



NEWSLETTER

Tanglewood Bible Fellowship

EIC: Wendy Powers

The Mission of TBF is to glorify God (Psalm 86:11-13; 115:1 and 1 Peter 2:12; 4:16) by actively participating in the ongoing fulfillment of the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20) as a body of believers (1 Cor 12:13; 1 John 5:1-5) who collectively/individually (Phil 1:27) serve our Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ (Rom 12:1-2) and one another (Phil 2:3-4) functioning as a spiritual Greenhouse (Eph 4:11-16) such that by our interactions together we are catalyzed to grow (Acts 2:42) and to reproduce (Acts 2:47) spiritually

Lift Up Your Eyes

The city of Jerusalem—the center of ancient Jewish worship—is perched high upon a hill. As worshipers traveled there for one of the three main yearly Jewish festivals, they traditionally sang “Songs of Ascent” while climbing the road into the city. The Jewish priests may have sung these Songs of Ascent (also called Pilgrim Songs) as they ascended the temple steps in Jerusalem. One such psalm states, “I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, Who made heaven and earth” (Psalm 121:1–2, ESV).

On his approach to Jerusalem, the pilgrim declared, “I lift my eyes to the hills,” the place where God dwells. Just as Isaiah saw the Lord “sitting on a throne, high and lifted up” (Isaiah 6:1, NKJV), the psalmist looked up to the mountains of Jerusalem and saw God the Creator of heaven and earth, seated on His heavenly throne in Mount Zion.

Scripture frequently refers to the heights of Jerusalem as the holy “Mountain of the Lord” where God dwells (Zechariah 8:3; Isaiah 27:13). One psalmist describes Jerusalem as “the city of our God, which sits on His holy mountain! It is high and magnificent; the whole earth rejoices to see it! Mount Zion, the holy mountain, is the city of the great King!” (Psalm 48:1–2, NLT). In Psalm 87:2, the same writer reports that God “loves the city of Jerusalem more than any other city in Israel.”

“I lift my eyes to the hills” was the worshiper’s declaration of trust and dependence upon God for help. He was going to meet with the Lord and offer sacrifices of praise because the Lord his God, Creator of the universe, was his singular source of help. From the elevated place of His holy presence, God would grant assistance and deliverance: “I call out to the Lord, and He answers me from His holy mountain” (Psalm 3:4; see also Psalm 20:2; 134:3). From His sacred dwelling place, the Lord would offer everlasting security: “As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds His people both now and forevermore” (Psalm 125:2).

Continued on pg.3

Sunday Worship Service: 9:30 AM MEETING AT TANGLEWOOD

Adult Services AND Children’s (0-12 years) Programs
Youth (6th -12th grade) meets Sunday evenings at 6 PM

Wednesday P.M. Service: 7:00-8:00 PM MEETING AT TANGLEWOOD

A Word from Pastor David Shields

TBF Family,

We will be studying the Psalms again this summer during the month of July. The Psalms have repeatedly been called the prayerbook of the Psalms. This means that the Psalms teach us how to pray. Israel would repeatedly pray and sing the Psalms during their worship and during their ordinary life.

Instead of focusing just on how the Psalms teach us to pray I wanted to look at the different ways the Psalms speak about blessing. Sometimes it describes the way we should praise God. Other times it describes a state that God bestows upon certain people.

During July we will look at a number of them to see what these different Psalms have to teach us. I am planning on us looking at Psalms 32, 34, 67, 84, and 103 but not necessarily in that order.

I also am planning to spend a few Wednesday nights this summer talking about sexuality and anthropology. In other words, we are going to study what the Bible says about what it means to be human and our sexuality. We will talk about what the Bible says about sex, sexual immorality, pornography, sexual idolatry, and LGBTQ+ issues. I want us to study the Scriptures and closely examine common objections.

I also want us to look inward. One of the worst ways to study the Bible is to study it hoping to find out why others are wrong. We need to look inward as well. I believe that the church has accepted far more of the world's teaching on sexuality and humanhood than we realize.

I don't want to just talk about what the Bible says is true, but also what it means for us. How do we love and bear witness to Jesus in a culture that does not have a Biblical view of personhood or sexuality? How can we engage and talk with those who disagree with us or find us hateful?

