

# Acts & Facts Newsletter

1300 N Vine Street Abilene, Kansas 67410 785-263-3342 www.ecabilene.org wifi password: ectower1

Volume 28 ❖ Issue 1 ❖ January 2024



#### Emmanuel Communications Reminder—

The two main modes of communication that we use are the Emmanuel Facebook Page and the eNews that comes in the form of an email almost weekly. The Acts and Facts is issued once a month and also includes great information, but for communication of unforeseen changes and important information, please be sure that we have your email and also that you are following our Facebook page. Thanks for staying connected through these modes of communication.

# Our Vision.

to Reach the lost to Disciple Believers and Equip all for ministry

## **OUR MISSION**

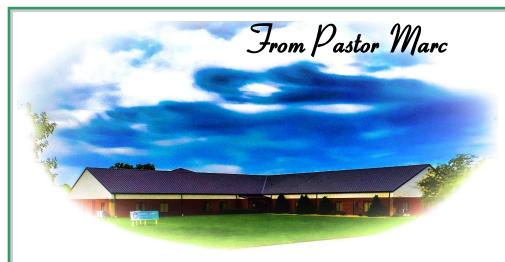
TO SEE THE TRANSFORMATION
OF PEOPLE AND THE BUILDING OF
FAMILIES BECAUSE OF THE
LOVE, GRACE, WORSHIP, AND
TRUTH OF JESUS CHRIST

#### **Our Core Values:**

Love

Grace

Worship 7ruth



#### Emmanuel Church,

Over time, I've learned to appreciate the New Year. I used to think New Year's resolutions were a bunch of hogwash... mainly because they rarely are followed through on. Did you know that researchers say that only 8% of Americans complete resolutions that they start, and 80% fail within the first month. So why even try... My perspective has changed as a penitent Christian (thanks Indiana Jones for that word). I've learned to appreciate the fact that it is always good to hit "reset" on some things. I was just reading this morning in Romans 7 and was reminded of our propensity as humans to sin:

"So the trouble is not with the law, for it is spiritual and good. The trouble is with me, for I am all too human, a slave to sin. I don't really understand myself, for I want to do what is right, but I don't do it. Instead, I do what I hate. But if I know that what I am doing is wrong, this shows that I agree that the law is good." Romans 7:14-16 NLT

When we are honest with ourselves, we can look back over the last year and likely pinpoint a few places where we've "missed the mark". These places might not have been intentional (or maybe they were), but they are still sin, still further than God desires us to be. Maybe it was using tiny "white" lies more than we realized; or allowing our thoughts to be on revenge, or gluttony, or coveting; or allowing our negative emotions to dictate our actions; or a secret sin that you are hiding from those around you. Ok, now a hard step...Take a moment and admit to yourself a though, an action, or speech that was far from God's best in your life.... (those dots are me waiting).... No really, stop and think about it.

Now, a harder step... admit this to a spouse, parent, or trusted friend and ask that they keep you accountable for this. If you are willing to do this, you are willing to be transparent to both God and man, and I believe He will help you to make strides to finding victory over those sins. God desires you to be free from whatever is keeping a wall from growing between you and Him, but your willingness to participate in transparency is key to finding that freedom. Maybe today is the day that you find that freedom. If you have followed these steps, send me a quick text (785-307-0741) and say "Took your challenge and shared a sin with someone." I will add it to my prayer list and continue to pray every day for your victory.

Maybe this is the year for a change... but if you don't do the things above, I'm guessing that your resolutions will fall flat in less than a month. If you have transparency and accountability, your chance at being a part of the 8% is much better. Anyone want to guess how many texts I get? I'm praying for 100!!

In Him,

**Pastor Marc** 



#### **Stay Connected:**

Instagram: momentumyouthabilene

Facebook:

Momentum-Youth

Momentum Youth updates can be found on the Youth bulletin board as well.

#### **Upcoming events:**

Youth Discipleship Hour Sundays 10A.M.

