

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
tbfpdoyle@gmail.com

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Jeremy Eaton
Knute Hernas
Dion Ricketts

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



Lessons Learned the Hard Way

I have the spiritual gift of making things complicated. As in, when something breaks and you're trying to fix it, the tool you're trying to fix it with also breaks. Just after the hardware store closed.

I discovered this gift many years ago when I was the Sunday School bus driver. One day it wouldn't start, so I called Mr. Mason. He was an active member of the church, and he taught automotive mechanics at SCC. Being the instructor, he took his position on the sidewalk, while I climbed up and sat on the engine itself.

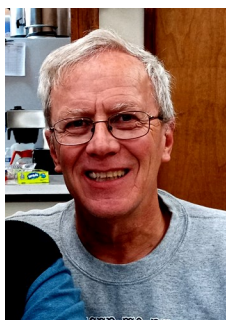
"It's either fuel or fire." He said. Meaning either gas wasn't getting to the engine, or there was no spark to ignite it. "All we have to do is figure out which." So, as I sat up there, he gave me different things to try, none of them solving the problem, making the riddle harder and harder to solve. Now, I don't remember any of the details; I don't remember the final problems or how we fixed them. I do remember it turned out to be both fuel and fire.

"How can that be? I asked. "How can both those things go wrong at the same time?"

"I don't know," he answered, "but I guess they can."

That was the first of many experiences that demonstrate the consistency of my gift, or superpower; whichever you might name it. In fact, that day was mild. To be truly consistent, it should have started raining.

There are things you can learn from a gift like that. Probably there are several things a smart person can learn, but I've



learned only one. If you stop because things go wrong, you will never get anything done. At least, not much of anything, not anything significant.

Galatians 6:9 says this: *"Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up."* Interestingly, this is in the context of trying to help people. The next line reads, *"Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially those who belong to the family of believers."*

Steve's paraphrase: "Don't give up trying to help people even when it doesn't seem to pay off, because eventually it will."

Trying to help people can be frustrating. People can be much more complicated than broken machinery; they can be ungrateful, and they can even turn on you. It is no fun to be punished for trying to do the right thing.

Trying to help someone know or walk with Christ can be much the same. But the worst thing you can do when you're seeing no results is give up.

To give up on the bus might be the same as saying, 'It's time to get a new bus; this thing is more trouble than it's worth.' That's okay; we eventually did replace it. But what are you saying when you give up on reaching that person? On touching those lives? Whatever it is, you don't want to say it.

While you are trying to do good, things will go wrong. Guaranteed. But things going wrong only stop you if you stop. Do not become weary in doing good.

Photo of the Month



One tree wanted to be a treasure chest, was built into a manger. He ended up holding the Savior of the world. And was surrounded by the cutest barnyard animals ever.

Elders Report

Thursday, 14 December, 2023 @ 6:30 PM

Attendees: Steve McLachlan, John Doyle, Mike Bell, Jeremy Eaton, Dion Ricketts, and Knute Hernas

Previous minutes reviewed and approved with corrections.

Pastor's report

- Collections for the special offering for Pastor Daniel's new church project ends at the Christmas Eve service.
- Operation Christmas Child donations were short. We will pay the \$973 difference from the General Fund.
- The Neighbors Ad from the Davenport Times increased from \$200 to \$800. We will not renew.
- Jeremy and Knute will miss the Men's Breakfast on December 16. Dion and Mike will cover.
- Sunday, January 7 at 5:00, Knute and Lynn Hernas are starting the Growing in Christ Bible study.
- The Kingdom Men bible study was a partial success. Waiting on another men's study until the Growing in Christ study ends.
- A "New York New Year's Eve Party" is planned from 6-9pm on December 31 at the church.
- Based on the success of the Turkey Shoot, a "Family Shoot" is being discussed for this Spring. TBA
- Building Report: Steve wrote a letter clarifying the "kitchen" use. Expects to hear back soon.

Youth Pastor's report

- Youth Leadership
 - Good attendance at monthly meetings.
 - On December 28, a "Read thru the four Gospels, Acts, and Psalms is planned
- AWANA Trek/Journey
 - Turnout has been lower than earlier in the year.
- Youth Group
 - Good numbers
 - December Big Event will be the Live Nativity
 - Planning to be at church for Christmas break "Hang-out" times.
 - New Year's Eve party is planned with the "New York New Year's Eve" party.

New Business

- 2024 Chili Cook-Off and Dad Joke Contest on February 4
- Planning an Ordination Service for John Doyle and Josh McLachlan
- A Church Officer Commissioning Service and Calendar Review will be discussed at our next meeting.
- 2024 communion schedule was set

Intercessory Prayer

Next Meeting: January 4, 2024, 6:30pm

Church Funds

Report not available

Saturday Morning Fellowship



Ladies Fellowship

Ladies, join us Saturday morning, Jan 6, at 9 am! Tea, coffee, pastries, and a really good time of fellowship with each other. If you haven't joined us yet, please give us a try in this new year. You won't regret it.

