



**EBENEZER**  
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH

## **Board of Elders Meeting** **May 8, 2017**

### **Opening & Prayer:**

Dick Bickings opened the meeting in prayer.

### **Roll Call:**

All of the elders were **present**: Tim Gibson, Pat Barry, Wayne Batten, Dick Bickings, Phil Norris, Swannie Griffin, Kevin Hardy, Jeremy Harkins, Shawn Sommons, Byron Roth, Dennis Flanagan, Chris Jones, Scott Holwick.

### **Devotional Time:**

- The elders discussed chapter one in Steve Miller's book, C.H. Spurgeon on Spiritual Leadership - "A Passion for Prayer"
  - How should this chapter on prayer change our ministry?
    - Spend quality time on our knees before God
    - Spirit of prayer goes with you throughout the day
    - Develop a commitment to prayer daily; different things at different time.

**Prayer Time:** The elders split into two's to pray over their Shepherds' lists.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve the April 10, 2017 Meeting Minutes. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

### **Financial Report** – April 2017 - Byron Roth (*Attachment 1*)

Byron reported the final numbers for April 2017 - The motion was made to approve this financial report, it was seconded and passed unanimously. Here are some highlights:

- Giving to date is above budget
- Expenses are below budget
- Overall Positive financial outlook

### **Discussion Items:**

- 1) **Presenting Youth Pastor Candidate** – Logistics for Sunday's presentation of Mike Notary
  - Use the same series of questions used to interview Mike by the elders
  - Baptism issue will be addressed publicly; Pastor Dick will ask Mike and Jen if they would like to be baptised that day, since it will be baptism Sunday.
  - There will be a time to allow the congregation to field questions
  - He will be presented in both services
- 2) **Property Committee Proposals** – Sanctuary, Parking Lot, Long Range improvements.
  1. **Stage Lighting** (\$37,000) - reason for change:
    - Originally installed in 1960's
    - Presently High upkeep
    - New will be greater efficiency (electricity reduction)
    - Dimming capability
    - **Motion made** to approve the the expenditure of up to \$37,000 from the building fund for the upgrade of stage lighting. **Motion was seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
  2. **Sanctuary HVAC Replacement** (\$68,000)
    - MBI HVAC (\$40,000)
    - Gehringer Roofing (\$12,000)

- Bergey's Electric (\$7,000)
  - Permits and Fees (\$3,000)
  - Contingency (\$6,000)
  - **Motion made** to approve the replacement of sanctuary HVAC as per contracts.  
**Motion was seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 3) Parking Lot Proposal (\$36,000)
- Repair cracking, widen, and add curbing to parking lot as mentioned in proposal.
  - **Motion made** to approve the repair and upgrade of the parking lot. Monies designated from Capital Improvement: \$25,000, Savings: \$11,000. **Motion was seconded. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 3) BFC Conference Updates – Pastor Tim presented the following overview of two important updates:
1. Divorce issue - 2 Cor 7: BFC voted 1st reading, the Pauline exception for divorce when an unbeliever abandons the believer, the believer is not bound.
  2. Prayer - new prayer article in the Biblical Principles of Living (BPL's)
- 4) Transition in Youth ministry with Mark Evans (Dick)
- Pastor Dick is to contact Mike Notary regarding the following items:
    - His availability to start on June 1
    - When to phase out Mark Evans and have Mike begin teaching
    - What evening would Mike be able to visit the youth group in May before he begins his ministry here?
- 5) Ministry Health Evaluation – Missions - Swannie Griffin presented. (*Attachment 2*)
- Swannie gave an update on the missionaries and challenged the elders in how much we know about our missionaries.
  - Swannie asked how we can get our people to want to know our missionaries.
  - Swannie would like to take time in the worship service, once or twice a month, to pray for our missionaries. The elders agreed but wanted to make sure we choose who will pray, and provide specifics they should pray for.
  - Overall health of the committee is good (according to Swannie), in how they evaluate the missionaries for support, using the following criteria:
    - Don't support missionaries more than \$10,000
    - Look at what they are doing to make disciples
    - Re-evaluate when their ministry changes
  - Pat Barry mentioned engaging the evangelism team with the missions teams
  - The elders discussed what we can do better:
    - Praying more for our missionaries
    - Develop a strategy for short term missions making them church sanctioned trips, developed from our overall ministry vision rather than individually driven trips.
    - With the above strategy, this will help EBFC become strong in missions, through awareness, giving, and going.
  - Kevin Hardy reminded the elder board about the commitments to share ministry moments regarding our various ministries, engaging the people who are involved to share the fruit of that ministry.

