suffer pain and a lack of productivity. And when we recognize this as the case, we too, need an adjustment.

Why?

So why is it that we don't seek God to put us back in proper order? We want relief without an adjustment—

or maybe we want God to adjust himself to our out of order lives. Our prognosis, diagnosis, and prescription are all found in His Word. His Spirit brings our spirits into alignment with Himself. Yet, many of us avoid the Healer the same way we avoid the doctor or dentist—continuing in denial, telling ourselves that this is the new normal.

The Great Healer

If we want to be healthy in our hearts and our ministry, we need to be brought into conformity with God. We are broken people, but He is the great healer. We need to submit ourselves to His hands

and allow Him to restore us and repurpose us.

And we should not only turn to Him because of our hurts, but also so that we might be effective in service—that we might have His heart, and do His work as He displays His own mighty power in our lives.

We Have Choices...

We can either flounder as we try to walk a crooked path of our own choosing or we can prosper under His direction. We can live lives that seem painful, pointless and powerless or we can live according to His purpose.



It will take adjustments. But God is not arbitrary in His work. He is still doing great things. He is still working through people and changing lives.

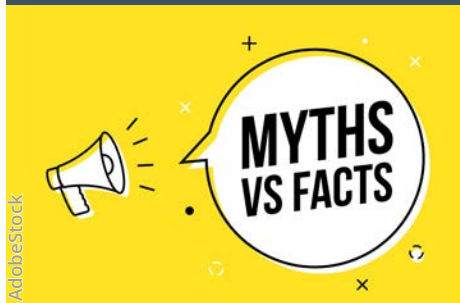
It is my prayer that I would embrace the change that God would do in my life and my church. I want to be brought into conformity with His will. I want to be brought into alignment. ✝

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...

Acts 2:4



Often times our priorities do not match up with God's Word and His design for our lives. When this happens, we also suffer pain and a lack of productivity. And when we recognize this as the case, we too, need an adjustment.



Mythbusters

By Associate Pastor Mike Fast
mikefast@ebcdallas.org

This month I am beginning a series of articles entitled *Mythbusters*. In this series I will examine various misconceptions regarding the Bible, relationships, church, God, and Christianity in general.

One of the soon upcoming articles will look at the myth that *“Doing good means you receive good.”* Further down the road, we will tackle the idea that God is only love, and the myth that Christianity and science don’t mix, that everyone needs to find their soulmate, that Christians don’t struggle with mental illness, and many other topics.

Today's Topic

Today’s myth is that *“Christians will always feel close to God,”* and it is a good example of a myth that started because we want it to be true. We would love to go through life knowing nothing but a life full of warm fuzzies, endless miracles

and pain-free, beautiful, loving experiences. We want it so much that a great deal of the church in America today has become characterized as a church of entitled people looking for the emotional experiences of pleasure, comfort and happiness.

“Christians Always Feel Close to God.”

Perhaps a better way of phrasing this myth would be something more to do with people thinking that being in difficult times means that you messed up, or if you are in a valley of hardship, you must have taken a wrong turn.

Let’s consider five points as we discuss this myth.

1. Our craving for something to be true can distort truth.

A prosperity preacher declared that if you get spiritually rich then you will be financially rich, and great faith will keep you from illness or harm. In other words, he is declaring that if you always feel close to God then you can avoid any difficulties in your life.

At some point it sounds like we would rather have a genie than a sovereign God. Don’t let your craving for comfort or abundance cause you to distort that which is really true.

2. Our distortion of truth can result in the wrong conclusions.

If we want a certain thing, and distort the truth to justify the declaration of our desires, then it will lead to places and situations where we are going to be severely disappointed. If we begin to reason that because I want comfort, that

therefore God will only bring me comfort; or because I want a pain-free life, God will never allow me to experience trials or suffering; then as soon as we feel distant from God or not

experiencing what we believed we should experience, then we have a problem.

3. Biblical truth teaches us that difficult times will come.

In **1 Peter 4:12**, the apostle Peter informs Christians that trials will come along to test our faith.

Our difficulties right now also produce something in us that pain-free living cannot produce. **James 1:2-4** and **Romans 5:3-5** tell us that the testing of our

Dear friends, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that has come on you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

1 Peter 4:12 (NIV)



→ Please see "MYTH" on page 4.



← (Continued from page 3.)

faith produces some great qualities; endurance, character and hope.

4. Being prepared for difficult times will prevent additional problems.

When someone who doesn't want to believe they will ever go through a valley finds themselves in a valley, even though they have not made a wrong turn or done something wrong to deserve it, they start blaming God and other people, or they try really hard to hide what they are going through.

No one in the Bible was immune to the valleys.

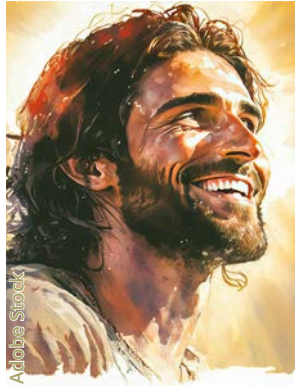
5. Prepare for difficult times now.

