

BRIDGES

A Newsletter of New Baptist Church - January 2024



God is Faithful

Do you ever worry or feel anxious? I suspect that most people are like me and worry about many things happening today, such as the war in Ukraine, the war in Gaza, the 2024 presidential election, crime, health care, and inflation. On top of these more global events, many people have individual forms of hardship or trauma that are also anxiety-producing, things like health concerns, family disappointments, financial hardships, or simply moments of personal failure. It is easy to feel overwhelmed in today's world.

In the Bible, there is a book written by a person who was overwhelmed with the hardships of life. In this book, the author describes himself as lonely, in bondage, grieving, without comfort, deserted, scammed, and in distress, and all this in just the first two verses of the book. Within the first chapter, the author adds to the description of his condition as being forgotten, weak, pursued, afflicted, failed, groaning, bitter, unclean, poor, despised, inflicted, stunned, rejected, filthy, in distress, hungry, wounded, and faint of heart. The following four chapters are not much different. Have you guessed the book? The book I am referencing is called Lamentations. We do not know who wrote this book (I think it was Jeremiah the prophet), but whoever it was witnessed the destruction of Jerusalem by the Babylonians. They witnessed the worst of crime, divisions, health care, inflation, war, trauma, family disappointments, and personal failures that this world has rarely ever seen. It is a book that describes life at its worst.

Yet, in the exact center of the book, in the middle of the writer naming all the ways he is suffering, he turns and looks to God with hope. He says,

"But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The LORD is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him (Lamentations 3:21-24)."

What the author does here in Lamentations 3 is one of the most important examples in all of scripture. He has just spent 60-plus verses describing all things wrong in life, but he continues to look and hope in the Lord for one simple reason: **Great is the faithfulness of God.** Our Lord God is faithful. Say that in your mind; teach it to your soul. **Our Lord God is faithful.**

- *He is faithful not to let you be tempted beyond your ability (1 Corinthians 10:13).*
- He is faithful to forgive us our sins (1 John 1:9)
- *He is faithful to establish and guard you (2 Thessalonians 3:3)*
- He is faithful even when we are not (2 Timothy 2:13)
- *He is faithful to keep his covenant promises* (*Deuteronomy 7:9*)
- He surrounds himself in faithfulness (Psalm 89:8)
- *His faithfulness reaches up to the heavens (Psalm 36:5)*

• *He covers you with His faithfulness (Psalm 91:4)* "The Lord is faithful in all of his words and kind in all of his works (Psalm 145:13)." Our Lord God is faithful.

So next time you feel overwhelmed, worrying about world events or daily details, look to the Lord and recall to mind His faithfulness. "He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it (1 Thessalonians 5:24)."

Grace and Peace, Pastor Trent Eastman



- 1 Justin Cox Nina Rakes
- 3 Shane Lloyd
- 5 Kathleen Napier Larry Sumpter
- 6 Carol Richardson
- 7 Lori Watkins
- 8 Marsha Ater
- 9 Audy Perry
- 10 Caren Blake Marie Ellis Christa Terry
- 12 Zachary Noble Barbara Lynn Spurlock Brooklyn Webb
- 13 Noah Lambert Addison Marcum Sandy White
- 14 Mary Baker
- 16 Betty Stombock
- 17 Aiden Blake Allen Davis
- 18 Emily Morgan Todd Taylor
- 19 Jean Maynard
- 22 Elizabeth Kelly
- 23 David Kendrick Vicky Marcum
- 24 Carolyn Powers Molly Simpson
- 25 Alison Bishop . Jonathan Humphreys
- 26 Harper Haney 27 - Evan Arkell Lisa Ghiz Ron Maynard Courtney Powers Jessica Willis
- 28 Brooke Welch
- 29 Amira Hufford
- 30 David Stevenson
- 31 Mason Estep Stephen Roy Patsy Stephenson

Senior Adult Fellowship Luncheon News

No meetings planned for January, February & March



Jared & Beth May John & Lisa Ghiz Dick & Annie Stewart Bob & Brenda Carman Trevor & Caitlin Wilson E. A. & Sandra Dowling Nathan & Brooke Welch David & Katelyn Hannan Jan. 1 Jan. 4 Jan. 6 Jan. 13 Jan. 18 (10th) Jan. 23 Jan. 23 Jan. 27



Wednesday, Jan. 24 for the February newsletter.