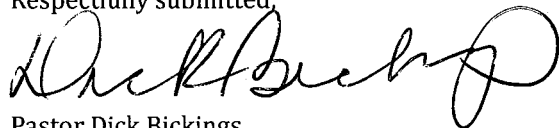
**Phil Norris adjourned the meeting with prayer:**

#### **Pastoral Reports**

The pastors submitted their monthly reports:

- Tim Gibson, Senior Pastor (*Attachment 3*)
- Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship (*Attachment 4*)
- Jeremy Harkins, Worship Pastor (*Attachment 5*)

Respectfully submitted,



Pastor Dick Bickings

Secretary to the Board of Elders

Attachment #1

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - APRIL 2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	30-Apr-17	31-Mar-17	\$ Change
<b>Assets - Checking/Savings</b>			
18000 - Checking (BB&T/KNBT)	560,971.27	518,765.40	42,205.87
18002 - CDs (BB&T/KNBT)	67,742.94	67,742.94	0.00
19000 - Savings (M&T Bank)	92,983.11	92,975.47	7.64
19001 - Checking (M&T Bank)	5,375.67	5,375.67	0.00
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>727,072.99</b>	<b>684,859.48</b>	<b>42,213.51</b>

<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>727,072.99</b>	<b>684,859.48</b>	<b>42,213.51</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
901 - Building Fund	106,418.44	105,888.44	530.00
902 - Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	0.00
903 - Transportation Fund	268.00	268.00	0.00
904 - Scholarship Fund	2,556.00	2,496.00	60.00
905 - Faith Promise	9,015.24	7,950.24	1,065.00
907 - Benevolence Fund	10,450.90	9,245.39	1,205.51
908 - Music Fund	374.20	274.20	100.00
911 - Year End Accruals	8,480.16	8,480.16	0.00
912 - Run For The Children	637.51	637.51	0.00
914 - HRA	3,785.45	3,915.92	-130.47
915 - Youth Summer Missions	20,729.88	17,092.88	3,637.00
100 - Payroll Liabilities	6,096.34	6,790.96	-694.62
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>168,812.12</b>	<b>163,039.70</b>	<b>5,772.42</b>

<b>Long Term Liabilities</b>			
802 - Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>168,812.12</b>	<b>163,039.70</b>	<b>5,772.42</b>
<b>Equity</b>			
900 - Retained Earnings	941,468.45	941,468.45	0.00
<b>Net Income</b>	24,671.22	-11,769.87	36,441.09
1000 - Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>558,260.87</b>	<b>521,819.78</b>	<b>36,441.09</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>727,072.99</b>	<b>684,859.48</b>	<b>42,213.51</b>

*Joe Meier*  
Treasurer

5/6/17  
Date

GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

	April	Budget	Variance	% BGT MTD
<b>Income</b>				
1100 - Offerings / Gifts	102,857.69	91,772.90	11,084.79	112%
1400 - Interest	27.66	70.75	-43.09	39%
1700 - Memorials	0.00	0.00	0.00	
1900 - BCS / Bldg Use	560.00	1,421.89	-861.89	39%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>103,445.35</b>	<b>93,265.54</b>	<b>10,179.81</b>	<b>111%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
2000 - General Finance	729.74	487.50	242.24	150%
3000 - Discipleship	2,043.40	1,774.59	268.81	115%
5000 - Evangelism	138.60	861.66	-723.06	16%
6000 - Missions	1,222.72	262.50	960.22	466%
7000 - Deacon	8,840.95	7,060.00	1,780.95	125%
8000 - Worship	57.56	200.00	-142.44	29%
9000 - Office & Admin	977.68	1,367.50	-389.82	71%
10000 - Congregational Care	416.25	246.66	169.59	169%
11000 - Compensation	52,577.36	49,302.55	3,274.81	107%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>67,004.26</b>	<b>61,562.96</b>	<b>5,441.30</b>	<b>109%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>36,441.09</b>	<b>31,702.58</b>	<b>4,738.51</b>	<b>115%</b>
<b>Net Fund Transfer between Accts.</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>36,441.09</b>	<b>31,702.58</b>	<b>4,738.51</b>	<b>115%</b>