- a. Rest in the majesty of God.
- b. Rest in His love for you.
- c. Rest in knowing that He has a plan for today and a plan for tomorrow.

God is sovereign, and His plan for today is about saving people. His #1 priority today is not my comfort. Paul understood that, and that's why he could write in Romans 8:18, that our present sufferings pale in comparison to what God has for us. And that reminds us of His plan for tomorrow as well—an eternity in God's presence because of what Jesus Christ made possible. ✝



Spiritual Conversations Classes Starting Sunday Nights Say YES!



By Mike Fast
Associate Pastor

Billy Graham wrote; *"More men and women, than you ever imagined, would say YES to the Savior if only someone would tell them how."* Graham also declared

that the two obstacles that prevent many Christians from telling others about Christ on a regular basis are fear and lack of know-how.

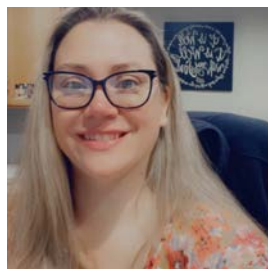
Dick Fobert and **Pastor Mike Fast** are teaching some classes that will prayerfully help us overcome both of those obstacles.

Sunday evenings **at 6 pm, from May 21 to August 27**, Dick and Mike will walk through some great tips and ideas to help you introduce spiritual topics into everyday conversations, and then walk through some training on how to answer the questions that will come up in those conversations. ✝

From the EBC Office!

Office News and Notes

By Alison Johnson
Office Manager



May is here and the sun appeared last week which means the office is looking towards summer.

Wrapping Up ... And Getting Busy

There are so many ministry events that wrap up in the spring for a summer break and usually that means the church gets quiet. However, this summer there are some things to keep us busy.

→ Please see "Office" on page 5.



Calendar Filling Up

First, there are more events on the calendar than usual already for the summer months (*so be sure to get your facility requests in early*).

Second, we will be doing an inventory of all the furniture, equipment, and supplies in the church for our records and for insurance.

Third, VBS is coming in the first week of August. We will blink and it will be time to start the next school year.

Here are some things to keep on the horizon for your calendars:

May 29 (Memorial Day)

☒ Office is closed

June 25

☒ Town Hall Meeting
(Congregational Meeting)

July 28–30

☒ Family camp at
Triangle Lake

July 31–August 4

☒ Vacation Bible
School (VBS)

September 10

☒ Church Picnic †



*He will yet fill
your mouth with
laughter
and your lips
with shouts of
joy.*

Job 8:21



Do **YOU** have questions on how you can best help with this year's VBS?

Please call the church office today and mark your calendar for a fun-filled week! †

COMING THIS SUMMER!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 31- AUG. 4
6:00-7:30 PM

Registration opens online soon
No cost to attend.

EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH

Biblical Teaching | Fun Games | Songs
| Crafts | Snacks And a Lot More...

For more info: www.ebcdallas.org

The sign is a large wooden board with a curved top. It features a yellow oval on the left with the text "COMING THIS SUMMER!". The words "VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL" are written in large, bold, yellow letters. Below the sign, there are two photographs: one of children playing in a grassy field and another of children sitting at a table with easels, painting. The background of the sign is a light blue sky with white birds and a green grassy field with stylized trees.

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

Communication is so important yet so complicated! *Did you know that in terms of people talking with one another, less than 10% of actual communication are the words we use?*

Our voice inflections, gestures, and other non-verbal body language add the rest to the messages we convey to another person.

MIS-communication

As you can guess, this easily leads to miscommunication. One of our goals as the Elder team is to improve the process of how leadership communicates with our congregation.

Good Progress

In the past several years, there has been good progress through an improved web site, improvements in what *The Sentinel* magazine covers, our twice annual all-committee chair meeting, and our annual town hall meeting.

Our intent is continued improvement to have clear and complete communication between the leadership and the congregation.

The Ultimate Communicator

The ultimate communication comes from God our Father. If He had not initiated communication with us, we would not have a clue as to His existence.



The Bible tells us that the most obvious way He communicates is *through* His creation. **Psalm 19:1** tells us, ***"The heavens declare the glory of God; and the firmament shows His handiwork."***

(NKJV). People who believe in evolution have a very difficult time handling questions like *"Why would evolution spawn beautiful flowers?"* or *"Why are there simple pleasures?"* It is easy for us as Christians to answer that—because God wants His people to enjoy Him and His creation. **Psalm 16:11** states ***"You (God) will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fulness of joy, at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore."*** (NKJV)

Through His Word

The second way God clearly communicates with us is through His Word, the Bible. Paul writes in **2 Timothy 3:16**, ***"ALL Scripture is given by inspiration of God,***

and is profitable for doctrine, reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work." (NKJV).

No Breakfast...?

I remember **Janice Peters** telling our family when we visited her in Mozambique, that in the early years of her mission work that the director would tell the team, *"no Bible, no breakfast."* Devotions are important, although sometimes I read while I eat breakfast—I wonder what the SIM team leader would say to that?

