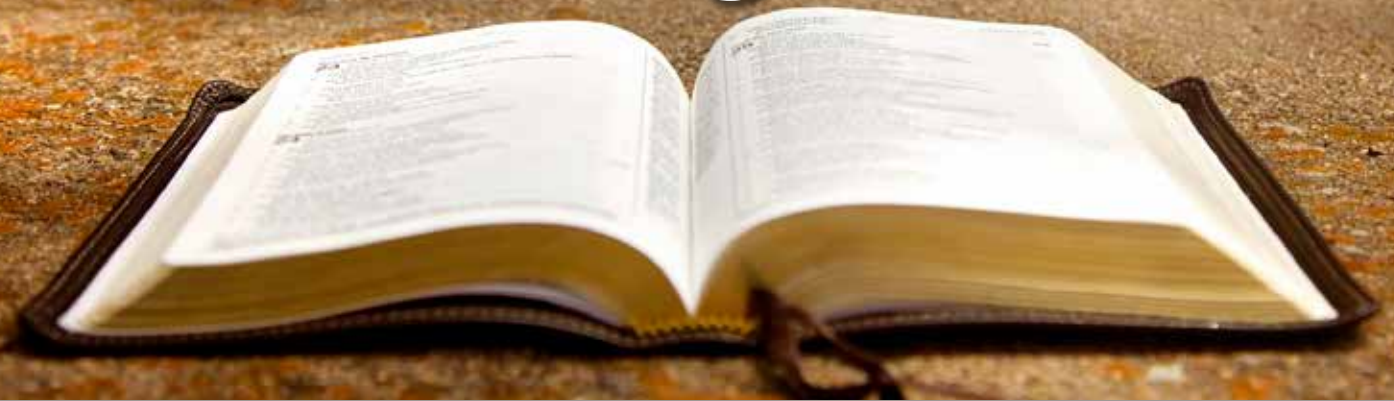


# Ways to Enrich Your Bible Reading

by Pastor Scott Boerckel



*We have made it our goal to read through the Bible in 2019 as a church family. If you have joined us, you are likely in one of the following categories:*

- You are already hopelessly behind and have sort of given up on the whole thing.
- You have been enjoying listening to the Bible reading, but, if asked, you are not recalling as much of your reading or listening as you would like.
- You have found the portions in 1 Chronicles especially difficult, not understanding why so many names are tossed around.
- You are keeping up, enjoying this opportunity to do this as a church, and it has prompted questions that you wonder where to go for insight.
- You are wondering how to engage your family in your Bible reading or how to creatively share it as an outreach with your family, friends and neighbors.

*(continued on page 2)*



## A Story of Healing

*How Tara found freedom and hope after her abortion (page 4)*



## Construction begins on East White Oak's Remodel

*A photo summary of recent work on our building (page 12)*

## DATES TO REMEMBER

*February 23*

**Men's Breakfast**

*February 24*

**Baptism Class**

*March 17*

**Annual Meeting**

*April 21*

**Easter: Resurrection Sunday**

*April 26*

**Women's Ministry**

**Breath of Fresh Air Event**



## Hope and help for those who have fallen behind (and who never started)

Remember why we are reading the Bible. It is to know God. It is not to “check off the box” that I have read. If that is true, both the person who is happy about that and the one sad about that are theological heretics. One is finding joy in the wrong place; the other is finding condemnation where it does not exist. So, don’t worry about box checking. Instead, commune with your Lord. For those who have fallen behind, give yourself amnesty and check all the boxes you have not read at the end of each month. And start fresh each new month! See if you can go further than you did the month before. In other words, please enjoy this process rather than making it an opportunity for the devil to condemn you. Ask the Lord to help you. Here is a prayer to pray, “Lord Jesus, I have trusted you and your work at the cross for my eternal salvation. I want to know you better and better, and I know that reading the Scriptures will help me do that. Empower me to long for your Word. Refresh me as I read it. Help me see wonderful things about You in it. Amen.” If you did not get started, but now have been hearing from others how much they are enjoying this, just jump in! The reading plans are available in the long hallway and on our website, [www.ewo.org](http://www.ewo.org).

