



**Ebenezer
Bible Fellowship Church**

Joint Meeting: Elders & Deacons June 8, 2015

Roll Call & Prayer

- The following deacons were present: Rob Christiansen, Mark Hardy, Kevin Kritzberger, Joe Meier, John Romero.
- George Hardy, Kamba Kalubi and Andy Meeks were excused absent.
- The following elders were present: Wayne Batten, Pat Barry, Dick Bickings, Andy Brimer, Mark Culton, Swannie Griffin, Tim Gibson, Kevin Hardy, Jeremy Harkins, Scott Holwick, Chris Jones, and Shawn Sommons.
- Dennis Flannigan and Byron Roth were excused absent.
- Andy Brimer opened in prayer.

Finance Training: Check Requisition Audit Observations [Gale Tshudy]

- The church staff and support staff joined the deacons and elders for a training on how to handle check requests properly and most effectively.
- The following church staff were present: Dick Bickings, Mark Culton, Tim Gibson, Debbie Griffin, Jeremy Harkins, Heather Hunsberger, Robbin Hunsberger, Kevin Kritzberger, Laura Sommons.
- The following was discussed:
 - Using full name instead of initials for check requests
 - verbal approval needing attachment of email
 - possibility of having signatures of staff and leaders on file
 - requester and approver cannot be the same person
 - approval should be given from someone of higher position
 - The box should be checked whether the request falls within the approved budget amount.
 - Every check request should have the address section completed.
 - There may be exceptions for utilities or ongoing contracts
 - Requesting a W-9, from special speakers/musicians/other person(s) being compensated (i.e. honorarium), the first time they come to Ebenezer (there will be a further discussion in the finance committee about this)
 - Any person requesting over \$5,000 should have sought competitive bids from 2 or 3 options.
 - Gift cards given to someone should not exceed \$200 (in a year) when possible.
 - Gift cards given to employees out of the budget need to be claimed as income.

General Financial Report [Andy Brimer]:

- Andy shared the financial report (Attachment 1)
- We should keep the vision of EBFC in mind when spending.
- 2015 Income has been a little below budget; however, as of May 31, spending was 89% .
- A **motion** was made to approve the financial report. This was **seconded** and **passed**.

Prayer

John Romero and Wayne Batten opened in prayer.
Pastor Tim thanked the deacons for their service and partnership.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 11, 2015 Board of Elders meeting, **seconded** and **passed**.

Property Committee Proposals

- Kevin shared about the current capital expenses planned for 2015 (Attachment 2). The proposed remaining planned Capital Expenses for 2015 total \$85,850. The Committee is proposing that we use some of the excess savings to cover the expanded list of maintenance items that are on this new Capital Expense Plan for 2015, and also set aside money that will not be spent on other projects to cover the first two items on the Long Range Capital Improvements Plan (Attachment 3). We had talked at our last combined meeting about using some of our excess savings to get projects done that we felt are needed and also to make improvements that were requested. The Committee would also like to propose that we use the building fund money to fund the foyer renovation project (item 5) and maybe items 3 and 4 on the Long Range Plan. If we get the go ahead for all of this now it probably would not get done until next summer because of all the meetings, choices, and the fact that it would be much easier to do without school being there.
- **Foyer Renovation**
 - Kevin shared examples of different foyer designs, as well as the 'Church Survey' results.
 - Discussion ensued over the proposed removal of Room 2.
 - If Room 2 was removed, BCS would forfeit a comparable room.
 - A **motion** was made to vote on item #5, of the Long Range Capital Improvements Plan, with the condition that Room 20 will be designated to be exclusively for EBFC use; and priority EBFC use of Room 10 & 11. The **motion** was seconded. With 1 objection, the **motion** was **passed**.
[See minutes from July 13, 2015 for an update to this vote.]
- **Current Capital**
 - A **motion** was made to spend \$17,000 to replace the sidewalk at the front entrance, across the street (entry way), and on the west end of church. This is above the proposed budget, but is a safety concern and must be addressed. The **motion** was **seconded**. The motion **passed** unanimously.
 - A **motion** was made to accept item #3 and item #4 on the Current Capital Plan and accomplish it in 2015. The **motion** was **seconded**. The motion **passed**.

