

# The Sentinel

WE  
STAND  
WATCH

DISTRIBUTED BY EVANGELICAL BIBLE CHURCH



October, 2024  
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# Elections

By Pastor Troy Bassham  
Senior Pastor

This is *not* an editorial telling you who to vote for. These are just my thoughts on elections, in general.

**But ...** as you've heard me say before, I do want to encourage you to exercise your right to vote. We have been given a great privilege to be a part of our own governance.

When Christians refuse to utilize this right, we yield the direction of our country and its citizens to others—many who have worldviews that are oppositional to our Savior and His work.

### Consider This...

Just a few things to consider:

- 1) You will not find an ideal candidate.**  
Every candidate at every level

has shortcomings in knowledge and character. On top of this, people have a sin nature and are prone to vices and corruption. While this has discouraged many sincere believers, we should prayerfully vote according to Scriptural principles and our conscience.



**2) The "little elections" matter.** While the race for the presidency gets most of the

headlines, it is sometimes the smaller races that most affect our personal lives and ministry.

City council and school board elections can have a dramatic effect on our community. Be

→ Please see "Elections" on page 2.

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Deadline for November, 2024 ISSUE is:

**Monday, October 28, 2024**  
**@ 5:00 pm**



know. grow. go.



prayerful and informed about local elections.

**3)** Often it seems like we are either choosing between the “lesser of two evils” or submitting a “throw-away” vote. In such cases, Christians have prayerfully come to different conclusions. Be sure to be gracious to other believers who come to different conclusions as they prayerfully consider what to do with their vote.

**4)** When there does not seem to be a good candidate, people have given consideration to other issues:

- ◆ *What is the platform and declared intention of a particular candidate?*
- ◆ *Are policies in play that would oppose the Christian living or that would impede the mission of the church?*



Sometimes there is no discernable difference between choices, but we should always ask, “How will this affect my ability to serve Jesus faithfully?”

**5)** Prepare to be disappointed, even by your candidate of choice. No matter who is elected, the arm of flesh WILL fail us. But let’s make sure that we do not fail our communities by refusing to try to make a difference: to use our vote to try and do what is right.

**6)** Be prayerful. Scripture tells us to pray for those in authority.

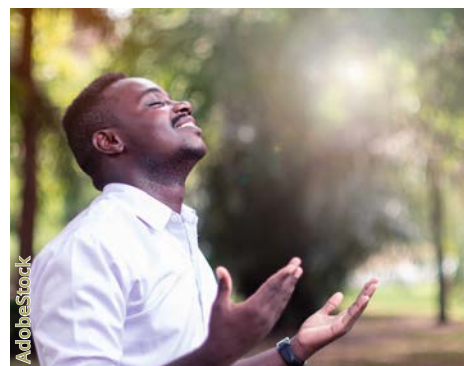
- ◆ Pray for our candidates.
- ◆ Pray that God might give us who we need and not just who we deserve.
- ◆ *And ... when the dust settles, continue praying.*

Scripture states, **“I exhort that petitions and prayers, requests and thanksgivings, be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.” 1 Timothy 2:1-2 (LSB)**

**7)** With imperfect rulers in an imperfect system, remember that our true hope is our Savior.

One day ... He will return and will rule in righteousness and justice. Until then let us live as His witnesses and His people.

**Maranatha.** †



## Drive Update

By Kay Whitney

The recent **Bottle Drive** by Hope Pregnancy Center brought in a whopping **\$106,895** for this worthy cause. Of that total, EBC was responsible for raising \$2,120. Thank you for your generous giving! †



## Hope for Salem

Hope Pregnancy Clinic exists to empower women who are unprepared for pregnancy to make healthy, life-affirming decisions, and to introduce them to Jesus.

We do not provide or refer for abortions; however, we do provide useful information about different abortion procedures to help our patients be fully informed. †

If You Haven't Already Done So ...

# Sign Up RightNow!

By Alison Johnson  
Office Manager

As a reminder ... EBC has an organizational account with **RightNow Media**®.

Be sure you sign up and start accessing these materials **TODAY!**

**A**s a church we have had RightNow Media® for a couple of years now. This is a great resource for all of us here at EBC to use.

There are Bible study videos, kids videos, *and so much more* to help encourage us in our walk with Christ.

## But Wait ... There's MORE!

But it doesn't stop there. If you are sharing with someone that is reluctant to come to church or is new to their faith, you can share this resource with them. You can share it with neighbors or strangers too. It does not cost the church any more money.

The mission of RightNow® is to be a tool of spreading the Gospel with unbelievers that may not want to go to church yet. The way you can share by having them text **EBC to 49775**. They will receive a link to create a free account.

## Great Way to Connect!

**Connect Groups** can also use this as a resource for studies. Friends can even use this to watch a study together from other states. There is an option similar to Zoom® to watch and talk together about the session.

I hope that if you have not looked at RightNow Media®, you can give it a try and see if there is anything that you find interesting. If not for you, maybe someone you know. **Try it out TODAY!** †



## Awana Update

# Great Start!

Matt and Lena Calef  
Awana Ministry Directors

**E**XCITEMENT about new beginnings is upon us! The Awana year has begun.

We had meetings and training for leaders in August, as well as an encouraging visit from our local Awana missionary. Now the work of bringing the Word of God to the children and building relationships begins!

## We're Bursting at the Seams!

The Awana program at EBC Dallas is bursting at the seams! As of Sunday, September 15, our program has registered 144 children for the clubs on Wednesday nights. For the two weeks of meetings so far, we have had over 120 children attend each night.

We are overjoyed at the turnout, and at the same time, a little concerned that we do not have enough workers to effectively meet the challenge.

As directors, we (**Matt and Lena**) desire that the program be

→ Please see "Awana" on page 10.



