

# The Sentinel

WE  
STAND  
WATCH

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May, 2026  
VOL 10 • NO 05

## The Burden on His Back

By Pastor Troy Bassham

### For the wages of sin is death . . .

If you listen to Christian radio you're going to hear a lot about God's love. It's appropriate. **God is love.**

We know this from **1 John 4:8** and other portions of Scripture. Unfortunately, we often have a remedial *or incorrect* understanding of what true love is.

We are often guilty of focusing completely on God's goodness, mercy, and love to the neglect of His other attributes. Sometimes this is a direct response to a previous faith experience that seemed legalistic, judgmental, or devoid of Christian charity. There has certainly been considerable error in this matter, in both the past and the present. However, swinging the pendulum too far in the other direction isn't a cure—all for the lack

of grace by some. Rather, it is just an invitation to another sort of error.

All of this to say, *I think we've forgotten how bad sin really is.*

### Sin IS a Big Deal

Too often we think of sin as something that God casually wipes aside, like it was no big deal. We laugh about it, make excuses for it, and tempt ourselves with it. Too often, when we really think of our own shortcomings of character, we label them as mistakes or genetic deficiencies.

We do not look at ourselves as real sinners—not like *mass murderers or child rapists*. Unfortunately, our ability to dismiss our personal guilt



→ Please see "*Burden*" on page 2.

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**Deadline for the June, 2026 issue is:**

**Monday, June 1, 2026 @ 5:00 pm!**

know. grow. go.



# Burden

AdobeStock  (Continued from page 1.)

as inconsequential is a real problem. *It shows we do not understand sin or the greatness of God's love.*

## Pilgrim's Progress

In the past, I read Pilgrim's Progress with my boys.

**Disclaimer:** Not the full version of Pilgrim's Progress but the abridged graphic novel that I bought at a Christian bookstore.

Even in the truncated version, I was impacted by the protagonist's awareness of his own sin. It was the knowledge of his sin that led the main character, **Christian**, to salvation. Something we need to ask ourselves is, *if we do not realize our guilt before a holy God, can we really appreciate our need for God's mercy?*



## Sin IS Ugly!

Make no mistake, sin is an ugly, horrible thing. It is an affront to a holy God. It destroys families, wrecks lives, and continues to corrupt this already broken world as well as the people who live in it.

We often think we can control sin, or make accommodations for small transgressions. This shows considerable audacity and ignorance on our behalf. We need to remember that sin is not only a great offense against God, but it is also pervasive and destructive. To think we can live a healthy spiritual life while clinging to sin is as foolish as believing that we can lick a petri dish of tuberculosis simply because we have a gym membership.

## Sin Distorts

Sin distorts our thinking and corrupts our souls. It is a sort of spiritual lycanthrope, consuming the host and turning the man into a monster. Only through God's grace is sin prevented from running its full course. Willful sin eats away at our moral fiber creating a hardness of heart. Over time we will be tempted to alter our thoughts about God to avoid the pang of guilt and the consequences of our actions.

Surely you have watched the news or read the paper and cried out at injustice and evil at work in the world today. Those injustices on display are sin. Our sin is a part of the evil we see. When we are willing to make allowances for our own sin, we are adding to the brokenness of our world.



## Sin Kills

A correct view of sin should create a desire in us to make real changes in our own lives. It should give us a greater understanding of the depth of love that God has for us. It was while we were still sinners that Christ died for us. He took our penalty, our guilt, and shame so that we can be restored to God. And then, He receives us as His children and conforms us into His own holy image.

## Appreciating God's Love

That's love. But we won't fully appreciate its depth unless we understand the penalty we have been pardoned from.

I pray that we will learn to hate sin just as much as our Father who saved us. †



***Make no mistake, sin is an ugly, horrible thing. It is an affront to a holy God. It destroys families, wrecks lives, and continues to corrupt this already broken world as well as the people who live in it.***



Rummage Sale - HUGE SUCCESS!

# Rummaging for a Great Cause

By Lori Bassham

The rummage sale to benefit the children of **Grace Boarding House** in Mae Sot, Thailand was a **HUGE** success! We could never have done it without you!

