

# HIGHLAND NEWS

December 23, 2022

## Highland Baptist Church Newsletter

Hello beloved church family,

The proof is in the pudding is a weird turn of phrase. Why would pudding prove anything and from where did such a phrase originate? I do not remember the first time I heard this odd expression but needing answers I went to only logical place such a phrase could be explained, Google.

Evidently, the proof is in the pudding is a shortened version of a longer English phrase from the 17th century, the proof of the pudding is in the eating. In the UK, pudding does not refer to the glorious creamy dessert which adorns many a festive table but a meaty mass of seasoned mush which is bagged and then boiled. The way in which this pudding is prepared makes it is difficult to determine if the meal is fully cooked until one takes a bite, thus the proof is in the eating of the pudding.

As I pondered the etymology of my phrase, and my newfound aversion to English cuisine, it suddenly dawned on me the deep truth hidden within; taste and see. King David in Psalm 34:8 instructs the reader to, “taste and see that the Lord is good”. Thousands of years before the proof was ever in the pudding King David informed his readers that the only way to know God’s goodness was to “take a bite”. The goodness of God is something that can only truly be experienced first-hand. Sure, one can see the goodness of God from afar or be a beneficiary of the goodness of God by proximity, but one can only experience the depth and breadth of goodness of God by tasting and seeing it for oneself.

David’s call to action is clear; taste and see for yourself. He explains how the Lord was good to him, how God answered his call for help and how the Lord will do the same for those who seek after Him. Watching another eat will never satisfy your hunger, you must also eat. Watching another grow in Christ will not satisfy your desire to see His goodness in your life, you must taste and see for yourself. Church, taste and see that the Lord is good. God invites us to experience His goodness, He informs us that He sees us, and He encourages us to come to Him. As we begin a new year, commit yourself to tasting the goodness of God because the proof of God’s goodness is in the tasting.

Wes Andrews  
Youth Director



## WINTER THRIVE

Winter Thrive starts Wednesday, January 4th, from 6:30-8pm. Join us! Bible studies for all ages.

Adults: "Next" (selected scriptures)

Adults: Foundations Class

Youth: "That You May Know" (Walking through the fulfilled prophecies in Matthew)

Kids: "Generations of Grace" curriculum

## HIGHLAND CELEBRATION FUNCH

Join us! We will be having our annual celebration on Sunday, January 29th, following the 11am service. Lunch will be provided. More details to come!

## 2022 GIVING

For end of 2022 giving, please donate by December 31st, 2022. For questions, see Laurie in the office.

## WOMEN'S RETREAT · SAVE THE DATE

The Women's Retreat is scheduled for May 5-7th, 2023 at the Hideaway in Colorado Springs. More info to come!

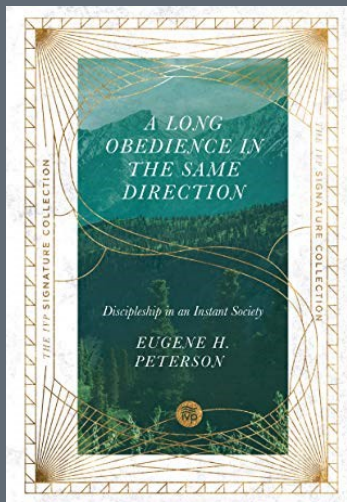
## RESOURCE SUGGESTION

*From Pastor Sam*

"A Long Obedience in  
The Same Direction"

By Eugene Peterson

A Christian classic that establishes the importance of a lifelong pursuit of Jesus, and offers helpful trail markers for the journey.



Pawa tasonkawentemine! (God bless you!) How can a church be planted and Bibles given out in 500 Asheninka communities? I'm not totally sure, BUT it definitely cannot be done alone! Praise God there are many that we are partnered with to take up the torch among the Asheninka, and I want you to know some of these "fishers!"



Albertino: Perhaps you remember his story from last year. Delivered miraculously from a demon, he now shares what God has done. He teaches in the Pto Bermudez Asheninka service and in several villages.



Fernandez: A top Bible translator, he has been a machine helping pump out large portions of corrections for recent translation projects. He also helps lead a church in his community.



Heladio: With 30 years of experience, Heladio was among the very first Asheninka pastors to ever exist. He has an undying passion to reach his people with the gospel and also helps in translation.



Miguel: I call him "The Apostle Paul Asheninka." He once was so sick his wife had to carry him to the bathroom. In despair, he asked her to kill him, but she refused. Then he sought the Lord's healing. Now he's helped plant seven churches.

These and many others are the Lord's laborers helping achieve the task. So far about 20% of Asheninka communities have a church or "church spark," and only 10% have received Bibles to a semi-adequate level, but the good news is things are advancing, who knows? Maybe the Lord

As always, say a prayer if you would for these Asheninka brothers and pray:

- 1) That we may remain in Jesus, and that He gives us wisdom to guide all we do.
- 2) New churches or "sparks" and their leaders: (a) San Fausto (b) Boca Chimiari (c) Betania (d) Editha Nazarethki (e) Santa Isabel de Neguachi (f) and others.
- 3) For health, strength, and protection especially for David and Judy who have been very sick with Covid.
- 4) That the Lord rebukes the enemy who divides, distracts, attacks, and does all he can to destroy us and stop the work.

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas remembering Jesus,  
Isaiah

# Welcome Babies!



Hudson James Porges  
November 22  
Sam & Jelicha



Barrett Hudson Roy  
November 29  
Trevor & Ashley

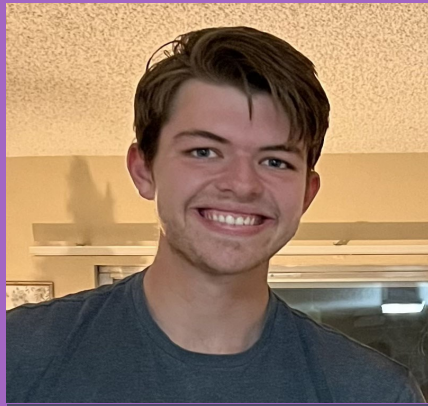
FOR WHICH I AM SUFFERING,  
BOUND WITH CHAINS AS A  
CRIMINAL. BUT THE WORD  
OF GOD IS NOT BOUND!

2 Timothy 2:9





Brian & Tatyana  
Davis



Reagan Kirby



Joy Maxwell



Randy & Laura  
McGinnis



John & Teresa  
Mitchell



Dehric & Andrea  
Moore



Brian Overholser



Maury & Nelda  
Sledd



Grace White