Points to Ponder:

# Pursuing Godly Things!

By Pastor Mike Fast

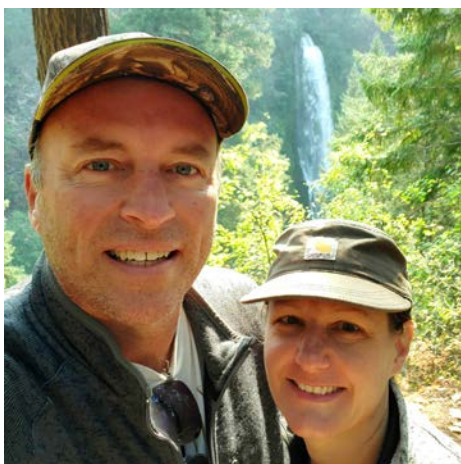
AdobeStock

**“Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints.” Psalm 116:15 (ESV)**

Two years ago, I was roofing our barn in southern Oregon, and the view from the top was breathtaking. Our property was situated in the foothills overlooking the Rogue River Valley with miles and miles of pear orchards and grape vineyards, and the prominent Table Rock hills to the north and snowcapped Mt. Ashland to the south.

The view from ground level looking up to the top of my roof was nowhere near as impressive (*and not just because it represented a lot of work to finish*).

As most of you know, my dad passed away a few weeks ago. He was a soldier of Christ on his tour



of duty until his Commander called him home. He lived out the life of faith he professed, and I believe he is enjoying the company of Jesus Christ, his Savior and Lord right now.

He was an active and healthy man who loaded and unloaded United airplanes for 36 years (*he was lifting over 60,000 lbs. each day*). He was a contractor on the side as well when he retired from the airlines (*building and remodeling churches, camps, homes, etc.*). He was a daily jogger, even numerous half marathons.

## Drastic Changes

I share all of that to emphasize how drastically his life changed when he was diagnosed with Parkinson's at 63. His health went downhill rapidly, he became wheelchair bound not many years later, and was confined to that chair until his passing at 82.

**What about his perspective?** His view from that chair was nothing like the view from the rooftops. *But what about his perspective now? Would not the wonders of eternity, Paradise, and Jesus Christ change everything?*

## Aliens In A Foreign Land

We are aliens, sojourners, travelers wandering through a foreign land that is *not* our true home, and we must always remember that our

perspective and view from here where we presently live is dim and limited from what we will experience one day.

**Colossians 3:1–2**, urges us to remember this very thing; **“So if you're serious about living this new resurrection life with Christ, act like it. Pursue the things over which Christ presides. Don't shuffle along, eyes to the ground, absorbed with the things right in front of you. Look up, and be alert to what is going on around Christ—that's where the action is. See things from his perspective.” (The Message)**



→ Please see "Pursuit" on page 5.

# Pursuit

← (Continued from page 4.)

## Choose Who You Learn From

We can learn from the godly men and women of faith that **Hebrews 11** speaks of when it says, *“All these people were still living by faith when they died. They did not receive the things promised; they only saw them and welcomed them from a distance, admitting that they were foreigners and strangers on earth. People who say such things show that they are looking for a country of their own. If they had been thinking of the country they had left, they would have had opportunity to return. Instead, they were longing for a better country—a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.” Hebrews 11:13–16 (NIV).*

## So Very Easy!

It’s easy to get caught up with this world and its values and priorities and lose sight of the beauty, values and priorities of Christ’s kingdom. They are quite different. In **John 18**, Jesus answered Pilate, *“My kingdom is not of this world.”*

This is a good point to ponder for all of us who follow Christ. †

# Office Update

By Alison Johnson  
Office Manager

This month the office will be running a little differently than usual. I (**Alison**) will be gone for a couple of weeks at the start of the month and for a few days at the end of the month.



**Kari** is going to be in the office with the exception of October 4 & 11. We will be closed those days.

We have been hard at work in the office with all the ministries restarting and the event calendar filling up. Here are some things to look at as we head into the final quarter of the year.

✦ **Get your event or facility use requests turned in early.** The calendar gets very full this time of year. Facility use request forms can be found outside the office door and there is a drop box to the right of the office window.

✦ **If your ministry or event needs to have something put on the app or the website, please let me know the details.** I can guess them, but it is always better coming from the people planning it.

✦ **There will be a day for decorating the church for Christmas.** If you want to help, we would love to have you. More information will be coming; it will be sometime during the week of Thanksgiving.

✦ The annual **Harvest Meal is November 10.** This is a great time together to eat a delicious meal. You can sign up to attend or to bring a pie starting October 20. There is no coffee time on that morning.

✦ It is that time of year that I start **working on the budget for the next year.** Committees will be getting reports and will need to have numbers back to the office **by November 15** so that the budget committee and Elder board have time to review and meet before the end of the year.

*As always, I am thrilled to work here and with all of you. Thank you all for making this the best job ever. †*

# 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 Joe Cacka  
Vice Chairman, Board of Elders

**W**e don't have to read far into the Bible to see God has created life.

The first book of the Bible, Genesis, reveals that on the third day God created plant life (**Genesis 1:11**). Plants bearing seeds and fruit enabling them to multiply. By the fifth day, the seas were teeming with all kinds of living creatures and birds flying in the air (**Genesis 1:20**). On the sixth day of creation God formed man of the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being (*soul*). (**Genesis 1:27**) As you can see, *God is the life giver.*

## Why Do We See Death?

As we venture a little farther into Scripture, (**Genesis 3**) we find that Adam and Eve, our original parents, have sinned. They did *not* follow God's instructions and ate of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, **"... for in the day that you eat from it you will die."**

We do not need to look far to see and hear of death all around us—*just turn on the nightly news.* A result of man's sin, death entered in and a curse was placed on all the earth.

## We Are Not Without Hope

In a familiar passage in scripture, **John 3:16 (NIV)** Jesus said, **"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in**

**Him shall not perish, but have eternal life."**



We are reminded in the Gospel of **John 3:35-36, (NKJV)** that **"The Father loves the Son and has given all things into His hand. He who believes in the Son has eternal life; but he who does not obey the Son will not see life, but the wrath of God abides on him."**

## Relationships

God desires to have a relationship with each of us.

