

# The Sentinel

DISTRIBUTED BY EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH



WE  
STAND  
WATCH

June, 2023  
VOL 7 • NO 6

## Adjustment

By Pastor Troy Bassham  
Senior Pastor

Several years ago, **Lori** and I were preparing a turkey for Thanksgiving Dinner.

Lori was having difficulty suppressing her gag reflex as my hands were reaching into the bird's semi-frozen cavity to extricate the neck. I don't remember her exact words but it was something like, *"This is so gross. I would be a vegetarian if I didn't like meat so much."*

### The Easy Life?

For many of us, in our world of supermarkets and pre-packaged food, we don't have to go to an actual butcher. We don't need to raise pigs to enjoy bacon, or need to personally hunt and fish to survive.

Lori has agreed that she could hunt to keep from starving. Since that has not yet been the case, she feels she is entirely incapable of field dressing a deer. It doesn't help that venison is

not her favorite. *"If you hunted for beef," she once told me, "maybe I could get over it."*

### Dumb and Tasty

It is a ridiculous notion. I imagine walking through a field with gun in hand up to point blank range to hunt a domesticated cow. The cow might even lick the end of the rifle if I took too much time lining up my shot.\*

Cows are stupid. (But they taste good.)

### Acting Like Cows?

Sometimes we act a lot like cows. The Bible tells us that we are in a spiritual battle that the devil walks about like a roaring lion, seeking whom he may devour (**1 Peter 5:8**).



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

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Deadline for July/August ISSUE is:  
**Monday, June 26, @ 5:00 pm**

know. grow. go.



# Adjustment

← (Continued from page 1.)

We are informed that our struggle is *not* against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places (**Ephesians 6:12**). The conflict is real and what hangs in the balance is the eternal destiny of countless individuals.

## Ignorance is ... Bliss?

The cow doesn't realize that he being raised to serve as someone else's lunch. He eats happily, dumbly unaware that his final destination will lie in someone's stomach.

The deer, on the other hand, realizes that he is in a life or death struggle. He is alert and watchful. He runs, he hides, and makes every attempt to avoid the pursuit of those who would try to hunt him.\*\*

## NOT At Peace!

As believers, we need to remember that we are not at peace. We have not yet transitioned into paradise, resting without any worry or harm.

We are in a fallen, broken world that is engaged in a very real battle. The battle is for our hearts and devotion. It is for the souls of those who have not yet come to know Jesus. It is

.....  
***We are in a fallen,  
 broken world that  
 is engaged in a very  
 real battle.***

essential that we are aware of this fact. Otherwise we risk becoming food for lions.

We cannot sit comfortably as some other dumb cow (*regenerate or not*) is led off to the slaughter. We cannot fall into intellectual slumber thinking, "*Poor Fred. At least it's not me. I can eat my grass in peace . . . I'm sure he did something wrong anyway. . .*"

## Call to Action

Let us be men and women of action. Throwing off the shackles of domestication and social politeness let us run into the fray. Let us love God passionately as He teaches us to love others.

May we be alert, obedient and active, sharing God's truth and compassion. For we know just as He has saved us from the dominion of darkness (**Colossians 1:13**) God is still saving others.

I pray it would be His good pleasure to use us to accomplish His purposes. . .

So let's not be Thanksgiving turkeys or domesticated cows. Let us be aware and active and useful in our Savior's hands.\*\*\*

## Notes:

\* My Golden Retriever would also do this. However, no one I know eats Golden Retrievers. Also, a bull might provide a little more challenge, but I imagine it would still be a pretty easy hunt.

\*\* I know that not all cows are docile and the deer that are in the city limits of Dallas seem to have grown complacent. Nevertheless, I think it is a good metaphor.

\*\*\* I wanted to say something about sheep since God often refers to us as His sheep and to Himself as the Shepherd. However, I think I was at the saturation point for animal metaphors. Although I do think sheep being trained for battle would make for a funny visual. †

## Ladies Missionary Fellowship

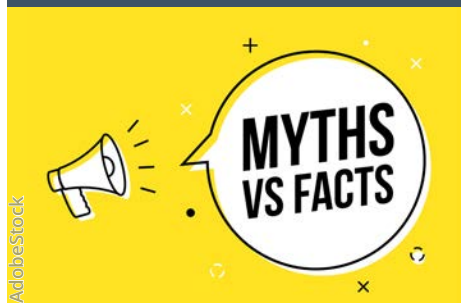
# LMF Update

By Christine Schneider

It's time again for the next Ladies Missionary Fellowship. Please join in the fun of working together on **Tuesday June 6**. This month's feature is hearing from **Doug and Chris Mollerstuen** about their recent Bolivia Mission Trip.

