

The Sentinel

WE
STAND
WATCH

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April, 2024
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Risen!

He came to what was His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name.

John 1:11-12 (LSB)

As I sit down to write, Palm Sunday is just a couple days away. By the time you are reading this article, Palm Sunday will be past and maybe Easter as well.

Holidays are a good way to remember things that are important to us. We, as people, tend to be quite forgetful. It is no surprise that in Scripture, God instituted holidays and observances and commanded the people to set up certain stones as monuments of remembrance. He called His people



**By Pastor Troy Bassham
Senior Pastor**

to remember His mighty works. So, while the resurrection is important every day of the year, we set aside this special season to focus on the empty tomb and our Savior's victory over sin and death.

And yet, I'm thinking about the Sunday before the stone was rolled away and the angels declared the news. Israel's long-awaited Messiah rode into Jerusalem on the back of a donkey, fulfilling the prophecy of Zechariah, entering the Holy City.

Rejected

But His people did not receive Him. Outside of a small

group of His faithful followers, He was rejected. There were certainly different responses and different reasons for rejecting Jesus. There was petty jealousy, sinful pride, and wrong expectations along

→ Please see "Risen" on page 2.

Looking Inside ...

- Update 2
- Blood Donations 3
- Floral Tribute 3
- Mythbusters #11 4
- EBC Sound & Media Team 7
- YOUR Board of Elders 8
- Elders' Epistle 9
- News from FEBC 11
- Awana Update 12
- Closing Soon 13
- FLYER: May Festival 13
- FLYER: Board/Card Games ... 13
- Mom to Mon Update 14
- Ladies Missionary Fellowship . 15
- Fasting 16
- Vehicle: Can YOU Help? 17
- Youth: Spring Retreat 18
- Creative Gifting 20
- Younts: Making It Connect ... 23
- Stories from the Fields 25
- Missionaries EBC Supports ... 26
- Calendars & Prod. Info .. Back Pg

Deadline for May, 2024 ISSUE is:

**Monday, April 29, 2024
@ 5:00 pm**



know. grow. go.



with individuals just following the prevailing mood of the crowd or failing to pay attention. But, in the end, the nation missed Jesus.

As the Savior looked upon the city, it was with sadness. **Luke 19:41-42**

(LSB) records His response:

“And as He approached Jerusalem and saw the city, He cried over it, saying, ‘If you knew in this day, even you, the things which make for peace! But now they have been hidden from your eyes.’”



Killing the Prophets

And also in **Matthew 23:37-39** **(LSB)**:

“Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you did not want it. Behold, your house is being left to you desolate! For I say to you, from now on you will not see Me until you say, ‘Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!’”

And so even today, after centuries of desolation, of the exile of the Jewish

people, the Holy City waits for the return of the Messiah.

He Is Risen

We know that He is not only victorious and risen, and that He has prepared a place and given eternal life to those who place their trust in Him, but that He is also coming again. We rejoice in what He has done, what He is doing, and what He will do.

But people are still missing Him.

For far too many, as the season passes so does any thoughts about the empty tomb or the Savior who came to restore us to God.

Just As Powerful and Relevant

It cannot be that way for us, for those that know Him. Jesus’ resurrection is just as powerful and relevant every day. I hope we are not distracted or disobedient but that we delight in our Savior.

Look for Opportunities

It is important that we look for opportunities to share the hope that we have. Christ’s personal rejection brought about our reconciliation to God and His death has given us life. This gift is for any who would receive it. We don’t need to wait for Easter or another holiday to share the Gospel, but we should pray for open doors and opportunities to share Jesus every day, as the calendar rolls forward.

... but sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being

ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you . . .

1 Peter 3:15 (LSB)

For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes . . .

Romans 1:16 (LSB) †

Update

By Alison Johnson
Office Manager



February ended in a dramatic fashion for my family. I had a small stroke from a dissected carotid. March was a quiet

month for me, and now I am back.

THANK YOU!

I want to **THANK** every one of you for the prayers, notes, cards, and meals. It meant so much to my family and I as we worked through such an unexpected upheaval in my health.

I'm Back!

I am back for half a day for the time being. As I continue to heal, I will be adding more time back in the office. While I get back into the swing of things, there will still be extra help in the office.

A huge thank you to **Elly Ensz**, **Madison Johnson**, and **Sherri Fobert** for helping to cover the office when I was gone on medical leave. †

It is important that we look for opportunities to share the hope that we have.

Blood Donations: Did You Know?

By Sherri Fobert
Health Care Committee

✠ Your body can detox naturally, but giving blood may help your body's detoxing potential.

✠ Donating blood reduces the thickness of your blood, therefore, allowing it to flow more easily through your body and reach your heart faster.

✠ The American Journal of Epidemiology published a report that found people who donated blood had an 88% lower risk of suffering a heart attack.

✠ People who give blood are literally giving away calories. About 659 of them per pint.

✠ Whole blood donations can be made 6 times a year (56 days between each donation).

✠ 16 weeks is required between Power Red donations.

✠ Platelet apheresis donors may give every 7 days up to 24 times a year (iron content of blood is very important).

✠ One's blood volume is replaced in 24 hours while it takes 4 to 6 weeks for the number of red blood cells to be replaced.

Blood Drive Coming Soon!

Coming at the end of April is the opportunity to make a whole blood donation. Each whole blood donation can affect the life of three individuals. **You can make a difference!**

So mark your calendar: **April 29, at EBC, from 12 noon to 5:00 p.m.** Make an appointment to donate at www.redcrossblood.org. Use the sponsor code: **EvangelicalChurchDallas** or you can call the church office to make an appointment. ✠



American Red Cross

Blood Services

EBC Blood Drive
Monday, April 29
EBC
12:00 to 5:00 PM
Please join us!

Floral Tribute



In celebration of Easter and our Risen Lord, the Floral Committee of EBC, under the direction of Chair **Gaye Stewart**, decorated a beautiful floral cross for the front of the sanctuary.

Assisting Gaye were committee members **Carolyn Stent** and **Kim Disher**.

This has become an annual tradition and provides a lot of beautiful spring colors for our Easter Service.

He IS Risen! ✠



Photos By Mike Stewart.

The Bible's Cohesiveness

By Administrative Pastor Mike Fast
mikefast@ebcdallas.org

The Bible was written over a span of 1500 years by forty different human authors from all walks of life, in three different languages, on hundreds of subjects, and yet there is one cohesive, consistent, noncontradictory theme that runs through it all; God's redemption of mankind and Jesus' part in it.