Are you new to New Baptist?

Have you been here a while (even a long time) and want to put names with faces of your fellow worshippers? We encourage you to use our online church photo directory (Instant Church Directory). You do not have to be a member of the church <u>BUT</u> you do need to have your information in the directory in order to be able to access it on your mobile phone or computer.

Once you download the app and create your secure password, your directory will be ready to use.

One of the great features of instant church directory is the availability for families to submit changes to their information or to even change out their family picture.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact the church office.

Not in a partying 'MOOd' (from Church ArtPro)

A Sunday school teacher shared the parable of the prodigal son with his class, pointing out how resentful the older son was when the father welcomed the wayward brother home with open arms and a party.

Amid the celebration, the teacher emphasized, someone in the story failed to share in the joy. "Can you tell me who that was?" the teacher asked.

Eagerly, a little girl raised her hand. "I know, I know!" she exclaimed. "The fatted calf!"

New Baptist Church

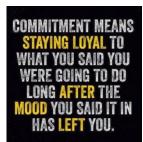


Happy New Year!!!! Ok I know this will print before the official start of 2024, but there's no time like the present to think about what this new year will hold for you and your family! I am so excited to share what our youth team has decided to challenge students who attend Sunday School in 2024. Together, let's read through the Bible this year! We will be using the One Year Bible plan, you can buy a hard copy Bible in a variety of translations, or you can find the plan on You Version Bible app or at oneyearbibleonline.com. Each week, the Sunday School lessons and discussion will come from the previous week's readings.

I want to encourage you as parents and adults close to students in our youth ministry to read along in the same plan. Use weekly reading as a discussion starter to look for what God is doing in and around us. This is a big ask for busy students, but our encouragement to them is to make the commitment and to give themselves grace. When you miss a day, skip it and pick up with the next day. Our goal is not to read every word (though that would be great!) but to build a habit that nurtures the desire to spend time with God and His Word daily! In showing up, we know that God is with us and meets us during those times.

I look forward to this journey through 2024 with you and your family and pray for God to meet you through the holidays and to reveal Himself through His Word as you start a new year!

Pastor Lee



Here we are at the close of another year. We are caught up in the rush to Christmas and the anticipation of the New Year. Our thoughts are somewhat scattered and cluttered with the reality that regardless of our personal desires Christmas and New Years are coming.

Anticipation and the opportunity for new beginnings fill our thoughts as we look to the New year. We will make all kinds of resolutions about personal changes we want to make and things we

want to do. Some we will keep and others we will not. As you look to the New Year what do to deepen your relationship with the Lord and your sisters and brothers in Christ? What personal goals will you set? What are some things that excite you and raise your level of anticipation? Let me share some suggestions for the first two, the last is on you. Make a

commitment to these things:

- 1. Complete reading the Bible through in 2024
- 2. Make Sunday School attendance a priority
- 3. Make Sunday Morning worship a priority
- 4. Make Wednesday Evening Bible Study a priority
- 5. Find a place to volunteer and make a difference for Jesus
- 6. Set a financial giving goal that will make you keenly aware of God's provision for you.

These are not to be used as rules but rather as goals to strive for in your spiritual development.

Now to the anticipation part for me. As many of you know our oldest granddaughter, Grayce, was chosen to spend this academic year in Northern Ireland. She is home for Christmas break and Becky and I are headed to Louisiana after Christmas to see her and the rest of the family. Bethany, Justin and the boys will be coming too. It is a week we all cherish and work to make happen each year. But that is not all, the week after Easter Sunday Becky and I are going to Northern Ireland to see Grayce. Now that is exciting and has my anticipation meter running already.

As we move into 2024 let's do so making commitments to deepening our walk with the Lord and each other. Let's look for ways to encourage and lift up one another. Let's commit to making a difference for Christ in our community.

I look forward to growing, serving and making an impact for Jesus with you in 2024.

Paster Rosen

OCC Update from Becky Crouch



At the beginning of December, 14 people from New Baptist Church worked 2 days at the Operation Christmas Child in Charlotte, NC. We handled boxes that were going to children in Honduras and Zambia. What a privilege to donate our time to a ministry that is making an impact around the world!