A relationship with God is more than just making mental assent... **"Yeah, I believe there is a god"** or **"Yes, I believe in Jesus."**

I can only genuinely believe if I am born again, born of the Spirit. (**John 3:5-6**) I will demonstrate my love for Him by obeying His commandments, (**John 14:15-16**), which involves surrendering my will to His.

## Part of His Family!

We are invited into God's family as adopted sons and daughters ... in love "He predestined us to adoption

as sons through Jesus Christ to Himself, according to the kind intention of His will **Ephesians 1:5-6 (NKJV).**

The Great Commandment (**Luke 10:27-38**) is the basis for fulfilling the Great Commission (**Matthew 28:19-20**):

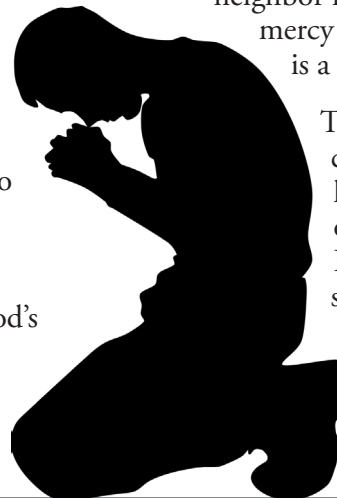
In **Luke 10:25-28 (NASB)** we read about a lawyer who was testing Jesus. He asked Jesus, **"What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus said to him, 'What is written in the Law? How does it read to you?' And he answered, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.' And He said to him, 'You have answered correctly; Do this and you will live.'"**

The lawyer trying to justify himself, asked Jesus, **"Who is my neighbor?"** Jesus responded to him with the parable of the Good Samaritan. I will let you look up this passage found in **Luke 10:30-37.**

## Your Neighbor?

In this passage Jesus illustrates some criteria for identifying who a neighbor is ... the one who showed mercy toward the person in need is a neighbor.

To fulfill this commandment, we are to love (*show mercy towards*) our neighbor as ourselves. Interestingly, Jesus is stretching the Jews in



→ Please see "Elders" on page 8.

# Elders

← (Continued from page 7.)

this parable by having a Samaritan (*whom the Jews hated*) be the one who shows mercy, the one who is a true neighbor.

## A Reminder of Current Elder News

We will host the **Annual Committee Report Congregational Meeting on October 27**. Come and hear the work each of our committees is doing.

✠ Continue to pray for **Nat and Sylvia Thomas** as they minister in the cities of Resita and Criova, Romania. Pray for the Thomas' safety and that the Lord will be glorified through this ministry Romania.

✠ **Pray for the Dallas Young Life ministry** as the Lord opens new opportunities to support and develop Young Life in Monmouth/Independence areas. Pray that the Lord will provide Spanish speaking club leaders in the Monmouth/Independence schools. Pray for club leaders in both areas that they may be able to develop meaningful relationships with kids and encourage kids to seek the Lord.

✠ Pray for one another that we may reach out to our next door neighbor and love them, and that we may build relationships with them and that they will see Christ in us. †



# Operation Christmas Child (OCC)

By Kay Whitney  
Coordinator



**S**hoeboxes are due **Sunday, November 17**. Please place filled shoeboxes under the coat rack in the foyer.

Thank you to those of you who have donated items for the shoeboxes for children throughout the world who may never receive another Christmas gift.

## Items to Include

✠ **Stuffed Animals:** Many OCC leaders have stated that children of all ages are excited to receive a stuffed animal in their shoebox.

✠ **Toiletry Items:** Bar soap (in original packaging), washcloths, toothbrushes with holders, combs, brushes (hair ribbons, barrettes for the girls). **NO TOOTHPASTE OR DEODORANT.**

✠ **School Supplies:** Pencils, pencil sharpeners, erasers, pens, pencil cases, markers, colored pencils, index cards, solar powered calculators, blunt scissors, small rulers.

## Miscellaneous:

Operation Christmas Child suggests a donation of \$10 per shoebox. This amount is critical to cover project costs involved in collecting, processing, and shipping the shoebox gifts to over 170 countries. The \$10 donation is **NOT TAX DEDUCTIBLE**. †





Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches

# News from FEBC!

By **Kevin Stone**  
President, FEBC



October 1, 2024

I would like to introduce you to a new FEBC offering: **FEBC Fusion**—*Combining fun and vision.*

This is an event that I believe will truly bless your church. It is fun, engaging, and appropriate for all ages. It will foster genuine connection and fellowship among your folks while sprinkling in a little bit of information about the FEBC to develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of the work we are doing together.

**FEBC Fusion** was showcased at **Connect24** as “*Games with Gary*,” and we received rave reviews from those who attended. It is truly an opportunity to learn a little bit about the FEBC while having a whole lot of fun.

When Gary or I travel to visit our FEBC churches, we find that the main opportunity to connect with congregation members is on Sunday morning. So, if we visit an area for ten days, we have two opportunities to meet the laypeople, and then we try to visit as many church leaders as possible throughout the week. We wondered if there was a way to create more opportunities to connect with congregation members during the week. Gary suggested a family fun night for the whole church sponsored by the FEBC, and FEBC Fusion was born! Your church provides a space to meet (*preferably around tables*) and invites the congregation. We do the rest.

Here is the best endorsement I can think of for this event: We recently held the first full-fledged **FEBC Fusion** at one of our churches, and during that event, I watched a table of boys around 10–12 years old right beside a table of folks who I suspect were all over 60. Both groups were laughing and enjoying the whole evening. I believe our churches benefit when we can bring generations together. Gary has done a great job of pulling together activities that the whole family will enjoy, and that provide a greater understanding of our Fellowship. One man said, “*I don’t like games, and I especially dislike icebreakers, but this was great!*”



**Church leaders:** If this event sounds interesting to you, contact our Ministries Coordinator, **Rev. Gary Krehbiel**, to set up FEBC Fusion at your church.

**Church members:** Please continue to pray for us as we examine how we can effectively strengthen our local churches. Thank you for your continued support and for your prayers!