I don't have all of the answers but it's something important that we should labor to understand better together. I would also ask that you pray for me as I prepare to teach on these things. I want to correct our cultural misunderstandings with gentleness while remaining faithful to Christ.

In Christ,
Pastor David Shields

Sunday Mornings

NEWSLETTER 2



In another song of ascent, the psalmist makes a similar pronouncement of trust and reliance on God for help: "To You I lift up my eyes, O You who are enthroned in the heavens! Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of their master, as the eyes of a maidservant to the hand of her mistress, so our eyes look to the Lord our God, till He has mercy upon us" (Psalm 123:1-2, ESV). This time God is not perceived as dwelling in the hills of Jerusalem but enthroned in the heavens, and it is His mercy the psalmist seeks.

Directing our eyes toward God symbolizes our complete trust and reliance on Him for help: "But my eyes are toward You, O God, my Lord; in You I seek refuge; leave me not defenseless!" (Psalm 141:8, ESV). "My eyes are always on the Lord, for He rescues me from the traps of my enemies," acknowledged King David (Psalm 25:15, NLT). The writer of Hebrews taught us to stay the course and finish the race of the Christian life by "fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith" (Hebrews 12:2).

Lifting our eyes toward God is a biblical image of prayer. As a great multitude of enemies came against Jehoshaphat, he prayed to the Lord, "We do not know what to do, but our eyes are on You" (2 Chronicles 20:12). At his stoning, Stephen prayed and "looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God" (Acts 7:55). Even Jesus Himself "lifted up his eyes to heaven" when He prayed to His Father (John 17:1).

When we say, "I lift my eyes to the hills," we communicate a trust in God that can sustain us through every danger, hardship, and challenge along life's journey until we are safely home in God's eternal kingdom.

Gotquestions.org



Homer Cox

(Stepping down after 42 years as Elder)

When I think of Homer Cox this scripture, in my opinion, is the perfect illustration of his service to the Lord and to TBF specifically. It is 1 Peter 5:2-3 "Be shepherds of God's flock that is under your care, watching over them - not because you must, but because you are willing, as God wants you to be; not pursuing dishonest gain, but eager to serve; not lording it over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. " (NIV)

During our Elder meetings in the last couple of years we reviewed a book titled Church Elders by Jeramie Rinne. As we studied this book it consistently reminded me of how many of the roles of Elder that Homer demonstrated and practiced on a daily basis. Homer was always humble and relied on scripture to make decisions.

The Lord has blessed TBF with a faithful servant leader and he will be greatly missed. – Mike Palovik



**“Well done, good and faithful servant”
Matthew 25:23**

42 Years!
NEWSLETTER 4

Homer has been a faithful Elder for 42 years. He has served the Lord and TBF by offering much wisdom during our Elder's meetings and with any other decisions we had to make concerning the church. 1Timothy 3:2 describes many of Homer's attributes. He is prudent, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, husband of one wife, not addicted to wine, gentle, uncontentious, and free from the love of money. Homer has always had his finger on the spiritual wellbeing of the church. His devotion and kind spirit has always reflected Christ's love for all.

Homer and Pam have been our dear friends for the last 42 years and it's been a privilege to have been able to share life with them. -- Dale and Debbie Corbin

I was recruited by Homer and his partners to Duncan Anesthesia associates in the early 1990s. I have witnessed firsthand his generosity, his professionalism in the secular world and his kindness. I also saw him carry out his duties as a father to Krista and Kirk in the most beautiful way. His love for Pam and their family is amazing! I always enjoyed talking to him about Tanglewood Bible fellowship because he was passionate about his home church and it seemed they were always loving on someone who was in need. Those talks were actually a "God thing" as they lead Mike and our family to TBF when we returned in 2005. Homer was not our Elder at that time but he and Pam acted as a bonus elder to us in many ways!! I remember a time of losing a pet and Mike wasn't going to be in Duncan for a few days...I called Homer and within a few minutes, he and Pam were at the house giving me hugs and burying the pet! I could definitely tell many stories of his acts of service, hard work and wise counsel throughout the years! The Paloviks want to say thank you for fulfilling your call, Homer! We love you! -- Jan Palovik

I didn't have Homer all 26 years I've been here but He and his precious wife Pam hold such a special place in my heart! They have prayed with me when times were difficult and rejoiced with me when blessings came. So very glad they are staying put here at TBF...MUCH LOVE AND APPRECIATION to these sweet special people...Thank You Homer and Pam!!!! -- Kyleen Driggs

"For over 40 years I have had the honor of sharing life with Pam and Homer. I got to watch their kids grow into a wonderful young adults.