We have also learned that some of the boxes we packed at New Baptist are being transported to children in Ecuador, Panama, Peru and an unnamed hard-to-reach country. Customs and cultural or religious practices can make access difficult, but our gift-filled shoeboxes give local believers a sensitive way to initiate ongoing relationships with those

who may not know Christ. The gift we provided helps equip Christian brothers and sisters to take great risks to advance the gospel of Jesus Christ and they are grateful for our partnership.

What can we do in 2024? Some in our church family have suggested that we should pack 1,000 boxes. That is a God-sized goal! The only way we can do that is with His help. But it is never too early to pray and start collecting.

- After Christmas there will be sales and clearance items. Take advantage of the reduced prices to buy WOW gifts for boys and girls.
- Save your old t-shirts! Put them in the red tote under the Mission bulletin board in our sanctuary. We will be making jump ropes from them and sewing bags from the sleeves to hold jacks and marbles and other items.
- Becky Davis has begun crocheting small dolls and animals for the shoeboxes. Let Becky know you want to help and she will share the patterns.
- Join our Facebook group, New Baptist Shoebox Ministry, to share ideas and shopping bargains.

Let's start the New Year with the mindset that we will help proclaim the gospel to the "ends of the earth."



Did you get a new outfit for Christmas? Do you have exciting plans for the new year? Nothing Compares with our spiritual garments and what the Lord has for our futures! Our theme verse in **Proverbs 31:25** says it so well: "She is clothed with strength and dignity, and she laughs without fear of the future." Here's hoping you will live out this verse well this year!



Following the break for the holidays, **Bible studies** will resume soon. Leaders, please contact me with your study choices so material can be ordered. Our new **service groups** will also be meeting to organize for the year. Please listen for announcements on Sundays by the end of January. Information will also be forthcoming on the New Baptist Church Facebook page.



Happy New Year to each of you! May **2024** be a year full of opportunities to become the woman you were created to be!

For Good, Dolores Adkins

Youth and Awana start back up on Wednesday, January 3 at 6pm. See you then.

Mission Board newsletter (from Bethany Cox, Board Chair)		
clothing pantries.		
School Food & Clothing Pantries Help		

Highlawn Elementary:

Soap bars Travel size shampoo Travel size toothbrushes Travel size toothpaste

We are still purchasing a few more hygiene items for each school to distribute as well.

Operation Christmas Child



- November was a very busy month for our Operation Christmas Child Ministry. We set a goal of 250 boxes and you all blew it out of the water. We packed **501 boxes**!!! And when I say packed I mean we STUFFED 501 boxes. That means 501 children get the joy of a Christmas present but so much more...the get the opportunity to hear the Gospel and then enter into a discipleship program. This is an impactful way to get the gospel to the corners of the earth! Thank you for your generosity in donations, time, prayers, volunteering to help sort and prep for our packing party. No matter your role you are a part of spreading the Kingdom!!!

Then we also had the opportunity to serve as a community drop off site. That also required volunteers to greet people dropping off the boxes, pray over the boxes and provide many smiles. We were able to collect over 2,200 boxes in addition to ours that were then delivered to our regional site in Hurricane. So again thank you to those who helped in any of that process. One day a church brought in 1,000 boxes and we had to call in some extra recruits that day.

In December, 14 NBC members travelled to Charlotte, NC to one of the Operation Christmas Child distribution centers. We worked for 12 hours over a 2-day period. We finished each session full of joy and absolutely exhausted. The distribution center is a well-oiled machine. The staff tells you exactly what to do and encourages you along the way. There is a lot of music, singing and occasional dancing throughout the day. This was an awesome opportunity to be part of the much bigger shoebox ministry. The first boxes we helped process were being shipped to Zambia and Honduras. During the 6 hours our first day the facility processed over 42,000 boxes. The second day the facility processed over 58,000 boxes during our 6 hours of work. As of when we left on Dec 5 that processing center had processed 1,738,272 boxes this season!!! Each of those boxes represent a child hearing the Gospel and beyond. If a child hears the gospel and shares with their family one shoebox gives the gift to way more than just 1 child.