## Many Donations

We received an incredible amount of donations from our church family and the gym was bursting with clothing, games, books, electronics, sporting goods, yard and garage items, furniture, decor, toys, baby gear, *and so much more.*

On Thursday evening, **Pastor Andrew** and the **Compass youth group** helped move about 80% of the items from storage into the gym.

Bright and early on Friday, **Lori Bassham** and a handful of faithful volunteers brought in the remaining 20%. Throughout the day, many volunteers lent a hand to prepare the donation based sale. By late Friday



afternoon, the gym was ready for Saturday's event.



## \$\$\$ Needed for Grace Boarding House!

While our team of eight is fully funded for our July 5–18 mission trip, we are raising money to help fund special projects at Grace Boarding House. Currently, the home for Burmese refugee children is praying for fans, storage for blankets, a washing machine, pillows, CCTVs for the entrance gate and compound security, upgraded playground equipment, etc. In addition to these items, we are fundraising to help meet the daily needs of the children.

We were both prayerful and hopeful that the sale would be a success as we deeply desire to bless the children in Mae Sot.

Photos by Lori Bassham.

## Many Helpers

Saturday again brought a crew of faithful volunteers to help run the event. Many people poured through the doors of EBC to hunt for new treasures. The majority of individuals who came gave generously to the fundraiser and the grand total, after the six hour sale closed, was **\$4104.39!** *This is more than double what we were hoping to raise!*

## Special THANKS!

The team would like to thank everyone who donated items, gave of their time, or shopped the sale.

As a direct result of your generosity, we will be able to provide many of the items that GBH needs. While there are only eight on the team, we will go with the knowledge that we have an incredible pillar of support holding us up.

Thank you for partnering with us in this mission and please be in prayer as we enter our final months of preparation. ✝



*While there are only eight on the team, we will go with the knowledge that we have an incredible pillar of support holding us up.*

# YOUR Board of Elders



**Pastor Troy Bassham**

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**Jim Walker**

(C) 971.239.9109



*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

For the past two months we have been sharing the lives and testimonies of our leadership team.



It has been interesting to read about all the various ministries, work skills, military service, and family patterns each of the elders have had over their lives.

I thank the Lord that we have such a body of Christ here at EBC. Members serve in many ways, just as Paul describes in **1 Corinthians 12**. There he compares our spiritual lives with each other with the inner workings of our physical body. I have often wondered if I—a *psychologist*—am a liver that helps people process the bile in their lives. More obviously there are many “*helping hands*”, “*brains*” for planning and administration, “*mouths*” for encouragement and many more parallels.

Thank you each for your wonderful contribution to the work here at EBC!

This month we will listen as **Pastor Troy** and **Jim Peters** give their stories.



## Pastor Troy Bassham

I grew up in a ministry home. My father was a pastor who was gifted in church planting and turn around ministries. This type of ministry often involves a lot of relocation, and this was definitely my experience.

### Frequent Moves

We moved frequently, traveling back and forth between Oregon and Minnesota. By the eighth grade when we arrived in Salem, Oregon, I had already lived in 12 different houses. At this time my dad told me, if God allowed, he hoped to stay in Salem long enough for me to attend the same high school all four years.

Thankfully, this hope became a reality, and we stayed in Salem for 10 years where I attended middle school, high school, and college. I shared this journey with my three younger sisters.

We were a very close family and remain so to this day. Life was very busy, filled with church, sports, piano lessons and school. My dad later told me that this was part of the plan: he wanted us to be exposed to lots of different opportunities and that he hoped to keep us busy enough to keep us out of trouble.

One of the biggest privileges of my upbringing was learning about God from an early age. Many of my earliest memories involve the church or people that we met in ministry. *Most importantly, I came to know Jesus Christ at an early age, through the children's ministry at our church.*

### Staying in Salem

Following high school, I made the decision to remain in Salem. I attended Chemeketa for a year before transferring to Western Baptist College (*now Corban*). While completing my studies I worked on the youth staff at my home church (*Grace Baptist, Salem*) and began to feel the Lord leading me into vocational ministry.

### Starting in Ministry

My first full-time ministry position was as the youth pastor in Albany, Oregon, at the First Baptist Church of Albany (*today Willamette Community Church*). The time there was happy and busy and filled with personal and professional growth.

