

### Board of Elders Meeting April 11, 2011

### Roll Call -

- Shawn VanDoren, Mike Capaldi, Shawn Sommons, Wayne Batten, Andy Brimer, Pastor Jason Hoy, Pastor Dick Bickings, Pastor Mark Culton all present.
- Pastor Jason Hoy welcomed Shawn VanDoren to the Board of Elders.

### Articles or Faith Review -

Pastor Dick reviewed Article #5 – God the Holy Spirit. (Attachment #1)

### Prayer -

The men shared in a time of thanksgiving and prayer.

### Approval of Minutes -

**Motion** was made to approve the minutes from the March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Board of Elders Meeting, seconded and approved.

### Financial Report -

- Andy Brimer & Mike Capaldi (co-Treasurers) reviewed the April Financial Report. (Attachment #2)
- Motion was made to approve the report as written, seconded and approved.
- Financial Report from February was amended. (Attachment #3)
- A Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011 where several items will be discussed and reported back to the Board of Elders.

### Pastoral Reports -

- Interim Senior Pastor Jason Hoy reviewed the attached report. (Attachment #4)
- Youth Pastor Mark Culton reviewed the attached report. (Attachment #5)
  - Action: It is recommended that we provide Mark with ample time to share his vision for Youth Ministries (Orange) at the upcoming Elders retreat.
- Pastor of Discipleship Dick Bickings reviewed the attached report. (Attachment #6)
  - Dick asked for input on next steps for Women's Ministry. The Board provided feedback in anticipation of Dick's next meeting with WM leaders.
  - O Dick reviewed a request to attend a Bethel Series for Men training by Jason Lee. Dick would accompany Jason and the training would allow them to bring the program back to Ebenezer and train others to lead it. The Board agreed that the training is worthwhile and fits well with our current bible education programs. The Board agreed to support the program using budgeted funds. Total cost for the training including travel will be approximately \$2600.

### Discussion Items -

- 1) <u>Two Services Feedback</u>: The men discussed the initial response to two services. While it is still early, the general feedback has been positive. We will continue to monitor the situation.
- 2) <u>Special Congregational Meeting Feedback:</u> At the point of this meeting only 24 hours post-congregational meeting, the general sense was that the meeting was productive and that the dialogue about the conference vote on Minister Qualifications (divorce) was helpful to those in attendance.

3) <u>Annual Conference Vote:</u> **Motion** was made to vote yes on the following resolution which will be voted on at the BFC Annual Conference on April 27, 2011, seconded and approved.

Resolved, that the following revision be adopted at Second Reading: §204-2.3 (6) Because of the qualifications and dignity of the position of minister, when considering a man for ordination, the Ministerial Candidate and the Credentials Committees shall give careful consideration to ensure that a man who has been divorced or who has married a divorced woman has Biblically resolved the issues in family, the church, and community raised by the divorce, demonstrated since the divorce stability of character and is presently characterized as above reproach, and if married, faithful to and exclusively committed to his wife.

- 4) <u>By-Laws Review Update:</u> Wayne Batten reported that the By-Laws review is near completion and currently awaiting responses from Pastors Hoy & Bickings.
- 5) <u>Ministry Strategy:</u> Andy Brimer led a brief discussion on our ministry strategy expressing a desire for us to spend time at the Elders retreat further pondering and discussing this important topic. After some preliminary dialogue about the subject, the Board agreed to address it during the upcoming Elder retreat in June.
- 6) National Day of Prayer: Mike Capaldi requested that we promote the 60<sup>th</sup> Observance of the National Day of Prayer scheduled for Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. He requested a bulletin insert be provided along with an announcement and other communication tools utilized in order to highlight prayer gatherings that day in the community. The Board agreed and Mike will take the lead to implement these actions.
- 7) The Elders Retreat is confirmed for June 17-18, 2011. Among aforementioned topics, we will also begin the process of discussing the next steps of our Senior Pastor situation.
- 8) <u>Membership Discussion:</u> A brief and general discussion about membership took place regarding upcoming classes and pending applicants.

### Committee Reports -

- Evangelism: The is a 'Share Your Faith' Workshop on May 21, 2011 and EV2 will be offered as an adult elective on Sunday mornings in the Summer semester (2<sup>nd</sup> half). Shawn VanDoren is also going to meet with Andy Brimer to discuss integration with Networking and Assimilation.
- <u>Missions:</u> Wayne Batten provided a brief update regarding a congregant's participation in a mission organization that we support.
- Pastoral Relations Committee: The PRC met with the Pastors individually to provide them with
  an evaluation for their work in 2010. The reviews were very positive and worthwhile for all. We
  also met with the non-pastoral staff and that session was also very positive and productive. In
  all cases, the PRC recognizes the strong work that the team is doing at Ebenezer and we
  sincerely thank them for it.
- Worship: No formal report, but the two services has definitely helped out the worship teams and Jennie Flicker.

### Adjournment-

Mike Capaldi

The meeting was closed with a word of prayer.