Looking into 2024 shoeboxes Becky Crouch would like you to collect old youth/adult size t-shirts that we will make into jump ropes. And also a reminder after Christmas sales are a good time to stock up on some items.

Mission Luncheon

-in November we had our last mission luncheon for Pastor Dasnis. Your donations totaled right at \$800. Thanks again for your continued generosity. Your donations make it possible for him to stay in ministry full time.

Lunch for a Buck

-we were able to serve lunch at the Campus Christian Center on Nov for their weekly lunch for a Buck. This allows students and faculty to buy lunch for a Buck. We provided soup, salad, and dessert.

Mission Board newsletter (continued)

Christmas Dinner - Christmas dinner for international students was held on Dec 1 at Myra and Art Lydick's house. Thanks to all who helped provide food. In attendance were students from:

11 from India 2 from Pakistani

1 from Mexico 1 from Japan

Myra shared the Christmas story. Josh Eastman also helped with transportation for the students. A wonderful time was had by all.

Food Pantry: - in November the food pantry served389 families1953 individuals (9129 for the year)3

122 hygiene kits300 school food packs

Cru: - We are taking over 60 students to our annual winter conference. Usually this conference can be very life changing and it's where students hear more about God's heart for the world.

Spenddown:

We had just under \$4,800 to give away this year!!! It continues to amaze me how generous you all are. How we reach this number is we spenddown any budgeted money that we didn't use throughout the year and then any overage from our yearly budget. As a mission board we get 10% of the offering the church brings in. So anything over our budget we also get 10% of that. It is a joy to serve in a church where we have continually been able to give more and increase our budget as opposed to the opposite. So please keep tithing and giving. You all are why we get to do as much as we can throughout the year. Your giving is making an impact for the kingdom.

Here is our spenddown breakdown -

-Bridges International Vision Conference \$500

-Bridges is taking over 15 international students to the international student conference. This is a place where students will hear the gospel and how it relates to their culture. Most of these students are not believers. this is a conference for international students who are currently believers or are seeking. For those that are believers they encourage them and disciple in their decision but also give ways to continue to grow once they return home. Some of these students it is not favorable to be a Christian in their home countries. For those that are seeking they will hear A LOT about Jesus during this conference. Bridges was needing a bit of help to cover the cost of this trip for a few students.

-Drew Osenbach \$600 - Drew is one of our missionaries that work for Cru on Marshall and Shawnee State campuses. He had requested an increase of \$50/month for the upcoming year. We were not able to increase him that amount for the year so we made up for it in our spenddown.

-Annie and Evan Day \$1,000 - Annie and Evan are also NBC members that work for Cru on Marshall's campus. We were able to begin supporting them with our 2024 budget but not at the level we wanted. We have been able to support our other missionaries at \$3000/year. For 2024 we were able to provide them with \$2000 so we are giving them the remainder through our spenddown.

-Pastor Dasnis \$500

-Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering \$1,000 - this offering is given to the American Baptist Church retired ministers and missionaries. Many of these served faithfully for years in churches that are not able to provide retirements. This offering helps give thank you gifts but also emergency funds for those who have served faithfully.

-Campus Christian Center \$444- the CCC is in need of renovations. This money will be given to be used for renovations that are much needed.

-Branches Domestic Violence Shelter \$444

-Cabell School Pantries \$306-this money will be spent on hygiene items needed at Huntington High School, Huntington East Middle School and Highlawn Elementary

Overage - Boys and Girls Club of Huntington - depending on the offerings in December if there is continued overage that will be given to the Boys and Girls Club of Huntington.

New Baptist Church

January 2024 Bridges Newsletter

West Virginia

Trustees' Tidbits

It's a new year and that means it's time to renew requests for recurring events (ex. Senior Adult Fellowship, ReFit, etc.) held at the church. Please fill out your event request at your first opportunity.

Also please remember if you schedule an event at the church you are responsible for clean-up following the event. This means that you will need to put things back as they were, take out garbage, wipe off tables and chairs, sweep and mop. With many events going on each week it is important to leave things clean and ready for the next event coming along.

