

Prayer Letter November 2003

November 24, 2003

Dear Alumni and Friends of New England Bible College,

Greetings in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ! As we come to the close of another fruitful and rewarding year, we marvel at the many ways God continues to provide for the needs of this college. As Jeremiah proclaimed as he recalled the goodness of the Lord:

It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassion fails not. They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness. The LORD is my portion, saith my soul; therefore will I hope in him. (Lamentations 3:22-24)

God continues to richly bless us with a solidly devoted faculty under the direction of Dean Sue Schriver. He has shown us through a group of highly motivated students that His work on earth still needs biblically grounded and passionate servants who are willing to become further equipped for the tasks ahead.

These gifted and qualified students are the real fruit of the college. As they prepare to join the ranks of those alumni who go before them, pray that their influence will be powerful and convincing to the spiritually lost.

As was announced last month, Dr. Andrew Alexson had resigned as President. We were all saddened by his decision but we must trust that God is sovereign and will always guide us forward. The Board of Trustees has appointed a transition team composed of the members of the Executive Committee to serve with Dean Schriver in the management of the College. We are all confident that through this team, strong leadership will continue to direct its affairs until such time as a new President is installed.

One of the greatest challenges facing us this year has been in the area of financial need. Under the direction of our interim President, and now Chancellor, Jack Christensen, the college's financial picture improved in many areas but some difficulties still plague us. In the past, the internal borrowing from designated funds to pay current expenses was permitted during times when giving was low. The Trustees have made the commitment to restore these funds and to make policies to prevent this from occurring in the future. We are making spending cuts wherever practical and monitoring the financial condition of the College daily.

However, as we approach the end of this calendar year, we seek God's provision more than ever. We are subject to what so many other non-profit organizations have gone through recently. With the weak economy, funds previously available for the support of

institutions such as ours have been on the decline. So we appeal to you now more than ever to pray that God will bring forth the increase needed to do the work He has given us to accomplish.

God has seen us through many hurdles and has never failed to get us over them. Pray that we will see an abundance of His provision come in over the next few weeks and months so that we might be able to move ahead with the vision He has shown us.

There are plans on the drawing board for a possible new campus someday that will accommodate a larger student body with a dormitory. This would enable more students outside of the Portland area to attend the College. With more resources, we would be able to broaden our course selections and move ahead with accreditation, but never compromising our commitment to biblical excellence and integrity.

Would you be willing to partner with us in this vision? If so, please pray for each of the concerns I have mentioned in this letter. Then, please consider what generous financial commitment you might make to the College. Our goal, Lord willing, is to raise \$70,000. This will enable us to restore our internal funds, and remain current with our accounts payable. Our most recent financial statement ending June 2003 is on file in the office. A member of our Executive Committee would be happy to review it with you upon request. We are truly striving to be good stewards of all that God provides. We so much appreciate how you have stood with us in the past and for your partnership with NEBC in the work of equipping men and women for Christian service.

For His Glory,

Rev. Robert E. Bell

Chair
The Board of Trustees

**“And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ
Jesus.”
*Philippians 4:19***