



Forerunner

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Chad Hardbarger . **Pastor**
Paul DeRousse . **Associate Pastor / Senior Adults**
Harold Ashcraft . **Minister of Music**
Denise Griffin . **Children's Director**

Connecting people to Jesus and one another.

Vol. 70

Wednesday, January 31, 2018

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Numbers 6:22-26

"Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, "Speak to Aaron and to his sons, saying,
'Thus you shall bless the sons of Israel. You shall say to them:

The Lord bless you, and keep you;
The Lord make His face shine on you,
And be gracious to you;
The Lord lift up His countenance on you,
And give you peace."

The story is told about a father who lost his wife suddenly in a car accident, leaving him alone with their little girl. As he was putting her to bed that night, they both laid in the darkness. Then the little girl broke the silence, "Daddy, this is a dark night. I think it's the darkest night we've ever had."

"Yes, baby," the dad responded, "I think it is."

Then the little girl reached out in the darkness, touched her Daddy's face, and said, "Good. Your face is toward me." And with that, the little girl laid down her head, closed her eyes, and slept.

In the deepest imaginable pain, that little girl was comforted by knowing her daddy was there and his face was toward her. And in our own deep pain, we can take comfort knowing that our Heavenly Daddy keeps His face toward us – even in the darkest of nights. We may not be able to see Him, but we can be sure He's there.

Real and lasting comfort from pain isn't found by just numbing what hurts. Real comfort is found in knowing that in the depths of sorrow, you are deeply and truly loved by a Father who knows exactly how you feel. This Valentine's Day, as we celebrate God's gift of true love, I pray that you will continue to find your peace and rest in knowing that you have a Heavenly Father who loves you.

See you Sunday!
Bro. Chad

Minister of Music



As you all have probably picked up on by now, I tend to come from the Old School. I appreciate and love the hymns and grand and great gospel songs that still have the anointing and presence of the Holy Spirit upon them. When listening to Christian Radio with my girls, it is difficult for me to understand many lyrics with some contemporary music. I long to hear sweet melodies emanating from the airwaves that more times than not, don't come.

As I have mentioned often, the Psalms tell us that our times of refreshing come from being in the presence of the Lord. I love to sing anointed melodies that serve as vehicles to bring about the presence and power of God.

Terry MacAlmon, noted composer and worship leader, made the following comments that I believe are profound as they relate to church music. Terry says the church is being lulled to sleep by catchy tunes that don't find their birth place around the throne room. The presence of the Lord is not attached to them. Furthermore, the church is moving away from the power and presence of God. It's his presence that brings the power, and the power will and can bring about change. If the power is not available then change is not happening in worship.

I love short and simple melodies that are easy to understand and that speak of the cross, the blood and his power and presence. This past Sunday, the congregation sang of the Lord's light, power, love, glory and rejoicing. I quickly noticed in the spirit that you all were singing! I would take a measure out here and there just to listen as I sensed His heavenly presence.

Brethren, may I ask you to keep doing just that? Welcome HIS presence when we sing together. Don't rob yourself of that sweet and intimate blessing that the Holy Spirit wants to impart to you. Don't be a hum-drum spectator on Sundays, but enter into His presence with singing. When we are about the Father's business, His blessed presence and power will embrace and empower us. Then WE WILL walk out of church stronger and more equipped than when we came in.

God the Holy Spirit desires more than anything to meet with us. Will you shake off the shackles and take off the blinders of religion and ask Jesus to move in our presence? He's given all of us voices to do just that, and believe it or not, they are all beautiful to HIM!