Essential Ingredient

Reading the Bible daily is essential to good spiritual health. Alongside this, I like to have input from trusted devotional books to fill in my understanding. Three of my favorite devotional books are:

1) "Daily Light for Every Day" originally by **Jonathan Bagster** and updated in language by **Anne Graham Lotz**. This is a daily devotion that uses the Word of God to comment on itself; there is a key verse for each day, then a dozen or so verses that help understand the key verse—no human comments in this devotional. What is unique about it is that it was written about 200 years ago by a father for his family and continues to sell today. **Billy Graham's** family used it.

→ Please see "Elders" on page 8.



Elders

← (Continued from page 7.)

2) *“My Utmost for His Highest”* by **Oswald Chambers**. This is a series of commentary on Scripture by a Bible teacher from the early 20th century. It has been a best seller since the 1930’s.

3) *“Our Daily Bread”* is a monthly publication that has short lessons on a verse or passage that is very easy to understand but has good applications. It is available here at EBC for free at the Welcome Center. Please make the time to read God’s Word and gain understanding of how it impacts your life for the good.

Speaking Through Jesus

The Bible tells us in **Hebrews 1:1-2** that God also spoke/speaks to us through His Son, Jesus Christ. It says **“God, who at various times and in different ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, has in these last days spoken to us by His Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds.” (NKJV)**

Jesus came to our world from heaven to teach us who God is and what He wants from us. He then made a way through His own death and resurrection for us to be forgiven from sin and to gain entrance to heaven. I am eternally grateful that God reached out to us and continues to communicate with us through His Holy Spirit.

How to Best Do It?

So then, brothers and sisters how can we best improve our communication with each other as the Body of Christ?

By following His Word: **“Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but what is good for necessary edification that**

it may impart grace to the hearers.” Ephesians 4:29 (NKJV).

We can encourage one another if our communication is kind and gracious, and so be obedient to the Word of God. ✝

LMF Update

By Joyce Harms



The **Ladies Missionary Fellowship (LMF)** ladies had our regular meeting on Tuesday May 2. We enjoyed our time together working on the projects.

Jeannie Bearhart and **Sharon Lofton** from Child

Evangelism Fellowship (CEF) came to share the devotional time. They gave us some history of CEF and also provided updates on Good News Clubs, 5-Day Clubs, Party Clubs, and the Christian Youth in Action training.

God has been blessing the Polk County CEF with a new worker in the office. They also mentioned their needs for more teachers and more volunteers.



Judy, Mike, Joy



Jerry, Joy

THANK YOU, Workers!

We continue to thank our workers in the kitchen that set up our lunch and clean up after the lunch. **Jerry and Joy Franz** and **Mike and Judy Perkins.** ✝

Photos by Joyce Harms

Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches

News from FEBC!

By Kevin Stone
President, FEBC



May 1, 2023

Connect23 is just over two months away! If you have not already registered, now is the time. Our discounted early registration rate ends May 31.

You can find all the pertinent information and register online or via mail at our website: www.fellowshipforward.org. This year, registration can be paid with a credit card online.

Yesterday, I had the privilege of sharing at our newest church—Rock Valley Chapel in Beloit, Wisconsin. We talked a lot about connection. My sermon involved connecting, we connected with supported missionaries via a video call during the service, we connected over lunch for conversation, and more. My wife Melissa and I truly felt at home with these gracious and loving brothers and sisters. One comment made over lunch was that after less than a year, they already have felt very connected to our Fellowship.

As I have shared in many of our churches, the only thing that creates genuine connection is intentionality. Your connection with God will only grow if you intentionally spend time with him. The impact you can have on an unbeliever is heavily influenced by the amount of time you invest getting to know him or her personally. This is true of your connection with anyone.

This Fellowship of churches has the potential to truly make an impact, as we strengthen, encourage, nurture, support, and pray for one another. This is God's design for the church – a model of mutual support and accountability. But for this organization to flourish, we must intentionally take time to connect with one another.

Connect23 is one of the best opportunities to intentionally connect with what God is doing around the FEBC. It is also an amazing opportunity to grow and learn how to minister in your own church setting more effectively. Whether you are a

church leader or a congregation member who is interested in ministry, please consider joining us for Connect23!

Whether you plan to attend or not, please be in prayer for this event.

Thank you for your ongoing prayer and support. ✝



2 Corinthians 1:11
as you help us by your prayers. Then many will give thanks on our behalf for the gracious favor granted us in answer to the prayers of many.
(NIV)

Office: 402.965.3860 📞 Cell: 402.541.6099
www.fellowshipforward.org 📧 president@febcministries.org

Mission Trip Update

Bolivia Book Making Mission 2023

By Sylvia Thomas
EBC Missions Committee

May 1, 2023

The EBC short-term mission team is still in Bolivia as of the writing of this article.

They will be returning on May 4 and will be giving a report of their work at a future time to be announced.

Their work has been to collate, staple, and bind books for the discipleship classes for the remote Chimane people which **Dan and Judy Burke** serve. They are long time missionaries with Ethnos 360.

Critically Needed Materials

The Bible study and commentary materials are written by Dan and Judy in the native language of the Chimanes. There are about 130,000 members of the Chimane tribe scattered in jungle villages in an area about the size of New Jersey. (To

put it in perspective, the population of New Jersey is 9,267,130!)