Genesis

God's love story to us begins with our divorce, but He has a plan, and that plan is the coming Redeemer. If you looked at the Bible as a love story between God and mankind, you would have to admit that it starts with a divorce. The divorce happens in **Genesis 3** with man walking away from God, and everything from that point on, to the end of **Revelation**, is the story of a betrayed lover—God—wooing us back into His arms so we can enjoy the love of family forever.



Exodus

The rise and rescue of the nation Israel, and their introduction to the Passover Lamb and the Rock.

Leviticus

God lays out His instructions for worship and atonement, which reveals our need for Jesus the perfect High Priest.

Numbers

Our faithful God will allow us to face the consequences of rebellion, yet He still provides water from the Rock (**1 Corinthians 10:4**). *Do you see how Jesus fits into each book of the story?*

Deuteronomy

God lays out the rules and blessings and curses, and Jesus would become a curse for us (this is referred to in **Deuteronomy 21:23** and **Galatians 3:13**).

Joshua

This book brings us into Acts II, and the plot develops. God fights for His people, and the commander of His army is Jesus (**Joshua 5:13** introduces the possibility).

Judges

The Israelites fall away from God, and God gets them back on track with a judge, until the judge dies, and then they fall away, over and over, so the understanding behind this book is this; the sin of man is revealed repeatedly, yet God

repeatedly delivers, as Jesus our Judge will deliver us.

Ruth

God lovingly provides all our needs, even our Kinsman—Redeemer. Jesus came to earth as a man to redeem us.

1 Samuel

God lets Israel choose their direction (*monarchy/king*) while Samuel (priest and prophet) helps the transition, but Jesus is our true Prophet/Priest/King.

2 Samuel

God graciously and faithfully forgives, and the Messiah would be King of grace and descendent of David. **Matthew 1** details the Davidic kingly line of the Messiah.



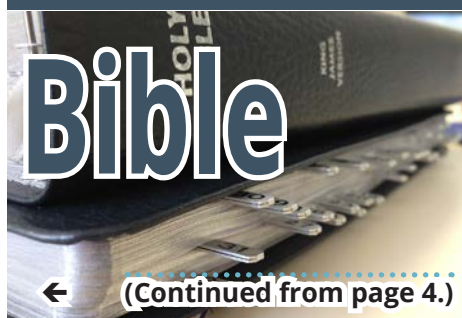
1 Kings

Solomon thought success was greatness, but the Messiah would be greater than Solomon.

2 Kings

God's promises also include punishment, yet Jesus died to bear the punishment for His children.

→ Please see "Bible" on page 5.



1 Chronicles

David shows us what a genuine desire to worship God looks like, and a Son of David is coming to rule. These are the words of Gabriel in **Luke 1**.

2 Chronicles

Numerous kings—good and bad—came and went, but One King will rule eternally.

Ezra

God desires our holiness and worship, and Ezra the priest reminds us of a Perfect Priest. **Hebrews 4** says more about that.

Nehemiah

God loves restoration, and Jesus restores our relationship with God (**2 Corinthians 5:18** tells us that God reconciled us to Him by the work of Jesus Christ).

Esther

The providence of God means that His plan will take place, and our Savior will protect us. The last five verses of **Romans 8** emphasize this point.

Job

Our Sovereign God is in absolute control even when things look bad, but a new dawn is coming (see **Job 38:12** and **Luke 1:78**).

Psalms

God loves to hear from His people, and He responds by sending the Messiah. Suffice to say, the Psalms are loaded with Messianic prophecies.

Proverbs

The wisdom of God comes from following God which comes from fearing God, and Jesus Christ is wisdom. **1 Corinthians 1:24** refers to Christ as the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Ecclesiastes

Only God gives life any meaning, and we are grateful for Jesus, our Life and meaning. **John 14:6** calls Jesus our Life and our Way.

Song of Solomon

We see the pure and profound love between a man and his bride, and between Christ and His bride (**Ephesians 5**).

Isaiah

The prophecies of God are revealed to show us God's plan for the Messiah to suffer and save.

Jeremiah

Unrighteousness leads to bondage, but Jesus is our righteousness and key to freedom. **Jeremiah 23:6** calls Jesus our righteousness, as does **1 Corinthians 1:30** in the New Testament.

Lamentations

God is full of mercy and hope and steadfast love as is His Son.

Ezekiel

Over 30 times the phrase **"they shall know that I am God"** occurs in this book. A lot about



God's glory. Over 90 times Ezekiel is referred to as a "son of man," but the reference to Christ being the Son of Man in the New Testament is unique, and it's the phrase Jesus used when referring to Himself. Ezekiel is never called "the son of man"; he is always just a "son of man," as in one among many. All will know God's glory, and the true Son of Man.

Daniel

After you look at all of Daniel, all the topics and references, the idea is that God reminds us that our plans don't always look like His, and Jesus, the stone above all kingdoms, proves it.

Hosea

God's love never gives up, even when we are unfaithful, and Jesus the faithful bridegroom demonstrates that love. (**Romans 5:8**)

Joel

Wake up and repent of your sin, for the Holy Spirit is coming and the Messiah brings Him.

Amos

God's justice is coming, and Jesus will bear our burdens. **Amos 8:9** talks about darkness coming, and **Matthew 27:45** talks about the darkness that came when Jesus died on the cross.

Obadiah

Only one chapter long, discussing the fall of Israel's enemies. God cares

→ Please see "Bible" on page 6.



for and watches over His people, which is why He sends Jesus as our Savior.

Jonah

Submit to God's plan, not our own, and His plan involves a forgiving Messiah for Jews and non-Jews alike.

Micah

God promises to bless the future of His people, because of Jesus His messenger.

Nahum

We need to trust God and rest patiently in Him, and understand that Jesus stands with us and for us.

Habakkuk

Only three chapters, and Habakkuk is asking God some tough questions. The idea is that even when we don't understand what's going on, just keep trusting, and remember Jesus brings good news.

Zephaniah

Don't settle for comfort and pleasure when God is calling you to something greater, and His Savior is part of that process.

Haggai

God wants His people to be holy and worship Him, and He sends His Messiah to be present with us. **Haggai 2** prophesies of the Messiah visiting the people.

Zechariah

Something great is coming. Believe it. Greater than a temple and restored nation, Jesus is coming! **Zechariah 9:9** prophesies of Jesus coming to Jerusalem on the donkey, and **12:10** prophesies of His being pierced on the cross for us. And much more prophecy.

Malachi

Right worship incorporates attitude and action, and Jesus demonstrates both.

The theme is still here; God's redemption of mankind.

Matthew

Act III of our story feels like the bad guys are closing in, and winning, but this Act is going to end with a final battle where the good guys win, but first we are formally introduced to the leader of the good guys, the Hero who has arrived. God, the Messiah King arrives for the Jews (**Matthew 2:2**).