My next stop brought me to Whittier, California (*youth pastor*), and eventually to Ramona, California. Living in Ramona brought many changes. I completed my seminary education, accepted a position as the Associate Pastor of Mountain View Community Church, and most importantly I met my wife, **Lori Shellhammer**.

→ Please see “Elders” on page 6.

.....  
*One of the biggest privileges of my upbringing was learning about God from an early age.*



← (Continued from page 5.)

### Best Friend and Partner

Lori is my best friend and partner in ministry. We met in church while she was finishing her Theatre degree at Pt. Loma Nazarene University in San Diego and we were married in the summer of 2003. We genuinely enjoy one another's company. We love to travel, camp, go to sporting events, and attend the theatre.

Mostly we love to laugh and make memories. During our marriage, God has blessed us with three boys: **Garrett**, **Matthew**, and **William**.



We have loved being parents and have been active in our sons' school, sports, and hobbies. Most importantly, our desire has been for them to grow up to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ.

### New Chapter in Life

In 2007, God led us to a new chapter of ministry. Taking a leap of faith, we moved to Utah to lead a church in West Valley City, Utah. This was my first experience serving in a senior pastor role. It also



included the challenge of serving in a state where only 3% of the population identifies as evangelical Christians.

These years in Utah were filled with growth and had many clear demonstrations of God's provision. After nearly twelve years in Utah, we again felt God moving us. This time I was headed back to Oregon with my family.

In July of 2019, we moved to Dallas where I became the senior pastor at EBC. In many ways this felt like a personal homecoming, moving to a town so close to where

I grew up. Now, nearly seven years later, we are thankful to God for our church family and the ministry that we get to be a part of. We have also been blessed to raise our boys in this church and community, witnessing their continued growth and development.

### Additional Roles

In addition to my role as a pastor, I have done teaching with the CBMatrix online ministry education program. I have also led five trips to the Holy Land as well as spending a summer in Israel working on an archaeology dig. Most of my free time is spent with my family, a large portion of which is watching our boys in their respective sports. When the opportunity arises, I can also be found playing disc golf or pickleball.

### With Much Anticipation...

We look forward to what God has in store for us, personally, as well as

*Sheep photo by AdobeStock.*



for EBC. I love to teach the Word of God and to see people grow in faith and service. It is truly a blessing to be your pastor. I pray that God would use our time here for His purposes and glory.

## Jim Peters

**Jim Peters** was born right here in Dallas in July 1948, with three sisters following.



His father was a machinist and mother worked part time as a nurse at our local hospital.

During childhood, Jim received Christ as Savior at about age 10 after attending Sunday School classes and going to summer Christian camp.

### High School and Work

Jim attended Central High School getting involved in the Future Farmers of America program. He then graduated in 1966.

The army was using a draft program at that time, but offered Jim an alternative work as an assistant x-ray technician for two years.

### Marriage and Family

After the army, Jim went back to his parents' farm and worked there. He met his wife **Judi** through a friend and they married in 1977.

→ Please see "Elders" on page 11.



THANK YOU, Alison Johnson, for providing the Sunday School graphics.



## Spring 2026 Children's Classes

9:00 Service

Nursery: Birth - 3 Years Rooms 61 & 59  
Children's Church: 3yrs. - Kinder. Room 52  
Children's Church: 1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> Grades Room 71

10:30 Service

Nursery: Birth - 3 Years Room 59  
3 Years - Kindergarten Room 183  
1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade Room 283  
3<sup>rd</sup> -5<sup>th</sup> Grades Room 277  
Middle School & High School Room 135

## Spring 2026 Adult Sunday School Classes

10:30 Service

Bible in Life Room 121  
Book of Genesis Room 122  
1 Peter Room 131  
Lasting Impact 226  
Sermon Recap Room 224  
Young Marrieds, Love Languages Room 228  
Young Adults Room 222

# Office Update

By Alison Johnson  
EBC Office Manager



The office will be putting out the directories by the end of May. After a few back and forth with edits—*and more edits*—and then finally to the printer, we should have them to you this month. We greatly appreciate everyone's assistance in checking and correcting contact information. **THANK YOU** for your patience in this huge undertaking of updating the directory.

