

ELWART FAMILY

Big Bear Baptist Church - PO Box 237 - Big Bear City, CA 92314

#7 is here!

Well, on May 15th our seventh child made his way into the world. His name is Daniel Levi. We are thankful for a healthy birth and safe delivery for Brittany and Daniel. The miracle of life and birth are nothing short of amazing, and we rejoice and are thankful to have the opportunity to be a steward of God's grace in our lives with raising another child for Him. Please pray for this little man as he grows that he will understand his need for Christ at an early age, be saved, and be used of God in a great way for His glory.



On May 25th, we had our first Graduation Service at BBBC. Charlotte graduated from high school, so we had a formal graduation ceremony with Pastor David Toulson giving the Commencement Address. This is something I have been wanting to do in our community in the future, because we have a lot of homeschool families on our mountain. So, Charlotte agreed to be the "guinea pig" in going through the process so we could allow her to have a graduation, while learning in the process and improving it for the future.

Starting on June 1st, we began a new service schedule. I began to realize last year that I was pastoring two separate churches. The unintended consequence of our previous service schedule ended up giving us one group of people that came to our 9am service and a totally different group at our 11:30am service, with little to no overlap at all. Our whole church family only got together during special events, and I began to see the disconnect between the two groups. The Lord began to convict my heart about this. So, after much prayer, council with other pastors, and our church family we began our new schedule on June 1st. We have our service at 9:30am followed by Sunday School at 11:00am. It has been wonderful. Our church has really benefited from it, and it has been great seeing the unity and growth that has come from something so simple.

June brought a super busy month personally and in ministry. Our 3 girls flew back to NC to spend 3 weeks with family there. During that time, Charlotte also got to go on a graduation present trip with her aunt to Paris. She had a wonderful time and experienced so many new adventures. When they got back, we took our teens to summer camp the last week of June. The week of preaching and fellowship were so wonderful for them and us. We are so thankful for the opportunity we have to take them to such a good camp each summer.

On a personal note, Jackie ended up going to the ER at the beginning of June after having trouble catching his breath. He was diagnosed with High Blood Pressure and put on medication immediately. Thankfully, the Lord protected him from a stroke or heart attack. He has begun diet change and weight loss in the hopes of obviously better health, but also to get off the medicine as soon as possible. Please pray for him as he desires to lose 100lbs. He has currently lost 30lbs and has been feeling much better along with having more energy.

Praises

- 1 man accepted Christ!
- Daniel Levi born May 15th!
- Great teen camp week and decisions.
- Church growth these past couple months.
- Safe summer travel

In July, we were blessed to have a missions team from Ann Arbor Baptist Church in Ann Arbor, MI here for a week. We were able to paint 2 buildings at the park we meet at. We are hoping to be able to have access to these in the future once they are finished fully. We have tried to do a big project each year in our community where we meet. It is one way that I believe the Lord uses to build a good relationship with our county Parks & Rec. I am excited to see how the Lord will use this over the years to come.