Respectfully submitted

Secretary to the Board of Elders

### BFC The Articles of Faith - 2008



### Article 5: God the Holy Spirit

- **5-1** The eternal<sup>1</sup> Holy Spirit, proceeding from the Father and the Son,<sup>2</sup> is of the same substance and equal in power and glory with the Father and the Son. By Him the prophets were moved to speak the Word of God, and all writers of the Holy Scriptures were inspired to record infallibly the mind and will of God.<sup>3</sup> He is the only efficient agent in the application of redemption. He convicts men of sin, of righteousness, and of judgment,<sup>4</sup> moves them to repentance, and regenerates<sup>5</sup> them by His grace, enabling them to embrace Jesus Christ by faith.
- **5-2** The Holy Spirit indwells all true believers, baptizing them into one body, of which Christ is the head.<sup>6</sup> He, the divine Comforter, Intercessor, and Advocate, empowers the believer for service.<sup>7</sup>
- <sup>1</sup> Who through the eternal Spirit offered himself unblemished to God (Heb.9:14b).
- <sup>2</sup> And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you (John14:16,26).
- <sup>3</sup> For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit (2Pe.1:21).
- <sup>4</sup> But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment: in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned (John 16:7-11).
- <sup>5</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you the truth, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless he is born of water and the Spirit (John 3:5).
- <sup>6</sup> For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink (1Cor.12:13).
- <sup>7</sup> But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8).

### April 10, 2011

To:

**Board of Elders** 

From:

Treasurers, Mike Capaldi & Andy Brimer

Subject:

Financial Report for March, 2011

Attached you will find the following documents as our submission for the March 2011 Financial Report:

- March Financial Statement
- March YTD Financial Statement
- Four graphs representing the following:
  - 1. Income compared to budget
  - 2. Expenses compared to budget
  - 3. Income trends in relation to expense trends
  - 4. Asset trends

In reviewing the financial statements we would like to make the following comments:

- Giving for March was 89% of budget forecast. We are 96% YTD.
- Expenses for March were 96% of budget forecast. We are 98% YTD.
- With Q1 now completed, we remain overall positive about the financial situation at Ebenezer;
   however do recommend we remain diligent in assessing major financial decisions in the coming months to ensure that our giving stabilizes.

# EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - MARCH 2010 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### **BALANCE SHEET**

## **GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL**

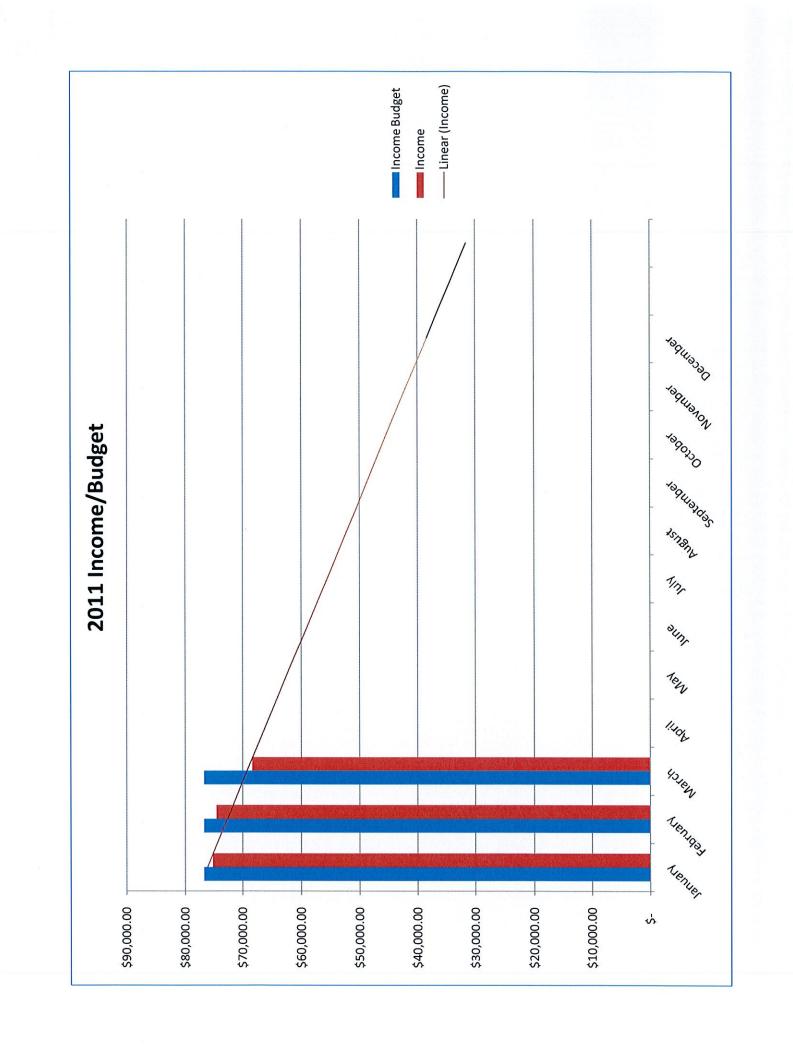
Assets Accept Charling	31-Mar-10	28-Feb-10	\$ Change		March	Budget	Variance
Assets - Checking/Savings	A1 A77 21A	412 077 BB	1 696 50	mcome 1100 : Offerings / Gifts	68 308 93	75 833 33	-7 524 40
18001 · CDe (KNBT)	66 205 83	66 305 83	00.000,	1400 · Interest	000	150.00	-150.00
1900 - Savings (M&T Bank)	116.054.87	116 028 16	26.23	1700 · Memorials	00:0	100.00	-100.00
19001 · Checking (M&T Bank)	26.085.90	33,244.86	-7.158.96	1900 · BCS / Bldg Use	846.25	576.17	270.08
Total Checking/Savings	622,220.76	627,656.51	-5,435.75	Total Income	69,155.18	76,659.50	-7,504.32
TOTAL ASSETS	622,220.76	627,656.51	-5,435.75	Expense			
	•			2000 · General Finance	366.17	3,973.33	-3,607.16
LIABILITIES		:		3000 · Discipleship	2,329.26	2,960.00	-630.74
Current Liabilities				5000 · Evangelism	203.18	283.33	-80.15
901 · Building Fund	70,013.86	68,720.86	1,293.00	6000 · Missions	16,761.69	11,454.17	5,307.52
902 · Capital Improvements	6,091.15	14,640.00	-8,548.85	7000 · Deacon	11,903.21		2,729.04
903 · Transportation Fund	15,273.00	14,640.00	633.00	8000 · Worship	82.13		-572.04
904 · Scholarship Fund	712.53	1,307.48	-594.95	9000 · Office Expenses	2,002.83	<b>-</b>	153.66
905 · Faith Promise	20,845.22	19,590.22	1,255.00	10000 · Congregational Care	136.72		-263.28
907 · Benevolence Fund	22,719.19	16,243.74	6,475.45	11000 · Compensation	38,781.11	45,911.16	-7,130.05
908 · Music Fund	974.45	974.45	0.00	Total Expense	72,566.30	76,659.50	-4,093.20
910 · Angel Food Ministries	1,049.46	1,049.46	00:00				
911 · Year End Accruals	3,138.84	3,138.84	0.00	Net Ordinary Income	-3,411.12		-3,411.12
912 · Run For The Children	700.23	700.23	0.00	Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	00.0		0.00
914 · HRA	8,605.45	8,759.77	-154.32	Net Income	-3,411.12	0.00	-3,411.12
100 · Payroll Liabilities	5,757.97	5,727.76	30.21				
Total Current Liabilities	155,884.31	155,492.81	391.50	DESIGNATED FUNDS	ED FUNDS		
Long Term Liabilities							
810 · Mortgage	00.00	0.00	0.00		Income	Expenses	Net
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	901 · Building Fund	1,293.00	0.00	1,293.00
Total Liabilities	155,884.31	155,492.81	391.50	903 · Transportation Fund	420.00	0.00	420.00
				904 · Scholarship Fund	257.55	852.50	-594.95
EQUITY					2,255.00	1,000.00	1,255.00
900 · Retained Earnings	888,339.69	889,431.25	-1,091.56	907 · Benevolence Fund	8,604.05	2,12	6,475.45
Net Income	-14,124.44	-9,604.71	4,519.73	908 · Music Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00			Ç	
Total Equity	466,336.45	471,947.74	-5,611.29	OINER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS	I ACCOON	<u>0</u>	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	622,220.76	627,440.55	-5,219.79	902 · Capital Improvements	00.00	8,548.85	-8,548.85
				910 · Angel Food Ministries	0.00	00:0	0.00
				911 · Year End Accruals	0.00	1,091.56	-1,091.56
				912 · Run For The Children	0.00	0.00	0.00
Treasurer				914 · HRA	0.00	154.32	-154.32
				Total Current Liabilities	12,829.60	13,775.83	-946.23
				(Income/Expenses without transfers)	00'0	13,775.83	-13,775.83