DESIGNATED FUNDS

	Income	Expenses	Net
901 - Building Fund	530.00	0.00	530.00
903 - Transportation Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
904 - Scholarship Fund	60.00	0.00	60.00
905 - Faith Promise	1,565.00	500.00	1,065.00
907 - Benevolence Fund	1,700.51	495.00	1,205.51
908 - Music Fund	100.00	0.00	100.00
<b>OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS</b>			
902 - Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	0.00
911 - Year End Accruals	0.00	0.00	0.00
912 - Run For The Children	0.00	0.00	0.00
914 - HRA	500.00	630.47	-130.47
915 - Youth Summer Missions	6,145.00	2,508.00	3,637.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>10,600.51</b>	<b>4,133.47</b>	<b>6,467.04</b>

# EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - APRIL YTD 2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

## BALANCE SHEET

## GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

ASSETS	30-Apr-17	31-Dec-16	\$ Change
<b>Assets - Checking/Savings</b>			
18000 · Checking (BB&T/KNBT)	560,971.27	541,631.79	19,339.48
18002 · CDs (BB&T/KNBT)	67,742.94	67,714.56	28.38
19000 · Savings (M&T Bank)	92,983.11	92,952.54	30.57
19001 · Checking (M&T Bank)	5,375.67	5,375.67	0.00
<b>Total Checking/Savings</b>	<b>727,072.99</b>	<b>707,674.56</b>	<b>19,398.43</b>

**TOTAL ASSETS** 727,072.99 707,674.56 19,398.43

<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Current Liabilities</b>			
901 · Building Fund	106,418.44	104,543.44	1,875.00
902 · Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	0.00
903 · Transportation Fund	268.00	268.00	0.00
904 · Scholarship Fund	2,556.00	2,607.50	-51.50
905 · Faith Promise	9,015.24	33,123.24	-24,108.00
907 · Benevolence Fund	10,450.90	8,746.23	1,704.67
908 · Music Fund	374.20	274.20	100.00
911 · Year End Accruals	8,480.16	8,480.16	0.00
912 · Run For The Children	637.51	4,137.51	-3,500.00
914 · HRA	3,785.45	0.00	3,785.45
915 · Youth Summer Missions	20,729.88	4,767.88	15,962.00
100 · Payroll Liabilities	6,096.34	7,136.75	-1,040.41
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>168,812.12</b>	<b>174,084.91</b>	<b>-5,272.79</b>

<b>Long 802 · Mortgage</b>	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Total Long Term Liabilities</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>168,812.12</b>	<b>174,084.91</b>	<b>-5,272.79</b>

<b>EQUITY</b>			
900 · Retained Earnings	941,468.45	921,501.55	19,966.90
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>24,671.22</b>	<b>19,966.90</b>	<b>4,704.32</b>
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00
<b>Total Equity</b>	<b>558,260.87</b>	<b>533,589.65</b>	<b>24,671.22</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>	<b>727,072.99</b>	<b>707,674.56</b>	<b>19,398.43</b>

*Joe Meier*  
Treasurer

5/6/17  
Date

Income	April YTD	Budget	Variance	% BGT YTD
1100 · Offerings / Gifts	347,044.24	330,382.43	16,661.81	105%
1400 · Interest	138.54	254.72	-116.18	54%
1700 · Memorials	0.00	0.00	0.00	
1900 · BCS / Bldg Use	4,328.00	5,118.79	-790.79	85%
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>351,510.78</b>	<b>335,755.94</b>	<b>15,754.84</b>	<b>105%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>				
2000 · General Finance	23,924.54	25,255.58	-1,331.04	95%
3000 · Discipleship	7,074.09	8,746.36	-1,672.27	81%
5000 · Evangelism	3,276.17	2,946.64	329.53	111%
6000 · Missions	43,729.14	44,087.50	-358.36	99%
7000 · Deacon	34,106.48	32,970.00	1,136.48	103%
8000 · Worship	2,283.77	1,890.00	393.77	121%
9000 · Office & Admin	5,497.34	5,482.00	15.34	100%
10000 · Congregational Care	589.19	986.64	-397.45	60%
11000 · Compensation	190,500.32	203,210.20	-12,709.88	94%
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>310,981.04</b>	<b>325,574.92</b>	<b>-14,593.88</b>	<b>96%</b>
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	<b>40,529.74</b>	<b>10,181.02</b>	<b>30,348.72</b>	
<b>Net Fund Transfer between Accts.</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>40,529.74</b>	<b>10,181.02</b>	<b>30,348.72</b>	