Happy New Year everyone! We were blessed with a great Christmas season and are excited for all that God is going to do this year. As we start off this year, we are going to be talking about the Armor of God Sunday mornings during the Discipleship Hour at 10A.M. We are also excited for Blast to be starting up again on Wednesday evenings at 5:45 P.M. We will have a "kick-off the year" party on January 10th, and then on January 17th we will start a series called "What direction are we going?". We will see how much we all need Jesus Christ in our lives. The Youth ministry, and also the Kid's ministry, are looking forward to our Foundations class coming up starting on January 7th. We trust that this will be a blessing as we discuss with 5th graders the essentials of what we believe. This will help promote a smooth transition into the Youth Ministry following the course. Momentum Youth this upcoming Summer is taking a Middle School mission trip to Kansas City, and we will have an interest/informative meeting on January 21st at 12:30 P.M. for all interested. In addition, we also will continue to have our Youth life groups throughout the week. If you are interested in a life group, please let us know. We hope you all have a great month! Look forward to seeing you soon. Blessings! -Pastor Stewart Baker



# The New Year... a great time to start something NEW.

Have you been considering using a musical or technical gift, or learning to increase a potential gift, but haven't? Use the News Years Resolution mindset to start something new!! We have an increased need for tech team members, specifically sound, online sound, and screens technicians. Pray about it and talk to Pastor Marc about getting involved!!

**Website FORMS Page** – As a reminder, the website (ecabilene.org) has a FORMS page that will help people stay connected. Forms include: F1Go Signup, Mission Scholarship, Neighboring Trailer Use, Tech Help Request, Event and/or Promotion Request, "Denied Access" Reversal Request, Helping Hands Request, and the Nehemiah Project 2024 Nomination Form. We encourage **ALL** to use these forms as we've created processes within the forms to make sure they get to the right people.

Concert of Prayer - January 21, @3:30pm

**Worship and Tech Teams** – As a reminder, you'll be receiving your schedules for January through April soon. Please confirm or decline your schedule within two weeks of receiving the request. Thanks for your diligence here.



Stay Connected:

Instagram: @emmanuelkidsabilene

Facebook: Emmanuel-Kids



#### **Emmanuel's Preschool Registration**

Emmanuel's Preschool will be opening up for enrollment for the 2024-2025 school year on January 22nd! Emmanuel's Preschool is a school for students aged 3-5 yrs., focused on the spiritual, as well as the academic development of its students. Applications will be available in the office and online. A \$25.00 deposit is needed to hold your spot.

#### B.L.A.S.T.

We will kick off BLAST again January 10th! Dinner will be at 5:30 and then we will have classes for nursery, pre-k, and K-5<sup>th</sup>! We are looking forward to another great semester of learning together!

#### **Important Dates**

Parents, here are some important dates to be aware of as we kick off 2024:

Jan 21st: Kids Ministry Volunteer Training

March 31st: Easter Egg Hunt April 28: Foundations Sunday

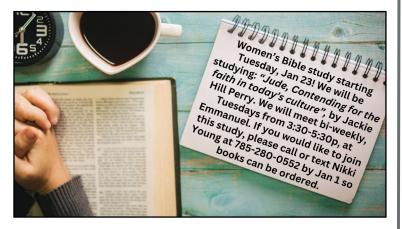
June 23-26 3-5: Kids Camp at Wheatstate

July 8-12: Vacation Bible School

#### **Kids Ministry Training**

We will be having Kids Ministry Training on Sunday, January 21 after the 2<sup>nd</sup> service. If you work with kids at all, please plan to attend this training. These trainings will happen twice a year and in order to stay certified you must attend at least one. Lunch will be provided so please sign up at the Kid Bulletin Board if you will be attending.

**OCC January Donation:** This month's donation item is hats gloves and scarves. These items will be gathered and used to fill boxes at the end of the year. Please bring these items by the church office.





## **Turkana Mission Trip Info Meeting!**

There will be an informational meeting for anyone interested in being a part of the Mission trip to Turkana, Africa, June 2024. The informational meeting will be Wednesday, January 3 at 6:30pm in Conference Room 1.

Fun Fact: We will be partnering with Pastor Gordon's new church on this trip.





Faithfully Fit is starting new classes January 9,2024 and we would love to have you join us! Classes are Tuesday and Thursday from 6:30-7:30pm at the Talmage Community Church. We include low impact, step, toning, and a great stretch at the end of class. This is a fun way to keep active this winter. Hope to see you there.

