

Old Town Hill Celebrates Christmas with Candlelight Service

By Melissa Reynolds

On December 17, Old Town Hill Baptist Church celebrated with a program presented by our youth and children called "Good Tidings of Great Joy." Afterward, candles were passed out, and Old Town Hill's praise team led the congregation in worship. The night concluded with cookies and cocoa being served. It was a wonderful night for families to enjoy together worshipping our Savior.



On Christmas Eve, New Day Baptist Church in Pendleton also held a Candlelight Service.

ECBA Team Travel to IL to Help Pack OCC Boxes

An ECBA team traveled to the Operation Christmas Child distribution center in Illinois to help with the packaging of OCC boxes. They worked for 3 days at the center, beginning December 5. One of the days, a local high school brought 250 kids to help pack the thousands of boxes. These boxes went to Columbia and Portugal. On the first day our team packed boxes but didn't know where they were going. To protect the people that live there and those taking them, the location was kept secret.



Packed boxes that arrived had to be opened, any shipping money removed and secured, and the boxes checked for unauthorized items. Some boxes needed additional items and all the boxes had to be sealed back up and prepared for shipping.

Our ECBA team included Nanette Orr, Sheliah Gross, and Sherri Hughey from New Day Baptist Church, and Brenda Brooks from Redeemer Baptist Church.

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Dr. Ron Ross

The Katecheo

With the holiday musicals behind us, it gives rise to questions. Why are so many moved to action simply through music? Perhaps, the saying that “*music is the seed to the soul*” is right, but do you wonder why? For consideration, let’s examine Paul’s first letter to the church at Thessalonica ... note paragraph eighteen — [1 Thessalonians 5.14-24, NASB’95]:

“We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone. See that no one repays another with evil for evil, but always seek after that which is good for one another and for all people. Rejoice always; pray without ceasing; in everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit; do not despise prophetic utterances. But examine everything carefully; hold fast to that which is good; abstain from every form of evil. Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your **spirit** and **soul** and **body** be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. Faithful is He who calls you, and He also will bring it to pass.”

Wow, what a paragraph; packed full of life-changing concepts. These concepts, if followed, will prepare us for that time when God calls us to Himself. Back to the concept of music; music challenges us in many ways. Above, in verse 23, Paul states that we are composed of **spirit, soul and body**. These three components must be properly understood if we are to be “*reserved complete*” at Christ’s coming. Our **spirit** is that part of us that fellowships with God. The **spirit** is influenced by both our **soul** and **body**. This is why when we are physically sick, we are generally spiritually sick as well. Our **soul**, on the other hand, has the greatest effect on our **spirit**. Our **soul** is comprised of the *mind, emotions* and *will*.

Music plays to our *emotions*, and that can be good or bad. Good, if what I hear is in keeping with God’s wishes; however, it is bad if lyrics contradict God’s Word or supports a fallible interpretation of Scripture. Our *emotions* play to our *mind*, and if our information is flawed ... spiritual doom can follow.

This paragraph has been used by Christian Counselors over the years, because as author Tim LaHaye’s book title suggests — *The Battle [is] for the Mind* —we must always stay alert to the our fleshly desires and the trickery of the adversary.

Something to ponder as we enter 2024!

A Tribute to Louise Welty—by Dr. Ron Ross

Many within the ECBA fellowship were saddened to learn of Louise Anita Welty’s death. She died December 1, following a decline in her health. Louise served ECBA as Director of our International Wives’ Ministry with Ball State University for over twenty-five years. She was born November 8, 1942 in Bluffton, Ohio.



Pastor Jim Marlow presenting retirement clock to Louise in 2019.

Following high school graduation, she enrolled and graduated from the Elkhart Institute of Technology as a Medical Technologist. Later, she married Paul James Welty. They were blessed with a son, David, of Muncie and a daughter, Bonita Byman, of Hometown, Indiana. She was a founding member of North Delaware Baptist Church and willingly served in many areas over the years, but never wanting to be recognized Many ECBAers know her son-in-law, Greg Byman, the current SCBI President, and her grandson Grant Byman,

who is serving an apprenticeship at Remedy City Community Church of Muncie in view of seminary and service in international missions with his wife, Sarah.

As with the many ECBAers who have so faithfully served our Lord and the people of

East Central Indiana (ECBA), we pause to thank God for those who have gone on before us. May their faithful service

prompt us to faithfulness in sharing God’s marvelous grace with those around us day by day. We, again, celebrate the life and service Louise Anita Welty!

Upcoming Events

SBC Emphasis for January

January 7— 14 — *January Bible Study*

January 21 — *Sanctity of Life Sunday*

Winter

Please pray for our pastors and their wives on these special occasions.