Make note of address change:

Doris Halcombe

Sanctuary of the Ohio Valley Room 111 2932 South 5th St. Ironton OH 45638





Church Trustees

REFIT

Deacons How to Start a Women's Ministry in Your Church

Register for the Annual Training Event online at: www.wvbc.org

unch (Gym or Barn)



Blood Pressure Clinic 4th Sunday of each month

before church (10:30-10:45) at the tables on the WildSide

after church til 12:15 in the **Bykota Classroom**

*If you are medically trained and would like to help in the screenings, please contact Melanie Hall (304.360.7517).



Ladies,

Join us on Monday evenings, 5:30pm, for some fun exercise and social distancing fellowship.

Doors open ant 5:15ish. We start dancing at 5:30pm and workout for 50 minutes. We follow with a short devotion and prayer time.

This exercise experience is for all levels of fitness. Class is led by Stephanie Spencer and Carla Booth.

If you have other questions we have a Facebook page

♥♥♥REFIT[®] with Steph and Carla. or give us a call.

304.544.1467 Stephanie Spencer 304.617.7289 Carla Booth

> For more on ReFit, check out this site: https://refitrev.com/



2023 Christmas Food Box Giveaway

The NBC Food Pantry was happy to join with the Stella Fuller Foundation once again and provide Christmas Food Boxes for families in need. We packed 150 boxes in the afternoon on Sunday, December 17. Christmas box giveaway was held on Monday, December 18, from 10am-4pm. We gave away 133 boxes that day. Thank you to our many volunteers. Pictures show some of the activity from those days as well as some of our

volunteers.









Ten Christian Quotes to Inspire you in the New Year

- "Let's make one resolution this year: to anchor ourselves to God's grace." – Chuck Swindoll
- 2. "New Year's Day is a good time to fix one's eyes on the only One who knows what the year is to hold." – Elisabeth Elliot
- "Faith never knows where it is being led, but it loves and knows the One who is leading." – Oswald Chambers
- "This simple act of beginning each day with God sets each day on the path of wisdom." – Elizabeth George
- "It's time to begin righting the story of your life." David Jeremiah
- "We're most happy when we're enjoying God and fulfilling His purpose for our life." – Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth
- "Enter the coming year with renewed hope in the power of God to do through you what you cannot."
 John MacArthur
- "May your days ahead be greater than the days gone by." – Tony Evans
- "Wherever you are, be all there. Live to the hilt every situation you believe to be the will of God." – Jim Elliot
- 10. "Although our New Year's resolutions may quickly crumble, God's plans never fail." Charles Stanley

2024 **ANNUAL BIBLE** CONFERENCE Saturday, March 2, 2024 Parchment Valley Conference Center A STUDY OF 2 SAMUEL, FEATURING DR. TRENT EASTMAN Register online at: wvbc.org REGISTRATION FORM ABOUT DR. TRENT EASTMAN Trent has been the lead pastor of New Baptist Church in Huntington since its inception in 2008. Prior to that, he pastored Beverly Hills Baptist Church, one of the churches that merged to form New Baptist Church. Before coming to Huntington, he served with Food for the Hungry Internetional in Kenya and Bangladesh (1991-1999). Name: Address City/State/Zip: Email Address Trent received his Doctor of Ministry from Asbury Theological Seminary in 2016. He completed his Master of Divinity at Palmer Theological Seminary in 2002. Trent also serves as an adjunct professor for Palmer's extension der program In West Virginia. Church: *Note: Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies students are eligible to receive course credit for participating. In oro to get credit, mark the program you want credit applied to. Congregational Transformation (3-Year Program) SCHEDULE General Studies (2-Year Program) 9:00 AM 9:30 AM Registration (Hill Hall) Conference (Hill Hall) Lunch Conference (Hill Hall) Dismissal REGISTRATION FEE 3:00 PM \$25 Bible Conference Attendee Fee \$12.50 Bible Conference Attendee Fee (Pastor) **REGISTRATION ENDS WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28** \$27 Additional Fee for Bobby Wood School of Christian Studies (BWSCS) Registrations includes snack and lunch

Make checks payable and mail to: West Virginia Baptist Convention P.O. Box 1019 Parkersburg, WV, 26102

Or register online at: www.wvbc.org



\$37 Additional Fee for BWSCS Couple

QUESTIONS? Call our WVBC office at 304-422-6449



Prayer Concerns

(Please let the church office know if there are any names that need to be added or removed from the prayer concern list.)