## DESIGNATED FUNDS INCOME

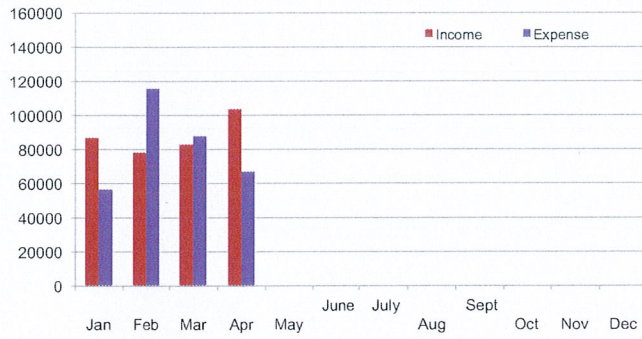
	Income	Expenses	Net
901 · Building Fund	1,875.00	0.00	1,875.00
903 · Transportation Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00
904 · Scholarship Fund	210.50	262.00	-51.50
905 · Faith Promise	10,252.00	31,027.00	-20,775.00
907 · Benevolence Fund	8,621.04	6,916.37	1,704.67
908 · Music Fund	100.00	0.00	100.00

## OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS

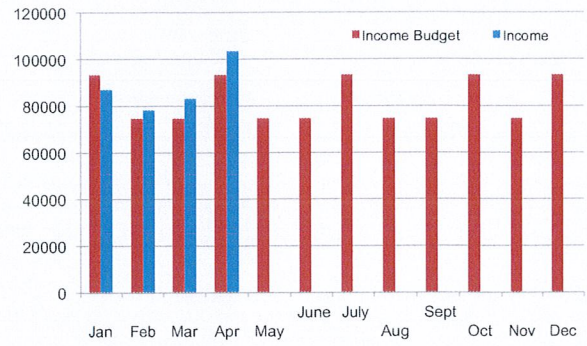
902 · Capital Improvements	0.00	15,858.52	-15,858.52
911 · Year End Accruals	0.00	0.00	0.00
912 · Run For The Children	0.00	3,500.00	-3,500.00
914 · HRA	5,509.00	1,714.55	3,794.45
915 · Youth Summer Missions	18,470.00	2,508.00	15,962.00
<b>Total Current Liabilities</b>	<b>45,037.54</b>	<b>61,786.44</b>	<b>-16,748.90</b>