Birthdays

February 12—Greg Haisley, Integris

Anniversaries

January 23—Jim and Jama Marlow, North Delaware

Church Anniversaries

None

ECBA Profit and Loss Statement for November 2023

	Nov 2023	Oct 2023 (PP)	Nov 2022 (PY)	Jan - Nov, 2023 (YTD)
REVENUE				
3025 Mission Building Fund	115.00	115.00	0.00	1,035.00
4000 Church Receipts	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4060 New Day	500.00	500.00	500.00	5,500.00
4120 Halteman - Muncie	0.00	0.00	134.70	1,830.76
4140 Kingston - Anderson	119.24	85.94	175.59	1,529.45
4160 North Delaware - Muncie	259.15	216.75	266.98	2,489.10
4170 Old Town Hill - Muncie	0.00	1,983.46	5,501.26	5,001.54
4180 Redeemer - Anderson	273.48	456.84	0.00	3,353.32
4210 Faith Christian Fellowship	35.00	35.00	150.00	315.00
4220 Freedom International Ministries	0.00	0.00	0.00	905.00
4230 Integrity	202.00	0.00	111.00	1,565.00
4240 Remedy City	150.26	108.42	154.95	1,499.57
4250 Muncie Chinese Christian Fellow	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,156.52
4270 Liberty Christian	0.00	0.00	0.00	150.00
Total 4000 Church Receipts	1,539.13	3,386.41	6,994.48	25,295.26
6100 State Mission Offering	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,689.19
6990 Church P & H Endowment Income	0.00	0.00	0.00	453.33
Total Revenue	1,654.13	3,501.41	6,994.48	30,472.78
EXPENDITURES				
7000 Administrative Ministry	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7010 Other Expense	10.00	10.00	15.52	1,169.45
7021 Insurance	0.00	2,265.00	0.00	4,601.84
7090 Payroll	906.26	906.27	835.15	9,968.91
7091 Bookkeeping	35.00	47.75	0.00	563.93
Total 7000 Administrative Ministry	951.26	3,229.02	850.67	16,304.13
7100 Church Health	80.00	0.00	198.00	9,309.08
7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	574.04	0.00	970.01
7310 Disaster Relief	0.00	0.00	0.00	16,900.16
Total 7300 Associational Ministry	0.00	574.04	0.00	17,870.17
7500 Trustee	0.00	0.00	-1,900.00	17,176.89
7700 Miscellaneous	0.00	0.00	0.00	360.00
Uncategorized Expenditure	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,000.00
Total Expenditures	1,031.26	3,803.06	-851.33	64,020.27
NET OPERATING REVENUE	622.87	-301.65	7,845.81	-33,547.49
NET REVENUE	\$622.87	\$-301.65	\$7,845.81	\$-33,547.49

ECBA Balance Report November 2023

	As of Nov 30, 2023	As of Oct 31, 2023 (PP)	Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Bank Accounts			
1000 ONB	-9,430.33	-8,933.48	-496.85
1010 General Budget	25,355.34	24,155.62	1,199.72
1011 Discretionary Admin Team	7,493.99	7,493.99	0.00
1020 Disaster Relief	474.28	474.28	0.00
1025 Mission Building Capital Fund	9,957.19	9,957.19	0.00
1035 Church P&H Fund	22,704.92	22,704.92	0.00
1040 OMC	1,307.84	1,307.84	0.00
1051 ECBA Endowment	0.00	0.00	0.00
1055 Funds Temporarily Restricted	7,366.43	7,366.43	0.00
1111 Church P&H ROI	7,852.89	7,932.89	-80.00
1125 BCMH Temp Restricted	149,357.73	149,357.73	0.00
Total 1000 ONB	222,440.28	221,817.41	622.87
1100 Indiana Baptist Foundation			
1110 ECBA Endowment	12,262.70	12,262.70	0.00
Total 1100 Indiana Baptist Foundation	12,262.70	12,262.70	0.00
Total Bank Accounts	234,702.98	234,080.11	622.87
Total Current Assets	234,702.98	234,080.11	622.87
TOTAL ASSETS	\$234,702.98	\$234,080.11	\$622.87
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Total Liabilities			0.00
Equity			
20000 Opening Balance Equity	45,107.04	45,107.04	0.00
22000 Unrestricted Net Assets	223,143.43	223,143.43	0.00
Net Revenue	-33,547.49	-34,170.36	622.87
Total Equity	234,702.98	234,080.11	622.87
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	\$234,702.98	\$234,080.11	\$622.87

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