



## Thankfulness in the Holidays

*From the desk of Pastor Paul Cummings*

'Tis this season of colorful decorations, lots of eating, friends and family gatherings, Christmas shopping, and VERY BUSY SCHEDULES. The rush of the holidays seems to hit hard almost every year. This is a fun and special time, especially in the church calendar as we give particular emphasis on the birth of Christ. As we move from Thanksgiving to Christmas, let's remember one essential element of our Christian life. What element am I referring to?

### **Thankfulness.**

Being thankful is not a foreign concept to us; Americans even have a day set aside to celebrate a holiday of Thanksgiving. We get the general idea. To be thankful means to have and express appreciation and gratitude for something. We have much to be grateful for. Just consider the

gospel. Though we are sinners who have transgressed against the holy and righteous God, He has demonstrated such wondrous love towards us by sending His Son who died for our sins (Rom. 5:8). Our record of debt against God has been paid in full by Jesus (Col. 2:13-24). That was the reason for the birth of our Savior, to actually save us from our sins by dying on the cross. You can be forgiven completely for your sins and given

eternal life when you repent and trust in Jesus.

What amazing, good news! This is the greatest thing to be thankful for.

Yet, it doesn't stop there. God is still working in our lives as our Heavenly Father. Even all our trials and circumstances are used by Him for our good and His glory (Rom. 8:28; James 1:2-4). Because of God's personal care for His children, we have plenty of



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reasons to express thanksgiving.

### **Let's think of a few:**

- ◆ Salvation in Jesus that is given by grace, not earned by our works.
- ◆ God is always with His people and sustains us every day.
- ◆ We have the Word of God in our language.
- ◆ We have friends and family.

*continued on page 3*

# Christmas at Eastridge

*Special  
Christmas  
Worship  
Services*

Sunday,  
December  
18, 2022

*8:30 Et  
11:15 am*



## *Christmas Eve Service*

Saturday,  
December 24, 2022  
*4:00 - 5:00 pm*

This will be a family service.  
No childcare provided;  
instead, please bring the  
whole family to worship the  
joy of Jesus together!

*Christmas Sunday Services* December 25, 2022

*8:30 am - First Service*

*No Sunday School*

*10:30 am - Second Service*

*Christmas day will be family services:*

**No Nurseries or Children's Church**

*Please bring the whole family to worship the joy of Jesus together!*

# Thankfulness in the Holidays

*continued from page 1*

Let's think of a few things we have to be thankful for here at Eastridge:

- ◆ We belong to Christ.
- ◆ We study the Bible.
- ◆ Youth and children are being taught the Bible at young ages.
- ◆ The Lord has blessed families with children, including moms who are expecting.
- ◆ We have good, Christ-honoring music to sing.
- ◆ We pray and worship together.
- ◆ We witnessed baptisms where people shared the work of Christ in their lives.
- ◆ Men and women are meeting together to study the Word and seek to apply it in their lives.
- ◆ We enjoy fellowship with one another.

This is just a small list. Can you think of more?

As children of God who are redeemed by His grace, thankfulness should flow easily from us. First Thessalonians 5:18 commands us to, “give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” *Give thanks* is a command that is to be on-going. It should be a normal characteristic of our lives. In fact, *thanklessness* is the mark of an unbeliever. Romans 1:21 states, “For although they knew God, they did not honor him as God or give thanks to him, but they became futile in their thinking, and their foolish hearts were darkened.” Instead, we who know Christ have been given new hearts that should overflow with gratitude and worship of our glorious Lord. “Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving” (Col. 2:6-7). As those who know Christ, let's continue in thankfulness

long past the holiday of Thanksgiving, “giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ” (Eph. 5:20).

While we may be extra busy over the Christmas season, I encourage you to think of one thing you are thankful for when you go to bed each night. It could be something about God, His Word, His works, or salvation in Christ that you are thankful for or something from your day you can thank God for (e.g., an answered prayer, a beautiful sunset the Lord made, God sustaining you through the workday, time with your family, etc.). May we approach this holiday as people who are constantly found being thankful to the Lord.