Church Family and Friends: Karen Pruitt Adams, Paula Adkins, Jim & Jenny Benson, Cookie Caldwell, Pam Cole, Joe & Toni Collins, Kyle & Jo Ann Cook, Steve Cook, Randall Davidson, Oleta Dolen, Joe & Pam Fannin, Sally Flanders, Tracy & Teresa Foster, Beverly Gartin, Karen Gillispie, Doris Halcombe, Joni Hill, John & Linda Hovey, Becky Huff, Darlene Humphreys, Sandy James, Ron & Barbara Jarvis, Peggy Jeffrey, Pete & Anita Jones, Virgil Kelly, Joyce Kinder, Judy Lantz, Bill & Debbie Lapole, Joseph Leggott, Bobby & Joyce Mannon, Vicky Marcum, Roy Maynor, Jim McSweeney, Kathy Meadows, Alan Meek, Pat Meredith, Lois Merritt, Marvin & Valerie Moore, Spencer Moore, Charlie Morris, Gary Norris, Bob & Paula Paden, Carolyn Powers, Carol Richardson, Marion Sansom, Peggy Saunders, Dale Shao, Major & Lynnette Simms, Barbara Lynn Spurlock, Jean Spurlock, Jim & Ann Spurlock, Raymond Spurlock, Dick & Annie Stewart, Judy Swann, Marilyn Thompson, Earl & Teresa Trawick, Don & Ellen Walker, Dave Watkins, Ronnie Waugh, Sharon Wimmer, the family of David Stevenson

Additional Prayer Items: our pastors our community our military personnel

unsaved loved ones our government leaders our country

Food Pantry Needs

Personal hygiene kits are something we regularly give out to our food pantry clients. If you would like to help by purchasing supplies, here are some of the items we need. Monetary gifts are also very much appreciated.



A Year that Whispers Jesus (from Church ArtPro)

For author Nancy Tichy, a small holiday gift once sparked big-picture thoughts about Christian living. One December she received a kitchen towel with the message "I want a Christmas that whispers JESUS." That prompted thoughts of what it's like to have an entire year that whispers Jesus.

For starters, that involves daily quiet time, devotion and prayer. "Sometimes I wake with the thought of a person on my mind," writes Tichy. "I'm quiet with this impression, interceding for the family member or friend until it has lifted. Could this be a whisper from our Savior?" Many other daily occurrences are "worthy of [Jesus'] whispered response of love," Tichy points out. That's true whether we're distracted by tasks and troubling thoughts or buoyed by encounters with contentment and joy. "For me," she writes, "whispering is part of intimacy, and that is what I want to make a hallmark of the coming year. I want closeness with our Savior that enables me to hear from him, even when he whispers."

A note from the deacons – Phil Holmes, chairman

The Deacons were asked to assume full responsibility for the Christmas gifts the church provides for members who are shut-in or dealing with medical issues. In previous year, this was handled by the Food Panty by purchasing fruit baskets which the Deacons delivered to specific families.

This year we elected to permit Deacons to either customize their gift to the individual's situation or to provide a fruit basket. The recipient list consisted of 23 individuals and families.

Deacons delivered their gifts the week of December 18th. The Fruit Baskets were delivered on or about December 20 - 22nd.

New Baptist Church 610 28th Street Huntington WV 25702

Office Hours: 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM Tuesday thru Friday

Phone: 304-523-3355

E-mail: newbaptist2008@gmail.com

On the Web: www.newbaptistchurch.com

Pastors:

Rev. Trent Eastman (trente@me.com)

Rev. Lee Boso (leeboso@gmail.com)

Rev. Robin Crouch (rlcrouch1948@gmail.com)

Service Hours:

Sunday

9:30	Radio Bible Class
9:45	Sunday School for all
	ages
*11:00	Morning Worship
	Kid's Church/Nursery
*Servic	ce is also live streamed on Eacebook
	Facebook

(@NewBaptistChurchWV)

Wednesday

6:00	Awana
	Youth
6:30	Prayer Meeting/Bible
	Study

NBC Food Pantry Hours Tuesdays 10am – 2pm

NEW BAPTIST CHURCH 610 28TH STREET HUNTINGTON WV 25702



Register at wvbc.org/ministries/youth