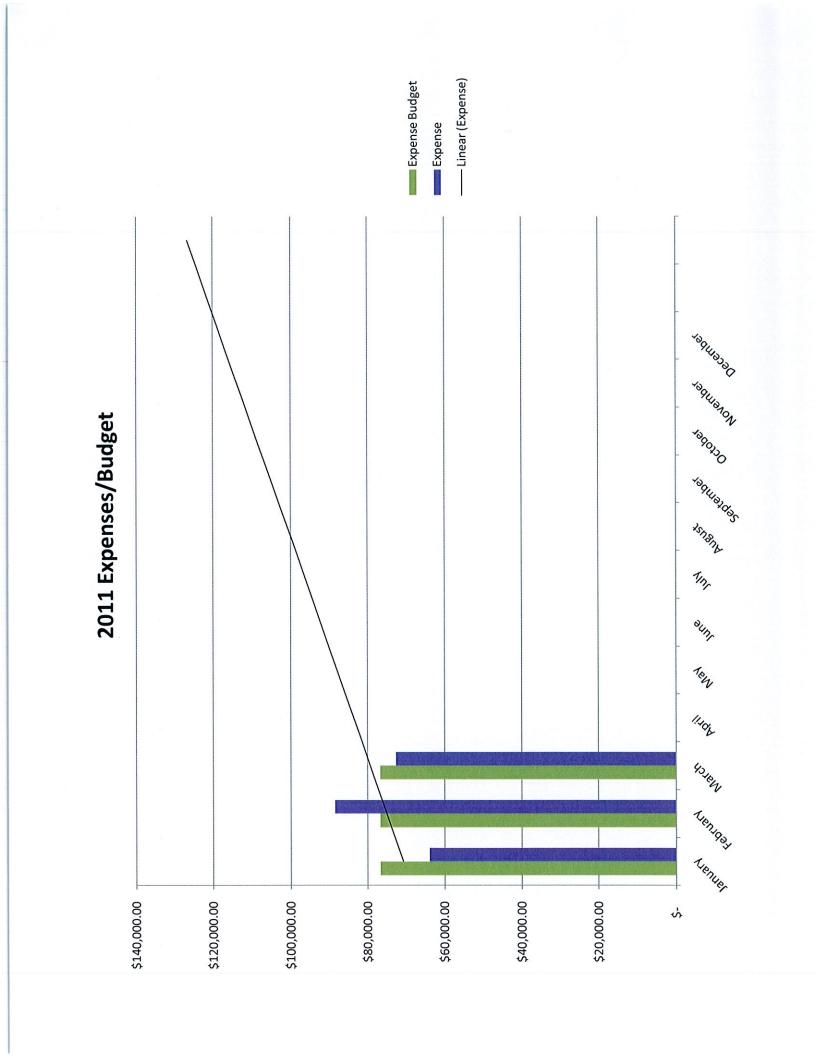
# EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - MARCH YTD 2010 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

