

The Sentinel

DISTRIBUTED BY EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH



WE
STAND
WATCH

March, 2024
VOL 8 • NO 03

MVP: Most Valuable Player!

By Pastor Troy Bassham
Senior Pastor

I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy. . .

Philippians 1:3-4 (NKJV)

The Superbowl recently happened with the **Kansas City Chiefs** defeating

the **San Francisco 49ers** for the championship. For some of you this was a cause for celebration, for others sorrow or indifference. I know

that some of you only watch the Superbowl because of the halftime show or the commercials.

Teamwork and Execution

My reason for bringing up the football game is to draw attention to the execution and teamwork that is necessary to win a championship. In order for any team to achieve success, there has to be hard work, cooperation, and execution. I realize that any success we may see at EBC is also dependent on much more than any leader or mere luck.



Our Success Comes from God

First and foremost, our success comes from God. In writing to the Corinthian Church the Apostle Paul was correcting a

congregation given over to excessive celebration of its leaders.

→ Please see "MVP" on page 2.

Looking Inside ...

Money Matters.....	2
Office News and Notes.....	3
Mythbusters #10	4
Swift to Hear, Slow to Speak, Slow to Wrath.....	7
YOUR Board of Elders	8
Elders' Epistle	9
Is This You?	10
Focusing on Our Moms.....	12
LMF Update.....	13
FLYER: Bible Studies	13
Awana Update	14
Fun Time Shopping	14
FLYER: Sunday Classes	14
Women's Calendar	15
FLYER: Ladies Bunco	15
Becoming the Scriptures	16
FLYER: Peace of Mind	18
Connect Group Ministry.....	19
Full Circle.....	20
Volunteer Service Projects ...	21
Greetings From New Guinea ..	22
Our Annual Mission Conf.	24
FLYER: Sound & Media Team ..	24
Stories from the Fields.....	25
Missionaries EBC Supports ...	26
Calendars & Prod. Info ..	Back Pg

Deadline for April, 2024 ISSUE is:

**Monday, April 1, 2024
@ 5:00 pm**

know. grow. go.

MVP

← (Continued from page 1.)

Adobe Stock

In correction, he wrote, *"Who then is Paul, and who is Apollos, but ministers through whom you believed, as the Lord gave to each one? I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase."* **1 Corinthians 3:5-7 (NKJV).**

He Works Through Us

We realize that we can accomplish nothing without God working through us. Our own efforts can, at best, simulate ministry. We can create a flashy façade devoid of any real substance. It is God's own Spirit, however, that brings life and change and power.

But when God is at work, His Spirit empowers the body. As individuals respond to God's leading and serve faithfully, we see the church flourish.

Just like the analogy of the football team, the church is most successful when it is more than a select few who are allowing God to use them. In the recent Superbowl, **Patrick**



Mahomes was awarded the MVP (Most Valuable Player). However, he could never have won the game or earned that special honor on his own. Victory took the combined effort of the entire team, from the defensive line to the punter to the left guard. The Chiefs were able to accomplish their goal because of the contributions of the collective whole.

That Brings Me to EBC!

And with that thought in mind, I wanted to *thank* the many of you at EBC who serve and labor so faithfully. I want to *thank* the individuals who run the sound and who prepare the cookies and coffee every Sunday. I want to *thank* the nursery workers and the Children's

Church volunteers for their regular faithfulness. To the individuals who have prepared communion, served as greeters, and labored behind the scenes, I offer a heartfelt *thank you*. And again, to members of the body who have shown love to one another through acts of service and faithfulness in prayer, **THANK YOU!**

Not for Me, But for Him!

I do not *thank you* for myself, but as your pastor, I thank you for your service to EBC and the Kingdom of Christ. None of us can take on the ministry on our own. Together, though, we can be used mightily in the hands of our Savior for the accomplishment of His work. ✝

Money Matters

By Randy Flaming

Have you ever argued with your spouse about how much one of you (or both of you) is spending? Have you ever had problems running out of money before you run out of month? Are you going to have enough money to comfortably retire? How about sending your children to college?

Would you like to teach your children about how to manage money? Would you like to know how to manage your own money? Would you like to be able to give more to God's work, but just can't seem to afford it? Would you like to be totally debt free and not be a slave to the bank? Have you ever wondered who **Dave Ramsey** is and what he teaches?



Well ... How Did YOU Answer?

If you answered yes to any of those questions, then maybe it is time for you to take **Dave's Financial Peace University class**.

I will be teaching a class again in April, but I need to know who would like to attend. So call me, **Randy Flaming**, at **503.409.8257** so I can pick a day and time for the class that allows the most people to attend and so I can answer questions.

I have a limited number of openings for the class, **so call soon!** ✝

From the EBC Office!

Office News and Notes

By Alison Johnson

The past month was done in the blink of an eye and looking into March means we are preparing for the annual community Easter event.

Easter Event

This year, the theme is **Getting a Sense of Easter** and we are hoping that using a different sense at each station will help kids to remember the Easter story differently than before.

EBC will man the welcome tent this year. This means we only need a few helpers to set up and welcome families as they come into the event.

We will hand out a booklet to each family that enters, as well as bags for each child.

Can YOU Help?

If you are interested in helping, the event will be **Saturday, March 30**, this year. Please let me know if you can be there that morning. As usual, we will also have plastic eggs to be filled. You can pick them up starting February 25.

Birthday Float

In other events, we had a float in the parade for **Dallas' 150th**



Photo by Alison Johnson

birthday celebration. With the help of the **Fuller family**, we pulled off a pretty cute float in the rain and cold.

My boys were less-than-pleased with my planning to be out in the cold, *but we all made it.*

Opportunities to Serve

There are several opportunities for us to be a part of and serve in our community this coming year. One of the best ways to share Jesus and begin relationships with people that do not know Him, is by showing them Him in our actions. I do a lot of reading on this topic which is something that I am passionate about.

It Can Take Time, BUT ...

One of the most encouraging things I recently read was from a former homosexual woman who was a professor of Women's Studies at Syracuse University. A local believer really took an interest in sharing Jesus with her. During their early encounters, only one major sin was addressed—that this woman did *not* know Christ. This professor later recalled how she had a couple hundred meals at their house *before* she accepted Christ as her Savior.

Some of you may know of or heard of her: **Rosaria Butterfield**. She turned her life around in a huge way.

You Are A Light!

Our world is so negative and critical but we can have the light that makes us shine differently and draws people

in. Part of this is being out there as well. I just ask that you prayerfully consider helping in one of the community events this year.

Things to Look Forward To

Convinced that **YOU** want to be more involved? Current opportunities include:

✦ A float and booth at Crazy Days at the end of July.

✦ A booth downtown for the Halloween Trick or Treat Event.

✦ A group participating in the Dallas Christmas Tree Lighting in December.

