

Opening & Prayer

Senior Pastor Tim Gibson opened the meeting.

Roll Call

The following elders were present: Wayne Batten, Dick Bickings, Andy Brimer, Mark Culton, Tim Gibson, Scott Holwick, and Shawn Sommons. Byron Roth was excused absent.

Devotion & Prayer

Pastor Tim led the elders in a devotional about "God-Centered Ministry." This includes a High View of God, a High View of Scripture, the Correct View of the Church's Purpose, the Correct View of Man's Sinful Nature, and Godly Qualified Leadership. The elders then shared some prayer requests and spent time in prayer.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the February 10, 2014 Board of Elders meeting, **seconded** and **passed**.

Financial Report

Andy Brimer reviewed the financial report (Attachment 1). Income was a bit light again, but we are in a decent place now. Expenses were right where they should be. A **motion** was made to approve it. This was **seconded** and **passed**.

Discussion Items:

- 1. <u>Missions and Evangelism Conference</u> The elders discussed how the conference went specifically how it was tied to the vision of EBFC, how effective the speakers were, the cost of the conference, and how attendance was. While we were very happy with the actual program, we believe that attendance was disappointing and we desire to see that improve next year. We want to lead the congregation to see how vital it is to focus on the gospel and be equipped for sharing the good news.
- 2. <u>Worship Conference</u> There was a request for 2 of our worship leaders to attend a worship leader conference in July. A **motion** was made to approve it. This was **seconded** and **passed**.
- 3. <u>Jessie Seneca Request</u> Jessie Seneca requested to use Ebenezer for a teaching opportunity with the plans to videotape the teaching and use it for her ministry. This was approved by the elders.
- 4. <u>Service Streaming</u> We continue to meet and discuss the possibilities and plans for how we could utilize streaming of our Sunday morning services. The discussion is now beginning to include people who should be part of the conversation if it is to move forward; i.e. property committee, worship committee, deacons, etc...

- 5. <u>Discipline and Membership</u> The elders discussed a family that is being lovingly led through church discipline.
- 6. <u>Thankfulness from Clement Family</u> The Clement family gave a letter to the Ebenezer elder board thanking our church for all that has been done over the years to help their family and care for their needs. They praise God that they have a church family that loves them.

Pastoral Reports:

The pastors submitted their monthly reports and summarized them for the elders:

- 1. Tim Gibson, Senior Pastor (Attachment 2)
- 2. Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship (Attachment 3)
- 3. Mark Culton, Pastor of Youth (Attachment 4)

Adjournment & Prayer

The meeting was closed in prayer and adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Culton

Secretary to the Board of Elders

Attachment #1

March 17, 2014

To:

Board of Elders

From:

Andy Brimer, Treasurer

Subject:

Financial Report for March 2014

Attached you will find the following for the March 2014 Financial Report:

- February Financial Statement
- February YTD Financial Statement
- Graphical representation of:
 - 1. Income compared to projected budget
 - 2. Expenses compared to projected budget
 - 3. Income trends in relation to expense trends
 - 4. Asset trends

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

- Total income for February was 87% of the budgeted forecast while the YTD income was 81% of the budgeted forecast. Giving is continues to be a bit lower than anticipated.
- Expenses for February were 96% of the budgeted forecast while the YTD expenses were 93% of the budgeted forecast.

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - FEBRUARY 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