Please join us anytime between 9 and 11 to participate in our work projects or 11 am for our speakers and prayer time.

A potluck at noon to follow with our husbands joining us for good food and fellowship. †



# Mythbusters #2

By Associate Pastor Mike Fast  
mikefast@ebcdallas.org

Last month we began our Mythbusters series with the myth that “*Christians will always feel close to God.*” Next month’s myth is that “*God is only love.*” But for this month, the myth is that “*Doing Good Means You Receive Good,*” which is yet another myth that caters to our culture and our desires.

The notion that “*Doing good means that we should receive good*” is an attempt mankind makes to answer the questions; “*What is the reason I do the good I do? What’s the point? Where’s the good karma in this situation?*”

## Karma?

Most of us are familiar with the Eastern religions’ idea of karma, embraced by Buddhists and Hindus, where your destiny is based upon your works and deeds—actually not much different than Mormonism or any other world religion.

And although Christians say they don’t believe and embrace the idea of

karma, I have seen those who act like functional Buddhists. They look at the world around them and believe that they deserve good because they have been good.

## False Teachers Around Us

This is *exactly* what the Pharisees were guilty of, following this system of law and rules in order to receive reward. Some false teachers today teach that you receive good by doing certain things, everything from following certain rules to believing that your faith and goodness are enough to get you more goodies. Do good to get good.

I have four quick points I want to make, and the first is this;

### 1. Christian karma is an idea we think we want, but with that we would only get what we deserve.

There’s something narcissistically appealing about thinking that if I do something good today, that God is then obligated to grant me my first of three wishes.

**Joel Osteen**, pastor of one of the largest churches in America, and a teacher of this messed-up karma, wrote a book called, *It’s Your Time*. In it (pg. 48) he wrote; “*When you’re in difficult times it’s good to remind*

*God what you’ve done. ‘God, I kept my family in church. God, I’ve gone the extra mile to help others. I’ve given.*

*I’ve served. I’ve been faithful.’ In your own time of need you should call in all those seeds you’ve sown.”*

That is horrible teaching. The biblical truth is that we deserve death because of our sinful rebellion against God (**Romans 6:23**).

Grace comes as a gift from God through the work and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Grace is how we are saved from what we truly deserve.

Karma is *not* the solution, but there is a solution, *and it’s called grace.*

### 2. Grace is the better option, because you get better than you deserve (see **Ephesians 2:4-9**).

It’s not your own doing. It’s not the result of works. We don’t get to boast and remind God about all those good seeds we’ve sown, and how we’ve given and served. **No.**

Grace comes as a gift from God through the work and sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Grace is how we are saved from what we truly deserve.

### 3. Don’t do good to get good. When a deficient teacher encourages people to keep

→ Please see “MYTH” on page 4.







← (Continued from page 3.)

track of their good deeds and remind God of all the good things they've done in order to force God's hand to shower them with blessings, then that teacher is implying that we serve and worship only to get something good for ourselves, not because Jesus did something good for us, but that we serve Him to get good things for us.

**Victoria Osteen** stood in front of thousands and declared: *"When we obey God, we're not doing it for God... we're doing it for ourself. Because God takes pleasure when we're happy. Do good because God wants you to be happy. When you come to church, when you worship Him, you're not doing it for God, really. You're doing it for yourself because that's what makes God happy."*

That violates *everything* we read about the heroes of faith in **Hebrews 11**. f

**4** Do good because you already received good.  
If we received nothing other than

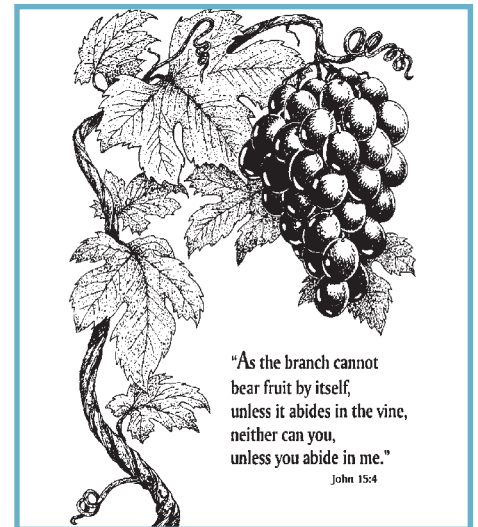


the love Jesus Christ demonstrated on the cross, then we have received far more good than we have ever deserved, and it should compel us to demonstrate our thanks by doing what He would want us to do.