Thank You!

Many thanks to those who contributed to the project to purchase a new copier for the Burkes. They were so grateful to have a machine that works after having repaired their old one numerous times.

Great Team

Our team, **Doug and Chris Mollerstuen, Julie Gilreath, Ken and Ruth Quiring**, have been staying with the Burkes in their main compound in Cochabamba where they spend the rainy season writing and printing materials for the classes.

Cochabamba is a very large city high in the Andes mountains, a sharp contrast to the lowland town of Horeb where the ministry site is which the Burkes have constructed for the classes. Dan teaches the men and trains them to be church leaders, and Judy teaches the women.



Judy and Dan with their new copier!

The humid conditions cause the books to have a short life, which is why they need bookmaking teams about every two years.

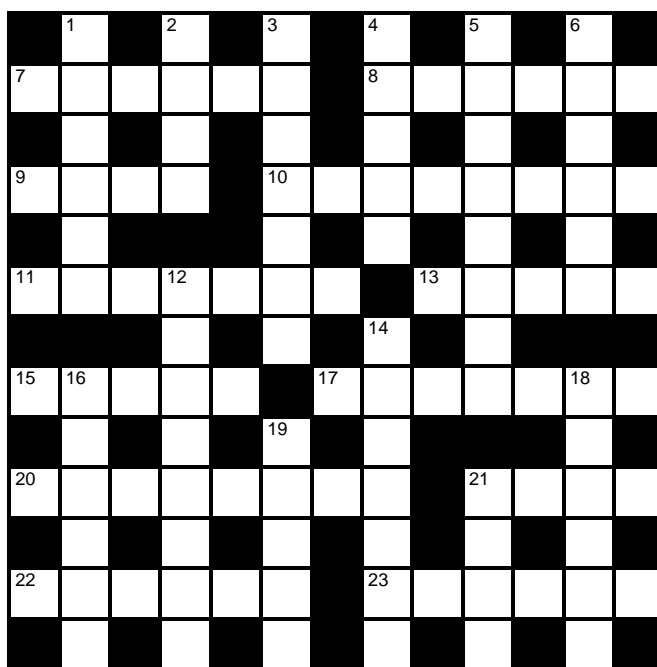
Learn All About It!

We appreciate the willingness of the team to go, to work and to be an instrumental part of the ministry of making disciples among the Chimane people. Make sure to come when the group presents their pictures and talk about their experience. **Maybe you might want to consider going on a future short-term trip!** ✝



The 2023 team in Cochabamba.

Genesis



Across

- 7 "And the children of Shobal were these; Alvan, and Manahath, and Ebal, _____, and Onam." Gen 36:23 (6)
- 8 Who was the king of Admah in Gen 14:2? (6)
- 9 "Every moving thing that liveth shall be meat for you; _____ as the green herb have I given you all things." Gen 9:3 (4)
- 10 "And Joseph dreamed a dream, and he told it to his _____." Gen 37:5 (8)
- 11 What was bound in the field in Gen 37:7? (7)
- 13 "And Laban said to him, Surely thou art my bone and my flesh. And he _____ with him the space of a month." Gen 29:14 (5)
- 15 "And they said, Go to, let us build us a city and a tower, whose top may _____ unto heaven;" Gen 11:4 (5)
- 17 "And this is the _____ which thou shalt make it of:" Gen 6:15 (7)
- 20 "And the LORD was with Joseph, and he was a prosperous man; and he was in the house of his master the _____." Gen 39:2 (8)

- 21 "For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, _____ your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." Gen 3:5 (4)
- 22 "And they said, Nay; but we will abide in the _____ all night." Gen 19:2 (6)
- 23 "And the LORD God said, It is not good that the man _____ be alone; I will make him an help meet for him." Gen 2:18 (6)

Down

- 1 One of the sons of Issachar. Gen 46:13 (6)
- 2 "Let the waters bring forth abundantly the moving creature that hath life, and fowl that may fly above the earth in the _____ firmament of heaven." Gen 1:20 (4)
- 3 "And for that the dream was _____ unto Pharaoh twice;" Gen 41:32 (7)

- 4 "By these were the _____ of the Gentiles divided in their lands; every one after his tongue, after their families, in their nations." Gen 10:5 (5)

- 5 Bela's city in Edom in Gen 36:32. (8)
- 6 What was the heap called in Gen 31:48? (6)
- 12 "If thou doest well, shalt thou not be _____?" Gen 4:7 (8)
- 14 "And, behold, seven other kine came up after them, poor and very ill favoured and lean-fleshed, such as I never saw in all the land of Egypt for _____." Gen 41:19 (7)
- 16 "And Lamech lived an hundred _____ and two years, and begat a son:" Gen 5:28 (6)
- 18 "Where is the harlot, that was _____ by the way side?" Gen 38:21 (6)
- 19 "And Enoch lived _____ and five years, and begat Methuselah." Gen 5:21 (5)
- 21 "And the LORD God _____ the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it." Gen 2:15 (4)

Answer Key: Page 22!

