

# EBC CONNECTION



THE OFFICIAL E-NEWSLETTER OF  
EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH

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**SEPT BOTM \$10**

INFREQUENT PRAYER TEACHES A CHURCH THAT GOD IS NEEDED ONLY IN SPECIAL OCCASIONS

**THE LORD IS GOOD,  
A REFUGE IN  
TIMES OF  
TROUBLE.  
HE CARES FOR  
THOSE WHO  
TRUST IN HIM.**

nahum 1:7

**YAM**

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

## MISSIONS MOMENT

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As the months have melted by this year, we have seen God moving and doing some great things though, like has been experienced in the rest of the world, they were not what we expected 2020 to look like. All of our family has had to adjust and change, but in the end of it all, we have been blessed by this year!

Argentina has had some of the strictest quarantine policies, and we have been under a mandatory quarantine with restrictions to traveling only within our city. The borders are closed indefinitely. We have been disappointed that we were not able to make our planned furlough trip this year but are trusting in the Lord's provision for us in this time.

Eric has spent his days in his home office and been able to pursue various avenues of ministry through Zoom, social media and study. He's also been involved in planning and future vision casting with ministry partners.

One of the biggest blessings has been the opportunity he has had to work on his Association of Biblical Counselors (ACBC) Counselor Training certification. He has also had a chance to work on his biblical counseling classes in the doctoral program in Biblical counseling at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. This is not just study in his office; this is active and exciting ministry! He has spent countless hours over the last few months counseling men over Zoom while being supervised in his counseling, and he recently completed his certification. These are the first active steps towards much ministry here in Argentina, including counseling, teaching, and training Biblical counselors here in our local seminary and through our local church. He is really excited about the doors that God is opening up in these areas.

He has also had the opportunity to encourage and teach virtually through his new Spanish theological podcast *Teología en tu Vida*. This is a joint effort with our teammate Jason Wright. Another teaching avenue has been through a daily audio devotional which goes out to our local church and also to

Christians throughout Argentina. He also had the chance to teach on the Bible and depression through Instagram online with our college and career group at church.

Danica has also been blessed in different ways of doing ministry doing COVID. She has been able to study the Bible and disciple a few other ladies weekly. She is also working on her ACBC certification as well. And most of all, she loves her primary ministry of being a wife and mother. It is a huge blessing to her to have the boys at home and teach them about life, learning, and the Word of God!

We decided to change the kids' schooling from public, online schooling to our own curriculum and "real" homeschooling during the first few months of COVID. We are so thankful for the opportunities that this type of learning is giving us as a family. We have been able to address specific learning and spiritual issues with each of our boys, that we would not have seen otherwise.

Like we said, the opportunities for ministry during COVID are nothing like we ever expected this year to be like, but we are so grateful!

Thank you for your continued prayers and love for our family!



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- September 9: AWANA, Youth Group, and Wednesday Equipping Classes Begin
- September 13: Sunday Equipping Classes and YAM Begin
- September 18: Teen Movie Night
- September 19: Men's Breakfast
- September 20: Business Meeting
- September 21: Women's Ministry Coffee & Connect
- October 17: Men's Breakfast
- October 24: Titus 2 Women's Event
- November 2: Women's Ministry Coffee & Connect
- November 8: Membership Class
- November 15: Night of Worship
- December 24: Christmas Eve Service

## ELDER UPDATE

Over the past few months, the elders have spent considerable time in prayer and discussion in an effort to determine how to best shepherd Emmanuel's congregation amid the coronavirus outbreak.

The board has had to modify worship and communion services, develop guidelines for reopening children's church, and work to maintain regular contact with church members.

Our goal in each decision was – above everything else – to be obedient to the Word of God, and that will continue to be our No. 1 priority going forward.

As the members of the board continue to navigate these unprecedented times, we covet your prayers. Specifically:

- 1) Pray the Lord provides the board with wisdom, both to understand and apply Scripture to specific situations.
- 2) Pray for unity on the board.
- 3) Pray that the board's decisions glorify God.

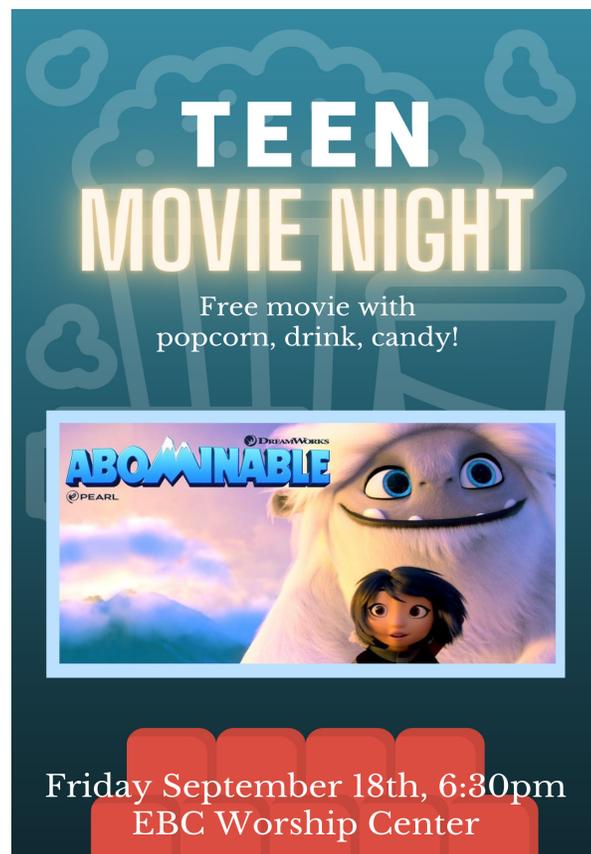
### New officers:

