



A PRAYER FOR END OF YEAR – 2024

ALMIGHTY GOD, who has been the dwelling place of Thy people in all generations, and who in Thy mercy has brought us to the close of another year; we praise Thee for all the ways by which Thou hast led us, and we humbly beseech Thee to continue to us Thy lovingkindness. Help us to cast our weakness on Thy strength, that amid all the changes of this transitory life we may rest ourselves on Thine immutability. We lament that in the closing year there has been so much to fill us with shame. Pardon our offenses, we beseech Thee, and as Thou dost commit to us the solemn trust of life, help us to walk in watchfulness, redeeming the time, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

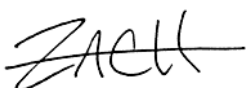
As we step into a new year, we do so with hearts anchored in the unchanging sovereignty of God. The months ahead may bring joys we do not yet anticipate and challenges we cannot foresee, but we can face each day with faith and trust because our Lord reigns over all. His purposes are steadfast, His promises are sure, and His love for us in Christ is unshakable. Whatever uncertainties we may encounter, we are held by the One who declares, "I am your God. You are my People" ([Exodus 6:7](#)). Let us resolve to walk forward in humility, prayer, and dependence, seeking His will and resting in His provision, knowing that His grace will sustain us every step of the way.

A PRAYER FOR THE NEW YEAR – 2025

ETERNAL GOD, who of old hast laid the foundation of the earth, and whose Word is forever settled in the heavens; whose mercy is from everlasting, and rises anew in the morning of another year; give us grace to arise into Christ Thy Son, who is our morning light; and grant that in all the years of our pilgrimage, walking by faith in Him, we may put on strength, and be enabled to persevere in the way of life unto the end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN.**

I look forward to sharing in the ministry of the Gospel with you in this new year and all the ways that, I trust, the Lord will show Himself faithful to us in ways that we have come to expect over our lifetimes, or even perhaps, new and encouraging ways that we have yet to learn in all of the mysteries of His ways.

Your Pastor and Friend,



ELDERS

Keith Wilson - Clerk
 Jim Mueller
 Mic Penry
 Patrick Shovar
 Todd Stegmiller

DEACONS

Dorothy Rursch - Chair
 Teresa Weber - Secretary
 Jim Balmer
 Teresa Balmer
 Marlin Krueger
 Darcy Krueger

TRUSTEES

Mel Block - Chair
 Larry Pithan - Secretary
 Ken Benningfield
 Kim Freyermuth
 Jeff Fuhr
 Phil Fuhr
 Darren Hall
 Colby Mueller
 Cindy Oak
 Bill Sloan
 JR Thomas

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

2 - Ginny Brockett	17 - Karla Pearson
2 - Mary Rose Kerres	18 - Cheryl Lowe
2 - Zachary Smith	18 - Mitch Miller
4 - Lydia Terrill	21 - Cora Hopkins
7 - Jan Fuhr	22 - Isaac Anderson
10 - Reid Schelker	22 - Kelly Ruggles
11 - Emma III	24 - Mary Johnson
11 - Everlee Oak	25 - Laina Nelson
12 - Drake Johnson	28 - Landon Schelker
15 - Kaiver Fischer	31 - Jake Fuhr
17 - Molly Cook	31 - Doug Harper
17 - Gloria Gierlus	31 - Tatum Stegmiller
17 - Tonya Hall	

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

1 - Jason & Sarah Mueller
 7 - Eric & Kelly Moel
 12 - Lane & Hadley Weinert
 23 - Greg & Kortney Gierlus
 24 - Ken & Sandy Benningfield

I am forever grateful for the many acts of kindness shown to me this year!



Thank you for all the cards, letters, goodies, and visits. I am so grateful to be a member of God's family.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and pray that He will bless you in the new year.

With love,
 Luella Doonan

GREETERS FOR JANUARY

Sunday, January 5th - Greg & Kortney Gierlus Family
 Sunday, January 12th - Larry & Pam Pithan
 Sunday, January 19th - Jake & Amanda Fuhr
 Sunday, January 26th - Jim & Carrie Reimers

(Instructions for the greeters are located on p. 5)

TO OUR NEWEST FAMILY MEMBERS!

We are so thankful to God for our newest members and look forward to seeing how God grows them and uses them for His glory here at Edgington EPC and in our community.

welcome



(from left to right)

Rick & Melody VanOteghem

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Rick: 309-206-8433
rickvano54@gmail.com
Melody's cell: 309-314-1560
mjvano57@gmail.com

Kim Zampogna

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kzampogna@hotmail.com

Cami, Molly, & Emma III

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Judy Bote

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Bill & Kris Olin

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Kris's cell: 309-507-1166
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Doug, Jennifer, Ellianne & Jacob Harper

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Jennifer's cell: 309-678-8960
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James, Rikki, Austyn & Madison Hetzler

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Trayton Hazen

Zachary Smith

Kaycee Price



November 26, 2024, at 7pm

Location: Church Conference Room

Present: TE Zach Hopkins and RE's Jim Mueller, Mic Penry, Patrick Shovar, Todd Stegmiller, and Keith Wilson. A quorum is present.

Pastor Zach acted as moderator of the meeting. Zach opened the meeting with prayer and read from I Thessalonians 5:12-28. The Elders prayed for individual members of the congregation, then reviewed and discussed Chapter 2 of *The Whole Christ*, by Tim Keller.

Approval/Amendment of Docket: Motion was made and seconded to approve the docket. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the October 29th, 2024 Session Meeting were reviewed. A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

Correspondence: Clerk received an "Encyclical" document from EPC leadership. To be addressed under New Business.

Zach's Report: Zach reported on members with health concerns and prayer needs. During November he received meetings in the office, over lunch, at home or in the hospital with Daniel and Kim Z, the Larry Kirkland family, and Sally F. Additionally, he participated in: RLP Church Health Meeting, Budget Meeting, RLP Judicial Investigative Committee, Peggy Shovar, and the Huber family.

Old Business:

- It was M/S/C to record a Resolution of Gratitude for Larry Pithan's and JR Thomas's efforts in building the new Communion tables.
- Sabbatical Planning concerning funerals and graveside services were discussed.
- Church activities during Zach's recent vacation were discussed.
- Zach will be preaching from Micah during Advent. The church will be holding a Lessons and Carols service at 5:00pm, December 24th. Zach will be recruiting readers and Regina Thomas will be directing the choir. Choir rehearsals will be on Thursday evenings at 7pm.

New Business:

- Zach handed out newly revised copies of the membership roles for Session members to review. The Membership Role is to be reviewed in February 2025.
- The "Encyclical" mailed out by the EPC leadership was discussed. No action is needed.
- Elders need to be assigned to the new fall members.
- Church Leadership including officer nomination, training, and election were discussed. Officer training is scheduled for January 5th, 12th, and 19th.
- The 2025 budget planning process needs to be wrapped up by December 13th to submit to the Trustees. After the personnel meetings on December 4th, Zach will work with Barb Freyermuth to finalize the budget.

- The Men’s Chili Cookoff event is scheduled for December 15th from 3 – 5pm. Rick VanOteghem and Matt Youck will be sharing their faith testimonies.
- Zach invited the RE’s for an evening of fellowship on December 27th.
- There will need to be a Called Session meeting prior to the annual meeting.
- The 2024 Annual Meeting is scheduled for January 26th, 2025.
- Next Communion will be held December 1st, 2024. There will be no stated meeting in December. Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:50pm. Motion Carried.

Teaching Elder Zach Hopkins closed the meeting with prayer.

Keith Wilson, Clerk of Session



Edgington EPC Greeters Instructions

- ◆ **Thank you** so much for giving of yourself this morning and showing warm hospitality to all those who enter in today!
- ◆ As you are greeting each person, if there is someone unfamiliar to you, please be sure to introduce yourself, and ask them if they are a first time guest or relative newcomer to our church. If that is the case, please ask them to fill out one of the “Welcome” cards located in the pews, if they haven’t already, point out the coat closet, let them know that their presence with us today is most welcome, and if they have any other questions, please feel free to ask you. If you are unable to answer some of their questions please direct them to one of our Session or Trustee members.
- ◆ As a reminder, you will also be ushering today. Please be sure to have another couple lined up to help you with this.
- ◆ After ushering quietly go upstairs and get a head count for attendance. Please include infants in your count.
- ◆ Please be sure to record the attendance and weather in the little red book located here on the table, or on the window ledge.
- ◆ If you enjoy serving in this manner please be sure to let one of the Deacons know, so they can put you on the list regularly.

Thank you again for showing hospitality this morning!

Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.

Romans 12:13

Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.

Hebrews 13:2



GREETERS & USHERS

Thank you for your willingness to serve!

This little sign/placard is on the table with the bulletins each service, so that if you are new to greeting or uncertain as to what your responsibilities are, you can easily reference it.

The small, red, Deacon’s book for recording attendance and weather is located on the same table, usually on top of the bulletins before you start, to help remind you to record attendance.

If you ever have any questions about greeting and/or are interested in greeting, please reach out to one of the Deacons. They are all listed in the newsletter each month at the top of the page following Pastor Zach’s cover letter.