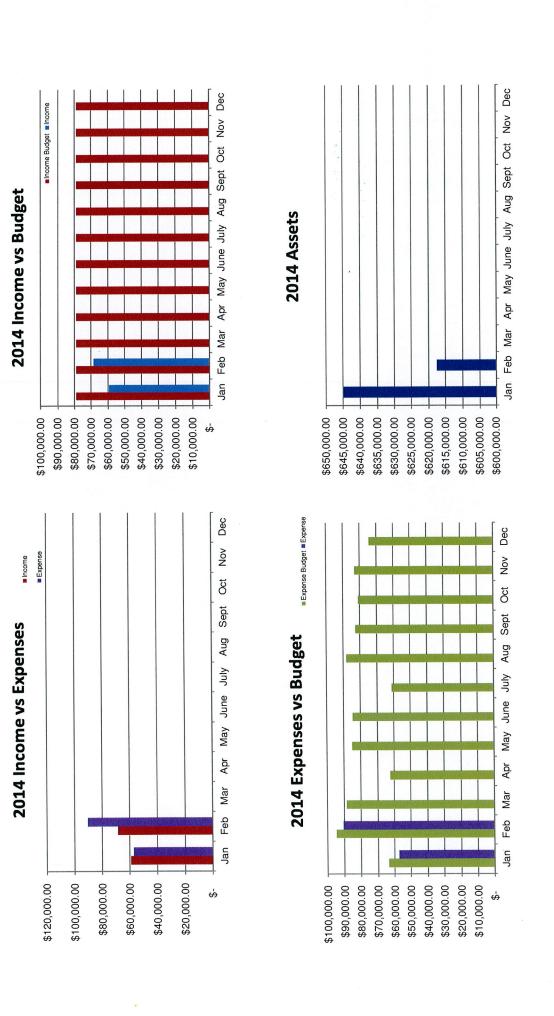
ASSETS	28-Feb-14	31-Jan-14	\$ Change		February	Budget	Variance
Assets - Checking/Savings		,		Income			
18000 · Checking (KNBT)	454,070.00	481,652.13	-27,582.13	1100 · Offerings / Gifts	66,968.76	77,856.50	-10,887.74
18002 · CDs (KNBI)	67,461.48	67,134.49	326.99	1400 · Interest	364.13	72.92	291.21
19000 · Savings (M&T Bank)	90,694.49	90,687.53	96.9	1700 · Memorials	20.00	00.00	50.00
19001 · Checking (M&T Bank)	5,375.67	5,375.67	0.00	1900 · BCS & Bldg Use	1,084.17	1,084.17	0.00
Total Checking/Savings	617,601.64	644,849.82	-27,248.18	Total Income	68,467.06	79,013.59	-10,546.53
TOTAL ASSETS	617.601.64	644.849.82	-27.248.18	Expenses			
			Ļ	2000 - General Finance	10 897 56	12 155 00	-1 257 44
I I A BILLITIES				3000 - Discipleship	1.058.36	7 533 73	-1 275 37
Circont Lishilities				5000 Evandelism	00.00	275.00	7275.00
Carrent Liabilities	00 000 40	07070	00 630	6000 Evangensin	10 626 40	20 425 00	7 408 60
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902 · Capital Improvements	-8,226.81	00.00	-8,226.81	/000 · Deacon	13,372.15	6,712.50	6,659.65
903 · Transportation Fund	63.00	43.00	20.00	8000 · Worship	305.59	885.00	-579.41
904 · Scholarship Fund	2,143.50	1,759.50	384.00	9000 · Office & Admin	1,244.52	1,295.84	-51.32
905 · Faith Promise	4,561.69	4,766.69	-205.00	10000 · Congregational Care	40.00	275.00	-235.00
907 · Benevolence Fund	15,610.58	13,776.28	1,834.30	11000 · Compensation	44,679.86	50,262.83	-5,582.97
908 · Music Fund	74.20	74.20	00.0	Total Expense	90,424.44	94,519.90	-4,095.46
911 · Year End Accruals	8,480.16	8,480.16	00.00				
912 · Run For The Children	808.01	808.01	00.00	Net Ordinary Income	-21,957.38	-15,506.31	-6,451.07
914 · HRA	6,680.20	7,000.00	-319.80	Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	00.0	0.00	00.00
915 · Youth Summer Missions	105.73	105.73	00.00	Net Income	-21,957.38	-15,506.31	-6,451.07
100 · Payroll Liabilities	6,399.09	6,129.58	269.51				
Total Current Liabilities	120,631.54	125,922.34	-5,290.80	DESIGNATED FUNDS	D FUNDS		
Long Term Liabilities					Income	Expense	Net
810 · Mortgage	00 0	00 0	00 0	901 · Building Fund	953 00	000	953.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	0.00	0.00	903 · Transportation Fund	20.00	00.0	20.00
Total Liabilities	120.631.54	125.922.34	-5.290.80		384.00	00.00	384.00
		•		905 · Faith Promise	995.00	1,200.00	-205.00
EQUITY				907 · Benevolence Fund	1,834.30	0.00	1,834.30
900 · Retained Earnings	931,656.18	931,656.18	00.00	908 · Music Fund	00.00	00.00	0.00
Net Income	-26,807.28	-4,849.90	-21,957.38				
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	00.00	OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS	Y ACCOUN	TS	
Total Equity	496,970.10	518,927.48	-21,957.38	902 · Capital Improvements	00.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	617,601.64	644,849.82	-27,248.18	911 Year End Accruals	00.00	00.00	00.00
,				912 · Run For The Children	00.00	00.00	0.00
, SIO ()			1/2/1	914 · HRA	00.00	319.80	-319.80
Children Chunes		l	2/1/1/4	915 · Youth Summer Missions	00.00	0.00	0.00
Treasurer		_	Date	Total Current Liabilities	4,186.30	1,519.80	2,666.50