At their meeting in August, the elders elected new officers. Kevin Brown was elected chairman, Jerry Lanting was elected vice chairman, and Dave Riley was elected secretary.

If you get a chance, please take a moment to thank Jeff Rindal, who served faithfully as the board chairman for the past three years.

### 2021 theme:

The elders have chosen the church theme for next year: "Identity in Christ." EBC's events, resources, songs of the month, and summer sermon series in 2021 will reflect this theme.



**TEEN  
MOVIE NIGHT**

Free movie with popcorn, drink, candy!

**ABOMINABLE**

Friday September 18th, 6:30pm  
EBC Worship Center

## MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

### WORSHIP MINISTRY

Drummer, Percussion

Bass Guitar, Acoustic Guitar, Electric Guitar

Piano, Keys

Vocalist

Projection (Slides), Producer (Live Stream, Lighting)

### CONNECTIONS MINISTRY

Greeter

Connections Desk

For more info about these opportunities, contact [nathan@ebcmv.org](mailto:nathan@ebcmv.org).

## GETTING TO KNOW YOU

### BORN

David: Scottsdale, Arizon 1988

Abigail: Mount Vernon, Washington 1992

### SHORT TESTIMONY

David: I was born into and grew up in a Christian family, I accepted the Lord when I was about 6 year old, roughly when my family started attending EBC. Around my high school and college years I struggled with sin, but have since put that behind me and given myself fully to the Lord. My love for the Lord drives me to serve the church in various ways, and I have committed myself to lead my family to love and follow God's word.

Abigail: My parents started taking my sister and I to church when I was about 2 or 3 years old. Growing up I was very passionate about church and following Christ. When I turned 15 I became consumed by worldly things and battled with depression. God put spiritual leaders in my life who helped me strengthen my faith and lead me back to him. Every milestone in life I'm learning more about my own faults and becoming who God intended me to be as a mother, wife, and woman of the Lord.

### HOW DID YOU MEET?

We technically met in High School at Mount Vernon Christian, although we didn't really *know* each other personally. We started talking while Abi was in her first year of College at NorthWest University and David was in Ecuador with his family. After he came home, David came to visit Abi at college and took me on our first date; laser tag, milkshakes, and a classic zombie movie.

### HOW LONG YOU'VE ATTENDED EBC?

David: I started attending in 1995

Abigail: I started attending December 18, 2011. David asked me to be his girlfriend after service.



### WHAT AREAS ARE YOU INVOLVED AT EBC?

David: High School Youth Ministry

Abigail: Currently serving as the Graphic Designer in the Connections Ministry. I make the slides, posters, and a lot of the printed stuff you see! Including this Newsletter! I love my job!

### HOBBIES/LEISURE ACTIVITIES

David: Video games, hiking, hanging with friends and playing board games.

Abigail: I draw for work, I draw for fun, art is life. My other hobbies are reading comics, hiking, and baking (our toddler makes it all the more fun!)

### FAVORITE BOOK OF THE BIBLE

David: James

Abigail: Ecclesiastes

### FAVORITE BOOK(S) OTHER THAN THE BIBLE

David: The Hobbit by JRR Tolkien

Abigail: Oh no this is hard... I LOVE books! If I have to narrow it, my favorite series is The Lord of the Rings, and my favorite author is Frank Peretti.

## FAVORITE FOODS

We both love eating sushi, David also loves a good steak.

## FAVORITE LOCAL RESTAURANT

David: Rachawadee in Mount Vernon

Abigail: Zen Sushi in Bellingham

## FAVORITE SHOWS/MOVIES

We enjoy watching Sci-Fi or Fantasy shows and movies together.

## COUNSELING CORNER

From Pastor Herb--

*This month's article comes to us from Dr. Paul Tripp, well-known author, pastor, biblical counselor, and conference speaker. Dr. Tripp has written numerous books covering a variety of topics. If you are not familiar with him, I strongly encourage you to seek out his material. The following selection is from one of his recent devotional letters:*

This is an oversimplification, but I believe the following statement is true: if Christians lived as if eternity were real, many of our problems would disappear.

Each week at church, you and I affirm our belief in heaven and hell, but there is a significant difference between our confessional theological and our functional living. How often did you think of eternity last week, and how did it impact your decisions? If I'm honest, not very much. What about you?