## Office Closed for Memorial Day

The church office will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on **Monday, May 25.**

## A Fond Farewell!



Finally, on this brief office update, I want to let you know that this is my last office update. I have accepted a new position and am starting the new job mid-month. Although I will be leaving my role as office manager, my family and I will still be here in town and we will continue to attend EBC.

I have loved this job and its many challenges and opportunities. Most of all, I have loved getting to know so many of you. I am excited for this new opportunity that God opened up for me and believe that God will continue to richly bless all of you and the many ministries of EBC.

## Kari Continues On!

Kari plans to carry on and staff the office a few days a week. In the near future, someone will be coming in temporarily until there is a new permanent replacement for me. †

# Personnel Matters

By Nat Thomas

We, as a church family, are losing one of our key staff members to a new position.

## Alison

**Alison Johnson** has accepted a new job with Polk County that begins May 15. She has been the front person for EBC with a warm smile and a can-do helpful attitude. **Alison, we will miss you!**

The leadership team is working on next steps for hiring a new person to take over Alison's role in the church office.

## Pastor Andrew

Also, a big loss for EBC is that **Pastor Andrew** and family have decided to move at the end of July to be closer to extended family down south near Medford.

We will miss his work with our youth and his engaging smile and demeanor.

**Dave Whitbeck** is heading up the search committee to hire a new youth pastor and his team's target is have someone hired by July.

*Pray for Dave and his team as they work to fill this important position.*  
†

*Thank you, Alison,*

**for 7.5 years of compassion, integrity, dedication, and efficiency in the EBC church office.**

Fellowship of Evangelical Bible Churches

# News from FEBC!

By Kevin Stone  
President, FEBC



May 1, 2026

**C**onnect26 is just over two months away! Register at our website ([www.fellowshipforward.org](http://www.fellowshipforward.org))! You have one month left to get the early bird discount, so be sure not to delay.

As I mentioned before, this is going to be a great event! Our Keynote Speaker is Steve Janz from Millar College of the Bible. He is a gifted speaker who will challenge us with the topic “*Gospel for Life*,” through which we’ll discover how the Gospel impacts every area life and ministry.

## We have also solidified a great lineup of Breakout Sessions!

- ◆ **Rev. James VanderVeen** will present “*Left to Our Own Devices*” — An examination of the relationship between discipleship and digital technology. **Are you in control of your digital devices or are they in control of you?**
- ◆ A panel of seasoned ministry leaders will discuss “*Leading Through Grief*” — The panel will explore how to lead well amidst deep personal grief, and how congregation members can offer the right support when their leaders are grieving.
- ◆ **Melissa Stone**, career educator, will present “*Timeless Truths, Today’s Methods: Engaging Faith in Today’s Learning Culture*” — In this session, we’ll learn how cooperative, collaborative, and interactive teaching can move learners of all ages from passive listening to active spiritual growth. Great for Sunday School, small groups, or any learning situation.
- ◆ **Rev. Blaine Donaldson** will present “*What is a Biblicist - and Am I One?*” — Our churches are not anti-intellectual “Bible thumpers,” yet we unapologetically affirm the inerrancy — and especially the sufficiency — of Scripture. **Is there a meaningful distinction?** What is the role of general revelation? This session will help us learn to more precisely articulate where we stand on the authority and application of Scripture.

**News Flash:** We are totally updating the Directed Ministry Conversations this year! In past years, the DMCs involved separating into rooms for a long discussion. This year, we plan to have “*Table Talks*.” Some of the tables will be the traditional DMC ministry areas, but others will be specific topics that face our churches right now, such as social issues or ministry philosophy. Every fifteen minutes, we will give some time to switch to a new table. Talk about as many issues as possible or sit at the same table for awhile if that is your passion. More topics, more interaction, and hopefully more benefit packed into this Connect session!



You won’t want to miss **Connect26!** We cherish this opportunity to strengthen churches each year!

Thank you for your ongoing prayer, support, and encouragement. †

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[www.fellowshipforward.org](http://www.fellowshipforward.org) 📧 [president@febcministries.org](mailto:president@febcministries.org)

# Awana Wraps Up Another Amazing Year!

## The End Is Here\*

*\*Until September!*

**A**wards night marks the end of the year for EBC's Awana program. We held our awards night on Wednesday, April 29, at EBC.