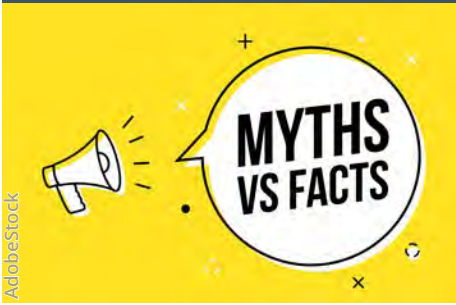
Additionally, you can help several local Christian ministries, either by volunteering, sponsoring, or praying. It helps to remember that the *only thing* we can take to Heaven with us ... *is people.*

Be the Blessing

Life is so busy and things are exhausting, but even just praying for these events and for who God has for these volunteer spots is a huge blessing and encouragement. ✝

"You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)



Mythbusters #10

By Administrative Pastor Mike Fast
mikefast@ebcdallas.org

Easter is just weeks away, so allow me to start with a greeting the church has used since the resurrection of Christ. ***"He is risen (He is risen indeed)."***

The resurrection of Jesus Christ happened just as He said it would on the third day, but there are some people who would deny even the possibility of the resurrection, while others are of the opinion that perhaps it is possible but question whether there is any historical evidence that it has happened.

For this Easter season, and our last myth, I will present some ideas for us to consider or share *when we hear someone declare that the resurrection cannot be real.*

There IS Evidence!

Dr. Simon Greenleaf, the famous Royall Professor of Law at Harvard University, wrote his famous three-volume work, ***"A Treatise on the Law of Evidence,"***



which is still considered the greatest authority on the subject. Greenleaf examined the value of the historical evidence for the resurrection of Jesus Christ (*Biblical and extra-Biblical*), and applied the legal principles contained in his treatise on evidence, and wrote another book where he concludes that, according to the laws of legal evidence used in courts of law, there is *more evidence* for the historical fact of the resurrection of Jesus Christ than for just about *any* other event in history.

Mythbuster #10: Easter Resurrection

Let me start with five historical facts that pass the current tests for historical verification and are commonly accepted by people on both sides of the debate.

1 Jesus suffered death by crucifixion under Pontius Pilate in the year 30 or 33 AD/CE. He endured three Jewish trials and three Roman trials and was scourged by the mutilating Roman whips. He carried the cross to the execution site where they drove nails through His wrists and feet. They then stood the cross up where He hung suspended for hours struggling to breathe, while bleeding profusely. He finally asphyxiated. A Roman soldier pronounced Him dead after piercing His side with a spear where

water and blood poured out. This is confirmed by various authors, secular historians, and historical letters all dating to the same time.

2 Friends placed Jesus' body in a tomb and it was guarded by Roman soldiers. This fact is also included in a variety of places, even outside the Bible.

3 Mary Magdalene and other followers found the tomb empty on the third day (*the very thing the chief priests and elders who opposed Jesus did not want to happen*).

4 The disciples (*the apostles, the women, and other groups of up to 500*) had real experiences they believed were appearances of the risen Jesus.

5 Among the earliest converts to Christianity were Paul of Tarsus and James, who was raised as a brother to Jesus, both of whom 15-20 years later were so changed that they had become two major voices for Christianity.

A Further Look

Let us now discuss some of the circumstantial evidence.

1 Christ predicted His own resurrection on the third day and announced that this would be the most significant sign for the affirmation of His truth

→ Please see "MYTH" on page 5.



← (Continued from page 4.)

claims (e.g. Mark 8:31; 10:33-34; Matthew 12:38-40). It is unlikely that these predictions would be included in the material circulating so early about the teachings of Jesus if the church tacked on the Resurrection story much later.

2 The entire crucifixion saga came about because the Jewish leadership wanted to end the Jesus movement. If there was a body to be found or some other clear refutation of the Christian claim, they would have shouted it from the rooftops. But the silence of the Jewish leaders about the Resurrection eloquently testified that they knew the basic facts were undeniable.



3 Before the Resurrection, the disciples were fearful men whose faith was weak and all abandoned Jesus after his arrest, but by the Day of Pentecost seven weeks later, they were boldly proclaiming Christ to the multitudes in Jerusalem. According to early church tradition, all of them suffered for the sake of the message of the resurrected Lord, and almost all died as martyrs. It is clear they were totally convinced of the truth of the Resurrection, and they were certainly in a position to know whether the Resurrection had indeed taken place. They would not have died for a lie.

4 The success of the early Christian church in spite of fierce opposition is another evidence for the Resurrection. During the height of his popularity, Jesus drew crowds that numbered in the thousands, but by the time of his death, his followers dwindled to at most a few hundred. Then something happened, and what we now know as “Christianity” exploded into history.

Within 30 years after the resurrection there were a multitude of Christians in Rome. At the end of the first century “Christians” could be found in every major city in the Roman Empire. At least two major attempts to quash this new religion (under emperors Nero and Domitian) failed, and countless attempts on the local level. Despite a lack of a military campaign, “incubation” period, or charismatic and unifying leader walking the earth, by 300 AD the church had grown from a



few hundred to a population in the millions.

Without the Resurrection, the church would not have come into existence, and would certainly not have started in the very town of Jesus’ tomb, where if what they were teaching was false, their message would have been disproved.

5 The shift from Saturday to Sunday as the day of worship for the early Jewish Christians (cf. Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 16:1-2) was a radical act that would never have taken place if Christ had not been raised on the first day of the week (Matt. 28:1; Luke 24:1).

6 The sacraments of baptism and communion are both related to the Resurrection and would have been senseless in the early church apart from the historical reality of the Resurrection.

7 The disciples began preaching the news of Jesus’ resurrection very soon after the event itself; in fact, Peter’s Pentecost sermon (Acts 2) occurred within 50 days of the Resurrection. And textual research indicates that the written accounts of the Resurrection, especially the creedal statement of 1 Corinthians 15:3-8, are astoundingly early in

Without the Resurrection, the church would not have come into existence, and would certainly not have started in the very town of Jesus’ tomb ... →

Please see “MYTH” on page 6.



← (Continued from page 5.)

origin, possibly within less than two years of the event. Such early origins argue against any notion that the Resurrection accounts are legendary. Close timing provides more witnesses.

8 Hundreds confirmed they had seen the bodily resurrected Christ, and witnesses were provided by name. At least 16 individuals are mentioned by name as witnesses in the various accounts, and the mention of the well-known Joseph of Arimathea as the man who buried Jesus would have been terribly dangerous if the Gospel accounts had been faked or embellished.

Both reputable and culturally disreputable witnesses were named. For instance, of women in a time and culture where women were considered invalid witnesses in a court of law, where if the accounts were fabrications, the women would never have been included in the story, at least not as first witnesses, which would not have carried any credence.

9 The lack of embellishments and other spectacles should also be considered. Jewish scholar and theologian, **Dr. Pinchas Lapide**, who taught at the Hebrew university in Tel Aviv, Israel, wrote, "We do

not read in the first testimonies [of the Resurrection] of an apocalyptic spectacle, exorbitant sensations, or of the transforming impact of a cosmic event... According to all New Testament reports, no human eye saw the resurrection itself, no human being was present, and none of the disciples asserted to have apprehended, let alone understood, its manner and nature. How easy it would have been for them or their immediate successors to supplement this scandalous hole in the chain (concatenation) of events by fanciful embellishments! But precisely because none of the evangelists dared to 'improve upon' or embellish this unseen resurrection, the total picture of the gospels also gains in trustworthiness."

10 The broken Roman seal on the tomb, punishable by death.

11 The larger than normal stone (*over 2 ton*) that was, according to **John 20**, picked up and moved away.

12 The failure of the Roman guard unit, a crime punishable by death (*being set on fire*).

13 The empty grave cloths.

Illustration in oval by AdobeStock.