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - FEBRUARY YTD 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

ASSETS	28-Feb-14	31-Dec-13	\$ Change		Feb YTD	Budget	Variance	%BDG YTD
Assets - Checking/Savings				Income				
18000 · Checking (KNBT)	454,070.00	506,289.49	-52,219.49	1100 · Offerings / Gifts	125,243.92	155,713.00	-30,469.08	80%
18002 · CDs (KNBT)	67,461.48	67,134.49	326.99	1400 · Interest	407.04	145.84	261.20	279%
19000 · Savings (M&T Bank)	90,694,49	90,679,83	14.66	1700 · Memorials	20.00	0.00	20.00	N/A
19001 · Checking (M&T Bank)	5,375,67	5,375,67	00.00	1900 · BCS / Bldg Use	2,168.34	2,168.34	00.00	100%
Total Checking/Savings	617,601.64	669,479.48	-51,877.84	Total Income	127,869.30	158,027.18	-30,157.88	81%
TOTAL ASSETS	617.601.64	669,479.48	-51,877.84	Expense				
				2000 · General Finance	12,664.45	13,717.00	-1,052.55	%26
LIABILITIES				3000 · Discipleship	2,724.03	5,082.57	-2,358.54	54%
Current Liabilities				5000 · Evangelism	150.00	300.00	-150.00	20%
901 · Buildina Fund	83,932.19	82,096.19	1,836.00	6000 · Missions	18,800.49	20,675.00	-1,874.51	91%
902 Capital Improvements	-8,226.81	00.0	-8,226.81	7000 · Deacon	21,474.34	13,649.96	7,824.38	157%
903 · Transportation Fund	63.00	18.00	45.00	8000 · Worship	694.87	1,370.00	-675.13	51%
904 · Scholarship Fund	2,143.50	1,717.50	426.00	9000 · Office & Admin	2,537.38	2,641.68	-104.30	%96
905 · Faith Promise	4,561.69	30,341.69	-25,780.00	10000 · Congregational Care	90.00	525.00	-435.00	17%
	15,610.58	13,391.30	2,219.28	11000 · Compensation	88,541.02	100,100.11	-11,559.09	88%
	74.20	49.20	25.00	Total Expense	147,676.58	158,061.32	-10,384.74	%86
911 · Year End Accruals	8,480.16	8,480.16	00.00					
912 · Run For The Children	808.01	2,458.01	-1,650.00	Net Ordinary Income	-19,807.28	-34.14	-19,773.14	
	6,680.20	00.0	6,680.20	Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	7,000.00	0.00	7,000.00	
915 · Youth Summer Missions	105.73	105.73	0.00	Net Income	-26,807.28	-34.14	-26,773.14	
100 · Payroll Liabilities	6,399.09	7,044.32	-645.23					
Total Current Liabilities	120,631.54	145,702.10	-25,070.56	DESIGNATED FUNDS	ED FUNDS			
o cipilidad I aman I					Income	Expense	Net	
Long Ferm Liabilities	C			901 - Building Frind	1 836 00	000	1 836 00	
810 · Wortgage	0.00	8 6	8 6	OCA - Transportation Fund	45.00	000	45.00	
Total Louid Term Liabilities	120 631 54	145 702 10	-25 070 56	904 · Scholarship Fund	624.00	198.00	426.00	
l Otal Liabilities	100,00	140,101	20.0		2.020.00	27,200.00	-25,180.00	
EQUITY				907 · Benevolence Fund	3,433.30	1,214.02	2,219.28	
900 · Retained Earnings	931,656.18	959,280.04	-27,623.86	908 · Music Fund	25.00	00.0	25.00	
Net Income	-26,807.28	-27,623.86	816.58					
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00	OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS	TY ACCOUN	LS		
Total Equity	496,970.10	523,777.38	-26,807.28		Income	Expense	Net	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	617,601.64	669,479.48	-51,877.84	902 · Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	0.00	
				911 · Year End Accruals	0.00	0.00	0.00	
7				912 · Run For The Children	150.00	1,800.00	-1,650.00	
	ý		01/2/11	914 · HRA	7,000.00	319.80	6,680.20	
(Inthus More	mer	ı	2111115	915 · Youth Summer Missions	00.00	00.00	0.00	
Treasurer		_	Date	Total Current Liabilities	15,133.30	30,731.82	-15,598.52	