Hot dogs were on the menu as the crowd gathered starting at 6 PM. We then moved to the sanctuary and the program began.

### Welcome ALL!

Awana ministry director **Matt Calef** welcomed the crowd of clubbers and family. Game leaders **Joseph Roby** and **Priscilla Domes** led the clubbers and attendees in the pledge of allegiance and the Awana pledge. **Pastor Troy Bassham** then came onto the stage to open our event in prayer and deliver a gospel message.

### MANY Awards

After the pastor's message the awards started flying! **Cubby** (3-4 years old) clubbers were up first, entertaining the crowd with the Cubby song, followed by recognizing

**By Matt and Lena Calef  
Awana Co-Commanders**

29 Cubby clubbers with *Appleseed* awards.

Next, **Sparks** (K-2nd grade) clubbers entertained the crowd with the Sparky song, then received their awards. A total of 29 book completion awards were handed out. Several youth finished previous books earning several awards.

We moved into the **T&T** clubs (3rd-5th grade), starting with the boys' group.

Awards included *Alpha*, *Excellence*, and *Challenge*. The girls group came forward after the boys and we recognized those clubbers for the same awards. Twenty-five T&T clubbers earned book completion awards overall.

Last, but not least, our **Trek** (6th-8th grade) clubbers came forward. I was pleasantly surprised to

hear the Trek group was also going to offer us musical entertainment! But *no*, it was not so. **Maybe next year?** Ten Trekkers were recognized for book completion.

### Special Awards

Not to be outdone, some clubbers received awards earned over the course of multiple years. **Matt and Lena** presented three clubbers with the *Timothy* award for completing four of the seven handbooks between T&T and Trek.

Also, we recognized 11 of T&T clubbers with the *AwanaGo* award for completing that section of their books.

### ... And Our Leaders!

Finally, we took a moment to recognize our leaders and various other volunteers for their generous donation of time to the Awana program this year. Without our volunteers, the program doesn't happen. **THANK YOU** again.

### Registration Opens

As for next year, registration **will open August 1**, and information for where to register will be available then. †



COMING SOON!

# EBC Family Camp

By Ron Brooks  
Family Camp Organizer

**E**BC has a great weekend planned for Family Camp at Triangle Lake! So, grab your calendar and mark down August 21–23. Reserve that weekend to join your church family for an unforgettable time of fellowship, relaxation, and fun in the beautiful outdoors. *We can't wait to see everyone there!* †



**Elders**  
← (Continued from page 6.)

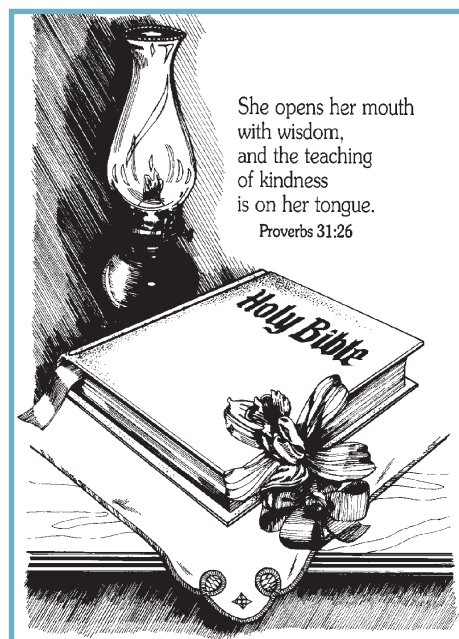
They raised five children on their farm. Jim and Judi attended and ministered at EBC all these years.

## Much Involvement in Church

Jim taught Sunday School and worked in children's church in the early years. They are grateful for their children's faith in Christ. Jim and Judi have been able to send their children out on the mission field where they were challenged in their spiritual growth. In his later years at EBC, Jim served over twenty years as a deacon and now as one of our valued elders.

