

Our Continuing Mission Focuses On . . .

# “Serving God’s Servants”



Eagle Summit Ministry  
10817 E. 16th Avenue  
Spokane Valley, WA 99206

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VISIT OUR WEB SITE:  [.eaglesummitministry.org](http://eaglesummitministry.org)



No matter where God may lead you on the road of life, may you find peace and fulfillment knowing what lies ahead at the end of the road.

**GOD IS THERE.  
GOD IS AWARE.  
GOD DOES CARE.**  
**MAY YOU DEEPEN YOUR  
RELATIONSHIP WITH GOD IN  
THIS NEW YEAR.**

**Does God Wear  
a Watch?**

**TIME IS WHAT GOD ESTABLISHED  
SO THAT EVERYTHING DOES'NT  
HAPPEN AT ONCE.**

**WHERE WE’VE BEEN & WHERE WE’RE HEADED NEXT . . .**

Nov 23— Dalkena Community Church, Dalkena, WA (Hippe)  
Dec 7,14,28—Dalkena Community Church, Dalkena, WA (Morris)  
Dec 28—Mending Fences Fellowship, Spokane, WA (Hippe)  
January/February—Available at God’s direction

**WE ARE AVAILABLE FOR PULPIT SUPPLY**

**Do you need assistance with Pulpit Supply, Creative Outreach Programs, AWANA or Kid’s Clubs, Community Outreach , Family Camps, Teen or Kid’s camps or other special events? Contact us. We are here to serve.**

**Executive Director: Rev. George Hippe \* 10817 E. 16TH AVENUE, SPOKANE VALLEY, WA 99206**  
Office/Cell: 509.995.6777 \* E-ddress: [ghippe@eaglesummitministry.org](mailto:ghippe@eaglesummitministry.org) \* [www.eaglesummitministry.org](http://www.eaglesummitministry.org)  
**“SERVING GOD’S SERVANTS”**

Eagle Summit Ministry

CHALLENGING & ENCOURAGING  
small and rural churches  
and their pastors.  
FRESH ideas  
prayer PARTNERING  
Family get-aways  
preaching, teaching & training



**BEGINNING OUR 30TH YEAR**

Volume 30 Number 1

**STRIVING TO SERVE GOD’S SERVANTS**

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2026

## THE FAITHFULNESS OF GOD

With the trials, tests, hurt, pain and at times crushing events of life, it is easy to forget God’s faithfulness. It can be easy at times to even question that God is faithful to His promises. “I will never leave you or forsake you” is a reoccurring promise in Scripture (Hebrews 13:5; Deuteronomy 31:6). Believers are reassured that God will always be with us, providing strength, comfort and help, in the most difficult challenges of life. This assurance serves as an anchor of hope and reminder of God’s faithfulness.

Beginning ESM 30 years ago made no sense from a human perspective and was truly a leap of faith, doing our best to trust the faithfulness of God to make our path straight. From a human perspective, our path was far from straight. We moved 22 in the first 20 years of our marriage and Diane stayed with me. Following 25 years of ministry in 6 churches in Plymouth MN, Redondo Beach CA, Johnson City TN, Rockford IL, San Francisco CA and here in Spokane Valley, WA we sensed God had prepared us for the ministry we have now have. My heart was to assist the pastors and leaders of small and rural churches in any way I could. My friend, Dan Hayek, joined me with that goal. Within a year, Dan became the pastor of one of the churches we initially served, Sprague Community Church while also working as an administrator at Valley Christian School. Dan served at Sprague and Valley Christian the better part of twenty years before moving to Idaho to help with family needs. Dan is now once again serving in a Christian school.



You can trust God  
with tomorrow  
because  
**HE WAS FAITHFUL**  
yesterday.