Let me close with a thought and a poem. The thought is this: God is far more concerned with our character than our comfort. Our desire for comfort shaped both the first myth and this second one as well.

### Powerful Words!

It was a Civil War soldier who was said to have penned the following:



I asked God for strength, that I might achieve.  
I was made weak, that I might learn humbly to obey...

I asked for health, that I might do great things.  
I was given infirmity, that I might do better things...

I asked God for riches, that I might be happy.  
I was given poverty, that I might be wise...

I asked for power, that I might have the praise of men.  
I was given weakness, that I might feel the need of God...

I asked for all things, that I might enjoy life.  
I was given life, that I might enjoy all things...

I got nothing I asked for—but everything that I had hoped for.  
Almost despite myself, my unspoken prayers were answered.

I am, among men, most richly blessed! ✝



# 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

There have been a number of game shows that had a mystery prize behind a door or curtain and if you won you got to look behind the curtain to see the surprise.

Sometimes in churches it seems a mystery how decisions are made or the structures of leadership. Last year I wrote an article about some of the inner workings of our leadership structure here at EBC. This month I would like to look again at this theme with some additional information.

## Gotta Have It!

Every church has some form of governance, whether formally established or informally created out of necessity.

There are typically four main components to a formal church governance plan. These components include:

- 1) congregation membership
- 2) pastoral staff



3) a governing board (*Elders or Deacons, depending on the denomination*), and ...

4) supervisory direction from the denomination district headquarters (*in our case Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Church [FEBC]*).



## First Steps

One of the first governance system decision steps is to set and implement the church's vision is to decide which of these "components" will provide leadership and which "component" will provide management.

**Unfortunately, there is no one perfect system.** Each system faces its own weaknesses and dangers in power and conflict. Some churches utilize the congregation members as the leadership system. A weakness to this system is that it frequently stalls progress due to having as many opinions as people involved.

Other churches utilize the senior pastor as their main direction setter and give him "carte blanche" authority for leadership issues.

While this model is highly efficient, over time there is risk of the pastor developing unhealthy autocratic control. Other churches use a governing board but can have a similar problem if it becomes overly controlling and creates ministry problems or conflicts. Still other

churches rely on direct supervisory direction from their umbrella denomination.

However, churches need to be responsible for their own people and individual congregations. Denominations are *not* capable of shepherding individual congregations.

## How to Avoid Pitfalls?

The questions then are ...

✦ *How do we avoid the pitfalls in these styles?*

✦ *How do we avoid becoming embroiled in power struggles and conflict?*

✦ *How do we develop unity instead of strife?*

Many churches fall when they fail to carefully address such dangers.

## The Key: BALANCE!

We believe a balance of the four components described above is a key to minimizing problems and maximizing a focus on the ministry God has given us. Balance in a healthy governing system means utilizing the strengths in each.

First, we acknowledge the congregation has collective wisdom and needs to be involved in making major decisions, such as selecting pastoral staff and approving the main church budget. However, the congregation should *not* direct minor decisions as it can slow down actual ministry and operating efficiency and effectiveness.

We also hold that major leadership decisions such as setting vision, establishing policies and procedures, and caring for the spiritual guidance

→ Please see "Elders" on page 7.



# Elders

← (Continued from page 6.)

of the church are the responsibilities of the Elder Board.

At EBC, the Senior Pastor is a member of the Elder Board and participates in moving forward on these essential leadership responsibilities. It is important to note that the Elder Board has its authority as a unified team but that each individual member of Elder Board does not have authority in themselves.

## Equally Important Role

The Pastoral staff have a different, yet equally important, role in the functioning of our church. They plan the worship service, preach, teach, encourage folks with visitation, plan for youth meetings and retreats, as well as perform weddings and funerals.

## Our Leadership Team

The Elder team and the Pastoral team together with **Pastor Troy** serving on both teams makes up our EBC Leadership Team. The elders and pastors have different roles in our church but together we all serve you, the congregation, as the leadership team. We will meet

all together three times a year for planning and updating.

## Our Extended Team

Finally, we believe that our umbrella FEBC denomination office is a resource for us to consult with as needed for general direction and advice. And we collaborate with them on our stance regarding significant current culture issues.

## Keeping Him FIRST!

Regardless of our governance system, our church will only avoid common church pitfalls, power struggles, and conflicts if we, *as members of the Body of Christ*, hold ourselves accountable to follow Biblical principles.

