

### Board of Elders Meeting June 12, 2017

### **Opening & Prayer:**

Tim Gibson opened the meeting in prayer.

### Roll Call:

The following elders were **present**: Tim Gibson, Pat Barry, Wayne Batten, Dick Bickings, Phil Norris, Swannie Griffin, Kevin Hardy, Jeremy Harkins, Byron Roth, Dennis Flanagan, Chris Jones, and Mike Notary. The following elders were **absent**: Scott Holwick and Shawn Sommons

<u>Devotional Time:</u> The elders discussed chapter two in Steve Miller's book, *C.H. Spurgeon on Spiritual Leadership - "A Faith that Endures"* 

- How should this chapter on faith change our ministry?
  - Suffering grows faith (childlike credulity)
  - Trials are stepping stones in growth (endurance)
  - Are others seeing an example in us of totally depending upon God?
  - Prayer and faith are inter-dependent
  - What we've learned
    - Never panic
    - Lead with prayer
    - Expect trials
    - Claim promises of God
    - Spur one another on in our faith

**Prayer Time:** The elders split into twos to pray over their Shephers' lists.

### **Approval of Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve the May 8, 2017 Meeting Minutes. It was seconded and passed unanimously.

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

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

- Giving is positive
- Capital exp. will use the 902 account.

### **Discussion Items:**

- 1) Time Change for First Service
  - Currently, First Service begins at 8:45 am, and Sunday School begins at 10:05 am.
  - We currently have 4 minutes or less between first service and Sunday School.
  - After discussion, the Elders determined that 15 minutes or more are needed.
  - Elders want to discuss with the Deacons for their thoughts
  - Motion: change 1st service from 8:45 to 8:30, and change Sunday School from 10:05, to
    10:00, and contact the deacons for a response. The new times would begin on September 3,
    2017. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously, pending no major objections from
    the Deacon board.

### 2) Friendliness of our Church

- Hearing some complaints regarding friendliness
- Challenge us as elders to lead with our wives to engage with new people.
- Kinship Leaders to invite new people to kinship groups

### 3) PRC - Housing Allowance (Byron)

- Mike Notary: \$20,000 (previously approved)
- Jeremy Harkins: \$19,000 from \$16,000
- Motion was made, seconded and passed unanimously to accept these requests

### 4) PRC Meeting Update (Wayne Batten/Dick Bickings) (Attachment #2)

- New Policy The PRC has added a new policy to the Personnel Handbook regarding Pastors' time away from normal duties to serve in other ministries. (Attachment #3)
- Rachel Marks' Maternity Leave Rachel requested confirmation of the specific application of the Maternity Leave policy to her upcoming leave, June 26 – September 1, 2017 as she & Dan begin foster parenting 2 boys. Motion made, seconded and passed unanimously to approve the following:
  - 10 week leave (50 days).33.5 days 100% pay + 10 days 80% pay + 6.5 days unpaid
  - 4 weeks paid maternity leave (20 days)
  - 2.5 weeks of paid time off (half of vacation and sick leave) (12.5 days)
  - 1 day of paid holiday time (July 4)
  - 2 weeks paid at 80% (10 days)
  - Balance to be unpaid time off (6.5 days)
- Gift for Heather A Motion was made to give a gift of \$1400 to Heather for her extended work duties while we were between youth pastors. Seconded and passed unanimously.
- Raise for Jeremy A motion was made to give Jeremy a salary increase of \$3000/year so that
  he does not need to work a second job in order to make ends meet. Seconded and passed
  unanimously. The raise will begin immediately on a prorated basis of \$125/pay period.
- o <u>Temporary Staff</u> Dick gave an update to explain how Rachel's tasks will be covered during her leave of absence. We are planning to hire a temporary Admin Assistant for 20hr/week to cover the main Kids Crossing and Office tasks. (Exception: She will work 40hr/week during Robbin's 2 weeks of vacation.) 6 volunteers are lined up to cover the remaining tasks.

