



# FEBRUARY 2024 NewsLETTER



DISCOVER~DEVELOP~DISCIPLE  
*Helping people discover and develop into disciples of Christ*

## A MESSAGE FROM CHRIS

### So you think you have a bad job...

I have said more times than I can remember that in my opinion Jeremiah had the worst job as a prophet ever. God had called him to preach to His people, which doesn't seem too bad until you have all the information about the situation.

- 1) The nation claimed they were "innocent" and had "not sinned." (Jeremiah 2:35)
- 2) The nation was so off target with their relationship with God that He called them "fools," "foolish children," that they were "skilled in doing evil," and they "do not know how to do what is good." (Jeremiah 4:22)
- 3) The nation believed that because they were the "People of God," He wouldn't do anything to them. (Jeremiah 5:12)
- 4) God told Jeremiah to stand in the gate of the house of the Lord and "call out to them" as they were going into worship and tell them that they needed to correct their ways. (Jeremiah 7:2-3)
- 5) God told Jeremiah not to pray for the people, because He would not listen. (Jeremiah 7:16)
- 6) The final thing that tips the scale to make it the worst job ever is that God told him that when he preaches to them "they will not listen to you, and when you call, they will not answer you." (Jeremiah 7:27)

When you put all of this together, Jeremiah was called to minister and preach to people that he couldn't pray for, they would not listen, and they would not answer. He would see absolutely no fruit for any of his labors. How depressing would that be?

Have you ever felt that way... that all the cards were stacked against what you were supposed to be doing, and when it came down to it you knew deep down within you that nothing was going to come of it? However, that

**OBEDIENCE...**  
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is not the point, is it? So what is the point? One word: **OBEDIENCE**. What God wanted out of Jeremiah was simply that: obedience, and it is the same thing he wants out of us. It's not about the fruit you may or may not see, it is about being willing to follow God regardless of the outcome. Here are some verses (NIV) to keep in mind:

- ♦ *If you love me, keep my commands.* John 14:15
- ♦ *Peter and the other apostles replied: "We must obey God rather than human beings!"* Acts 5:29
- ♦ *In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome,* John 5:3
- ♦ *If you are willing and obedient, you will eat the good things of the land;* Isaiah 1:19

I love being your pastor,  
Chris  
#God'sNotDone

## PASTOR CHRIS' CURRENT SERMON SERIES



The book of James is a letter that was written by James, the brother of Jesus and leader of the Jerusalem church. It was written to Jewish Christians living outside Palestine. James' readers were suffering persecution and living in poverty. They were in social and spiritual conflict. Many believers were living in a worldly manner. James corrects them and challenges them to seek God's wisdom to work out these problems.

Join us the next few months as we learn to apply these verses to our own lives and how to live out our faith by being doers, not just hearers of God's Word.



## MISSION PROJECTS AT EBC

### SAFE AND WARM CAMPAIGN ~ OUR FEBRUARY PROJECT

Would you consider being a "HEARTWARMER" this month? Many Buncombe families live below the Federal Poverty Level and work low wage jobs. Heating costs have risen since last year and these folks go to **ABCCM Crisis Ministry** for heating assistance. This year donations are needed more than ever. With January starting off as one of the coldest on record, the importance of keeping all our neighbors safe and warm is greatly underscored.



Our **FEBRUARY** emphasis will be helping those residents in need by providing **heat assistance, blankets, coats, hats and gloves**. We will collect these items through the month of February. Please specify on your offering envelope any money you give as **ABCCM Safe and Warm**.

*Thank you for being a generous, mission-minded "HEARTWARMER" this month!*



### EXCUSE US . . . WE NEED A LITTLE HELP PLEASE!

Would you enjoy taking care of some great little churchgoers on Sunday morning? If that's a yes, please put your name on the sign-up sheet on

the bulletin board, or you can see our mom, Rachel Mann, after church. We are excited that our Nursery Department is growing on Sunday mornings, and we are ready to get you excited about it too! Thanks for being available! And. . . **Happy Valentine's Day!**



With our deepest sympathy and with Christian love and prayers we remember our church family members.

**Jon F. Buckner, January 2, 2024, age 101,**  
a former member and Sunday School teacher of EBC.

**Mark R. Buckner (Jon's son), January 5, 2024, age 70.** Mark was raised in this church, played piano and sang, and was a graduate of Enka High School. They lived in Standardsville, Virginia.