## Closing Thoughts

Again, thank you to all of you for being a part of this body of Christ here at EBC. Our Lord Jesus Christ loves each of you and calls you to abide in Him, the Vine of Life. †



## Operation Christmas Child

# Monthly Donations

By Kay Whitney

**W**e will continue our goal of an on-going collection of items for the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. Since the weather is starting to get nicer, we are looking for some good *get-outside-and-play* items. Those things to focus on this month are:



- ☒ tennis balls
- ☒ soccer balls (6" or smaller w/pin—uninflated)
- ☒ pump (small) for balls

*Please place donated items in the designated box in the foyer.*

†



Mom to Mom Update

# A Great Year Winding Down

By Gwen Griffiths

In April, Mom to Mom covered education choices and child development.

## Education Choices

*Have you ever faced a set of options and wished you could ask someone who had already made the choice how it turned out?* When it comes to education, many moms feel this way. So, as part of our Mom to Mom year, we endeavored to help.

On April 14, a panel of moms shared about the educational choices their family had made, representing:

- ✦ Public school
- ✦ Christian school
- ✦ Home school
- ✦ Charter schools & cooperatives

Each mom shared a little about her family, the choice they had made and why they chose it, the positives and negatives of that choice, and ways they had intentionally worked

to ensure their children thrived in that choice.

Our goal for the panel was two-fold: to help moms explore the many choices available to them, and to show that there is no one perfect choice.



Each option has its own strengths and weaknesses, and will require different commitments and strategies once chosen. Many of the moms who attended commented that they appreciated hearing feedback from others with more experience.

## Child Development

For our second April meeting, Cassie Kroeker came and talked about child development. Cassie worked with infants and toddlers and their families as a teacher and home visitor with Family Building Blocks. Her presentation helped moms understand how to build positive and secure attachments with their children, while also drawing parallels

to our relationship with God and abiding in Him. She provided many child development resources on topics like social/emotional development, thinking skills, and routines.

## Almost Over!

It's hard to believe that the Mom to Mom year is almost over! We're down to our last two meetings: May 12 and May 26. *Would you be praying that the moms who attend these last meetings will form strong bonds with their mentor moms and plan to return next year?*



## Spread the Word!

The final Mom to Mom meetings of this school year:

- ✦ Tuesday, May 12
- ✦ Tuesday, May 26 †

# Weekday School of the Bible



By Jeff Anderson—Weekday School of the Bible President

## "Summer Bible?"

Those two words hung in the air, a question asked during a weekday Bible class at the La Creole Middle School chapel. A simple question that spoke volumes.

*"Of everything we have talked about during Bible classes this year, that question really got my attention,"* said **Jeff Anderson**, President of Dallas Weekday Bible. *"It tells me how much our youth need more Bible and more Jesus."*

## Experiencing Growth!

The Weekday Bible programs for the elementary, middle, and high school students in Dallas have all experienced growth over the last couple of years. Just at the middle school chapel next to La Creole Middle School, over 70 students study the Bible weekly.

*And many students are expressing their desire for more.* For more Bible studies. For more time to learn about Jesus and grow closer to Him.

## Working on a Way

*"Summer Bible? We are working on a way to make that happen,"* said **Alicia Bodenhamer**, director of Weekday Bible's middle and high school programs.

Bodenhamer noted that there's a possibility of pairing a summer Bible study when the Drop-In Youth

Center is open at the Weekday Bible chapel across the street from the high school. Weekday Bible operates the Drop-In Youth Center from 3:30–6:30 pm on Mondays and Wednesdays.

*"To hear a middle school student ask for more Bible, and to have the request echoed by others, it shows that Weekday Bible is being used by God to plant seeds, change lives and bring youth to Him,"* said Anderson. *"There's nothing more exciting than to see youth on fire for God, and asking for more Bible."*

Weekday Bible continues to operate chapels next to Oakdale, Lyle, and Whitworth elementary schools, La Creole Middle School, and Dallas High School, and would appreciate your prayerful support of their ministry.

## Can YOU Help Us?

To give financially, please visit [weekdaybible.com/donate-now](http://weekdaybible.com/donate-now).



Lyle



Oakdale



Whitworth



La Creole



High School

Serving with Mission Aviation Fellowship in Papua, Indonesia

# The Brooks Family



**P**apua, Indonesia is our featured country for this month. EBC supports missionaries who work there with Missionary Aviation Fellowship. **Tim and Mallory Brooks** recently made a change in their ministry location.

