

Board of Elders Meeting July 14, 2014

Opening & Prayer

Scott Holwick opened the meeting with prayer.

Roll Call

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

Devotion & Prayer

Pastor Tim led us through a devotional about the atonement. There are 4 key words when it comes to the atonement - propitiation, reconciliation, sacrifice, ransom. We looked at 1 John 4:10 - God loved us and sent Him to be the propitiation for our sins. Christ's death was an actual payment for sins, not just a potential payment. Jesus went to the cross to satisfy the Father's wrath towards sin; to glorify His Father. Romans 3:25 teaches us that Christ died so that His Father would not be unjust in forgiving sinners. In John 17, Jesus prayed that He might be glorified so that the Father would be glorified. The elders then spent time praying together.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made to approve the minutes from the June 9, 2014 Board of Elders meeting, **seconded** and **passed**.

Financial Report

Andy reviewed the financial report (Attachment 1). We are flatlined right now, but only because of not having to pay a Congregational Care Pastor. We are praying things pick up throughout the year. A **motion** was made to approve the financial report. This was **seconded** and **passed**.

Beth Moore Discussion

The elders continued the discussion about Beth Moore and her doctrine. We will listen to some critiques of Moore and read some first-hand sources before the next meeting and discuss next month.

Service Streaming & Sanctuary Expansion

The elders discussed possible options if the Lord brings more numerical growth. We eliminated the idea of three services, and also agreed that we are not at the point of entertaining building plans at this time. We are not in a place financially for this, and we also believe that we need to focus more on becoming a more healthy church that grows in our ability to be reaching arms into the Valley, particularly South Bethlehem at this current time. We are still putting things into place for a streaming ministry that would allow for overflow in the gym or youth room.

BFC Historical Society

The elders voted to give any photos and documentation of the history of our church to the Historical Society. They will replace anything we give them with physical copies or digital copies.

EBFC and BCS Facilities Agreement

The elders discussed and made a **motion** to accept the 2014-2015 facilities agreement. This was **seconded** and **passed**.

Membership and Discipline

The elders discussed members who have not attended for quite a while, and how we can follow up and care for these people.

Pastoral Reports

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

- Tim Gibson, Senior Pastor (Attachment 2)
- Dick Bickings, Pastor of Discipleship (Attachment 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

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - JUNE 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