As a young single mother Homer and Pam came to my home and helped me install a window air conditioner in my first little house. That will always be a treasured and grateful memory.

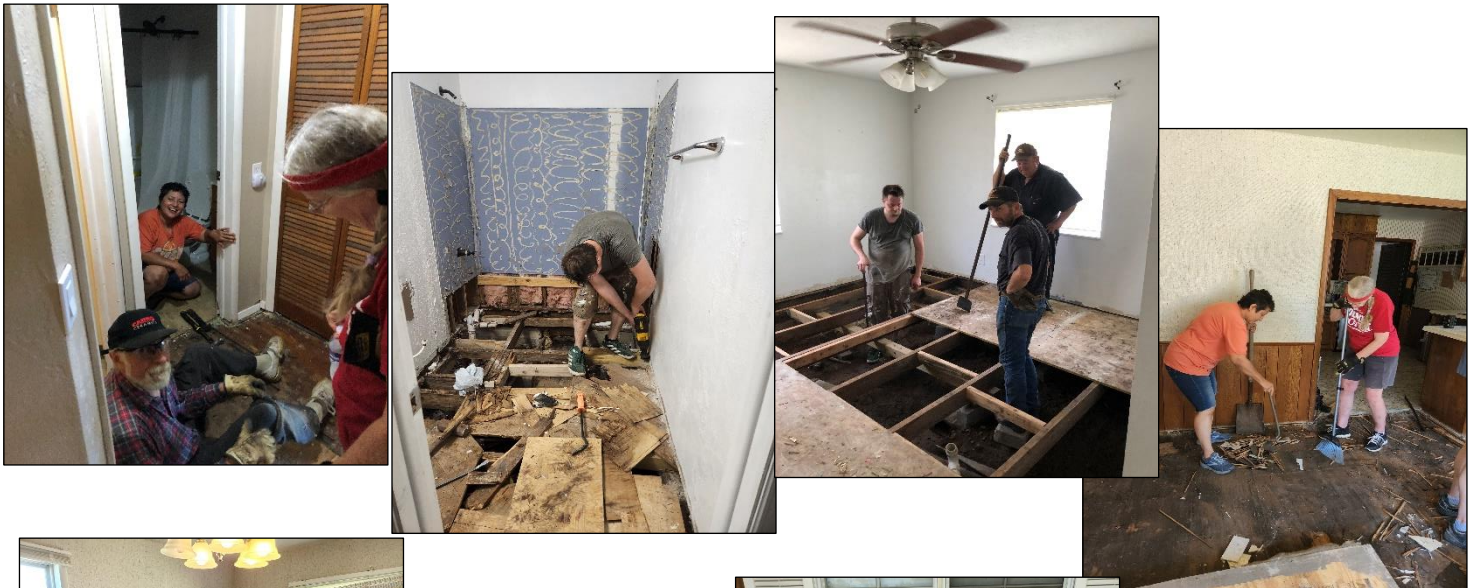
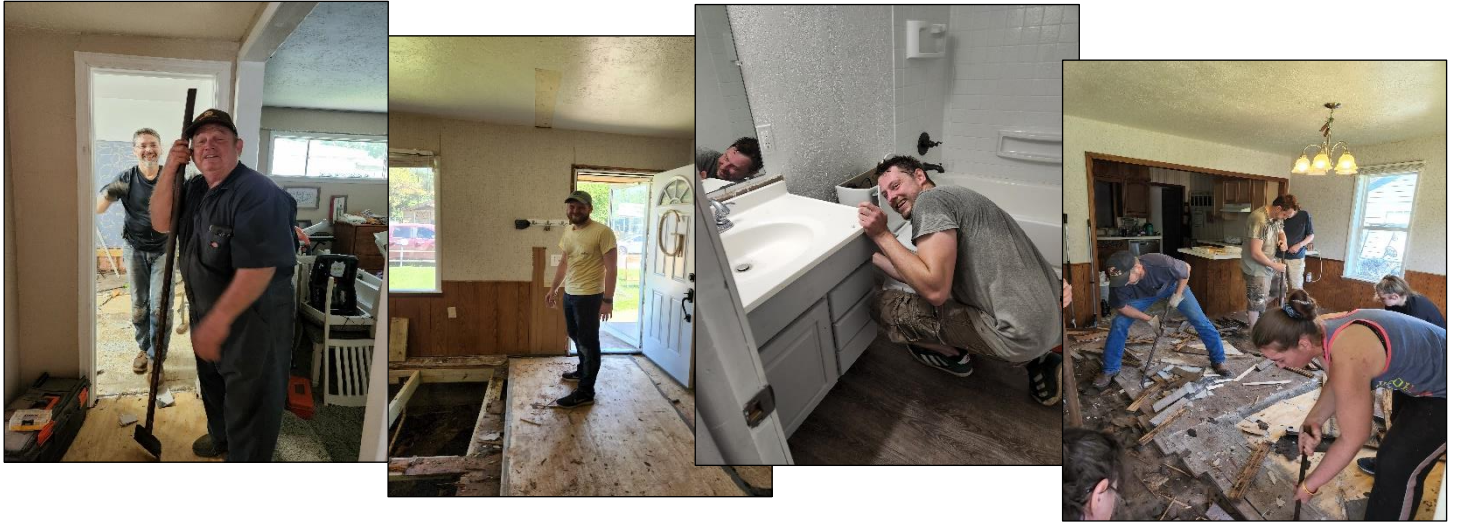
There are a multitude of moments from my life where we have laughed and cried together, each memory a precious part of me.