14 The location of the tomb was not a secret. The Gospel accounts describe the owner of the tomb (*Joseph of Arimathea*) and its location ("**At the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb,**" **John 19:41**), and they identify Jesus' resurrection as a physical bodily one (**John 20:27**).

15 The fact that the enemies of Christ gave no credible refutation of the resurrection.

16 The fact that there are slight differences and apparent varying perspectives in the resurrection accounts between the various writers supplies additional evidence of their authenticity; they display an ingenuous lack of collusion, agreeing and (*apparently*) diverging much as eyewitness accounts of any event do. There are always different perspectives as true witnesses view the account personally.

17 The disciples never tried to portray themselves as heroic

→ Please see "MYTH" on page 10.

Swift to Hear, Slow to Speak, Slow to Wrath

By Greg Sykora

James 1:19–20 (NKJV) tells us, ***“Let every man be swift to hear, slow to speak, slow to wrath; for the wrath of man does not produce the righteousness of God.”***



These are qualities needed when we endure trials. At times, this simple command can be quite difficult to follow...but not impossible!

Swift to Hear

To be *“swift to hear”* we must listen well. *How many of us have been guilty of deciding the point someone is trying to make before they have finished speaking?* In our fast-paced culture, it is even more difficult to slow down to really hear what someone is saying. Really listening well also means you understand what was said. It's often a good idea to repeat what was said back to the person telling you something.

Slow to Speak

When someone is being *“slow to speak”* they are taking time to think before speaking. The first thing we

want to say is not always the best thing for us to say, especially if someone is getting on our nerves.

Proverbs 29:22 (NKJV) tells us, ***“An angry man stirs up strife, and a furious man abounds in transgression.”***

Proverbs 20:3 (NKJV) says, ***“It is honorable for a man to stop striving, since any fool can start a quarrel.”***

When I am too quick to speak, I often regret the things I say in haste.

Slow to Wrath

Being *“slow to wrath”* is also very important. Later on in the book of **James, verse 3:18 (NKJV)**

tells us, ***“the fruit of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.”***

We are not making peace when we are full of wrath. **Ephesians 4:31 (NKJV)** gives some more guidance, saying,

“Let all bitterness, wrath, anger, clamor, and evil speaking be put away from you, with all malice.”

If we are to be “doers of the Word, and not hearers only,” we must *not* allow ourselves to become absorbed in our wrath.

Fruits of the Spirit

The fruits of the Spirit (found in **Galatians 5:22–23 NKJV**) are



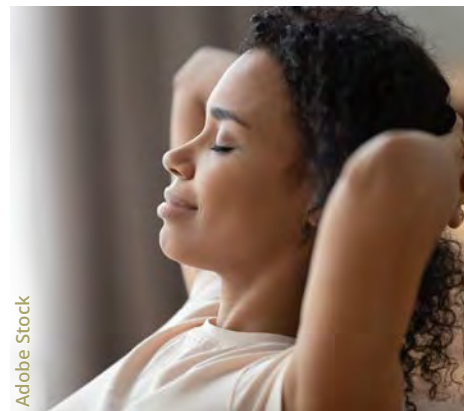
helpful for avoiding wrath: ***“Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.”***

Galatians 5:25 (NKJV) tells us, ***“If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit,”***

meaning that the fruits of the Spirit must *actively* be a part of our daily lives.

Trials WILL Come!

As we endure trials, we must continue to walk in the Spirit. Let us be swift to hear, slow to speak, and slow to wrath, as we keep striving to lead lives full of righteousness. ✝



YOUR Board of Elders



Pastor Troy Bassham

(W) 503.623.2331

troybassham@ebcdallas.org



Nathaniel Thomas

Chairman

(C) 503.385.3252

natandsylvia@gmail.com



Joe Cacka

Vice Chairman

(C) 971.287.1583

cackajoseph@gmail.com



Galen Harms

(C) 503.339.6289

jgharms2@gmail.com



Justin Ensز

(C) 503.689.3099

justiniq@yahoo.com



Darrel Hiebenthal

(C) 503.559.2893

(H) 503.623.5858

dwthal@outlook.com

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

Numerous folks commented that the annual business meeting was a success in that we celebrated God's goodness to EBC with the blessings of resources to continue and even expand our ministries!

One question that came up was: *"How can we know the Elder Team better so we know who is on the leadership team?"*

In answer to that question, I asked each to write their testimony and I will present them here. This month we will share the testimonies of **Joe Cacka and Justin Ensz**. Next month we will share some more.

My Testimony: Joe Cacka

I am married to my wife, **Sue**, 50 years as of March. We have four grown children and six grandchildren and are expecting a seventh in May of this year.

I was born in 1951 into a large family. I was the fifth of 10 children. We lived on a bean and berry farm near Hubbard, Oregon. We raised a few cows for milk, chickens for eggs, a large garden for vegetables, and beef for meat.

Early Church Experience

My parents raised us up in the Catholic tradition. As long as I can remember, I was aware of God. At the age of 13 I sought to know if

God was real or whether God was just a nice story, *like Santa Claus*.

Through an earnest inquiry, when I was alone, I asked God a question then wondered how He would answer me (*not having a mouth as such*).



A Sign

I recalled a Bible story about Moses when he was on the mountain receiving the 10 Commandments; there was lightning and thunder. So, I said, *"If the answer is Yes, then let there be lightning and thunder."*

Immediately, as I finished talking, there was one clap of thunder above me! My heart was overflowing with unspeakable joy. He revealed to me that He *is* for real. This was a great experience. However, with all my efforts to walk right before God, I could not walk without sinning. I understood that God was real, but to me He was still up above the clouds in heaven. My desire was to know God personally, but I did not know how one could.

Campus Crusade for Christ

In the fall of 1971, while attending Oregon State University, I went to a Campus Crusade for Christ meeting there I learned that I could have a personal relationship with God. At this meeting I understood that I needed to confess my sins, repent, invite Him as Lord into my life, and be filled with His Holy Spirit.

I did this saying, *"Lord, if I had not asked you before I ask you now to*

forgive me of my sins, come into my life and fill me with Your Spirit."

When the speaker asked people to raise their hand if they said this prayer for the first time, I didn't raise my hand because I didn't know if it was real. It was not until the meeting was over and I left the room that I felt as if a heavy burden was lifted off my shoulders. There was an unspeakable joy flooding my soul—like the joy I experienced at the age of 13 when God revealed that He is real.

A Changed Life

My life had changed from that moment onward. I realized the Bible is living and is the *"owner's manual"* for our lives. We can trust it and prove it to be true, by studying and applying its truth to our lives. I have many stories I could tell of how God has intervened in the life of me and my family over the past 50 years.

There is not enough space here to tell them now. You will have to invite my wife and me over for coffee if you want to hear more.

My Charlie Brown Story: Justin Ensz

I've always identified myself with Charlie Brown—I *can't* fly a kite, and life has *always been* somewhat upside-down. But the Lord is so good in his plans for me.

Local Roots

I have grown up in Dallas and EBC. My family brought me up in this church, and it has always been a pivotal part of my life. I asked Jesus to come into my heart when I was four. I was in my bedroom after devotions talking with my parents

→ Please see *"Elders"* on page 11.



← (Continued from page 6.)

co-conspirators, nor did they ever discourage anyone from doing their own investigation, nor did it stop them from preaching a message of repentance that invited opposition and persecution.