## You are not finding this enjoyable.

There are several categories here:

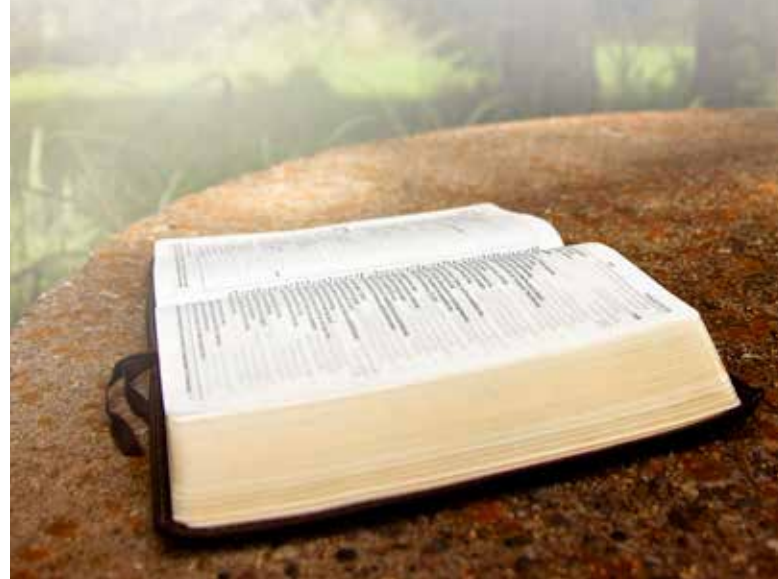
- You are busy, and it is hard to squeeze this in. Remember that it takes about 12 minutes a day. Ask the Lord to change your heart so that you long to hear from Him rather than think it is a duty demanded of you.
- You are behind. Others are talking about how much they are enjoying it, and you are trying to fake it because you don’t want others to know you are behind. Don’t worry about others. That is a tool of the devil to steal your joy. Just employ the amnesty described above and start over. Remember that the Bible is a loving expression from God to us. What else but love would prompt God to reveal Himself in this way?
- It is, of course, possible that you have not trusted Christ. If that is so, it will be very difficult to keep up with Bible reading. Jesus Himself said, “Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God.” (John 8:47) So, if you lack a desire to read God’s Word, it is possible that you need to come to true faith in Jesus Christ. Ask Him to be your Savior; ask Him to enable you to hear God’s Word.

## Guidance for those who are not retaining as much as they would like:

I have observed that when I am listening to the Bible reading on the app, it is easy for my attention to drift. In fact, if you are feeling like you are not getting as much joy

## Remember why we are reading the Bible.

It is to know God. It is not to “check off the box”... Enjoy this process rather than making it an opportunity for the devil to condemn you.



out of this as you anticipated, it may be because you are in a bit too much of a hurry. I have discovered that by reading the Scripture along with the sound, my comprehension increases. I have also discovered that when I speed up the reader’s voice, interestingly enough, my comprehension increases. This is likely due to my needing to concentrate harder when words come to my ears faster. I would encourage you to vary the ways that you read. Do something a little bit different each day. Use the app for a bit; then, use a Bible. Do the reading with the sound on; then, do it for awhile with the sound off. Altering our habits within the habit of Scripture reading will increase our comprehension. It is fatiguing to our brains to do the same thing over and over and over. Assembly line industrial engineers learned this lesson. When workers must perform the same task without any changes, quality decreases and chances of accident increase.

## The reading in 1 Chronicles has been difficult to follow with all the names.

Yes, no doubt the reading in 1 Chronicles is hard for us to follow. Maybe one reason why this Bible reading plan starts here is because this is hard for us, and they want to get it done before we lose motivation. We do not follow all these

names because we are not Israelites with a keen interest in knowing the beautiful connection with Israelite saints of the past to Israelites living at the time 1 Chronicles was written. If we only knew how much of a blessing this was for them, we would daily thank God that this treasure house of information has been preserved in Scripture.