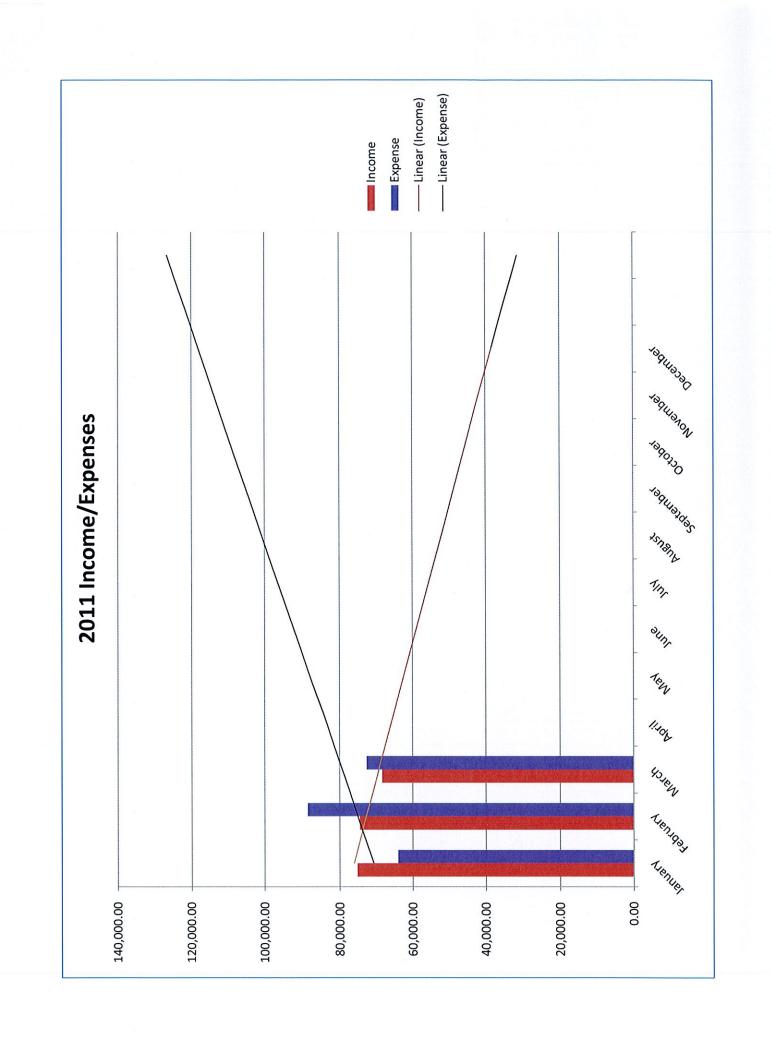
### **BALANCE SHEET**

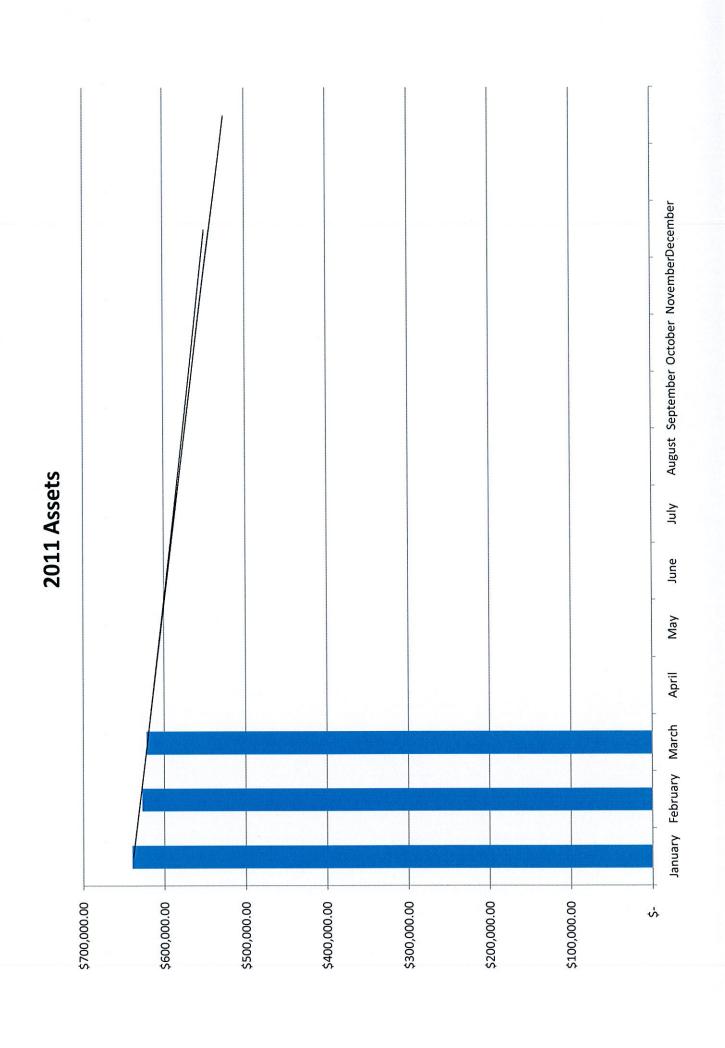
## **GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL**