### 5) Ministry Health Evaluation: Senior Fellowship- Phil Norris

- Phil gave an update on the Senior Fellowship Ministry (Attachment 4)
- General consensus is positive from the group
- Have another ministry moment in September
- No summer activities
- How should we integrate the Senior Ministry into other ministries?
- How can we as elders come alongside the Senior Ministry?
- Concerned to reach out to and tap into other seniors.

### 6) Parsonage

- o Mike & Jenn are not interested in purchasing it, so the Deacons should sell it.
- Recommend to the Deacons to work on the home to get the most curb appeal.
- Motion made that the Deacons move ahead to sell the property and look at what work can be done, at their discretion, to improve the resale value. This plan will (with use of the money) be presented to the congregation at the semi-annual meeting. Seconded and passed unanimously.
- 7) <u>Transfer Shepherd's List</u> Motion made to transfer Shepherd's List from Andy Brimer to Mike Notary. Seconded and passed unanimously

- 8) New Elders Tim listed possible New Elder candidates for future consideration:
  - o Gebo Flowers
  - Matt Zmarzley
  - o Tom Galloway
  - o Jason Lee
  - o Laszlo Onody

### Byron Roth adjourned the meeting with prayer.

### **Pastoral Reports**

The pastors submitted their monthly reports:

- Tim Gibson, Senior Pastor (none submitted)
- Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship (Attachment 5)
- Jeremy Harkins, Worship Pastor (Attachment 6)
- Mike Notary, Youth Pastor (none submitted)

Respectfully submitted,

**Pastor Dick Bickings** 

Secretary to the Board of Elders

# EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - MAY YTD 2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

### **BALANCE SHEET**

# GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

ASSETS	31-May-17	31-Dec-16	\$ Change		May YTD	Budget	Variance	% BGT YTD
Assets - Checking/Savings	557 803 25	541 631 79	13 061 46	income 1100 · Offerings / Gifts	426.864.64	403,800.75	23,063.89	129%
19000 - Cileculig (BEXT/KNBT)	67 742 94	67.714.56	28.38	1400 · Interest	167.81	311.32	-143.51	%99
19000 · Savings (M&T Bank)	92,991.01	92,952,54	38.47	1700 · Memorials	635.00	0.00	635.00	
19001 - Checking (M&T Bank)	5.375.67	5,375,67	0.00	1900 · BCS / Bldg Use	6,355.00	6,256.30	98.70	124%
Total Checking/Savings	720,802.87	707,674.56	13,128.31	Total Income	434,022.45	410,368.37	23,654.08	129%
TOTAL ASSETS	720,802.87	707,674.56	13,128.31	Expenses				
				2000 · General Finance	24,448.44	30,606.33	-6,157.89	%08
LIABILITIES				3000 · Discipleship	10,155.58	12,225.95	-2,070.37	83%
Current Liabilities				5000 · Evangelism	3,301.17	3,308.30	-7.13	100%
901 · Building Fund	106,788.44	104,543.44	2,245.00	6000 · Missions	62,404.14	62,825.00	-420.86	%66
902 · Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00	0.00	7000 · Deacon	38,671.21	39,580.00	-908.79	%86
903 - Transportation Fund	268.00	268.00	0.00	8000 · Worship	2,270.36	2,090.00	180.36	109%
904 · Scholarship Fund	2,626.00	2,607.50	18.50	9000 · Office & Admin	6,422.22	6,642.50	-220.28	%26
905 · Faith Promise	9,576.24	33,123.24	-23,547.00	10000 · Congregational Care	1,150.14	1,233.30	-83.16	93%
907 · Benevolence Fund	12,190.56	8,746.23	3,444.33	11000 · Compensation	234,259.53	252,512.75	-18,253.22	93%
908 · Music Fund	374.20	274.20	100.00	Total Expense	383,082.79	411,024.13	-27,941.34	83%
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	Net Ordinary Income	50,939.66	-655.76	51,595.42	
914 · HRA	3,053.29	0.00	3,053.29	Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	0.00	0.00	0.00	
915 · Youth Summer Missions	1,704.76	4,767.88	-3,063.12	Net Income	50,939.66	-655.76	51,595.42	
100 · Payroll Liabilities	6,432.92	7,136.75	-703.83					
Total Current Liabilities	152,132.08	174,084.91	-21,952.83	DESIGNATED FUNDS	ED FUNDS			
Long Term Liabilities								
802 · Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00		Income	Expenses	Net	
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	0.00	00'0	901 · Building Fund	2,245.00	0.00	2,245.00	
Total Liabilities	152,132.08	174,084.91	-21,952.83	903 · Transportation Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	
				902 · Scholarship Fund	280.50	262.00	18.50	
EQUITY				905 · Faith Promise	11,063.00	31,027.00	-19,964.00	
900 · Retained Earnings	941,468.45	921,501.55	19,966.90	907 · Benevolence Fund	10,751.43	6,916.37	3,835.06	
Net Income	35,081.14	19,966.90	15,114.24	908 · Music Fund	100.00	0.00	100.00	,,
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00					
Total Equity	568,670.79	533,589.65	35,081.14	OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS	LY ACCOUNT			
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	720,802.87	707,674.56	13,128.31	902 · Capital Improvements	0.00	15,858.52	-15,858.52	
				911 · Year End Accruals	00'0	00.0	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	
Goe Meier			6/10/17	915 · Youth Summer Missions	22,834.00	2,508.00	20,326.00	
Treasurer		•	Date	Total Current Liabilities	52,782.93	61,786.44	-9,003.51	