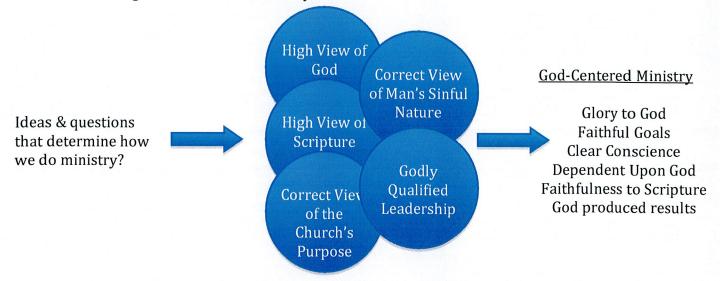


Atkachment #2

Pastor Tim's Ministry Report March 17, 2014

Studying & Preaching: We are faithfully continuing through the heart of the book of Hebrews in a series I've entitled the "Superior Ministry of Jesus." While this section is a portion of Scripture that is very "Old Testament" in nature, it has been rich and shows us the continuity and unity of the Bible. The commitment to the power and authority of Scripture motivates us to preach the whole counsel of God. I believe that these portions of Scripture will help us as God's people have a greater appreciation for God's plan of salvation that He foreshadowed in the OT and fulfilled in the NT in Jesus and the New Covenant that He established. These passages are certainly for the more mature.

LEAD Men's Leadership Training: We just finished John MacArthur's book, Ashamed of the Gospel. We established that a biblical philosophy of ministry is only established by allowing 5 areas to dictate or govern "how" we do ministry:



We are now moving into the study of Alexander Strauch's book, Biblical Eldership & Deaconship. We will be studying specifically who the Elder is and what His role is in the Church (& Deacon).

Worship Ministries: (From Jennie Flicker)

The Missions and Evangelism Conference proved to be a challenge in many areas, but overall, we were able to get all of the work done and all of the holes filled. We will most likely do some things differently next time so that things run more smoothly on our end. I need to either delegate more responsibility or slim down what we're committed to doing. I'm confident that we couldn't have pulled the worship part of the conference off without Heather Hunsberger's help. I'm so grateful for how she does what she does so well. Most of our focus in the next few weeks is preparing for worship during the Easter season. Scheduling special music pieces, trying to find the best way to minister during our weeks at Fellowship Manor, and looking ahead to the next Student Choir pieces will also be a focus.

Counseling: I have been counseling several people in the issue of God's sovereignty. Election is a difficult thing to grasp. I have spent quality time going through the Scripture with several. A few are receptive while others are open to what we believe is clear in Scripture concerning the sovereign election of God's people (Romans 9). I have also begun premarital counseling for two couples over a 10-week period.

Kinship Group: We are continually have a great time bonding and praying together.

Wednesday Night Bible Study/Prayer Meeting: We continue to study through the book of Matthew. Prayer time is wonderful. Attendance is picking up.

Missions & Evangelism Conference: I spent a great deal of time helping the missions committee organize and plan for this event. The event was broken up into 2 weekends, the first having a missions emphasis, while the second an evangelism emphasis. The theme of the week was "Carrying the great Light." Keith Strunk & Andy Barnes did a fabulous job preaching from both the OT and NT giving us a rationale for missions on the first Sunday. Missionaries throughout the week were also very encouraging. I was personally disappointed in the Church's attendance of the missions prayer meeting on Wednesday night. Art Reyes did a fabulous job sharing his vision in the Baha Peninsula.

The evangelism portion of the conference began on Friday and went through Sunday. Attendance was very poor on Friday night and Saturday morning. However, the ones who came were sure to be encouraged and equipped for personal evangelism. Mark Spence & Matt Shackelford from Los Angeles, Ca. did a great job.