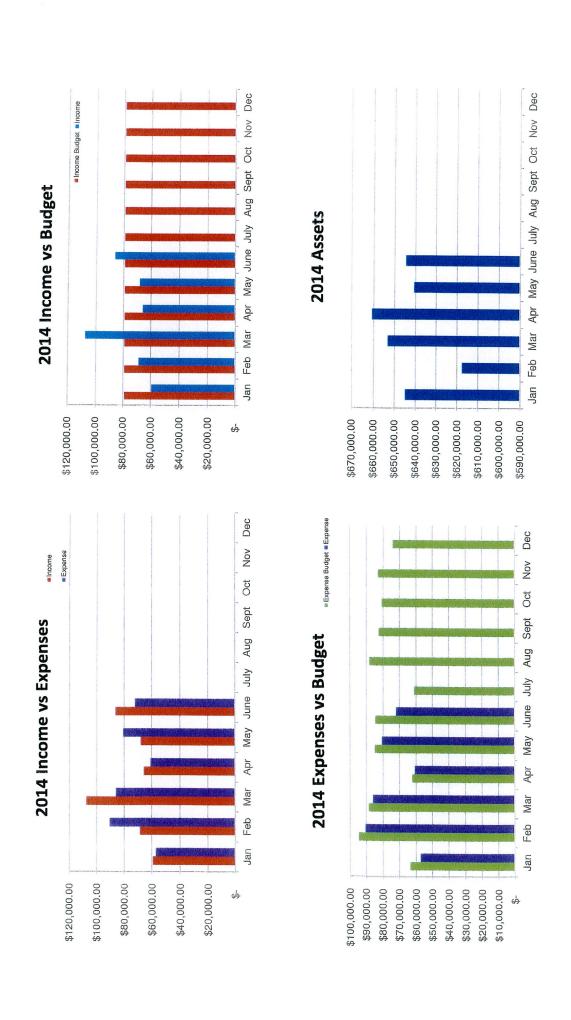
ASSETS	30-Jun-14	31-May-14	\$ Change		June	Budget	Variance
Assets - Checking/Savings 18000 · Checking (KNBT)	481,129.16	477,132.1	3,996.97	Income 1100 · Offerings / Gifts	86,263.19	77,856.50	8,406.69
18002 · CDs (KNBT)	67,461.48		0.00	1400 · Interest	39.49	72.91	-33.42
19000 · Savings (M&T Bank)	90,724.80		7.45	1700 · Memorials	125.00	00.0	125.00
19001 · Checking (M&T Bank)	5,375.67	5,375.67	0.00	1900 · BCS / Bldg Use	0.00	1,084.17	-1,084.17
Total Checking/Savings	644,691.11	640,686.69	4,004.42	Total Income	86,427.68	79,013.58	7,414.10
TOTAL ASSETS	644,691.11	640,686.69	4,004.42	Expenses			
		•		2000 · General Finance	667.63	860.00	-192.37
LIABILITIES				3000 · Discipleship	1,168.42	3,633.77	-2,465.35
Current Liabilities				5000 · Evangelism	219.30	525.00	-305.70
901 · Building Fund	88,304.19		1,143.00	6000 · Missions	19,675.00	20,212.50	-537.50
902 · Capital Improvements	-32,283.30	-17,951.73	-14,331.57	7000 · Deacon	4,638.09	6,522.52	-1,884.43
903 · Transportation Fund	88.00		00.0	8000 · Worship	370.53	475.00	-104.47
904 · Scholarship Fund	2,981.50	2,794.50	187.00	9000 · Office & Admin	2,215.43	2,230.88	-15.45
905 · Faith Promise	23,680.69	21,489.69	2,191.00	10000 · Congregational Care	65.00	300.00	-235.00
907 · Benevolence Fund	18,009.12	16,774.68	1,234.44	11000 · Compensation	42,965.50	49,837.08	-6,871.58
908 · Music Fund	144.20	94.20	50.00	Total Expense	71,984.90	84,596.75	-12,611.85
911 · Year End Accruals	8,480.16	8,480.16	0.00				
912 · Run For The Children	808.01	808.01	0.00	Net Ordinary Income	14,442.78	-5,583.17	20,025.95
914 · HRA	3,517.50	3,732.46	-214.96	Net Fund Transfer between Accts.	0.00	0.00	0.00
915 · Youth Summer Missions	-694.44	335.73	-1,030.17	Net Income	14,442.78	-5,583.17	20,025.95
100 · Payroll Liabilities	6,721.68	6,388.78	332.90				
Total Current Liabilities	119,757.31	130,195.67	-10,438.36	DESIGNAT	DESIGNATED FUNDS		
Long Term Liabilities					Income	Expenses	Net
802 · Mortgage	0.00	00.00	0.00	901 · Building Fund	1,143.00	00.0	1,143.00
Total Long Term Liabilities	0.00	00.00	0.00	903 · Transportation Fund	00.00	00.00	0.00
Total Liabilities	119,757.31	130,195.67	-10,438.36		187.00	0.00	187.00
				905 · Faith Promise	2,491.00	300.00	2,191.00
EQUITY				907 · Benevolence Fund	1,744.44	510.00	1,234.44
900 · Retained Earnings	931,656.18		0.00	908 · Music Fund	50.00	0.00	50.00
Net Income	1,156.42		14,442.78			ę !	
1000 · Opening Bal Equity	-407,878.80	-407,878.80	0.00	OTHER LIABILITY ACCOUNTS	ITY ACCOUN	SL	
Total Equity	524,933.80	510,491.02	14,442.78	902 · Capital Improvements	00.00	14,331.57	-14,331.57
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	644,691.11	640,686.69	4,004.42	911 · Year End Accruals	0.00	0.00	0.00
				912 · Run For The Children	0.00	0.00	0.00
				914 · HRA	0.00	214.96	-214.96
F		ľ		915 · Youth Summer Missions	2,510.00	3,540.17	-1,030.17
reasurer			Date	Total Current Liabilities	8,125.44	18,896.70	-10,771.26

EBENEZER BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CHURCH - JUNE YTD 2014 FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET

