

Steve & Rhonda Schwarze - Far East Broadcasting

It is very hard for us to believe all of the changes that have happened in our lives in the last couple of months. In July we learned that we were needing to stay in the US for a number of weeks longer in order for Rhonda's eye to heal from a corneal ulcer. I had gotten cortisone shots in both of my knees and we were hoping that this would keep the pain at a tolerable level for a while. The plan was to go back to the Philippines this month. Things have changed. Rhonda went back to her eye doctor. He's a wonderful Christian man who attends one of our supporting churches, knows us and our ministry, and is well-renowned for his work as an ophthalmologist. He has traveled to Asia many times in this capacity and has visited Manila as well. During this exam the good news was that the ulcer on her cornea had healed up, however, her eyes were not responding as well as they should to treatment. The severity of her dry eye condition makes it very possible that another ulcer could occur. Then came these unexpected words, "You seriously need to consider not going back to Manila." At first, she thought he meant only this year, but then realized he meant not to go back at all, even to pack! It didn't take either of us long to realize that we had to take this very seriously and after praying and talking for a couple of days, we knew that this was exactly what we had to do – leave the country and people we have loved for the past 34 years. For some time now, we have been praying that the Lord would make it very clear when it was time for us to go back to the US. Though a difficult decision, we both have that surpassing peace about it that comes only from God.

I will return to Manila in January and February to pack. I'm waiting until January because shortly after having the cortisone shots in my knees, I twisted my right knee and the pain returned. The decision was made to have right knee replacement September 7th. Due to my auto-immune condition I have very low platelets, so we also had to go to a hematologist. I was put on massive doses of steroids to boost them so I could have the surgery. The current plan is to go to Manila in January and February and then come back for left knee replacement surgery in March. We'll then be travelling to all of our churches and our supporters to say thank you and goodbye. We will officially end our time with FEBC in December 2019.

As you can imagine, we have very mixed feelings right now and are going through quite a bit of grieving and transition. Although we had been anticipating that our time at Faith was soon coming to an end, we were not expecting it to be in this dramatic of a way. However, we are thrilled to be close to family again. In the midst of sadness there is intense joy as we welcomed a new granddaughter into the family in August. During all of this we have been in awe of the Lord's provision and amazing orchestration of events. We look forward to sharing more with you about how God has done "abundantly more than we could ever ask or think".

Beginning a New Adventure,

Steve + Rhonda

Awana Parents & Clubbers have the opportunity to represent our Awana ministry at the **Cheese Days Children's Parade** on Friday, September 14th. We will meet at 4:15 pm by the Middle School & Suisse Haus. The parade begins at 5 pm & ends at 5:30 pm. **Please wear your Awana shirts!** If interested, contact Jim or Deb Hurlbert at 325-3430, or Cindy Demianiuk at 328-2388 by Wednesday, September 12th so we know who'll be walking. Parents/leaders/helpers are welcome to walk with us.



We would like to offer our sympathy to the Lynn & Dale Klitzke family. Lynn's Mother, Jeanette Taylor, passed away Sunday, August 26th and her Father, George Taylor, passed away Saturday, September 1st.

We also offer our sympathy to the family and friends of Judy Wray. Judy passed away Sunday, September 2nd.

May God's strength sustain each of you.

YOU LOST – WE FOUND ~ Please check the table in the Nehemiah Center for your lost items. Articles left after today, September 9th, will be donated.

Awana pre-registration begins today. Please stop by the table in the foyer to register your child for Awana.



Starting TODAY! Men's noon Bible study is moving from Wednesday's to **Sunday's at 12:15 pm** in the Lower Level, Room 106. Contact Kyle Ohlrich at 719-439-1003 to order a book or get more information.

Sign up today for Next Steps classes at the Welcome Center!

Next Steps – Step 1 (1 s.) ~ Sunday, September 23rd at noon in the Nehemiah Center. Lunch is provided.

Next Steps – Step 3 (1 s.) ~ Sunday, September 23rd at 6:30 pm, lower level room #102. **This step is required for membership.*

Women's Hebrews study begins Thursday, September 20th at 9:30 am, Nehemiah Center. Sign up today and pick up your book at the Welcome Center. Make your book payment the first day of study, cost is \$7/book.