Mark

God's suffering Servant arrives to serve and save (**Mark 10:45**).

Luke

God, the Son of Man arrives for the Gentiles (non-Jews, **Luke 19:10**).



John

The Son of God is the only way to the reality of Heaven (**John 14:6**).

Acts

God now reveals the effective work of the Holy Spirit through His church, the bride of Christ.

Romans

The gospel and doctrine of Jesus Christ is the only means to peace with God (**Romans 5:1-2**).

1 Corinthians

Practical life tips from God, and why the resurrection of Christ matters.

2 Corinthians

God's Spirit empowers us to live by Christ's example.

Galatians

Being crucified with Christ means that we are free from the burden of the Law (**Galatians 2:2-21**).

Ephesians

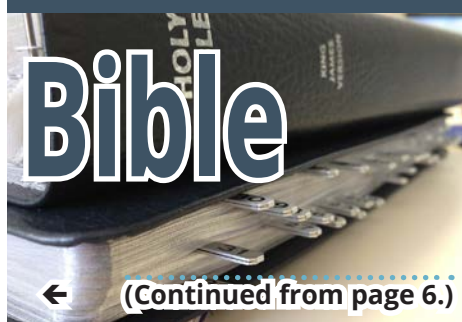
We are saved by the grace of God to join Christ in the work He does (**Ephesians 2:10**).

Philippians

God reminds us that we can give Him everything and yet lose nothing. In chapters one and three,



→ Please see "Bible" on page 7.



Paul says it's true of life, and in chapter 4 he says it's even true of anxiety.

Colossians

How we walk in Christ today reveals our hope in God's promises for tomorrow.

1 Thessalonians

Wait for it! *Jesus Christ is coming back!*

2 Thessalonians

Stand firm in your faith and in the truth of Christ (**2 Thessalonians 2:15**).

1 Timothy

God has a specific plan for Christ's church and its leaders. A very clear book of instructions concerning the church leadership.

2 Timothy

A soon-to-die saint looks back at life's adversities, and ahead to life with Christ. **2 Timothy 4:7-8**
Paul assesses things after fighting the good fight of faith.

Titus

God encourages the church to live



in such a way that the good news of Christ appeals to others.

Philemon

This short story reminds Christ's followers of the substance in every real-life relationship.

Hebrews

God wants it clearly understood that His Son is superior to all things.

James

Good works are the product of true faith in Christ.

1 Peter

It may be hard, but hang in there, because Jesus has guaranteed you Heaven! (**1 Peter 4:19**).

2 Peter

We are warned to stay away from false teachings and cleverly devised myths.

1 John

If you want to know the truth of who you really are, begin by evaluating how much you love others (**1 John 4:8**).

2 John

We must constantly discern the truths of Christ (**2 John 8**).

3 John

Humility leads to gracious hospitality, but pride leads to a wicked segregation.

Jude

Be willing to fight for the truth of the gospel of Christ in the face of heresy (**Jude 3**).

Revelation

The victory we have been looking forward to. Reign with the Lamb now, and you will sing when the Lion roars (**Revelation 10:3**). †

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.

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

In last month's issue **Joe Cacka** and **Justin Ensz** shared their testimonies. This month both **Darrel Hiebenthal** and **Galen Harms** will share theirs.

Darrel Hiebenthal

Some of the first memories I have at EBC were when I was about 4 or 5 years old in the basement of the church.

That is where the nursery and the classroom west of the nursery is now. We had Sunday school classes in the basement with all children's age groups from kindergarten through Junior High.



We had partitions between the departments—about six feet high—and you could hear everything

being said next to your department. That would be called *sensory overload* today, but I thought it was quite exciting.

A Family Activity

I had one brother older and two brother's younger that were also in the Sunday school area, so it was



like an extension of the family. I was brought up attending church and that was something our whole family did, including my grandparents that were members of this church.

Things became less hectic after the educational wing at church was built. It was during that time that my older brother asked Jesus into his life, and he understood that he needed a savior. I started asking questions of my mom.

Starting to Understand

After understanding that I had sin in my life that needed to be forgiven, and without forgiveness I would be separated from God. At age 6, my mother asked me if I wanted to ask Jesus into my life, I couldn't say **YES** fast enough. I can still remember the burden lifted off my shoulders and the Holy Spirit's assurance of a new address for my soul.

School, Church, Farm

In my family life and growing up there were three major activities:

- ☒ School
- ☒ Church
- ☒ Farm

Church is something that I really didn't question, especially when your dad is the Sunday school

superintendent. When church was happening, we went. Sometimes we were involved in additional activities because of my dad's involvement with the jail ministry.

Several people that spent time locked up would ask my dad if they could store personal property on the farm. That was interesting to say the least because of the people that we met, but that left quite an impression on young kids' lives for what not to get involved with.



The **farm** would take lots of time throughout the year, including summer activities such as harvesting grain and fruits and some time on a tractor working in the fields. We even raised hogs from time to time and had special duties involving cleanup. But those activities would not keep us from attending church.

Pastoral Apprenticeship

One of the biggest life changing events that I got involved with was a class that **Pastor Pete** started when I was in high school. It was a Pastoral Apprenticeship class for people that might become interested in church ministry. It was very much a Discipleship group. We had study books, Scripture memory, and we

→ Please see "Elders" on page 10.

Church is something that I really didn't question, especially when your dad is the Sunday school superintendent. When church was happening, we went.

Elders

← (Continued from page 9.)

went on visitations. It really was a stretching time in my life.

We had a few people come and go in the class, but out of the core group of eight people, six went into full time church ministry and two are very involved in lay ministry.

When I was a senior, I started team teaching 4th grade boys Sunday school with my older brother.

Post High School

Two weeks after high school graduation, I was hired to work at the Caterpillar® lift truck plant in Dallas as a cleanup man. Three years after starting work at Caterpillar **DeeAnne** and I got married.

We had been dating for almost three years and she had graduated from high school. One thing I had agreed to from leadership at church was to take one year off from teaching Sunday school and attend an adult class with DeeAnne. We made it about 10 months before the leadership asked us to lead the Junior High department. That became Junior High Youth Ministry and later—after those students became high school age—the high school youth ministry began.

Growing Family

DeeAnne and I had our first daughter two years after our marriage and three more daughters followed in the next six years, most of them during that time of the Junior High Ministry.

Our kids grew up with youth around much of the time and I think the junior high kids liked it also. After Junior High Ministry, I was Sunday school Superintendent for six years before helping with youth group and teaching high school Sunday school for about 19 years. After that I have been in leadership since 2014.