ASSETS	31-Mar-11	31-Dec-10 \$ Change	Change		March YTD	Budget \	Variance	% BGT YTD
Assets - Checking/Savings				Income			!	•
18000 · Checking (KNBT)	413,774.16	410,075.92	3,698.24	1100 · Offerings / Gifts	217,933.22	227,499.99	-9,566.77	%96
18001 · CDs (KNBT)	66,305.83	66,305.83	0.00	1400 · Interest	59.04	450.00	-390.96	13%
19000 · Savings (M&T Bank)	116 054 87	140 997 57	-24 942 70	1700 · Memorials	0.00	300.00	-300.00	%0
19001 Checking (M&T Bank)	26 085 90	11 845 69	14.240.21	1900 · BCS / Bilda Use	1,998.75	1,728.51	270.24	%0
Total Checking/Savings	622,220.76	629,225.01	-7,004.25	Total Income	219,991.01	229,978.50	-9,987.49	%96
TOTAL ASSETS	622.220.76	629.225.01	-7.004.25	Expense				
				2000 General Finance	13,633.74	11,919.99	1,713.75	114%
LIABILITIES				3000 · Discipleship	6,581.82	8,880.00	-2,298.18	74%
Current Liabilities				5000 Evangelism	203.18	849.99	-646.81	24%
901 · Building Fund	70,013.86	66,638.86	3,375.00	6000 · Missions	34,626.69	34,362.51	264.18	101%
902 · Capital Improvements	6,091.15	10,338.00	-4,246.85	7000 · Deacon	33,656.22	27,522.51	6,133.71	122%
903 Transportation Fund	15,273.00	14,555.00	718.00	8000 · Worship	1,270.72	1,962.51	-691.79	65%
904 Scholarship Fund	712.53	3,602.41	-2,889.88	9000 · Office & Admin	4,148.96	5,547.51	-1,398.55	75%
905 · Faith Promise	20,845.22	17,708.65	3,136.57	10000 · Congregational Care	236.72	1,200.00	-963.28	20%
907 · Benevolence Fund	22,719.19	14,198.34	8,520.85	11000 · Compensation	130,648.79	137,733.48	-7,084.69	95%
908 · Music Fund	974.45	1,136.45	-162.00	Total Expense	225,006.84	229,978.50	-4,971.66	%86
910 · Angel Food Ministries	1,049.46	0.00	1,049.46					
911 · Year End Accruals	3,138.84	1,049.46	2,089.38	Net Ordinary Income	-5,015.83	0.00	-5,015.83	
912 · Run For The Children	700.23	11,542.09	-10,841.86	Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	8,000.00	0.00	8,000.00	
914 · HRA	8,605.45	700.23	7,905.22	Net Income	-13,015.83	00.00	-13,015.83	
100 · Payroll Liabilities	5,757.97	125.77	5,632.20					
Total Current Liabilities	155,884.31	147,672.56	8,211.75	DESIGNATED FUNDS	ED FUNDS			
Long Term Liabilities								
810 · Mortgage	00.00	0.00	0.00		Income	Expenses	Net	
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	00:0	00.0	901 · Building Fund	3,375.00	00:0	3,375.00	
Total Liabilities	155,884.31	147,672.56	8,211.75	903 · Transportation Fund	718.00	903.00	-185.00	
				•	1,955.62	4,845.50	-2,889.88	
EQUITY				905 · Faith Promise	4,136.57	1,000.00	3,136.57	
900 · Retained Earnings	888,339.69	855,140.44	33,199.25	907 · Benevolence Fund	12,480.15	3,959.30	8,520.85	
Net Income	-14,124.44	34,290.81	-48,415.25	908 · Music Fund	0.00	162.00	-162.00	
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00					
Total Equity	466,336.45	481,552.45	-15,216.00	OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS	LY ACCOUN	IIS		
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	622,220.76	629,225.01	-7,004.25	902 · Capital Improvements	5,100.00	9,346.85	-4,246.85	
				910 · Angel Food Ministries	0.00	0.00	0.00	
				911 · Year End Accruals	0.00	9,494.81	-9,494.81	
				912 · Run For The Children	0.00	00:00	0.00	
Treasurer				914 · HRA	8,000.00	720.32	7,279.68	
				Total Current Liabilities	35,765.34	30,431.78	5,333.56	
				(Income/Expenses without transfers)	0.00	18,190.83	-18,190.83	









Amended 4/10/11

# EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - FEBRUARY 2010 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### **BALANCE SHEET**