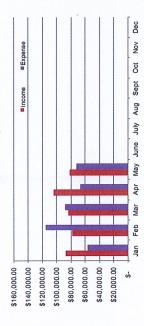
# EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - MAY 2017 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

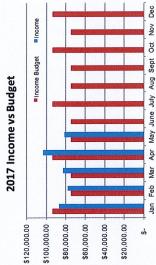
## BALANCE SHEET

## GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

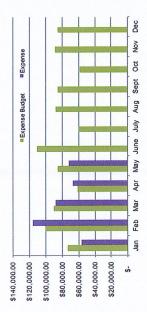
ASSETS	31-May-17	30-Apr-17	\$ Change		May	Budget	Variance %	% BGT MTD
Assets - Checking/Savings				Income	;			7000
18000 · Checking (BB&T/KNBT)	554,693.25	560,971.27	-6,278.02	1100 · Offerings / Gifts	79,820.40	73,418.32	6,402.08	
18002 · CDe (BB&T/KNBT)	67.742.94	67,742.94	0.00	1400 · Interest	29.27	26.60	-27.33	25%
10000 - 00000 - 000000 - 000000 - 000000 - 000000	02 001 01	92 983 11	7.90	1700 · Memorials	75.00	0.00	75.00	
Solor Saviligs (Mar Bank)	E 27E E7	5 375 A7	200	1900 · BCS / Bida Use	2,587.00	1,137.51	1,449.49	227%
19001 · Onecking (MA) Dalik)	720.802.87	727,072.99	-6.270.12	Total Income	82,511.67	74,612.43	7,899.24	111%
l Otal Cileching/Savings								
TOTAL ASSETS	720,802.87	727,072.99	-6,270.12	Expenses		1		200
	•			2000 · General Finance	523.90	5,350.75	-4,826.85	40%
SOLTH HOAL				3000 · Discipleship	3,081.49	3,479.59	-398.10	%68
				5000 · Evangelism	25.00	361.66	-336.66	%2
Current Liabilities	106 788 44	106.418.44	370.00	6000 · Missions	18,675.00	18,737.50	-62.50	100%
annallig Laura	100			7000 · Deacon	4,564.73	6,610.00	-2,045.27	% <del>6</del> 9
902 · Capital Improvements	00.00	288.00	000	8000 - Worship	-13.41	200.00	-213.41	%/-
903 · Iransportation Fund	200.00	250.00	20.02	9000 · Office & Admin	924.88	1,160.50	-235.62	80%
904 · Scholarship Fund	2,020.00	2,000.00	20.00	10000 Congregational Care	560,95	246.66	314.29	227%
905 · Faith Promise	9,070.24	9,015.24	00.100 4 720 86	11000 Compansation	43.759.21	49,302,55	-5,543.34	<b>%68</b>
907 · Benevolence Fund	12,190.30	10,450.90	00.60	Total Expense	72.101.75	85.449.21	-13,347,46	84%
908 · Music Fund	374.20	3/4.20	0.00		) 			