One thing I am sure of, we don't know all the twists and turns of life, but our Father Jesus Christ knows all things. I just don't know how He might use us or where He might use us. My responsibility is to be always ready for that. For me it might be pickle ball, church, my neighbors, the grocery store, football game, or my grandkids (*seven of them*). ***My prayer is that we would all be found faithful.***

Galen Harms

The neighborhood in which EBC is located is where I grew up.



My grandma and several aunts and uncles lived within a few houses of the church, and I lived about two and a half blocks away. We

all attended the Mennonite Brethren church here in town.

Godly Upbringing

My parents were Godly people



and always involved in the church, and so I was raised in a wonderful Christian home.

Further, I was also able to observe mature Christians in action as my folks practiced service in the church and the community. Thus attendance at church several times a week was a matter of fact.

As a youngster—and after a matter of discipline at the knee of my mother and with her guidance—I confessed my sins, and asked Jesus to be my savior. Obviously, this was for me a genuine event, but most certainly age appropriate for me at the time. This occasion is duly recorded in my father's Bible, which I still have.

Later in my life, while in college and also as a young married, there were other times at a more mature age when I recommitted my life to Jesus and determined to follow Him.

Teaching Abroad

After college and marriage,

→ Please see "Elders" on page 19.

.....
Later in my life, while in college and also as a young married, there were other times at a more mature age when I recommitted my life to Jesus and determined to follow Him.

Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches

News from FEBC!

By Kevin Stone
President, FEBC



April 1, 2024

Last week I was in a public place, near a group of people who were making conversation. I wasn't trying to listen in, but it was hard not to hear what they were saying. One lady said: "Do you have plans for Easter?" and two others replied something like: "Oh, that's this weekend?" One lady declared – "I guess I need to get Easter baskets."

I was not able to join their conversation, but I wanted to ask: "Why? Why buy Easter baskets? It is Maundy Thursday, and you didn't know Easter was coming up, so I would guess it doesn't mean much to you."

Another lady said she will dress up and attend church with her grandmother ("you have to dress up because Grandma goes to a fancy church"). The others didn't seem to have any plans besides buying some candy for the kids. Practically speaking, Easter for them is about the same as Halloween. As I listened, I felt a growing sense of sorrow.

The Church Exists Because...

The Church exists for many reasons, but among those reasons is to bring the Gospel to our communities. There is no doubting the fact that you live in a mission field. Of course, our churches exist to develop believers to maturity in Christ, but that development should include cultivating a passion for the lost people around us. There is no longer such a thing as a "Christian majority" in the US or Canada. We are a light in the darkness. I urge our church leaders and members to consider how we may reach into our communities with the Gospel.

"...at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord..." (Ephesians 5:8 - ESV)

Check Out FEBC On the Web!

If you have not recently checked out our website, I encourage you to take a look. You can preview the new online version of the Fellowship Focus magazine—which includes some new content as well as some articles from the last print edition. A brand-new issue of the Fellowship Focus will be released very soon. Subscribe online to receive email notification when new content is available.



Connect 24—Join Us!

Also, registrations are now open for Connect24—happening July 11-13 in Dalmeny, SK. You can find all the pertinent information and register online at our website: www.fellowshipforward.org

Thank you for supporting the Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches!

Kevin Stone
President ✝

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www.fellowshipforward.org 📧 president@febministries.org

Awana Update



By Lena Calef
EBC Awana Co-Commander

March brought our Awana Coin Drive, monies raised from our coin drives go towards Missions. This year we brought in a local Mission, located right here in Polk County.

For 2024, we chose to support **Bambinos, Oregon**. We chose to raise coins by Club, Cubbies, Sparks, T&T and Trek. Even providing a jar for the leaders to see who can raise the most!

The Mission of Bambinos, Oregon

“Bambinos, Oregon is a prayerful nonprofit ministry that aims to reduce the stress in homes of Polk County, Oregon families. We demonstrate the love of Jesus Christ by providing essential supplies, safety equipment, extra-curricular scholarships, and spiritual and emotional support. By meeting a temporary, yet essential need, relationships are built facilitating permanent transformation. Transformed families can be inspired to transform their communities.”

Helping with Critical Needs

Bambinos, Oregon helps with diapers and wipes, formula, car

seats, safety equipment etc., car seat clinics, gently used baby equipment, K–8 extracurricular scholarships, New baby gift packs, emergency needs, and family support.

Special Speaker

On Wednesday, March 13, 2024 **Director Glenda Dunaway** came in and spoke to Awana Clubs, Sparks, T&T and Trek. She talked to our youth about how the money Awana raised would go to purchasing diapers and wipes. This need can hinder many families, and items have no federal or state assistance in any form.

Glenda shared that in 2023, Bambinos, Oregon was able to serve 441 children in Polk County. Along with providing these families with:

- ✘ 1,321 packs of diapers + 184 packs in gift baskets
- ✘ 1,311 packs of wipes
- ✘ 322 cans of formula
- ✘ 46 new baby gift baskets
- ✘ 391 pieces of used baby equipment
- ✘ 60 car seats
- ✘ 84 other safety items

We Helped

Matt and I are excited to announce that **the EBC Awana Clubs combined raised \$196.39 to go towards Bambinos, OR!**

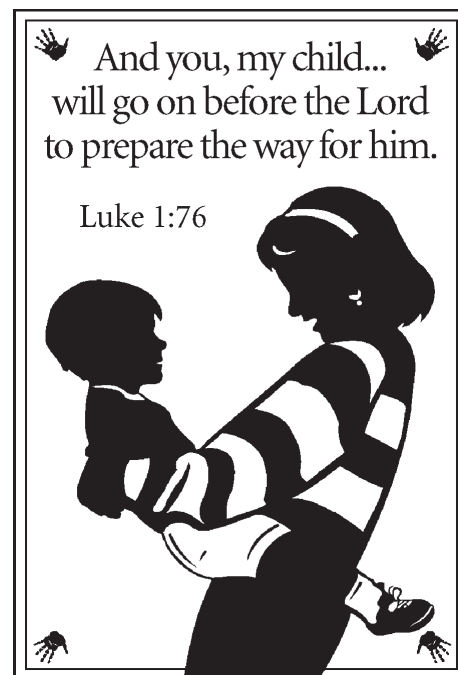
We are looking forward to gathering a few of our clubbers and presenting Glenda and Bambinos, Oregon with the funds raised.

- ✘ Awana Leaders \$17.49
- ✘ Cubbies \$17.54
- ✘ Sparks \$74.49
- ✘ T&T \$87.37
- ✘ Trek \$5.50

Want Additional Info?

For more information on Bambinos, Oregon:

www.bambinosoregon.org ✚



One More Shopping Time!