Date: 12-18-24

Present: Mel Block, Jeff Fuhr, Kim Freyermuth, Cindy Oak, Larry Pithan, JR Thomas, Treasurer Barb Freyermuth, Session Representative Jim Mueller.

Mel opened the meeting with a prayer at 6pm.

Minutes for November meeting reviewed.

Treasurer's report for November reviewed and approved. Also reviewed proposed 2025 budget with no additional comments.

Old Business:

- Window trim in SS rooms has been completed
- New HVAC system for office area has been installed
- Furnace filters were changed
- New computer purchased for Lisa
- Ice melt tubs placed at exterior doors

New Business:

- Proposal was obtained for new shades for the SS rooms and office windows. Reviewed two options. Trustees voted to approve purchase of roller shades at approximate cost of \$9,800. WM had approved \$3,000 towards this project. Trustees suggested Youth Group also contribute \$3,000 with the balance from the church maintenance fund.
- Discussed installation of riser at the back of the balcony to serve as location for the new A/V desk.
- Discussed modifications to risers at choir loft. Plan to reduce the size of the riser area, move piano and organ forward and install at least two additional pews along the north wall. Will start this project in January.
- Modifications were made to the base of the pulpit to improve appearance.
- Replaced toilet seat in old bathroom.
- Parts have been ordered for the basement wall clock.

Mel closed the meeting with a prayer at 6:40pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Pithan

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS

We will be taking down the Christmas decorations on Thursday, January 2nd and would welcome your help! We will begin at 9am and hope you will join us. Many hands make light the work!



December 4, 2024

Present: Pam Pithan, Nancy Cooksey, Shirley Flemming, Teresa Balmer, Kathy Stegmiller, and Sue Miller.

Shirley opened with prayer.

Treasurer's Report: Kathy Stegmiller Kathy read her report.

Mission: Shirley Flemming

- Quilt Update
 - There were 20 quilts given out (or soon to be delivered) in 2024, as follows: 3 adults & one baby to Mercer County Crisis Center; 4 adults and one baby to North Carolina Flood Disaster Victims; 6 to Bethany House; 5 to Pregnancy Resources
- Food Pantry
 - Shirley was pleased with the help from Rockridge High School Student Council who brought food, carried it in, helped sort and put away and also made a monetary donation.

Old Business:

- Pam Pithan offered to chair the April-June Funeral Committee. All of us said we would be willing to help any time, and encouraged each other to give us a call if we need help. Kathy mentioned that she is going to double check with her committee to make sure they are still willing to serve.

New Business:

- Review all offices:
 - Teresa is going to contact two other ladies who had expressed some interest in taking this task on (Kristen Adams and Angie Freyermuth)
- Hostesses for next year:
 - March - Nancy Cooksey, June - Kathy Stegmiller, September - Teresa Balmer, December - Pam Pithan

To Grow:

- Bible Study
 - We will continue with the series by Nancy Guthrie, *Seeing Jesus in the Prophets*, and will begin Tuesday, February 4th at 10am and Wednesday, February 5th at 6:30pm. This has us finishing on April 8th and 9th before Palm Sunday. Sue will ask Beth Flickenger to get with Lisa about getting the information on costs and rolling out the details to the ladies through the January newsletter and future bulletins.
- Get our Booklet updated so Lisa can print them in January.
 - We checked the membership list and noted those who passed away, so hopefully that will help Lisa when printing the booklets for 2025. We agreed that we need to clean up the page, "INFORMATION FOR FUNERAL DINNERS" and we also agreed to offer Pastor Zach the Funeral Luncheon Questionnaire to help clarify what we offer to the families of the deceased. Sue will get the proof of that to Pastor Zach and see that Lisa gets the updates for the 2025 Booklets.

- Pam Pithan said she has some folks she wants to call on.

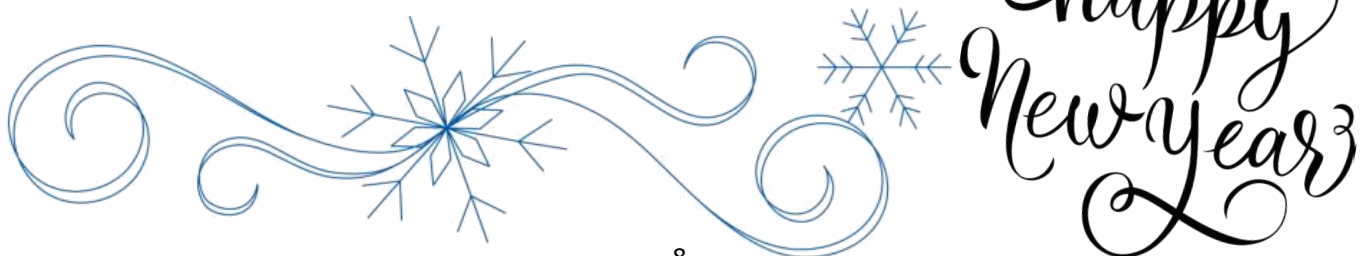
To Serve:

- **Christmas Candy Distribution**
 - Pam had the candy wrapped (beautifully) and ready to distribute and we signed up as follows: We took Zach's, Lisa's and Jeannie's up to the office right away. Nancy Cooksey - Jim Cooksey & Luella Doonan. Kathy Stegmiller - Phyllis Stratford, Deb Wagamon, Edna Bingman, Jim Pettit, and Marion & Dorothy Oak. Teresa Balmer - Evelyn Hessman, Marilou Simpson, and Henry Wood. Sue - Betty Murdock, Mary Ann Kadel, Robin Preston, and Ken Kaiser. Shirley - Mitch Anderson
 - Kathy paid Pam for the candy which was purchased at Walgreens for another bargain price thanks to Jim Reimers who made sure his replacement took care of us.
- **Christmas Decoration take down**
 - Thurs., Jan. 2nd, 9am. Have Lisa put in the bulletin.
- **Soup Luncheon for the annual meeting January 26, 2025**
 - We have a sign-up started and Pam has agreed to keep it and monitor what we need. Kathy is figuring out sandwiches and Sue will give Pam \$30 to contribute to a relish tray because she will be gone. Notify Lisa so it can be put in the newsletter and bulletins.
- **Funeral Luncheons**
 - Provided Zach with a sheet for funeral reception planning, so he can discuss with families and provide to the chairperson of the funeral committee what the families' wishes are.
- **Other Charitable Mission Donations**
 - Flood Victims on the East Coast - \$250 (Mission committee will match)
 - Rockridge Foundation - \$250 (Kathy will mail)
 - Andalusia Ambulance - \$500 (Kathy will deliver or mail)
 - JoJo's Family (Keith and Debbie Wilson's granddaughter) - \$1,000 (Kathy will send with a card)
- **Prayer Concerns**
 - We prayed for church members and their families that are dealing with various struggles and loss.

Next Meeting: March 5, 2025 at 1 pm. Sue needs a sub for this meeting which is mostly about choosing gifts for Mother's Day.

Closing: Prayed and recited Mizpah Benediction (Genesis 31:49) together: "The Lord watch between you and Thee, when we are absent, one from another."

Hostess: Pam Pitham



A TASTE OF MAKING LIFE DISCIPLES



Imagine a 26 year old woman. She is working hard, but her money does not spread as far as it used to. She doesn't have a sound emotional support system, and there are very few people she can rely on. **This is where your church community can make a difference.** She is visiting your church because she has heard people discussing at work this "good God". But she has a problem... she took a pregnancy test this morning, and now she can't see a way forward. **Who would help?** She called a family member, and they suggested abortion; others said they would help "no matter what you decide." She feels completely alone...

Could you be the person who helps with discipleship and friendship, and encourages her to towards a life decision in a confusing and complex time? **Could you become a Life Disciple and help her see a way forward?**

Women and men are facing pregnancy decisions all around us, and while there are many ways to engage with the issue of abortion, God has given us the solution: discipleship. **Twelve churches have participated in Taste of Making Life Disciples.** Crucial support can be provided to women and men facing pregnancy decisions, **offering them a way forward and a community to rely on. This is the power of discipleship.**

Here are a few words for those who have taken the Taste of Making Life Disciples:

- "The most helpful information was learning more about the church's position on abortion. I was especially surprised by the level of various faiths [Christian] that approve of abortion."
- "What was most helpful was the conversations with other believers and how to talk with pro-abortion Christians."
- "I appreciate the overview of what to do next in this process."
- "Well structured – on the cutting edge of ministry."

Will you join us in this mission? Become a Life Disciple through A Taste of Making Life Disciples and help these women and men see a way forward.