6000 tickets were handed out to different universities in the area to promote Mark Spence's lecture on "Can God Exist?" which dealt with the issue of evil and God's existence (Sat night). 2500 tickets were personally handed out at Lehigh University where the event took place at Packard Auditorium. Several within our congregation helped distribute the tickets and were extremely encouraged and blessed. The event was streamed live to our website. The streamed video production has had over 2200 viewings to date. There were only about 150 students at the event, but it proved to be an effective event. Mark Spence from "Living Waters" did an incredible job lecturing for over an hour. There was one particular young man who has shown interest in being saved. He attended the service the following Sunday.

Overall, I am pleased with the missions and evangelism conference. I am however disappointed in our church's participation. While many were blessed, I felt like there should have been a better turnout. I am not certain about the reason for the lack of participation. Some have said that we did not advertise enough. Others have said that our congregation is simply not used to events like this. I can only hope that the lack of attendance is not an indication of coldness of heart.

It is a joy to serve at Ebenezer Bible Fellowship Church. My prayer is that the Word of God would continue to build up God's children and call out those in darkness that they may receive the forgiveness of sins.

Serving Christ, **Pastor Tim Gibson**

Attachment #3

POD (Pastor of Discipleship) Report – Feb/Mar 2014

I read recently in Exodus 29, the following words, referring to the tabernacle...

"There I will meet with the people of Israel, and it shall be sanctified by my glory. I will consecrate the tent of meeting and the altar. Aaron also and his sons I will consecrate to serve me as priests. I will dwell among the people of Israel and will be their God. And they shall know that I am the Lord their God, who brought them out of the land of Egypt that I might dwell among them. I am the Lord their God." (Exodus 29:43–46, ESV)

My take away from this portion is the same with so many portions of scripture and that is God is passionate for His glory, and that is revealed in his relationship with his people. He is our God and we are his people...people that have been sanctified by his glory, that display his radiance, his holiness, his presence before the pagans of this world. "Oh, Lord, please help my to properly reflect your glory wherever I go and whatever I do. Amen."

With that in mind, here is a quick summary of some of the ministry opportunities from February/March 2014:

Kids Crossing

- Cross Time Sunday School: Praise the Lord, He has raised up a teacher for our 4 yr-old K class, (even months). Please continue to pray for a teacher for 1st & 2nd grade class (odd months).
- Early Childhood (2&3 year-olds): Continuing to go well for both services and Sunday School.
- Children's Church: The Gospel Project curriculum worship segment continues to work well for Children's Church.
- Wednesday Evening Programs: Our Awana program is currently running around 65 kids. It is very exciting to see kids learning and reciting scripture and listening intently to the bible teaching done by our elders, who are teaching a number of doctrinal topics. Please pray that the Lord would send us the necessary volunteers, and that the scriptures the children are learning may richly dwell in them!
- **VBS 2014:** We are making a curriculum change this year to LifeWay (since we use LifeWay for Sunday School:The Gospel Project). The theme this year is "Agency D3 Trace it back to the facts! The evidence is clear. The proof is all right here! Discover, decide, and defend the truth about who Jesus really is." Carol Burress and Vicki Cowley are hard it work on the details. We also will be doing a outreach version to the community, probably in South Bethlehem, with Mark & Jen Culton and the teens.

Student Ministry

See Pastor Mark's report.

Adult Ministry

- Adult Electives: Our winter/spring semester of Adult Electives is in full swing with three classes being offered and about 150 people attending...the classes offered are as follows:
 - o The book of Acts (Part 2) Rich Mastronardo
 - o The book of John Mike Capaldi
 - O The book of Joshua Pastor Dick Bickings.

Please 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:
 - O **Bethel Series:** Praise the Lord, the program is going very well...between all three classes we have around 45 students.
 - O Men's Bible Studies/Prayer:
 - Tuesday mornings from 6:15 AM 8:00 AM, Men's prayer time with 3-4 men attending.

- Thursday mornings from 6:15 AM 7:30 AM, This early morning bible study group will be starting a new study on Ezra & Nehemiah on 3/20/14.
- Women's Ministry: Here is an update from Laura...

"We are in the middle of the Gideon study and it should finish up around the first or second week of April. Feminine Appeal class will begin on March 27th and run for about 7 weeks. I actually hope to have some other ladies help to lead that class, based on the particular week of study.

Summer study will begin on June 19th. I am partnering with Jessie Seneca and More of Him ministries for this study. She is also promoting this on web page. We are doing "Sacred Secrets" by Beth Moore and it will end the last week of July.

We are planning a ladies event for May 10th from 11-1pm. This will be Blessings and Brunch. We have a couple of ladies signed up to share with us that day. This will fall on Mother's day weekend and it is for all ages.