Consequently, our lives are much more complicated than they need to be. Our struggles reveal more about our eternity amnesia than it does about the world around us.

Let's consider some of the ways that forgetting about Forever complicates today:

1. We focus too much on self. God created us to live with more in view than just the present moment's comfort, pleasure, and happiness. Add the fact that we are not in charge, we do not live in the center of the universe, and life moves by the will and purpose of Another! When we shrink our existence down to momentary wants, feelings, and needs, we're fighting

against God's sovereign narrative and intended design for our joy.

2. We ask too much of people. If we try to make today our paradise, we unwittingly ask the people around us to provide that paradise for us. How tremendously unfair! They cannot give us the constant inner peace and satisfaction that we can only ever experience in eternity. It will only end in disappointment, frustration, conflict, and division.

3. We are too controlling and fearful. At some point, everyone will feel like life is passing them by; unfulfilled dreams are inescapable. Instead of chasing them in futility, view them as alerts that God designed us for another world. If you live with the coming world in view, these will be gentle (but still painful) reminders.

4. We question the goodness of God. If we don't understand God's eternal narrative, we will doubt his character. God's promises only reach their fulfillment in the world that is to come; if we forget, we will feel that we have been hit with a divine bait and switch. Life in a fallen world is enormously more complicated when you don't have confidence that you have a loving Father.

5. We are more disappointed than thankful. Many of us are unthankful, not because God has failed us, or we have suffered much, or the people around us have been particularly

## COUNSELING CORNER CONT.

challenging to live with, but because we approach life hoping that it will deliver to us things that we can only experience in eternity. Grumbling people don't have much joy and miss out on the gifts God provides today!

6. We lack motivation and hope. When life inevitably disappoints, you will either lose enthusiasm and optimism, or remember that God's plan is marching toward a moment when he will restore all that the fall has broken. Yes, life is hard, and you will experience things you never imagined, but eternity fills you with a reason to get up in the morning and press on.

Do you want to experience life to the fullest today, as you wait for paradise? Remember that today is never meant to make you complete—it's a preparation for a final destination. You are not living in the final chapter of the story. What is broken will be fixed, what has been bent will be straightened, and what has decayed will be restored. Eternity will give you a reason to continue, be thankful, and find joy, even when nothing right now seems as if it is working.

God bless,  
Paul Tripp

## SONG OF THE MONTH : GREATER THAN WE CAN IMAGINE

Every day we'll bless You and praise Your name  
And on Your glorious splendor we will dwell  
On Your wondrous works, Lord, we'll meditate  
And of Your awesome power we will tell  
We'll speak of Your salvation and Your abundant goodness

Because You are greater than we can imagine  
You are too beautiful for us to fathom  
Oh, You are great, and greatly to be praised

Every generation shall sing Your worth  
And magnify Your mercy and Your grace  
We'll sing about the Savior who came to earth  
To bear the sins of those He came to save  
You fill our hearts with wonder  
We'll worship You forever

## BODY LIFE

### BIRTHS:

KIMBER ALICE VANDER LEI

Born: August 10, 2020

Proud Parents: Peter and Lindsey  
Vander Lei

Kimber joins siblings: June and  
Landon

AKSEL LEIF BURROUGHS

Born: August 12, 2020

Proud Parents: Kyle and Heidi Bur-  
roughs

Aksel join siblings: Jack, Alaina, and  
Ryker

SOPHIA JO RILEY

Born: August 27, 2020

Proud Parents: Joe and Stephanie  
Riley

Sophia joins siblings: Emily and Kate

## MINISTRY MOMENT | CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

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Recently, I was reading a Christian novel. As the heroine climbed into a buggy, she was asked what was in the covered basket that she carried. Her answer was, "hope." That scene struck a chord with me. Lately, I believe all of us have been carrying covered baskets filled with our hopes. Many of our baskets contain the same hopes: a hope that our friends and family stay well, a hope that the economy improves and we don't suffer job loss, a hope that children can return to school full-time without wearing a mask, a hope that soon we can hug our friends and family as often as we choose. We long for stability and normalcy. Some of us carry more personal and private hopes in our basket.

The Bible has a lot to say about the hope that is freely offered to believers.

Proverbs 13:12: "Hope deferred makes the heart sick."

Isaiah 40:31: "... but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength . . ."

Jeremiah 29:11: "'For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

Romans 12:12: "Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer."

Romans 15:4: "For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope."

Romans 15:13: "May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."

Hebrews 10:23: "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful."

God has not withdrawn His promises of hope. We should help each other remember that our hope remains in our relationship to the Lord. His ways are not our ways. As His promises declare. He remains the God of hope.

Here at EBC, one hope has been a return to Children's Ministries within Jubilee Junction. Parents, children and volunteers are all looking forward to Wednesday nights and the beginning of AWANA on September 9th and Sunday school resuming at 10:30 AM on September 13th. Will it look the same as before? No, but we must rest in the knowledge that God knows and understands our hopes for the future.

What are you carrying in your basket of hope?

Terry Ogdon  
Children's Ministry Director

