

1101 First St.
P.O. Box 853
Davenport, WA. 99122
(509) 725-3270
tbfdavenport@hotmail.com
www.tbf.church

Steve McLachlan, Pastor
(509) 721-0830
prchr_steve@hotmail.com

John Doyle, Youth Pastor
(509) 435-6393
tbfypdoyle@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Dion Ricketts
Knut Hernas

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Tyson Lacy

*"Our mission is to
proclaim the Word
of God, leading
people to a saving
faith and a growing
relationship with
Jesus Christ."*



Always the Christmas Spirit

Christmas Spirit way past. The first hint of a Messiah (Hebrew version of Christ) came in Genesis 3, when God informed the serpent that the woman's seed would crush him.

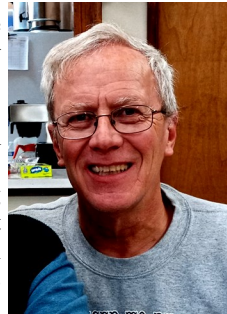
Other prophecies came along pointing to this promised one, but they gained the greatest clarity in Isaiah and Micah. Isaiah gave us the glowing words, *"The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call Him Immanuel."* And a little later, *"And He shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace."* Micah added the information so helpful to the Magi, that out of Bethlehem would come *"One who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times."*

Christmas Spirit less past; or the focal point of the Christmas Spirit. The angel's words to Mary, *"You will be with child and will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High."* Mary later responded with, *"My soul glorifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my savior."*

A few months later, another angel spoke *"Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."* And the shepherds *"returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen."*

Christmas Spirit present. I really don't know what to say to this one.

The first part of the third Chapter of 2nd Timothy is a warning of how things will be



in the last days. In the description of these days, we find this phrase, *"Always learning, but never able to acknowledge the truth."* That might describe our day. The knowledge of Christmas is pervasive. Many know no more than Santa and Christmas trees; but awareness it is about the birth of Jesus is still rich even outside the bounds of the Church.

What seems important to many people, though, is to not let that knowledge interfere with their celebration. After all, too much focus on Jesus might adversely affect marketing and sales. After all, that's what matters (sour face emoji).

There is a lot of variety in what people call the Christmas Spirit these days, and what it looks like. Frankly, it doesn't bother me a lot that those outside the Church get it wrong. At least it's equated with joyful celebration. And, it doesn't bother me if that overlaps and is included in the Christian's Christmas Spirit. Family, Gift-giving, and Celebration are a great way to celebrate Christ and His gift.

But, if we ever separate Christmas from that victory prophesied in Genesis, from Immanuel, from the Son born in Bethlehem, and from the good news of Great joy given to the shepherds; then we've done something wrong with the Christmas Spirit. We're celebrating, but we don't know why; or worse, we don't care.

Celebrate your best; express great joy. God sent His Son, Jesus, the greatest gift of all.

Photo of the Month



What do they do at a Youth Leadership Retreat? I'm still not sure, but it seems to involve playing with dolls. Maybe you can ask Rebecca, Kariya, Amy of Seyler for clarification.

Elders Report

Thursday, 16 November 2023 @ 6:30 PM
Attendees: Mike Bell, Charlie Rodgers, John Doyle, Knute Hernas, Steve McLachlan, Phone - Jeremy Eaton, Dion Ricketts, Sue Warwick

- Treasurer
- Discussion on funds for Pastor Daniel
 - Recommend an offering be taken and TBF will make up any difference up to \$5,000
 - Discussion on Pastor and Youth Pastor salaries

Minutes reviewed and approved with corrections

- Pastor’s report
- Steve is looking at starting a new small group
 - Baby Bottle drive should start on Mother’s Day next year
 - Discussion the Annual Business meeting
 - Steve will do the devotional for November Men’s Breakfast
 - Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year
 - The children’s program will be the Sunday prior
 - The Sundays leading up to Christmas will have different Elders giving messages
 - Christmas Day will be the traditional Christmas service
 - Christian T-Shirt Day will be on Sunday, December 3rd

- Youth Pastor’s report
- Youth Leadership
 - Good attendance
 - Next regular meeting is 8th of December
 - Retreat at Cocolalla was November 10th and 11th, 15 youth in attendance
 - AWANA Trek/Journey: Still serving on Weds nights
 - Youth Group
 - Good numbers
 - Current format of study and games working well
 - October Big Event was October 22nd at Walter’s Harvest House
 - November will not have a Big Event
 - December’s Big Event will be the Live Nativity
 - Need to get a CDL

- Old Business
- AED maintenance contract available
 - Discussion on progress on the Fellowship Hall building project

- New Business
- Charlie Rodgers presented the idea of a Men’s Movie Night

Intercessory Prayer
Next Meeting: Thursday, December 14th, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

Church Funds
10/31/23

Benevolence Fund	3,475.00
Bus Fund	3,600.00
Missionaries Reserve	3,625.00
Missions Fund	1,850.00
General Fund	112,995.00
Total	\$125,545.00
Building Fund	\$108,009.00
	\$233,554.00

Ladies Fellowship

Don’t miss it, Ladies! Our December fellowship is Saturday, Dec 2nd at 9 a.m. Step out of the Christmas rush for some special time relaxing with your friends.

Men’s Breakfast

Men and boys, come join us Saturday morning, Dec 16 for our Men’s Breakfast. It’s a great time of food, fellowship, and some time in God’s Word. It’s a good way to start your Saturday.

Christmas Day Service

For those of you new to TBF, every year we have a casual service on Christmas morning. It’s short and simple, and keeps the truth of Christmas before us. In the middle of celebrations that sometimes leave Jesus out, it’s a great event.