**Kevin Stone**  
President, FEBC †

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# Awana

← (Continued from page 3.)

intentional in the time we spend with children who attend—to not leave any one of those kids behind.

## How to Help Us:

So, we would ask of you a couple things:

**1)** Pray for us, our volunteers, and the Awana program to meet the challenge.

**2)** Consider volunteering some of your time. We can always use leaders to connect and teach the kids. Also, we need men to make sure our facility stays secure during the meetings.

All of that being said, we are still super **EXCITED** to have a chance to spread God's Word in our local community and to our children! We are looking forward to the year! We are always grateful for the volunteers that give their time. ✝



Awana Store Coming Soon!

# Shopping Opportunity

By Kim Disher  
Awana Shopkeeper

**T**hree times a year the girls and boys who participate in Awana are able to spend their hard-earned Awana Bucks in the Awana Store.

## Working Hard!

They earn their 'money' by memorizing Bible verses, completing sections in their books and participating in special theme nights. The first store this year will be on **November 13 for T&T (3–5 graders) and Trek (middle schoolers)** and on **November 20 for Sparks (K–2nd graders)**.

## Our Inventory is DOWN!

Thanks to a lot of hard work by our Awana kids, the store inventory is down quite a bit. In order to continue to reward the dedicated efforts of our youth, additional items to sell are desperately needed.

## New and Gently Used

As you look around your house or while out at the store, please keep the Awana store in mind. New and gently used items are welcome.

## Specifically ... WHAT?

What can you donate? Well, anything that children in K–8th grade might like. Below are some ideas. Please keep in mind that the list is not all-inclusive, so if you have something that you think is appropriate but not on the list, please donate it.

All donations can be put in the

Awana store box under the bulletin board outside the Activity Center.

## Ideas

Legos®, games, sports items (*balls, bats, gloves...*), trucks, cars and tracks, dolls (*all sizes*), dollhouse items, doll clothes, stuffed animals, small framed pictures, knick-knacks, nativity sets, crosses, arts and craft items (*markers, paints, coloring books, stickers, pompoms...*), Christmas items, jewelry, flashlights, headlamps, speakers, tape measures, tools (*hammers, screwdrivers...*), small lotions, lip balm, bubble bath, hair items, items for gifts for moms, dads and siblings (*kitchen items, tools, ...*).

As you can see, the list is huge! Some of our more unique items have been: a Little Kitty Toaster®, a bean bag chair, a cooler, a clock, a suitcase, fishing poles....

Please note that we will not be selling food items again this year. So please, ***no candy, chips or other food items.***

## Thank YOU!

Whatever you find to donate, we are greatly appreciative of your support of our Awana program. ✝



## Women's Ministry Retreat

# The Joy Within

By Olivia Sykora

Outside, the scene lay in perfect peace: an old-fashioned lodge of hewn logs situated on a hilltop. The spread of a quiet valley framed by towering oaks and evergreen forests. Birds singing, the vibration of an occasional bee.

But inside, screams rent the air. Arguments broke out, words flying quite literally across the table amidst plotting whispers and anguished cries. The only silence in the room came from those seeking refuge in solitary corners, their giant bowls of ice cream concealing whatever thoughts these observers stewed over in private.

### What Caused This Havoc?

*What, one might ask, wreaked such havoc in the midst of this scene of tranquil beauty?*

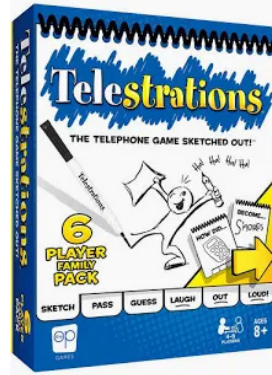
The annual EBC women's retreat, of course. The only place where "arguments" are actually good-natured and any scream is drowned in roaring laughter and friendly joking.

### Continued Tradition

September 20–22 marked the next chapter in a beloved tradition when

the ladies of EBC congregate for a weekend of fellowship, restoration, Bible study, music, and rousing games of Telestrations® and Apples to Apples®.

This year, the retreat was held again at Fern Hill Lodge, and the EBC Women's Ministry team worked hard to make it a time of blessing that ministered to each person. The speaker, **Abi Ririe**, built on the image of tables in the Bible to discuss themes of abounding grace and hospitality. Times of study and praise were interspersed with



### THANKS!

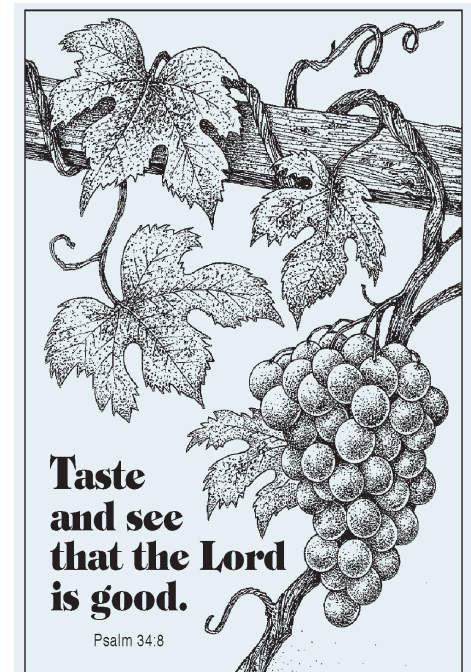
Many thanks to **Lori Bassham, Alison Johnson, Lena Calef, Julie West, Abi Ririe, Sandi Gish**, and all the people involved with preparing this joy-filled weekend. Thanks also goes to the husbands and others who held the chaos of home at bay so that the women could retreat.

### Perfect Recipe

Perhaps peace and chaos can intermingle to create a perfect recipe for restoration. In a nutshell, the EBC Women's Retreat 2024 was a bountiful success, and it can safely be said that a grand time was had by all. ✝

Perhaps peace and chaos can intermingle to create a perfect recipe for restoration.

opportunities for reflection, group discussions, fellowshiping by the pond or ping pong or quiet corners around the lodge, plenty of delicious food, and, of course, games.