God is our Guide, our Provider and our Protector and He gives wisdom to all who ask. We rely on Him as we seek to govern ourselves in unity in our leadership decisions. ✝



# Men's Breakfast!

Recently the EBC Men's Ministry sponsored a breakfast for all men and their friends. As you can see from the pictures, it was well attended.

Maybe **YOU** can attend the next event sponsored by Men's Ministries?



.....  
*The elders and pastors have different roles in our church but together we all serve you, the congregation, as the leadership team.*

Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches

# News from FEBC!

By Kevin Stone  
President, FEBC



May 24, 2023

I spend a lot of time writing. In fact, I often wonder if I am just writing the same things over and over with slightly different words. One way I have tried to minimize my writing is that my monthly letter to churches and donors is also my article for the Sentinel.

But today, I want to take a few moments to share a more personal greeting. So: Greetings, EBC! I appreciate your church and your many years of ministry. For well over a century, your church has been part of our Fellowship. You have sent many individuals to serve as FEBC-supported missionaries, such as **Ian and Linda McFarland**, who are

just now retiring. You have had members serve as volunteer leaders within the FEBC, and you have hosted our annual convention (*now Connect*) on several occasions.

But beyond all of that, I praise God for how he uses your church in the local community. You have consistently served as a light in the Dallas area—sharing Biblical truth in a world that is desperately in need of it. You have made an impact on thousands of lives over your history, and I commend you for your steadfastness and your commitment to faithful ministry.

I am so grateful for **Pastor Troy, Lori, and their family!** I believe that your church is blessed to have such God-loving, gracious, passionate, and honest leadership. It has been a privilege to get to know them even a little bit, and I am confident they are blessing your church body. Your youth are in capable hands with **Pastor Andrew**, and now you have added **Pastor Mike**, which is exciting!

My experience has been that your staff, your elders, and other volunteer leaders are dedicated and equipped to lead and serve you well. I pray that you will work together in harmony, and that your church will bear much fruit in Dallas and the surrounding area.

Once COVID restrictions were eased, I started trying to get back to all our churches, but it has taken some time. I hope to visit you soon! Thank you so much for your prayers and support for the FEBC. We have truly “joined our hands to strengthen His church.”



Serving Him together, ✝

**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)

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EBC Family Camp At Triangle Lake

# Hello Happy Campers!

By Ron Brooks  
Family Camp Coordinator

**G**et ready for some summer fun because Family Camp Weekend is a blast! We believe that this event is a fun and relaxing way to get together with our church family.

## Basic Information:

**When:** July 28 through July 30

**Where:** Triangle Lake Camp  
(Memorial Community Church)

**Cost:** \$40 per family/night (See Cost note below)

## Activities to Enjoy:

You can be as busy or relaxed as you want. Some of the many ways to spend your time can include:

- ✦ Campfire
- ✦ Fishing
- ✦ Relaxing with Friends
- ✦ Sandy Beach
- ✦ Yard Games
- ✦ Small boating (e.g. kayaks)
- ✦ Swimming Area
- ✦ Visiting



- ✦ Volleyball
- ✦ Water Skiing\*
- ✦ Ski Biscuits\*

**\*Available IF people bring appropriate boat(s)!**

## Campground Information

We camp in an open field with some trees around the edge. There are no RV hook-ups, but showers and restrooms are available. Additionally, there is a dock complete with a swimming area and a large sandy beach.

IF we have gas-powered boats available to use, we will take donations for fuel from those enjoying these activities.

## Weekend Schedule

**Friday:** Plan to arrive any time after 12:00 noon on Friday, July 28th. Come for all or part of the weekend!

**Saturday:** Enjoy the day and the many opportunities available!

**6:30 pm:** Campout fellowship meal. Plan on getting together around the campfire for the meal. family.

**Sunday:** Attend church at Triangle Lake Memorial Community

Church. Service is located on the grounds of the camp (weather permitting). Casual clothes are fine.

## More Info?

**Ron Brooks** and **Marie Vinson** are the primary contacts this year should you have any questions. They can be reached at:

**503.991.4574**

[ron.brooks@alryica.net](mailto:ron.brooks@alryica.net)

We hope to see you at Triangle Lake later this summer. Please be sure to register for a camping spot via the Church Office or on the webpage.