Closing Soon . . .

'Til Next Season!



By Kim Disher
Awana Shop Keeper

The third *and final* Awana store of the year is almost here (**April 10: Sparks; April 17: T&T**). In other words, it serves as the final time this year for the children to spend their hard earned Awana bucks!

April 10: Sparks

April 17: T&T

Always Popular

Some items we would like to have for the store are: LEGO® Sets,

board games, dolls, doll accessories, trucks, cars, sports equipment and balls, flashlights, tools, bubbles, arts and craft kits and supplies, kites Basically, anything else that you think a child might like for themselves or to give to a family member for a birthday, Mother's Day, Father's Day, etc.

Many Thanks!

Thank you for donating items to the store to encourage and support our children in their quest to learn more about the Bible, God, and Jesus. ✝




May Festival

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

MAY
FRIDAY 10 AT 6 PM

IN THE EVENING

Location: EBC Activity Center
\$5.00 per Ticket
Tickets go on sale April 7, 14, 21, 28



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



:: Board & Card Game Morning ::

Saturday, April 20th
9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
EBC Youth Center

Bring a game and a friend!
Coffee, Tea, Orange Juice & Muffins provided.



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

Mom to Mom Update

By Lena Calef

During the month of March there was only one meeting for Mom to Mom and that was by far our favorite! It was Mom Swap!

What Is It?

What is Mom Swap? It's the biggest Mom free garage sale event we host!! During February's meetings we start encouraging moms to set aside things they no longer want, household, baby, clothing...

Then, on the Monday before our meeting, our Steering Team sets up and helps organize all the things brought in. This year we had tables full of clothes for everyone, household items, books, and so much baby stuff!

Normal Start ...

Our Tuesday morning starts pretty normal, welcome, prayer and breakfast. We were very blessed to have many new and former Mom to Mom moms attend, many were invited to come shop and learn more about Mom to Mom. And some just look forward to participating!

Many of our moms who have been coming for years look forward to this event. We had a lot of feedback. The moms were excited to see things move on and to pick up the next sizes for their kids or a new knick knacks.

We pray that many of the moms that attend feel a sense of community and look forward to seeing them come to more events.

Heading Toward Break

We are rounding the corner on the last few meetings of this year. Please keep all of our moms and our Steering Team in your prayers. That we can finish out this year strong and continue building community and relationships over the summer.

Special Visitor/Speaker

In February, Mom to Mom was treated to have **Kelsey Ensz** as our special guest speaker. Kelsey spoke on the theme: **Fences and Flexibility—Setting Limits with Love!** †



Photos By Lena Calef and Gwen Griffiths.

Ladies Missionary Fellowship

By Jerry Thiessen

The Ladies Missionary Fellowship met on Tuesday, March 5. It was a very busy, productive, and informative meeting. Those attending worked well together with completing/tying four comforters, 100's of Precious Pockets for Oregon Right to Life, 1+ Clothing Protector for the elderly, and several steps in other projects that are in process.

The attendance was very good and the enthusiasm was spread easily as we visited, prepared cards of encouragement for birthdays and one who is ill.

Brief Business Meeting

After a brief business meeting led by our President **Christine Schnieder**, we heard from **Lori Dressel** who first told us about their daughter **Jerusha** and her husband, **Andrew Yount**, and their 4-month-old. They are serving in the Spokane, Washington area with Proclaim Aviation in the specialty of aircraft avionics at Moody NW.

Following that, Lori spoke about the work she does along with several stories about the women who

come through the doors of **Hope Pregnancy Clinic** (<https://hopepregnancyclinic.org/>) in Salem.

Lori then introduced **Alice Smith's** daughter, **Corinne Thorp**, who also volunteers alongside her husband, to reach out to complete family units. The Good News of Jesus is shared with all who come in along with follow-up for a period of time.

A long table was stacked high with the gifts you all shared with them. Including diapers, outfits, blankets, books, and many other items to assist them. **A special THANK YOU to everyone for blessing them**

so generously!

Time to Eat!

After that great time of working and praying together, we were treated to a wonderful potluck, beautifully put out by the team who gave of themselves to make it the best they could. *(This included bouquets of yellow & blue centerpieces).*

Coming Up Next:

Our next meeting will be **Tuesday, April 2, starting at 9 am.** After 11 am, **Judy Burke** is planning on sharing about their work in Bolivia.

Please join us! †

YOUR Ticket to LMF Fun!

NEXT Regular Meeting

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

9:00 am Work Time Projects

11:00 Program*/Meeting

12:00 Potluck Lunch

***Program: Judy Burke will share updates about her and Dan's work in Bolivia.**

Admission Ticket
to Another Great Gathering

of the
Ladies Missionary Fellowship



Photo by Joyce Harms, 2022.

From idle pondering to ...

Fasting

By Gwen Griffiths

Every Sunday (*during church, ironically*), my phone informs me that my “screentime report” for the previous week is now available. I’m often surprised by the amount of time I’ve averaged for each day. It doesn’t help that I read many books on my phone (*especially when we’re traveling*) and that I do a certain amount of work via this device; the time adds up quicker than I would prefer.

Critical Item?

And there are days I leave my home on the way to Dallas, and then realize that I’ve left my phone behind. There’s never any question that I’ll circle back for it; in today’s culture, it is unquestionable to consider leaving it behind. It contains locations and details regarding meetings, phone numbers

for the people I need to contact, even part of my Bible study!

It is probably the single item most likely to be found at hand, beating out piano keys, books, perhaps even the computer keyboard (*at least on weekends*).

All this isn’t to brag or commend, but rather to introduce the idea of *fasting*.

My Inspiration

When I decided to write a series on spiritual disciplines, I pulled out my trusty copy of “*Celebration of Discipline*” by **Richard Foster** and scanned the table of contents. It was divided into categories (*inward, outward, and corporate disciplines*), with fasting listed as the fourth inward discipline.

Anyone Fast?

Does anyone even fast anymore? I wondered. Maybe I’ll just skip it. But over the course of a few weeks, the topic of fasting continued to wander through my mind, and eventually enough thoughts gathered themselves together to make up an article.

Biblical Fasting

It’s interesting that, in the Bible, we read about people fasting from food. In today’s culture, the term has become much broader; in fact, in **Jesalynn’s** Christian sorority house fasting from food is not encouraged at all. Eating disorders are so prevalent that encouraging a fast from food could be more detrimental than helpful in that situation.