Bible Study for Young Adults, single or married, will begin Thursday, September 20th, at 7:00 pm, LL #106. The study will be on the book "Not God Enough" by J.D. Greear. Questions? Contact Jesse Petersen at 608-214-2535 or jpicon727@gmail.com

September

Sunday, September 16

Worship Services: 9 am & 10:30 am Café
Awana Pre-Registration ~ Sign up at the table located in the foyer
Sunday School ~ 9 am
Fusion ~ Cheese Days Clean-up & Pizza, 6 pm, at Retail Tent on the Square

Monday, September 17

Prayer Meeting ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102

Thursday, September 20

Women's Hebrews study ~ 9:30 am, NC
Young Adult Study ~ 7:00 pm, LL #106
Narcotics Anonymous ~ 7:00 pm, LL #102

Saturday, September 22

Nehemiah Center in use ~ 9 am – 10 pm

Sunday, September 23

Lord's Table
Campout payment due!
Worship Services: 9 am & 10:30 am Café
Sunday School ~ 9 am
Edify Equip Parents Meeting (open to all parents) ~ 9 am, NC
Next Steps - Step 1 ~ Noon, NC. Lunch provided, sign up at the Welcome Center
Ignite ~ "Air Soft War" with Lena E. Free Church ~ leaving MBC at 12:15 pm
Next Steps - Step 3 ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102
Life Groups begin

Wednesday, September 26

Middle & High School "See You at the Pole" breakfast ~ 6 am/NC, At the Pole by ~ 7:15 am

Awana Kick Off ~ 5:30 pm Trek/Journey; 6:15 pm Clubbers 3 ½ yrs. – 6th grade

Thursday, September 27

Wild Mountain Man Leaders Mtg ~ 6:45 pm, Location TBD

Week of Sept. 9 - 15

Today, Sunday, September 9

Worship Services: 9 am & 10:30 am
Café

Awana Pre-Registration ~ Sign up at the table located in the foyer

Sunday School Kick Off ~ 9:00 am
Men's Bible Study ~ 12:15 pm, LL #106
Ignite Kick Off ~ 4-6 pm, Bigger/Better Hunt.
Fusion Kick Off ~ 6-8 pm, Photo Scavenger Hunt

Monday, September 10

Prayer Meeting ~ 6:30 pm, LL #102
Elder Board Meeting ~ 6:30 pm, LL #106

Tuesday, September 11

MBC Library Open ~ 10 am – Noon,
and 1 pm – 3 pm

Wednesday, September 12

Life Group Leaders Meeting ~ 6:30 pm,
NC

Thursday, September 13

Missions Ministry Papa Murphy's Night ~
must mention "Playground" when
purchasing your pizza
Narcotics Anonymous ~ 7 pm, LL #102

Friday, September 14

Cheese Days Playground Food Tent
Fundraiser (Missions) ~ 10 am – 8 pm
Mission: Monroe ~ Cheese Days
Hospitality Tent, 6 pm – 9 pm
Fusion ~ Cheese Days Hospitality Tent,
6 pm – 9 pm

Saturday, September 15

Cheese Days Playground Food Tent
Fundraiser (Missions) ~ 9 am – 8 pm

*Prayer Focus – Awana Ministry
Ministry Leader – Jim Hurlbert
Please PRAY:*

- † **The Spirit of God would breathe life into all that occurs in AWANA, and AWANA would reflect Christ and a kingdom atmosphere**
- † **Children would want to come, they'd feel welcome, safe, and secure**
- † **Families would be ministered to through AWANA**
- † **Leaders and Volunteers would set goals and experience personal growth as well**

Missions Ministry at Cheese Days ~ Last opportunity to sign up! We have 7 spots open at the Cheese Days food tent. If you can work a 2-hour shift either Friday the 14th or Saturday the 15th, please sign up at the Welcome Center and pick up your free Thrivent T-shirt. Proceeds go to the Guatemala playground fund. Thank you!

Church Family Campout at Yellowstone State Park on Friday, Sept. 28 - Sunday, Sept. 30. Sign up at the Welcome Center. Cost is \$8 per person, whether you stay 1 night or both nights. *Make checks payable to Monroe Bible Church and Indicate "Campout" on the memo line. **Deadline for payment is Sunday, September 23rd.**

Monroe Bible Church

September 9, 2018



Senior Pastor Dan Krahenbuhl
Associate Pastor of Family Ministries Troy Watson
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608-325-3966

office@monroebiblechurch.org
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Sunday Worship Services 9 & 10:30 am
Radio Broadcast WEKZ – AM 1260 – 8:15 am
Sunday YouVersion Available
Wireless Network: MBCguest
Password: worshipere