# DID YOU KNOW—





- "For the Health of the Nation-Joyce Steffen
- "A Man and His Design (33 Series)" - Kevin Harris (Men's Study)
- "Intentional Grand-Parenting" - Greg & Denise Brown
- "The Book of Daniel" Tina Price (Women's Study)
- "Intercessory Prayer" - Sue Feeney





# PARENTS AND GUARDIANS OF EMMANUEL KIDS

For the safety of our kids and everyone attending B.L.A.S.T., please pay attention to the following:

- 1. During the meal (5:45-6:20p), child/ren (birth-5th) that you brought should be with you <u>at all times</u>. (Emmanuel Kids will not oversee children until 6:20p.)
- 2. There are to be no children walking around the church unaccompanied by an adult.
- 3. If your child would like to go to the playground after dinner, you must accompany your child.
- 4. At 6:20p, children 0-PreK can be dropped off in the Emmanuel Kids Wing. Elementary kids can be dropped off at the front of the worship center.

THANK YOU! EMMANUEL KIDS TEAM













Ladies, are you having a hard time figuring out what to make for dinner? Good News! Our "Make and Take" Meals are back with 3 new recipes! Register now and stop by the church kitchen any time between 9a-11a on Sat., Jan. 20th for a cup of coffee, sweet roll, and fellowship. Make 1, 2 or all 3 of the easy meals to take home with you! Get a recipe book too! Suggested donation of \$5 per meal for 4 people. Please register by January 14th by scanning the QR code or signing up in the East Hallway.





# DID YOU KNOW—











## DID YOU KNOW—

# Custodian Needed!

Emmanuel Church is accepting applications for a parttime Custodian. This is a year-round position, with the
possibility of flexible hours. We are seeking highly
motivated individuals that will work and plan with staff, to
keep Emmanuel Church ready for tomorrow's ministries.
Use the QR code to apply. If you have questions, contact
Pastor Marc Riegel at (785) 263-3342 or













MomLife is looking for some volunteers to help with childcare.

MomLife meets the 1st and 3rd Wednesday mornings (Sept.-Nov. & mid Jan.-Apr.) and is needing some regular and some back up helpers to work caring for the children (Nursery-6th gr.) If you would like to bring goodness to the lives of kids while their mom is getting some ministry time, please contact Debby Ponton at 785-341-7931.



What type of car would Jesus drive?

A Christler.

# Inclement Weather Information

Just a reminder of ways you can learn whether Emanuel Church will continue with activities and worship if ice and snow make it questionable: We will hold Sunday morning worship and all other activities whenever possible. One guideline we use is "if the Abilene Public Schools cancel school or activities, then all activities at Emmanuel Church are also canceled." For example, if school is canceled or Dismissed early on Wednesday, there would be no Wednesday evening activities at Emmanuel Church. Decisions about week-end activities, and especially Sunday worship, will be made with our best information and regarding the safety of all our congregation.

We will do our best to make cancellation announcements on the following media: Radio Stations KABI and KJIL; Television Stations KSNW, KAKE, KWCH, Facebook and mass E-Mails on F1GO.

#### MARK YOUR CALENDAR **COMING SOON**

February 1—3 Flint Hills Men's Encounter February 7—MomLife February 13—Red Cross Blood Drive February 18—Holy Communion February 18—Concert of Prayer February 18—Bake Auction February 19—No Preschool February 21—MomLife March 1-2—Men's Gathering March 6—7 Preschool Parent Teacher

March 6—7 Preschool Parent Teacher

Conferences

March 6—MomLife

March 8—15 No Preschool

March 10—Daylight Savings Time March 17—Concert of Prayer March 20—MomLife

March 24—Palm Sunday March 29—Good Friday, Holy Communion, Church Office Closed, No Preschool

March 31—Easter

March 31—Kid's Easter Egg Hunt

# **CHURCH FAMILY NEWS** WITH SYMPATHY TO THE FAMILIES OF: Chris Fulgham (brother of Kathey Sheppard) Bill Hubnik (father of Pat Hubnik) Matt Langdon (son of Crog Ponton) Melissa (Kreigbaum) Fuller John Sheets (son-in-law of Jean Britt) Loney Riffel (wife of Bev Riffel; step-father of Tracy Ediger)