As I was thinking about this, I realized that, in Bible times, food took up a huge amount of time. It had to be obtained and prepared; then after it was eaten, the cleanup could have been laborious and time-consuming. *A fast from food would have freed up a large amount of time.*

This brings us to the question, *What is fasting, and why do it?*

The What and Why of Fasting

Gotquestions.org defines a fast as “*anything given up temporarily in order to focus all our attention on God (1 Corinthians 7:1-5).*”

→ Please see “Fasting” on page 17.



When we intentionally remove something from our life, we must intentionally put something in its place, or we will discover the empty place has filled itself up with something that isn’t any better than what was there.



A person can fast from food (*or a certain type of food*), media, spending unnecessary money, or a specific behavior (*gossip, etc.*).

The How of Fasting

What is given up isn't necessarily as important as what we replace it with. When we intentionally remove something from our life, we must intentionally put something in its place, or we will discover the empty place has filled itself up with something that isn't any better than what was there. We are creatures of habit, and we tend to gravitate towards the same type of practices over and over.

In fasting, our **attitude** is pivotal. We must truly seek what should or could be removed from our life (*for a time*) to make room for something better.

We can look at some fasts as a sort of test: *Can I live without this thing?* It's almost like performing a life-edit, and we may discover we like the new thing better and ultimately decide to keep that new practice.



Fasting requires **preparation.**

So, rather than hearing a sermon or reading an article on fasting, and then immediately purposing to start an all-encompassing cold-turkey media fast from computers without considering the upcoming due date for a large computer-based project, we should instead spend time in prayer and contemplation regarding the fast.

To discover the best path forward, we could take the time to catalog how our time is spent each week and then decide what should be removed and for how long. We could prayerfully consider what things in our life carry too high a priority. We might even ask a spiritual advisor to shed light on problem areas in our lives.

Then we should lay out the terms of the fast: how long we will fast, with what we will fill the time, what results we hope to see. I suggest that if you choose to enter into a fast, you determine to fill at least a portion of the time gained with one of the spiritual disciplines we have covered so far.

Next Steps

God designed a natural fast into each day. As we rest each night, we refrain from food, from contact with others, from practices. You might remember that the term "breakfast" comes from the idea of breaking the fast of the previous 8 or so hours. *What if we aimed to break our overnight fast in a way that honors God?* For example:

- ✦ Break the silence of night with uplifting, loving words or words of worship.
- ✦ As we sit down to break our nightly fast from food, preface it with a time of genuine prayer.
- ✦ Strive to have our first media consumption of the day be something that honors God.



You can start by asking if there are activities that currently take up too much time or hold too great a priority in your life. *What would it look like to replace them with something more substantial—for a period of time or permanently?* †

Vehicle Needed

Can YOU Help?

By Ron Brooks
Missions Committee

Eric and Judith Hedeem, missionaries with Ethnos 360 (*formerly known as New Tribes Missions*), are coming home on furlough.

The Hedeem's have found a place to stay for the year they are on furlough which is just north of Dallas. They are in need of a vehicle to use while they are on furlough.

Please let one of the Mission Committee members know if you can help out or know of someone who can. †

Youth Perspective

Spring Retreat

AdobeStock

By Isabelle Lovell
FORGED! Youth Reporter

This month the high school youth group went up to Sanctuary Inn for an amazing weekend in the snow.

We had tons of fun playing games to practice team building and running around in the dark sliding through the slush that covered the ground.



My favorite part of the weekend was going sledding, despite the headache I felt after crashing over a jump. While the food was amazing, and the snow was a blast, an even more important part of the weekend was the sessions. For this retreat, we talked about testimonies.

What is a Testimony?

I have had an idea of what a testimony was, but of course there are different kinds of testimonies. In a trial court, a testimony will be given by a witness under

oath to explain what they saw or experienced in an event, but that is not exactly the sort of statement we talked about. The testimony that a Christian gives is their life story. It shares how they came to be with Christ.

Prerequisite

Everyone who believes has a story to tell about how they live a new life because they have had a personal encounter with Jesus. Someone *cannot* have a testimony if they have not experienced a personal relationship with God because they would not have an understanding of the truth. No one can share a story if they do not know who they are supposed to be speaking about. A personal encounter with Christ does not have to be this huge moment, it simply needs to be a confrontation with the truth.

Helping students:

Meet Jesus,
Trust Jesus,
Follow Jesus!

Importance of a Testimony

The stories we share about how we came to be with God are important not only to us, but to those

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!

around us as well. They show others the life and truth in us which can lead others to see how God can give them this eternal life too. If our testimonies are true, they will always

→ Please see "Youth" on page 19.



Pastor Andrew Wheeler

O: 503.623.2331

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youthpastor@ebcdallas.org

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

Youth

← (Continued from page 18.)

point back to God. When Jesus shared His story, we know it is the truth because He is the truth—He is our example. Real and accurate testimonies can bring light to darkness and life to death. They can bring truth to confusion and victory over evil all because someone saw that we had found a solid rock to stand on.

Insignificant or Significant?

I am not much of a talker. I have my group of people that I am comfortable with, and if I have to talk to someone outside of the group it usually feels awkward. Therefore, the idea of having to go and share my testimony with someone *sounds* terrifying. My story is nothing grand, but somehow that makes it harder to share. It feels and sounds insignificant. How could anyone possibly hear it and think, “*Wow, she’s really found something amazing!*”

The thing is, that is not what matters. The important thing is to use your story to turn it into God’s



story, and there are three steps to make this happen.

How to Share Our Stories

First, we must know their story. Listen to what they have to say and get to know them. We need to be willing to hear their own story if we are to make connections.



Once we can relate to and understand each other, the door can be opened. The second step is to use their experiences as a way to bring in your own stories. By giving a theme or purpose to your stories, you can create a structure that will lead others to wonder about our words. Even simple examples can be inspiring, because when we have someone in our life that we lean on every day, a person will begin to wonder why. Especially when we call that someone Lord and Savior. The third and last step is to turn our story into God’s story. This is what it all leads up to. Explain what Jesus did and tell His story because the ultimate goal is to lead others to Jesus. †

Elders

← (Continued from page 10.)

Jonell and I participated in our denomination’s Christian Service program and taught for two years at an American school in Colombia where missionary kids and others attended. For me, this was a time of alternative service. After a brief time in Dallas we followed God’s call to Brazil, where we again served in American schools for seven years, always developing friendships with missionaries and being a Christian light to others. Thus, my heritage and experience have given me a strong background and understanding of missions.

Back In Dallas

Back here in Dallas, I have taught Sunday school, facilitated small groups, participated in singing groups, and been part of the church’s leadership board. Another ministry involvement was being a member of the Board of Directors of the Dallas Retirement Village for almost two decades.

Busy Retirement

After retirement we participated in four short-term missions in Europe.