HELP ON THE PARENTING JOURNEY

One primary criticism of places like Pregnancy Resources is that "no one is there to help the woman after she cancels her abortion." Pregnancy Resources is committed to partnering with women and men on their unique parenting journeys. Pregnancy Resources' wholistic approach to ministry **promotes life-choices during pregnancy and offers help in the early years of the child's life.** Here are just a few things that are happening right now:

- Pregnancy Resources' Reproductive Loss Program now offers limited medical follow-up and emotional and spiritual support to women who have personally experienced a miscarriage, stillbirth, or neonatal loss in the last 12 months.
- Just for Dads mentoring and coaching is offered every week with several additional half-day super sessions offered mid-week and on Saturdays.
- Community partnerships that offer life-affirming support are in place at numerous high schools and a local housing authority.
- After-abortion emotional and spiritual care groups are available for women and men multiple times per year. These groups utilize a multi-week Bible study to address emotional and spiritual complications that often accompany an abortion decision.
- The abortion industry tells women that once the abortion pill has been taken, what's done is done. Pregnancy Resources staff nurses are fully trained to help walk with women who would like a second chance to choose life, and can provide limited first trimester follow-up care in collaboration with the Abortion Pill Rescue Network and the woman's prescribing doctor.

Cont. on p. 10

- The abortion industry is harming women and leaving them unsupported when abortion complications arise. It is the hope of Pregnancy Resources that first, no woman would choose abortion and second, that no woman would die as a result of her abortion decision. Ethical medical care at Pregnancy Resources includes post-abortion medical screening with a staff nurse to provide essential basic medical and mental wellness care 2-6 weeks following the use of abortion pills or surgical abortion procedures.
- Pregnancy and parenting classes, baby care classes, breastfeeding education, dads' classes, and Bible studies continue to be offered weekly.
- Pregnancy clothing, infant/toddler clothing, diapers, formula, wipes, and other infant/toddler items are available free of charge.



This wholistic approach is only possible because of you!



YOUTH HOPE UPCOMING EVENTS - MARK YOUR CALENDARS

YouthHope Trivia Night
February 1 | 5pm Doors Open

Test your knowledge at this fun annual Trivia Night and support the programs at YouthHope! All proceeds benefit after school programs for at-risk youth. Register your team of 8 to secure your spot!

Annual Fundraising Banquet
April 17 | 5pm Doors Open

Help make infinite in our community by partnering with YouthHope! Host a table of 10 guests for dinner, bid on Auction items, and help bring youth HOPE!



**PROUDLY SERVING
SENIORS SINCE 1968**



Project NOW
Community Action Agency



For many years now Edgington EPC has been a host site for Senior Meals. The doors are now open here for meals **EVERY WEEKDAY!**

Meals are available for a suggested donation of \$3 to anyone 60+ years or with a disability. If you are new to the program, you need to call 309-788-6335 the day before to request your meal.

Those who attend regularly come early to play cards and enjoy each other's company for a little longer than just meal time.

If you would like more information or want to check out the menu for the month click the Project Now logo above for the link to their website or call 309-788-6335.



THE HUBER FAMILY

Salem is 6!

Our precious middle-born turned 6 at the end of November. Salem wanted a "building" theme for his birthday, so we celebrated with a cousins Lego-building competition, followed up with homemade pumpkin donuts. God added to the celebration by giving us snow!

Salem is flexible and content. He is a great friend to everyone, good at sharing, sensitive and caring. He spends his days quietly observing everything happening around him, and then bursting forth with energy, volume, and play! Ever since he started walking, we've called him our Tigger because he's a bouncy, fun kid to be around.

We might be biased, but we think Salem's a pretty good looking kid. And he has a style of his own... really likes to put together his own outfits. His Nana calls him, "Sharp."

Salem also has a deep hunger for scripture, and especially loves his Biggest Story Bible Storybook. He can't quite read yet on his own, but is keen to share details on a variety of his favorite Bible stories. Please join us as we pray Psalm 16:5-8 over Salem in the coming year:

"Lord, you alone are Salem's portion and cup;
you make his lot secure.

The boundary lines have fallen for him in pleasant places;
surely he has a delightful inheritance.

Let Salem praise the Lord, who counsels him;
even at night his heart instructs him.

Let Salem keep his eyes always on the Lord.
With Him at Salem's right hand, Salem will not be shaken."



Merry Christmas from the Burdsalls!

Merry Christmas!!!

At Asha services this month, we have been looking at the Christmas story in Luke. Tonight at a Christmas event with a little drama and meal of biryani and tandoori chicken after, we read about the shepherds and the angel's message. "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Luke 2:10 Amazing news that the word became flesh - for all people! We celebrate that amazing truth, and also pray that this news spreads to all people.

We are praying that you all know and rest in the love and care of God, who is full of grace and truth. And we are wishing you joy and hope in this Christmas and New Year season!

With love,
Burdsall family

Happy Christmas!! Hope you are enjoying the season - and lights, snow (depending on location and amount! :), festive events, caroling, Christmas trees... It is our favorite time of year as we think with joy about Jesus birth and the celebrating that we have as a result of that.

However, we are aware that this isn't the case for everyone, and especially not for the area where we live. At a recent school Christmas assembly we asked the kids what they liked about Christmas holidays and one Muslim girl said "nothing, I don't celebrate it". When asked if they were at least excited about a break from school, the response from a few more kids was "It's just boring". On Christmas day, most shops are closed, but every year in the local market near our house, it is business as usual for the Bengali shop owners and patrons.

This is really striking. Not everyone knows the same joy, or the same hope. But 2000 years ago the angel said:

"I bring you **good news** of **great joy** that will be for **all the people!**"

We hold to the promise that our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace holds out this hope for everyone - and knows and loves them.

This Christmas we are praying for those that don't see or want or understand this gift, both in our neighborhood and in yours. And we are praying for you all and your church services and outreaches over this time, that people will be reached with this great joy!

Some updates and prayers for this month:

Please continue **praying** for Asha attenders who have made faith decisions recently or who are close to making those decisions. **Pray** for one individual who is asking about baptism. **Pray** for this person to grow in understanding of faith and for our team as they disciple these brothers and sisters. And **praise** God for His works!

The Christmas experience for a local primary school that we hosted at Asha went well. We had around 55 kids and 6 teachers hear about the birth of Jesus and why we are so excited about Christmas. A couple teaching assistants were especially interested in seeing the Bible in Sylheti. **Pray** for continued open doors with this school and for some of them to come to our Christmas event.

The English classes have had about 35 students each week, and of those about 15 stay at the end to hear a Bible story. It is exciting to see more and more want to stay. **Pray** for those ladies especially, that they would understand what they are hearing and would want to also come on Sundays and learn more. It is also a lot of fun on Wednesday mornings. The ladies are growing in connection to each other and seem to enjoy their time learning. S.... also has about 3 different classes for men. **Pray** the men come consistently and for S.... to be able to build relationships with them outside of just teaching time. Please **pray** too, for the end of term party on the 18th, where they will have fun and food and all hear the Christmas story.

For safety reasons we are not linking the full report and pictures. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with Burdsall's to be added to their email list.

We are holding a Christmas event on the 22nd - a service aimed at all ages, with a drama and with a meal afterward. In the past these have been very well attended, but usually as a one off. **Pray** for good attendance again, and also for those that come to come more than once.

For safety reasons we are not linking the full report and pictures. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with Burdsall's to be added to their email list.

Prayers for our family:

We had L..... and J..... here for thanksgiving last weekend and they will be back for a few weeks with us at Christmas, but C.... will be in the US. **Pray** for us as we are apart.

J..... has had a good first term at university. It is exciting to hear his joy in what he is learning and the opportunities he has had.

Christmas school break here is two week. **Pray** for a time of rest and restoring after a busy few months.

As always, we are grateful for you all!

With love

S.... and C..... and the kids

MCCALLUM NOVEMBER MUSE

Happy Advent! Merry Christmas!

We rejoice in knowing that God is with us.

Christ came as promised. He will come again establishing His full Kingdom on earth.



A song of inspiration: The Twelve Days of Christmas arranged by Pepper Choplin.

With new words: Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace, Bright Morning Star, Emmanuel, Christ the King!

Prayer Guide:

- **December Outreaches in V.....**
 - 1) Follow up with the 1,200 who indicated a decision to follow Jesus at a Franklin Graham crusade near H. C.. M.. C... in the south (held Dec 3 and 4)
 - 2) a multi church team effort for a stadium event in H.... (Dec 14).
- **January 4-18** in H.... for two weeks of training with two different groups.
 - 1) **Week 1:** First time with leaders of Y churches for introductory course. Pastor B. G. will team teach with Ed. A new assistant is handling details and interpreting.
 - 2) **Week 2:** Refresher training with Hmg Teaching Cohort for two courses. Working with our long term assistant and regular Hmg interpreter
 - 3) Interaction with people at the H.... Bible College and (ECV-N) Evangelical Church of V.....-North
 - 4) Ability to flex as needed along the way.
 - 5) Travel mercies, good sleep, and no health issues.

Trip Details

Y People

The senior leadership of ECV-N has a burden for the minority people groups in their area of the country. We are gradually gaining more clarity about the people group we'll meet January 6. We now think there are 300 Y churches in rural north. Church leaders from three sub groups in two provinces will be coming. Some leaders have had one course via TEE (Theological Education by Extension), but little or nothing else.