Mike Ponton (brother of Greg Ponton)
Elva Elliott (wife of Lloyd Elliott; mother of Becky Fry)
Deon Parsons (mother of Marc Parsons)
Ryan Tweady (brother of Tad Tweady)
Russ Carney (father of Teresa Black; grandfather of
Andrew Black)
Doug Peterman (brother-in-law of Kris Roney)
Jody Sammons (mother of Jordan and Ryan Sammons)
Frank Frey
Ruby Winters (mother of Guy Winters)
Carrie McKnight (step sister of Pastor Marc Riegel)
Steve Biehler (father of Matthew Biehler)
Louis "Louie" Monahan (grandson of Carl & Tanya Sims)
Leona Blodgett
Erika Bushman (mother of Brenda Kroeker & Monika)

Erika Bushman (mother of Brenda Kroeker & Monika

Riordan

Barbara Seabaugh (aunt of Jenna Dedeaux) Marikay Peterman (sister of Kris Roney)

# CHURCH FAMILY NEWS



PRAISE & PRAYERS:
Thankful for those who came to Bethlehem Revisited in Keats, KS. Prayer for God to use His truth, the seed that was planted.— Carol Printz, Rob Schmutz's bicep repair surgery went well. God is good!

Arnie & Jean Boyd, Praise, God's power casts out satan's.—
Jim & Jacque Webb, Thank you to all that prayed for Greg's surgery, it went well.— Marjaul Ferris

Pray for: Michael Brackney, Greg (brother of Marjaul Ferris), Torie Rich, John Springer (uncle of Rod Osland), Rob Schmutz, Family of Ken Reynolds (Bob & Carole Brazil's daughter's father in law), Carolyn Hoover, family of Erika Bushman, Tommy Maslen (Bob Brazil's nephew), Gary Corn, Diana Corn, Gwen (mother of Belinda Caldwell), Devin (son of Jim & Jacque Webb), Kathy Mulvihill, Whitney Larsen, Keith & Teira Shrader (son of Chuck & Lynette Shrader), Aaron Free, Richard Salkind (brother in law of Linney Clark), Family of Kevin (child from Hope for Home Ministries), Lena Hernandez, extended family of Jim & Jacque Webb, Megan & Matt (niece and nephew of Kris Roney), Kaden Hartman (grandson of Gene & Jan Hartman), Son in law of friend of Sherry Osland, family of April's mother (April is a friend to Alaina, daughter of Sherry Osland).

#### PRAYER FOR WORLD/NATIONAL CONCERNS-

World/Nation President Biden & his staff Israel U.S. Military & their Families Persecuted Christians in Cuba Police Officers-safety Kansas Legislature Church Board Pastor search

Volunteers Worship Team Peace for a new year Travel Mercies

BLAST start up Country of Bulgaria

#### PRAYER FOR OUR LEADERSHIP-

Pastor Marc Riegel Pastor Rachel Bishop Pastor Stewart Baker

Call the church office (785.263.3342) if you have a prayer request. Your need will be prayed for by 50 Prayer Chain volunteers. In addition, all prayer requests will be listed in the bulletin for two weeks.



**Keep our** Administrators, Teachers & **Support Staff in** your prayers

Andres, Jacob Andres, Jennifer Aramowicz, Cynthia Armstrong, Megan Arnold, Marilyn Bathurst, Charity Bathurst, Jeff Bishop, Thomas Brown, Denise Brown, Greg Casteel, Jennifer Cornell, Amanda Demars, Nicole Ediger, Laura

Free, Katie Fry, Gavin Gfeller, Stephanie Goldsmith, Jill Griffis, Anca Hedstrom, Sherri Heidorn, Debbie Hirsch, Abigail Kohman, Kelli Koop, Mona Lady, Megan Liby, Colten Lucas, Zach Malo, Marie

McCook, Andrea Nely, Shonna Newton, Brent Nyquist, Becki Pekarek, Brian Pekarek, Robyn Prater, Christie Reimer, Kennedy Reimer, Tyson Riegel, Dwynne Rock, Anne Rogers, Traci Roth, Brian

Roth, Deb

Scherberger, Christina Schultze, Michelle Signer, Erin Sims, Tanya Spohn, Michael Stroud, Christina Taplin, LouAna Turnbull, Lisa White, Wesley Womochil, Paige