Met with Laurie Gill and hoping to have her join WM to help with a mentoring program /discipleship possibly alongside of Lisa Pyles.

Praising God for salvation with one of our MOPS mothers. This was a wonderful night. Lisa Pyles or myself will be helping with her discipleship.

Plans are coming together for "Grace Again" conference in the fall. This will be a mother and or Mother/daughter day. God is really working out the details for this and I am excited about what God is going to do.

I also done a lot of visiting with ladies lately, and that has kept me very busy as well."

Discipleship Support

• **Kinship:** We praise the Lord for the 14 groups with 173 adults and 89 kids involved, and a variety of bible study topics.

Evangelism/Outreach:

- Mission/Evangelism Conference Prep: Worked with Jason Lee and his team on the technical details needed for streaming the Mark Spence, "Can God Exist?" lecture from Lehigh University to EBFC. A big thank you and Praise the Lord for Jason's efforts and technical expertise to make this a huge success!
- **VBS** Community Outreach Prep: As stated above, plans have begun for a community-centered outreach VBS. We are targeting the South Bethlehem area and are currently working on those details. Mark and Jen Culton will be heading up this endeavor, with the youth, planned for July 14-18, 2014.
- BattleZone at Northampton County Prison: This ministry is currently on hold in order to catch up on other discipleship ministries.
- **GROW Ministry:** This ministry to visitors and shut-ins is in the planning stages and will begin with a one day training event on April 26, 2014, from 12:00-4:00 PM, and then look at implementing program by June 2014. We won't to use the Kinship Groups as the catalyst for this program, since the teams and leadership are already in place.

Other:

- Continued to meet with several families and men to counsel and encourage
- Helped in Awana as a T&T Leader
- Helped in MOPS as the 1^{1/2} 2^{1/2} year-old class leader
- Taught Bethel OT class on Saturday mornings
- Taught Joshua Class on Sunday mornings for Adult Electives

• Continuing in Greek 1,TNARS seminary course, which is a part of my BS501 Biblical Languages course, as time permits.

Respectfully Submitted, Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship

Attachment #4

Student Ministries Report - February 2014

"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing."

James 1:2-4, ESV

It has been very interesting how God has aligned our studies in Sunday School and high school youth group with life events for me recently. Our study of James has included several lessons on suffering, while this was also the topic in sunday school. Having just lost my brother, I found much that resonated with my heart, and my prayer is that the lessons were an overflow of what God is teaching me. In addition, we had the news last week of the sudden death of Josh Allen, and so that has tied in to these lessons.

God in his wisdom ordains even the curriculum order and teaching schedules so that our hearts are taught what it is He desires at the time He desires it. This has been a reminder again to me how God does all things well.

My prayer is that our students are prepared for suffering, whenever it does come into their life. James says count it all joy "when" not "if" you meet trials. Let us pray that as God tests our faith through trials, He also produces steadfastness in our hearts, which will bring us to maturity and Christ-likeness.

Teaching

Middle School

Back in the Core Truth curriculum, where we have begun a mini-series on The Holy Spirit.

High School

Our James study is under way, and it seems to be very practical so far.

Sunday School

We are using the curriculum "The Gospel Project".

• Awana

Had the blessing of teaching the Awana kids.

Shepherding

Had a great Student Leadership time at the end of the month.

Staff

We had our bi-monthly staff meeting which was a blessing.

Activities

• Ken Ham/Bill Nye Debate - This was a great night where we saw adults, teens and

whole families come together and watch this clash of world-views. I believe it was beneficial and it created discussions for our students that were helpful. It was really obvious how much a Biblical worldview and a worldview void of God stand at odds with one another.

• Long Neck Valentine's Banquet Weekend - We had the opportunity to go down to New Life Bible Fellowship Church and serve them by preparing and serving a meal for their people. This was a huge opportunity for outreach, and approximately 30 people came who were outside the church. Amen!

Other

- Grabbed breakfast with a youth pastor from a local church in the area.
- The ministry to the Lehigh wrestling team has been going well, with a short Bible study every Thursday and opportunities for counseling those days as well.
- Had our quarterly BOYYA meeting
- Had a nice meeting with the youth leader from Grace Bible Fellowship in Nazareth
- Met with the other BFC youth pastors for our monthly breakfast. Always a great time.

Respectfully Submitted, Mark Culton