# The Disciple-Making Parent

## A Book Review by Cathy Mickelson

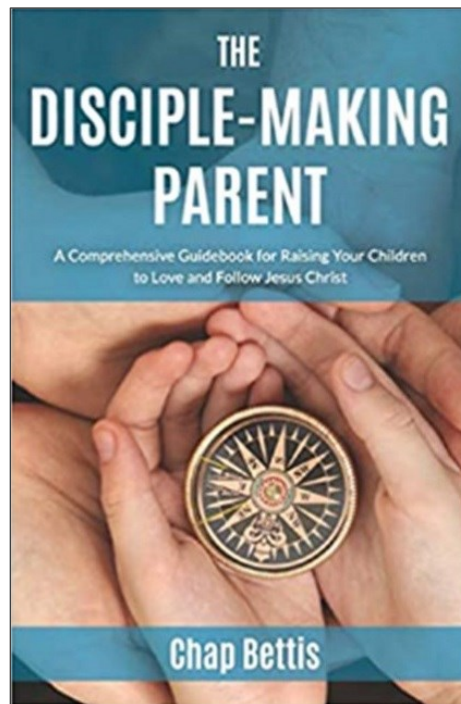
Chap Bettis hit a home run when he wrote this comprehensive guidebook for raising children to love and follow Jesus Christ. In my thirty-nine years of parenting, this is by far the best parenting book that I have read (actually, I listened to the audiobook). The author offers the audiobook for free on his website:

[www.thedisciplemakingparent.com](http://www.thedisciplemakingparent.com). Bettis draws on his 25 years of pastoral experience along with having raised four children to adulthood as he helps parents apply biblical wisdom to child-raising. He presents the concept of the family as God's institution designed to glorify God and make disciples. He helps the parent understand what is involved in making a disciple (a follower of Jesus Christ). This is not a step-by-step how-to book. Bettis describes his book as a guidebook or playbook (as in football) where, depending on the age of your child, certain chapters will be more pertinent than others. He even suggests skipping around depending on what chapters seem most pertinent to your situation. One of the things that caught my attention was his emphasis on the role of the Holy Spirit in parenting. He ends his introduction with this statement, "With the right mindset, and the Holy Spirit as our guide, let's proceed together."

The book begins with the first three chapters addressing foundational issues such as how discipleship, the gospel and parenting are intertwined, you are your child's most effective shepherd, and how your child's faith walk will be different from your Christian experience. Bettis

emphasizes the importance of our example of living out the gospel at home. He offers three truths regarding this:

1. *Home is the front lines for the gospel. My first field of service is my home.*
2. *Home exposes the heart. We say things to our spouse and children that we would never say to someone else.*
3. *Home trains the heart. The Spirit empowers us to be patient and kind, expecting nothing in return.*



Bettis gives helpful guidance on how to prepare our children for the gospel message, speaking to them for their conversion, and teaching them about the struggle between the flesh and the Spirit. One section addresses the "heart" and the value of good communication with our child. Many parents struggle with how to impart Scripture to their children. This book gives very helpful advice on how to nurture them in the truth of God's Word. Other topics addressed include teaching them to deny worldliness and live for the kingdom, the power of prayer, helping them work through

their doubts about the Christian faith, choosing friends wisely, and living their life in the power of the Holy Spirit as they seek God with a whole heart.

In addition to the free audiobook, Chap Bettis has a podcast and an audioblog. These can be found under the titles The Disciple-Making Parent Podcast and The Disciple-Making Parent AudioBlog. Be sure to check out his website, [www.thedisciplemakingparent.com](http://www.thedisciplemakingparent.com). I encourage you to take advantage of these wonderful resources to help guide you on your journey to becoming the disciple-making parent God is calling you to be.