## **GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL**

February Budget Variance	iffs 74 472 99 75 833 33 -1 360 34	0.00 150.00	100.00	576.25 576.17	75,049.24 76,659.50 -1,610.26		2,981.93 2,960.00	283.33	11,454.17 6	9,174.17	405.64 654.17	1,153.00 1,849.17	0.00 400.00	49,663.64 45,911.16	88,481.67 76,659.50 11,822.17		-13,432.43 0.00 -13,432.43	00.0	-13,432.43 0.00 -13,432.43		DESIGNATED FUNDS		Income Expense N	962.00 0.00	nd 140.00 903.00	719.56 1,193.00	865.00 0.00	1,833.10 955.00 878.10	0.00 00.0 00.0	STHER I IABII ITY ACCOUNTS		6.00 /98.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 0.00	0.00 566.00 -566.00
\$ Change	Income		•			-12,041.70 Expenses	3000 · Discipleship	5000 · Evangelism	962.00 6000 · Missions					878.10 11000 · Compensation	0.00 Total Expense		Net (		-566.00 Net Income	383.07	1,177.73		j	901			. 305	. 206	-13,432.43 908 · Music Fund	0.00	:	-12,254.70 902 · Capital Improvements	910 Angel Food Ministries	911 · Year End Accruals	912 · Run For The Children	914 · HRA
28-Feb-11 31-Jan-11	A12 077 66 421 237 74		_		9	627.656.51 639.698.21			68,720.86 67,758.86		14,640.00 14,713.00	1,307.48 1,780.92		16,243.74 15,365.64			m <sup>°</sup>			5,727.76 5,344.69	155,495.77 154,318.04			0.00 0.00	155,495.77 154,318.04			88			- 11	627,443.51 639,698.21				
ASSETS	Assets - Checking/Savings	18001 · CDs (KNBT)	19000 · Savings (M&T Bank)	19001 · Checking (M&T Bank)	Total Checking/Savings	TOTAL ASSETS	LIABILITIES	Current Liabilities	901 · Building Fund	902 · Capital Improvements	903 · Transportation Fund	904 · Scholarship Fund	905 · Faith Promise	907 · Benevolence Fund	908 · Music Fund	910 · Angel Food Ministries	911 · Year End Accruals	912 · Run For The Children	914 · HRA	100 · Payroll Liabilities	Total Current Liabilities	Long Term Liabilities	810 · Mortgage	Total Long Term Liabilities	Total Liabilities		EQUITY	900 · Retained Earnings	Net Income	1000 · Opening Bal Equity	Total Equity	TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY				Treasurer

Attachment#3

# EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - FEBRUARY YTD 2010 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### **BALANCE SHEET**

## GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

ASSETS	28-Feb-11	31-Dec-10	\$ Change		Feb YTD	Budget	Variance	% BGT YTD
Assets - Checking/Savings				Income				
18000 · Checking (KNBT)	412,077.66	410,075.92	2,001.74	1100 · Offerings / Gifts	149,624.29	151,666.66	-2,042.37	%66
18001 · CDs (KNRT)	66 305 83	66 305 83	00.0	1400 · Interest	59.04	300.00	-240.96	20%
(Jacob Pake)	116 000 16	140 007 57	24 060 41	1700 - Memorials	0	200 00	-200 00	%0
19000 · Savings (Mail Bailk)	33 244 86	11,845,69	21,303.41	1900 - BCS / Blda Use	1,152,50	1.152.34	0.16	%0
Hard Pharma (Mar Damy)	22,244.00	620 225 04	1 558 50	Total Income	150 835 83	153 319 00	-2 483 17	%86
l otal Checking/Savings	16.000,120	10.677,620			200000		í	
TOTAL ASSETS	627,656.51	629,225.01	-1,568.50	Expense	73 730 67	20.00	10,000	1670/
				2000 · General Finance	13,267.57	7,946.66	5,320.91	%/91
LIABILITIES				3000 · Discipleship	4,252.56	5,920.00	-1,667.44	72%
Current Liabilities				5000 · Evangelism	00.0	99.995	-566.66	%0
901 - Building Fund	68.720.86	66,638,86	2,082.00	6000 · Missions	17,865.00	22,908.34	-5,043.34	78%
902 - Capital Improvements	14,640.00	10,338.00		7000 · Deacon	21,753.01	18,348.34	3,404.67	119%
903 - Transportation Fund	14,640,00	14,555.00	85.00	8000 · Worship	1,188.59	1,308.34	-119.75	91%
904 · Scholarship Fund	1,307.48	3,602.41	-2.294.93	9000 Office & Admin	2,146.13	3,698.34	-1,552.21	28%
OOF - Eaith Dromise	19 590 22	17 708 65	1 881 57	10000 · Congregational Care	100.00	800.00	-700.00	13%
903 Faith Child	16 243 74	14,198,34	2,045.40	11000 · Compensation	91,867.68	91,822.32	45.36	100%
Discontinuo de la contra del la contra del la contra del la contra de la contra del la contra de la contra de la contra del	77 15	1 136 15	162.00	Total Expense	152 440 54	153.319.00	-878.46	%66
908 : Music Fund	0,070	1,130.43	00.201-				: :	
910 - Angel Food Ministries	1,049.46	1,049.40	•		4 504 74		1 604 74	
911 · Year End Accruals	3,138.84	11,542.09	-8,403.25	Net Ordinary Income	-1,604.71	0.00	1,604.7	
912 · Run For The Children	700.23	700.23	0.00	Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	8,000.00	0.00	0,000,00	
914 · HRA	8,759.77	125.77	8,634.00	Net Income	-9,604.71	0.00	-9,604.71	
100 · Payroll Liabilities	5,727.76	6,074.34	-346.58					
Total Current Liabilities	155,495.77	147,672.56	7,823.21	DESIGNATED FUNDS	ED FUNDS			
I ong Term Liabilities	•							
810 · Mortgage	00 0	00.00	00.00		Income	Expense	Net	
Total and Tarm I shillish			000	901 - Building Fund	2 082 00	00.0	2.082.00	
Total Long Term Liabilities	00.0	00.0	Š	0 -	208 00	003 00	605.00	
Total Liabilities	155,495.77	147,672.56	1,823.21		290.00	903.00	202.00	
				904 : Scholarship Fund	1,090.07	0000	1 881 57	
EQUITY				asilli Pionis	1,001.0	0.00	0.100,1	
900 · Retained Earnings	889,431.25	855,140.44	34,290.81	907 · Benevolence Fund	3,8/6.10	1,830.70	2,045.40	
Net Income	-9,604.71	34,290.81	-43,895.52	908 · Music Fund	00.00	162.00	-162.00	
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00					
Total Equity	471,947.74	481,552.45	-9,604.71	OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS	Y ACCOUN	LS		
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	627,443.51	629,225.01	-1,781.50		Income	Expense	Net	
				902 · Capital Improvements	5,100.00	798.00	4,302.00	
				910 · Angel Food Ministries	000	0.00	0.00	
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				★ MINTERPRETATION AND THREE AMERICAN CONTRACTOR AND				

### INTERIM SR PASTOR REPORT

Elders Meeting - April 11, 2011

*Our Vision*: To introduce people to Jesus Christ and help them become devoted followers of him!