Here at EBC I have served on the Missions Committee and chaired the search teams for both pastor and associate pastor. I strongly respect the values of my heritage and believe they have taught me to love God and follow Jesus in service and ministry, and I will try to faithfully continue doing that on the Elders Team. †

A Christian Businessman's Perspective

Creative Gifting

By Randy Flaming

If you thought this article is about making craft projects for gifts, then you don't know me very well. As Skyler told me a couple of weeks ago, "You are the money guy." I am certainly not the "craft guy."

Don't do anything that I have suggested until you have received some professional advice. I may have made some erroneous statements in this article.

This weekend I was doing my taxes. *What fun, right?* And a couple of weeks ago one of the members of our church asked me if the church knows how to receive gifts of stock.

Something to Ponder

That got me to thinking about how, as the Treasurer of this church, I should be informing people about creative ways to give to charity and at the same time reduce your tax bill. After all, your giving to the church, or any charity, does not just have to



Maybe you might even want to increase your giving if you can decrease your taxes while doing so!

be in cash, and if giving creatively can reduce your tax bill then so much the better. *Maybe you might even want to increase your giving if you can decrease your taxes while doing so!*

Thinking of a Stock Donation?

First of all, let's talk about that stock donation. If you own stock or a mutual fund that you have held for a while and it has increased in value, when you sell it, you will probably have to pay capital gains tax on the profit it may have made. But, *if* you give the stock to the church without selling it first, there is no capital gains tax to pay on it because you didn't sell it.

Since the church is a non-profit organization, the church will not pay the capital gains either.

In that way you will have completely eliminated the capital gains tax. ***But it gets better than that.***

You **still** get to claim a charitable deduction for the full market value of the stock on the day that you gave it to the church! So, if you itemize your deductions you can get a double benefit by donating the stock. Now I do have to admit that Congress increased the standard

deduction amount several years ago, so it may not benefit most of you to have a higher itemized deduction, but it will still benefit you to not have to pay the capital gains tax. And for

those of you who do itemize—you *get a double benefit.*

Two Year's Donations ... In One?

And, while we are speaking about itemizing your deductions, if you are in that group of people who do not benefit from itemizing, maybe you will want to consider this approach if you make large donations to charity. Plan your giving so that you effectively get two years' deductions in the same tax year. ***How?***

→ Please see "Gifting" on page 21.



Gifts

AdobeStock

← (Continued from page 20.)

Well, each month “give” your donations, or a portion of them, into a saving account and in early January of the following year empty the savings account and give all the money where you would have given it the previous year and then for the rest of that year, give as you normally would. Then repeat the cycle every two years. One year you take the standard deduction and the next year you itemize deductions.

I do have to admit that as the treasurer of EBC, this can cause some problems for the church as we try to estimate donations for the year, but we would still receive the same amount of money.

Turn to the Bible!

There is also a theological question, since Paul did say (1 Corinthians 16:2 NIV) that “... every week, each one of you should set aside a sum of money in keeping with his income ...”

I have heard pastors say that means we should give weekly (*but not weakly!*). However, the next words after I stopped the previous quote are, “...saving it up...”



Adobe Stock

I will let you decide what the Lord is telling you about that passage. This is honestly my least favorite of the suggestions I am making for a variety of reasons. The biggest is that, while this strategy is perfectly legal, from an ethical standpoint it seems to be pushing the boundaries of an ethical approach to how we should live our lives. *Once again, I will let you make that decision.*

Some May Benefit From...

Now for a strategy that will only work for some of you. *Do you have an IRA or 401k and you are required to take required minimum distributions?*

If you do not need to have all of that money to meet your living expenses, you can make a distribution directly to the church and not take all or any of the

distribution for yourself. Do **NOT** take the distribution for yourself and then give the money to the church. This method is kind of like giving stock to the church. You meet your requirements to take the RMD, but you do not incur any income. **However, you still get the tax deduction.**

It Gets Better

Even better yet, you may have less of your social security benefits taxed since your income is reduced, so this is real big way to save taxes—if you are in the right income bracket.

I do not know if this strategy works for pensions. I suspect it does not, but you may want to investigate that if you have a pension.



Another Approach

Another strategy that will only work for some of you, and I have used this one myself, is to donate assets or professional services to the church. I have a small farm and I have given a portion of the hazelnuts that it produces to the church.

No, I don't bring a few tons of hazelnuts and dump them in the offering. I simply write a letter to my packer and tell them that I have donated a set dollar value of nuts to the church, so when it is time to pay me, write a check to the church for that amount and send the rest to me.



My packer is a believer, so they are happy to do that.

The benefits are not so great for that strategy, but I avoid some self-employment and Medicare taxes. Also, it is a way to reduce your taxable income even if you do not itemize deductions. But if you have real estate or any other assets (*coin, stamp, baseball card, car or gun collections, etc.*) you want to give (*think Barnabas, not Ananias and Sapphira*) then that can be another great way to give as well because this is another way to reduce your capital gains taxes.

You can also give time or services to the church that the church would otherwise have to pay for. There is *no* tax savings this way, other than

→ Please see "Gifts" on page 22.

Gifts

AdobeStock

← (Continued from page 21)

the tax you would have to pay if you were paid for those services. My brother-in-law, **Bob**, gives a large amount of time to the church working on furnaces and building things for the church. That is a valuable service he provides and it saves the church a lot of money doing that. Our Trustees also save the church a lot of expense by donating their time on so many projects around the church. The same thing can be said for those who donate cookies or meals to the youth group and so many other things.

Do You Have a Will?

Then there is the final gift you can give to EBC or another charity. *Do you have a will? Does it include gifts to charity? It should.*

If you do not have a will you need to write one up so your money will go to the places you want it to go. If you do not have a will, all of it will go to your children or other relatives by the plan that the state of Oregon has established for those who die without a will. *Do the state's plans accurately reflect your plans and desires?* Maybe, but I would doubt it.

Do you know that for estates of greater than a million dollars that Oregon will take a chunk for estate taxes? A million dollars sounds like a lot of money, but it isn't any more. Our small farm is valued by the county at almost \$800,000. Many homes in Dallas are worth at least a half million dollars. Bequests to charity reduce the amount of your estate that will be subject to estate taxes.

Do They?

Now excuse me while I say something that many people would practically consider blasphemy. *Do your children REALLY need all the money you will leave them?*

I honestly believe that most people are harmed by leaving them large amounts of money. *Besides, by the time you die how old will your children be?* I suspect many will be in

Don't do anything that I have suggested until you have received some professional advice.

retirement themselves. I have had a discussion with both of our children and told them that they will get a sizable amount of money when we die, but they are not getting all of our assets because a bunch will go to EBC and Village Missions. They both agreed that they thought that was a good plan and had no hard feelings about our decision.