911 · Year End Accruals	8,480.16	8,480.16	0.00	Alet Oudliness (months	10.409.92	-10.836.78	21.246.70	
912 · Run For The Children	637.51	16.750	0.00	Met Ordinaly income		000	000	
914 · HRA	3,053.29	3,785.45	-732.16	Net Fund Transfer Detween Accis.	40 400 03	0.00 10 826 78	24 246 70	
915 · Youth Summer Missions	1,704.76	20,729.88	-19,025.12	Net Income	76.504.01	0.00001	0.00	
100 · Payroll Liabilities	6,432.92	6,096.34	336.58					
Total Current Liabilities	152,132.08	168,812.12	-16,680.04	DESIGNAL	DESIGNATED FUNDS			
					emosul	Expenses	Net	
Long Term Liabilities			;		370.00		370.00	
802 · Mortgage	0.00	0.00	0.00	901 · Building Fund	37.0.00	8.0		
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	ı	0.00	903 · Iransportation rund	9.00	90.0	•	
Total Liabilities	152,132.08	168,812.12	-16,680.04	904 · Scholarship Fund	70.00			
				905 · Faith Promise	00.110		(	
EQ.IITV				907 · Benevolence Fund	2,130.39		Z, Z,	
On Retained Farnings	941,468,45	941,468.45	0.00	908 · Music Fund	0.00	0.00	0.00	
Net Income	35,081.14		10,409.92			!		
Account to the state of the sta	-407 R78 R0	4	0.00	OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS	ITY ACCOUN			
	20 070 70	1	10 4	902 · Capital Improvements	0.00	0.00		
Total Equity	300,070.78		6 970 42	911 · Year End Accruals	0.00	0.00	0.00	
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	720,802.87	66.210,121	-0,270.12	010 - Pun Eor The Children	0.00	0.00	0.00	
					000		0.00	
				914 · FICA	4 364 00		4.36	
					20:100	20:0		
Toe Meier			6/10/17	Total Current Liabilities	7,745.39	0.00	7,745.39	
			Date					
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2017 Income vs Expenses

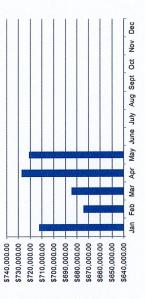


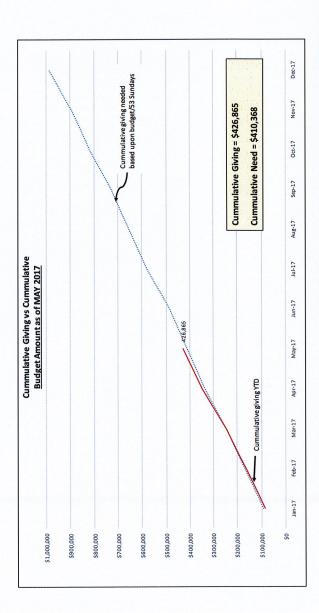


2017 Expenses vs Budget



### 2017 Assets





Wayne Batten < wwbatten@verizon.net>

May 31, 2017 8:22 PM

To: Dennis Flanagan <dennismotion@gmail.com>, Byron Roth <rothbyron@yahoo.com>, Shawn