Sometimes a little bit of preparation information will help us stay engaged in the middle of these more tedious-to-us portions of the Bible. For this, I have found the summaries of Scripture books at the Bible Project very helpful. For example, see this one about 1-2 Chronicles and see if it does not enliven your appreciation of your reading: <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/1-2-chronicles/>

### **You are keeping up, enjoying this opportunity to do this as a church, and it has prompted questions that you wonder where to go for insight.**

I think that this might be the majority of folks in our church. Here are some suggestions for how to gain further insight on your Bible reading:

- Talk it over with folks in your ABF and small group. Sharing the Scriptures with one another is at the heart of true Christian fellowship.
- Join one of our online Bible reading communities. When you join those, you are able to communicate messages with one another about your reading. If you want to do this and don't know how, just contact the church office for instructions.
- Look at the summaries of most of the books of the Bible at *The Bible Project*. The link is here: <https://thebibleproject.com/explore/>
- Remember that while diving into the Scriptures in depth is essential to our lives as believers, that is not what we are attempting here. So, don't get frustrated if you have a question and just keep moving past it in your reading. My recommendation is that if you have a place in your reading where you want to dive deeper, mark it. Then, carve out an hour each week to look over all the spots that you marked to go deeper in each of those places.

### **You are wondering how to engage your family in your Bible reading or how to share it creatively as an outreach with your family, friends, and neighbors.**

You may want to write cards of encouragement to loved ones using the Scriptures you read. You could include Scripture with a card while giving a home-baked gift to a neighbor or local Fire/EMS station. You could make it a point to share one thing you learned from your reading with a different person every day. The ways of engagement are nearly endless! Jesus said, "Out of the

abundance of the heart, the mouth speaks." So, if the Lord is bringing you joy in His Word, do not be afraid to share it with others.

### **Onward and upward!**

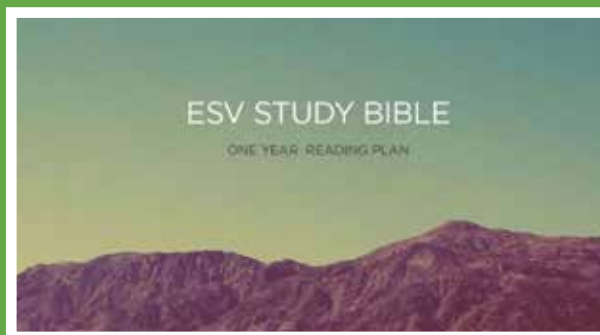
I am so thankful to the Lord that He has given us His Word. For us to be doing this together as a church is a real treat for me. I hope that our reading will continue to bless each one and our church together throughout the year as it has in this first month. Keep up the joy of reading!

*Psalm 19:7-10*

*The law of the Lord is perfect,  
reviving the soul;  
the testimony of the Lord is sure,  
making wise the simple;  
the precepts of the Lord are right,  
rejoicing the heart;  
the commandment of the Lord is pure,  
enlightening the eyes;  
the fear of the Lord is clean,  
enduring forever;  
the rules of the Lord are true,  
and righteous altogether.  
More to be desired are they than gold,  
even much fine gold;  
sweeter also than honey  
and drippings of the honeycomb.*

Happy Reading!  
Pastor Scott

### **READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN 2019**



*Join us anytime in 2019!*



**EXPERIENCE**  
*the WORD together*

Join the movement at [ewo.org](http://ewo.org)



# My Story

BY TARA JENNIFER ARCHIBALD

## *Nerves racked*

as I sat at my own Deeper Still retreat, blanket over my lap to hide my trembling hands and the cold sweat that enveloped me, wide eyes riveted on the speaker, heart pounding in my chest, puzzling over what exactly had transpired to bring me to this moment, and frantically searching for the words to my story, to the darkness within. Still I had to speak, to say that word, “abortion”, to tell others what I had done, momentarily convinced that I could not do it.

## *This is my story.*

Childhood abuse and loss had plunged me into a dark abyss. I turned to other relationships, other men, to fill a need that only God could satisfy, to feel something other than the darkness. Before long I found myself in a situation I swore would never happen, single and pregnant.

As though someone else spoke it, I heard myself utter the words, “I cannot keep it,” when the nurse delivered the news and asked me what I wanted to do; wishing she could hear the hesitation in my voice, but fearful that she would. Yet desperate to hear her say I had another option.