# Christmas Events at Eastridge

## Ladies' Christmas Party



*Where:* EBC Auditorium  
*When:* Friday, December 16  
*Time:* 7:00-9:00pm



All ladies high school and older are invited to a night of fellowship as we conclude our year of reflection through Jeremiah 17:7-8! Come dressed in your favorite festive attire—anything from ugly Christmas sweaters, to holiday pajamas, to festive formal wear! There will be prizes for the top three most festive outfits! We will also play a fun Christmas ornament-exchange game.

*Bring:* A sweet or savory snack to share and a Christmas ornament to exchange (old, new or handmade)

*Rsvp:* Realm (Events) or Welcome Table Sign-up

Contact: Jennifer Swenson at [swen4son@comcast.net](mailto:swen4son@comcast.net)



## Young Adults Christmas Brunch

Saturday, December 10  
11a-1p @ Thompsons'

Games, food, Christmas mug exchange, & more!

RSVP in the lobby or on Realm.

**Brunch Potluck—Please sign up to bring a main dish or dessert. Drinks will be provided**

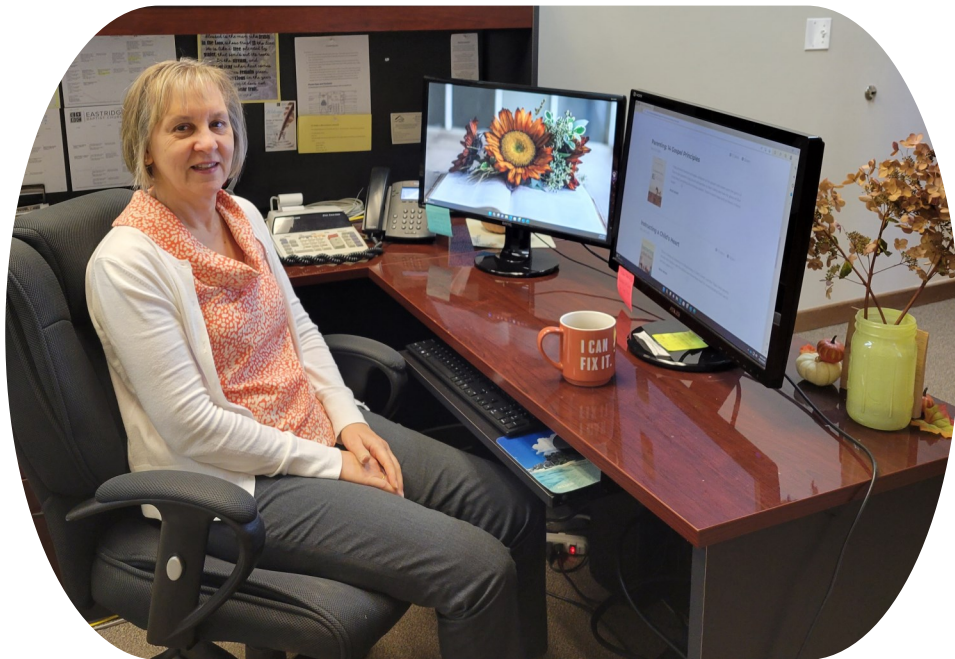
# Kim Turnbull Retires as Our Church Administrative Assistant

by Daná Freeland

Kim and Robert Turnbull and their family first came to Eastridge Baptist Church about 20 years ago. They had both grown up in western Canada but had moved to Portland, Oregon in the late 1990s. However, they soon found that they didn't enjoy the Portland area, so they moved to Covington when Robert was offered a job in the Seattle area. Their search for a church home ended when they came to Eastridge. They enjoyed the warm, welcoming atmosphere, and their small group quickly became their second family.

