

# Philippians



## Joy in Trials

**BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH - FEBRUARY 9, 2025**

9:00 Bethel Deaf Sunday School (please note the new time)

9:30 Sunday School for All Ages

9:30 Second Sunday Young Adult Coffee (Cafe)

10:30 Worship (Auditorium)/ Deaf Service (A-Frame)

Children's Church (ages 4-8, LL 3 & 4)

Song

*10,000 Reasons*

Song

*Be Thou My Vision*

Announcements

Song

*I Need Thee Every Hour*

Scripture Reading

Song

*Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death*

Message

Pastor Ken

Song

*A Christian's Daily Prayer*

Benediction

After Worship - Nursery Worker Meeting - All Adult & Teen  
volunteers please meet briefly in the Fellowship Ctr.

### This Week:

**TUE - SENIORS AT BETHEL** - Celebrate Love, 10:30 am, Michael Rm

**WED - BETHEL MIDWEEK**

5:00 Wednesday Dinner: Italian Beef Sandwiches- [Click to RSVP.](#)

***For an accurate count, we need everyone to register. If you prepaid for the 2/5 meal that was cancelled, please RSVP again but you do not have to pay - your funds will be credited.***

6:00 Midweek Activities -AWANA, Youth Group & Adult Bible Study

**FRI - SCS PARENT-TEACHER CONFERENCES - NO SCHOOL**

**This Week's Fighter Verse:** For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. - 1 Corinthians 1:18

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

**SUN FEB 16 - BETHEL DEAF WHOLE HEART SUNDAY** (9am- noon in the A-Frame then lunch @ 1pm in the Fellowship Center)

**SUN FEB 16 - TEEN ACTIVITY (6TH-12TH GRADE): PIZZA & BOWLING**  
Meet in the cafe after Morning Worship. Cost is \$20 and includes pizza lunch, bus transportation and bowling at Streamwood Bowl. The bus will return to the cafe by 3:45.

**THUR FEB 20 - EVENING LADIES' BIBLE STUDY @ 6:30 PM**

The Ephesians study resumes with session 6. Bi-weekly meetings in the Michael Room are led by Christina Lowery & will finish April 17th. You are invited to join us this semester even if you missed the fall sessions. [Order the book on Amazon here.](#) Register for this study on the Bethel app or by [clicking this link.](#)

**FRIDAY FEB 21- MORNING LADIES' BIBLE STUDY @ 11AM-12:30PM**

This group meets weekly in Room 311 and is led by Jan Salzman. Weighed By the Word by Pat Warren takes 11-lessons to examine what the Bible teaches about body issues so you can weigh yourself by the scale of God's Word. Jan will have several copies of the book available. You can sign up in the Bethel app or [by clicking this link.](#)

**FRI FEB 21 - SCS 3RD-5TH GRADE MUSIC PROGRAM -**

"GLOW: God Lights Our World" at 7:00 pm in the Auditorium

**SUN FEB 23 - PIZZA WITH THE PASTORS,** - New members, those considering membership, & visitors are invited to a free lunch with our leadership in the fellowship center following the morning worship service. Sign up in the Welcome Center [or by clicking here.](#)

### MISSIONARY UPDATE: BUDDY & LOREN FITZGERALD (PERU)

Quite brave of you to read about a whole year. Will you make it to the end of the letter? We have big news! - A summary of our ministry activities, outline of goals and progress toward specific goals, and a report on our needs.

**ACTIVITIES:** January began with a visit from Elena Moye, who stayed with us for several months. We soon traveled to Lima, where I had good news from a follow-up MRI on my previous spinal cord cancer. I was tasked this year with directing the MK camp, which was daunting, but we were so blessed to have Shawn Alexander visit and minister to an

increased number of campers. Our friends, the Coelhos, also came from Brazil! In February, we again traveled far upriver, taking medical care and the Gospel to tribal villages that otherwise have no access. In April, we had our first-ever medical campaign with almost exclusive Peruvian medical personnel. In 2024, we hosted multiple teams and individuals and were encouraged by so many people. Every week, I preached three main services, gave other short devotionals, and led the youth group. We also facilitated men's and women's discipleship groups. Additionally, we were engaged in personal discipleship, outreach, and evangelism. I again taught at the Cusco Bible College and have now joined the school's board. I also was privileged to travel and preach in other distant places. The Lord blessed us with many professions of faith, but discipleship in the remote areas is so difficult. The mountain church that had been joining us online called a pastor, for which we rejoice.



In July, we returned to the U.S. for a nearly six-month furlough. We drove over 22,000 miles and visited most of our supporting churches. God gave us some great visits and many wonderful memories. It is hard to imagine this was probably our last furlough with all the kids.

**GOALS:** In 2024, we continued to focus on making more disciples of Jesus. Our goal is to see God glorified by reaching the lost, making disciples of Jesus, and training those disciples to do the work of the ministry. Part of church growth is the establishment of deacons. After both of the previous men disqualified themselves, we rejoiced that the church selected two new leaders. We also wanted to work on the church parsonage, and hoped to find a pastor for the church. Most are aware that the sinkhole near our house was growing ever closer. It became clear we would need to raise funds, build, and move. The Lord gifted us a property a couple of years ago, but it is "off-grid." Lord-willing, we plan to build (including solar and a well) for about \$100k. On another note, the Mission advised us that we were a little under-supported, so we were praying about more partners.

**PROGRESS TOWARD GOALS:** We are thankful to report that we have many people involved in serving every week, and we are seeing

them grow as they serve. Many members are inviting visitors and spontaneously sharing the Gospel. We have first-time visitors nearly every Sunday! We continued growing the small “care groups” and developing leaders who care for their own groups as a main growth point this year.

Intern Hetler Ramos has been with us for three years and plans to continue. Lord-willing, we will ordain him this year. He is heading up the church plant in the nearby town of Toledo (about 45 minutes away). As part of this work, we send multiple church members there every week and occasional visitors. We also had a work team and a teenage mission trip from Hillsdale in June. God blessed with much labor and some professions of faith. Please pray for laborers for the harvest!

While on furlough, one of our deacons filled in as interim pastor, for which we are very grateful! I had spent a lot of time with five men preparing them for preaching, which they did in turn. We also visited three new churches that invited us for a visit without any soliciting on my part, and God blessed us with all three now partnering in the ministry! In November, we sent out a letter detailing the new house project. We were awed to see God provide the funds in less than two months! This is the Lord’s doing. God brought it all in! Praise the Lord with us!

### **PRAYER NEEDS:**

1. We rejoice over the new gospel partners God provided.
2. We ask the Lord for strength and time to build the new house.
3. We are praying over the many upcoming visitors and teams.
4. We continue to pray for a pastor and ask the Lord to lead the church.
5. Our hearts still yearn to evangelize the unreached tribes. We continue visiting and building ties with the tribal villages as we can.
6. Lord willing, we will be headed upriver to multiple tribal villages next month with a medical mission team.
7. The sinkhole next to our house has grown greatly. Lord willing, we will begin the building process once the rainy season is over.

Grace and peace, *The Fitzgerald Family*