

Dear friends,

In the Old Testament, festivals, like Passover or Pentecost, weren't just celebrations, they were remembrances. They were important reminders for God's people. They helped the people remember God's faithfulness, especially in light of their faithlessness; of his power in light of their weakness; of his victory in light of their defeat.

The people needed these reminders because they were prone to wander...prone to leave the God they love. One generation would fail to help the next generation know and cherish their God. They would easily fall into false worship of other gods, lesser gods.

In 1 Samuel 7, the people of God had come out of such a period of unbelief and idol worship. Through Samuel, they saw the error of their way and looked to God to save them from their enemies. And because of that, He did help them and saved them in a remarkable way.

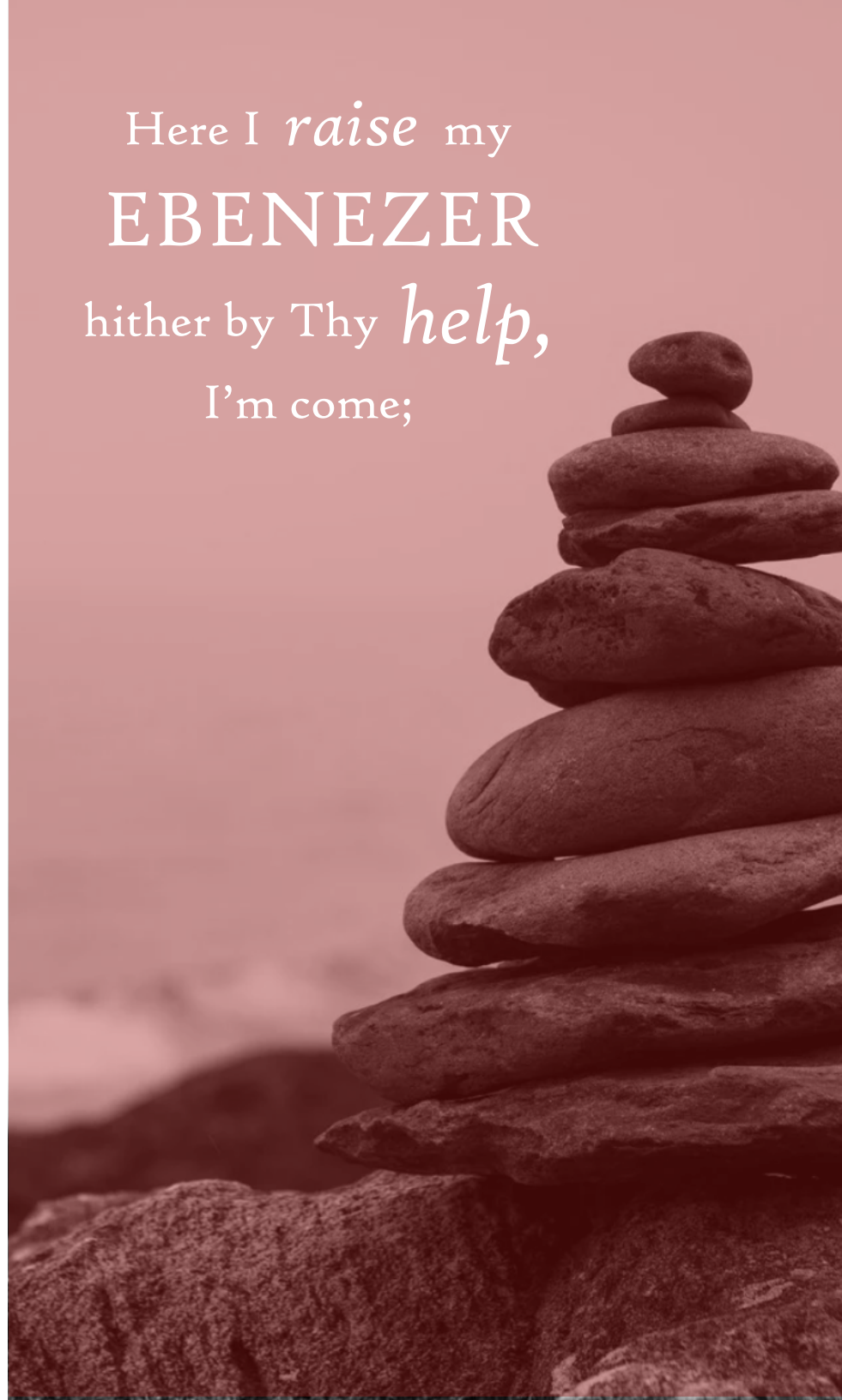
His deliverance was so remarkable, Samuel erected an "ebenezer" which was a stack of stones, a monument, to remember what God did for them in that place.