Deliberately and knowingly, I avoided the local pregnancy center. As a believer for over a decade and a half, I knew where to go to choose life. I knew what and who to avoid. At the crossroads of life and death, light and darkness, I chose death. I knew one word of life would have sent me down the other path. And I had already chosen.

Terrified, my hand trembling on the abortion clinic door, I clumsily flung it open and hurried inside as though it were any other doctor appointment, determined to get it over with. Once inside, I barely remember my time there. The only words I remember being spoken were those of the doctor, “I think you may have been farther along than we thought.” I remember afterwards being ushered into their recovery room, busy and void of privacy. And I remember leaving that clinic feeling nothing but blind relief, relief that my secret was safe, relief and satisfaction that I would not have to see the rage and condemnation on my parent’s faces. No inkling of an idea the impact of what I had just done or the ramifications it would have on my life. In complete denial of the sin I had just committed. My life changed forever in that brief hour. Little did I know my heart would grieve for the child I never held.

Fifteen years later, almost to the day, having heard about Deeper Still through my pastor and a few friends, I found myself on a Friday night at my own retreat. It was now time to tell my story. Fumbling, disjointed and bringing up details



**Walking in freedom**  
—Tara with her husband, Rick, and daughters at Multnomah Falls, Oregon

as they were remembered, I made it through those terrifying, yet freeing, minutes. More of my story was revealed. Dark things had been brought into the light. The darkness of shame and guilt dissolved in the cleansing blood of Jesus.

My shame and pain were laid at the foot of His cross, no longer my chains to carry. Freedom found, God got all the glory! The angels rejoiced! By God's amazing grace, His pierced Son broke through the clouds of despair and shined His warm light on my cold darkened soul.

The pain, the shame, the guilt, the loss, the abuse, the utter despair and darkness, the heartache, were my reality no longer. **Because Jesus.** "As far as the east is from the west, so far does He remove our transgressions from us" (Psalm 102:12). Because He died for me, my sins and my past died with Him. Because He lives, I live. "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God" (Galatians 2:20). Because He died and now lives, I am free. "For if we have been united with Him in a death like His, we shall certainly be united with Him in a resurrection like His. We know that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. For one who has died has been set free from sin" (Romans 6:5-7).

**Because Jesus, I no longer dwell in the dark abyss, but instead I rejoice on the brilliant mountaintop. Not because my healing journey and struggles are done, but because now I dwell in His light. The darkness no longer denied, now Jesus the Light of Truth has set me free.**

Jesus beckons, "Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28).

If you are among the one in three women (or men) who have had an abortion, come. Jesus is beckoning you to come to Him. Don't hide in the shadows. Allow His light to pierce your darkness, heal your wounded heart, and rid you of shame. Deeper Still was created for you. Bring your darkness into the light. Allow the Deeper Still team to serve you and shower you with God's grace as you find freedom from your captivity.

And to everyone else, now is your turn, beckon the broken to speak. Help heal the hurting by allowing their story to come into the light. Only the devil dwells in darkness. And he wants their stories to dwell there as well. In the light there is victory and freedom. In the light, there is Jesus.

## *Do you have an abortion wounded heart?*

*Deeper Still* is a biblically based healing retreat for post abortive women and men.

Deeper Still exists to bring lasting healing, freedom and hope to women and men who have been wounded by an abortion decision.

### *Confidential* **WEEKEND RETREATS**

IN CENTRAL ILLINOIS

**April 26-28, 2019**

**October 4-6, 2019**

**There is no cost to attend.**

### **REGISTRATION**

GoDeeperStill.org

Phone: 309-212-1442

Email: laurie@hopeforafuture.com



#### **Testimony from a Deeper Still participant:**

*"There are no words to describe the overall experience. I am still experiencing so much freedom, so much joy. I've been set free by the grace of God."*



# Thank you!

BECAUSE OF YOUR GENEROUS GIVING, EAST WHITE OAK SENT A SPECIAL CHRISTMAS GIFT TO OUR MISSIONARIES THIS YEAR.