Concluding Thoughts

Let me conclude with a story of a man who stood looking through a shop window at a stunning picture of the crucifixion. Standing next to him was a ragged little boy who was also captivated by the picture. Wondering if the boy really understood what he was looking at, the man asked him, "Son, what does that picture mean?"

"Don't you know?" the boy answered, "that man is Jesus, and those others are Roman soldiers, and the woman crying is His mother, and...they killed him."

The man thanked the boy and walked away. A moment later he heard pattering footsteps behind him. The little boy said breathlessly, "Say, mister, I forgot to tell you, but He rose again!"

More Learning Opportunities

For further study, **Lee Strobel** *The Case for Christ*, **William Lane Craig** *A Reasonable Response*, and **Josh McDowell's** *Evidence that Demands a Verdict*. †



Health Care Committee Update

Is This You?

By Sherri Fobert

Do any of the following statements sound familiar to you?

☒ "There's plenty of time to get things together. We'll take care of it later."

☒ "Our cousins said they'd be glad to take care of our children."

☒ "We just don't want to think about it."

☒ "We made those plans years ago, so we don't need to think about it now."

☒ "I don't care what happens. My family can sort it out."

☒ "I don't have much so it's no big deal."

☒ "There is no one left in my family to leave anything to."

☒ "We think we've taken care of everything."

☒ "There's always somebody my family can get help from."

☒ "I don't have the time or energy to think about what my parents want. They can make their decisions without me."

Life Happens!

All too often these statements are made and then life happens. Life

situations can be difficult enough without adding the lack of foresight and preparation.

Plan On It!

A seminar is planned on **March**

Family Peace of Mind Seminar

March 16, 2024
9:30 to 11:00 am

Registration required!

16, at 9:30 am to 11:00 am, in the Builder's Room to provide financial, legal, and end of life planning information that can give an attendee the foundation on which to make decisions which can affect one's peace of mind. That's why it is referred to as the **Family Peace of Mind** seminar. The seminar hopes to motivate and guide attendees in taking care of important business.

Great Presenters

Three professionals: **Joy McMurphy** (financial), **John Hemmerich** (legal), and either



→ Please see "YOU?" on page 11.



Michael Bollman or Tyler Waud (*funeral directors*) will present important information and answer questions.

Sign-Up Process

The Health Care Committee is requesting that individuals sign up for the seminar:

✠ By clicking the link in the online digital bulletin.

✠ Sign-up sheets (*clipboards!*) at the Welcome Centers.

✠ Calling **Joy McMurchy (541.944.3093)** or **Sherri Fobert (503.910.7030)**.

Please be sure to sign up *by March 13, 2024*.

Signing up is important so the committee can make sure there are copies of prepared materials for attendees and plan for childcare, *if needed*.

Questions? Call Sherri or Joy today. ✠

**Now listen, you who say,
“Today or tomorrow we
will go to this or that city,
spend a year there, carry on
business and make money.”
Why, you do not even know
what will happen tomorrow.
What is your life? You are a
mist that appears for a little
while and then vanishes.**

James 4:13–14 (NIV)



about God and heaven. I don't remember many details—I wanted to go to heaven, and I knew I needed to do this step. Even though I was young and didn't understand very much about Christianity, I truly believe this is when I was saved. I am so thankful that the simplicity of the Gospel allows children to trust in Christ to be saved.

Learning to Trust

It wasn't until junior high or high school that the Lord clearly started working in my heart. I began to understand more about trusting in the Lord and giving myself over to Him. Questions and doubts about what I believed came hand-in-hand, but I contribute my spiritual growth during these years to my family, Bible-based education, music, and older mature Christians who took an interest in my life.

Out of My Comfort Zone

During high school, I never experienced a steady youth pastor or youth program. Interestingly enough, the lack of this security became a blessing. It forced me to “step up” and be a leader. I naturally am a very shy person, and my circumstances pushed me out of my comfort zone. I learned to depend on God rather than a person like a youth pastor.

Many Dallas people may remember the **Mark (McCulloch)** and Justin duo of the “out-of-control” escapades. With Mark, stepping outside of my shyness and being able to express my abstract mind with

someone else was inspiring! As weird as it may have appeared, this was an important part of my life. It gave me a life-long close friendship, and it kept me from “drifting” through my college years where so many are tempted to stray.

Developing a Passion

Such unique experiences have given me a passionate interest in youth and the church. In high school I helped out with the junior high group. Since then I've always helped with junior high, high school, college, and young adult groups. I keep learning the importance of connecting with people even though I am not naturally a “people” person. By being willing to be involved in what the church needs, I get to see the Lord at work in real time!

God gave me an incredible gift when meeting **Elly**, my wife. I could not have asked for a more compatible or better friendship than what God has granted us. Our children, **Evelyn** and **Leif**, have joined in our adventures—I'm excited to see how the Lord will work in their lives.

Looking Forward...

I look forward to continuing to share in what the Lord is accomplishing at EBC and what He has planned. His seemingly upside-down adventures continue!

But ... I still can't fly a kite. ✠



Focusing on Moms!

By Lena Calef

EBC Mom to Mom Coordinator

During the month of February, our EBC Mom to Mom Leadership Team focused on ... *our moms.*



Photo by Lena Calef.

Lots to Deal With

This year many of our moms are going through things. In a world where so many things are broken, so are many of our families.

We have heard lots of stories lately:

✠ Moms that are taking care of parents or in-laws, *in addition* to their families.

✠ Moms who are dealing with shattered marriages and now looking at becoming single moms.

✠ Moms who are dealing with losses of jobs, homes, and family members.

Bottom-line ... motherhood is hard. Therefore, in that context, Mom to Mom serves moms from all around

Polk County, not just Dallas. *And* our team has a heart for them and their struggles.

How Do We Do It?

One of the biggest things that weighs on my heart is how do we, as believers, help support the moms that we know? Sure, it is so easy sometimes to repeat phrases and Bible verses. These are good and

we need to do these things, but we also need to recognize the effects of pain that come with these situations. While these are all things that should happen, we should remember that it is hard for the one going through it.

I have a very strong conviction that we forget an important thing when we give our thoughts and opinions... and that is that we don't live with the *consequences* of our advice. *What do I mean by that?*

Never Support Sin!

Am I saying let sinful choices go unaddressed? Definitely not! We as believers should *never* support sin or sinful behaviors, but we also have to be careful about grey areas.

A grey area we need to avoid isn't sin, but our opinion on the situation, which could ultimately have negative consequences for the person we mean well for.

How do we support people in rough situations? We can do simple little things to show those struggling that they

are loved and that they are seen. It can be a card, a gift card, a meal, an offer to babysit, laundry, dishes... the list goes on...

Giving Time

Our Mom to Mom Steering Team chose to support our moms at our February 13 meeting by giving our moms time to fellowship with one another. Learning how they can pray and support one another. We also had card making supplies to make a card for their spouse, someone who has done something for them or for someone they knew going through hard times.



Photos by Gwen Griffiths.

Our Steering Team also put together an inexpensive date night in. We gathered orders from our moms to help account for food allergies, along with giving a choice of a game or devotional for couples. We charged a small amount to go towards it. We then put together kits that were handed out at our February 13 meeting so our moms had a simple Valentines Date night, after the kids had gone to bed.

Difficult Job

I feel like I say this in every Sentinel, but this mom thing can be hard! Thankfully, because of the support and prayers of our EBC family, we are able to help support and love on these moms AND showing them that Jesus loves them. ✝



Photo by Gwen Griffiths.