## Spiritual Disciplines:

# Worship!

By Gwen Griffiths

**I** round the bend in the path and the view causes me to pause my conversation. Over the Eola Hills, radiant gold threatens to burst through the clouds. And for a moment, it seems as if God's glory itself is almost visible beyond the veil. My heart turns to the Creator and I praise Him for this moment, this vision that draws my heart towards His.

For me, *this is worship*. An everyday happening turns my attention towards the Lord and I respond.

### What Is Worship?

While Webster defines worship as *"the feeling or expression of reverence and adoration for a deity,"* I prefer to think of it a little differently: worship is the heart's correct response to the awareness of God. It is what happens when we recognize and voice (with words or actions) the majesty and sovereignty of God and His preeminence in all things.

**Worship is the heart's correct response to the awareness of God.**

### The Discipline of Worship

It may not feel like it, but worship is a discipline. We can train our mind to turn towards the Father's heart—to attribute praise and honor to Him. And I would argue that growth in the discipline of worship will lead to growth in humility. For as we learn to give God the glory due Him, we in turn seek less praise for our own efforts.

We must be clear that, just as all Kleenex® are tissues but not all tissues are Kleenex®, so also is the relationship between singing worship songs and worship. That 30 minutes of music on Sunday mornings can certainly be a part of worshipping God, but our worship of God must not stop there. We worship God through the way we live our lives, as Paul exhorts in **Colossians 3:17 (NIV): "And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him."**

We must recognize that the worship service is an opportunity for the body of Christ, the corporate Church, to turn collectively to God and worship together. Songs guide us into praise. Prayer and other Scripture selections do likewise. And the sermon directs and aids us in living a life of worship.

Every part of life can be done in worship—but corporate worship is the entire Body coming together to worship, and then dispersing to continue that worship through our lives. The worship team, through song and Scripture, leads us in becoming aware of His presence with us. We connect with the heart of God through the time of worship, and then we set out into the week better prepared to (*as the group Casting Crowns sings*) let our lifesong sing to Him.



### Methods for Worship

It is good also to note that people connect their hearts with God's heart in different ways. For me, music and nature quickly bring my focus to God. Others may find their attention and hearts drawn to God through reading or meditation on Scripture, prayer, corporate response,

→ Please see "Worship!" on page 13.



service, conversation about God—even seeing God at work in the lives of others.

### We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise

The Bible sometimes likens worship to a sweet-smelling sacrifice; that word picture has been impactful for me in my Christian life. Sometimes I imagine a column of smoke rising above me as I worship. It is unique in color; when I join with others in worship, the columns of each person join together as they rise towards God. On Sunday mornings, it is easy to picture this offering of worship rising from EBC, from the churches in Dallas, from the entire nation.

### Join With the Angels

In a way, when we worship, we join with the angels worshipping before God’s throne. **Sinclair Ferguson** explains this well:

*And that’s what we’re doing when we attend worship together. This is the church we’re really going to. We are joining with the angels as they conduct the worship of the Lord Jesus Christ... these angels form a*



The Bible sometimes likens worship to a sweet-smelling sacrifice; that word picture has been impactful for me in my Christian life.

*kind of heavenly choir, now singing in harmony with the redeemed saints who have joined them. And as John Owen once wrote, it’s true that all true worship takes place in heaven, so that in our worship, we join our hearts and voices, we “lift up our hearts,” as some of the liturgies say—we lift up our minds, our wills, our affections—and we join in the magnificent worship of holy angels, and cherubim, and perfected saints. (“Worship With the Angels,” Ligonier.org)*

Let’s join with the angels in praising our Lord, and then endeavor to bring praise to Him in the way we live out each day!

### Next Steps

✦ Listen to “Hymn of Heaven” by **Phil Wickham** and try to imagine what it will be like to truly join the angels in Heaven to worship.

✦ Read “Worship with the Angels” at <https://www.ligonier.org/podcasts/things-unseen-with-sinclair-ferguson/worship-with-the-angels>

✦ Experiment with worshipping in a new way. Take your Bible outside and pray through

**Psalm 19** aloud. Purposefully initiate a conversation about the greatness of God and our response to His greatness. Find **William Jay’s** prayer of adoration and spend time reading it and then reflecting and meditating on God. †

## YOU Can Help!

# LMF Update

By Jerry Thiessen

Starting in January, 2025, Ladies Missionary Fellowship will begin a couple of new projects. For one of these projects, LMF is in need of **used Christmas card fronts**.

As you come across Christmas cards during the upcoming holiday season, please put them aside for LMF. You can place them in the box located on the shelf in the foyer across from the Welcome Desk.

We appreciate your participation in this new endeavor. As always, EBC women are invited to join us on the first Tuesday of each month. Our next gathering will be on Tuesday, November 5.

*Thank you!* †

Forged Youth Report

# We Are Forged

AdobeStock

By Isabelle Lovell  
Forge Youth Reporter

For the past month we have been talking about the communities we live in and what kind of



people we should be in those groups. We all have our people and our own commitments whether it be sports, work,

or school. *But what about here in the church? For several years now I have been a part of Forged, but what are we exactly? And why are we called that?*

## Our Communities

Everyone wants to be part of a group. Communities are a big and important part of our lives; it could even be worded as essential for human life. No one—not even major

*introverts like me*—can go without being around other people. We need interactions.

So, when we find our groups, we need to know whose group we are in and what role we play. The world is good at twisting its way into our minds even when we do not realize it. Or, perhaps we do but we are not willing to accept it because we like the person who is a bad influence. To keep ourselves from falling into the trap, we must keep our eyes and ears open to avoid those people who may be in our communities.

## Our Design

God made us for His glory and a purpose. We are to fill the world and work with Him and each other, to live as *co-rulers* of the earth. When we accept Him, we are forged into a mold from the scattered pieces we were before. God is the great designer of everything. And He designed us to live together. *So why is it that I look out my window and see red and blue lights flashing across the street?*

Unfortunately, sin has created cracks in our design. This is why our group is called Forged. We were designed by God, but He is not done with us yet—we still need to be refined.