Security Committee

- Discussed issues with current Kids Crossing procedures involving children 'check-in'/'tracking' on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. Security Committee will work with Dick and Rachel to address.

Worship Committee Proposal

- Jeremy proposed replacement of the sanctuary soundboard as well as upgrading/replacing the monitors used on stage. The current soundboard is approximately 4 or 5 years old; the primary benefit of the new digital soundboard, would be remote control capability via an iPad. The project would cost approximately \$6000.

Pastoral Reports

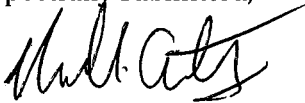
The pastors submitted their monthly reports:

- Tim Gibson, Senior Pastor (Attachment 4)
- Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship (Attachment 5)
- Jeremy Harkins, Worship Pastor (Attachment 6)
- Mark Culton, Youth Pastor (Attachment 7)

Adjournment & Prayer

Pastor closed in prayer and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Culton', written in a cursive style.

Mark Culton
Secretary to the Board of Elders

June 8, 2015

To: Board of Elders
From: Andy Brimer, Treasurer
Subject: Financial Report for June 2015

The June 2015 Financial Report has the following attachments:

- May Financial Statement
- YTD Financial Statement
- Graphical representation of Income and Expenses vs Budget, Income vs Expense trends, and Asset trends

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

- Total income for May was 108% of the budgeted forecast while the YTD income was 94% of the budgeted forecast.
- Expenses for May were 89% of the budgeted forecast while the YTD expenses were 92% of the annual forecast.
- Giving continues to lag a bit, but our spending to-date remains lower than projected.

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - MAY 2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

ASSETS	31-May-15	30-Apr-15	\$ Change
Assets - Checking/Savings			
18000 • Checking (KNBT)	595,560.92	574,294.73	21,266.19
18002 • CDs (KNBT)	67,587.38	67,545.48	41.90
19000 • Savings (M&T Bank)	90,808.11	90,800.40	7.71
19001 • Checking (M&T Bank)	5,375.67	5,375.67	0.00
Total Checking/Savings	759,332.08	738,016.28	21,315.80

TOTAL ASSETS	759,332.08	738,016.28	21,315.80
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LIABILITIES

Current Liabilities

901 • Building Fund	99,929.19	98,874.19	1,055.00
902 • Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	0.00
903 • Transportation Fund	148.00	148.00	0.00
904 • Scholarship Fund	1,912.50	1,847.50	65.00
905 • Faith Promise	17,046.32	14,167.32	2,879.00
907 • Benevolence Fund	15,053.32	13,263.78	1,789.54
908 • Music Fund	144.20	144.20	0.00
911 • Year End Accruals	8,480.16	8,480.16	0.00
912 • Run For The Children	409.29	409.29	0.00
914 • HRA	4,346.56	4,412.40	-65.84
915 • Youth Summer Missions	15,309.51	16,121.47	-811.96
100 • Payroll Liabilities	5,771.93	5,772.17	-0.24
Total Current Liabilities	168,550.98	163,640.48	4,910.50

Long Term Liabilities

802 • Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Liabilities	168,550.98	163,640.48	4,910.50

EQUITY

900 • Retained Earnings	991,473.20	991,473.20	0.00
Net Income	7,186.70	-9,218.60	16,405.30
1000 • Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00
Total Equity	590,781.10	574,375.80	16,405.30
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	759,332.08	738,016.28	21,315.80

Andrew J. Blumer
Treasurer

6/8/15
Date

Income	May	Budget	Variance
1100 • Offerings / Gifts	87,300.93	81,757.25	5,543.68
1400 • Interest	89.03	44.00	45.03
1700 • Memorials	1,450.00	0.00	1,450.00
1900 • BCS / Bldg Use	1,093.00	1,093.00	0.00
Total Income	89,932.96	82,894.25	7,038.71

Expenses			
2000 • General Finance	1,251.84	5,465.50	-4,213.66
3000 • Discipleship	-1,567.82	2,550.32	-4,118.14
5000 • Evangelism	0.00	200.00	-200.00
6000 • Missions	18,675.00	18,675.00	0.00
7000 • Deacon	7,780.16	6,580.84	1,199.32
8000 • Worship	0.00	150.00	-150.00
9000 • Office & Admin	1,522.86	1,956.00	-433.14
10000 • Congregational Care	0.00	337.49	-337.49
11000 • Compensation	45,865.62	46,979.10	-1,113.48
Total Expense	73,527.66	82,894.25	-9,366.59