**Ebenezer Expenses vs. Income**  
**April 2017**

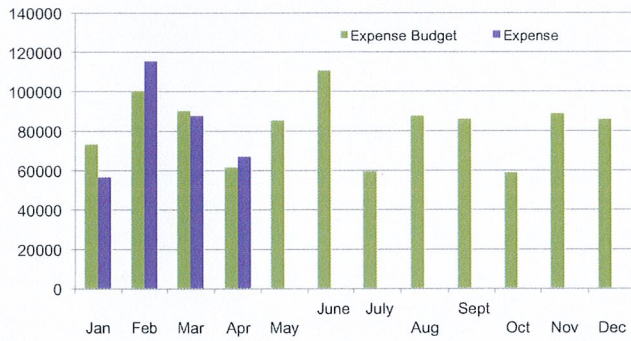
**2017 Income vs Expenses**



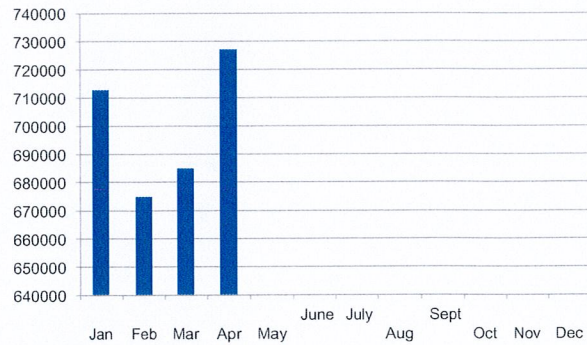
**2017 Income vs Budget**



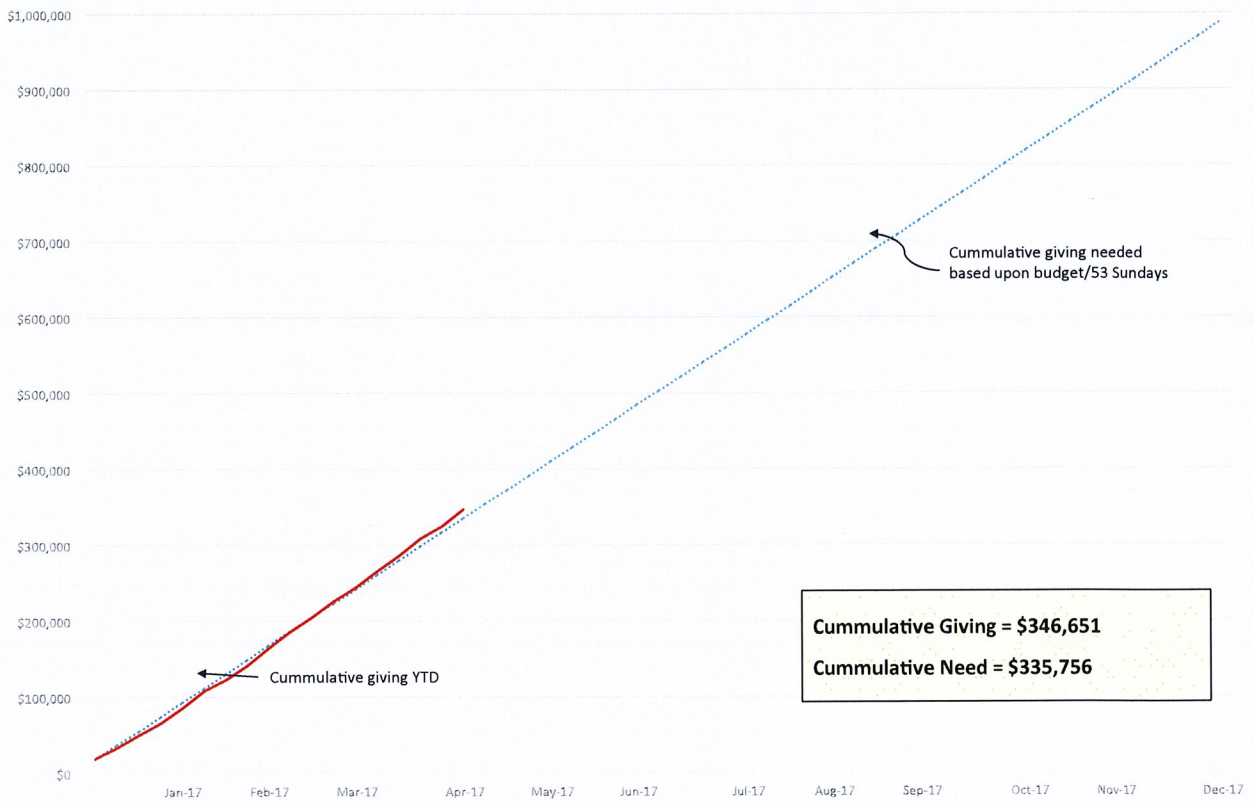
**2017 Expenses vs Budget**



**2017 Assets**



**Cummulative Giving vs Cummulative Budget Amount as of April 30, 2017**



**Ebenezer Bible Fellowship's  
Missionary Family**

**Amount Undersupported**

*Attachment #2*

**Local BFC Ministries**

**Church Extension Ministries**

Tim Zuck, Forks Township \$445/month 96%

Jason Filbert, Naples, FL

Andy Barnes, Longneck, DE

Brad Boyer, Cape May Courthouse, NJ

**Victory Valley Camp**

Doug Manwiller

**Bible Fellowship Church**

**Board of Missions**

John & Karen Elias, U.S. Muslim Outreach \$1,684/month 75%

Jim & Lynne Head, U.S. World Team \$1640/month 92%

Daniel & Ana Istrate, Romania \$904/month 78%

Kyle & Rebecca Koval, Italy \$1376/month 73%

Matt & Kristy Messick, Ecuador \$1848/month 74%

Duane & Joetta Moyer, Director BFCBOM \$581/month 91%

Art & Vickie Reyes, Mexico \$761/month 89%

Lillian Solt, Costa Rica \$511/month 79%

David & Rebecca Riddell, France 92%

Colby & Theresa Weinhofer, Japan \$500/month 91%

Scott & Joanna Widman, Northern Ireland \$0/month 100%

Ondra & Melissa Zikanovi, Czech Republic \$806/month 84%

**Tanzania Project**

Kim Knaub \$432/month 83%

Carrie Ziegenfuss \$0/month 100%

**Other Ministries**

**CRU - Lehigh Valley**

Ed & Christy Hanna \$1150/month 90%

Matt & Erin Kay \$1300/month 87%

**Disciplemakers - Lehigh Valley**

Mark & Shannon Fodale \$1500/month 80%

Dan & Candace Trafford

**European Christian Mission**

Dave & Ute Poysti

**Haycock Camping Ministries**

Max & Jen Whylings

**Lehigh Valley Youth for Christ**

John Bovard

**Navigators**

Al & Nancy Napier - Italy \$560/month 92%

**World Impact - Newark, NJ**

Luke Raughley

**Pastor Tim's Ministry Report  
April 10, 2017**

**Studying & Preaching:**

- Genesis has been such a great book to preach through. The Lord has been blessing my study and I hope and believe that the Word of God is impacting and encouraging our people. To study the Patriarchs is encouraging because we see ourselves in their lives of chaos, struggles & faith. I will continue to preach through Genesis through the summer, mainly the life of Joseph from chapters 37-50.
- I am also teaching through 2 Chronicles. The study of the Kings of Judah is so rewarding, as we look at portraits of both good and bad Kings. I wish we had more people attending this study.