## WE'D LIKE TO SHARE SOME OF THEIR NOTES OF APPRECIATION.

### From Sheila Dilworth

Many greetings from Florida where I am loving having a full house this year. God bless you for your love and gifts. They have been a wonderful blessing through the year and I am grateful. I trust you have a wonder-filled Christmas and a great 2019. Welcome to Florida any time.

### From Gary and Cindy Blunier

Thank you so much for your faithful monthly support and the generous year-end gift toward our ministry with FamilyLife. 2 Cor. 9:12 says, "This service that you perform is not only supplying the needs of the Lord's people, but is also overflowing in many expressions of thanks to God." We are so thankful for you! We love being chaplains for the FamilyLife staff and mentoring couples from church and the community. Thank you for your faithful support that makes this possible. May God richly bless EWO and all you do in the New Year!

### From John and Pat Sharp

Pat and I want to thank you so much for the extra Christmas gift of \$500.00. What a blessing you are and what a huge help this gift will be. You have been extremely faithful to us and our ministry.

### From Jim and Paula Roberts

Thanks so much for the gift cards and goodies, missions conference opportunities, Christmas gift, and mostly for being so faithful in your giving and prayers. *How kind the Lord is! How good He is! How merciful this God of ours! Psalm 116:5*

### From Don and Nancy Estep

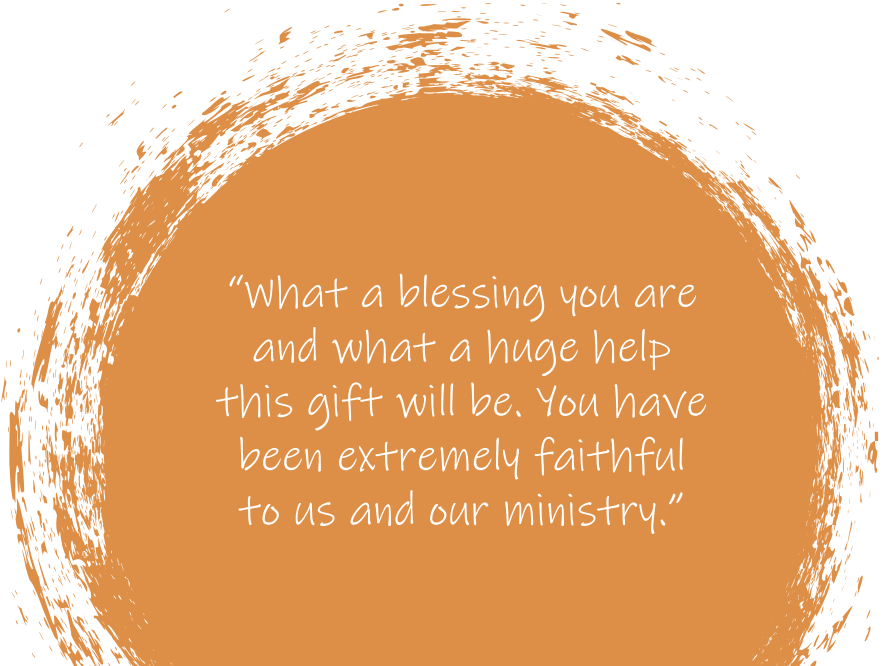
Thank you for your generous Christmas gift! We appreciate your thoughtfulness so very much. We thank the Lord for your support of our ministry, both prayerfully and financially. It is a joy to partner with you in our Awana ministry. May you have a blessed Christmas and a joyous new year! May God continue to richly bless you as you serve Him!

### From Chuck and Anita Howard

We thank the Lord and you for your faithful support for us and Reach Beyond! May God give you peace and joy and many blessings during this Christmas season!

### From Dwight and Phyllis Zimmerman

A heartfelt thank you for your generous Christmas gift to us. What a blessing and encouragement! We appreciate your partnership with us for many, many years. Your financial support, your many prayers, your letters, e-mails, and spring work groups have blessed us over and over again. Thank you for being part of our team as we serve Him here at Cedine.



"What a blessing you are and what a huge help this gift will be. You have been extremely faithful to us and our ministry."