Memorials may be made to Shriners Hospitals for Children: Shriners Office of Development  
930 W Faris Road, Greenville SC 29605-4277.



Valentine's Day is celebrated on February 14th every year. It is a day when people express their love and affection for one another.

In addition to the United States, Valentine's Day is celebrated in Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France and Australia. In Great Britain, Valentine's Day began to be popularly celebrated around the 17th century.

By the middle of the 18th, it was common for friends and lovers of all social classes to exchange small tokens of affection or handwritten notes, and by 1900 printed cards began to replace written letters due to improvements in printing technology. Ready-made cards were an easy way for people to express their emotions in a time when direct expression of one's feelings was discouraged. Cheaper postage rates also contributed to an increase in the popularity of sending Valentine's Day greetings.

Americans probably began exchanging hand-made valentines in the early 1700s. In the 1840s, Esther A. Howland began selling the first mass-produced valentines in America. Howland, known as the "Mother of the Valentine," made elaborate creations with real lace, ribbons and colorful pictures known as "scrap." **Today**, according to Hallmark, an estimated **145 million Valentine's Day cards** are sent each year, making Valentine's Day the second largest card-sending holiday of the year (more cards are sent at Christmas).

#### VALENTINE TRIVIA QUESTIONS

- 1) What are the two most popular Valentine candies?
- 2) Who receives the most Valentine cards each year?
- 3) What is the most popular flower to give on Valentines Day?
- 4) What two items are the classic Valentine's Day gift?
- 5) What is the most popular Valentine's Day activity?

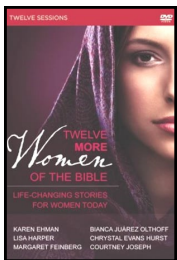
Check back here next month to see how you did!

#### TUESDAY MORNINGS AT EBC

Join us at 10:30 a.m. each Tuesday morning for Bible Study: "Twelve More Women of the Bible—Life Changing Stories for Women Today."

Join us for special insight into the life and character of each woman and see how we can apply biblical lessons to our own modern-day struggles.

Prayer Meeting follows at 11:30 a.m.



#### February 2024 at EBC

Small Groups meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. / Worship at 10:55 a.m.  
(unless otherwise noted)

FEB 04	6:00 p.m.	Short Business Meeting Bible Study / Youth / CIA
FEB 06	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
FEB 11	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday Celebration Bible Study with the Pastor Youth / CIA
FEB 13	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
FEB 14		Happy Valentine's Day
FEB 18 ABCCM Sunday	6:00 p.m. 7:00 p.m.	Adults on Mission Youth / CIA
FEB 20	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
FEB 24	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
FEB 25	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study with the Pastor Youth / CIA
FEB 27	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting

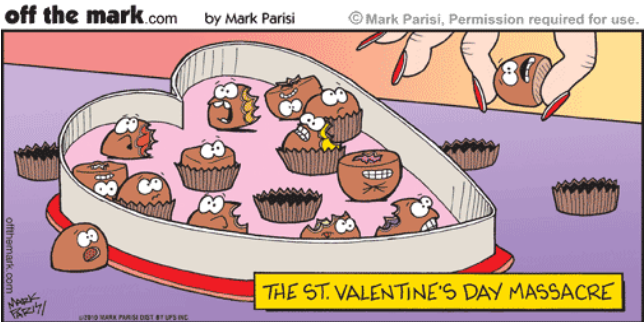


#### YOUTH NEWS AT EBC (GRADES 7-12)

February brings Ground Hog Day, Valentine's Day and the beginning of the Season of Lent. Our Youth will begin working through a new Spiritual Disciplines study, called "Feed the Dog" by Brock Gill. Lots of games, activities and fun will complete the month.

We meet above the fellowship hall on Sunday evenings from 6 to 7pm. As always, anyone grades 7-12 are invited and welcome to join us.

A special thanks to Glenn and Linda Parham for our new furniture!! We appreciate the support of our church and church members!



In the event of inclement weather on a **Sunday** morning, tune in to WLOS-TV13 after 7:00 a.m. for our schedule on that day. Closings will be displayed across the bottom of the screen. If no morning service is held, all other regularly held services will be cancelled that Sunday. On **Tuesday** mornings, if there is no school, Bible Study and Prayer Meeting are cancelled.