Net Ordinary Income	16,405.30	0.00	16,405.30
Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	0.00	0.00	0.00
Net Income	16,405.30	0.00	16,405.30

DESIGNATED FUNDS

Income	Expenses	Net
901 • Building Fund	1,055.00	1,055.00
903 • Transportation Fund	0.00	0.00
904 • Scholarship Fund	65.00	65.00
905 • Faith Promise	2,879.00	2,879.00
907 • Benevolence Fund	2,089.97	1,789.54
908 • Music Fund	0.00	0.00

OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS

902 • Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	0.00
911 • Year End Accruals	0.00	0.00	0.00
912 • Run For The Children	0.00	0.00	0.00
914 • HRA	0.00	65.84	-65.84
915 • Youth Summer Missions	6,374.11	7,186.07	-811.96
Total Current Liabilities	12,463.08	7,552.34	4,910.74

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - MAY YTD 2015 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

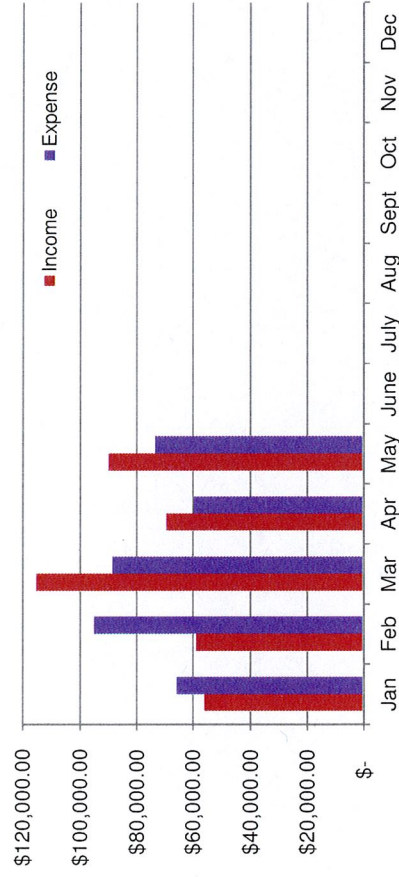
GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