EBC Women's Ministry



Ladies, please lend **YOUR** voice and **YOUR** energy to help EBC's Women's Ministries flourish. We have a lot of exciting programs and activities planned for the year and we will **ALL** benefit from your help and enthusiasm to make them all happen.

Contact **Alison Johnson**, Chairwoman, to discuss how **YOU** can lend your support to this important ministry.

Alison: office@ebcdallas.org
503.623.2331 ☕

2023 Women's Ministry Event Schedule

Bunco: Friday, January 13 at 6:30 pm

January Journey Book Review: Friday, February 3 at 7 pm

Come enjoy dessert and discussion about "Gracelaced" by Ruth Chou Simons

DWELL Workshop: Saturday, March 11 from 10 am - Noon

Workshops offered on home decorating, baking, floral design, crafts, home painting tips and more.

Women's Worship Event: Sunday, April 2 from 6 - 7 pm

A special time of praise and worship!

May Fest: Friday, May 12 at 6:30 pm

Enjoy a floral celebration of the season as we eat a delicious meal with time of worship and encouragement.

Bingo: Wednesday, June 21 at 7 pm

Beach Day: Friday, July 14

Join us as we car pool to the beach to enjoy lunch, shopping and the beautiful Oregon Coast. (Time to be announced)

Women's Retreat: Friday - Sunday, Sept. 15 - 17

Breakfast & Bunco: Saturday, October 14 at 9 am

Secret Sister Reveal: Sunday, November 5 at 4 pm

Candlelight Dessert & Boutique:

Friday, December 1 at 6:30 pm

Boutique: Saturday, December 2 from 9 am - 2 pm



All EBC women are encouraged to participate in these events by inviting their friends, attending, and/or helping with the event. Contact the church office with any questions you may have. (503) 623-2331



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

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	YOUR name here!		
Treasurer	Linda Baton		
Retreat Coordinator	Lori Bassham		
Bible Study Coordinator	Sylvia Thomas		
Hospitality (weddings, receptions, & showers)	Ruth Quiring		
Prayer Coordinator	Lizette Chaffee		
Events	Allison Brown, Colleen Shinn, Cassie Kroeker		

Going Strong with Mom to Mom

By Lena Calef
EBC Mom to Mom Coordinator

Mom to Mom started the month of April with the *"Hope and a Future for the Strong willed child"*. We want to thank **Alison Johnson**, for speaking on this to our moms.

Moms Night Out—We hosted a ladies Bunco Night. While we had a small turnout, it was a great night of fellowship and getting to know one another.

Not a Failure!

During our final meeting in April, I tackled the topic of *"When you feel like a failure."* Below is a small snippet of what we discussed and God's truths that we need to remember.

First of all, my qualifications for this topic are four-fold:

- ✦ **David**, age 20
- ✦ **Elizabeth**, age 18
- ✦ **Samuel**, age 10
- ✦ **Naomi**, age 8

We also include my cousin and her little one in our family list. **Autumn** is 5. She lived with us for 18 months through foster care. Due to circumstances, her mama,



Photo by Lena Calef

Shelley, became our third teen at the time. We keep in touch, less now as they have moved to Texas. But exasperation, feelings of not doing enough, not being able to meet needs, being overwhelmed, defeated, and overall out-and-out *"whatever happens to my kids in the future will be my fault"* extends to all six of my kids.

Triggers

The *"I-feel-like-a-failure"* syndrome can be triggered by:

- ✦ Mom Fog
- ✦ Over Committing
- ✦ Behavioral Issues
- ✦ Developmental Stages
- ✦ With older children, the disappointment in some of their choices and the decisions our children choose—especially paired with the attitude of knowing they shouldn't, but still choosing and justifying doing it.
- ✦ And the overwhelming feeling that no one is listening

High Expectations

When we feel like a failure as a mom, most likely our expectations were too high, in reality, at times, probably confusing.



Photo by Lena Calef

When we add the failure of *not* meeting the expectations placed on ourselves as moms and as believers, we forget to focus on the truths that we know, instead we focus on lies.

One of my favorite verses is **1 Corinthians 15:58**, ***"Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain."*** (ESV)

Turn to God

Our Real Mom workbook has a fantastic outline of God's Truths to remember when the *"I-feel-like-a-failure"* syndrome hits.

1. God chose you to be the mother for these particular children. He gave them to you. He gave you the task of raising them. And

→ Please see *"Mom to Mom"* on page 14.



Pixabay

Mom to Mom

← (Continued from page 13.)

He has given you everything you need to do it. (2 Peter 1:3)

2. Parenting is a continual growth opportunity. We are always learning on the job. (Philippians 3:12-14 and 2 Peter 3:18)

3. God is not finished yet—with you and me or with our kids. He has only begun, and He finishes what He starts. (Philippians 1:6)

4. God and our children are very forgiving. We will make mistakes, but forgiveness, mercy and grace are always available. (1 John 1:9)

5. Our children are His first and He loves them more than we do. We are not ultimately in charge, He is. There is nothing we can do that is beyond His healing and grace in their lives.