## Our Faith

Backing up to the first section, we cannot let others deter us from our faith. Real faith is forged, and it is built up, it is not there from the start. Hence, why we in high school and are young in faith must

### Helping students:

*Meet Jesus,  
Trust Jesus,  
Follow Jesus!*

→ Please see "Youth" on page 20.

## 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!*



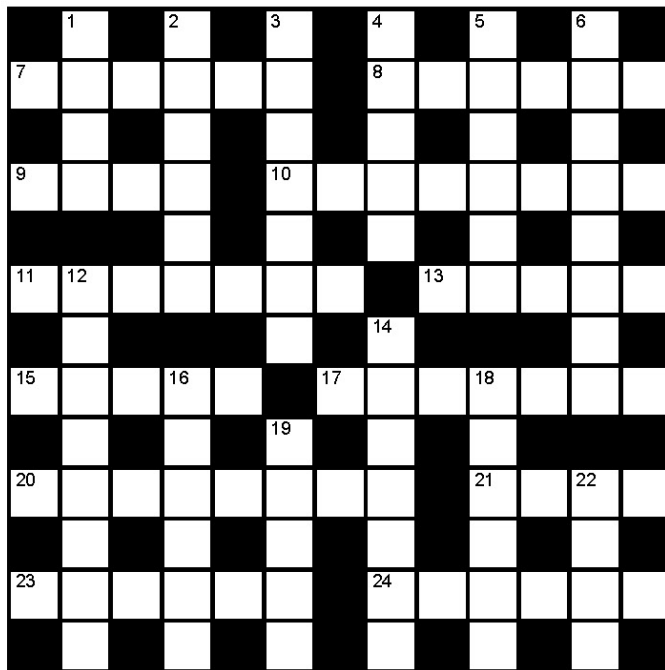
**Pastor Andrew Wheeler**

O: 503.623.2331

C: 503.747.9300

[youthpastor@ebcdallas.org](mailto:youthpastor@ebcdallas.org)

# Ephesians



# Answers on page 20.

### Across

- 7 A man shall leave his father and \_\_\_\_\_ and shall be joined to his wife. Eph 5:31 (6)
- 8 When we were without Christ, we were “\_\_\_\_\_ from the commonwealth of Israel.” Eph 2:12 (6)
- 9 “The \_\_\_\_\_ of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.” Eph 1:18 (4)
- 10 We are adopted as these to God the Father. Eph 1:5 (8)
- 11 Jesus “worketh all things after the \_\_\_\_\_ of his own will.” Eph 1:11 (7)
- 13 “Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the \_\_\_\_\_.” Eph 6:11 (5)
- 15 “For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” Ephesians, Chapter 2, \_\_\_\_\_ 8 (5)
- 17 “We have redemption \_\_\_\_\_ his blood.” Eph 1:7 (7)

- 20 Tychicus is a beloved brother and \_\_\_\_\_ in the Lord. Eph 6:21 (8)
- 21 “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who \_\_\_\_\_ blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.” Eph 1:3 (4)
- 23 “Wherefore be ye not \_\_\_\_\_, but understanding what the will of the Lord is.” Eph 5:17 (6)
- 24 Another name for Jacob. (6)

### Down

- 1 God has chosen us before the foundation of the world that we are this and without blame. Eph 1:4 (4)
- 2 God has done this before the foundation of the world. Eph 1:4 (6)
- 3 “Let no corrupt communication \_\_\_\_\_ out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers.” Eph 4:29 (7)

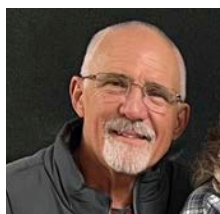
- 4 A famous king of Israel who was a man after God’s own heart. (5)
- 5 Christ has broken down the \_\_\_\_\_ wall between Jews and Gentiles. Eph 2:14 (6)
- 6 Another word for “blind” in Matthew 15:14. (8)
- 12 Servants are to be this to their masters. Eph 6:5 (8)
- 14 “For which I am an ambassador in bonds: that \_\_\_\_\_ I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.” Eph 6:20 (7)
- 16 We were sealed with the holy \_\_\_\_\_ of promise. Eph 1:13 (6)
- 18 “Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh ... and were by nature the children of wrath, even as \_\_\_\_\_.” Eph 2:3 (6)
- 19 The singular form of the answer to clue 18 (5)
- 22 “For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in \_\_\_\_\_.” Eph 2:10 (4)

King James Version

# Bolivia Reflections

**A**s you have may have heard, EBC will once again be sending a short-term mission trip to Bolivia. Are YOU feeling led to sign up? A number of folks have gone before you and, from all indications, this trip will have an immense (positive!) impact on your life. Prayerfully consider joining this upcoming trip and, if you have any questions, ask a member of the Missions Committee ... or one of the previous participants listed below.

## Doug Mollerstuen



Cochabamba: A million people, 3rd world country, amazing traffic, wonderful places to eat, open air market.

Friendly people though very poor in most cases. Like any big city, businesses and hustle and bustle. Getting down to our business, we began copying, collating, folding and stapling the books that will be used to bring the Chemane

people closer to Jesus. To be a part of the process and then to have the opportunity to meet some of them, what a wonderful thing for my life experience! I hope you can experience this, also!

## Chris Mollerstuen



Our trip to Bolivia was filled with new sites and took us all back in time. One of my favorite memories is going to San Borja to visit where Dan and Judy teach their classes to the Chimane people. The compound Dan and Judy have built is amazing. There is no power or running water, yet they can house and serve 150 people three meals a day during the week of classes. It is all quite primitive, yet complex and I wondered how could anyone build this

completely by hand. Needless to say I was very amazed!

## Nat and Sylvia Thomas



A highlight for us was to have a hands-on task that would play a role in teaching a tribal group about the Lord while hearing about Dan and Judy's experiences as we worked.