When I think of Homer I think of his steady faithfulness. His quiet dependability has contributed to the longevity of this body of believers for decades. I treasure him and his entire family. Well done, good and faithful servant." - Sue Raska-Smith

Homer Cox has been a great inspiration. His love for God and our church is amazing. He is kind, generous, and loving toward all of the TBF family. He has spent many hours at the hospital, visiting TBF family members when they were sick or injured. I have only served on the Elder board with him for a few years, but his desire to always do what is best for TBF and it's Family has always been his top priority. He has always been generous in helping those in need both as a church and as an individual. We will miss him as an Elder but know that we can turn to him at any time in the future for assistance or direction and advice. TBF has definitely been blessed to have him as an Elder for forty-two years. "Well done My Good and Faithful servant". - Sidney Powers

Church Workday June 20th

Home of Rob and Hannah Girvin



Two are better than one, because they have a good return for their labor.
Ecclesiastes 4:9



TBF Men's Ministries



The Men's Ministry at Tanglewood Bible Fellowship encompasses men from all walks of life. Our focus is to worship and study the pure Word of God with the intent to build men of strong character and integrity who will serve and support one another with intentional actions and attitude towards Christ and His kingdom.

It is our purpose in the Men's Ministry to lead each man in our congregation towards finding the fullness of their potential in Christ. To come alongside one another giving spiritual guidance, support, and love in times of need. A place where men can be men and talk, in the light of the Word of God and prayer, about matters at hand, mutual challenges, and personal concerns.

Loving Father, thank You for sending Jesus to come as our perfect example of a godly man, a Man Who demonstrated that godly living means to walk in spirit and truth, in submission to the Holy Spirit, and in obedience to You, His heavenly Father. We pray that Your Spirit of grace and truth may rest and remain on each man transforming our minds, strengthening our faith, and equipping us to share Your Word with all those we come in contact with. Soli Deo Gloria.