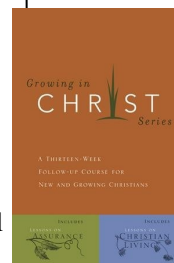
Men's Breakfast



Guys, you're invited to start your Saturday with us on the third Saturday of each month (the 20th this month), for a breakfast prepared by the pastors and elders. A typical menu consists of eggs, bacon, pancakes, and sausage. When we stray from this list, it's only to make it better!

Bring your friends and your appetite. We'll try to feed your body and your soul.

Growing in Christ Bible Study



This thirteen-week study teaches the basics of living the Christian life. It is good to establish new believers and refresh and strengthen the rest of us. Knute and Lynn Hernas will be leading the study at church 5 pm Sunday evenings, beginning on the 7th.

They have several copies of the study on-hand, but you probably want to let them know you plan to attend so they can be sure they have enough.



by John Doyle

Youth Stuff

Merry Christmas....wait, that was last month. Well looks like we had a pretty good December and a great Christmas break. I sure hope your Christmas season was like mine, full of Family, Food, and most importantly Christ.

Here comes 2024 and January is going to kick things off right. This month we will be going back to Cocolalla for Winter Camp! Ok out with the Old 2023 and in with the new....HELLO 2024!!.....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.

Big Event

Winter Camp Cocolalla, 12th to 14th Jan. Leaving TBF 3pm. Register online www.clbcamp.org transportation is limited, Camperships available, contact Pastor John ASAP for information.

Youth Leadership Training (YLT)

This month's meetings, 26th of Jan.

Upcoming Events

Chili Cook-Off and Dad Joke contest 4th Feb.

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

Why did the jalapeno wear a tiny jacket?
Because he was just a little chili.





Chili Cook-off and Dad Joke Contest!

This is a first-ever and possibly once-only event—be sure you don’t miss it!

Sunday, February 4th, plan to stay after Church and be part of the fun.

A meal will be shared. Men are encouraged to bring a pot of chili to be judged and consumed. Possibly there will be a prize, but the greatest honor will be the title of TBF Chili Champion. Others are encouraged to bring side dishes and desserts.

Following the meal, men will face off man-to-man in a dad-joke telling tournament. The man who laughs first loses. The man who doesn’t laugh moves up in the competition.

Dad Joke: a wholesome joke of the type said to be told by fathers with a punchline that is often an obvious or predictable pun or play on words.

“Do you know why dad jokes are like sausage?
They’re the wurst.”



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No Baby Bottles?

For the last few years, we’ve used ‘Sanctity of Life Sunday’ (Jan 21st this year) to kick off our Baby Bottle campaign to raise money for Life Services of Spokane.

We’re not doing that this year, but we still are as pro-life and as much in support of Life Services as ever. We’ve just moved our campaign dates, so that we will hand out bottles on Mothers Day, and receive them back on Fathers Day.

Save up your change, give more than change, and help change the world.



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(See Genesis 3) 12-30-2013

REMEMBER THAT NEW YEAR RESOLUTION YOU MADE TO TRY NEW THINGS?

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





Welcome back for a new year at Awana—even though it’s only the second part of the same Awana year! We are looking forward to lots of fun and lots of growth. Resolve to do your best in 2024!

Special Nights


Jan 3	Glow Stick Night
Jan 10	Middle of Summer Night
Jan 17	Pajamas Night
Jan 24	Duct Tape Night
Jan 31	Socks Night

Five nights this month! After missing so many nights in November and December, this looks great. I hate missing nights of Awana. And **Glow Stick Night** is a great way to start the New Year!

Missionaries of the Month:
Brad & Shilo Cain

January 2024



Women's Ministry Leader: Wanda Bowman

Group Members: Annie Ricketts
Joan McLachlan
Lexine Eaton
Peggy Finch

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Evening of Prayer 7 pm 	2	3 Awana 6-7:30 pm Glow Stick Night	4 Elders Meeting 6:30 pm	5	6 Ladies Fellowship 9 am 
7 Coffee Fellowship Youth Group 3:30 pm Growing In Christ Bible Study 5 pm	8	9 Quarterly Board Meeting 6:30 pm	10 Awana 6-7:30 pm Middle of Summer Night	11 BSF 10 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm	12  Winter Camp @ CLBC January 12, 13, & 14	13 
14 Growing In Christ Bible Study 5 pm	15 Evening of Prayer 7 pm	16 Mission Committee Meeting 5:30 pm	17 Awana 6-7:30 pm Pajamas Night	18 BSF 10 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm	19	20 Men's Breakfast 8 am 
21 Youth Group 3:30 pm Growing In Christ Bible Study 5 pm	22	23	24 Awana 6-7:30 pm Duct Tape Night	25 BSF 10 am Ladies Prayer 1 pm	26 Youth Leadership 5 pm	27
28 Communion/Benevolence Offering Youth Group 3:30 pm Growing In Christ Bible Study 5 pm	29	30	31 Awana 6-7:30 pm Socks Night			