ASSETS	31-May-15	31-Dec-14	\$ Change	Income	May YTD	Budget	Variance	% BGT YTD
Assets - Checking/Savings								
18000 • Checking (KNBT)	595,560.92	578,252.65	17,308.27	1100 • Offerings / Gifts	381,759.97	410,168.35	-28,408.38	93%
18002 • CDs (KNBT)	67,587.38	67,545.48	41.90	1400 • Interest	267.63	448.00	-180.37	60%
19000 • Savings (M&T Bank)	90,808.11	90,770.55	37.56	1700 • Memorials	1,800.00	0.00	1,800.00	N/A
19001 • Checking (M&T Bank)	5,375.67	5,375.67	0.00	1900 • BCS / Blog Use	5,465.00	5,465.00	0.00	100%
Total Checking/Savings	759,332.08	741,944.35	17,387.73	Total Income	389,292.60	416,081.35	-26,788.75	94%
TOTAL ASSETS	759,332.08	741,944.35	17,387.73	Expenses				
LIABILITIES				2000 • General Finance	20,452.44	23,134.25	-2,681.81	88%
Current Liabilities				3000 • Discipleship	5,709.35	16,726.60	-11,017.25	34%
901 • Building Fund	99,929.19	93,730.19	6,199.00	5000 • Evangelism	1,846.45	3,200.00	-1,353.55	58%
902 • Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	0.00	6000 • Missions	61,460.70	61,862.50	-401.80	99%
903 • Transportation Fund	148.00	118.00	30.00	7000 • Deacon	45,075.90	62,594.20	-17,518.30	72%
904 • Scholarship Fund	1,912.50	2,381.50	-469.00	8000 • Worship	2,309.20	1,210.00	1,099.20	191%
905 • Faith Promise	17,046.32	32,400.32	-15,354.00	9000 • Office & Admin	6,853.98	8,245.00	-1,391.02	83%
907 • Benevolence Fund	15,053.32	15,172.92	-119.60	10000 • Congregational Care	130.81	1,762.45	-1,631.64	7%
908 • Music Fund	144.20	144.20	0.00	11000 • Compensation	238,267.07	237,346.35	920.72	100%
911 • Year End Accruals	8,480.16	7,488.33	991.83	Total Expense	382,105.90	416,081.35	-33,975.45	92%
912 • Run For The Children	409.29	409.29	0.00	Net Ordinary Income	7,186.70	0.00	7,186.70	
914 • HRA	4,346.56	0.00	4,346.56	Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	0.00	0.00	0.00	
915 • Youth Summer Missions	15,309.51	(320.53)	15,630.04	Net Income	7,186.70	0.00	7,186.70	
100 • Payroll Liabilities	5,771.93	6,825.73	-1,053.80					
Total Current Liabilities	168,550.98	158,349.95	10,201.03	DESIGNATED FUNDS				
Long Term Liabilities				Income				
802 • Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00	901 • Building Fund	6,199.00	0.00	6,199.00	
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	903 • Transportation Fund	30.00	0.00	30.00	
Total Liabilities	168,550.98	158,349.95	10,201.03	902 • Scholarship Fund	906.00	1,375.00	-469.00	
EQUITY				905 • Faith Promise	11,956.00	27,310.00	-15,354.00	
900 • Retained Earnings	991,473.20	931,656.18	59,817.02	907 • Benevolence Fund	9,191.50	9,311.10	-119.60	
Net Income	7,186.70	59,817.02	-52,630.32	908 • Music Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	
1000 • Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00					
Total Equity	590,781.10	583,594.40	7,186.70	OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS				
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	759,332.08	741,944.35	17,387.73	902 • Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	0.00	
				911 • Year End Accruals	991.83	0.00	991.83	
				912 • Run For The Children	0.00	0.00	0.00	
				914 • HRA	6,600.00	2,253.44	4,346.56	
				915 • Youth Summer Missions	23,666.11	8,036.07	15,630.04	
				Total Current Liabilities	59,540.44	48,285.61	11,254.83	