MCCALLUM NOVEMBER MUSE

We committed to one foundational class (Understanding, Applying, and Communicating the Bible). We are open to doing additional courses for them.

Our colleague, Rev. P. T., will join us for a few days to pray with and for these men and their region. For many years God has drawn him to pray for the people of V..... He is grateful that finally he will be in this country that has grabbed his heart.

If ECV-N wants the full MLTI (Ministry Leadership Training Institute) 12 courses it will take more than the one year we feel we have left in our ability to travel. Additional ITEN staff will be needed. This could be full or part time people. We are praying and leaving these details in God's hands.

The Hmg Teaching Cohort will be reviewing Genesis....the foundation for the key doctrines of the Christian faith. Most of Genesis is story, showing how key doctrines of the Christian faith were learned and lived out by real people in real situations. The stories have both good and bad examples for us to learn from. Students will gain knowledge of the story of Genesis, grow in their ability to interpret and apply the Book of Genesis, and begin some sermons and teachings on the book of Genesis for their churches.

...and the Leadership Development course on Pastoral Ministry....Providing a biblical overview of pastoral ministry that prepares and equips ministry leaders to effectively lead and serve the Church. Topics addressed are: pastoral calling, qualifications and character traits, church administration, pastoral care, preaching, evangelism, worship, leadership development, discipline, and organizational planning.

Gifts: Nan has gathered large sturdy shopping bags for the 30+ Y group and bracelets for children's ministry made by a woman at Desert Hills Presbyterian Church here in the Phoenix area. We are bringing Twister games for the Teaching Cohort use in family and ministry settings. We still need two more games. A friend has been scouring thrift stores! Leaders will use the games in their families and ministry.

Thoughts for the Season

Ed has found Lectio 365 (a smart phone app) to be a helpful prayer tool. The focus in the first week of Advent has been "hope," praying through the story of Zechariah and Elizabeth in Luke 1. This older couple was a model of living rightly before God. But they lived with the bitter disappointment and shame (in their culture) of being childless. Their disappointment did not embitter them against the Lord. They kept on going. Many of us will go through this Christmas season with joy dampened by disappointment. It is good to name that disappointment, lay it before the Lord and then turn in faith and hope to his promises. We know the Lord always keeps his Word, but in his time - not ours.

We have been moved by Psalm 95:12-14:

The righteous will flourish like a palm tree,
They will grow like a cedar of Lebanon;
Planted in the house of the Lord,
They will flourish in the courts of our God.
They will still bear fruit in old age,
They will stay fresh and green.



In our disappointments, let's root ourselves in God's presence and live in the hope He offers. May the Lord enable us to bear fruit and stay fresh and green in every season of life.

With **GRATEFUL** hearts, we thank each of **YOU** for partnering with us.

Your prayers to open doors, give insight, and keep us safe.

Funding for translation and printing of materials, and costs of housing, meals, and travel for our class members. It's amazing how the experiences of our lives have come together so well for this season of our lives. We are grateful to you and the Lord!

Blessings, Ed & Nan McCallum

18 December 2024

Dear friends, thank you for your partnership!

The gospel of Jesus is always moving forward: ‘He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High God... of His kingdom there will be no end.’ (Luke 1:32-33)

For safety reasons we are not linking the full report. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with B & E.

Sharing the gospel during a war

On U..... trains, you share a small cabin for 2-4 people with bench seats to sit or sleep on. On one leg of my travel, I shared a cabin with S, a U..... Special Forces Army Master Sergeant. It was an overnight 15- hour train ride from D..... to R.....

S. told me he was returning home to his family for the first time after serving 8 months on the frontline in combat duty. He led a special ops group in an intense area (Kursk region). He showed me photos of his training exercises, torso wound, and bullet-dented helmet. He explained how the shot to his helmet knocked him to the ground unconscious, resulting in a concussion. They sent him home for a month break. His wife and 3 children did not know he was coming— it was a surprise!

The Lord was doing something special as we talked. S. asked about me and my work. When I told him about it, he gave me a strong handshake and said thanks. We talked about prayer and God. I said that I will have 100s of people praying for him by name. When I said that, he was obviously moved, gave me a big hug, and then pulled his special forces patch off and said, ‘It is a gift for you; thank you!’ I could see that somehow the Lord was really touching him.

I think the Lord put me there to be a friend to S. who could celebrate with him about his spared life and rejoice with him about his soon-coming reunion with his family. And I had the opportunity to point him toward God. He repeatedly expressed how special it was to meet me and receive my encouragement. I felt the same way about him. Please **pray** for S. and his family to know the Lord and his power.

I am so proud of the U..... churches and the pastors we are training. Their evangelism and church planting reaches the most dangerous hot spots of the war. Pastor V. showed me photos of the church they planted in N..... at the frontline. Pastor S. showed me a video of him speaking in a church in K..... City (just across the river from R..... troops. They had 1,000 people attending services every day, and 75%+ turned to Christ—similar to the 90s after the USSR fell. In the video he showed me, a missile struck the church during their worship service. Crazy stuff! Church goers had to watch out for snipers to and from church.

Many of my pastor friends serve as military chaplains and risk their lives regularly. Their stories are amazing. The day after the full-scale invasion began, one of them headed east toward the front to help people, while everyone else was fleeing west. The people thought he was mistaken and said, ‘You’re going the wrong direction!’ His Christian faith was noticed when they learned he was trying to go there to help others.

Pastor A. told me he had been in B..... 9 times and in many of the other most dangerous battlefronts. His life was endangered when his car was being tracked by a drone. It turned out to be unarmed. All of this has become ordinary stuff for pastors in U.....

In D....., our ministry partners told me their education project continues to reach their community, providing supplemental courses to children whose schooling is disrupted by war. I heard a beautiful story of how an unchurched parent received Christ while waiting in the church lobby for his child. That is so wonderful! J. and I facilitated this project, and it was funded by the EPC.

Evangelical churches have become well-known beacons of light and sources of help throughout U..... From humanitarian aid, projects helping the communities, chaplain service and more, the church is growing and the reputation of evangelical believers is gaining more and more respect. People are coming to Christ and churches are being planted. YOU, as our ministry partner, are a part of that! Praise God!

B & E (Cont. from p. 15)

U.....

My most recent trip to U..... began the day after the presidential election. From November 6-17, I traveled 36 hours by air, 11 hours by car, and 37 hours by train.

From W....., I crossed the border on foot at the M..... control point and then went by car to T..... I preached in a church of 400+ on Sunday morning, then met with church leaders for lunch and spoke to their young adults group in the afternoon before hopping onto an overnight train across the country.

Arriving in O..... in the morning, I spent several hours in conversation with I., a longtime colleague and the director of the U..... Christian Open Academy. In addition to our project discussions, I gave him personal encouragement and advisement about his PhD studies. He is a dear brother!

I taught a 3-hour seminar for church leaders that evening on building a multi-generational family legacy and renewing U..... through the family sphere. It was a powerful time, and I noticed several participants weeping at times.

Early the next morning, I took a train to K..... R., which is near K..... region and not so far from the battle zone. Immediately upon arrival, I went to the church and taught the same seminar as the day before for about 50 pastors and their wives. Again, it was a dynamic time.

From there, I gave a lecture on A History of the Rise and Development of the University as an Institution of Society at the university and emphasized classical Christian methods of learning. We had to hold the lecture (as they do now for all in-person lectures) in a bomb shelter basement. It was a great time, and I saw skeptics turn into warm and inviting people who loved what I presented (and who heard plenty about faith in the process of my lecture and the Q&A time). Sadly, I saw that some of their university buildings had been blown up in previous weeks by missiles.

A sobering, holy, and unforgettable moment for me in K..... R. was our visit to a blown-up apartment building. It was struck by a missile the day before I arrived. So sadly, a 32-year-old mother, her 10-year-old, five-year-old, and 2-month-old baby all died. Only the husband lived because he had walked to the kitchen to prepare breakfast at the time the missile struck. They are a Christian family, and my pastor friends know their pastor and church, so we stopped there after my lecture to offer comfort. This tragic story spread widely in primary news outlets and touched everyone. I recently received a touching video of the husband/father thanking everyone for their prayers.

Pastor V. in K..... R. leads a church network of about 40 churches and is a strong ministry partner. His son P., 25 years old, is a pastor and scholar with a heart for reformation. I have been mentoring P. this past year. While there with him in his city, I helped him with his research proposal for his PhD and spent time with him discussing theological topics and encouraging him personally. It is so satisfying to see how this young man keeps growing in the Lord and in his capacity for leadership. He is an outstanding emerging Christian leader.

P. recently wrote me these encouraging words, which represent just a single case of the ministry impact you and I are having together in our partnership:

Dear Dr. A.,

I am deeply grateful for your service to my country, your open heart, and your eagerness to spread the truth of God's Kingdom to the farthest corners of the world, especially U..... I am also profoundly thankful for the privilege of knowing you personally and for the chance to assist you in your work here. Your influence has been crucial in my own journey of pursuing knowledge, understanding, and wisdom to serve my people ad maiorem Dei gloriam.