Through ESM, we served churches in Twin Falls, Lincoln, Three Forks, Ennis and Hamilton Montana (and probably some I have forgotten) to countless churches in northern Idaho and eastern Washington. Some churches were to provide pulpit supply for a Sunday or two while a pastor was on vacation or ill. In a few churches, we have provided long term help after the death of the pastor. We have helped with community outreaches and leadership team guidance. We have also served in reaching children through countless weeks of camp ministry. We have been in some churches for a week or two and others for a year and a few for over two years. Other churches we have been available to assist as needed for 25 years or more. We have never requested any financial compensation from the churches we have served.

**GOD HAS BEEN FAITHFUL IN MEETING FINANCIAL NEEDS.** Whenever I see a penny lying on the ground, I stop and pick it up and am instantly reminded of **Philippians 4:19 “My God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”** God has met every financial need and beyond. God has encouraged us through donors like you and provided us with employment that allowed time for ministry as well. Many of the pastors we serve are also bi-vocational, so we understand the unique challenges associated with that. The first 11 years, we operated on a very small budget so a second job or two was always needed to meet family commitments. I used to joke with our first volunteer bookkeeper, Grace Trescott, that if I donated more to ESM, I could cover my ESM salary. Diane worked for 27 years as a school bus driver to also help with the family budget.



**GOD WAS ALSO FAITHFUL IN PROVIDING LEADERSHIP AND ENCOURAGEMENT.** Our ESM board was led by our first president, Dr. George Rodkey. Some of our early board members included Mrs. Betty Starr, Mrs. Dorothy Rodkey, Mrs. Vicki Jorgens, Mr. Adrian Stumbaugh, and Mr. Don Anderson. I am very thankful for our current board lead by Dr. Dick Whipps. I am also grateful for the following men who have most recently helped with pulpit supply, Rev. Wayne Morris, Gunnar Papst, Mark Kennedy and Dave Ackerman.

**GOD HAS BEEN FAITHFUL THROUGH HEARTACHE.** With death of our son, Ben, in 2002, our family was shaken. With my heart broken, God reminded me of the words of the Psalmist in **Psalm 119:50 “This is my comfort in my affliction, for Your word has given me life.”** Without a relationship with God, dealing with death brings an emptiness that nothing this world offers can fill.

My parents are both in Heaven. My brother, Ken died 6 years ago, and my sister Linda died 4 years ago the result of Covid. Her death in 2021 preceded the death of my life-partner, my best friend and the love of my life, Diane. She told me that dying slowly was not fun. We were able to share over 52 years together. Her concern for me was that I would be alone. I told her that I was not concerned about being alone but being without her. Only remembering the faithfulness of God and the fact that He has a plan for our lives can we begin to fill the voids left by the loss of those we love. We must remember these losses are temporary. I’m trying. Based on the faithful word of God, we will be together again.

This past year has brought more loss for our family with the death of our 29 year-old granddaughter, Kaitlynne in April. She left behind her baby son Kai. In July, I was able to travel to the Atlanta area to see my brother, Ron. We served together for 6 years at Calvary Baptist Church in San Francisco. God took him Home in August. His wife of over 62 years, Barb, would appreciate your prayer.

**GOD HAS BEEN FAITHFUL THROUGH PERSONAL HEALTH CHALLENGES.** Three months after Diane entered Heaven, on December 9<sup>th</sup>, I was getting ready for morning classes at VCS I had a sudden problem breathing. I made it to school by 7:00a.m. and was seated just inside the front door. A teacher and the administrator came and realized I needed medical attention. Mr. Tabish took me to Valley Hospital where the emergency doctor let me know my lungs were full of clots and ordered me not to move. The first thing that went through my mind was that I’d get to be with Diane. I was in surgery within the hour. An emergency thrombectomy was performed and the clots removed. That was a Thursday, and I was back in the classroom on Monday. I had mixed feelings about that.

