

DUBOIS LIGHT & LIFE CHURCH

# NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2024



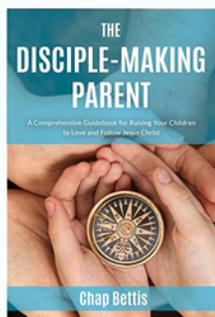
*Hello, April!*

Heading toward Easter, it isn't necessary to wait until closer to that calendar date to start reflecting on the sacrifice made for each and every one of us.

As a matter of fact, this should be a year-round meditation point. We usually focus on the suffering of Christ, and no doubt he did. Most of us, at some time, have watched someone we love suffer and we suffer as well. However, I cannot even fathom watching my child beaten, whipped, nails driven in. Can you imagine how much Father God loved us to not only allow this to happen to His Son, but to have planned it throughout history. Think how much time he had to ponder His decision. Then, once more, meditate on the depth of His love.

**Editor: Jeanne Hoover**

*Check it out!*



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DuBois Light and Life Church

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# MISSIONS UPDATE

Here is an update on what Elias has been up to on his mission's trip in San Diego, CA.

"It's been some pretty busy days. We got to do some manual labor at a church, we got to pray over people at a few church services.

One night, we did some worship at our Airbnb, and we just got filled with the joy of the Holy Spirit, and some people got drunk on the Holy Spirit! It was amazing! Soon after, we went into the actual city of San Diego into a street that was just filled with bars. We split into smaller groups and just started ministering!

One of the girls in my group was so drunk in the Holy Spirit that we had to help her stand as we walked! People coming out of the bars or just walking past us would feel the Holy Spirit and ask us if she was alright. So we would actually use that to start a conversation and start ministering the gospel to them!

I definitely feel like God planted some seeds in these people's hearts. It's definitely been an incredible time here being able to share the gospel with these people who have so many stories to tell about how they got to this point in their lives and being able to give them hope through Jesus!

Please keep San Diego in your prayers. There is so much hopelessness here, but I can clearly see God wanting to do more here!

I am excited to share what else God has planned for me when the opportunity comes! -**Elias Crookham**

*If you want to support Elias, Found Ministries, Captivated by Christ, Abigail & Lemi, or any other missionary we support, please give using our app!*



**Congratulations to KATIE ZELIGER who was featured in the local newspaper this month!  
Read the article below!**

DuBois native Katie Zeligler has always had a love for writing and the creative process. In 2021, that passion translated into starting her own publishing company -Meraki Press.

Headquartered in DuBois, Meraki Press offers publishing and editing, web design, branding services and more. According to the website, "Meraki" is a Greek word used to "describe doing something with the essence of your being: with all your soul, creativity or love."

Zeligler said, a few years ago, her interest was sparked when the young adult group at her church became interested in writing a devotional book.

Then, when Zeligler began working at The Cove mental health drop-in center in DuBois as the assistant coordinator, she unexpectedly stumbled upon a passion for the publishing process when one of the clients there had the desire to publish a book.

He brought in his manuscript, which started as a messy stack of papers covered in writing, with no chapter breaks, punctuation, etc., according to the Meraki Press website. Zeligler assisted him with editing, rewriting, grammar and punctuation and more.

"I fell in love with the process," she said. "Together, we spent seven months editing his manuscript together."

Zeligler taught herself how to self publish, and "A Promise is Forever," by Donald F. Hrinia was born. It was then, she said, she knew that this was something she wanted to continue doing.

Zeligler began searching for first-time authors who wanted help telling their stories. The publishing process can seem very daunting and intimidating to someone who is unfamiliar, which is where Meraki Press comes in.

One of Zeligler's favorite aspects of the business is getting to work alongside local authors and make their publication journey easier and more enjoyable.

In the company's first year, it published three books; nine in the second year and is slated to publish eight this year, open to fiction and non-fiction, children's books and devotionals.

Many of the non-fiction books are based on personal stories of strength and hope, Zeligler said, such as someone recovering from an addiction or other type of hardship they endured.

Even Meraki's first published fictional story, a supernatural thriller, was based on survival and hope.

"We always hope to bring something good in the midst of hardship," she said. "We're helping people tell stories that matter."

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The company's radar has expanded since 2021. Zeliger says she works with authors out of state as well.

If the author is not from the area, they are still encouraged to reach out to their local book store wherever they are located, cafes, etc., to promote the book, she noted.

Thus far, Meraki Press has worked with a Christian thriller author, a licensed counselor/art therapist, history enthusiast, ministry founder, professor, an online news editor and more. Its 13th and most recent debut author is Shelbi Zimmerman of Sykesville, a licensed practical nurse who has published her first book, "Born For This." Zimmerman's book highlights her journey through a high-risk pregnancy during COVID quarantine.

A hybrid publishing company, Zeliger said that Meraki Press is an author-subsidized program.

"Hybrid publishing is a form of publishing that allows authors to take advantage of the benefits of both traditional and self-publishing. It meets in the middle to create the ultimate publishing experience, designed to serve the author over the bottom line," it says at [www.merakipress.org/post/what-is-hybrid-publishing](http://www.merakipress.org/post/what-is-hybrid-publishing).

The author still has complete creative control over their project. The goal, Zeliger said, is to help authors get more bang for their buck for each book.

Some pieces of the process include meeting with the aspiring author the moment they have a first draft completed, Zeliger explained. There are five levels to the editing process -content, line, copy, format and proofread editing. Meraki designs the book covers, forms a market analysis, helps build the author's online platform and plan book launch events.

For more information on Meraki Press publishing, visit [merakipress.org/](http://merakipress.org/) and Meraki Press on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/MerakiPressPublishing](https://www.facebook.com/MerakiPressPublishing)

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