Sharon and I have done them a far better service and given them a much better gift by teaching them to work and how to manage the money that God gives them. Please do the same thing for your children while you are still alive.

Some Details ... Some Warnings

Now I need to talk about a few details and warnings. *Don't do anything that I have suggested until*

you have received some professional advice. I may have made some erroneous statements in this article.

If you have a financial planner, accountant or lawyer, ask them for advice that will be tailored to your personal finances and situation. They may have ideas I haven't thought about and they will give you details about how to do what I have suggested correctly and legally.

Suggestions

If you do not have one of those people, I am going to recommend a few people to talk to (*and I haven't asked their permission!*) **Ron Brooks and Marie Vinson** have both done taxes professionally for years. They will know the details of how to do these things correctly and legally.

Bret Brateng may also be helpful because she has lots of experience doing bookkeeping and she has worked closely with her mother who is a CPA. She can also help you.

Finally, be sure to ask and inform **Alison Johnson** if you are planning to make any gifts to the church.

She told me that she sometimes gets these gifts given to the church without any name attached and she cannot give receipts if she doesn't know who gave them.

She also would appreciate knowing how to dispose of those assets if they are unusual ones.

And finally, if you know of any other creative ways to give to charities that I have not mentioned, please tell me. I would love to learn more about the topic. *And if you know that I have made an error in this article, please let me know that as well.* †



ANDY • JERUSHA • WILLIAM

making it connect.

the adventure and challenges we face as we endeavor to follow God's will for our life.



In January Spokane finally got some snow but that has long since melted. We hope you are reading this with a warm beverage in hand. These past few months have kept us quite busy, and we are entering the new year feeling immensely blessed.



Our biggest news is that we welcomed our first son William to the world in October! Due to some minor complications, Jerusha had to be induced a bit early, but we are happy to report he is a healthy and growing baby! Having a newborn has been much sacrifice and lots of joy. We are seeing God's love for us as His children from a new perspective. We have mourned the loss of many freedoms and much sleep, but what a joy it is to see that little toothless smile each morning.



William's first Christmas was a lot of fun. We spent it with our Dressel family and received lots of help from aunts, uncles, and grandparents that loved holding and playing with our little guy. We even had a visit from our friend Paki who drove all the way to Oregon from Spokane on Christmas day to celebrate with us.



the Yount Family

CONNECT

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PARTNER

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Worthington, MN 56187
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proclamaion.org



WINTER 2024

avionics.

Aviation + Electronics.
The systems of navigation, communications, auto-pilot, and electronic monitors.



Installing new sensors for the new avionics



Wiring up the new panel for the avionics upgrade



ANDY

After some time off to help with the new baby, Andy jumped back into the avionics work at Moody. The current project is a Cessna 182 that is getting a full avionics upgrade. This is the biggest project Andy has worked on to date and it is finally getting close to completion. When it is finished it will be the most advanced high-performance airplane in Moody's fleet, and will provide the missionary pilot students with training that more closely reflects the aircraft many of the mission agencies use overseas.

Such a big project has provided opportunities for the advanced maintenance students to get involved. Andy is able to help with their training while they work with him on the airplane. Even though Andy's daily job in avionics does not provide many opportunities to interact with students, through small group chapel and church he has been able to connect with and begin discipling a couple of the guys in the program.



Meeting as a small church before merger

JERUSHA

Jerusha wrapped up another season of coaching for "Up & Running Again" at the beginning of October, just before William arrived. Three women from the Union Gospel Mission program crossed the finish line, and although Jerusha wasn't able to run the race this year, she got to drive to different places along the course to cheer on the ladies and celebrate with them at the finish line!

She was grateful to be able to take an extended period of time off of work when William was born, to just enjoy being a mom and spend time developing some routines as there are so many changes. She has been challenged by the realization that her primary "mission field" is now this sweet little guy that we're raising, and trying to figure out what it looks like to do that well in the midst of life's craziness.



William loves story time with Mom

CHURCH

Outside of Moody, Andy has continued to lead worship part-time at our church. In October he co-led an 8-week group discipleship series called "Sexual Integrity 101" at the church. The course focused on educating couples and parents about the challenges that Christians face raising children and living in our intensely sexualized culture, with the goal of equipping the church to be a place of healing and hope. Twenty-eight people signed up and it was amazing to see how God worked through our time over those eight weeks. Andy is planning to start a men's group through our church with the guys that attended that course for continued growth and discipleship. Our small church is merging with a larger congregation this month. Please pray with us for that transition to go smoothly.

Thank you for your prayers and support. **Andy, Jerusha & William**

- For continued wisdom and direction for the future
- For our church as we merge in with another congregation
- For baby William as he grows and develops

PRAYING

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.

Filled to Capacity

I spent several days preparing for the Celebration of Life service for our church board chairman, Paul Marrs. He was a godly man who became a dear friend to our family in the two years we've served here. This was only my second funeral. I was told it would be very large, so my son and I set up overflow seating and a live video feed in our fellowship hall. Our building was filled to capacity, with 153 in the main sanctuary and nearly 110 in the fellowship hall. Paul was a deeply loved man, and he will be missed in our congregation and leadership team.

Chris & Bethany Jones
Nisland, SD †

Eternal Focus

We were hit with a weekend storm that blocked us in for four days and required a bulldozer to clear a path on Tuesday. That day I hurried to see one of our church elders who was in palliative care in the hospital. He was unresponsive, but I met some of his family. He passed away that evening. His funeral was a beautiful celebration of his life and a good opportunity for me to focus on the great hope we have of eternal life.

Alan & Bonnie Klein
Sutherlands River, NS †

Group Chat

Another church leader and I started a group chat to connect and encourage the men in the church. I have been surprised by how many are participating, asking questions, sharing prayer requests and encouraging each other. We did a 21-day challenge reading a chapter of John each day. By text messages, we discussed what the passage revealed about Jesus, about human nature, and about what God has done or expects of us in response. There was a lot of interaction and learning over the three weeks!

Matt & Shanay Deneault
Cardston, AB †

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

pastorpaulanquist@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.**

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Email: bob.disher@charter.net

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

**Thank
you!** ✝

April Events

- 4.2 Ladies Missionary Fellowship
- 4.7 Baby Shower for Julia (Quiring) Golden
- 4.8 Hymn Sing
- 4.14 Baptism Class
- 4.15 Wes Coxson Memorial Service
- 4.17 Membership Class
- 4.19 Men's Cornhole Event
- 4.20 Women's Game Morning
- 4.24 Last Awana Night
- 4.29 Blood Drive



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)