**As iron sharpens iron,
so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.**

Proverbs 27:17

What's Happening at TBF

- ✚ JOIN OUR WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEETING AT TBF. EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 7 PM. Hear a lesson from Pastor David and join us for a time of prayer and praise.
- ✚ TBF WORSHIP TEAM MUSIC PRACTICE. JOIN US! See Dale Corbin or Lana Sleeper for details.
- ✚ DAILY DEVOS WITH PASTOR DAVID - TBF Facebook Page
- ✚ MISS A SUNDAY? Check out the sermons on the TBF Facebook page or tbfduncan.org
- ✚ MEN'S MINISTRY- Breaking for Summer
- ✚ WOMEN'S MINISTRY - Super Summer Saturday, July 16th
- ✚ WOMEN OF TANGLEWOOD BIBLE FELLOWSHIP - Facebook page
- ✚ TBF YOUTH - Meets Sunday Nights at 6 PM
- ✚ COMMUNION - Sunday, July 24th
- ✚ BBQ - Saturday, July 2nd Powers Ranch

TBF *Women's Ministries*

Super Summer Saturdays

July 16th 10 AM-Noon at the Home of Pam Cox
2304 Mallard, Duncan

Guest Speaker: Jan Rhoades of The Red Cord

Sign-up Sheet in the Foyer for anyone wanting to provide food/
snacks

August 13th - Home of Megan Wilkins
Guest Speaker TBA



The Red Cord is Southwest Oklahoma's Anti Human Trafficking Organization.

Hot Line: 1.888.373.7888 or use text line "Be Free" (233733)

Their Name: The Red Cord is a reference to the biblical account of Rahab found in Joshua 2. By tying a red cord to her window, Rahab took a stand for justice when no one else would.

Their Vision: A community that is united in creating a culture free from Human Trafficking.

Their Mission: The Red Cord exists to join individuals and organizations within the community and surrounding communities of Lawton, OK with the end goal of wiping out the injustice of Human Trafficking. The Red Cord will join efforts in education, prevention, rescuing and support of those who are already involved in the fight to accomplish the goal of creating a culture intolerant toward Human Trafficking.

Fifth Annual Freedom Gala (Cameron University - Lawton) Sept. 24th

Tickets on sale now. Guest Speaker: Jaco Booyens

More information at theredcord.org

Super Summer June 11th

Home of Jan Palouik
Guest Speaker: Pam Dobbins
Christian Helping Hands





Kindred Community



Palace Theater in Duncan
Tuesday, July 21st 6:00 – 8:00 PM
Sponsored by First Christian Church

If you are a TBF woman with a heavenly husband or know of a woman you would like to invite to this event, please RSVP to Jan Palovik no later than July 14th.

Grab a friend and enjoy dinner before the show. Popcorn and a drink will be complimentary.



Nursery update!

We are now looking for a new person to work in our nursery on Wednesday nights! If you are interested or know someone who would be interested in this position, have them contact Pastor Rob at familypastor@tbfduncan.org for more information!

Sister-to-Sister

Card Ministry

Lifting One Another Up Through Words of Encouragement

Join me in encouraging our sisters-in-Christ by sending cards of encouragement to our fellow sisters.

July 2nd Summer BBQ – TBF You’re Invited!
Food – Fun – Fellowship

Home of Sidney and Wendy Powers (251-591-5214)
6 – 8 PM

Bring a lawn chair and a side dish to go with BBQ.
Drinks and Meat will be provided.

Wow Wednesday

June 29th

A Message of Hope

Christian Helping Hands – Comanche, Oklahoma



Pam Dobbins and Ashley Coats gave an inspirational talk about HOPE. They spoke about giving hope to those who feel hopeless, broken, addicted, and lost. Their organization, Christian Helping Hands, is on a mission to provide hope to women who have will power by providing the way power (pathways to achieving a better life). Pam is quick to point out that everything they do and everyone they touch is because of Jesus.

Christian Helping Hands offers integrated faith-based living, transportation to meet their program requirements, organizational skills to successfully re-enter independent living, support to set and maintain personal goals for growth, job searching and budgeting skills, access to proper medical care, access to counseling services, support for reunification with children, and access to the Food Pantry and Clothes Closet.

Christian Helping Hands has one transitional house that offers up to 6 women a place to stay and begin the Program and 3 duplex houses. Currently they are housing 9 women and their children. They expect their program/houses to be full by mid-July.