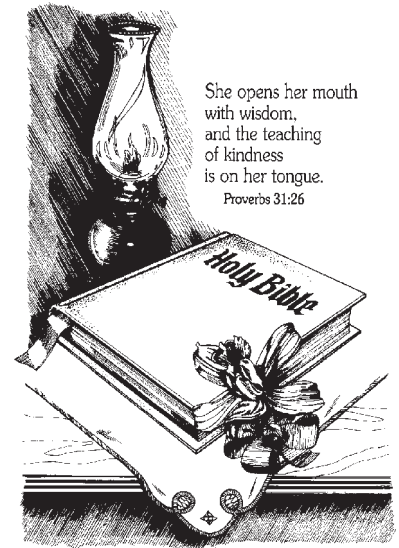


Photo by Lena Calef

Difficult Time This mom thing is hard!

I really do hope and pray that Mom to Mom can provide the environment and experiences that can help share the load.

We're not here to tell moms that life is roses and rainbows or even rough and rocky and they have to deal. We're here to say we get it. We struggle with some of the same roses and thorns and we want to help them be the best mom God created them to be. ✝



MAY FESTIVAL

FRIDAY, MAY 12 AT 6:30 PM

TICKET: \$8

EBC ACTIVITY CENTER

SPEAKER: STEPHANIE TEAGUE
DOORS OPEN AT 6 PM



The Attributes of God

Patience!

By Gwen Griffiths

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

Stay tuned!

Recently a piano teacher claimed that she wasn't selling piano instruction, but rather patience—in 30- and 45-minute increments.

As a piano teacher myself, I could relate. Some days it seems I spend more time repeating myself as I work to have students focus on the material than I do teaching concepts. Twenty-five years of teaching piano lessons has grown my patience—and that's the attribute of God I'd like to discuss this month.

What Is Patience?

The Oxford dictionary defines patience as the capacity to accept or tolerate delay, trouble, or suffering without getting angry or upset.

When I think about God's patience, I think I'd like to add that God "tolerates" our delays, trouble, and suffering with an unending love. It's more than just not expressing negative feelings—He consistently

responds to our wrong behaviors, our slowness to learn, with love and grace.

Multiple Levels

God displays patience on *two* levels.

On a global level, He has been displaying patience with mankind for millennia. Think of the countless generations He has observed, the lives that have run together as His sovereign plan unfolds. Never has He rushed a step or had to go back and redo something because he hurried the process. Not once has He had to apologize because He treated someone wrongly out of impatience (*or any other motive*).

And His patience extends to us on a personal level. He gently, patiently leads us along His path, guiding us when we falter or wander. Even when we repeat the same mistake time after time, He patiently loves us. *What a gift!*

Strive to be Like Him!

Since patience is a quality of God that we can echo, we should strive to offer patience to each person we

encounter, and in each situation we experience. Patience shapes the way we interact with others, giving the benefit of the doubt and offering grace where needed. Patience spurs us to react with love when a child or student fails to complete a task, when a comment from a friend or spouse feels obvious or unnecessary.

When We Are Impatient...

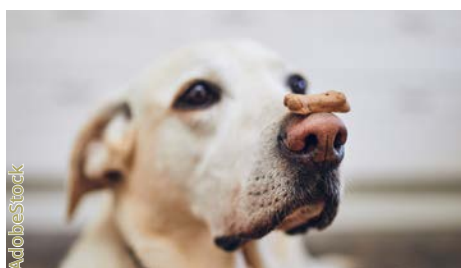
Keep in mind that impatience is self-focused. When we are impatient, we fail to show empathy or compassion. Instead, all we see is the inconvenience we experience.

We must learn to use those feelings of impatience to spur us to compassion and empathy.

What If...

What if, instead of expressing frustration about the amount of time a cashier takes to ring up our items, we consider possible reasons behind their lack of haste—and then take a moment to look them in the eye and

→ Please see "*Patience*" on page 16.



AdobeStock

Patience

← (Continued from page 15.)

ask about their day? *What if*, instead of lecturing the child who has once again failed to meet an expectation (*and made us late*), we take a moment to hug them and connect with their heart? We *might* discover that the issue causing them to drag their feet is far more important than the few minutes of work we missed.

How We Interact with God

Patience also shapes the way we interact with God, and I believe this comes from a place of trust. When we trust that He is working His plan, that He has a purpose for each incident, we can rest in Him instead of impatiently whining and complaining to Him.

A heart that fully trusts God will patiently endure suffering (**Romans 12:12**). A heart that exercises patience shows humility, recognizing that our timeline is less important than God's timeline (**Ecclesiastes 7:8**). A patient heart continually brings those things that cause us to feel anxious and uptight—impatient—to God, trusting Him to work them out (**Philippians 4:6**).

Where It Comes From

In the end, patience comes from trusting God's timing rather than our own and seeking to show His love to those around us. Learning this quality takes time—but that's okay because God has unending patience with us! ✝

EBC Funeral Meals Ministry Serving a Need!

By Norma Balbo



I would like to thank the church family for your help in providing Funeral Meals for the families and friends of those who have lost loved ones. We especially want to thank the ladies that so willingly prepare and bring salads and desserts to make a nice luncheon.

The ones who help prepare and serve the food and those who clean up are faithful workers. **Mike and Judy Perkins** are in charge of the cleanup crew. We appreciate all of you who help to make this possible.

