

## My Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus, our Savior and Lord! What an amazing year this has been. Personally, I continue to be thankful for my time over the summer to refresh, renew, and be restored. It was a time of growth for me and our congregation, as together, we now anticipate this next fruitful season ahead of us. ECOB, by following the vision God has for us, has continued to radiate the light of Jesus in this world – all around the world.

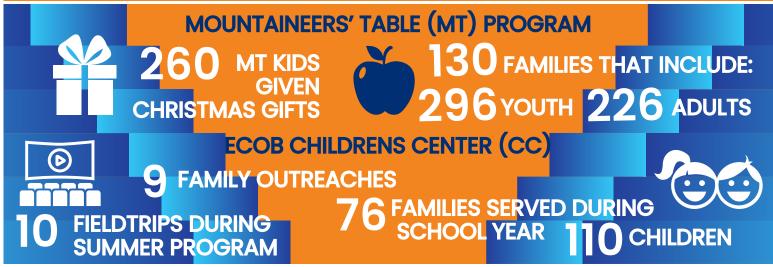
Churches have difficulty celebrating. It often comes across as boasting or being prideful; however, I believe that celebration is a core part of who we are in Christ and what God has done in our midst. Understanding what has happened and the fruit God has born in our lives together spurs us on to focus more intently on the vision and direction He has given us.

Celebration is a form of worship – it is a way in which we respond to God's actions and the character and nature of who God is. Celebration reflects God's gifts, recognizing how God's movement has encouraged, empowered and energized our faith. Celebrating is a reminder of God's action. It is a reminder of the times that God has gotten us through, a testimony that we can be reminded of for future generations. Celebrating helps us reconnect with our main purpose – making disciples for Jesus – to celebrate people coming to know him, live for him, and share about him. The Church celebrates what it believes in - so - we celebrate God's movement among His people. We celebrate transformed lives. We celebrate being the hands and feet of Jesus. We celebrate how God has brought forth fruit in so many ways, but most importantly, in ways that show His kingdom more abundantly and that we, as a congregation, have yielded to His will and His ways.

So, look here to see how God has been moving and celebrate that we were used by God this year to share the love of Jesus in our community and around the world. Be in prayer for how you can connect.grow.live.radiate. the transformative power of Jesus in this world!

God is on the move, sisters and brothers, and we are going too, with Jesus as our guide, and the Holy Spirit as our power!

> Serving Christ Together, **Pastor Brian**



## 2024 ECOB WRAPPED SUNDAY