**LEAD Class:** I began a leadership class in April. We have about 10 in attendance. We just finished discussing the doctrines of Grace by going through the "Five Points of Calvinism" by Steele. We had great discussion. Part of the class is forcing the men to articulate out loud what they are learning. It is important to be able to defend what you believe and explain it clearly. We are about to begin a systematic study of Soteriology from Wayne Grudem's Systematic Theology. The men will read and be able to recite by memory the "Ordo Salutis" (Order of Salvation) and explain what each element means (i.e. election, calling, regeneration, justification, glorification). Furthermore, the men will be required to cite a passage in Scripture that supports the particular issue. We are also memorizing Scripture together that relates to what we are studying. The men are very excited and are participating well. It is exciting to see the Lord work in the hearts of our men.

**Good Friday/Easter Services:** We had a great "Resurrection Weekend" celebrating the death, burial and resurrection of our Lord. I preached out of Isaiah 53 for Good Friday. I preached 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 for Easter. We had a great attendance. The choir and orchestra was wonderful.

**Shepherding/Ministry:**

- Performed Joyce Achey's funeral
- Premarital counseling for 3 couples weekly
- 1 Luncheon with a family for encouragement
- 4 Counseling/Meeting
- Attended the newcomer luncheon (18 in attendance)
- Attended the BFC annual conference for 3 days
- Visiting a man in prison for encouragement - 2 times/month
- 4 Home & Hospital visitation
- Church Extension Board meeting
- 4 baptism interviews

**Enhanced Internship:** One of my greatest joys is helping others succeed and grow in ministry. Beginning at the end of April, I began an enhanced internship program with Laszlo Onody. We had been meeting periodically but nothing real intense. After hearing Laszlo's desire for more instruction, we set up a time every Monday from 1-5 to meet for mentoring. During this time Laszlo will be shadowing me in counseling sessions, premarital counseling, funerals, weddings, visitations, etc. Furthermore, I will be

instructing Laszlo on hermeneutical principles and exegetical principles for the development of homiletics. I am giving Laszlo a chance to teach once a month on Wednesday night. He is going to be teaching from 1 John. Laszlo is also attending my LEAD class.