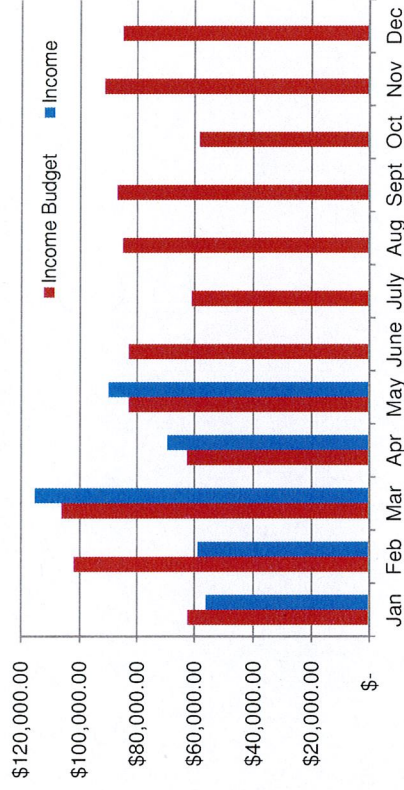
Andrew J. Bunker
Treasurer

6/8/15
Date

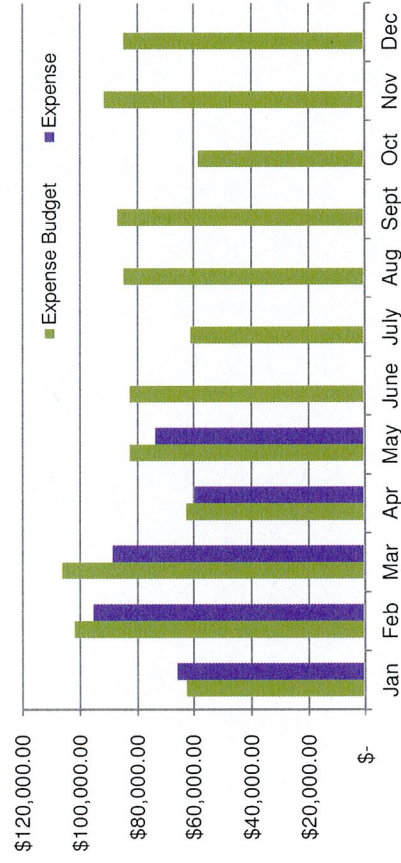
2015 Income vs Expenses



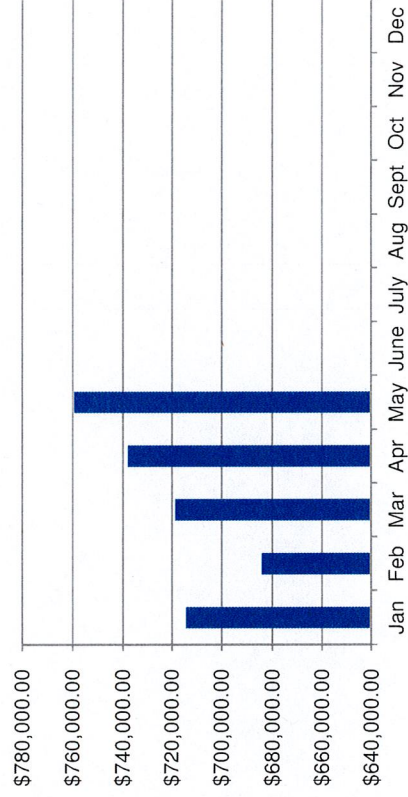
2015 Income vs Budget



2015 Expenses vs Budget



2015 Assets



Current Capital Expenses Planned for 2015

1. Replace metal roof over sanctuary, south and west offices with shingles	43,000
2. Replace Mortar in gym block walls	2,500
3. Replace gym windows	14,000
3. Replace sidewalk to re-level, at front entrance, across street and on the west end of church	17,000
4. Do a test on fellowship hall roof panels for saving it	1,000
5. Nursery furniture	400 (done)
6. Sanctuary decor (baptismal area imitation block?)	3,600?
7. Re-insulate exterior duct work on gym HVAC unit	2,500
8. Office renovations for Pastor Mark and Jeremy	1,850 (done)
Total \$85,850	

Long Range Capital Improvements Plan

2016

1. \$4,000 Replace Library HVAC unit -15 years old (Lock up funds to replace when breaks)
2. \$42,000 Replace HVAC units for the sanctuary - 18 years old (Lock up funds to replace when one goes bad. Both units would be replaced at one time to save on crane rental and installation labor.
3. \$16,000 Replace windows on south side offices (45 years old)
4. \$7,500 Audio upgrade for the gym
5. \$70,000 Renovate foyer and lobby area, remove room 2, replace ceiling tiles, lighting, flooring, welcome center, solid glass doorway for sanctuary entrance, add furniture, replacement windows for current room#2

2017

6. \$80,000 Replace lighting in sanctuary (\$45,000 Stage, \$15,000 Chandeliers) Renovate front of sanctuary and replace center screen
7. \$23,000 Video and lighting upgrade for the gym (two permanent screens and projectors)

2018

8. \$18,000 Replace HVAC units for rooms 10-11 and 12-14 (12 years old)
9. \$40,000 Replace both church signs (18 years old)
10. \$9,600 Replace exterior doors on the west end of church
11. \$30,000 Fellowship hall roof repair?
12. \$26,000 Replace windows on north side and remaining on east side of main church

2020

13. \$30,000 Parking lot expansion escrow
14. \$200,000 Parking lot expansion

Pastor Tim's Ministry Report
June 8, 2015

The Lord is so **Big**, so **Strong** & so **Mighty**, **There's nothing my God cannot do!** What wonderful words to that children's song that remind us of our great God. This is one of the major themes that we have been learning in our study of Genesis. God is faithful to His Word, to His People, always keeping His promises and is **ABLE** to do the impossible. The journey of faith that we are learning about includes going through the valleys and trusting God instead of trusting in ourselves and our own plans and efforts. I'm so glad to be a part of a church, which is growing not only physically in numbers but also spiritually in faith!