### From Dave and Jo Ann Loewen

Today in the mail we received a check from you! Wow! What a surprise – I never once thought about receiving this but I did wonder how we were going to have a black month! May you have a Merry Christmas! Thank you!

### From Matt and Michelle Kent

Merry Christmas! Michelle and I are closing out another year and we wanted to communicate how thankful we are for your partnership in this ministry, and for your friendship to us. Your continued kindness towards us, and your always believing the best in us is such an encouragement.

### From Leroy and Carol Goodman

God bless each of you special ones! Carol and I thank you for the Christmas gift. God used you to help us pay the rest of our taxes. God answers our prayers.

### From Mac and Martha McNair

Thank you so much for your kindness and blessing this Christmas. Martha and I are so blessed to have been a part of the body for nearly 44 years! There are countless ways over these years that we have been blessed, nurtured, and encouraged. Thank you for your partnership in the gospel and for your amazing love! We bless the Lord for you all!

### From Bill and Gloria Bagley

Oh, how we thank you for your Christmas gift to the Bagleys. The timing of it was a life saver, as we were in the midst of a move and a bit homeless for a few days, as someone's computer crashed and the closing on our house was delayed for a bit. We appreciate you all more than you will ever know.

### From Kalman and Annamarie Dobos

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift, your selfless love showed to us for so many years. Thank you for this encouragement.

### From David and Darlene Noden

We want to express our appreciation to you for the way you have cared for your retired missionaries over this past year. It has been a real comfort and assurance that the home church continues with both sincere prayer and faithful support each month as well as the generous Christmas gift. Thank you also for the precious time given to us the first week of Missions Conference in November. The many gifts that followed and for the blessing of a new computer to replace our antique! We love y'all and wish God's blessing on you in 2019.



"We wanted to communicate how thankful we are for your partnership in this ministry, and for your friendship to us. Your continued kindness towards us, and your always believing the best in us is such an encouragement."

### From Bill and Debbie Miller

Once again, I want to thank you for the Christmas check you sent us. We are so blessed by your church! Thank you, thank you, thank you!

### From Jenny and The Klouses

Happy New Year! I have so much to be thankful for right now, including you! Thank you for the Christmas gift. We bought Erik a plane ticket to visit his parents over the holidays. Since his dad had heart surgery, it was a blessing for Erik to spend time with his family. Thank you for the extra gift to help me buy a new car to replace the totaled one. I cried as Grandma and Grandpa's car was towed away. Your gift encouraged me as we make this Prius wagon a part of our family now. Thank you for your love and support. Your love overflows onto those around us.

### From Doug and Lisa Orner

Thank you so much for the Christmas gift. We put it toward spending time with Steve and Bekah and our sweet grandkids. That was our present for Christmas! We look forward to seeing you this summer.

**THANK YOU, EAST WHITE OAK,  
FOR HELPING US BLESS OUR  
MISSIONARY PARTNERS!**





THURSDAY EVENINGS

*thrive!*

*Connect, Grow, Flourish Together*

**An evening of Bible Study & Community**

**6:30pm | Room 172**

**No commitment—Come anytime.**

Questions? Want someone to meet you and walk through the evening with you? Contact Lisa (lljackson44@gmail.com).

More information coming soon!

• **SAVE THE DATE** •

# *Breath* OF FRESH AIR

Friday, April 26

AN EVENING OF ENCOURAGEMENT,  
COMMUNITY, AND CREATIVITY.

Invite a friend!



EAST WHITE OAK WOMEN'S MINISTRY

*moms offering moms support*

**m.o.m.s.**

**CALLING MOMS OF ALL AGES:**

*Meet new friends,  
Draw closer to God,  
Relax with a yummy breakfast...  
Your kids are in good hands!*

**m.o.m.s. Come Join us!**

M.O.M.S. (Moms Offering Moms Support) meets the first and third Fridays of the month (September - April) from 9:30-11:30am in Room 172.

Moms of all ages and stages, come be recharged and encouraged! Childcare is \$2/per child (max of \$8/per family). Contact Amberly for more information: ahmama06070913@gmail.com.

