

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, March 28, 2018

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This past Sunday God answered our prayers as we voted in Bro. Austin Bedwell to be our new Youth Minister. Our hearts were blessed and encouraged as he shared with us his personal testimony of how Jesus saved him and called him to be a minister of the Gospel. Once again, we thank our Youth Minister Search Committee for their hard work and diligence, and we look forward to working with Bro. Austin in the years ahead to reach out to the next generation with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please continue to pray for Bro. Austin as he moves to Shreveport and ask the Lord to fill him with the power of the Holy Spirit to do the work ahead which He has for him. To God be the glory!

As a church family, we are all looking forward to celebrating the resurrection of Jesus Christ this Easter weekend. The message of the Gospel is clear: "Christ died for our sins, according to the Scriptures, and He was buried, and He rose again from the dead." (1 Cor. 15.3-4) Even as the angel declared to Mary, "He is not here, He is risen, just as He said!" (Mt. 28.5)

Sin, death, and Hell are all defeated.
The Devil is the loser.
Jesus is alive!

Our children's minister, Mrs. Denise Griffin, tells me that we are all set and ready to go for our annual Eggciting Emmanuel Easter Eggstravaganza (otherwise known as "E4"), which will take place this Saturday, from 10:30 AM – 12:00 Noon. We thank Mrs. Denise for organizing this event, and we praise the Lord for her continued dedication and service. We also praise the Lord for everyone who has donated candy to fill the eggs, and we thank all our volunteers who work hard every year to make this event possible. All children, from Preschool through 5th grade, are welcome to participate in the egg hunts, and there will be lots of activities and food for all of us to enjoy. So, make your plans now to come out and join in the fun, and bring your friends and neighbors with you!

Everyone also is welcome to join us for our Good Friday Service this year, which will begin at 7:00 PM. This service is always a special time to remember the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ and celebrate His love for us. We will tell the story of His final hours on this earth through Scripture and song, and our deacons will serve us the Lord's Supper.

Then, at last, on Sunday morning, we will rejoice in the Gospel of Jesus' resurrection! Because He lives, we can face tomorrow. "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing your labor is not in vain." (1 Cor. 15.58)

Happy Easter!
Bro. Chad

Minister of Music



“Let there be praise, let there be joy in our hearts. Sing to the Lord, give him the glory. Forevermore let His love fill the air, and let there be praise!” We read in Galatians 5:22 that JOY is one of the Fruits of the Spirit. Romans 14:17 tells us that the Kingdom of God is not rules, regulations, ceremonies, or rituals but JOY in the Holy Spirit.

The powers of darkness that we wrestle against, Eph. 6:12, have done a number on the traditional church. Dead dull, dry religious tradition is smothering congregations across the fruited plain. There is little if any JOY in God’s house! Emotion is a by-product of JOY. Jesus gave us JOY and in its proper setting, JOY can be life changing!

I pray for the JOY of the Lord to permeate our house of worship through song, testimony and gospel preaching! Music and the preaching of the word should always hold hands together! The first should set the stage for the latter. SURRENDER is the operative word when allowing the Holy Spirit to move with freedom. We are the conduits that hold the spiritual key in allowing his spirit to move. Lives can be changed and deliverance can come to the captive parishioner that occupies a seat in church on Sundays!

Scripture is clear as to who the enemy is and what he is doing to families and the church. The JOY of the Lord is our strength and that is in part how we are able to keep the powers of darkness under our feet!

If you are struggling spiritually in some aspect of your daily walk then CALL on Jesus and one of us. Bless God, we’ll hold hands and pray and believe for POWER, JOY and DELIVERANCE.

Jesus, we pray that you’ll do a new work in all of us and restore the JOY of our salvation! We give YOU glory, honor and praise Father God.