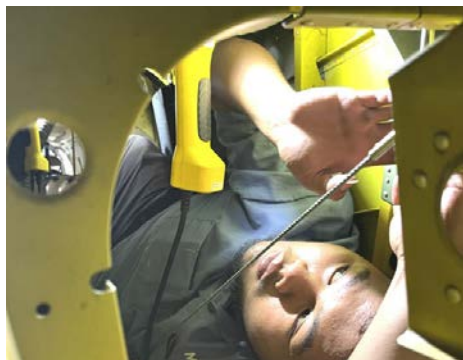
Check out what happened in their newsletter (following)! You can also hear first hand news from Tim's parents, **Ron and Marie** who recently returned from a visit to Papua.

Thank you for remembering our missionaries in your prayers.

Linda McFarland  
Missions Committee

## In the Hanger

**M**y team and I recently finished an inspection on one of our Kodiak airplanes here in Wamena. What was



Leo working in the broken airplane to install the horizontal stabilizer.

supposed to be an easy job turned into quite a challenging project.

Everything was going well until we discovered five of the eight fasteners that attach the horizontal stabilizer (*back wing on the tail*) to the aircraft were loose and had damaged the stabilizer. Fortunately, our team in Sentani had a spare stabilizer they were in the process of repairing, so they focused on fixing it and getting it ready for installation.

### Lots of Work

After a month of hard work, the repaired horizontal stabilizer was ready to be installed here in Wamena. The next question was: *How do we get a 20 x 3' stabilizer to Wamena?*

After some careful measurements and a bit of testing, the guys in Sentani figured out that the stabilizer would just fit in our biggest airplane, but they had to remove the copilot seat and the aft bulkhead cover for it to fit. Oh, and they had to remove the copilot door to get it in the airplane. *Don't worry though, the door was reinstalled for the flight.*

### Ready to Fly

Sentani sent the repaired stabilizer to Wamena; we sent the damaged one back with the same airplane, and by the end of the week, the broken airplane was ready to fly again.

It was a great team effort to get the airplane fixed, and we praise the

Getting the right fit ...



From the front ...



through the middle ...



all the way to the rear!

Lord that it can again be used to bless the people of Papua.

→ Please see "Brooks" on page 15.



## Family Update

There is something of a running joke that says **MAF** stands for *Move Again, Friend*. Well, that part sure seems to be true for us. Since getting married seven years ago, we have spent one month or more at 23 different houses. Our house in Wamena has been the place we have stayed the longest, and we were looking forward to continuing to be here for years to come. *Alas, that is not to be.*

MAF has recently asked us to move to Sentani for two main reasons:

✦ **First**, it is expensive to keep a satellite maintenance base open.

✦ **Second**, the maintenance team there could use some help.

Though we love Wamena, we want to be obedient to the Lord and to leadership, and so we have agreed to move to Sentani on March 31.

## Heavy Hearts

Though our hearts are heavy with the sorrow of giving up our home, friends, community, and routine again, we look forward to seeing what the Lord will do through us in Sentani.

Needless to say, life has been stressful the last couple of months. Big decisions needing to be made, challenging projects at work, inter-tribal wars and riots around town, are all just a part of what we have experienced in Wamena recently.

We look forward to seeing what the Lord will do through us in Sentani.

## Much Needed Vacation!

Yet even in challenging times, we have been able to enjoy some good things as well, including a much-needed vacation down to Jayapura in January. We stayed in a hotel right on the waterfront and enjoyed shopping, good food, letting the kids play at an indoor playground, and hanging out with friends. *The break from the normal pace of life was refreshing.*

As we prepare to move, we expect another challenging and stressful couple of months, but we continue to seek the Lord and lean on Him for support. Thank you for praying for us.

Vay-Cay ... Hooray!



.....  
*It was a great team effort to get the airplane fixed, and we praise the Lord that it can again be used to bless the people of Papua.*

→ Please see "Brooks" on page 16.



# Looking Ahead ...

## Women's Ministry Summer Social

Friday, June 19 at 6:30 PM  
Fun and relaxing evening to welcome in the beginning of summer.

## Bunco Night

Friday, September 11 at 6:30 PM

## Women's Retreat

Friday to Sunday, October 2–4  
Location: Fern Hill Lodge, Monmouth

## Christmas Dessert

Friday, December 4 at 6:30 PM  
Start the Christmas season sharing an evening together.