Sommons <shwnlarasos@aol.com>

Bcc: Wayne Batten < wwbatten@verizon.net>

PRC Meeting of May 25,2017

Notes from meeting of PRC, May 25,2017

Attending: Dennis, Byron, Wayne

1 Response to Doug Chen's request to review policy limiting time away from normal duties.
Review of Personnel Handbook and discussions with pastoral staff confirmed that there is no written policy. Decision was made for Wayne to put what was discussed in our meeting in writing so the Committee could review it in detail for future action. In the interim pastors shall continue to abide by the verbal understandings that time away from normal duties shall be limited to no more than two Sundays.

2 Response to Rachael Marks suggestion of adding a fourth week of vacation time for staff members serving ten vears or more.

After review of the Personnel Handbook the Committee felt that the vacation allocations for positions and time served were appropriate and in keeping with current standards. There was a reluctance to confuse the issue of pay increases with granting additional vacation time.

3 Response to Daniel and Rachael Marks request to confirm if the same maternity leave for an infant adoption will apply to two boys age 3 and 7.

After review of the Personnel Handbook and considering laws concerning this subject the following conclusions were reached.

Natural birth, infant adoption, and adoption of older children are accommodated under maternity leave.

There will be four weeks of paid maternity leave provided.

The employee is entitled to eight additional weeks of unpaid leave. The employee is required to use 50% of available sick leave and vacation days as a part of this eight weeks.

Maternity leave is granted only once in a twelve month period. The Committee is not attempting to pass judgement upon any situation, but brings to everyones attention that mixing leave for child birth, pre- adoption, and consummated adoption has the potential for confusion. Natural child birth could become a possibility during this time table. Pre-adoption procedures could end with out being finalized. Subsequent adoption attempts could be initiated. Careful consideration should be given in the timing of use of the twelve week leave.

- 4 Response to Pastor Tim's suggestion that we consider an increase to Jeremy's salary.

  Having confirmed that Jeremy had taken part time secondary employment to meet his families needs, and that he would need approximately \$2,000.00 annually to avoid the necessity of secondary employment, the Committee agreed to provide a \$3,000.00 increase to Jeremy's salary (including taxes) to be spread over a twelve month period.
- 5 The Committee agreed to give \$1,400.00 to Heather Hunsberger in appreciation for handling many extra responsibilities during the Church's search for a new Youth Pastor.
- Subsequent to our meeting we were reminded that we did not take action on the request of Robbin and Dick to be permitted to look for replacements for Racheal's two positions while she takes maternity leave. Having read emails that transpired before and after our meeting I conclude that the committee is in agreement that Robbin and Dick may proceed in this direction. Direction should include that no additional responsibilities or hours will be given to these temporary positions. Furthermore, although the understood leave is to be 12 weeks, until Racheal makes a written commitment the temporary employees should be advised that the actual time may be more or less.

Please let me know what you think of this summary.

Wayne Batten <a href="www.atten@verizon.net">wwbatten@verizon.net</a>
To: Elders via Elders
temporary employees

### Gentlemen:

The PRC met on May 25 to consider several items of business, among them being requested by Robbin and Dick to permit them to search for two temporary employees to serve in the two positions that Rachael occupies during the 12 weeks of maternity leave as it applies to pre-adoption and adoption that they are considering. If Rachael and Mark exercise this option temporary employees will be needed as soon as near the end of June. Since the PRC acts as an arm of the Board of Elders I am requesting that you respond to me as soon as possible so that if a majority of the elders agree with this action Robbin and Dick will be given as much time as possible to search for replacements. Note the following stipulations and comments which the PRC made note of:

The PRC is in favor of the temporary employees.