# January 2024

ballaary 2027								
	Mexico Mission Trip New Years Day— Church Office Closed No Preschool 5:30pm Life Group- Knopp, 203 5:45pm Salina Rescue Service Project, 1716 Summers Rd. Salina, KS	2 No Preschool  10:00am Equipping Staff Meeting, Conf. Rm.1 11:30am Triad, Conf. Rm. 1, 201 2:00pm All-Staff Meeting, Conf. Rm. 1	Preschool Resumes 8:00am Kitchen Cleaning, Kitch. 11:00am Life Group, 201 4:00pm CAP Meeting, Conf. Room 1 6:30pm Missions Team Info. Meeting, Turkana, Africa Trip	4 8:00am Prayer for our City, KJIL Radio Station 8:00am CWC Decorating, WC, Kitch. 9:30am CWC Meeting, WC, Kitch. 6:00pm Men's Bible Study, Conf. Rm. 1 6:30pm Triad, 208	6:00am Men's Bible Study, Lounge Area, Kitch. 8:00am Kitchen Clean- ing, Kitch.	6 Monthly Coffee Date— Women's Ministry 6:15am Men's Bible Study, Conf. Rm. 1 7:30am 4-H Model Meet, 205, 215, 211		
State of the Church 8.45am Worship Service, 10:00am Discipleship Classes 10:00am Youth 1:00am Worship Service 10:00am Youth 5:00pm Youth High School 8:00pm Life Group 6:00pm Vouth High School 6:00pm Life Group, Browns 6:00pm Life Group 6:00pm Youth High School 6:00pm Life Group 6:00pm Life Group 6:00pm Youth High School	8 5:30pm Life Group- Knopp 6:30pm Kid's Council Meeting, Conf. Rm. 1	9 8:00am Setup Worship Center, WC 10:00am Equipping Staff Meeting, Conf. Rm. 1 11:30am Triad, Conf. Rm. 1, 201	10 B.L.A.S.T. Resumes 11:00am Life Group, 201 12:30pm Bible Study— Tina Price, 201 5:30pm B.L.A.S.T. Meal 6:30pm B.L.A.S.T.— Adult, Youth, & Children's Classes	11 8:00am Prayer for our City, KJIL Radio Station 6:00pm Men's Bible Study, Conf. Rm. 1 6:30pm Triad, 208	12 6:00am Men's Bible Study, Lounge Area, Kitch. 8:00am Reset Worship Center	13 6:15am Men's Bible Study, Conf. Rm. 1		
14 8:45am Worship Service 8:45am Appalachian Trip Meeting, 21 10:00am Discipleship 10:00am Youth Classes Foundation Class, 300 11:00am 11am Worship Services WC 6:30pm Youth High School Girls Life Group, 201 6:30pm Youth High School Girls Life Group, 300 Girls Life Group, 300	15 No Preschool 5:30pm Life Group– Knopp, 203	16 8:00am Setup Worship Center 10:00am Equipping Staff Meeting, Conf. Rm. 1, 201 2:00pm MomLife Decorating 2:00pm All-Staff Meeting, Conf. Rm. 1 6:00pm Youth Advisory Council Meeting, 300	17 9:00am MomLife 11:00am Life Group, 201 12:30pm Bible Study— Tina Price, 201 5:30pm B.L.A.S.T. Meal 6:30pm B.L.A.S.T.— Adult, Youth, & Children's Classes	18 8:00am Prayer for our City, KJIL Radio Station 6:00pm Men's Bible Study, Conf. Rm. 1 6:30pm Triad, 208	19 6:00am Men's Bible Study, Lounge Area, Kitch. 8:00am Reset Worship Center	20 Deadline to Submit Newsletter Articles 6:15am Men's Bible Study, Conf. Rm. 1 8:00am Make and Take Meals— Women's Ministry, Kitch.		
21 Kid's Min. Volunteer Training Sanctity of Human Life Sun. 45 4 am Worship Service 16: Iloam Discules in Classes (19: Iloam Discules in Classes (19: Iloam Discules in Classes (19: Iloam Control Foundation Classes) (19: Iloam Control Foundation Control Foundation Classes) (19: Iloam Contro	22 5:30pm Life Group– Knopp, 203 6:30pm Church Board Meeting, Conf. Rm. 1	23 8:00am Setup Worship Center, WC 10:00am Equipping Staff Meeting, Conf. Rm.1 11:30am Triad, Conf. Rm. 1, 201 3:30pm Women's Bible Study, 201, 205 6:30pm Vision Writer Class, 201	24 11:00am Life Group, 201 12:30pm Bible Study— Tina Price, 201 5:30pm B.L.A.S.T. Meal 6:30pm B.L.A.S.T.— Adult, Youth, & Children's Classes	25 8:00am Prayer for our City, KJIL Radio Station 6:00pm Men's Bible Study, Conf. Rm. 1 6:30pm Triad, 208	26 6:00am Men's Bible Study, Lounge Area, Kitch. 8:00am Reset Worship Center	27 6:15am Men's Bible Study, Conf. Rm. 1 8:00am Leadership Breakfast, WC, Kitch.		
28 8:45am Worship Service 10:00am Discipleship Classes 10:00am Youth Foundation Class, 300 11:00am Worship Service 5:00pm Youth High School Boys Life Group, 201 6:30pm Youth High School Girls Life Group, Brown's Home 6:30pm Youth High School Girls Life Group, 300	29 5:30pm Life Group– Knopp, 203	30 8:00am Setup Worship Center 10:00am Equipping Staff Meeting, Conf. Rm.1 11:30am Triad, Conf. Rm. 1, 201 2:00p Staff Meeting, Conf. Rm. 1 6:30pm Vision Writer Class, 201	31 11:00am Life Group, 201 12:30pm Bible Study— Tina Price, 201 5:30pm B.L.A.S.T. Meal 6:30pm B.L.A.S.T.— Adult, Youth, & Children's Classes					