*Happy Camping!* ✚



*Now the Lord  
is the Spirit,  
and where the Spirit of the Lord is,  
there is freedom.*

2 Corinthians 3:17

# EBC Women's Ministry News



**L**adies, 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](mailto:office@ebcdallas.org)  
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! ✝**

## Join Us!

**By Alison Johnson**  
Co-Chair, Women's Ministries

**T**his summer as many of the bible studies are on a break, the women's ministry team would like to invite you to use this summer break and read along with us in the

**Sandra Byrd** devotional *Dwell — 90 Days at Home with God.*



This is a nice devotional put together with Sandra and Our Daily Bread Publishing. There is a limited number of copies available here at the church for \$15. They will be available at the church office or between

services in the foyer in June. You may also purchase a copy on Amazon.

### Other Events

We will also be having a couple of events this summer. First is Bingo on June 21st then July 14 we will have a ladies beach day. August we will take a month off to recoup before school and all the regular activities resume. ✝

## 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	<a href="mailto:office@ebcdallas.org">office@ebcdallas.org</a>
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		



# Mom to Mom Update

By Lena Calef  
EBC Mom to Mom Coordinator

**M**om to Mom has concluded for the Summer! We are so thankful for all the volunteers, support and prayer.

Our year held steady with around 30 to 40 moms, including our fantastic Titus 2 Leaders who helped support and facilitate our discussion groups. We received a lot of feedback from our moms, so much appreciation for our childcare workers and Grandpas, all of whom we could not function without.

We ended our last meeting with

a luncheon, in honor of these important people.

## Busy Time for Steering Team

Over the summer, our Steering Team will make some adjustments with our volunteers. We are super excited for the feedback and willingness that some of our moms have shown to volunteer and be a part of our Steering Team!

Our team is humbled with how blessed we feel ending this year, we look forward to planning our next year and building on this



past year and firming up the areas we can.

## Wanna Help?

We are always looking for others to join us in helping love these moms! Please reach out to me if you have a heart for moms. ✝

Photos by Gwen Griffiths

## Join the Awanas Team

# Help Wanted!

By Matt and Lena Calef  
EBC Awanas Ministry Directors



**T**he Awanas program is looking for help with our upcoming year! If you have a heart for discipling the hearts of youth, please reach out to the Church Office or our Ministry Directors, **Matt and Lena Calef** at **503.805.4374**.



## Date to Know

The Awanas Team Training will be on:

**Wednesday, August 9**  
**From 6 pm to 8 pm**

*Why don't you make the plan to join us? You'll be glad you did! ✝*

Wanted Illustrations by AdobeStock®



## The Attributes of God

# Wisdom!

By Gwen Griffiths

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

*Stay tuned!*

**F**rom morning until night, I make decision after decision:

- ✦ *Get up and walk this morning or stay in bed?*
- ✦ *Oatmeal with dried cherries or frozen berries?*
- ✦ *What to wear?*
- ✦ *Coffee or no?*
- ✦ *Which work project to tackle first?*
- ✦ *How to answer that hard question from a child?*
- ✦ *What should I make for dinner?*
- ✦ *Should I bring up an issue or let it rest for a while?*
- ✦ *How should I spend the time after dinner—winding down, or getting one thing off the to-do list?*
- ✦ *Go to bed early to read, or spend time talking with the daughters that won't be here at bedtime very much longer?*

### And Some Take Wisdom...

Some of these decisions are inconsequential—the contents of my morning oats have no bearing on how life plays out on a long-term basis. **But some of these questions warrant more consideration.** They require wisdom.

I've always thought of wisdom as making the best possible choice with the information available to me. But when I looked up *"God's attribute of wisdom"*, I found another way of looking at it.

A Messianic Jewish website ([shema.com/gods-attributes-gods-wisdom-3031](http://shema.com/gods-attributes-gods-wisdom-3031)) told me that *"wisdom is that attribute of God whereby He produces the best possible results with the best possible means...wisdom results from insight into the things that are studied."*

### Wisdom's Pull

Wisdom seems to pull from many of God's attributes. He knows everything—every possible outcome and every bit of information that plays into a decision. He is infinite, *not* limited to a short lifetime of facts and experience. He is omnipotent and works each situation out for His good and His glory. He is sovereign, ruling over all things with complete control. With the power and perspective He has, His wisdom has no limit!

And wisdom is a communicable attribute—we as humans can reflect (*even if imperfectly*) this quality of God. I sometimes think that wisdom

is one of the hardest attributes to develop in my life. It takes diligence and intentionality to gather information; discernment to judge those facts; insight to apply the right course of action. We should also add much prayer and seeking of God's Word to that list, for only by seeking God will we be able to determine the wisest way to show Him in our lives!