### Goals accomplished last month and continuing into this month:

- Devoted time to people (visitation, breakfast/lunches/dinners, phone calls, constant e-mail, one on one).
- Continue doing some intake counseling, some on-going marriage counseling.
- Continue doing the prayer sheet and occasionally attend the Wednesday afternoon prayer meetings.
- Continue contacting visitors and members/regular attendees.
- Lead Elder, Staff, and Pastoral Meetings.
- Constantly touch base with Pastor Mark and Pastor Dick regarding ministry
- Men's Group, Kinship (Kevin and Amy Hardy plan on attending next Kinship meeting), Sunday School class is going well.
- Enjoy Preaching and growth that is happening
- Met with Tom Shorb
- Attended Mission's Dinner
- Attended Men's Retreat
- Attended Regional BFC Pastor Ministerium

### Goals for upcoming weeks:

- Pray and ponder for Palm Sunday and Easter Sermons, coordinate baptisms
- Set up next Sermon Series
- Finish BFC Ordination Exam
- Attend Annual Conference
- Spend some time in Ohio

### Questions:

Student Ministries Report - March 2011

Psalm 103:17-18 (ESV)

"But the steadfast love of the LORD is from everlasting to everlasting on those who fear him, and his righteousness to children's children, to those who keep his covenant and remember to do his commandments."

What an awesome passage that lays out the purpose for every youth ministry – that the next generation would know the steadfast love of the LORD and respond to that love by keeping His commands.

That is my heart, and I am excited for how God is rekindling passion and purpose in our students, starting with our student leadership group.

Pray with me that God would continue to take us deeper as a student ministry, and that we would see more and more authentic disciples of Christ; teens that really experience the covenant love of our God.

### **Activities**

### Planet Wisdsom

We had a great trip down to DC for Planet Wisdom. We took almost 50 students (both MS and HS), and it was a good time of biblical training for our students as we focused on God's attributes.

### **Teaching**

### Middle School

Going through a series on spiritual warfare. I believe it is an interesting topic for students, and I want them to think about this more Biblically.

### High School

Just began a 3 week series on 1 Thessalonians. I chose this book because like Paul I want to commend the students for their faith yet urge them to go even deeper with God and each other.

### Sunday School

Don Panto and I are rotating months for teaching the high school students each week. This allows me to stagger my preaching and Sunday school teaching. I also have Tom Galloway taking a Sunday every once in a while.

### Preaching

Now that I am not preaching near as much, I am trying to focus on getting other things in order, as some things have been on the back burner for a while.

### Shepherding

- Met with a youth family that is really struggling with their 2 teens. Counseled from God's Word and I am following up.
- Had two brief visits with Marianne Roth when picking up Steven.
- Met with other youth pastors to prepare for the 30 Hour Famine.
- Had breakfast with a college student to encourage him.
- Had lunch with a high school guy to encourage him.

### Staff

- Our staff attended a great training conference called "YS Palooza", which featured 2
  days of excellent training on youth culture and ministry. It was a wonderful time of
  growth and discussion together.
- We are going through a good book ("Core Development") that is spurring us to look deep inside at our own leadership and our integrity

### **Other**

- Our New Mexico missions team has begun to meet and we are actively preparing
- Meeting monthly with another youth pastor to mentor him over the next year
- Had the opportunity to speak during chapel at LVCHS
- Spoke at BCS for their Spiritual Emphasis Week
- Had a meeting with Chris Hendrickson from Haycock Camp to talk about their camp and what they have to offer
- Met with the other BFC youth pastors for mutual encouragment
- Have enjoyed participating in the men's Bible study on the Holy Spirit
- Attended Men's Breakfast
- Participated in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Missions Sunday moderating the panel and leading the students in a puppet presentation.
- Met with other youth pastors to discuss college ministry in our area.
- Met with a student who is working on a project about what youth ministry is like.
- Had a good meeting with the PRC for an annual review. I highly cherish the constructive criticism and encouragement I received there.
- Working through Old Testament Introduction Class at Reformed Baptist Seminary.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Culton

### POD (Pastor of Discipleship) Cast –Mar/Apr 2011

Recently, I have been reading the accounts of Ezra and Nehemiah and have been inspired by the way they overcame the obstacles in God's plan for their lives. If you will remember, both were tasked by God to rebuild something. For Ezra, it was the temple; for Nehemiah, the walls of Jerusalem. These were no easy tasks since they both had to inspire a group of despondent people who were returning from 70 years in Babylonian exile. To make matters worse, each had enemies who were bent on thwarting their efforts. What was it that spurred these men onward to reach their goals; to finish their tasks? In Nehemiah, we read how the opposition by God's enemies were very great, but Nehemiah and the project survived because of the following mindset,

"19 And I said to the nobles and to the officials and to the rest of the people, "The work is great and widely spread, and we are separated on the wall, far from one another. 20 In the place where you hear the sound of the trumpet, rally to us there. Our God will fight for us."" (Neh 4:19-20 ESV)

I learned two valuable lessons from these godly men; I) I should not be surprised if doing the will of God is fraught with opposition from those who are the enemies of God; 2) I should not hesitate to move forward with God's plans since they are accompanied by God's presence.