New York New Year

In what is now a tradition, TBF will host a family-friendly New Year’s Eve party set to Eastern Time. There are kid-friendly games, games for grown-ups, and usually a small Pinochle party. The teens typically find floor-space in one of the rooms for board games of their own
Put it on your calendar, and celebrate the new and still be home before 10!



by John Doyle

Youth Stuff

Ok, looks like Fall is fading to Winter, you all know what that means.....
Christmas!! November was a great month. Youth Group was packed! Youth Leadership went to Cocolalla for Fall Youth Retreat. I want to take the time to thank all the Youths that serve our Lord and Savior At AWANA. Thanks kids we could not do it

Youth Leadership Training (YLT)

This month’s meetings, 8th Dec, 5 to 7pm. Bring a dish to share, YLT Break, restart 12th Jan.

Upcoming Events

CLBC **Winter Camp** Jan 12-14th, register @ clbcamp.org, transportation available weather permitting, Scholarships Available

Volunteer

The Youth ministries can use your time, talent, and prayers. If you are interested in volunteering or serving the Youth G.A.N.G we can sure use help, please contact: Youth Pastor John Doyle @ (509) 435-6393, E-Mail: tbfpdoyle@gmail.com



without you.
Ok, November is past but December will be a Holiday Blast!! The Youth G.A.N.G. won’t stop having fun....the Youth G.A.N.G. is on the move!!!

Youth Group G.A.N.G. (God’s Anointed Next Generation)

Youth Group, come hang with the G.A.N.G. Discover the Word of Christ and maybe a game or two. Sundays 3:30 to 5pm, Christmas break 17th Dec to the 7th Jan, No Youth Group.

Big Event

- **Live Nativity Scene** December 1st leaving TBF@4pm (No rides Available, come with your own transportation)
- New Years Eve Party, Dec 31st 6-10pm, come and enjoy games and food. Bring a dish to share.

Annual Business Meeting Report

Nov 19, 2023

The meeting was called to order after a very satisfying pot-luck dinner, so everyone was already in a good mood.

Last year's minutes were read, and reports were given, summing up the events of the past year. It was an eventful year, with many baptisms, new babies, graduates, and missionary visits.

Voting was conducted for our new church officers. All candidates were elected, with the following results:

Elder: 3 year term: Knute Hernas, Dion Ricketts

Deaconess: 3 year term: Peggy Semprimoznik, Rachel Lacy

Trustee: 3 year term: Micah Choate

Secretary: 1 year term: Jana Scott

Treasurer: 3 year term: Debbie Anderson

Missions Committee: 1 year term: Laurie Anderson, Sandy Buchanan, Janice Emery, Sharyn McClure, Cathy Plumb

Financially, the church is very sound. By majority voted, the congregation approved increasing each missionary's monthly support by \$25, and sending each missionary a \$500 bonus. Reflecting some unexpected results from last year's pastor raises, Pastor Steve was given a raise, and Pastor John was given a bonus. \$55,000 was transferred from the General Fund to the Building Fund.

There was a lot of discussion about Pastor Daniel's request for money and how best to respond. It was decided that opportunity will be given for individual donations until Christmas, at which time the offering will be sent to Pastor Daniel. If it is less than \$5,000 the church will make up the difference to send him that amount.

Items of Interest

Though progress on the building is slow, the delay is a bureaucratic snag; and once fixed, things should move quickly.

Sunday School will be cancelled again for summer, and the Worship Service will begin an hour earlier.



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Thanks to Mikel Rice

12-25-1999

O WOW ... A LITTLE TOWN OF BETHLEHEM
BLOCK SET

Prefer to get your Newsletter by email? We can do that! Contact the church office at tbfdavenport@hotmail.com



December is a very short month at Awana this year. We have only two nights:

Dec 6	Penny Parade
Dec 13	Nativity Scene Night

Penny Parade is the night we raise money to send as a Christmas gift to Awana missionaries Jim & Bev VanMersbergen. In addition to offering help to new churches starting Awana, Jim & Bev give training (the Awana Conference) that helps churches like ours. This is our way to wish them a Merry Christmas and say thank you at the same time. (Money other than pennies is gladly accepted.)

As winter hits, don't forget we follow the Davenport Schools closure policy. If they cancel, we cancel. If there's any change to that, you will receive a phone call.

Missionaries of the Month:
Olivier & Ellen Melnick



December 2023

Women's Ministry Leader: Janice Emery
Group Members: Lisa Sandygren
Lori Rieth
Janene Warner
Ruth Fromm



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Journey to Bethlehem Leave TBF 4 pm 	2 Ladies Fellowship 9 am
3 Christian T-Shirt Day Coffee Fellowship Youth Group 3:30 pm	4 Evening of Prayer 7 pm	5	6 Awana 6 pm Penny Parade	7 BSF 10 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm	8 Youth Leadership 5 pm	9
10 Youth Group 3:30 pm	11 Men's Bible Study 7 pm	12 Mission Committee Meeting 5:30 pm	13 Awana 6 pm Nativity Scene Night	14 BSF 10 am (Fellowship) Ladies Prayer 1 pm Elders Meeting 6:30 pm	15	16 Men's Breakfast 8 am 
17 Children's Christmas Program 10:30 am Youth Group 3:30 pm 	18 Evening of Prayer 7 pm	19	20	21	22	23
24	25 Christmas Day Service 10 am 	26	27	28	29	30
31 Communion/ Benevolence Offering Youth Group New Year's Eve Party 6—10 pm 	New York New Year's Eve Party 6—9 pm					