### How to Grow in Wisdom

And as we intentional seek to obey what we find in His Word, we will grow in wisdom (**Deuteronomy 4:6**).

*So how does God's attribute of wisdom influence how we interact with Him and others?*

Knowing that God has the ultimate wisdom should firmly ground our trust in Him. Even when things seem to be progressing counter to His will, we can trust that He is working things out according to His purposes. It should also grow our patience with His timing because we know our wise God's timeframe is far better than anything we can come up with.

→ Please see *"Wisdom"* on page 13.

# Wisdom

← (Continued from page 12.)

And, as we interact with those around us, we must steep our life in God's Word and good counsel so that we can reflect Christ as accurately as possible. When we seek God's wisdom regularly, it will live itself out in our lives, seeping out into each decision and interaction.

This isn't to say that we don't need to think about decisions or seek further information—rather, that the more of God's Word we put into our hearts, but more it will impact how we look at situations, how we make decisions, and how we counsel others.

## Keep Studying!

There are many more attributes of God to study, but this is the final article I'll write in this series. I encourage you to find a list of God's qualities and take time to study them for yourself. Search out verses that illustrate each quality and memorize a few. Ponder the ways each attribute informs the way you interact with God and with others. Seek to exemplify the communicable attributes and praise God for all of them! ✝

**This isn't to say that we don't need to think about decisions or seek further information**

# Welcome Dallas Friends!



By Dan and Judy Burke

**M**issionaries Dan and Judy Burke recently wrote about their experience with our EBC Short-Term Mission team. For the team's perspective, please see the article on page 15.

**W**e came out to Cochabamba to meet a team of five coming down from the church in Oregon where I was raised.

We were pretty exhausted, but they breathed new life into us. What a tremendous encouragement and help they were to us. Not only did we make five new friends, they helped us make many books for the Chimanes.

## By the Numbers!

For those that like numbers here are a few:

- ✝ The team folded 54,300 sheets of paper.
- ✝ They collated 60,100 sheets of paper.
- ✝ AND arranged them into 1,400 books ready to go out with us when we return to Horeb.

*Not only that*, the book team brought down an offering the more than covered the price of a new copier machine and one of the men on the team is an IT guy who was able to program the copier and teach Dan how to use it!

## Funny Memory

One of the funniest memories from the book team was when we all went for a walk in the park at the bottom of our hill. After the walk some needed a ride back up the hill. Dan and I walked down to where we could pick up a public transport to meet the need, but alas, there were no cars waiting to be hired. There was, however, a big farm truck. We returned to the park in the back of a big, red farm truck much to the surprise of our book team. *What a hoot!*

## THANK YOU Team & EBC!

Thank you book team and thank you EBC for sending them. Thanks to all of you who faithfully pray for us and the ministry to the Chimane people. Thanks to each of you who contribute generously to make the ministry possible. Thanks to God for the privilege to be a part of His work. ✝



## A Game Changer

# The Gospel on Demand

## ... in Arabic, Persian, and Turkish

By Dennis Wiens  
SAT-7 USA Senior  
Impact Catalyst

I was checking out of my hotel in Minneapolis but needed to talk to the customer service agent at the check-out counter. The young lady's name tag said she was from Türkiye. With no one around waiting, I got out my smartphone and opened the SAT-7 PLUS app to the SAT-7 TÜRK channel.

### NO Chance Encounters

I introduced myself and said I had recently visited her country. She asked what I did that took me to her country. I shared with her I worked for a media service called SAT-7 and had been visiting my colleagues who work for SAT-7 TÜRK. I opened the app and let her listen to the content streaming live from Istanbul, in her heart language and culture. WOW, was she excited! She asked how she could download the app to her phone.



While she was downloading the SAT-7 PLUS app, she told me this amazing story. When she had visited her parents several months earlier in Istanbul, she found them watching this Christian television channel that was *"just for Christians."*

She explained that they enjoyed the meaningful programs and liked that there was so much content for youth!

### Available WORLD-wide!

Available worldwide in multiple languages, SAT-7 PLUS ([www.sat7plus.org](http://www.sat7plus.org)) enables the Middle East and North Africa media

### Some Special Prayer Requests:

✠ Our ministry work with SAT-7 continues even though we attempt to be semi-retired. There continue to be many speaking opportunities.

✠ Pray for SAT-7's Digital initiative that is innovative and pioneering, reaching new audiences.