Kim mentioned some of the other jobs and training she has had over the years that prepared her for her role as our church's administrative assistant. After graduating from high school, she worked for several years for BC Tel – first as a mail clerk delivering mail to the office staff and later as a customer service representative who took customer orders. Next, she got an associate's degree in Computer Technology. After earning her AS-T degree, she worked for a retail computer store providing customer computer support and training for about five years. Then, she was hired by TransCanada Pipelines in Calgary as a computer support representative for their natural gas division, where she worked her way up to supervisor. Kim says that this was both the most interesting and challenging job she has had, as she worked with many different people at all levels of the organization, including senior management. In 1998, they moved back to British Columbia for a short while before moving to Oregon and then Washington, during which time Kim was a stay-at-home mom to their three children until their youngest went into middle school. In 2009, Kim began her role as administrative assistant at

Eastridge. Besides the usual tasks that we might expect a church administrative assistant does, such as answering the phone, responding to emails, coordinating the church calendar, preparing the weekly bulletins, and compiling the monthly church newsletter, I asked Kim about other aspects of her job.



**What would people never guess you do in your role?**

*The admin assistant is also the office janitor lol! I would take out the garbage and recycling, vacuum, occasionally dust (not my strength!!)*

**What has been the most fulfilling aspect of your role at the church?**

*Helping people! I didn't like passing up opportunities to help others, especially those going through a difficult time. From an administrative perspective, my goal was to make things as easy as possible for them in hopes of relieving some of the burden they carried. The Lord uses people (like you and me) to show others the love of Christ and that was always such a privilege for me.*

## Kim Turnbull Retires *continued from page 6*

**What is the most challenging part of your job?**

*The most challenging part of being the EBC administrative assistant is working with the technology (computers, networking equipment, phones, alarm system, surveillance cameras, Realm software, etc.) and knowing how to troubleshoot to keep things running as smoothly as possible. I became really good at using Google to research problems and find solutions!*

**What has been your favorite part about working here?**

*Hands down my favorite part about working at EBC has been the people. That includes the staff and the congregation! I have always said “I have the best job ever.” I got to work with people I love, and the Lord graciously provided me with my dearest friends through Eastridge.*

*One of my favorite projects was redoing the church website in 2016 to make it more modern and usable. I have never done web development before, so I loved the challenge of learning how to use Squarespace to create a usable site.*

*Throughout the years, all the staff have been very fun to work with and I will miss them dearly.*

**What is the most important thing you have learned during your work experience at EBC?**

*Everyone experiences problems in their life and the best thing I can do is help them any way I can and pray for them. This applies to people in the church and those who come to the office looking for help. The Lord puts these people in my path for a reason, and it’s up to me to minister to them where they’re at in life.*

**What words of wisdom do you have for Jennifer?**

*Jennifer is a very kind, loving, helpful person who loves the Lord. I would tell her to use the gifts and talents the Lord has given her to serve the staff and congregation well – she will do a wonderful job!*

Interests that Kim and Robert have when not at their respective offices are going to the theater – Taproot and ManeStage – and watching Seahawks, Kraken, and Mariner games. (She adds, as long as the Mariners are doing well, that is!)

Some things that Kim is looking forward to as she heads into retirement are: spending more time with the kids and grandkids (“being a grandparent is the best job in the world,” says Kim), traveling around the U.S. and Europe, and taking a trip to the Holy Land.

**Thank you for your years of dedicated and faithful service to our church body, Kim!**



# advent CALENDAR


Perform a random act of kindness 	<b>two</b> Donate food to a local food bank	Have a coloring contest 	<b>four</b> Buy socks for a homeless shelter 	<b>5</b> Watch a favorite holiday movie
Make or buy a new Christmas ornament 	Let someone go in front of you in line <b>seven</b>	<b>8</b> Clean out and donate outgrown toys	Build a snowman out of cotton balls <b>9</b> 	Take cupcakes to your local fire department <b>10</b> 
Decorate a gingerbread house <b>eleven</b> 	Help wrap a Christmas present 	<b>thirteen</b> Leave a happy note for someone to find 	Have a game night in your PJs <b>14</b>	Make paper snowflakes <b>15</b> 
Drink hot cocoa <b>16</b> 	<b>17</b> Make Christmas cards	 <b>18</b> Bake Christmas cookies	 <b>19</b> Sing Christmas carols	Take a family photo in front of the Christmas tree <b>twenty</b> 
Read your favorite Christmas story <b>21</b>	Take a car tour of your local light displays <b>22</b>	Deliver Christmas cards to your neighbors 	Watch or attend a Christmas Eve service <b>twenty-four</b>	Read the Nativity story <b>25</b> 