## Kathy Reynolds



Bolivia Book Team 2 was a wonderful blend of meaningful work, touring Cochabamba, and fellowship with the Burkes, who are terrific hosts and great people of faith and Biblical knowledge. Some times of special impact were morning devotions led by Dan, visiting their Sunday School, which Dan teaches,

→ Please see "Reflections" on page 17.





# Reflections

← (Continued from page 16.)

and the church worship service, with an outdoor baptism of nine people that day.

## Patty Van Well



As we approached the grassy landing strip at the Chimane village, we watched as the children who

had been playing there ran to safety! Upon landing we were welcomed and as we walked through the village we saw humble housing, children playing, tropical vegetation, men clearing land, a very muddy river that provided water and we bought woven bags from the women. But best of all was meeting Dan and Judy's friends, the Chimane people, who were receiving the books that we were helping to make! What a blessing to be a part of sharing God's word!



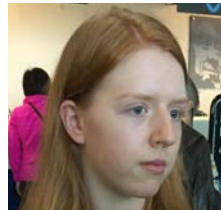
## Julie Gilreath



So many good memories with Dan and Judy during our stay in Cochabamba. "Work. Work. Work. We made

*hundreds of books. It was such a joyful time of fellowship."*

## Alyssa Mackey



There were so many things that my heart was attached to in Bolivia as you know. I didn't want to come

home. Life was simplistic there and I remember the strangest feeling that I felt, which was very confusing, was anger when coming home. That was due to missing the people and how they would welcome you with what little they had, whether in Coch or in the bush. Flying out in those small planes was so memorable but I had no fears, no bug bites even though Zika had just started and no sunburns for the redhead.

Wow! God was so evident. The food was amazing, I still dream about chirmoya ice

cream at times. Being able to hand the Chimane people a book you had helped make was just so rewarding and the children seeing themselves for the first time in photos you took. The children showing us the butterflies....

Seeing beauty in the smallest things. I remember us joking via email with Galen *haha...* Bars on my window... Toilet paper, *oh it was fun.* I will admit I had never experienced spiritual warfare before physically, except when we went down the isle at the market that was a "witch market." I remember even though it was an 80 degree day, I felt cold and lifeless and void in a way it was crazy. God grabbed my heart in Bolivia and brought me closer to Him and even today I miss feeling that in tune in the Spirit with the Lord. He allowed me to experience Him in a profound way that will forever impact me. I am praying for the day I get to go back.

→ Please see "Reflections" on page 20.



Adobe Stock

ANDY • JERUSAHA • WILLIAM

# MAKING IT CONNECT.

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

Hello everyone, thank you for reading our prayer letter. Many of you have partnered with us through your prayers and financial support for almost three years. We have been immensely blessed and encouraged by your partnership through this time as we have served at Moody Aviation and in our community in Spokane.



## what's new.

The past three years have been a time of seeking God's direction about when and how we might pursue serving with mission aviation overseas. Serving at Moody Aviation was a part of this pursuit. As you have read in our letters this past year, the timeline and plan have changed significantly since 2021 when we started moving in this direction. Now, as the current commitment with Moody Aviation is ending, we are at another place of decision. As we have prayed, we have both felt we are supposed to stay in Spokane, but that our time serving at Moody is ending.

**After much consideration we have decided when Andy finishes his current commitment with Moody this summer, we will be leaving Proclaim Aviation and pausing our support.** Monthly supporters will have their payments automatically stopped after Andy's commitment with Proclaim Aviation ends on August 15th. We still hope to someday be involved with overseas mission aviation, but for now Spokane is our mission field and Andy will be shifting to work in the private sector.

## THANK YOU.

Without your support these last three years Andy would not have been able to serve in avionics at Moody Aviation, equipping the next generation of aviation missionaries. During that time the avionics team has completed major upgrade projects on three aircraft in the Moody training fleet as well as maintaining the flying aircraft in safe and operational condition. Your support has also enabled Andy to help with worship music in Moody's chapel services and to be involved in student discipleship.

S U M M E R 2 0 2 4

→ Continued on page 19.



## what's next.

While working in avionics has afforded Andy a valuable new skill and has filled a need at Moody, aircraft maintenance was never the end goal. Andy has a strong desire to get back to flying and build experience as a pilot. The best way to do that is to get certified as a flight instructor, and he is excited to start Moody's certified flight instructor training course this month. Once he has completed training, the goal is to build flight time and experience while we are in Spokane. We strongly believe that our ministry in Spokane is not over. In fact, it is just getting started. If this is where God has placed for this season, then He has work for us to do here.

### In Spokane.

Jerusha is planning to stay involved with the running programs through Union Gospel Mission. Andy is planning to stay connected with student services at Moody to disciple young men that are going through Moody's aviation program. He also hopes to start a men's discipleship group at church soon.

If you have any questions, please reach out to us. We would love to talk to you!

Andy, Jerusha & William

- For continued wisdom and direction for the future
- For Andy as he works through the intense flight instructor training
- For baby William as he grows and develops

REACH OUT

### CONNECT.

3304 N Vista Rd  
Spokane, WA 99212  
andyandjerusha@gmail.com

### PARTNER.

P.O. Box 356  
Worthington, MN 56187  
507-376-9480

[proclaimaviation.org](http://proclaimaviation.org)

PRAYING.

# Reflections

## Ruth Quiring



Working with Dan and Judy in Cochabamba was a great experience, definitely a highlight in my

life. They do a great job of balancing work with relaxation/touring/exercise. Judy is a great cook which she balances between healthy fare and desserts. Afternoon "siesta" was followed with something delectable that Judy made. We also had several dinners at restaurants. Besides collating, stapling and taping the books, we had a daily devotional provided by Dan. We got a lot of our assigned work accomplished and had a great time doing it! †

← (Continued from page 17.)

## Kim Disher



My most memorable thing from Bolivia was flying out to the Chimane villages. Realizing how very far they

are from towns and medical help. Their life style is so simple, basically subsistence living.