4th of July Local Celebrations

Duncan – Sunday, July 3rd Abe Raizen Park 5:30-10:30 PM

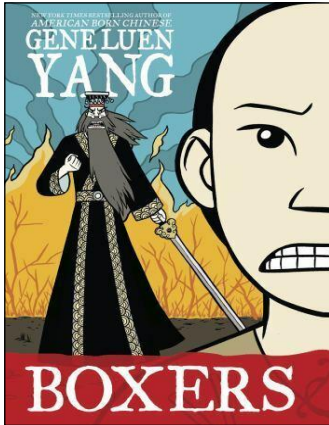
Marlow – Saturday, July 2nd Redbud Park 9 AM – 10:30 PM

Comanche – Saturday, July 2nd Field of Dreams 9-11 PM

David's Book Recommendations

Like many pastors, I am a big fan of books. The following books are all books you can find on my bookshelf, and I would be more than happy to lend them to anyone who would like to read them.

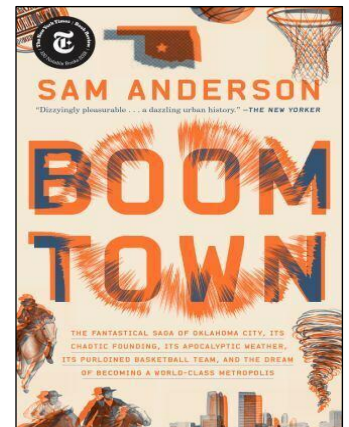
Boxers and Saints by Gene Luen Yang



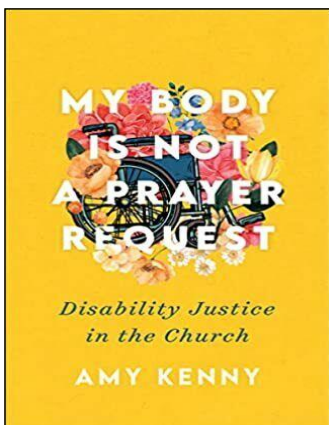
These is two graphic novels that follow two children on opposite sides of the Boxer Rebellion in China. Boxers follows a young boy named Bao who ends up a leader in this rebellious movement to defeat the foreigners and their religious followers. The second story follows a young girl named Four-Girl who eventually finds a home in the Christian faith. I loved it. The story was infectious and nuanced. It forces you to see both sides of the same conflict. As a Christian pastor, I appreciated the way the story handled religion. It is an honest account filled with the beauty, weaknesses, and even critique of religion that still ends with the beauty of the gospel. This is a story that I will return to and will not quickly forget. I think that even those who do not typically enjoy comics/graphic novels will find much to enjoy here. This is a deep story with plenty of layers underneath if you are willing to look.

Boom Town: The Fantastical Saga of Oklahoma City, Its Chaotic Founding... Its Purloined Basketball Team, and the Dream of Becoming a World-class Metropolis by Sam Anderson

This is a fascinating and often hilarious story of OKC told through its history, weather, and NBA team. I found myself laughing at loud in some sections. The book zig-zags between each of these topics in small chapters and somehow manages to blend them all together in one cohesive story of a unique city. I don't know much about Oklahoma history nor anything about OKC, but I had a lot of fun reading this book. Some of you will have to read it so you can tell me what is and is not accurate. Warning that it does have some strong language in a few places.



My Body Is Not A Prayer Request by Amy Kenny



Disabled people are made in the image of God and should be treated accordingly. Unfortunately, the reality is that the disabled are often mistreated, ignored, shoved to the side, treated as less than human, and much more. This should not be so. It especially should not be true in churches, but we seem to be the worst at times. This book feels part memoir, part theology, and part sermonic. It's hard to pin down in any category other than to say that it should be read. It gives you a picture of what life as a disabled person is actually like. It is not a false inspirational only story, nor is it a story of simply suffering and lament. It is a human story. The story of a woman made in the image of God who has something to teach us. There is so much Christianese and faulty theology this book reveals and corrects. She does good theological and biblical work. She mines Biblical stories and texts to show what they actually say about disability and God. I found myself having to reconsider texts in a new light. I also learned how hurtful the cliches Christians spew truly are. I received a digital review copy of this book, so it technically is not on my shelves, but it is worth buying.