Studying & Preaching: We are in the heart of Genesis 12-25, I've entitled a Journey of Faith. It is so refreshing to hear of Abraham's failures and successes, but most of all hearing of God's faithfulness to His people. This series is turning out to be very impactful. There are many in our congregation who tell me each week how the Lord is growing them in their faith. I'm so thankful for what the Lord is doing.

Summer Wednesday Night Worship/Bible Study/Prayer: We began a summer Wednesday night study at the end of May. We are now four weeks into the study I've entitled "Pleasing the Lord." Jeremy and a few of the praise team is leading us each night with about 3 songs. It is wonderful to have live music. We are studying selected passages on how to please the Lord. And as always we close with corporate prayer, having everyone break up into small groups to pray together. We have been having right around 50 people each night. Praise the Lord.

Membership Class & Interviews: I am amazed at how the Lord is blessing our ministry with new people. I continue to interview new people who desire to be members of EBFC. We just finished a 2nd membership class for the year. Pastor Dick taught the first two lessons and I taught two lessons on doctrine (28 Articles of Faith). What a JOY! This last class had about 18 people attending.

Nazareth Band Banquet: My two daughters are in the Nazareth Band. I have gotten to know many of the parents who oversee the Band activities. They asked me to pray at the closing Band Banquet. I was happy to do so. I feel like my prayer was not only glorifying to God, but including the Gospel message! I am hoping to have a strong influence on the band parents.

Transition Leadership Team (TLT) for Forks Church Plant: We recently met on May 27. We continue to encourage Tim Zuck and his team to press forward. They are making plans. It is clear that Satan is attacking at this initial effort to prevent the church from getting started. Tim Zuck is going a great job of planning and organizing.

Marriage Counseling: I have about 2-3 couples that I continue to counsel on a weekly basis. There are several marriages within our church that are really struggling. I pray for wisdom each day asking God to help me and use me in this area of ministry.

Counseling/Lunch/Mentoring/Visitation: I continue to meet with several men for breakfast, and prayer on a regular basis. This last month I met with four men.

This was a huge month for the Gibsons, as our oldest daughter, Hannah, graduated from Nazareth High School. We had a wonderful celebration for her and invited friends who were connected to Hannah in some way to come and encourage her in the Lord. We continue to compel our kids to have a faith of their own, striving to please the Lord in all things. By the grace of God we will continue.

I can't imagine do anything other than serving the Lord using my gifts to edify the Church, bring glory to God and help see sinners come to know the grace of God. It is exciting to see how the Lord is working at Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church. I'm humbled to be a part of this ministry.

Serving Christ,
Pastor Tim Gibson

POD (Pastor of Discipleship) Report, May/Jun 2015

As my wife and I were reading the scriptures and praying together, we found yet another good Spurgeon devotional that I would like to share:

"He that loveth not knoweth not God." — 1 John 4:8

The distinguishing mark of a Christian is his confidence in the love of Christ, and the yielding of his affections to Christ in return. First, faith sets her seal upon the man by enabling the soul to say with the apostle, "Christ loved me and gave himself for me." Then love gives the countersign, and stamps upon the heart gratitude and love to Jesus in return. "We love him because he first loved us." In those grand old ages, which are the heroic period of the Christian religion, this double mark was clearly to be seen in all believers in Jesus; they were men who knew the love of Christ, and rested upon it as a man leaneth upon a staff whose trustiness he has tried. The love which they felt towards the Lord was not a quiet emotion which they hid within themselves in the secret chamber of their souls, and which they only spake of in their private assemblies when they met on the first day of the week, and sang hymns in honour of Christ Jesus the crucified, but it was a passion with them of such a vehement and all-consuming energy, that it was visible in all their actions, spoke in their common talk, and looked out of their eyes even in their commonest glances. Love to Jesus was a flame which fed upon the core and heart of their being; and, therefore, from its own force burned its way into the outer man, and shone there. Zeal for the glory of King Jesus was the seal and mark of all genuine Christians. Because of their dependence upon Christ's love they dared much, and because of their love to Christ they did much, and it is the same now. The children of God are ruled in their inmost powers by love—the love of Christ constraineth them; they rejoice that divine love is set upon them, they feel it shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Ghost, which is given unto them, and then by force of gratitude they love the Saviour with a pure heart, fervently. My reader, do you love him? Ere you sleep give an honest answer to a weighty question!