What a joy to be a minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and serve our Lord at Ebenezer BFC. I love working with our incredible staff and pastors. We have a great unity and work very well together. I'm so appreciative of Robbin, Heather & Rachel who serve in administration.

Serving Christ,  
**Pastor Tim Gibson**



## Pastor of Discipleship Report, Apr/May 2017

As I continue my trek through the OT, my next stop is the book of Zechariah. Recently I read these words:

*“Then he showed me Joshua the high priest standing before the angel of the Lord, and Satan standing at his right hand to accuse him. And the Lord said to Satan, ‘The Lord rebuke you, O Satan! The Lord who has chosen Jerusalem rebuke you! **Is not this a brand plucked from the fire?**’ Now Joshua was standing before the angel, clothed with filthy garments. And the angel said to those who were standing before him, ‘Remove the filthy garments from him.’ And to him he said, ‘Behold, **I have taken your iniquity away from you, and I will clothe you with pure vestments.**’” (Zechariah 3:1–4, ESV)*

I am reminded by this passage, that though this is specifically talking about the priesthood of the remnant that returned from exile, and the accusation presented by Satan to God regarding their sin, we all who are in Christ are brands plucked from the fire and have been given the new garments of Christ's righteousness. Even when Satan condemns us, Christ is our advocate!

*“My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.” (1 John 2:1, ESV)*

With that in mind, here are some of the ministry updates from April/May 2017:

### Kids Crossing

- **Cross Time Sunday School (10:05 AM):** Praise the Lord we currently have a complete roster of teachers and helpers. We will however, need a new teacher for 5 Grade beginning in May for the odd months.
- **Early Childhood (2&3 year-olds):** Praise the Lord, he has brought us all the teachers and helpers, for all the services, and for both odd and even months!
- **Children's Church:** The Gospel Project curriculum worship segment continues to work well for Children's Church. We continue to see around 7-9 students each week.
- **Wednesday Evening Programs:** The Awana program has been a blessing this year, and will be winding down on May 17 with our closing exercises. We averaged around 60 kids per night and were privileged to have the elders teach the T&T and Sparks groups throughout the year. Praise the Lord for a program that magnifies the Lord Jesus and His word!

### Adult Ministry

- **Adult Electives:** The summer session will begin on May 21, here are the courses being offered:
  - The Revelation of Jesus Christ: Part 1 - Scott Holwick/Matt Zmarzley
  - Matthew: Part 2 - Phil Norris
  - The Greatest of these is Love (1 Corinthians 13) - Chris Jones/Mike Hard
- **Student Ministry:** Mark Evans has done a fantastic job as our Youth Ministry Teacher. His teaching through the book of Romans is well received and understood. He will be wrapping up his teaching in preparation for the new Youth Pastor (pending the congregational vote) on May 30, but we want to hold him over a couple weeks in June to help with transition.
- **Senior Fellowship Ministry:** Praise the Lord that the Senior Fellowship Ministry clothing drive was a huge success and given to Nelson Randoff for his various short-term mission trips. Several of our seniors attended the hymn sing at Pinebrook this past Friday (5/5), and currently have 20+ going to Sight & Sound to see Jonah on May 25.
- **Men's Ministry:**

- **Bethel Series:** This present cycle has just ended. Please pray that the Lord would send others who would be interested in learning God's word through this fabulous 2-year study, which will begin a new 2-year cycle, October 2017.

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

- Thursday mornings from 6:15 AM – 7:30 AM, This early morning bible study group is currently studying the book of Daniel.
- Thursday mornings from 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM, This Men's Bible Study is currently studying the book of Ephesians.
- Saturday mornings from 7:00 AM - 8:00 AM, This men's pray time is for men who are serious about going before the throne of grace together to cry out to God for their marriages, family, jobs, neighbors, country, etc.

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

"Special Events: We had a Connecting Breakfast on Saturday, April 22nd. We had about 40 women come out. Jeremy led us in worship. This was a chance to introduce the connecting/mentoring ministry. We will base this ministry off of Nancy DeMoss's book Adorned.