If you wish to be a part of this ministry please let me know. My phone number is **541.941.2024**. ✝



Awana Program Update

Strong Finish!



By Lena Calef
EBC Awana Coordinator

Awana celebrated the successes of our 2022–2023 year with our annual Awards Night. We had pizza, thanks to Domino's Pizza® in Dallas, along with ice cream to end the night. Many families came to celebrate their children's successes in Bible memorization and watch them receive recognition for all of their hard work!



Do YOU Have What It Takes?

If *you* have a heart for kids and interest in helping with Awana, be on the lookout for coming information for our 2023–2024 year or contact the main office. ✝

Photos by Lena Calef

Youth Perspective

Retreat Recollections

AdobeStock

By Natasha Griffiths
FORGED! Youth Reporter

The other day a friend and I were talking about ‘family.’ We decided that in this life we have three families; our family by blood, our family by choice (*friends*), and a family by faith.

They're FAMILY!

I've been thinking about this idea for a while, and I've decided that our youth group is a mix of all three. Some of us have siblings in youth group, all of us have friends within the group, and we're further connected by the faith in Jesus we share.

Youth Retreat is the best time we get to grow in this hodgepodge family. For some reason, one just feels closer to the people whose morning breath they've dealt with, realized how loudly someone chews—and realized showers are important.

One also feels closer to the people we talk about the hard topics with. When we choose to listen to each other's opinions and dive into scary questions, the trust and feeling of family gets stronger than ever before.

Heavy Talk

During the girls' small groups we got



Photo by Pastor Andrew Wheeler

into some pretty heavy topics. We discussed questions that had been laying on our hearts for a long time, maybe even years. I know that for myself, I finally found answers to a question I've been exploring for years.

But, it took a lot of trust in those around me to be able to ask that question. For all my fear, the question was received only with thought and a *"Yeah, I've wondered that too."* **What a relief!** None of the judgement my fear had convinced me I would receive.

Debating the "Sides"

Not only were our conversations in designated small group time deep, but also during our free time. There were at least two colorful conversations that most of our youth group participated in that left me with encouragement and a new look on life. Both genders gave their opinions on our topics and we debated; not looking for validation of our own opinions, *no*. We were discussing the best option, the *pros* and *cons* of both sides.

Now, I'm not the only one these conversations impacted. **Pastor Andrew** had a *"Say So"* at the end of the retreat where we got to talk about the impact retreat had had on us. Over half our group mentioned or agreed upon the conversations as the most beneficial part of retreat. And it didn't end at youth group.



Photo by Pastor Andrew Wheeler

Lasting Impact & Benefits

Since retreat, a close group of my girls took on a challenge Pastor Andrew gave us of intentionally growing in our faith with those our age. Conversations during small group at youth group have been more open and insightful. Little get togethers have popped up with a goal of maybe going into a thoughtful conversation.

Since retreat, we've been taking our family in youth group a little more outside of youth group. ✝



Photo by Pastor Andrew Wheeler

Focus On Missions: The Bulande Family

Back in Mozambique!

Introduction

By Patty Van Well
EBC Missions Committee

For those of you who do not know this, and as a reminder for those that do, **Nat and Sylvia Thomas** and their 4 daughters served with Romania Outreach Ministries and lived in Romania for 7 years. Nat taught at the Caransebes Bible Institute there and one of the students was **Diana Penisoara**.

After Diana graduated, she moved to Mozambique to serve with SIM and worked closely with **Janice Peters**. Diana married a Mozambican, **Josue Bulande**, and they have five beautiful children.

A couple of years ago they visited here in Dallas and shared about their work in Mozambique. They are currently one of the families that EBC supports on a monthly basis.

About a year ago Diana and Josue took their family to Romania for home assignment, which SIM recommends, to reconnect with family, friends and supporters. Just recently they returned to Mozambique to continue their ministry work there. Following is what Diana shared about their return home. *Keep them in your prayers!*

By Josue and Diana Bulande

Last year in July, we were able to visit Romania after almost five years on the mission field in Mozambique.

Our two younger daughters have never been to Romania before. It was also my first visit not having my dad there (*he passed away, on Christmas morning, 2021*). It was a beautiful, blessed and busy time spent reconnecting with many friends and relatives, visiting churches and people, spending time with family and friends...it was precious.

Blessings and Farewells

One of the many blessings was the house we were able to purchase. We would like to thank EBC for responding to this need and helping us purchase this house.

On March 21, 2023, we said goodbye to family and friends in Romania and started our journey back to Mozambique. We were excited and looked forward to getting back, but we were also



nervous and a little worried about the long trip ahead of us—especially after hearing about the roads being badly affected by a cyclone just a month before.

Long Journey!

It was a very long journey, flying from Romania to South Africa where our car was. Then, we had a long drive from there to Lichinga, in the north of Mozambique. Altogether we covered about 2,500 km (1,553 miles) on our road trip! Although it was a hard and long trip, we clearly saw God's hand and protection over us.



→ Please see "Bulande" on page 19.

Although it was a hard and long trip, we clearly saw God's hand and protection over us.