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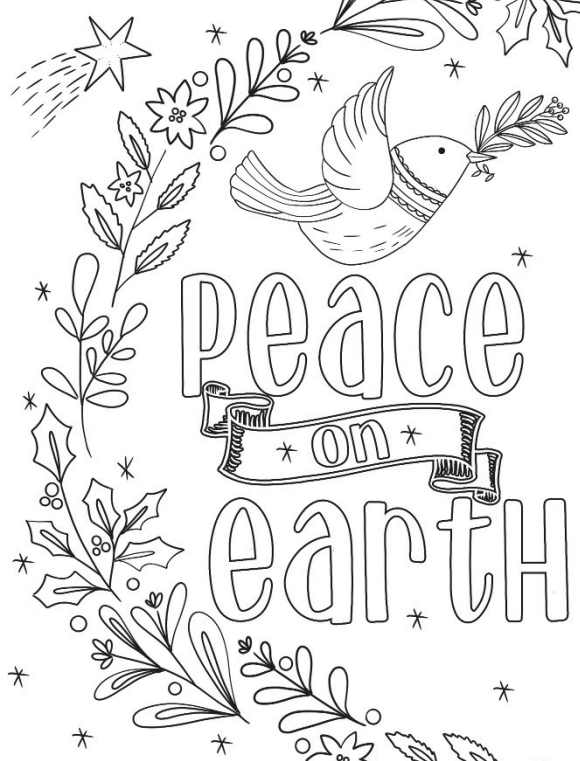
## Bible Quiz

Complete this proverb: "Like snow in \_\_\_\_\_ or rain in harvest, so honor is not fitting for a fool."

- A. springtime
- B. summer
- C. seedtime
- D. autumn



Answer: B (See Proverbs 26:1, ESV.)



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# December

## BIRTHDAYS & Anniversaries

*Happy Birthday*



*Jesus!*

### Birthdays

- Steve Wentworth 12/1
- Steve Peltekian 12/1
- Alijah Lopez 12/3
- Caleb Watson 12/5
- Judah Graham 12/5
- Emily Reed 12/6
- Chris Bonar 12/7
- Tessa Reed 12/8
- Matthew Hurst 12/12
- Sabrina Kelsey 12/12
- Tom Faulkner 12/12
- Marian Hutchins 12/13
- Robert Turnbull 12/13

- Becky Maxson 12/14
- Amanda Olson 12/17
- Ashly Barrios 12/17
- Tyler Botka 12/18
- Michaela Rutherford 12/19
- Kristen Legé 12/19
- Brianna Barsabal 12/19
- Ray Emme 12/20
- Andrew Winn 12/21
- Abby Ledingham 12/21
- Riley Tiginanu 12/21
- Noelle Ahlstrom 12/23
- Emma Hayward 12/23
- Aiden Keating 12/24
- Danielle Jensen 12/25

- Larry Hughes 12/29
- Emily Williams 12/29
- Annastasia Kariuki 12/29
- Joshua Mickelson 12/29
- Cherryl Boston 12/30

### Anniversaries

- Andrey & Mary Tiginanu 12/5
- John & Susan Rehberg 12/13
- Chris & Jenn Vice 12/15
- Larry & Jann Hughes 12/20
- Bob & Jackie Cochran 12/28