# **Acts & Facts Newsletter**

1300 N Vine Street Abilene, Kansas 67410 785.263.3342 www.ecabilene.org WIFI PASSWORD: ectower1

#### YOUR STAFF:

		PHONE EXT.		CELL
E-MAIL	PERSON	785-263-3342	POSITION	PHONE
	Interim Pastor	223	Interim Senior Pastor	785-307-0741
mriegel@ecabilene.org	Marc Riegel			
rbishop@ecabilene.org	Rachel Bishop	225	Children's Pastor &	
	Day Off—Friday		Emmanuel's Preschool	785-571-7447
sbaker@ecabilene.org	Stewart Baker	221	Youth Pastor	530-262-8815
jdedeaux@ecabilene.org	Jenna Dedeaux	220	Administrative Assistant	785-893-2932
prothfuss@ecabilene.org	Pam Rothfuss	222	Business Administrator	785-200-5249
preschool@ecabilene.org	Marie Malo		Preschool Teacher	316-217-3356

It's important for people to know their pastors are available when someone has a question, needs some help, or just wants to talk for awhile. Our Administrative Assistant, Jenna Dedeaux will be happy to receive your office visits, telephone calls, texts, and email messages. We work diligently to use the communication resources available, such as voice mail and cell phones, to be available most of the time for questions. Our pledge to the congregation is to respond in a timely and courteous manner. When someone calls and says, "It's urgent," we will be contacted by the quickest means possible. The pastors are often out of the building for a variety of ministry tasks. They are available to schedule an appointment with you at your convenience. Please contact us if we can be of help to you. We want to be available to serve you!

#### **NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS**

If you are wanting to put an article into the February Acts & Facts Newsletter, please have the article to the church no later than the 20th of January. You may either put it in Administrative Assistant slot in the wooden boxes hanging on the wall in the tower entrance, or e-mail it to the Administrative Assistant at jdedeaux@ecabilene.org; please indicate that it is for Acts and Facts. Articles may be edited.

Following are names of active servicemen connected to Emmanuel. Please keep them and their families in your prayers. If there are others connected to our church that are presently serving, please get their name to the church office.

**MILITARY**SERVICE

Lucas Cole (husband of Taylor Cole) US Army
Dale Cornelison (husband of the granddaughter of Chuck & Dorann Clemence) US Navy
Travis Gregg (nephew of Sherry Osland) US Navy
Gavin Hanna (son-in-law of Krista Johnson) US Air Force

**Cameron Hoskins** (son-in-law of Krista Johnson) US Army **Kyle Jones** (husband of Megan Jones) US Army Reserve **Trevon Snyder** (son of Shadd & Janice Snyder) US Army

Stop by the tower entrance display and pick up a prayer list of those serving our country.