At the February meeting of Ladies Missionary Fellowship, we had the privilege to hear from **Deb Hansen**. She and **Jon**, her husband, travel much as Village Missions' US Assistant Director.

Deb shared her life story and told how God has led them together in this ministry.

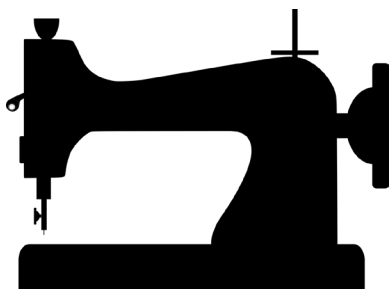
Coming In March!

At our next regular meeting, on March 5, we are looking forward to hearing from **Lori Dressel** and a couple of her friends from **Hope Pregnancy Clinic**.

We are also making the opportunity available to our church family to share in giving to this important ministry.

Please Join Us!

We hope that many of you ladies will join in the great time of working together, sharing together, and the fellowship potluck lunch to follow. *Husbands are invited to the lunch!* ✝



A graphic for Bible Studies Women's Studies. It has a blue sky with clouds at the top and green grass with yellow flowers at the bottom. The text is centered and reads: "Bible Studies", "WOMEN'S STUDIES", "Precepts - Sermon on the Mount", "Thursdays 9:30 am & 6:30 pm", "From Garden to Glory (begins Feb. 29)", "Thursdays 9:30 am & 6:30 pm", "New Testament", "Thursdays 9:30 am", "Online Study in Colossians (begins Mar. 1)", "Join the group in the EBC app", "MEN'S STUDIES", "Titus", "Thursdays 6:30 pm".

Thank you to Alison Johnson for the above graphic.

YOUR Ticket to LMF Fun!

Admission Ticket
to Another Great Gathering
of the
Ladies Missionary Fellowship

NEXT Regular Meeting

Tuesday, March 5, 2024
9:00 am Work Time Projects
11:00 Program*/Meeting
12:00 Potluck Lunch

***Program: Lori Dressel and others talking about the Hope Pregnancy Clinic!**



Awana continues in its mission to relate to our kids and teach Scripture along the way. We are approaching the end of our Awana year at the end of April.

Prayers for Leaders

As we go, we ask for prayers for our leaders to finish well and build those memorable moments that last a lifetime. I know that I enjoy watching the interaction of the leaders and children as I roam the hallways during Wednesday evenings.

Helpers Wanted

Prayers are also welcome (*and volunteers too!*) for leaders to step in and help during Awana. It always seems like we are in need of additional hands to sit with our youth and teach and build that relationship. Men, in particular, are needed as they are well-suited to relate to the boys in our program.

Our Volunteers are GREAT!

Once again, I would like to say **THANK YOU** to the volunteers that have put in hours of time for our program to spread the good word of Jesus. ✝



Fun Time Shopping!

By Kim Disher, Awana Shopkeeper

THANK YOU to all who have contributed merchandise for our Awana store nights. We had an amazing variety of items for all ages. The February store night has wrapped up and we had a lot of goodies for the youth to buy with their hard-earned Awana Bucks. There will be one more store in April, so as you undertake spring cleaning, please consider sending things our way. ✝

Children's Classes 1st Service

Nursery Birth - 3rd Birthday
Room 101 3 years- Kindergarten
Children's Church 1st - 5th Grades

Adult Classes 1st Service

Builder's Room - Bible in Life

Children's Classes 2nd Service

Nursery Birth - 3rd Birthday
Beginner's Department (Office Hall) 3 years-Kindergarten
Primary Department (Upstairs) 1st - 5th Grades

Youth Sunday School

Youth Center 6th - 12th Grades

Adult Classes 2nd Service

Builder's Room - Bible in Life
Conference room - Book of Luke
Room 222- Young Adults
Room 225 - Sermon Recap
Room 226 - Book of John
Room 227 - Prophets & Kings
Youth Center Classroom - Book of James

Thank you to Alison Johnson for the above graphic.



2024 Women's Ministry Event Schedule

Bunco Night ~ Friday, March 15 at 6:30 p.m.

MASTERPIECE Gardening Workshop

Saturday, April 20th

Come for coffee & muffins at 9:30 a.m.

Workshops will begin at 10:00 a.m.

Workshops offered on vegetable & flower gardening, container gardening, floral design, a floral craft and more.

May Festival ~ Friday, May 10th at 6:00 pm

Bring a friend! Enjoy a floral celebration of the season as we eat a delicious meal with time of encouragement, music & entertainment.

Campfire by the Creek ~ Saturday, June 22 at 7 pm

Location: Sylvia Thomas's home (more info to come)

Beach Day ~ Wednesday, July 17

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

Dreamies Creamery Informal Ice Cream Date

Saturday, August 17th at 1:00 p.m.

Meet us at Dreamies Creamery downtown Dallas for a fun Ice Cream break and stroll through downtown shops!

Women's Retreat ~ Friday - Sunday, Sept. 20-22

Location: Fern Hill Lodge (more info to come)

Bingo ~ Friday, November 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Candlelight Dessert & Boutique

Friday, December 6 at 6:30 pm

Boutique ~ Saturday, December 7 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 or by E-mail: office@EBCDallas.org

Thank you to Alison Johnson for the above graphic.

Ladies Night Out BUNCO



Date: Friday, March 15
Time: 6:30 pm
Place: EBC Activity Center

No cost & please bring a snack to share!

Bring a friend!

Ladies 12 years of age and older invited!



For more information
call the Church Office at 503.623.2331
or email at
office@EBCDallas.org

Thank you to Alison Johnson for the above graphic.



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

From idle pondering to ...

Becoming the Scriptures

By Gwen Griffiths

A few years ago, I read “**Fahrenheit 451**” to my kids as part of our homeschool year.

In the novel, **Montag** (*the main character*) works as a fireman. His job isn’t to put out fires, but rather, to start them. In his futuristic society, books have been banned and every book that is discovered is burned.

As time goes on, Montag begins to question this practice; by the end of the story, he is a fugitive and escapes with a portion of a book he has rescued. He meets a group of other renegades and joins them; his new role is to memorize the book of Ecclesiastes. In essence, he becomes the book of Ecclesiastes.



Pathways to Internalizing God’s Word

Meditating on God’s Word and memorizing Scripture provide two effective pathways for the Gospel to become an integral part of our lives...or for us to become the Scriptures. They seem to be less of a priority to many Christians today, perhaps because each requires counter-cultural periods of focused concentration. But it is that intentional concentration that will cause God’s Word—His desires for us, His promises, His character and direction and will—to seep into our hearts and deeply impact our lives.



meditation is the practice of filling the mind with God’s truth. It brings a deeper understanding of Scripture and a profound communion with the Father.

Meditation also benefits us in our daily life; developing the discipline of meditation helps to increase focus and concentration skills.

In a world where our attention is pulled from one thing to the next, skittering from advertisement to social media post to headline, the development of discipline will serve us well.

So how do you meditate? Should you cross your legs until your hip sockets groan and chant nonsense syllables? No!

The What, Why, and How of Meditation

It’s important to separate meditation on God’s Word from the meditation that we often see in the world. As **Richard Foster** explains in “***Celebration of Discipline***,” the world’s form of meditation involves emptying the mind, but godly

Instead, look at meditation as the practice of spending time in deep focus on small parts of Scripture. The Daily Grace Co. suggests meditating on a verse or passage by writing it down, and then focusing on each word or small phrase and using that focus as impetus for prayer.