Harold

Associate Pastor / Sr Adults

FORTUNE COOKIE WISDOM – In December I had lunch at a local Chinese buffet with a fellow minister from another church. That same evening I was to lead a DisciplesPath session about sharing our faith. We finished our meal and the waitress brought both our bill and fortune cookies as they usually do at such places. As I opened my fortune cookie and read the little strip inside, it said, "faith is personal, but never private." How's that for coincidence? I think that's the first fortune cookie message I have ever had that related so directly to my faith. Faith is personal. If you have anyone else's faith, it is ineffectual. Your family's faith can't save you. Your spouse's faith can't save you. Your church's faith can't save you. Only your personal faith in Jesus Christ as Savior can save you. However, being saved is just the beginning, not the end, of the Christian life. There are so many things we want to share with other people. We get excited and want to tell everyone about our new grandchildren, our new house, our new car, our promotions, our retirement, and more. However, none of these things (except maybe grandchildren) change our lives as much as coming to faith in Jesus. This should be something that we can't keep to ourselves. The world very much wants for us to keep our faith to ourselves. They would prefer that we keep to ourselves in the walls of our church buildings and, pretty please, not disturb anyone else with talk about Jesus and His blood, heaven and hell, or quoting scripture. If we keep our faith private, we are doing just what Satan likes for us to do, and we are not living up to the command of Jesus to "go and make disciples of all nations." Who knew a fortune cookie could be so convicting? So, go, disturb the world and tell people about Jesus.

DISCIPLES PATH – Our current DisciplesPath class will finish at the end of this February. If you would be interested in finding out more about this process and participating in the next go-round, you can talk to Lucy Johnson, Deana Berry, Barbara Babb, or William or Myrna Wood. The class is intended to make disciples who make disciples. If that interests you, let me know.

Bro. Paul

PURCHASE ORDERS AND RECEIPTS

In order to be reimbursed for purchases submit your receipt(s) to the office, complete a purchase order, and include the account number of where it is to be charged. Then your request will be processed.



Van Driver - February 4

Gary Palmer
(318) 286-2075



SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST, THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4 –

Breakfast will be served from 8:30 to 9:30. All Sunday School attenders are invited. The cost will be \$3.00 per person, or \$10.00 per family, as per the Wednesday night meal. This is also intended to be an outreach event. Get a ticket and invite a friend. Contact Dave Linn, Sunday School Director, if you have any questions.

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS –

Your 2017 contribution statements are in the same location that your Christmas cards were. If you have a question about your statement call Kathleen, 686-7548, between 9:00 – 11:45 a.m., Monday - Friday.

Opportunities

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Fund: Budget

In Memory of: Hubert Taylor

By: Mrs. Edna L. Robinson

In Memory of: Hubert Taylor

By: Gail S. & Glen R. George

In Memory of:

Kent Van Arsdel

By: Michael & Judy Gaddis

In Memory of: J.R. Dawson,

Jim Dawson,

Larry Farmer,

Thomas Vincent,

Norris Dickard

By: Debbie Hatfield

Fund: Lottie Moon

In Memory of: Hubert Taylor,

Randall Baronette,

Bill Magee

By: Doug & Debbie Frey

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Fund: Brazil

In Memory of: Hubert Taylor,

Kent Van Arsdel

By: Patty Stowell

Fund: T W B

In Memory of:

Bro. Bill Stowell

By: Billie Martin

Fund: Brazil

In Honor of: Patty Stowell

By: Rose Turner

GARAGE SALE COUNTDOWN – The date for the sale will be February 24. Our big pick-up day will be February 19 for those with large items or who cannot bring their donations on their own. It's very important that we make as many pick-ups as possible on Monday, February 19, and that all donations are in by Wednesday, February 21, to give us time to get items sorted and priced by Friday. WE CANNOT ACCEPT TV'S WITH A TUBE!! The organizations we give unsold items to are no longer accepting them. Only flat-screen TV's can be accepted. You can drop off items in the gym on Sunday, February 18. **THREE WEEKS TO GET READY!**



Valentine Banquet
Sunday, Feb. 11, 6:00 p.m.

Spinach Artichoke Dip, Salad,
Pork Loin, Twice-Baked Potato,
Homemade Rolls, Dessert

Cost: \$5.00 (\$15 family maximum)
Sign-up in the church office or in
your Sunday School classes.

- *Entertainment by*
Bro. Paul & Cathy DeRousse
- *No nursery provided*

Children's Ministry

LOVE IS IN THE AIR -- As we begin the month of February in a few days and celebrate Valentine's Day, I enjoying focusing on the love of JESUS – trying to comprehend the depth of Jesus' love for us and sharing that with children. *"Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us, that we should be called the sons of God."* (1 John 3:1) Children respond to love. When they feel loved and accepted, you can see their hearts open. I pray that every child will come to understand the love that Christ has for them through the love their teachers give them each week. *"A new commandment I give unto you, that ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all men know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."* (John 13:34-35) Thank you, teachers, for the love and dedication you pour out on our children.