✠ Pray for those who write the scripts for the SAT-7 programs. May they be sensitive to the Holy Spirit's leading concerning the needs of the viewers.



ministry, SAT-7 ([www.sat7usa.org](http://www.sat7usa.org)), to take their media content global and bring the life-changing message of the Gospel to worldwide audiences in Arabic, Persian, and Turkish.

The SAT-7 PLUS platform, which functions similarly to popular secular television streaming services, is available on web browsers and as an app for all mobile devices. As well as livestreaming, it also offers access to an extensive video-on-demand catalog of Christian programming from SAT-7 ARABIC, SAT-7 PARS (*in Persian*), SAT-7 TÜRK, SAT-7 KIDS (*in Arabic*), and the Arabic primary education project My School.

Viewers can also use SAT-7 PLUS to communicate directly with the channels' viewer counselor staff via messaging.

➔ Please see "Sat-7" on page 15.



# Sat-7

← (Continued from page 14.)

## Game Changer!

**Antoine Karam**, SAT-7's Broadcast and IT Director shares, *"The content that is out there already is not unfortunately positive or life-giving. With SAT-7 PLUS, we aspire to break through the 'dark box' that mobile devices and other devices can be for young people and bring hope using the same medium. As we know, just one word from Jesus can be a game-changer."*

## Living Without the Hope of Jesus

Many children in the Middle East and North Africa grow up surrounded by conflict and without the hope found in the Gospel. Now, they can find the Gospel through any device on SAT-7 PLUS with content just for them, protected by parental controls.

## Safe and Secure

Viewers do not have to share any personal data to use SAT-7 PLUS, and the platform is also available in a variety of bandwidths, including audio-only for the slowest Internet connections. Programs can also be downloaded and later watched on-the-go or without Internet.