Even the brief two days we spent together in U..... were profoundly enlightening and transformative for me. I am now working through the book you mentioned during your lecture. I thank you—and above all, thank God—for all that He is doing.

For safety reasons we are not linking the full 6 pg. report. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with B & E.

B & E *(Cont. from p. 16)*

For safety reasons we are not linking the full 6 pg. report. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with B & E.

In the eastern U..... city of D....., I met with the Pentecostal Bishop for Eastern U....., M. M., and his team for several hours, updating about our collaborative projects and making plans. I am so encouraged by their progress. They keep planting new churches and evangelizing, reaching out to public officials with new relationships forming, doing many humanitarian projects, and recently appointed an official Director of Social Ministry position to help their denomination serve in society more effectively. So many of these leaders are studying in our U..... Christian Open Academy. It is a fresh new day of empowered service.

In T..... (1.5-hour drive from D.....), I was amazed by the progress of pastor T.. One year ago, he showed me a completely deteriorated old building and shared his vision for a center for the recovery of wounded/veteran soldiers and their families, which would also house a church plant. Honestly, I thought to myself, “How are you going to be able to do that!” But I have seen T. do such things before. When I arrived this November after one year, I was stunned to see the building completely renewed and ready to start receiving its first families into residence. The church is already formed and meeting. There are new believers. I met with the center’s new director and team and responded to their request for some teaching and advisement. Again, we were able to apply some EPC funds to this project. It is impressive work, and I praise the Lord for T. and his team.

As an interesting side note, one of the people on this part of my trip was V., whose great uncle was B., the former president of the USSR. She shared her spectacular story about how she received Christ after a dream as a young Soviet girl. She has a PhD in social science and is a Christian author, researcher, and professor today. Again, God is always doing beautiful things!

After I said goodbye to S. (the soldier in my cabin) and exited the overnight train to R....., I was picked up by R. (academic dean of the seminary), went straight to the seminary, met its leadership team, and then gave two lectures. There were about 85 students for each lecture, many of whom are in music courses, and they sang so beautifully before each lecture. I was invited to return and teach a full-week intensive course on Christian Service and Reformation of Society, which is now in place for the week of 27 January. Decades ago, U..... evangelicals did not even discuss or understand these topics. Now we are training the leaders in-depth and seeing tangible results.

On my way back, my train from the city of L.... crossed the border and into P..... I saw the Nazi extermination camp holocaust memorial site in B..... from the train as I passed it. 430,000 to 500,000 Jews were killed there. A sobering site and reminder of why we do what we do.

My next trip to U.....e is 23 January to 2 February. E. and I have also been invited to participate in U..... Week in DC 6-8 February which takes place alongside the National Prayer Breakfast.

B.....

While in P....., I enjoyed spending time with Dr. I. V., a longtime friend from B..... who now lives as a refugee in P..... I caught up on news about our mutual B..... friends. He has asked me to help him form some ministry among B..... now living in P..... Thousands have fled authoritarian B..... the past 2.5 years. Please **pray** for Z. D. who remains in prison and his wife N. in house arrest with their four children. They are faithful Christians and dear friends who are now political prisoners in B..... It was heartbreaking to hear that on 18 September Z. was falsely charged yet again and sentenced to another 1 year and 3 months in a maximum-security prison. **Please pray.**

Other IFR and ITEN work

Here are some other things I am working on these days:

- Business incubator project in K....., U....., and mentoring A. V.
- Mentoring P., Z., and M.

B & E *(Cont. from p. 17)*

- Meetings with our IFR board members and potential collaborations through associations with Regent University
- Preparing my seminary course for January in U.....
- Sending funds from IFR to support J. and his Eastern European Reformation Foundation
- Praying and planning with Dr. M. K. as he decides about a new ministry opportunity with a seminary in addition to his work with Pak Mission Society

For safety reasons we are not linking the full 6 pg. report. If you would like to receive their regular updates via email, please contact the church office and Lisa will connect you with B & E.

Family

We are so delighted with the birth of our 7th grandchild, I. S. A., born 14 December to our daughter Mary and husband Wes in Charlotte NC. He's absolutely precious! We are so grateful to God! Of course, we will enjoy the holidays with our kids and grandkids and reflect on JESUS.

Please pray for...

- Upcoming trip to U..... in January, teaching a seminary course and working with pastors
- Prayer for J.'s family—illnesses, intensely busy season, EERF organizational financial needs
- A. V.'s family—safety from missiles in K....., his business development center project
- S. (special forces soldier) and his family to know the Lord
- Z. D. and wife N. and four children in B.....
- Z. and A. F. and their marriage and family
- Dr. M. and R. K.—for ministry direction

Thank you for supporting us!

B & E

JEFFREY LANCASTER

Hey Gang,

In the gospel of Luke, we read about the virgin Mary visiting her elderly relative Elizabeth. In this story both are newly pregnant. Mary with her son the baby Jesus and Elizabeth with her son who would become known as John the Baptist. These pregnancies were a result of the miraculous work of God in the lives of these dear women. Elizabeth was advanced in years (past childbearing age) and had never been able to have a child – the deck was stacked against her - so God clearly intervened in a supernatural way on that one. Mary was a @ 14-year-old virgin... so, yea... nuf said... her pregnancy was the supernatural work of God on steroids. Anyway, Mary is about a month or so pregnant with Jesus (in utero he's about the size of a lentil) when she visits her cousin Elizabeth (now 6 months pregnant) who's baby John, in utero, is about a pound or two.

Already in his mother's tummy, John the Baptist has some hops. Luke narrates the account of this baby's jumping in Luke 1:39-41:

[39] In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, [40] and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. [41] And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb.

Not sure about the space available for jumping in the womb nor am I sure of John's vertical leap, but how amazing that Luke relays this fascinating detail. The writer AJ Sherrill, in his wonderful little book *Rediscovering Christmas*, reflects on the meeting-of-the-mommies encounter this way:



Resurrection
City Church
Chicago

JEFFREY LANCASTER

“At the time of his leap, even though unborn John was about the size of a jicama, he recognized and responded to the presence of the Messiah. Slow down and think about this: What are we to make of it? One baby in utero leaping at the presence of another baby in utero. Have you ever heard a sermon on it? I haven’t. It’s tempting to slide past this verse and move on in the story as if there were totally normal. Only it wasn’t normal. It was anything but.

So, let’s resist the urge to move quickly and instead pause to wonder and prod. Anatomically speaking, at six months in utero, John was beginning to open his tiny eyelids for the first time. But it’s not like he could see Jesus from the womb. Further, John’s brain was nowhere near capable of cognitive discernment, particularly around spiritual questions like, *Is this the Messiah? Or What is truth? Or Would I prefer my mother to order ceviche or short-rib gnocchi for dinner?*

Nevertheless, Jicama John leaped in recognition of the Messiah – who, again, was about the size of a lentil. And although his eyelids were just then opening, John saw and recognized Jesus with a different kind of sight.”

As I meditated on this fascinating reality this past week, I was filled with wonder and awe and a reminder that when people, through the wondrous work of the Holy Spirit, encounter the incarnate God in the person of Jesus Christ there’s something about Jesus that registers with people in their deepest insides – a registering that can go even way past their rationality. A deep mystery that makes life dance with a sense of hope and meaning. I then began to think about the amazing truth that our Lord Jesus has decided to attach the reality of His being and presence with the lives of his believing community. Followers of Christ, through the work of the Spirit, are the living embodiment of Christ in the world. All that to say that Jesus, amidst our barrenness and weakness and sinfulness and limitedness can show up through us into the lives of others. And, the Spirit can evoke a vertical jump response over the mystery and wonder of a god-in-a-bod reality who is the deepest and most profound source of life, hope, joy, love, and majesty in all the world.

It is my longing for the Holy Spirit to use me and Cathy in Chicago to somehow, even if in the faintest, weakest and most flawed ways, help people encounter Christ and experience the leap that comes in their deepest insides when they’re encountering Christ in us as the greatest wonder of all.

Today I had lunch with a guy I met last week. He relayed the wreckage of his life through a stream of tears. He looked at me and said, “Am I just too messed up?” I said, “Hey man, it’s the season of Advent... we’re rehearsing the reality that the whole world is always waiting for the God of the universe to show up. Jesus dives into the middle of our massively messy lives. God arrives and sets out to do a new thing. He came to earth to taste our sadness. Our creator came into our de-created lives to magically re-create. Jesus can flood your valley of sorrow with new rivers of joy if you’ll open up to His work in your life.” All I can say is that he got quiet, and a big smile exploded on his face. I think it was a vertical leap of sorts. Ride on King Jesus.

Wishing you a Meaningful Advent and a Merry Christmas season!