**2019 DATES:**

*February 15*

*March 1*

*March 15*

*April 5*





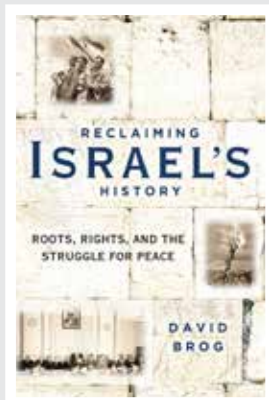


EAST WHITE OAK LIBRARY CORNER

## LIBRARY RESOURCES AT THE OAK

COME SEE US!  
THE LIBRARY IS  
TEMPORARILY  
LOCATED IN  
RM. 173

### BOOK REVIEW BY LAURA JOHNSON



**RECLAIMING ISRAEL'S  
HISTORY: ROOTS, RIGHTS,  
AND THE STRUGGLE FOR  
PEACE** by David Borg

Last summer my husband Mark and I stopped to say “Hi” to Barb and John while they were having a yard sale. Yard sale business was slow so Barb was passing the time reading a newly published book that she had

borrowed from the public library. She commented that it was changing her understanding and attitude about the Arab-Israeli conflict. Well, that’s all it took for this avid reader to add it to my book list!

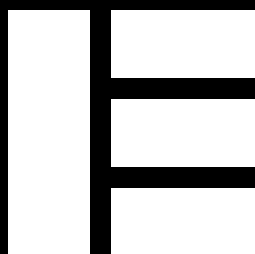
Several months later I downloaded the book on my Kindle and it delivered everything it promised. It is a well-written, easy-to-follow account of the past 100 years of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In this book you’ll learn (excerpted from the book jacket):

- How the Jewish people have maintained a continual presence in the Land of Israel for over 3,000 years ...
- How the Romans invented the word “Palestine” as a way to sever the connection between the Jewish people and their land ...
- How modern Jewish immigration to Palestine did not displace Arabs but instead sparked an Arab population boom
- Why most of Palestine’s Arabs never identified themselves as “Palestinians” until after the 1967 War...
- The extraordinary lengths to which Israel’s military goes to protect Palestinian civilians ...
- How the Palestinians have on five separate occasions rejected Israel’s offers of a Palestinian state in virtually all of the West Bank and Gaza.

Whether you follow the Arab-Israel conflict closely or, like me, want to gain a better understanding of what is happening in God’s Promised Land, this timely, well-documented book will answer many of your questions and help you follow current news with more insight.

And, yes, there is a copy in the EWO Church Library!



## E4 MEN'S MINISTRY

EQUIP, ENCOURAGE, ENGAGE, ENJOY

**OUR MISSION IS SIMPLE.** To **Equip** and **Encourage** men to **Engage** in their family, church, and community and to **Enjoy** the journey together.

## MEN'S BREAKFAST, FEBRUARY 23

Pastor Larry and the men of Living Stone will join us to share what God is doing in their community. It will be a great morning of **Encouragement**, learning how our fellow brothers are **Engaging** their neighbors in gospel conversations. Join us for hearty food and a whole lot of fellowship! Sign up at [ewo.org](http://ewo.org). Click “Events”.





# Meet Sandy Way

## 5th and 6th Grade Girls' Sunday School Teacher

*"Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the Lord." Psalm 34:11*

Sandy Way, a teacher in the 5th and 6th Grade Girls' Sunday School class, finds sharing Jesus with the young ladies a joy! A former public school teacher in Indiana for 36 years, Sandy co-teaches the girls with two other women: Sammie Clarke and Mary Sadoun.

Some fun facts about Sandy:

- She quilts and sews (I've seen some beautiful projects she has made)
- She loves to travel
- She knows, by heart, the words to LOTS of hymns!
- She has a twin sister

Sandy trusted Jesus as her Savior at a young age. She says, "The recognition that I was a sinner was a gradual process but occurred at a young age. My sister and I were about five when our mom talked to us about asking Jesus to be our Savior. We both said, "Yes," instantly. My faith is based on belief in what the Bible says - that all have sinned (I included) and that the cure for sin is belief in Jesus."