The hours and job responsibilities of the temporary employees are not to be increased beyond those of the existing positions.

If possible only one temporary employee should be hired with the balance of responsibilities covered by volunteers. Since Rachael has not formally applied for the maternity leave but has only asked for confirmation that maternity leave is applicable to the pre-adoption and adoption of a 3 and 7 year old boys, temporary employees should be advised that the time of service will be more or less than 12 weeks. (Rachael may elect to take less leave or not return).

Wayne Batten wwbatten@verizon.net

June 12, 2017 11:20 AM

Wayne Batten <a href="www.atten@verizon.net">www.atten@verizon.net</a>
To: "<shwnlarasos@aol.com> Sommons" <shwnlarasos@aol.com>, Dennis Flanagan <a href="mailto:dennismotion@gmail.com">dennismotion@gmail.com</a>, Byron Roth <rothbyron@yahoo.com>
Rachael's maternity leave

### Hi guys:

On June the sixth Rachael sent us an email asking the PRC to clarify a few things. In preparation for tonight's meeting so that committee business does not take up an inordinate amount of time for the full board of elders I think that our committee should agree on the details of her maternity leave and then submit those terms for the full boards confirmation tonight. Based on her email and our former email discussions I suggest the following:

Question from Rachael: When are details of leave to be requested? (beginning, ending, etc.)
Policy: Maternity leave is to be requested one month prior to beginning of the requested leave. This includes the details.
As an exception the end date should be submitted no later than the beginning of leave. This is vacation season and requires time and planning on the part of the staff to make formal arrangements for replacements.

Question from Rachael: How will paid holidays be counted during the leave? Paid holidays during the leave period will be counted as holiday paid time off.

### CONFIRMATION OF PAID AND UNPAID TIME DURING RACHAEL'S MATERNITY LEAVE

POLICY:

4 weeks paid time off

8 weeks unpaid time off

1/2 of vacation and sick leave to be credited toward maternity leave as paid time off

### POLICY APPLICATION:

PAID TIME OFF

4 weeks paid maternity leave

2.5 weeks of paid time off (1/2 of vacation and sick leave)

2 days of paid holiday time ( July 4, Labor Day)

2 weeks paid at 80%

balance to be unpaid time off

Rachael is planning an 11 or 12 week leave.

If we approve the above it would result in 42.5 paid days of a leave of 55-60 days. Have I interpreted the application of 1/2 the vacation and sick time properly?

Wayne Batten wwbatten@verizon.net

### NEW SECTION TO BE ADDED TO PERSONNEL HANDBOOK

### 7.15 OTHER MINISTRY FOR STAFF CATAGORY 1 PERSONNEL

EBFC will provide time away from normal duties for other ministry to groups outside of EBFC, special retreats, studies, or activities of EBFC groups requiring traveling off site and missing normal work activities, and short term missions trips.

Requests for participation in such activities shall be submitted in writing, including detailed ministry responsibilities, to a pastor's immediate supervisor or the senior pastor 60 days in advance of the activity.

Staff person making the request is responsible to see that appropriate coverage of his normal duties is provided and approved by his immediate supervisor.

Time away from normal activities shall be limited to two activities per year, shall be limited to eight days and may only include two Sundays.

When planning to participate in such activities all pastoral staff are to realize that Sundays are a special day when God's people gather as his Church and are strongly encouraged whenever possible to schedule their responsibilities to end in a timely manner permitting their attendance at normal Sunday activities.

This policy is intended to give guidance and regulation for whole days, Sundays, or groups of days away from normal work activities. It is not meant to address single meetings, speaking or teaching engagements which are limited to a few hours, or denominational activities. However it is wise for all pastoral staff to discuss their involvement in such activities with their immediate supervisor for balance and wisdom so that such activities are always seen as minor compared to primary job responsibilities.

### **Ministry of Senior Fellowship**

What is the ministry of Senior Fellowship as outlined in the bulletin insert (9/16)?