With that in mind, here is a quick summary of some of the ministry opportunities from March/April:

### Kids Crossing

- Cross Time: Here are some recent changes and needs in our Kid's Sunday School classes:
  - o Chris Erland stepped down as 4 yr-K assistant in Feb
  - o Bruce & Karin Newell stepped down as 5<sup>th</sup> grade teachers in Feb (temporarily replaced by Carol Burress/Jeff Mackoul (health leave effective immediately))
    - Carol Burress is teaching the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class during April. She will begin teaching the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> class in July after VBS (unless the Lissys want to fill in)
  - o Sarah Hardy & Joyce Achey stepped down as 1st & 2nd grade assistant in March
    - Dave & Kristen Lissy are helping in the I<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade class in May. After they become
      members, they will teach the 5<sup>th</sup> grade class in September
  - Marijana Wasser maternity leave (possibly available again in 2012)
  - Maggie, Hannah Rose, & Melissa Griffin stepped down as 4 yr old-K assistants in March
  - o Vicki Cowley will be stepping down as 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade teacher after May
  - o Peggy McCormick will be stepping down as 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade assistant after May
  - Christie Waltenbaugh will be stepping down as 4 yr-K assistant after August (maternity leave)
  - So that leaves us with the following needs:
    - 4 yr old-K assistant (even months) starting in October
    - I<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> grade assistant (odd months) starting in July (preferably 2 helpers)
    - 1st & 2nd grade assistant (even months) to help Randy & Pam Reinholz
    - Possible teacher/assistant for 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade (even months) if Pam Panto resigns
    - 5<sup>th</sup> grade assistant for Carol Burress for the month of April (hopefully Jeff Mackoul will be back in June to help with the 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> grade)
- VBS: With 2 ½ months away, Carol Burress is continuing to assemble her leadership team. Vicki Cowley and her team are beginning to collect the materials needed for the various props and decorations, and we are working on providing the best area to stage the bigger items.

- Children's Church: Our first weeks with the new service times have seen ~10 children attend the 11:30 service. We are still uncertain at this time if this is the best time for Children's Church until further assessment is made on the needs of each new service. However, the children who have attended after the recent change are basically the same children who had attended before the change.
- Wednesday Evening Programs: FaithWeaver Friends<sup>TM</sup> attendance has been down more recently and we are attempting to ascertain why. But praise the Lord, many kids are being influence through the biblically based curriculum, and the godly men and women who lead each segment of the evening. Especially exciting is the worship time in the beginning when the kids sing out with great fervor. We have begun an assessment of the FWF program and any "lessons learned" in our Kid's Crossing Leadership Team Meeting, and will continue this process even as the program ends for the summer.
- Victory Valley Summer Overnight Camp (July 17-23, 2011) & Day Camp (July 25-29, 2011): Plans are being made to promote this year's camp dates, which promises to be another great time of discipleship and fun for our children.

### **Student Ministry**

See Pastor Mark's report.

### Adult Ministry

- Adult Electives:
  - The following Adult Electives are currently available through April 24: Daniel Rich Mastronardo, Luke, Part 2 – Scott Holwick, Marriage – Pastor Jason Hoy, Grief Share – Shawn Sommons, and an open prayer time in room 4.
  - o Beginning May 15, the following Adult Electives will be offered:
    - Session I: May 15 June 26: Membership (Dick Bickings), Luke (Scott Holwick), Hebrews (Mike Capaldi), Survey of The Bible (Rich Mastronardo), OT book (TBD)
    - Session 2: July 10 Aug 28: EV2 (Shawn Van Doren/Pat Barry), Luke (Scott Holwick), Hebrews (Mike Capaldi), Survey of The Bible (Rich Mastronardo), OT book (TBD)

### Men's Ministry:

- Men's Retreat (March 25-27, 2011): We had a blessed time of fellowship, food, worship, and biblically based teaching by Michael Pouliot. With 36 men in attendance, we learned the importance of becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ, which must aspire us to become a disciple maker for Christ as well.
- BattleZone™: Through the promotion of the men's retreat, there are several groups beginning soon.
- Men's Bible Studies:
  - Saturday mornings from 8:00 AM 10:00 AM, Don Panto will be starting Francis Chan's video series called "Forgotten God" on 2/19.
  - Thursday mornings from 6:15 AM 7:30 AM, Dave VanWinkle is leading a study on the book of Romans.
- Women's Ministry: Andy Brimer and I met with the Women's Leadership team on March 21 to discuss their ministry plans through the remainder of the ministry year (ends in May). They seem to be on track with the planning of their remaining events. We asked about how we could best support them and the responses seemed primarily focused on when were we going to replace Emma Kramer. We assured them that we would be discussing this in our upcoming elder's meetings and would report back at our next

meeting with them. One final item of note, Vicki Cowley has stepped up and done a great job volunteering her time to help with publicity and communications.

### **Discipleship Support**

• Kinship: There is one remaining group that has been directly affected by the recent departure of various families. This group, however, still meets together for fellowship though they are missing a leader. My plan is to allow them to continue to meet as they are for the remainder of the Kinship season (4 official meetings left), and provide a new leader for them in the fall.

### Other:

- Consistently meeting with several individual men to counsel and encourage.
- Met with a few more people throughout the month who were struggling because of the recent events in our church.
- Continued to work through my MDiv @ TNARS as time permits, and completed my THE210 Preaching class, and begin my next course, BS410 NT Theology.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dick Bickings,

Pastor of Discipleship