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  5:00pm Youth Bible Quizzing 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study	2  6:00am Men's Discipleship Group  8:00am Men's Bible Study	3
4  6:00pm Prayer Meeting	5  2:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm Ladies' Bible Study	6  10:00am Missions Prayer Ministry (@ Alaire Irish's) 5:00pm-8:30pm Taekwondo 6:30pm Elder Meeting (Room B4/B5)	7  10:00am Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm Adventure Club 6:30 Men's Discipleship Group 6:30pm Youth Group	8  5:00pm Youth Bible Quizzing 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study	9  8:00am Men's Bible Study  (Time TBD) Youth Christmas Party	10  11:00am Young Adults' Christmas Brunch
11	12  12:00pm Ladies' Bible Study  6:30pm Ladies' Bible Study	13	14  10:00am Ladies' Bible Study 6:30pm Adventure Club 6:30pm Youth Group	15  5:00pm Youth Bible Quizzing 7:00pm Young Adult Bible Study	16  6:00am Men's Discipleship Group 8:00am Men's Bible Study  7:00pm Ladies' Christmas Party	17
18  Special Christmas Worship During Both Services	19	20	21	22	23	24  Christmas Eve Family Service 4:00-5:00pm
25  Christmas  Family Services 8:30 & 10:30 am (No Sunday School)  Communion	26  Church Offices Closed for Christmas Break	27	28	29	30	31  New Year's Eve

# Myanmar Bags of Hope (BOH) 2022

Eastridge Baptist Church will once again support indigenous Christians in Yangon, Myanmar (Rangoon, Burma) to reach into the city slums and share the good news of Jesus Christ to the majority Buddhist community through the Bags of Hope (BOH) ministry.

This will be the tenth year for the Bags of Hope outreach. This ministry reaches five slum areas of Yangon with the distribution of rice and gift bags filled with toys, toiletries, flip-flops, and a gospel tract written in the local dialect (all BOH items are locally sourced in Myanmar). This year, the bags will be distributed by the youth group of Agape Myanmar Mission Church which borders the slum areas. After the December distribution is complete there is on-going ministry to the people in these slums through the local church.



Would you please prayerfully consider contributing above giving to the Bags of Hope outreach? You can contribute through your Realm account (Giving), through our website at [eastridgebaptist.org/give](http://eastridgebaptist.org/give), or by placing a check or cash in the offering box. Please write "Myanmar BOH" in the memo of your check or on the giving envelope if you give cash, and select that fund when giving online. Please consider gifting before Sunday, December 18, and preferably earlier, so the locals can do necessary shopping and prep work.

Thanks! And please pray for Daniel and other local leaders as they distribute to the slum areas; pray that God would continue to change hearts as they share the good news!

**"In his name the nations will put their hope."  
Matthew 12:21**

## Looking Ahead at Eastridge

### January 2022

Sunday, January 8	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
Saturday, January 14	Bible Quiz Meet	8:00am (Auditorium)

### February 2023

Saturday, February 4	Women's Ministry Kick-Off	9:00am (Auditorium)
Sunday, February 5	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
TBD	Baby Shower for Shannon Blakey	TBD
February 19-21	Youth Winter Camp	2:00pm (Double K Retreat)

### March 2023

Sunday, March 5	Monthly Prayer Meeting	6:00pm (Auditorium)
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# CHURCH MATTERS

## *10-Part Sermon Series*

*Who the church is, what it does, and why it's important.*

*Oct 9 - How to Be a Church: The Nature of the Church*

*Oct 16 - How to Be a Church: The Marks of a Church*

*Oct 23 - How to Be a Church Member*

*Oct 30 - How to Lead a Church: Elder Qualifications*

*Nov 6 - How to Lead a Church: Elder Responsibilities*

*Nov 13 - How to Act as a Church: Worship Is the Goal*

*Nov 20 - How to Act as a Church: Disciple-Making*

*Nov 27 - How to Act as a Church: Fellowship*

*Dec 4 - How to Act as a Church: Service*

*Dec 11 - How to Remain the Church*



More information about this series at  
[eastridgebaptist.org](http://eastridgebaptist.org)



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