Bro. Harold

Associate Pastor / Sr Adults

CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED! Although we spread Christmas out longer and spend more money on it, Easter really is the high point of the Christian calendar. In their time with Jesus, His disciples saw three people raised from the dead, one of whom had been dead for four days! Even though He kept telling them that He was going to die and rise from the dead, they just couldn’t accept it. Their preconceived notion that Jesus was going to take control as an earthly ruler kept them from hearing what He was saying. When Jesus was arrested and crucified, their fear and grief kept them from remembering His miracles and His words. Even after His resurrection the disciples required some convincing both that He was truly Jesus and that He was truly, physically alive. Even after forty days with them following His resurrection, we are told that at His ascension “When they saw Him, they worshiped Him; *but some were doubtful.*” (Matthew 28:17) We tend to think that we would have reacted differently if we had been in the shoes (or sandals) of the disciples, but we have the advantage of twenty centuries of history and familiarity with the historical records (the Gospels) of what Jesus said and did. The resurrection is the confirmation that Jesus was all that He said He was. Without it, He was just a great teacher, a good man, or any other phrase we may ascribe to any other person of significance on earth. With the resurrection, He was the Son of God, the Alpha and Omega, the Son of David, the Lion of Judah, King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Christmas is easy to connect with. Everyone loves a sweet human interest story and a baby. Easter is another matter. Easter brings us face to face with the Living Lord. And if He is Lord, He is Lord of All, including you and me. Do our lives show that we truly believe in and serve the One who rose from the dead and now sits at the right hand of the Father?

Bro. Paul



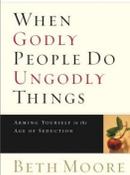
WACO TRIP – Space is running out! The trip will be April 4-6. The cost, which includes everything, is \$300.00 per person. A \$100.00 non-refundable deposit is due immediately, and the balance is due April 1. Please call Bro. Paul (455-8205) if you have any questions.



BLOOD DRIVE – APRIL 8

LifeShare will be in the Family Life Center at 9:00 a.m. to receive your donation of blood. Give the gift of life. Your donation makes a difference. To find out where your gift goes, go to: lifeshare.org/giving-blood.

AARP DRIVER SAFETY COURSE EXPANDS – The leaders for the presentation have allowed us to expand the session to forty participants. There are now ten more openings for the class. Call the church office to get your name on the list. The course will be on Monday morning, April 9, from 8:30 to 12:30. Cost for AARP members is \$15.00; \$20.00 for non-members. Checks are preferred. If paying by cash you must have exact change. Please bring a pen or a pencil. If you are signed up and your plans have changed, please let us know.



WOMEN’S BIBLE STUDY - Every Monday, beginning April 16 - June 4, 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. We will be studying the Beth Moore series, When Godly People Do Ungodly Things. Grace Kelly will be the leader. You can sign up in the church office.



Van Driver - April 1

Gary Palmer
(318) 286-2075

Opportunities

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Fund: Budget

In Memory of:

Mamie & Lewis Jones,
Laurette & Leonard David

By: Floyd & Phail Dean Jones

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Fund: Annie Armstrong

In Memory of:

Debra Williams Father
By: Wayne & Carol Dillman

HONORARIUMS

Fund: Benevolent

In Honor of: Ray Pruitt

By: Dr. Bo Worley



Eggciting Emmanuel Easter Eggstravaganza (E4)

Saturday, March 31, 2018

10:30 to 12 noon

Ages: Toddlers through 5th grade

Registration in
Family Life Center
(back of church)



Egg hunts, Resurrection emphasis,
candy, refreshments, puppet show
(3 separate egg hunts for different ages)

Thanks for taking the UNFILLED Easter
eggs. Please fill with individually-wrapped
candy and return to Denise Griffin by
March 28. Thank you, Emmanuel, for
always being so generous!



Large postcards promoting our Easter weekend
services and activities are available on the Lord's
Supper table for our members to distribute. If you mail
them, please put a stamp on them.

Easter Schedule for Children:

Wed., March 28 -- No TeamKid
(Spring Break week)

Sun., April 1 -- No Bible Drill (Easter Sunday)

DEADLINES - For announcements to be included in the
Forerunner, they must be submitted by noon on Monday.
Announcements for the Sunday bulletin must be
submitted by noon on Wednesday.