With that in mind, here is a quick summary of some of the ministry opportunities from May/June 2015:

Kids Crossing

- **Cross Time Sunday School:** Praise the Lord for the full complement of teachers he has given us! However, beginning in September, we will need a teacher for the 4 yr-K class; Odd months. We are currently studying how the church is God's plan to bring praise and glory to Jesus.
- **Early Childhood (2&3 year-olds):** Continuing to go well for both services and Sunday School. Please pray that the Lord will provide volunteers for several openings that need to be filled in June.
- **Children's Church:** The Gospel Project curriculum worship segment continues to work well for Children's Church. We continue to see between 8-12 students each week.
- **Wednesday Evening Programs:** Our Awana program is on summer hiatus, however, please pray for our 2015/2016 season as we need several leadership positions filled.
- **New PA Background Check Requirements for Employees & Volunteers:** We are continuing to process the new PA Background Check Requirements for volunteers with good cooperation from everyone; we are currently at the 60% level with 1 month to go. Please pray that we will be able to complete this process and work out a schedule to provide the Mandatory Reporting training required for each.
- **VBS 2015, "Journey Off The Map", June 22-26, 2015:** In this year's theme, LifeWay's VBS takes our kids to uncharted territory where they will begin to understand that obedience to God can lead them beyond the expected.

Our registration process went live on May 1, and since then we have registered 75 children and 60 volunteers. Our hope and prayer is that the Lord would help us to complete all the preliminaries for this program so that kids from EBFC and around the neighboring communities might be touched with the truth of the Gospel, being wonderfully transformed by God's Word!

Student Ministry

- See Pastor Mark's report.

Adult Ministry

- **Adult Electives:** We began our summer semester on May 31, with one big class, teaching on the Feasts of the Old Testament (including the Sabbath and Year of Jubilee), and how they relate to us today.

As always, please continue to pray that the Lord would send forth some new adult elective teachers so that we may offer a variety of subjects, and give the current teachers a break. We currently only have 5 teachers.

- **Men's Ministry:**

- **Bethel Series:** The Bethel Series Class is currently on summer hiatus, but please pray for a new cycle of Bethel Classes that should begin in October 2015. We will be advertising in August 2015 for registration.

- **Men's Bible Studies/Prayer:**

- Tuesday mornings from 6:15 AM – 8:00 AM, Men's prayer time with currently only 2 men attending.
- Thursday mornings from 6:15 AM – 7:30 AM, This early morning bible study group is currently in a study on the life of Christ.
- Thursday mornings from 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM, This new Men's Bible Study is studying, "The Measure of a Man" by Gene Getz. There are currently 4-5 men involved with Bob Penchick as the facilitator.

- **Women's Ministry:** Here is an update from Laura...

"THEWELL: We had the most God honoring day on May 23rd. We welcomed about 70 ladies that day. It was a day filled with sharing the vision of what WVM will look like including a fresh look for the web page. I was able to share from John 4 about the woman coming to the well. As we move forward, we are excited that women will want to be more involved in bible studies (Well Fed) and events (Well Encouraged) and outreach (Well Loved--pouring out). It was a beautiful day.

MOPS: So excited to have a duo team for coordinator position. Jill Rathmell and Courtney Nagy will be leading in the fall. We are still in need of a Moppets coordinator and Finance coordinator. We meet on June 15th to discuss our new year.

Tis So Sweet Tuesdays: We have met two times so far with completely different women each time. We are enjoying studying Gods word together and ending in prayer.

I continue to meet with women some more than others on a consistent basis.

Bible Study Leaders: I am excited that Gail Tshudy has decided to lead on Monday nights in the fall and will be studying 1,2,3rd John.

Possibly starting a teen bible study as an outreach for my own daughters and there friends from school for the remainder of the summer.

Wm team continues to meet monthly to plan and prepare and pray over all that we do here at EBFC."

Discipleship Support

- **Kinship:** Our 14 Kinship groups are officially on a summer hiatus, however, many still continue to meet throughout the summer. Please pray that the Lord will raise up new leaders to start new Kinship Groups in the coming year.