PRAYERS – It seems we now have five seasons in Louisiana – spring, summer, fall, winter, and now FLU season!! Several of our children and their families have been sick. Please keep them in your prayers.

Connecting people to Jesus and one another.

Saved to Serve,
Denise

Childcare Worship Volunteers:

1st Sunday, Feb. 4

Babies: Carole Pacheco, Cheryl Procell

Toddlers: Alda Sayles



2nd Sunday, Feb. 11

Toddlers: Glenda Johnson

Twos/Threes: Patsy Shaw, Brenda Waldrip

3rd Sunday, Feb. 18

Babies: Diane Denny

Toddlers: Mike Johnson, Brenda Collins

4th Sunday, Feb. 25

Babies: Kim Blankenship

Toddlers: Karen VanArsdel

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY . . .

I want to thank all of you for your prayerful support, visits, calls and cards during Kent's long illness and final home-going. I also want to thank you for the wonderful meal you prepared for my family after the service. All of you made this difficult time more bearable for me, our sons, Johnny & Scotty, and our extended family. I feel truly blessed to be a part of such a wonderful church family.

With Love in Christ,
Karen, Johnny, Scotty and
all of the Van Arsdel Family

Weekly Opportunities

Sunday, 02-04-18

S.S. Breakfast, FLC, dr 8:30 - 9:30 a.m.
 Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
 Jubilation Ringers 5:15 p.m.
 Youth Choir 5:30 p.m.
 Children's Bible Drill 5:30 p.m.
 Prayer Ministry 5:30 p.m.
 Evening Worship Service 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 02-06-18

Prime Time Singers 10:00 a.m.
 Prime Time Luncheon 12:00 noon

Wednesday, 02-07-18

Fellowship Supper, FLC, at 5:00 p.m.
 DisciplesPath 5:45 p.m.
 TeamKID Wednesday 6:00 p.m.
 Youth Impact 6:00 p.m.
 Mid Week Prayer Service, FLC, dr 6:00 p.m.
 Sanctuary Singers Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, 02-08-18

Prime Time to Touchstone Museum 10:00 a.m.

Friday, 02-09-18

Faith S.S. Class Meeting 11:30 p.m.

FORERUNNER

Emmanuel Baptist Church
 5850 Buncombe Road
 Shreveport, LA 71129
 Phone: (318) 686-7548
 Prayer Line: (318) 686-9898
 Visit our Home Page:
www.ebcshreveport.org

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FEBRUARY COUNTING COMMITTEE

Herman Palmer Charles Shirley
 Jim Howard



Hospital List

WK South
 Ruby Stoker (hm)

WK North
 Ruby Taylor

Extended Care
(Kings Hwy)
 Norma Goulston
 Martha Morgan

Prayer Concerns

Out-of-Town Prayer List

Charles Goodwin
 Edie Goodwin
 Elizabeth Haralson
 Dr. Margaret Pokol

Prayer List Home

Margaret Alexander
 Ruth & Lloyd Rainer
 Nell Seeger
 Ron & June Wiseman

Special Prayer Needs

Janine Dunlap
 Cheryl Jones

Sunday, February 18

6:30 p.m.

Open Range Quartet

In Concert

at

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Budget Statistical Report - As of Jan. 21

Budget Receipts This Week	\$ 8,508.75
Budget Needed Weekly	\$ 13,882.00
Budget Received Year to Date	\$ 46,983.41
Budget Needed Year to Date	\$ 41,646.00

January 28

Adult	154
Youth	9
Children	10
Preschool	11
TOTAL	184

No DT

Thursday, February 1, '18

Exodus 27-28; Matthew 18:1-20

Friday, February 2, '18

Exodus 29-30; Matthew 18:21-35

Saturday, February 3, '18

Exodus 31-32; Matthew 19:1-15

Sunday, February 4, '18

Exodus 33-34; Matthew 19:16-30

Monday, February 5, '18

Exodus 35-36; Matthew 20:1-16

Tuesday, February 6, '18

Exodus 37-38; Matthew 20:17-34

Wednesday, February 7, '18

Exodus 39-40; Matthew 21:1-22

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