# Youth

← (Continued from page 14.)

be careful about those we hang out with. We must walk, live, and do the new life we have, and that should be noticeable to those unsaved people around us. If we are going to live as Forged people, then our actions should be clear and different. Our faith cannot lack anything, even though it is not easy to be hammered out, ground and polished.

## We Need Community

In the end, who we are made to be cannot be accomplished without community, because that is how we were made to live. We must encourage each other and fight for one another instead of letting those walls grow higher and thicker. God put all of us here for a reason, but not everyone knows what that reason is. Therefore, it is our job to *not* let the world take away our faith but instead we must guide it into the world.

***"For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them."***

Ephesians 2:10 (NASB) †

## Answers from page 15. How did you do?



## Stories from the FIELDS

Editor's Note: Stories from the FIELDS is produced monthly by Village Missions. They contain inspirational accounts from many of those supported by Village Missions who are currently working in the mission field.

If you would like to receive your copy directly from Village Missions or desire more information on this organization, please contact Tim Griffiths at:

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

## Generational Baptisms

One Sunday, I baptized an older lady, a young woman, and two teenagers. We were all encouraged as we witnessed their steps of faith and commitment. Since then, several more have asked about being baptized. We thank and praise God for the growth and steps toward maturity!

**Alex and Melanie Pompu**  
Maidstone, SK †

## Two Weddings

I officiated two weddings in one weekend. The first was for a young woman who grew up in our church. What a joy to see her marry a man who loves the Lord and wants to base their marriage and family on God and his Word! The other wedding was for the daughter of an African couple our church supports. This couple was married at Camp Creek Church over 30 years ago while attending the University of Oregon. Their daughter wanted to get married in the same place. We enjoyed the African flair of her wedding ceremony.

**Craig and Shelley Curtis**  
Camp Creek, OR †

## Growing in Faith

We held a baptism service for two men, followed by fellowship at the river. One is a college student we've known for many years. He's from an unchurched home and is a good friend of our son. We've fed, nurtured, prayed for, and coached him through the years. We rejoiced when he started attending church independently after being challenged by a Christian roommate at college. I'll never forget the moment he asked me to baptize him!

**Tim and Fern Wyrick**  
Springview, NE †

# Missionaries & Ministries EBC Supports!

**T**he 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](mailto:tbrooks@maf.org)

- ✘ Serving in Winema, Indonesia
- ✘ Tim is a mechanic for MAF planes on the base
- ✘ Both Tim and Mallory are studying to gain proficiency in the language
- ✘ Support for team members on the MAF base



## Joshue and Diana Bulande

SIM

[dianaafrica@gmail.com](mailto:dianaafrica@gmail.com)

- ✘ Serving in Lichinga, Mozambique
- ✘ Church planting, discipleship training
- ✘ Women's Bible training
- ✘ Children's ministry and tutoring



## Dan and Judy Burke

Ethnos 360 (formerly New Tribes Missions)

[dan\\_burke@ntm.org](mailto:dan_burke@ntm.org)

- ✘ Serve in Bolivia in Cochabamba and San Borja
- ✘ Development of a discipleship center in northwestern Bolivia
- ✘ Work with the Chimane people group
- ✘ Write and produce books and commentaries in Chimane for the tribal people
- ✘ Teaching, construction, leadership development

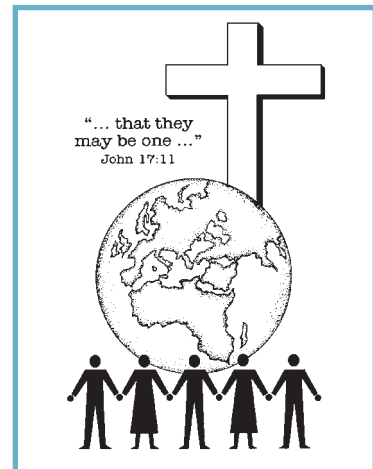


## Kevin and Jennifer Domes

IN FAITH

[kjdomes.ministry@yahoo.com](mailto:kjdomes.ministry@yahoo.com)

- ✘ Work at Bethel Bible Camp in Wellfleet, Nebraska
- ✘ Involved in youth ministry, maintaining the camp facility
- ✘ Teach in the Awana program, lead a high school youth ministry
- ✘ Administrative retreats
- ✘ Jennifer also works in food preparation for the summer camps



→ Please see "EBC Supports" on page 23.

# EBC Supports

← (Continued from page 22.)



**Ivan and Mary Goossen**  
Avant Ministries  
[ivary@avmi.org](mailto: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](mailto:eric_hedeem@ntm.org)

- ✘ Serve in Papua, New Guinea
- ✘ Mentoring new missionaries to the field
- ✘ Translation work
- ✘ Judith works in the medical clinic and member care
- ✘ Leadership development among the indigenous people



**Paul and Leslie Lanquist**  
Village Missions at Tanwax  
Country Chapel, Washington  
360.832.3584  
[pastorpaulanquist@gmail.com](mailto: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](mailto:steve.schmidt@sim.org)  
[mikki.schmidt@sim.org](mailto:mikki.schmidt@sim.org)

- ✘ Steve is the SIM regional Director for West Africa
- ✘ Supervises country directors in 11 countries
- ✘ Both Steve and Mikki work in SIM's Global Leader Development Program
- ✘ Mikki does educational consulting work, and also works in the Paths to School Improvement program which trains Christian school leaders throughout Africa.



## Other Outreach Ministries We Support:

- ◆ Awana
- ◆ Crisis Pregnancy
- ◆ Prison Ministry
- ◆ Village Missions
- ◆ CEF
- ◆ River of Life
- ◆ SAT-7 (Dennis & Cindy Wiens)
- ◆ 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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encouraged. Please use one of the following:

**Text:** 503.931.8239

**Email:** [bob.disher@charter.net](mailto: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!** ✝



**OCTOBER**

10/1 LADIES MISSIONARY  
FELLOWSHIP

10/8 MOM TO MOM

10/14 HYMN SING

10/22 MOM TO MOM

10/27 CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

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



***For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared  
beforehand, that we should walk in them.***

**Ephesians 2:10 (NASB)**