As we gather for the 2025 Missions Festival, we do so to remember the faithful work of God in helping us experienced gospel renewal in our church, our neighborhood and our world. May this festival be a much needed remembrance for us.

Grace + Peace,



Here I *raise* my
EBENEZER
hither by Thy *help*,
I'm come;

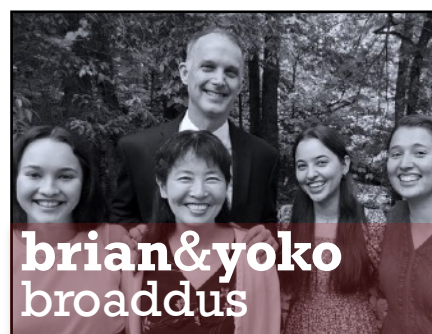




humberto
alferez



arman
arenbayev



brian&yoko
broadus



robbly&joyce
hamd



dorcas
harbin



phil&catherine
leckrone



dennis&linda
*



john&jennifer
samson



FRIDAY FEBRUARY 28

5:30 PM Festival of Food
Fellowship Hall

6:30 PM ADULTS: Missionary Panel Q&A
The Sanctuary

YOUTH: An Evening with Humberto Alferez
The Youth House

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Rivermont Missions Festival kicks off at 5:30pm in the Fellowship Hall with a **Festival of Food**. We'll have three Tapas style stations with food from the Mediterranean world, the Indian world, and the Pacific Rim. In addition there will be a tossed salad table, a kid's table with Chick-fil-A nuggets for our elementary age friends and below, and a dessert table.

Following dinner, we'll gather in the Sanctuary for a **Missionary Panel Q&A** from several of our missionaries as they discuss the unique obstacles and opportunities for gospel ministry in their part of the world.

The **youth** (5th-12th grade) will enjoy an evening with missionary, Humberto Alferez, from El Salvador. Humberto will share about his ministry as well as short-term mission trip opportunities with the youth in 2025.



SATURDAY MARCH 1

- 8:00 AM** Continental Breakfast
Fellowship Hall
- 8:45 AM** Devotional with Pastor Brett
Fellowship Hall
- 9:00 AM** Missionary Workshops
*Fellowship Hall, Rivermont Room A,
The Choir Room*
- Afternoon/
Evening** Missionaries visiting Rivermont Small
Groups

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Rivermont Missions Festival continues with breakfast at 8:00am in the Fellowship Hall with bagels and cream cheese as well as coffee from Bacon St. Bagels. We'll also have a fruit salad and yogurt to top it all off. At 8:45am, Pastor Brett will offer some devotional thoughts and at 9:00am, we'll have three separate workshops with our missionaries. The workshops are designed to give you a "behind the scenes look" at their work including some demonstrations..

In the afternoon and evening, missionaries will be meeting with small groups in Rivermont members' homes. If you are not in a small group, but would like to participate, contact Pastoral Assistant Janet Freshour (janet@rivermont.org) to be added to one.

SUNDAY MARCH 2

- 8:30 AM** Worship Service
The Sanctuary
- 9:45 AM** Missionaries in Sunday School Classes
Various Rooms
- 11:00 AM** Worship Service
The Sanctuary
- 12:30 PM** Covered Dish Lunch with Missionaries
Fellowship Hall
- 4:00 PM** Special Missionary Prayer Meeting
The Chapel

PROGRAM INFORMATION

The Rivermont Missions Festival concludes with a couple of opportunities to hear from our missionaries. During the Sunday School hour, missionaries will be in our Sunday School classes to share about God's work in their ministry and world. Classes will have the opportunity to ask questions and pray for the missionary in their class.

Following the late worship service, we'll enjoy a covered dish lunch with our missionaries in the Fellowship Hall. We'll provide the fried chicken and we ask the following groups of people to bring:

- **Side Dish** (*Last Name starts with A - H*)
- **Cold Salad** (*Last Name starts with I - O*)
- **Dessert** (*Last Name starts with P - Z*)

Please bring enough to feed 6 to 8 people.

We'll end the day with a time of special prayer for our missionaries as they return home to continue God's work.

To sign up for the Mission Festival
click the QR Code with your phone camera
or type in the web address [https://repc.breezechms.com/form/
bf413189986783](https://repc.breezechms.com/form/bf413189986783)





RIVERMONT MISSIONS FESTIVAL FEB 28 - MAR 2 • 2025