## Men's Ministry

### Men's Breakfast

Saturday, May 9

### Men's Breakfast

Saturday, August 8

### Annual Trap Shoot

September (Date TBD)

### Men's Breakfast

Saturday, November 14 †

## Prayer Requests

✠ Pray for our **upcoming move** to Sentani. Pray that all the details would be worked out and go smoothly.

✠ Pray that all five of us would **find friends and community** in Sentani.

✠ **Pray for us** as this move has already been a challenge emotionally.

✠ **Pray for the expat teachers and community.** There has been a lot of serious illness that seems to be worse for teachers and their families. Multiple people have needed life flights off the island. *One MAF family in Sentani lost their 16 year old daughter to illness in December. Pray especially for Janae's family and all who loved her.*

✠ **Pray for local teachers here.** Especially pray for those serving in interior villages with Christian organizations. *There have been multiple physical attacks in different villages, causing some teams to flee for their lives. One teacher was killed. MAF has flown multiple evacuation flights to remove teachers from dangerous situations.*

✠ **Pray for peace and wisdom** as the teachers and their leaders evaluate how to best serve the isolated communities here.

✠ **Pray also for the communities** who lost their teachers.

## Contact Us:

Tim: [tbrooks@maf.org](mailto:tbrooks@maf.org)

Mallory: [mbrooks@maf.org](mailto:mbrooks@maf.org)

For Giving Online: [www.maf.org/brooks](http://www.maf.org/brooks)

For Giving by Phone, Call: Donor Services at 1.800.359.7623

### Mail Checks to:

MAF Donor Services  
PO Box 47  
Nampa, ID 83653

Write **Brooks 9119** in the check memo line.

Blessings,  
Tim and Mallory Brooks  
†



## 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).

## Truth That Offers Freedom

Lauren and a friend started a regular ministry for female inmates at the Yreka jail. We are so thankful for that open door and pray that this ministry will open eyes to the truth that can set them free and meet their souls' needs.

**Paul & Lauren McIlroy**  
Horse Creek, CA †

## Thanks in Difficulties

Our annual Ladies' Tea draws women from different generations, including some who don't attend church. This year's theme was Seeds of Gratitude. The speaker was a Canadian volunteer at the Ethnos360 Aviation headquarters not far from us. She reflected with gratitude on how God walked with her through some difficult and painful times in her life. She challenged the ladies to thank God even amid their difficulties because He is with them.

**Steven & Catherine Knorr**  
Double Adobe, AZ †

## Daily Impact

From the start, we have encouraged the church family to read their Bibles daily and provided a daily reading plan. Many have shared about their daily time with the Lord and how much they are growing as they read and listen to God's Word. My heart is full!

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

# 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



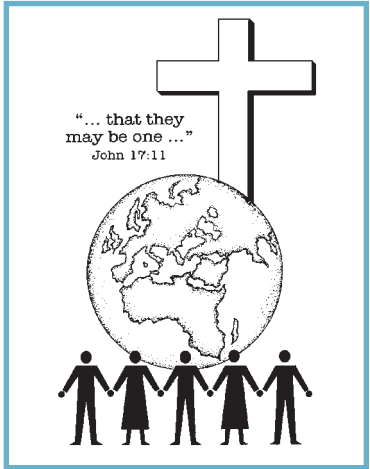
**Dan and Judy Burke**  
 Ethnos 360 (formerly New Tribes Missions)  
[dan\\_burke@ntm.org](mailto:dan_burke@ntm.org)

- ✘ 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 19.

# EBC Supports

← (Continued from page 18.)



### 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



### Jake and Moriah Michalovich

Living in Dallas and serving Polk County, Oregon

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

- ✦ Jake is the Area Director for Young Life in Polk County.
- ✦ Moriah serves as a Young Life leader.
- ✦ Sharing the Word of God and discipling youth.



### 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
- ◆ Mission Connexion
- ◆ CEF
- ◆ River of Life
- ◆ SAT-7 (Dennis & Cindy Wiens)
- ◆ Weekday School of the Bible
- ◆ 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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**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!** ✝



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



***Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your  
God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you.***

**Deuteronomy 31:6 (NIV)**