Luggage Issues

The luggage was tied on the top of the car, and **Josue** worked very hard to secure all the pieces of luggage to the car so they wouldn't fall off due to the bumpy road. Additionally, because it is still the rainy season, he carefully had everything covered.

One of my biggest worries was that, at any moment, the police officers could ask to check our luggage. Fortunately, nobody paid any



attention to the big, heavy load on our car's roof. None of the luggage was stolen or lost. The car did not break down and the kids were

wonderful on our six full, long days in the car.

Grateful!

We are so grateful for the long but safe journey and for being back in Mozambique. Josue is already deeply involved in the church building project, hoping to put the



roof up before the next rainy season begins, the children have started their homeschool and they enjoy the afternoons with friends and neighbors.

We are grateful for all the love, support, and help EBC has shown to our family. **We appreciate it and we thank God for each of you.**

Blessings!

Josue, Diana, Abby, Naomi, Caleb, Sarah, and Emma Bulande ✝



Special Fund Raiser

Baby Bottles for Hope!

By Sylvia Thomas

Hope Pregnancy Clinic has put together a fundraiser which runs from **Mother's Day, May 14 to Father's Day, June 18.**

Please consider supporting them by picking up a baby bottle and filling it with coins, or placing a check in it and returning it to the church information desk or office.

Hope Pregnancy is one of the mission agencies that EBC supports. ✝



Join us in supporting Hope Pregnancy Clinic by participating in the **2023 Baby Bottles for Hope** campaign starting Mother's Day, May 14!



At **Hope** we value both mother and baby, knowing that when we provide the help and support that the mother needs, **she is able to make a choice for life.**

Hope invites you to partner with us in providing our free services to women who need us.

Hope
PREGNANCY CLINIC
2630 Market Street NE
Salem, OR 97301
503-364-2464
www.hopeforsalem.org



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 21.

EBC Supports

← (Continued from page 20.)

✠ Administrate programs such as a coffee shop outreach

✠ Long time involvement with a Christian radio ministry



Eric and Judith Hedeon

Ethnos 360

eric_hedeon@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



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!

Other Outreach Ministries We Support:

◆ Awana
◆ CEF

◆ Crisis Pregnancy
◆ River of Life

◆ Prison Ministry
◆ SAT-7 (Dennis & Cindy Wiens)

◆ Village Missions
◆ Weekday School of the Bible

◆ Mission Connexion
◆ The Gate



Concerning Our Missionaries ... Positive Reassuring Action Yielding Eternal Results **P.R.A.Y.E.R.**

Submitted By Patty Van Well
EBC Missions Committee

Hedeen: Please pray as we wait for the quotation for the printing of the Malaumandan New Testament.

Stent: Please pray that God's will will be done in the elections taking place in Turkey on May 15.

Domes: Preparations are being made for summer camp. Pray for the campers who are registering and for volunteer staff to step forward.

Weekday Bible School: They would appreciate prayer for their finances and that the search for next year's teachers and assistants goes well.

Kruse: They ask that we pray for Middle School summer camp and for the recruitment of new Leaders in Training. ✝

Genesis



No peeking at the
answers **BEFORE** doing
the puzzle! ✝

← (Continued from page 11.)

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.

Excited Students

We have started a Good News Club at the school. We praise the Lord for a supportive superintendent and some supportive teachers. In the first week, 14 enthusiastic kids came to the club. They asked questions and answered ours eagerly. Please pray that we will teach the children well and get to know them and their families to further the Gospel.

Travis & Jennifer Cochran
Vesta, WA ✝

A Special Breakfast

After a 3-year hiatus, our church again held a Good Friday breakfast for the community. This event is a tradition dating back to the 1980s. A music group from Millar College of the Bible performed for us. Even though it was their Easter break, these students gave up their holiday at home to minister to the people of Golden Prairie. Between 120 and 130 people came and packed the hall! We pray that there will be fruit from this outreach as God works in the hearts of those who attended.

Rod & Denise Nikkel
Golden Prairie, SK ✝

Sledding Fest

Two members of our church organized a Sledding Fest for the community at the local sledding hill. They advertised it at the local elementary school. Over 30 parents and children came. Everyone had a blast! Kortney and I timed each sled as they came down the hill. Then we gathered everyone and I gave a Gospel presentation. I used sledding as a metaphor of how everyone backslid away from God, and He came down to give us a life rope back to Him. We plan to do more events like this to reach the families of our community.

Mace & Kortney Wilder
West Paris, ME ✝

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!** ✝



May

5/6 Men's Breakfast
5/9 Mom to Mom
5/12 May Festival
5/21 Committee Chair Meeting
5/21 Evening Service Series begins
5/23 Mom to Mom
5/24 Membership Class
5/29 Memorial Day - Office Closed

Get ready for a BUSY summer!



**Article Deadline for June ISSUE is:
Monday, May 29, @ 5:00 pm!**

The Bible is a guide for our lives; for example **Psalms 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. ✝

Brothers and sisters, I do not consider myself yet to have taken hold of it. But one thing I do: Forgetting what is behind and straining toward what is ahead, I press on toward the goal to win the prize for which God has called me heavenward in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 3:13-14 (NIV)