The next fall, I wound up in critical care for a week and rehab for ten days with kidney failure. I had another problem that required surgery and a few other complications, but within a few weeks, I was able to be back in pulpits as needed and in the classroom. Through personal challenges, heartache, pain, loss and uncertainty, God has been faithful and met every need. Despite my doubts, God has remained and will continue to remain faithful to His word.

#### SCRIPTURE AFFIRMS GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

**Hebrews 10:23: "Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful."** We are reminded to remain constant in our faith and hope, trusting in the unwavering faithfulness of God to fulfill His promises. Even in moments of uncertainty and challenges, we are encouraged to cling to the assurance that God will not fail us.

**Psalm 36:5: "Your steadfast love, O Lord, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds."** Here, the psalmist describes the boundless nature of God's love and faithfulness. His reliability knows no limits; it reaches beyond what we can see or comprehend, extending from earth to the heavens. This profound truth offers comfort and assurance that God's love and faithfulness endure through all circumstances.

**Psalm 33:4 For the word of the LORD is upright, and all His work is done in faithfulness.**

These passages collectively emphasize that God's actions and promises are rooted in faithfulness. No matter the trials or difficulties faced, we can find strength and encouragement in the certainty of God's steadfast commitment to His word and to those who trust in Him.

**REMEMBER HOW GOD HAS BEEN FAITHFUL TO YOU IN THE PAST  
MAY WE MODEL THE FAITHFULNESS OF OUR CREATOR.**



## Thoughts from Dawna . . . The Gentle Whisper

If you are not able to hear God’s voice, independently and uniquely, you will not be able to wade through the chaos and confusion of constantly revolving news and information. You will fall for the lies of false prophets. You will be vulnerable and defenseless.

**Exodus 33:11** *The Lord would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.*

For most of us our tendency is to follow the herd. Especially if you think you’re in a safe place surrounded by good and safe people. You trust their words, their advice, and their opinions about the information and people around them. Unfortunately, that level of relaxation from your own logical processes, can set you up for failure.

Now move that into a spiritual realm. If you’ve relaxed into an environment where you’re completely reliant on someone who is a spiritual authority who is not God, you’re supposing that God’s voice somehow needs to move through something or someone else before it speaks to or convicts you personally.

#### I Kings 19:12

*After the earthquake came a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper.*

How often do we look for God in a massive form? How often do we look for God to speak through a charismatic person who represents that earthquake or that raging fire that I Kings 19:12 talks about? The verse goes on to tell us that the Lord was not in the fire but that after the fire, the Lord was in the gentle whisper.

Continue to seek God in the gentle whisper. He will guide you and convict you, then, it is your responsibility to act on those convictions.

#### John 8:47

*Whoever belongs to God hears what God says. The reason you do not hear is that you do not belong to God.*

#### 1 CORINTHIANS 15:58 STANDING FIRM WITH MY MOM, DAWNA



A four-year-old little girl ran into her mommy’s room in the middle of the night crying. Through her sobs she said, “Mommy, I’m scared.” Her mommy replied, “Honey, just remember when you’re scared, Jesus is always right there with you.” The little girl responded, “I know that, mommy, but I want somebody with skin on ‘em.”

Just maybe you can be that someone with “skin on ‘em” who can encourage a fellow believer, a coworker, your pastor or even someone in your own home. There are times when all of us could use a special ounce of compassion and understanding. Let God use **YOU. YOU** may need it tomorrow.

## PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY WITH US AND FOR US

- Wisdom and health for our son, George II. He’s had several ER visits recently.
- Pastor Chuck Evans and his wife Becky as Chuck is recovering from brain surgery and awaits treatment options and other challenges.
- Pastor Kevin Che’n and his wife Janell as Kevin continues on dialysis and awaits a kidney transplant.
- Country Bible Church in Dusty, WA—Pray for Pastor Chad and Amber Crouch as they begin their ministry
- Wisdom in seeking a “Timothy”—someone to potentially become ESM director
- PRAY for continued good personal health (Hippe & Morris)