Sending much peace and love your way from Chicago,

Jeffrey



EDGINGTON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

TREASURER'S REPORT NOVEMBER 2024

	Beg. Balance	Receipts	Disbursement	End. Balance
General Fund	\$ 95,282.97	\$ 26,552.19	\$ 14,408.87	\$ 107,426.29
Education Fund	\$ 15,432.08	\$ 117.50	-	\$ 15,549.58
Building Fund	\$ 192,524.24	\$ 793.09	-	\$ 193,317.33
Youth Group	\$ 17,864.73	-	\$ 2,684.70	\$ 15,180.03
	\$ 321,104.02	\$ 27,462.78	\$ 17,093.57	\$ 331,473.23

November 2024 MONTHLY REVIEW - General Fund

Receipts - November 2024

Pledges	25,594.78
Interest Income - General Fund	12.41
Per Member Asking	920.00
Basement Rent	25.00

\$ 26,552.19 \$ -

Expenditures - November 2024

Administrative

ABS (copier rental)	120.95
AT&T - Phone for elevator	243.49
Cemetery Upkeep	-
Computers: Hdw, Sftw and Apps	1,416.72
Insurance	-
Jeanne Hayes (Custodian)	566.28
Johnson Controls	-
Lisa Bowman (Office Manager)	1,020.98
Kone (elevator)	-
MidAmerican Energy	444.00
Millenium Waste	64.08
Office Supplies	6.93
Repairs & Maintenance - general	1,003.83
Reytel - Internet	120.19
Shipping/Postage	11.74
Taxes / FICA / Penalty	131.13

\$ 5,150.32

Discipleship (Internal)

Children's Director	393.25
Continuing Education	-
Deacon Expense	301.91
EPC General Assembly	-
EPC (health)	26.48
Events	940.00
Fidelity (pension)	1,038.28
Flowers	(530.00)
Housing Allowance	3,762.52
Meals	51.43
Mileage	-
Music	-
Pastor Salary	2,782.08
Presbytery Expense	-
Pulpit Supply	-
Resource Materials	492.60
Sunday School	-
Worship Supplies	-

\$ 9,258.55

Mission (external)

Mission - International	\$ -	0.0%
Mission - US	-	
Mission - Local	-	

TOTAL EXPENSES

\$ 14,408.87 \$ -
100.0%

NET OPERATING INCOME

\$ 12,143.32

INCLUDED IN GENERAL FUND TOTAL

Mission monies included in general fund of \$6,066.49 and Assistance Fund of \$4,483.46

CURRENT SERMON SERIES

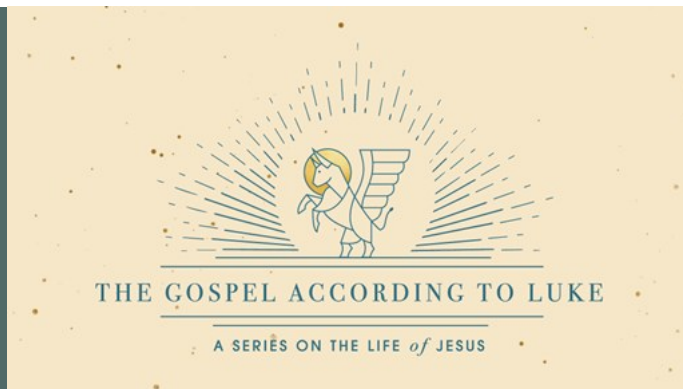
Pastor Zach will return to The Gospel According to Luke in January. Please join us each week! We look forward to seeing you and diving deep into God's Word together!

Sunday, January 5th - [Psalm 90](#)

Sunday, January 12th - [Luke 10:38-42](#)

Sunday, January 19th - [Luke 11:1-4](#)

Sunday, January 26th - [Revelation 2:1-7](#)



SCRIPTURE LINKS - Download the apps!



ESV.org is an online Bible reading tool created to help you read and engage with God's Word. While many features of the site are available without signing in, we invite you to **create a free account**, which makes it easy to save personal notes, highlight favorite verses, and start interactive reading plans.

(Click on the images to go to their websites)



BLUE LETTER BIBLE

Blue Letter Bible provides powerful tools for an in-depth study of God's Word through our free online reference library, with study tools that are grounded in the historical, conservative Christian faith. We view the Bible as central to our study resources. We intentionally designed the website to include study tools that are linked directly to Bible passages. Dig deep into the Word using commentaries, encyclopedias, maps/images and much more. One of our most used tools is the Lexicon search, which gives users immediate access to the original Hebrew and Greek words.

DAILY BIBLE READING FROM AN HISTORICAL APPROACH

Have you ever wondered what it would have been like to read the Old Testament in ancient Israel? Or, the New Testament as the books were written? In this plan, the order of the Old Testament readings is very similar to Israel's Hebrew Bible, progressing from Law to Prophets to Writings. The New Testament ordering is based upon research regarding the order in which the books were authored. Although this research is not conclusive, it may offer helpful insights to your Bible reading.



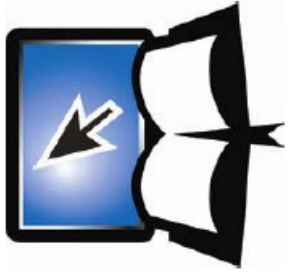
Click on the image for the digital link

Each year Pastor Zach provides a new reading plan to help equip you to spend time reading through God's Word. This year he has chosen an historical reading plan from Blue Letter Bible. It is a 1-year reading plan and you can start at any time. The new year is always a great time to start fresh!

If reading through the entire Bible in one year seems like an insurmountable challenge, just mark off each reading as you complete it and then move to the next. Each day progresses you through the books in the order they are believed to be written in and once you reach number 365, you will have done it!

In the year ahead, ask God each day to speak directly to you from the Scripture portions you read. Be expectant, and let your continual exposure to God's Word reshape your attitudes and behavior as you gain a better understanding of every part of His written testimony to us.

Hard copies are located on the table in the sanctuary foyer and on the next 2 pages.



Blue Letter Bible

Daily Bible Reading Program

Historical Plan

1-Year Plan. Have you ever wondered what it would have been like to read the Old Testament in ancient Israel? Or, the New Testament as the books were written? In this plan, the order of the Old Testament readings is very similar to Israel's Hebrew Bible, progressing from Law to Prophets to Writings. The New Testament ordering is based upon research regarding the order in which the books were authored. Although this research is not conclusive, it may offer helpful insights to your Bible reading.

1. Genesis 1-3
2. Genesis 4-7
3. Genesis 8-11
4. Genesis 12-15
5. Genesis 16-18
6. Genesis 19-21
7. Genesis 22-24
8. Genesis 25-26
9. Genesis 27-29
10. Genesis 30-31
11. Genesis 32-34
12. Genesis 35-37
13. Genesis 38-40

14. Genesis 41-42
15. Genesis 43-45
16. Genesis 46-47
17. Genesis 48-50
18. Exodus 1-3
19. Exodus 4-6
20. Exodus 7-9
21. Exodus 10-12
22. Exodus 13-15
23. Exodus 16-18
24. Exodus 19-21
25. Exodus 22-24
26. Exodus 25-27
27. Exodus 28-29
28. Exodus 30-32
29. Exodus 33-35
30. Exodus 36-38
31. Exodus 39-40
32. Leviticus 1-4
33. Leviticus 5-7
34. Leviticus 8-10
35. Leviticus 11-13
36. Leviticus 14-15
37. Leviticus 16-18
38. Leviticus 19-21
39. Leviticus 22-23
40. Leviticus 24-25
41. Leviticus 26-27
42. Numbers 1-2
43. Numbers 3-4
44. Numbers 5-6
45. Numbers 7
46. Numbers 8-10
47. Numbers 11-13
48. Numbers 14-15
49. Numbers 16-17
50. Numbers 18-20
51. Numbers 21-22
52. Numbers 23-25
53. Numbers 26-27
54. Numbers 28-30
55. Numbers 31-32
56. Numbers 33-34
57. Numbers 35-36
58. Deuteronomy 1-2
59. Deuteronomy 3-4
60. Deuteronomy 5-7
61. Deuteronomy 8-10
62. Deuteronomy 11-13
63. Deuteronomy 14-16
64. Deuteronomy 17-20
65. Deuteronomy 21-23
66. Deuteronomy 24-27
67. Deuteronomy 28-29
68. Deuteronomy 30-31
69. Deuteronomy 32-34
70. Joshua 1-4
71. Joshua 5-8
72. Joshua 9-11
73. Joshua 12-15
74. Joshua 16-18
75. Joshua 19-21
76. Joshua 22-24
77. Judges 1-2
78. Judges 3-5
79. Judges 6-7
80. Judges 8-9
81. Judges 10-12
82. Judges 13-15
83. Judges 16-18
84. Judges 19-21
85. 1 Samuel 1-3
86. 1 Samuel 4-8
87. 1 Samuel 9-12
88. 1 Samuel 13-14
89. 1 Samuel 15-17
90. 1 Samuel 18-20
91. 1 Samuel 21-24
92. 1 Samuel 25-27
93. 1 Samuel 28-31
94. 2 Samuel 1-3
95. 2 Samuel 4-7
96. 2 Samuel 8-12
97. 2 Samuel 13-15
98. 2 Samuel 16-18
99. 2 Samuel 19-21
100. 2 Samuel 22-24
101. 1 Kings 1-2
102. 1 Kings 3-5
103. 1 Kings 6-7
104. 1 Kings 8-9
105. 1 Kings 10-11
106. 1 Kings 12-14
107. 1 Kings 15-17
108. 1 Kings 18-20
109. 1 Kings 21-22
110. 2 Kings 1-3
111. 2 Kings 4-5
112. 2 Kings 6-8
113. 2 Kings 9-11
114. 2 Kings 12-14
115. 2 Kings 15-17
116. 2 Kings 18-19
117. 2 Kings 20-22
118. 2 Kings 23-25
119. Isaiah 1-4
120. Isaiah 5-8
121. Isaiah 9-12
122. Isaiah 13-17
123. Isaiah 18-22
124. Isaiah 23-27
125. Isaiah 28-30
126. Isaiah 31-35
127. Isaiah 36-41
128. Isaiah 42-44
129. Isaiah 45-48
130. Isaiah 49-53
131. Isaiah 54-58
132. Isaiah 59-63
133. Isaiah 64-66
134. Jeremiah 1-3
135. Jeremiah 4-6
136. Jeremiah 7-9
137. Jeremiah 10-13
138. Jeremiah 14-17
139. Jeremiah 18-22
140. Jeremiah 23-25
141. Jeremiah 26-29
142. Jeremiah 30-31
143. Jeremiah 32-34
144. Jeremiah 35-37
145. Jeremiah 38-41
146. Jeremiah 42-45
147. Jeremiah 46-48
148. Jeremiah 49-50
149. Jeremiah 51-52
150. Ezekiel 1-4
151. Ezekiel 5-8
152. Ezekiel 9-12
153. Ezekiel 13-15
154. Ezekiel 16-17
155. Ezekiel 18-20
156. Ezekiel 21-22
157. Ezekiel 23-24
158. Ezekiel 25-27
159. Ezekiel 28-30
160. Ezekiel 31-33
161. Ezekiel 34-36
162. Ezekiel 37-39
163. Ezekiel 40-42
164. Ezekiel 43-45
165. Ezekiel 46-48
166. Hosea 1-7