GENERAL FUND - BUDGET vs. ACTUAL

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18002 · CDs (KNBT)	67.461.48	67 134 49		1100 · Offerings / Gifts	449,230.54	467,139.00	-17.908.46	%96
19000 Savings (M&T Bank)	90.724.80	90.679.83		1400 Interest	568.84	437.50	131.34	130%
19001 · Checking (M&T Bank)	537567	5 375 67	9.44	1700 · Memorials	250.00	0.00	250,00	N/A
Total Checking/Savings	644,691.11	669,479,48	-24.788.37	Tatal Income	5,420.85	6,505.02	-1,084.17	83%
	•				455,470.23	474,081.52	-18,611.29	%96
TOTAL ASSETS	644,691.11	669,479.48	-24,788.37	Expenses				
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907 · Benevolence Fund	18,009.12	13,391.30	4,617.82	11000 · Compensation	264 903 54	700,606,54	-1,031.36	37%
908 · Music Fund	144.20	49.20	95.00	Total Expense	447.949.94	299,608.51	-34,705.00	88%
911 · Year End Accruals	8,480.16	8,480.16	00.0		447,515.81	478,402.09	-31,088.28	94%
912 · Run For The Children	808.01	2.458.01	-1.650.00	Not Ordinan Income				
914 · HRA	3,517.50	00.00	3.517.50	Not Find Transfer between A	8,156.42	4,320.57	12,476.99	
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Total Liabilities	119,757.31	145,702.10	-25,944.79	903 י ורמח Fund 904 י Scholarship ביוים	70.00	0.00	70.00	
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Net Income	1,156.42	-27,623.86	28.780.28	908 · Music Fund	95.00	0.00	95.00	
1000 · Opening Bal Equity		-407.878.80				:		
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				914 · HRA	150.00	1,800.00	-1,650.00	
Transmire				915 · Youth Summer Missions	000000	3,482.50	3,517.50	
ladon la		ĮΩ	Date	Total Current Liabilities	2,900.00	3,700.17	-800.17	
					55,132.39	71,927.73	-16,795.34	



Pastor Tim's Ministry Report July 14, 2014

Studying & Preaching: We are closing chapter 11 of Hebrews. Chapter 11 has clearly shown us what it means to live by faith. The examples of Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham & Moses have been incredibly practical. I have had many express their spiritual growth through this section of Scripture.

Worship Ministries: (From Jennie Flicker)

The simulcast service is still on schedule to be ready in November. The equipment will be set up in the Primetimer Closet. Kevin Kritzberger has worked with the Primetimers for their things to be stored elsewhere. Worship Team and Sound Room are both fully staffed for the summer even with folks going on vacation. Matt Flicker and John Huie are attending a Worship Leader Conference this week. Thank you for the opportunity for them to attend. Alyssa Heric joined LeRoy Wilcox by providing the music this month for our bi-monthly service at Fellowship Manor.

Pinebrook: I was the morning speaker for Pinebrook July 7-10. I taught for lessons about "Spiritual Success" from the book of Nehemiah: Chpt 1: Prayer, Chpt 4: Perseverance, Chpt 5: Love, Chpt 8: Word of God. The Pinebrook experience was very nice as I got to fellowship among 6-7 of our Ebenezer families. Accommodations were a little rough, but overall the experience was very nice. Woodrow Kroll was the guest speaker for the evening services. He spoke on Deut 10:12-13: What does the Lord require of You?

VBS: It was a real joy to serve as the storyteller for VBS this year. My wife and I organized the story time around the theme of secret spies. With the help of the Messicks and others we were able to "investigate" the truths about who Jesus was. Julie and I wrote 5 scripts for the week to tell the story that Jesus was truly God in the flesh who died on the cross rose and again so that we could have salvation. My greatest joy was being around all the children and allowing them to get to know me as their pastor.

Pre-marital Counseling: After finishing up one couple, I recently picked up another couple to do pre-marital counseling. Again we are using Wayne Mack's book, Preparing for Marriage God's Way. The program is about 10 weeks. We are meeting once every week on Tuesday evenings.

Shepherding: Shepherding the flock at Ebenezer is a joy each week. I love being with our people and helping them persevere in faith in the Lord Jesus. Overall, major concerns have been limited in the last month or so.

<u>Christian Beliefs Class</u>: The class continues to be a wonderful time of deep doctrinal study. Our group continues faithfully to attend each week – roughly about 25. We are about to enter the doctrine of soteriology (Election to Glorification).

As I write this report, I am quickly approaching my 2 year anniversary at Ebenezer. I cannot believe how quickly time has flown by. It has been a joy and I anticipate great things in the near future as we serve our Lord together here.

Serving Christ,

Pastor Tim Gibson

POD (Pastor of Discipleship) Report –Jun/Jul 2014

In my current personal study through the Pentateuch, I landed in the book of Deuteronomy and was especially intrigued by Moses' words in chapter 13...