Meditation also benefits us in our daily life; developing the discipline of meditation helps to increase focus and concentration skills.

→ Please see “**Memorize**” on page 17.

Memorize

← (Continued from page 16.)

For example, I could choose to meditate on **Psalms 23:1 (NLT)** in this way: **The Lord is my shepherd; I have all that I need.** “The Lord” reminds me that there is only one God, so I spend time thanking Him for that. “Is”—an ongoing verb—reminds me that God is my shepherd **ALL** of the time and He will continue to be so. The word “my” makes this personal, and I can ponder the ramifications of God as my personal shepherd and guide. I can take the time to look up the word “shepherd” and relate the activities described to the way God leads me in His path. As I continue to work through this short verse, I find myself reminded of the way that God provides for me, of my need to depend on Him for everything, and that sometimes my needs and wants vary greatly from each other.

The What, Why, and How of Memorization

We probably all know what *memorization* is. But it's important to clarify that the long-range goal of memorization is not to be able to recite the verse or passage once without looking. The end goal of

memorization is to store God's Word so securely in our heart that we will never lose it.

This leads us to the “*why*” of memorization. When we memorize, we internalize. We carry those things that we memorize (whether John 3:16 in King James version, the recipe for that dish we make often, or the words to a silly song we heard decades ago) with us—they become a part of us. They actively influence our actions and decisions.

As we develop the practice of memorization, we grow our brains. We gain an increased capacity for further memorization, and for better general memory. We can pray Scriptures and provide comfort to someone experiencing hardship without fumbling around in our Bibles searching for a passage that is reluctant to be found.



I imagine that the biggest excuse for not developing this discipline is that it is hard—and we don't really know an effective way to proceed. But in truth, a few minutes spent each day can lead to a large chunk of Scriptures securely committed to memory.

Here are some ideas:

✦ **Meditate** on the Scriptures you want to memorize. As you spend time thinking and focusing deeply on each verse, you will find that the words and the meaning begin to penetrate your heart.



✦ **Write it:** write the verse out once a day for a week. In the next week, write out the first letter of each word in the verse, and then try to say the verse using only those letters as your cues. Or use a whiteboard to write out the entire verse, then erase a word and say the entire verse. Erase another word and say it again, continuing until the board is blank.

✦ **Post the verse** in places where you will see it throughout the day: at your desk, over the kitchen sink, at the bathroom mirror, on the dash of your car. Each time you encounter the verse, read it and try to say it without looking.

✦ **Accountability:** find a friend who is also working on memory and set up a time to check in with each other.

✦ **Use the Dwell app** (dwelldifferently.com)—you'll receive a temporary tattoo with a memory verse, as well as other memorization tools, each month.

✦ **Set the verse to music** or find a version of it set to music. Listen to or sing it often.

✦ **Record yourself reading the verse**, then listen to it throughout the day.

Once you've committed a verse to memory, do *two* things. Start on a

The end goal of memorization is to store God's Word so securely in our heart that we will never lose it.

→ Please see “Memorize” on page 18.

Memorize

← (Continued from page 17)

new verse or passage, and make sure to keep the first one memorized by reviewing.

Classical educator **Charlotte Mason** developed a good system for this. You need index cards and 41 index card dividers. Label the dividers: daily, odd, even, one for each day of the week, and numbers 1–31. Your first memorized verse will go behind the *daily* tab to be reviewed daily. When you learn a new verse, move the first to the *odd* or *even* tab and put the new one in the “daily” section. As you memorize new verses, the older ones will be pushed back until they are being reviewed once weekly and then once monthly.

Next Steps

We may not be in direct or immediate danger of losing the printed Word today, but meditation and memorization are still an important part of the Christian walk. As you endeavor to put these disciplines into practice this month, I encourage you to choose a Scripture on which to focus. Then commit to meditating on it and working to memorize it. When you have it committed to memory, I’d love to hear about it! ✝



A FUTURE PROOF SEMINAR PEACE OF MIND FOR YOUR FAMILY

HOSTED BY

EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH
HEALTH CARE MINISTRY TEAM

Who will care for your children if something happens to you?
What legal documents are required for parents to have any say
in who the court decides will raise your children?
Will your kids’ guardians be able to financially support them?
Do you have a plan in place to pay for burial expenses?

SATURDAY | **9:30 - 11:00 AM**
MARCH 16TH | **BUILDERS ROOM**

PLEASE REGISTER BY MARCH 13TH



Scan this QR Code with your
smartphone camera to register online
or call **Joy McMurchy** at **541-944-3093**
or **Sherri Fobert** at **503-910-7030**.

CHILDCARE & LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

Thank you to Alison Johnson for the above graphic.



Continuing at EBC!

Connect Group Ministry

By Dave Whitbeck

dave.l.whitbeck@gmail.com

Chairman, Connect Groups Leadership Team

Connect Groups continue to grow and go strong at EBC. Groups meet in homes and at church all over our area. *How about YOU? Wanna join us?*

Connect Groups Relationships

Based on our vision and values, a key element of Connect Groups is our relationships. We should be developing and constantly maintaining relationships with:

- ✠ God
- ✠ Each other
- ✠ Our community.

We are pleased to announce that we have three new groups in the works: **Collin and Allison Johnson's** group, a women's

group, and a Monmouth group.

YOU?

If you want to become a Connect Group facilitator, **or** join a Connect Group, please text or call **Dave Whitbeck** at **503.931.6252**.

Please continue to pray that the Connect Groups will

carry out the vision established for them, and that new groups will be

established as interest in them increases.

Connect Groups Mission:
Seek, Connect, Grow

Connect Groups Vision:

✠ **Seeking** to know God better through praise, prayer, and study of the Bible.

✠ **Connecting** with each other through fellowship and encouragement.

✠ **Growing** together by spiritually strengthening each other in our walk with Christ through discussion of the Bible, prayer, accountability, and sharing Christ with others.

Appreciation Lunch

We held a **Connect Group Facilitator's Appreciation Luncheon** on January 20, 2024, to thank, encourage, and challenge our facilitators. We had nine facilitators and their spouses in attendance. ✝



Dave Whitbeck, Connect Group Ministry Leader, thanked the facilitators for their continued service and presented them with a token of appreciation.



Pastor Mike Fast shared words of encouragement and challenged the facilitators to find ways to reach out to serve in our community and in our church.



A delicious lunch was prepared by Claudia McGillvray with the help of kitchen staff. A big thank you to everyone involved in putting together this important event!

Get connected!

Youth Perspective

Full Circle

AdobeStock

By Isabelle Lovell
FORGED! Youth Reporter

The Cause

One of the toughest questions any person asks themselves at some point in their life: *what is my purpose?*



As Christians, we know what we were put on this earth to do, so *then why do we still find ourselves asking the same question?* Perhaps it is

because the world has a way of entrapping our thoughts no matter how hard we try to keep our eyes on God. It is this reason that made me realize it is never bad to be reminded what our mission is. Christians are to go out and be disciples so we can *make* disciples.

Praying

The best way to start this circle is by praying for those around us. We can go and talk to hundreds of people or only a few, but

ultimately it is God who changes their hearts.