A ministry that seeks to disciple senior adults 55+ through:

Worship – attend, participate, or sponsor worship events in our local church and in our denomination

<u>Fellowship</u> – meet together to eat, study God's Word, pray, and share together in the issues that affect us

<u>Service</u> – become involved in various ministries within the church and our community

A ministry that seeks to activate the senior saints in our local church to:

Use our spiritual gifts to grow this local body of believers

Use our years of wisdom and walk with the Lord to mentor younger men and women

Interact inter-generationally to do various service projects that promote the love of Christ

### How are we doing?

In July, John Mead and I were asked to revitalize the church's ministry to seniors.

In August we had an organizational meeting to gain input from the seniors.

In September we began regular monthly meetings including the following:

Time of fellowship while we eat our bag lunch and share desserts

Devotional time led by John, Phil or one of the seniors

Sharing prayer requests and prayer

**Special features:** 

September: Barry Weber shared some ministries he is involved in

October: DVD on John Wycliffe November: Slide/tape on Bible Lands January: Slide/tape on Jerusalem February: DVD on Amy Carmichael

March: Slide/tape on Petra April: DVD on John Bunyan

In December we went to the Pinebrook Christmas Banquet to see the dramatic presentation on "Born to Die – Arose to Save!" Seventeen seniors went and four guests.

In May we went to Shady Maple and Sight and Sound Theater to see "Jonah." Eighteen seniors went including three from another church.

We went to six Hymn Sings at Pinebrook. In June nine went and everyone who has gone seems to be enjoying participating in these.

Seniors have helped with the following ministries:

Operation Christmas Child: folding boxes; helping to set up and pack boxes

Seniors collected clothing for Kosovo

Several seniors are involved in ministering to shut-ins

Helping with VBS by packing bags (June 16)

Seniors are involved in various ministries of the church

### Pastor of Discipleship Report, May/June 2017

I recently began my trek through the NT, and as my first stop was the book of Matthew, here's what I read:

"For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, but if you do not forgive others their trespasses, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses." (Matthew 6:14–15, ESV)

These simple couple of verses at the end of the Lord's prayer reminded me that forgiveness is a plumb bob whereby we measure the trueness of our commitment to Christ. To not forgive others in essence means that we are downplaying the immense debt of sin that we have been forgiven of, and somehow place ourselves in the dangerous self-deceived position above God. The reality is, God's forgiveness is to be the impetus of our forgiveness of others.

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

### **Kids Crossing**

- Cross Time Sunday School (10:05 AM): We are attempting something new for this summer since
  many of our teachers go on vacation; we are combining grades 1-5, in rooms 16/18, which allows
  us to cover the grades with the fewest amount of teachers. So far it seems to be working well.
- 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.
- VBS 2017 (June 19-23): Please pray for our VBS outreach which begins next week, that the Lord will use this ministry to reach the souls of boys and girls in order to build his kingdom. Cindy Lasso is our VBS 2017 director, and we have more then 70 volunteers, and well over 100 participants already signed up.
- **Wednesday Evening Programs:** The Awana program concluded its year with a closing awards and fellowship time on May 17. Praise the Lord for our dedicated staff and the privilege of reaching more then 60 kids weekly this year with the word of God. We are looking forward to resuming this program in the fall.

### **Adult Ministry**

- Adult Electives: The new summer session began on May 21 with the following courses being offered:
  - The Revelation of Jesus Christ: Part 2 Scott Holwick/Matt Zmarzley
  - o Matthew: Part 2 Phil Norris
  - o The Greatest of these is Love (1 Corinthians 13) Chris Jones/Mike Hard
- Student Ministry: Praise the Lord, Mike Notary began his ministry here on June 1. We are looking forward to see what the Lord is going to do through him in discipling the youth staff, our youth and their parents. Mark Evans will finish his teaching time here on June 13...praise the Lord for how he has used Mark during the interim and transitional time in our youth ministry.
- Senior Fellowship Ministry: Praise the Lord that the Senior Fellowship Ministry had 20+ go to see Jonah at Sight & Sound on May 25. They will be taking a short hiatus for the summer and will resume in the fall.
- Men's Ministry:
  - O 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.