""If a prophet or a dreamer of dreams arises among you and gives you a sign or a wonder, and the sign or wonder that he tells you comes to pass, and if he says, 'Let us go after other gods,' which you have not known, 'and let us serve them,' you shall not listen to the words of that prophet or that dreamer of dreams. For the Lord your God is testing you, to know whether you love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. You shall walk after the Lord your God and fear him and keep his commandments and obey his voice, and you shall serve him and hold fast to him." (Deuteronomy 13:1—4, ESV)

What is especially intriguing is that this false prophet seeks to "validate" his false teaching through his signs and wonders. Signs and wonders which actually take place just as he says they would. Yet, Moses makes an incredible statement...it seems that the Lord allowed this prophet's signs and wonders to take place to test the Israelites. Test them in what way? Test them on whether they would follow God's eternal truth and commands, or be drawn away by false teaching accompanied by the spectacular. This was not just a children-of-Israel problem, it's a contemporary church problem as well. Many churches today are also being deceived by the sensational, or the spectacular and are drawn away from God's eternal truth.

"Oh God, may I never compromise your truth for the sake of a crowd. May I realize that your truth has inherent power; transforming power! Amen."

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

Kids Crossing

- Cross Time Sunday School: Summertime is always a challenge for finding subs for teachers as each takes
 their turn on vacation. But, praise the Lord, he has always provided in the nick of time! Please continue to
 pray however, that the Lord would provide a good pool of subs since many times we run into this trouble
 throughout the year when our main teachers are on vacation or sick.
- 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 in Summer Hiatus.
- **VBS 2014 (June 23-27):** Praise the Lord that our VBS 2014, "Agency D3" is now history! The evidence was clear. The proof was shown clearly from God's Word so each child, with the help of agent SAG (Special Agent Gibson), and SAM (Special Agent Messick), and their Bible drama team, was able to discover, decide, and defend the truth about who Jesus really is. We had close to 140 kids attending with around 70 volunteers helping.
- Day Camp (August 4-8) @Victory Valley: This daily program includes exciting activities such as paddle
 boats, hiking, archery, riflery, swimming, roller skating, ropes & challenge courses, crafts, campfires, and Bible
 lessons. Children are supervised by Victory Valley's trained counselors and staff, as well as chaperones from
 Ebenezer BFC. Please pray that the Lord would lead many children from EBFC to attend and be touched
 with the gospel of Jesus Christ.

Student Ministry

See Pastor Mark's report.

Adult Ministry

- Adult Electives: Our new summer semester is in full swing with the following 3 classes:
 - o Ezekiel Scott Holwick

- o Old Testament Survey Joe Maddock
- o Thinking Biblically in Today's Culture Rich Mastronardo & 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: The Bethel OT studies are complete and we currently are on our summer hiatus... we plan to resume in the fall 2014 (October) with the Bethel NT study.
- 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 is currently doing a study on Ezra & Nehemiah.
- Women's Ministry: Here is an update from Laura...

"WE have been busy with Summer Study with about 60 women registered and about 45 coming. It has been very encouraging meeting some new women from other churches and sharing our walk together.

Continuing to meet with some new ladies in the church who are very interested in plugging into WM.

I am currently trying to secure about 6 mentor moms for the upcoming MOPS year. These younger moms really want the more experienced moms to move into their lives. Please pray that God will provide just the right ladies for this role.

The upcoming MOPS year is getting more organized and we are excited about having it geared to a more spiritual/discipleship emphasis.

We are hoping to have a mentoring mom group/bible study to gear up in January.

SHE LEADS: This conference is happening this weekend. The ladies on the WM team will be attending. We have about 130 women from outside the church that will be attending. Please continue to pray for me as I am speaking for 2 breakout sessions."

Discipleship Support

• **Kinship:** We are officially in summertime hiatus for the 2013/2014 Kinship year. Plans are currently being made for our 2014/2015 Kinship year. Please pray for this effort as I am currently working alongside Bob Gill to brainstorm and organize so that this year will be the best ever. We are targeting a better way to keep track of the groups, both attendance and content, and want to seek new leaders to start new groups so that every member/regular attender of EBFC is able to take part.