167. Hosea 8-14
 168. Joel
 169. Amos 1-5
 170. Amos 6-9
 171. Obadiah, Jonah
 172. Micah
 173. Nahum, Habakkuk
 174. Zephaniah, Haggai
 175. Zechariah 1-7
 176. Zechariah 8-14
 177. Malachi
 178. Psalms 1-8
 179. Psalms 9-16
 180. Psalms 17-20
 181. Psalms 21-25
 182. Psalms 26-31
 183. Psalms 32-35
 184. Psalms 36-39
 185. Psalms 40-45
 186. Psalms 46-50
 187. Psalms 51-57
 188. Psalms 58-65
 189. Psalms 66-69
 190. Psalms 70-73
 191. Psalms 74-77
 192. Psalms 78-79
 193. Psalms 80-85
 194. Psalms 86-89
 195. Psalms 90-95
 196. Psalms 96-102
 197. Psalms 103-105
 198. Psalms 106-107
 199. Psalms 108-114
 200. Psalms 115-118
 201. Psalm 119
 202. Psalms 120-125
 203. Psalms 126-132
 204. Psalms 133-139
 205. Psalms 140-145
 206. Psalms 146-150
 207. Proverbs 1-3
 208. Proverbs 4-6
 209. Proverbs 7-9
 210. Proverbs 10-12
 211. Proverbs 13-15
 212. Proverbs 16-18
 213. Proverbs 19-21
 214. Proverbs 22-23
 215. Proverbs 24-26
 216. Proverbs 27-29
 217. Proverbs 30-31
 218. Job 1-4
 219. Job 5-7
 220. Job 8-10
 221. Job 11-13
 222. Job 14-16
 223. Job 17-20
 224. Job 21-23
 225. Job 24-28
 226. Job 29-31
 227. Job 32-34
 228. Job 35-38
 229. Job 39-42
 230. Song of Solomon
 231. Ruth
 232. Lamentations 1-2
 233. Lamentations 3-5
 234. Ecclesiastes 1-3
 235. Ecclesiastes 4-6
 236. Ecclesiastes 7-9
 237. Ecclesiastes 10-12
 238. Esther 1-5
 239. Esther 6-10
 240. Daniel 1-2
 241. Daniel 3-4
 242. Daniel 5-6
 243. Daniel 7-8
 244. Daniel 9-10
 245. Daniel 11-12
 246. Ezra 1-3
 247. Ezra 4-7
 248. Ezra 8-10
 249. Nehemiah 1-3
 250. Nehemiah 4-6
 251. Nehemiah 7
 252. Nehemiah 8-9
 253. Nehemiah 10-11
 254. Nehemiah 12-13
 255. 1 Chronicles 1-2
 256. 1 Chronicles 3-5
 257. 1 Chronicles 6
 258. 1 Chronicles 7-8
 259. 1 Chronicles 9-10
 260. 1 Chronicles 11-12
 261. 1 Chronicles 13-15
 262. 1 Chronicles 16-17
 263. 1 Chronicles 18-20
 264. 1 Chronicles 21-23
 265. 1 Chronicles 24-25
 266. 1 Chronicles 26-27
 267. 1 Chronicles 28-29
 268. 2 Chronicles 1-4
 269. 2 Chronicles 5-7
 270. 2 Chronicles 8-10
 271. 2 Chronicles 11-14
 272. 2 Chronicles 15-18
 273. 2 Chronicles 19-21
 274. 2 Chronicles 22-24
 275. 2 Chronicles 25-27
 276. 2 Chronicles 28-29
 277. 2 Chronicles 30-32
 278. 2 Chronicles 33-34
 279. 2 Chronicles 35-36
 280. James
 281. Galatians 1-3
 282. Galatians 4-6
 283. 1 Thessalonians
 284. 2 Thessalonians
 285. 1 Corinthians 1-4
 286. 1 Corinthians 5-8
 287. 1 Corinthians 9-11
 288. 1 Corinthians 12-14
 289. 1 Corinthians 15-16
 290. 2 Corinthians 1-4
 291. 2 Corinthians 5-9
 292. 2 Corinthians 10-13
 293. Romans 1-3
 294. Romans 4-7
 295. Romans 8-10
 296. Romans 11-13
 297. Romans 14-16
 298. Mark 1-3
 299. Mark 4-5
 300. Mark 6-7
 301. Mark 8-9
 302. Mark 10-11
 303. Mark 12-13
 304. Mark 14
 305. Mark 15-16
 306. Matthew 1-4
 307. Matthew 5-7
 308. Matthew 8-9
 309. Matthew 10-12
 310. Matthew 13-14
 311. Matthew 15-17
 312. Matthew 18-20
 313. Matthew 21-22
 314. Matthew 23-24
 315. Matthew 25-26
 316. Matthew 27-28
 317. Luke 1
 318. Luke 2-3
 319. Luke 4-5
 320. Luke 6-7
 321. Luke 8-9
 322. Luke 10-11
 323. Luke 12-13
 324. Luke 14-16
 325. Luke 17-18
 326. Luke 19-20
 327. Luke 21-22
 328. Luke 23-24
 329. Ephesians 1-3
 330. Ephesians 4-6
 331. Colossians, Philemon
 332. Philippians
 333. Acts 1-3
 334. Acts 4-6
 335. Acts 7-8
 336. Acts 9-10
 337. Acts 11-13
 338. Acts 14-15
 339. Acts 16-17
 340. Acts 18-20
 341. Acts 21-23
 342. Acts 24-26
 343. Acts 27-28
 344. 1 Timothy
 345. Titus, 1 Peter
 346. Hebrews 1-6
 347. Hebrews 7-10
 348. Hebrews 11-13
 349. 2 Timothy
 350. 2 Peter, Jude
 351. John 1-2
 352. John 3-4
 353. John 5-6
 354. John 7-8
 355. John 9-10
 356. John 11-12
 357. John 13-15
 358. John 16-18
 359. John 19-21
 360. 1 John
 361. 2, 3 John
 362. Revelation 1-5
 363. Revelation 6-11
 364. Revelation 12-18
 365. Revelation 19-22

Pastor Zach is on Facebook Live every Sunday morning at 10am for our Lord's Day Worship Service .



If you are not already a member of our Facebook group, please click on the image for the link. "Like" our page and request to join. We are pretty quick to respond. Make sure you are "following" our page and turn your notifications setting on if you would like to receive a notification when Pastor Zach begins to stream. We will post a worship guide each week in advance of the service.

Biblical Anthropology

Adult Sunday School Class
Fall 2024 - 9am



The first question of the Children's catechism asks, "Who made you?" - and the third question follows up with, "why?"
If anthropology is the "science of humanity" biblical anthropology anchors our understanding of who we are, and why we are, in relation to the Triune God. In a world that is filled with absolute confusion about these most basic things, it is important for the Christian believer to be equipped with the knowledge to answer these matters with confidence.
Please join us this fall for our Adult Sunday School study.

We meet every Lord's Day morning at 9am in the church basement. Please join us!