I had the privilege to meet with the YACS group and share my heart with them. I was happy to have a few of them come to the breakfast and want to join in on this ministry.

Game Night: Welcome to the Well hosted a game night at the church. What a great time was had by all that came out. This monthly gathering continues to reach many different women of our church. The women have come to love and look forward to this night of fellowship and friendship. Vicki Cowley and Linda Visco do a great job organizing and even making sure women have rides so that no one feels like they cannot make it. I am so thankful for their willingness to serve in this capacity.

MOPS: We are thrilled to have Amy Hardy and Suzi Hardy joining our steering team. They will be our new coordinators for the 2107-2018 year of MOPS ministry. We are so thankful for their willingness to serve in this capacity. We are so thankful for Jill Rathmell and Courtney Nagy's leadership and their guidance in passing the baton to these ladies, and we are excited to see how God will use them this next year.

We have one more week of MOPS to go.

Mom to Mom: We will be concluding this ministry this coming week. We have had very faithful moms this year, and had some great discipleship happening. Two of the moms that attend, who do not attend church here, also want to go through the mentoring/connecting ministry. We praise the Lord for what He is doing in the lives of these moms.

Bible Study: Hosea will conclude this week. We will take a break for the summer.

I currently meet with a Women's Ministry leader for accountability and encouragement.

I am currently reviewing curriculum for the fall bible studies, working through some to see what the best fit will be.

It is a privilege to serve here."

### **Discipleship Support**

- **Kinship:** Praise the Lord for Bob & Laurie Gill who have worked hard to place all who have desired to be involved into 18 different groups. The groups will be winding down for a summer hiatus on May 28. However, several groups continue to meet periodically throughout the summer.

### **Other:**

- - Continued to visit and provide physical & Spiritual care for several people in our church.
  - Facilitate the Men's Prayer Group each Saturday morning.
  - Lead singing for the Joyce Achy funeral.
  - Returned to my Seminary Studies, taking a course on Church History as time permits..

Respectfully Submitted, Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship

**WORSHIP/COLLEGE MINISTRY UPDATE**

*Jeremy Harkins, Worship Pastor April & May*

**MUSIC**

We have added Randy Shelly to the praise team this month. He will be helping with acoustic guitar and vocals. Randy has been a part of youth group and has been helping with the youth praise team and growth groups as well. It is a joy to prepare and praise God together with different teams on a weekly basis. We continue to pray and discuss God's word and its application to the songs that we are singing in our set lists.

**SOUND**

- We are finalizing the Sanctuary stage lighting proposal and should have it completed by the end of the summer. We are also finalizing the sound project for the gym which should be completed very soon. Praise the Lord! We have 3 additional volunteers for them simulcast team which is what we have been praying for since Bob Beebe and company needed to step down.

**TEACHING & SHEPHERDING**

- Weekly meeting of discipleship/bible study with college age students
- Continue to meet and grow with members of the praise team
- Continue to meet with college age within our church and discussing basic fundamentals of our doctrine
- Sharing the gospel with a friend of one of my college students who is struggling deeply with the catholic faith
- Kinship involvement with Matt Zmarzley studying Ephesians
- Had lunch and prayed with 2 college students that were home for a break from school
- Attended and helped with the music and page responsibilities at Pinebrook annual conference
- Met Panera with college age to connect and pray with them
- Dan Trafford & Adam Whitmer continue to lead the college age Sunday school class with excellence! We have had a wonderful consistent turn-out every Sunday and the interactions have been growing as we seek to apply God's word and challenge each other to grow in our personal relationship with God.

**Additional Areas**

- Helped with sound, tech, and being the MC at Hannah and Robert Etherington's wedding
- Taught the Awana TNTer's about Paul's life and the grace he received through Christ that completely transformed him
- We got to have lunch with the Culton's while they were here for Hannah and Robert's wedding
- We had a couple of meetings for the DR missions trip praying and preparing for what God has in store for Lindsay and I as we prepare to go together!
- E-mailing and planning with Tim Zuck for a music outreach in Forks Park the end of September
- Many of our college students are home or are coming home soon so prayer for Lindsay and I as we seek to connect, challenge, and grow with them in their lives this spring/summer