Evangelism/Outreach:

- VBS Community Outreach Prep: The community-centered outreach VBS, held at the Housing Authority Lynfield Community Building and Roberto Clemente Field, located at 1889 Lynfield Dr., Bethlehem, PA 18015, will begin Monday, July 14 and will run through Friday, July 18. This outreach will contain two phases each day that will reach the young kids (k-6 grade) from 12:30-3:00, with our own VBS (Agency D3 theme), and target the older kids (middle and HS) with a sport's camp from 3:30-5:00, both with a strong gospel emphasis. Mark and Jen Culton are heading up this endeavor, with the youth and adult leadership, as this year's youth mission trip. On the final day, (Friday, July 18) we plan to host a picnic for the families of these children, where the gospel will be presented. Please pray for the following:
 - o That the Holy Spirit would be at work in or leaders, helpers, teachers, etc., and in the hearts of all the children and adults who attend. It is our desire to see many souls come into the Kingdom of God through this outreach.

- O That the Lord would provide a team to head up the picnic who will, setup, cook, serve, and cleanup. Also that the Lord would provide those who will provide the food for this picnic.
- o That the weather would not hinder us, since this is an outside event, good weather is essential.
- **GROW Ministry:** This ministry to our visitors and shut-ins is still in the detailed planning stages. We had our one day training event on May 17, 2014 which resulted in quite a few action items to be worked out. I am still working on producing the training video from the event in order to train those who could not make the training. We are currently thinking through whether the Kinship groups are the right teams for this ministry, or whether we should go with different unique teams.

Other:

- Continued to meet with one young man to counsel and encourage
- Helped in our VBS 2014 program
- Facilitated Stella Lasso's funeral
- Facilitated our "Summer in the Psalms" theme for prayer meeting
- Taught Biblical Thinking 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

Student Ministries Report - July 2014

The proverbs of Solomon, son of David, king of Israel: To know wisdom and instruction, to understand words of insight, to receive instruction in wise dealing, in righteousness, justice, and equity;

Proverbs 1:1-3, ESV

We just began a series on the book of Proverbs with the high school students, and we looked at these verses the other night. One of the phrases that caught my attention as a parent is found in vs. 3 - "to receive instruction". This is something important that must happen in our children's hearts, where they submit to the Word of God and our instruction as parents. We cannot force our kids to submit with their heart and gladly obey. We can "force" our children to know wisdom and instruction by teaching them regularly, and we can even force them to abide by our rules. But we cannot force a tenderness of heart that can only come when God graciously works in them. Because of this, we must as parents and youth workers pray regularly for God to soften the hearts of our teens so that they "receive" the instruction of the Word of God.

Teaching

• Middle School

In our Core Truth curriculum, we began a new mini-series on Salvation.

• High School

We just began to study the book of Proverbs.

Sunday School

In our "Gospel Truth" curriculum, we are focusing on the Law that God gave to Israel, which was "God's Way" to live.

• Preaching

Had the blessing of preaching Psalm 107 when Pastor Tim was away.

Shepherding

- Met with a young adult to give advice and counsel.
- Was able to connect with a family who left our church a while ago and still has teenagers. We were able to have dinner and encourage them.
- Counseling a family that is going through a very difficult time.

Staff

• We had a new young adult come on board as a growth group leader. He will be serving with our high school guys. It is great to have new volunteers!

Activities

• HS Girls beach day

A few of the female staff members took the high school girls to the beach for a time of fellowship and fun.

• Illuminite

• LITC

What a good week of ministry to the Lynfield Community. We met some great kids and some neat families as we ministered, and a number of children professed to place their faith in Jesus Christ that week. We are praying about ongoing ministry to the Lynfield community, and have a discussion meeting about the steps forward on August 31st.

Movie Night

The night of LITC the students watched a movie together at youth group and took a little break from our normal routine.

• MS Beach Day

We took some of the middle school students to the beach, and some of our high school student leaders went as well to build relationships with the younger students in hopes of mentoring and encouraging them.

• Worship/Testimony/Prayer Night

We had another special youth group night where we shared testimonies, sang some worship songs and spent time in focused prayer together.

Kickback

We had a great camping trip with our high schoolers. It is a great time for relationship building, as well as spiritual development. We talked about how to share our faith with people who disagree with us.

Other

- Was able to go to a Unite lunch, where I was able to connect with youth pastors from the area that I haven't in a while.
- Participated in the Semi-annual meeting.
- Was able to meet one of the influential mentors in my life for lunch since he was in from Wisconsin.
- Met with a potential worship leader for Sno Glo 15.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mark Culton