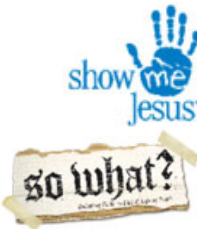


CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Every Sunday morning at 9am



- Toddler - Hillary Terrill & Kortney Geirlus
- Pre-K - Beth Flickinger
- 1st-2nd - Katie Pearson & Sue Miller
- 3rd-5th - Kathy Stegmiller
- Junior High - Tara Johnson
- Senior High - Nathan & Lyndsey Flickinger



All of Scripture is the unfolding story of salvation and Jesus is its focus. We show how Jesus, revealed throughout the Bible, came to seek and save the lost.

We look forward to the privilege of caring for and teaching your children about Jesus each Sunday!



WOMEN'S MINISTRY WINTER BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays at 10am & Wednesdays at 6:30pm
Beginning February 4th & ending April 9th

The Women's Ministry has decided to wrap up the "Seeing Jesus in the Old Testament" series by Nancy Guthrie this winter with her final book of the series, "The Word of the Lord: Seeing Jesus in the Prophets".

We will follow the Tuesday morning at 10 and the Wednesday evening at 6:30 schedule to offer the same lesson twice a week in an effort to make it more convenient your busy lives. This is a ten week study which will begin February 4th and end April 9th, which is the week before Palm Sunday.

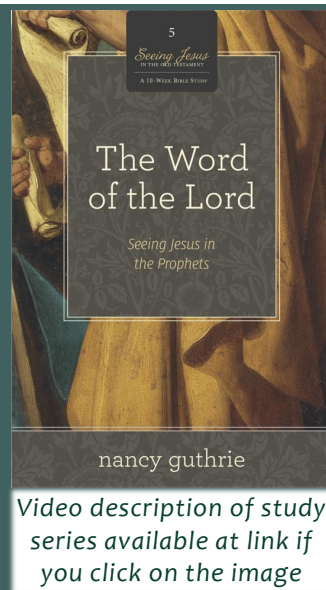
Please come and enjoy the fellowship with other women whom desire to know more about the amazing Word of God! To order a book, please contact the church office. The cost is \$14.00 and can be paid the first night of the study or in advance to Kathy Stegmiller, Treasurer of Women's Ministry. Questions? Contact Kathy Stegmiller or Beth Flickinger.

*"We have found him of whom Moses in the Law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth."
(John 1:45)*

In the Old Testament, God spoke to his people through prophets - men specially called to speak God's Word to his people. The New Testament makes it clear that such prophets, whether chastising or comforting, testified to Israel's final redemption and ultimate hope: Jesus the Messiah. Over ten weeks of guided personal Bible study, relevant teaching, and group discussion, Bible teacher Nancy Guthrie will help you see the person and work of Christ in:

- Hosea's willingness to redeem his unfaithful bride from slavery
- Isaiah's divine King and suffering Servant, who will be punished for his people
- Daniel's stone, not hewn by human hands, that will crush every human kingdom
- Ezekiel's vision of a city where we will enjoy Jesus's presence forever

Gain a fresh perspective on the message of the Old Testament prophets, a broader understanding of Jesus as the fulfillment of Scripture, and much more when you join Nancy on this incredible journey to see Jesus in the Old Testament!



nancy guthrie
Video description of study series available at link if you click on the image

WOMEN'S MINISTRY SOUP LUNCHEON/FUNDRAISER

Sunday, January 26th,
Immediately following the worship service



The Women's Ministry will provide soup luncheon before congregational meeting. There will be a variety of homemade soups to choose from and all available for a freewill donation.

The Women's Ministry does much work and support behind the scenes for the church, so please stay and support them while filling your bellies with some warm, comfort food!

WOMEN'S MINISTRY HELP NEEDED!

The Women's Ministry ladies are looking for your help to serve this luncheon for our annual congregational meeting after church on January 26th, 2025. We are in need of soups and desserts.

Please contact Pam Pithan to add your name to the list of donors.
(309)781-1246. Thank you so much!

GET YOUR JANUARY COPY OF
THE TABLETALK DEVOTIONAL



LOCATED ON A TABLE IN THE SANCTUARY FOYER

EVERY SUNDAY (UNLESS NOTED)
5:30-7:30PM (UNLESS NOTED)

EEPC YOUTH GROUP

1.5 - GARGONS
1.12 - GAME NIGHT
1.19 - TRIVIA NIGHT
1.26 - KARAOKE

FOR ALL HIGH SCHOOL
STUDENTS
CADE REIMERS FOR MORE INFO
309.373.2488



If you would like to submit something for the newsletter, **please** be sure to have it in by the deadline.

ALL submissions for the February 2025 Newsletter must be in by **NO LATER** than Wednesday, January 15th. Items received after that date may not make it into the newsletter.

Thank you for your cooperation!

~ Lisa Bowman, Office Manager

Do you know anyone that is not receiving the Edgington EPC Newsletter each month? If so, please contact the church office at 309-795-1713 or edgingtonepc@gmail.com and let me know. I will be happy to make arrangements for it to be received by whatever means works best.

The newsletter is distributed via email and postal service. It is also posted to our Facebook page and website: edgingtonepc.org.

Thank you so much for your help!



QUILTING

Thursday, January 16th, 9am

Please join us on the third **THURSDAY** of nearly every month from 9am - noon as we create, piece, and sew quilts to present to next year's graduating seniors, as well as donate to various ministries.

Even if you don't know how to sew, but can operate a pair of scissors and/or an iron, we would love to have you! If we can increase our production, we will be able to bless even more people in the community.

Hope to see you there!



ATTENTION COMMITTEE LEADERS OF EDGINGTON EPC

Deadline for reports to be turned in: Fri., Jan. 17th

If you lead/head/chair any committee or group you need to have a report in the Annual Report. Please start working on it as soon as possible.

If you have any questions, or should need to see a copy of last year's report please contact Lisa in the office at 309-795-1713.

The Annual Congregational Meeting is Sunday, January 26th, following the worship service & lunch.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR USE

Are you aware that the church has a variety of medical equipment available for you to borrow as needed? We pray you never do need it, but life happens & if you need to borrow something, just contact the church office.

Here is the current supply list:

- Bath/Shower Chair
- Commode Safety Rails
- Crutches
- Medical Seats
- Walkers
- Bedside Commode
- Cane & Quad Cane
- Knee Scooter
- Raised toilet Seat
- Walkers w/seats & brakes



FOOT CLINIC

Next Clinic: Monday, January 20th, beginning at 9am

If you would like to receive a pedicure done by a medical professional, please call the church office at 309-795-1713 to schedule an appointment.

NEED A HAND OR ENCOURAGEMENT? ASK A DEACON!

The Deacons' charge is to care for the church body. You may already know that we provide delicious treats to celebrate new members, collect coats for those in need, and organize blood drives. But did you now that we are ready to serve in other ways, too?

Here are some of the ways a Deacon can help out:

- Visit shut-ins (including those who are temporarily unable to make it to worship) to provide cheer and recordings of the sermon.
- Deliver meals to those who are injured, ill, or have experienced a loss
- Visit widows(ers) to comfort and provide company.
- Send cards to recognize milestone birthdays and anniversaries, and express condolences
- Organize transportation to doctor's appointments (please give advance notice)

Please, if you or someone you know could benefit in one of these areas, please let a Deacon know right away. We try to anticipate needs, but we are only human, and need help with knowing needs!

Your current Deacon team includes: Jim & Teresa Balmer, Marlin & Darcy Krueger, Dorothy Rursch, & Teresa Weber.



EDGINGTON MEN

CHILI COOK-OFF

12.15.2024 **BRING THE HEAT!** 3-5:00 PM

ballot taste testing to crown the "Chili Champ"
 enter your chili to win! come and eat!



FREE!

For ALL generations of EEPC Men



Congratulations to Scott Nelson, the 2024 Chili Champ!!!



JANUARY 2025



Sunday School 9am
Worship Service 10am

EEPC

Phone: 309-795-1713
Email: edgingtonepc@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.edgingtonepc.org

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30 Meal Site	31 NO Meal Site	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2 Meal Site	3 Meal Site	4
5 Food Pantry Sunday Youth Group, 5:30pm	6 Meal Site	7 Meal Site	8 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	9 Meal Site	10 Meal Site	11
Lisa out of the office						
12 B/P Checks Deacon's Mtg., 11:30am Youth Group, 5:30pm	13 Meal Site	14 Meal Site	15 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm Trustees Mtg., 6pm Newsletter Items Due	16 Meal Site	17 Meal Site	18
19 Youth Group, 5:30pm	20 <i>Martin Luther King Jr.</i> Foot Clinic NO Meal Site	21 Meal Site Mission Comm. Mtg., 6:30pm	22 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	23 Meal Site	24 Meal Site RLP Mtg., Stillman Valley	25 RLP Mtg., Stillman Valley
26 B/P Checks WM Luncheon, 11:30am Annual Mtg., 12:30pm Youth Group, 5:30pm	27 Meal Site	28 Meal Site Session Mtg., 7pm	29 Meal Site Chair Exercises, 4:30pm	30 Meal Site	31 Meal Site	1