### O 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...

"Connecting Ministry: We are excited to have this kick off. Thirty eight women have signed up and have been prayed over and paired up. This coming Tuesday on June 13th we will have a dessert kick off and ladies will meet their partners. Please pray as the women go through "Adorned" that we will have a revival of Titus 2 women in our church.

MOM to MOM: This ministry ended on May 11th and women are excited for this to begin in the fall again.

MOPS: We praise the Lord for an awesome year and that all the leadership positions are filled for the upcoming 2017-2018 year.

Welcome to the Well: We continue to meet new ladies who want to be connected at these monthly gatherings. What a great time was had at the game night. Twenty three ladies came out. We have a picnic planned for August. Linda Visco and Vicki Cowley continue to a great job reaching out to the women and making them feel welcomed.

The Well Retreat 2018: Our women's ministry team has booked the Traber Center for our first Well Retreat. We have the dates of March 9th-11th. We are so excited to plan this event and continue to build and pour into the lives of the women.

Met with our Wm team and planned for the remainder of the year and our upcoming retreat.

I am currently working through 2 Corinthians "All Things New" by Kelly Minter as a possible study for the fall.

We currently are planning a Christmas concert on December 9th.

I continue to meet with other leaders to be encouraged.

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 are now in a summer hiatus and will
resume again in the fall. Please continue to prayer for this important core ministry.

### Other:

- Continued to visit and provide physical & Spiritual care for several people in our church.
- Facilitate the Men's Prayer Group each Saturday mornings.
- 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 May & June

### MUSIC

-It has been a joy to work with the praise team members on a weekly basis. We have heard many things happening in their lives individually which is all about the prayer and encouragement aspect of our music preparations.

-I usually have Dan Hutchinson, Jim Hans, and John Huie on call to lead worship on a Sunday in my absence, because I know that they are like-minded in the vision of the philosophy of minsitry, but also their level of leadership is fitting to lead the congregation. Recently I have added Justen Blackstone to that team being that he has exemplified the leadership quality and maturity in His walk with the Lord to lead in this capacity.

### SOUND

- Event Staging will start work on the lighting for our sanctuary the end of June and beginning of July. This will require some training for our sound room team to operate the lighting in addition to our media/sound needs.
- -I am working on a Sunday afternoon date to meet with all of our sound and media volunteers to get them all on the same page with our procedures in the sound room so that everything flows smoothly.

### **TEACHING & SHEPHERDING**

- I met with 3 college age students to talk about life and help them grow in their faith
- Continue to meet individually and grow with 5 members of the praise team
- Had a great discussion with 2 college age about doctrine
- Talking through Biblical Worldview with a girl who is struggling with truths of the bible
- Kinship
- Had breakfast with one of our sound/tech persons to pray with and encourage him
- Met Panera with college age @ Panera
- Dan Trafford & Adam Whitmer are leading the College Age Sunday school class. Dan Trafford is beginning
  a study of the book of Proverbs. Adam Whitmer has been discussing how we stand on our biblical
  worldview and Christians. They are both doing an excellent job!

### Additional Areas

- Helped with sound, tech, for Liz Erb and Tim James Wedding
- Taught the Awana TNTer's as well as run sound for the closing ceremony
- Organized a dinner/drive-in for College Age we had 12 come to the event and we were able to have deep and spiritually meaningful conversations during the time together!
- We continue to meet and prepare for our up and coming DR trip
- Helped with sound and music for the Sandwick's funeral
- Lindsay and I were able to take a mini vaca for our anniversary and it was wonderful spending time with each other away from everything.