Other:

- Continue to meet with several couples to counsel and encourage
- Meet with two young men to counsel and disciple

- Continue to teach an 8 week men's discipleship series using our "BattleZone" curriculum in the Northampton County Prison on Tuesday mornings from 9:00-10:30
- Taught a lesson on the "Sabbath" in Adult Electives.
- Continued work on the new Church Database as time permitted
- Continue to fill the role of VBS 2015 Coordinator
- Taught 2 Membership classes in May
- Continuing in Greek I, TNARS seminary course, which is a part of my BS501 Biblical Languages course, as time permits.

Respectfully Submitted, Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship

Worship /Young Adult Ministry Update June-July 2015

By Jeremy Harkins, Worship Pastor

Praise Team discipleship

I have so deeply enjoyed building and fostering the relationships with these praise members. I do feel that the praise music has been glorifying to the Lord. It has been a gradual process of evaluating what the priorities are before we lead the congregation in praise & worship on Sundays. For example, I find that our time of prayer has been especially pressed within the last month. Partially it is my responsibility. I have also found random problems that arise that take me away from our time of prayer. If you could pray for me in the organization and orchestration of the worship and also for the little distractions. That our time of prayer and reflection before the Lord does not get compromised with other things.

Simulcast/Sound/Media

Jason did a wonderful job in orchestrating the training. Bob Beebe, Ken Staley, and Michael Hard were there for the training on May 30th. Jason has been doing test runs on Sunday services to train those who were at the meeting. We should be launching officially around the beginning of July the simulcast portion and the over-flow room soon after.

College/Career Ministry

We have an official meeting June 13th. We have invited over 40, of the age of 17-24 to our home for a meal and fellowship. Pray for the relationships that will be developed. We are excited at the opportunity to more deeply walk through life with these young people.

Student Ministries Report - May 2015

Mark 9:29

"And he said to them, 'This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer.'"

Mark 9:29 ESV

This statement was made by Christ after his disciples had failed to do the ministry God had called them to do. They had been given the power by Christ to cast out demons, but with a particular individual they didn't have what it takes. I believe there is a profound lesson in this for all those who minister to teenagers - parents and youth workers alike. We have been given the resources that we need to minister through the Word of God - and yet we can't do any of it without prayer. We need to pray for our students in our youth ministry, and pray for our children - especially through the teen years. As a student ministry we want to keep this at the forefront of our minds - we need God, we need Christ and we need the power of the Holy Spirit to do ministry!

Teaching

- **Middle School**
In our Core Truth curriculum, we are going through a series on "Spiritual Warfare".
- **High School**
We are studying the book of Mark.
- **Sunday School**
We have finished up the "Truth Project" videos, and are picking back up with the Gospel Project, which the MS SS classes have been consistently teaching through.

Shepherding

- Met with a youth staff member to discuss our student ministry
- Had breakfast with a student and encouraged him
- Had an opportunity to visit one of our older ladies while she was in the hospital

Staff

- We attended a Youth Specialties training which was a good time of learning and discussion for those who were able to make it.

Activities

- **Mexico Chick-Fil-A night and Car Wash**
Both of these events were a great way for our missions team to bond, work together, and raise some funds for the trip coming up soon.
- **Illuminite**
We continue to have visitors every Illuminite and it is a great time of building friendships for the believers that come.

- **OMOD (One Meal One Day)**

We had a great activity where we spent the day serving the community, worshipping, studying the Bible, and eating a meal at the end of the day. Oh, and we played human hungry hungry hippos. We were able to raise some money for children who face hunger every day of their life.

Other

- The pastors met with the Hutchinsons and learned much more about the Bible Bee. We had a nice discussion.
- Was able to attend the last Bible Club at Lynfield which was also their closing program. God has really used that in some children's lives as a great follow up from LITC last year and the other events we did through the year.
- Attended the BFC youth pastor's breakfast.
- Had our quarterly BOYYA meeting
- Attended the funeral for Alan Miller
- Had the blessing of joining the men for breakfast who meet on Thursday mornings for Bible Study.
- Continue to do a Bible study with the wrestlers from Lehigh
- We have met 7 times with our missions team who is going to Mexico, and we still have a couple meetings left. The trip is getting close now. :-)
- On a personal note - with the end of the school year, I have had multiple opportunities to get to know parents of children who my girls go to school with, and it has been neat to build relationships and talk about Christ.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Culton