Therefore, we must pray that they will hear the truths we have told them and take the final step to be saved by allowing themselves to accept God as their savior. By praying for those around us we not only prepare ourselves to go out and be disciples, but we prepare the hearts of others so they can hear.

Caring

While praying for others is good, we shouldn't stop there. As **Pastor Andrew** put it, "*don't stop at the foundation, don't end with the structure.*"

Instead, we must act and make a difference. Simply saying that we're praying for someone does *not* get the job done. We should show others that we care about them by actively seeking out their needs.



THE Cause Circle
Dare 2 Share Ministries

Helping students:

*Meet Jesus,
Trust Jesus,
Follow Jesus!*

This is our mission; we are designed to share His message which we have been given.

Youth Group Meetings

Compass (Middle School) Youth Group:
Thursdays

6:30 pm—Official start time

8:30 pm—Official end time

FORGED (High School) Youth Group:
Sundays

6:30 pm—Official start time

8:30 pm—Official end time

Spread the word!

Listening to the ups and downs in friends', family's, or even stranger's lives can show that they mean something to us. Discipling people should not be something we just

→ Please see "Youth" on page 21.



Pastor Andrew Wheeler

O: 503.623.2331

C: 503.747.9300

youthpastor@ebcdallas.org

Youth

← (Continued from page 20.)

check off. It should be something we look forward to doing. It should be something we love as Jesus loved it.

Sharing

Lastly, we must share God with the people around us. We shouldn't be afraid of helping others find what they need most, instead we must find the courage to send God's Word into the darkness of our lives.

This is our mission: we are designed to share His message which we have been given. The one thing we all have in common is our need for Christ, so we should not hesitate to speak about the cure for our sin. As people who have been given life and hope we must share this base need.

It's also important to realize that each part of the circle should *never* stop. We can show someone that we care by praying for their needs when they hit a hard time, and we can share by giving people hope in those times. In this way, the circle will never stop until Christ has returned and there is no more suffering and everyone will see that He lives. ✝

Romans 10:14-17 (ESV):

"How then will they call him in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in him of whom they never heard? And how are they to hear without someone preaching? And how are they to preach unless they are sent? ... So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ."

Volunteer Service Projects

By **Gaye Stewart**
Meals Ministry & Floral Ministry Teams

Have you been wondering where you could plug in to the amazing volunteer opportunities at EBC?

Here are two meaningful ministries that could use your help to minister to people in need:

1 The Meals Ministry provides meals for those who are ill, recovering from surgery, or have other serious needs. The volunteers take turns making a meal for the person or family every other day for up to six meals or so. A volunteer cook might be asked to fill a request for a meal 3 to 4 times per year. Each cook delivers their delicious meal, a smiling face, and encouragement for the recipient to feel better soon.

2 The Floral Ministry is accepting a few new people to join the EBC Floral Team. The team currently has three people (**Gaye Stewart, Kim Disher, and Carolyn Stent**), all in the process of learning more about the art of floral design. Like music,

beautiful flowers move people by their color, textures, variety, beauty, and design.

If you love flowers and want to learn more about the art of floral arrangement for this ministry and for your own enjoyment, this is an ideal opportunity. In addition to



the weekly floral bouquets for our Sunday morning services, our team is also available to help members of

our congregation celebrate a special occasion.

To schedule a floral celebration during the worship service, start by checking the sign-up calendar on the bulletin board near the entrance to the gym and then give me a call to discuss your idea. You also have the option of providing your own floral tribute without the involvement of the floral team and I can help with that as well.

How to Join!

Choose either (*or both*) of these meaningful volunteer opportunities to serve our church family, or just call to get more information. You will be glad you did...and I am waiting for your call! ✝

Gaye can be reached at:

503.510.4370

RosesRemembered@aol.com



Eric and Judith Hedeon

Greetings From New Guinea!



We have exciting news to share! Our part of the translation process in Malaumanda began in earnest in 2006.

Judith and I were the last members of the original church planting team and translation was a major need for the young church there. I can't say as I began translation with an abundance of confidence.

It just needed to be done. And the Lord had used all sorts of people to write it originally and even spoke His Word through a donkey, so I must have met the minimum qualifications.

Growing Team

Over the years we made slow steady progress until **John and Christina Hutteman** and **Bob and Noby Kennell** joined the team.

Progress took off at that point as Bob started translating and we were able to finish up the New Testament about four years later. We had our first Bible dedication in 2015. For the next several years, the



The newly printed Malaumanda Bible open to Mathew (Matiyu) Chapter 1.

Malaumandan believers spent time reading God's Word which allowed us to make a few more spelling revisions and prep for our final printing. This process took much longer than I thought it would. The end result though has been worth the effort.

To the best of our knowledge, the 1,700 Bibles will soon be shipped to Papua, New Guinea. They are expecting it to take roughly two months so they should get to Wewak in April.

We won't have an immediate opportunity to do another Bible dedication. The details are still in process but we are hoping to get in to Malaumanda right after **Daniel** graduates in May and spend 3–4 days there. This will give Daniel the

opportunity to see Malaumanda again and allow us the chance to spend some time with the church there before we leave for home assignment.

More Great News!

Now if that was not exciting enough, we also want to let you know that the Malaumandan church is in the midst of a evangelistic outreach to the village of Minim.

That group of people asked some of the church leaders to come and teach them the Gospel. They packed a large tarp, their Bibles and teaching materials, and made the trip up to Minim.

Due to limited cell phone service in that area, we were able to keep in touch with the group from afar. In fact, **Jim**—one of the leaders— has been in fairly regular contact with me and every conversation relates how excited the Minim people are to hear the teaching. In fact,

→ Please see "Papua" on page 23.



Daniel's 18th Birthday! We had three families over for a meal to celebrate his birthday.



Someone gave Daniel a 5 lb bar of Hershey's Chocolate. He brought it to school and shared it with his friends. Now there is only 4 1/2 lbs to go!



Yummmm! chocolate...

Papua

← (Continued from page 22.)

Jim requested that I purchase an additional tarp as the first one was not big enough to keep the sun and rain off of the crowd!

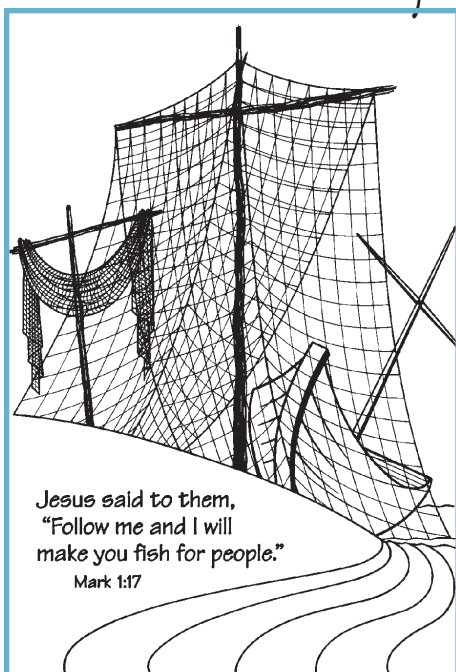
I bought a tarp and had it sent via airplane to Minim. They sent a couple of guys to the nearest airstrip to pick it up.

While it would have been great fun to be a part of this outreach, I am so thankful that they don't need me to be there in order to share the Good News to this village.

We are thankful for each of you who have supported our ministry here through prayer and financial gifts.