SAT-7 is making God's love visible in the Middle East and North Africa

~~~~~  
**Viewers are coming to faith and Christians are growing in their faith.**

and now globally through SAT-7 PLUS. Viewers are coming to faith and Christians are growing in their faith.

This includes refugee and immigrant families, especially children and parents who appreciate video content in their heart language and culture.

## PLEASE Pray!

Please pray for my young Turkish friend and her family, that the content they are watching will touch

their hearts. This is my prayer for the viewers, Christian and non-Christian, who clocked up over 50,000 hours of viewing time on SAT-7 PLUS in 2022. This is in addition to 13.5 million satellite viewers and over 30 million YouTube views.

## Join Us

Join with SAT-7 ([www.sat7usa.org](http://www.sat7usa.org)) in making the Gospel available on demand, anywhere in the world!



**T**his past month, the 3rd EBC team went to Bolivia to work alongside our missionaries,

**Dan and Judy Burke**. The Burkes have been working with a distinct tribal group, the Chimane people in the Amazon basin area.

Dan and Judy's ministry is to teach Biblical truth and to disciple the Chimane's in their own language. They do this by writing materials, printing them and holding classes at the training center which they built.

Part of the year the Burkes live in the high mountain city of Cochabamba

where they work on the books. This is where our team worked.

## And YOU Helped!

Many of you contributed funds for the purchase of a new printer which they put into use right away. The following is part of the team's report, taken from the video which they will be presenting June 4 at the morning services.

## Many People AND Languages

Bolivia is a nation of 36 indigenous languages and 12 million people.

Missionaries for Ethnos 360, Dan and Judy have learned the Chimane language in addition to Spanish and have labored to produce materials to read in this new written tongue.



→ Please see "Bolivia" on page 16.

# Bolivia

← (Continued from page 15.)

We, (Julie Greath, Ken and Ruth Quiring and Chris and Doug Mollerstuen), went to Bolivia to provide print and publishing support for this ministry and to provide family of God support and time spent as friends.

## No Other Written Words!

The Chimane people are drawn to the Gospel presented in Dan and Judy's books. These are the only literature written in Chimane. Dan and Judy are alone in this endeavor with almost no contact with people other than Chimane.

Hence our mission to give them contact with family from their home churches.

## Busy Time

In our two weeks there, we folded over 60,000 sheets of paper. The talk was great while our fingers folded and creased papers. Covers of each book are covered with wide tape to slow down the destruction of the books from humidity. We would spend 6 or more hours each day folding and creasing paper—



also stapling books together with their industrial stapler which needs to be replaced since it jams every few books. Daily devotions with Dan were at 10 each day. We went through **Colossians, 1st and 2nd Peter, and Philemon.**

## Stretching Our Legs!

After bookmaking, we often walked to town for a walk in a nearby park. One of our sightseeing trips was to the **"Cristo"**. It is the second largest one in the world at 40+ meters tall.

Judy was amazing—she prepared 3 meals a day for us in her small kitchen. I am not sure how she did it, because she worked right alongside us all days.

## Special Trip

A very special trip was a flight to where Dan and Judy live most of the year. This is where their ministry with the Chimane people is. The flight was about 45 minutes. We flew at 17,500 feet to go over the Andes Mountains.

Dan and Judy have built 12 dormitories for the Chimane families to stay in while they are attending classes. Each family gets one 8 x 10 room with up to 10 members in one room. Dan has built a kitchen facility where meals are prepared 3 times a day for 150 people per meal. There are 10 more dormitories being built.

## The Great Commission

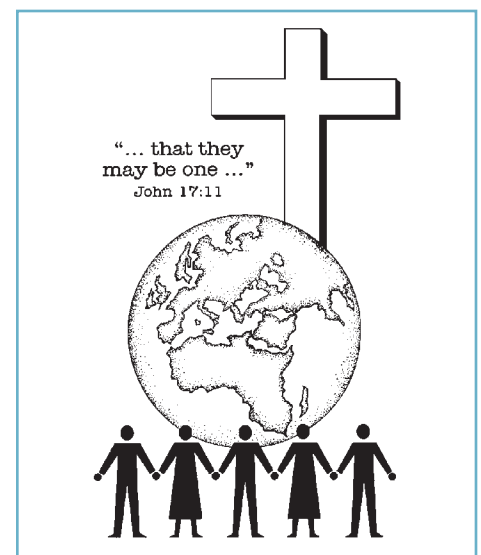
Our call by the Lord Jesus Himself in **Acts 1:8**, The Great Commission, took us "to the ends of the earth". **Ecclesiastes**

**4:9,10** tells us about friends that, **"Two are better than one, because they have a good return on their labor. If either falls down, one can help the other up."**

If you are unable to attend the service where their

team report will be given, you can watch their video at the **EBCDallas YouTube® channel.** †

The Chimane people are drawn to the Gospel presented in Dan and Judy's books. These are the only literature written in Chimane.





## 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](mailto:tgriffiths@villagemissions.org).

## Answered Prayers

**W**e've had no measurable moisture since October 2022, so the Ministerial Alliance held a service to pray for rain. Close to 150 people gathered in the city parks of Ashton, Protection and Coldwater to pray for rain. God answered our prayers with 2-3 inches of rain over a period of three days! This greatly boosted the morale of people in a dry and weary land where there is little water!

**Jeff & Shara Perry**  
Buttermilk, KS ✝

## Crazy Dinner

**O**ur Sunday school teachers, children and youth organized a "crazy dinner" to say thank you to the church family. The kids and teens—dressed in goofy clothes and hairstyles—took our orders and served the food. The menu items were mysterious and gave little clue about the food we then received. The children performed some songs and jokes. Our son gave a 10-minute devotional. We enjoyed watching the older youth team up with young children. It was a fun evening full of surprises, jokes and laughter!

**Chris & Bethany Jones**  
Nisland, SD ✝

## God and Politics

**I** was invited to be "*Chaplain of the Day*" at the Nebraska State Legislature in Lincoln. Our district's state senator, **Dave Murman**, took me onto the floor of the legislature and introduced me. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, I opened the day's session with prayer. Then Senator Murman and I walked down the center aisle, and I was greeted by the senators individually. After watching the proceedings for over an hour, Brenda and I met with Pastor Arin Hess, the full-time missionary chaplain at the Capitol. He told us about the Christian heritage of our state and about the Bible studies and the lunch meetings he holds for senators. In seeing firsthand the process of deliberation over bills, we were reminded of the importance of praying for our elected officials and seeking God's guidance in the passing of laws.

**Gary & Brenda Bennett**  
Red Cloud, NE ✝



# 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:ivary@avmi.org)

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

→ Please see "EBC Supports" on page 19.

# EBC Supports

← (Continued from page 18.)

✠ 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:steve.schmidt@sim.org)

[mikki.schmidt@sim.org](mailto: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](mailto: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

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

**Thank  
you!** ✝

# JUNE CALENDAR

June 6 - Ladies Missionary Fellowship

June 12 - Hymn Sing

June 21 - Bingo- Women's Ministry

June 25 - Town Hall Meeting

**Get ready for a BUSY summer!**



**Article Deadline for July/August ISSUE is:  
Monday, June 26, @ 5:00 pm!**

**T**he 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)***