In talking with Sandy, you can see and hear the joy she has in sharing Jesus with the 5th and 6th grade girls. Each week, they focus on exploring who Jesus is and discovering God's message to us in the Bible. They use various hands-on activities, Bible stories, and memory verses. Exploring ways to apply what they learn is an important part of each lesson.



Sandy loves creating activities and illustrations that might help bring understanding to the point of the lesson. She finds it challenging as well. Making sure the message of the lesson is presented so that each girl understands it is the most challenging part of teaching for her.

God is at work in the midst of the 5th and 6th grade class, teachers included! Sandy shares, "I love it when the girls share their concerns for others and then pray for them. For me, I've noticed how much my own faith is strengthened by studying and preparing the lessons."

Our young people face many challenges to maintain a strong faith in Jesus Christ. Please pray for these dear ones. Sandy requests you pray Ephesians 2:16-19 for the teachers and the girls in 5th and 6th grade:

*"I pray that out of His glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge-that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God."*

East White Oak Bible Church



From tiny acorns to mighty oaks

# RENOVATION VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

## **Empty areas prior to demolition**

*Coordinated by Greg Wallgren*

Toward the beginning of the project's Phase Two (around Easter) several areas will need to be emptied in preparation for additional demo and construction of the new foyer and restrooms.

## **Install bookshelf hanging systems in new offices**

*Coordinated by Andy Wallgren*

The new offices for the pastors will have wall shelving installed to hold their books. This project will require some time spent on a ladder, use of a stud finder, circular saw, drill, power screwdriver, and a level.

## **Pulling wire for tech in new office space**

*Coordinated by Doug Kinzinger*

Wires will be pulled through the attic spaces and ceilings, then finally make their way down the walls of the new offices. These wires will connect phone and computer systems.

## **Move into newly renovated spaces**

*Coordinated by Greg Wallgren*

This work will happen in several stages. As each phase is complete (i.e. offices, library, resource room) help will be needed moving into the new space.

## **Wednesday Laborers' Lunch (preparation/service/clean-up)**

*Coordinated by Mary Huber*

We have the opportunity to bless the professionals who enter our building by preparing and serving lunch for them each Wednesday. We want each laborer to feel personally welcomed and encouraged during their time at East White Oak.

## **Every Saturday during the project, clean-up in preparation for Sunday**

*Coordinated by Bruce Jacobs*

Help us keep our Sunday mornings running smoothly. We want our church to be clean and ready to welcome guests every Sunday despite the mess that comes with renovation.

## **Final clean-up**

*Coordinated by Bruce Jacobs*

Once the project is complete, we will assemble a team for a deep clean of the new space. Every window and mirror will be cleaned and a thorough dusting and vacuuming of every area.

**If you are interested in any of these opportunities,  
please contact the church office for more information.  
[info@ewo.org](mailto:info@ewo.org) / (309)454-3833**

# Elder/Deacon Notes

**Dave Osenga, Elder Chairman**

1. Pray for each other as we continue our journey to our destination of Maturity in Christ. The areas we want to grow in are Growing in Christ, the Bible and Prayer, Obedience and Christian Living, and Mission and Outreach.

2. We have heard from many people that they have started their journey through the reading of the whole Bible in 2019. Please pray for us all that we will continue faithfully on this journey getting to know God's Word better, and that God will show us His heart as we read His letter to us.

3. We are looking forward to the renovation work that is starting. The response of the congregation's giving toward the Building Fund has been so exciting and appreciated!

Continue to pray for joy and worship in the journey as the work is done. We want to always provide a place where we can "welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." (Romans 15:7)

4. Please be in prayer for our upcoming annual meeting on March 17, 2019. Preparations are currently going on regarding the budget and the new elder and deacons who will be presented for your approval.



# CONSTRUCTION BEGINS

*on East White Oak's Remodel*



*Exploring the attic in preparation for the remodel*



*Choosing flooring*



*Contractors view the plans and bid for the project*



*Volunteers help prepare the building for demolition to begin*



*Work day! (Volunteers hold completed checklist)*



*Pre-construction meeting with contractors*



*Building a wall to keep the dust and mess under control*



*At last... after many months of planning and preparation, the project begins!*