Children's Ministry

Eggciting Emmanuel Easter Eggstravaganza (E4) --

This Saturday, March 31, is our Easter Egg Hunt, 10:30 to Noon. Please join us and bring your friends, family, and neighbors. We want this to be an outreach to our community. Please plan to join us if you can and welcome our guests.

Thank you to the following individuals and groups for all their work in making this event so successful:

Entire church -- for filling over 4000 eggs!!

Friends Class -- Refreshments

Youth -- Allison Lane, puppet skit, bunny suit, egg hiders

Grounds Committee -- getting our grounds cleaned up and ready

Mission Ladies -- Welcome & registration

Security Committee -- keeping us safe

VBS -- Please mark your calendars for June 3-7. These are our dates for VBS this year. Thank you to the many workers who have already signed-on to help. I have the materials/curriculum available if you want to get an early start.

EVERYONE can take part in VBS, even if you cannot attend. You can be a VBS Prayer Warrior! VBS is the single most evangelistic outreach event. We want to continue taking Jesus to our community through this worthy project. It all begins with PRAYER!!!

Connecting people to Jesus and one another.

Saved to Serve,
Denise

Childcare Worship Volunteers:

1st Sunday, April 1

Babies: Carole Pacheco, Cheryl Procell

Toddlers: Alda Sayles

2nd Sunday, April 8

Toddlers: Glenda Johnson

Twos/Threes: Patsy Shaw, Brenda Waldrip

3rd Sunday, April 15

Babies: Diane Denny

Toddlers: Mike Johnson

4th Sunday, April 22

Babies: Kim Blankenship

Toddlers: Karen VanArsdel

5th Sunday, April 29

Babies: Debbie Frey

Toddlers: Allison Lane



EBC FOOD PANTRY -- We are collecting non-perishable food for our food pantry to help members and people from our community who are experiencing financial hardship. Please bring food items to the box in the main hallway.

Please check the expiration date on your donations. We cannot use items more than a year past expiration.

Weekly Opportunities

Sunday, 04-01-18

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service 10:45 a.m.

Tuesday, 04-03-18

Prime Time Singers 10:30 a.m.
Prime Time Luncheon 12:00 noon

Wednesday, 04-04-18

Prime Time leave for Waco 8:00 a.m.
Fellowship Supper, FLC, at 5:00 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.

Friday, 04-06-18

Prime Time return from Waco 6:00 p.m.

Saturday, 04-07-18

Friends S.S. Class at Jan's 5:00 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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ANNIE ARMSTRONG EASTER OFFERING North American Missions

Goal: \$7,000.00
Received to Date: \$3,883.00



Hospital List

WK North

Helen Jones
Anne Rachall

Schumpert Highland

Kenneth Richmond

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

Thursday, March 29, '18

Joshua 19-20; Mark 15:16-39

Friday, March 30, '18

Joshua 21-22; Mark 15:40-47

Saturday, March 31, '18

Joshua 23-24; Mark 16

Sunday, April 1, '18

Judges 1-3; Luke 1:1-25

Monday, April 2, '18

Judges 4-5; Luke 1:26-38

Tuesday, April 3, '18

Judges 6; Luke 1:39-56

Wednesday, April 4, '18

Judges 7-8; Luke 1:57-80

APRIL COUNTING COMMITTEE

Ken Richmond Ron Denny Burt Grubbs

Budget Statistical Report - As of March 18

Budget Receipts This Week	\$ 9,163.60
Budget Needed Weekly	\$ 13,882.00
Budget Received Year to Date	\$ 136,701.01
Budget Needed Year to Date	\$ 152,702.00

March 25

Adult	161
Youth	14
Children	8
Preschool	12
TOTAL	195



GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

March 30, 7:00 p.m.

Observance of the Lord's Supper

Join us beneath the cross of Jesus for a time of contemplating Jesus' great love for us. We will tell the story of His final hours through Scripture and song, and observe the Lord's Supper.