In Him,

Eric and Judith, Stephen, Daniel,
and Timothy ✝



Prayer and Praise

✝ Praise for God's faithfulness to us as we get to the end of this current term on the field.

✝ Pray for **Eric** as he has a very full month of February. He has a consultant trip to the bush, consultant meetings here at Lapilo, leadership meetings and a leadership workshop. And, of course, he still has all of the normal management tasks.

✝ Praise that the boys are into their final semester of the school year. Pray for **Daniel** as he is about to finish Spanish. Pray also for him as he is showing some of the early signs of senioritis.

✝ Pray for **Stephen** as he is quite busy with his schooling at Moody Aviation. He is doing well though we pray that he can get a few more hours at work to help with his bills.

✝ Praise for the Malaumanda Bibles that are just about done and being printed. Pray that they will get to Papua, New Guinea well before we leave for home assignment.

Home Assignment:

✝ Pray for the funds needed for our trip back to the US, for a vehicle for home assignment and a place to stay for that year.

✝ Pray that we find housing and a vehicle for use during our home assignment. We will be in the United States for a year (*beginning in June 2024*). If you, or someone you know are able to help, please contact them, the church office, or anyone on the Missions Committee.

✝ Pray also for wisdom as to where we will stay. There is a possibility in Oregon and one possibility near Stephen though nothing is clear quite yet. A major goal for this home assignment is to help Daniel to get established in the US, so this plays into the decision.

✝ Pray for us to be able to finish this term on the field strong.



Annual EBC Event Held on February 3 & 4!

Our Annual Mission Conference

By Ron Brooks
EBC Missions Committee

Let me start off this note by thanking **Sylvia Thomas** and **Jim Peters** for their hard work, leadership and prayerful stewardship while serving on the EBC Missions Committee over the last several years.

Their advocacy for the missionaries and local ministries supported by Evangelical Bible Church has provided stability and continuity for reaching the lost.



in Mali hosting a youth camp which would combine skills training with a focus on creating and encouraging a missionary mindset.

At Sunday morning services Steve continued with the theme of ***“We are in this together”*** using **Acts 11:19–26** to show how we all have a part to play in sharing the Good News.

This passage of Scripture explained how the church in Antioch was

started, grew, and matured through the efforts of many individuals. Steve related that to how each of us has a part to play in spreading the Gospel.

It's a Wrap!

Wrapping up the weekend with the evening service, Steve and Mikki shared an update on their ministry with SIM in West Africa. Please consider lifting them up in prayer as they continue to serve the Lord. ✝

Illustrations with this article by AdobeStock.

Annual Missions Conference

We kicked off the first weekend of February with the Annual Missions Conference with **Steve and Mikki Schmidt** who are missionaries with SIM in West Africa.

We started with a Saturday morning breakfast with Steve presenting on the theme of ***“We are in this together.”*** And we were all in this together when Dallas had a power outage right after we finished serving breakfast. We moved out of the darkened gym to the Youth Center to listen to Steve's presentation.

Breakthrough Prayer

One item Steve presented Saturday morning was the concept of a *Breakthrough Prayer* to give each of us a specific focus to our prayers. He mentioned one of his Breakthrough Prayers this year is the SIM's team

EBC Sound & Media Team Needs volunteers

If you are skilled in this area or have an interest and desire to learn more about this ministry, contact Sheldon Schmidt (503-580-0597) or the office and we will get you connected.

We are in need of presentation techs, studio producers, sound board techs, camera operators, and more. Flexible schedules are available.

Thank you to Alison Johnson for the above graphic.

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.

Taking Care of Each Other

Early this year, temperatures dropped below zero, and our community lost power for multiple days. People found ways to take care of each other. The church furnace didn't work well enough to prevent pipes from freezing. A neighbor spent several hours helping our church board president fix the plumbing. That Sunday, the church was too cold to meet in, but a community organization allowed us to meet in their building and then serve a community meal.

Tony & Cathy Bittner
Skykomish, WA ✝

Growing Congregation

A woman in Katie's Bible study recently joined our Sunday worship services with her two children. Five years ago, there were no children in our church; now we have six little girls running around the church! Our church family is thrilled! During corporate prayer one Sunday, a lady praised God for bringing these children to us.

JD & Katie Milton
Buskirk, NY ✝

Showing Our Appreciation

We held an appreciation luncheon for the many people who faithfully serve alongside us in our church. We gave each one a handwritten card with a character trait from the Word of God that describes their service and how they demonstrated that quality last year. It was such a great honor to share our appreciation with these servants of the Lord!

Matt & Stephanie Van Gorden
Hartland Center, OH ✝

Missionaries & Ministries EBC Supports!

The focus of the Mission Committee is to follow the mandate Jesus gave to go into the world for the advancement of evangelism, discipleship and Christian education in a manner effective for the culture being reached. The committee exists to be a supportive and evaluative conduit between EBC and the work on the mission field that the congregation supports, maintaining an attitude of advocacy for missionaries and corresponding projects.

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



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



→ Please see "EBC Supports" on page 27.

EBC Supports

← (Continued from page 26.)

✠ Administrative 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

✠ Administrate programs such as a coffee shop outreach

✠ Long time involvement with a Christian radio ministry



Eric and Judith Hedeem

Ethnos 360

eric_hedeem@ntm.org

✠ Serve in Papua, New Guinea

✠ Mentoring new missionaries to the field

✠ Translation work

✠ Judith works in the medical clinic and member care

✠ Leadership development among the indigenous people



Paul and Leslie Lanquist

Village Missions at Tanwax Country Chapel, Washington

360.832.3584

pastorpaullanquist@gmail.com

✠ Developing outreach programs for the homeless in their area

✠ Starting a women's ministry program

✠ Leading the church in new directions after COVID divisions and other issues left the church without a senior pastor for nearly a year



Steve and Mikki Schmidt

SIM Missionaries

steve.schmidt@sim.org

mikki.schmidt@sim.org

✠ Steve is the SIM regional Director for West Africa

✠ Supervises country directors in 11 countries

✠ Both Steve and Mikki work in SIM's Global Leader Development Program

✠ Mikki does educational consulting work, and also works in the Paths to School Improvement program which trains Christian school leaders throughout Africa



Andrew and Jerusha (Dressel) Yount

Proclaim Aviation Ministries

andyandjerusha@gmail.com

✠ On staff with Moody Bible Institute's Mission Aviation School

✠ Learning Avionics in preparation for future Missionary pilot position ✚

Other Outreach Ministries We Support:

◆ Awana
◆ 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.**

The Sentinel is produced by Evangelical Bible
Church (EBC) of Dallas, Oregon.

1175 SE Howe Street
Dallas, Oregon 97338
503.623.2331

office@ebcdallas.org
<https://ebcdallas.org/>

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!** ☩



MARCH EVENTS

3/5 Ladies Missionary Fellowship

3/11 Hymn Sing

3/12 Mom to Mom

3/15 Ladies Bunco

3/15-16 Men's Retreat

3/16 Peace of Mind Seminar

3/23 Baby Shower for baby DeJong

3/24 Palm Sunday

3/29 Good Friday Service

3/30 Community Easter Event

3/31 Easter Sunday



THANK YOU, Alison Johnson, for providing the calendar graphic.

***But if serving the LORD seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day
whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or
the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household,
we will serve the LORD.***

Joshua 24:15 (NIV)