



# Forerunner

## Emmanuel Baptist Church

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

*Connecting people to Jesus and one another.*

**Vol. 70**

**Wednesday, November 28, 2018**

**48**

We hear a lot of talk today about “fake news,” and I’m sure that everything we read or hear in the news isn’t true. The media doesn’t always get the story right, and sometimes personal bias and prejudice obscure the reality. The Gospel of Jesus Christ, however, is not fake news!

In 1 Timothy 1.15 the apostle Paul declared, “This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, of whom I am chief.”

In what sense is the Gospel “a faithful saying?”

Well, first it’s a true story. The Gospel is not a legend or a fairy tale. Jesus was born into our world; He died on a cross for our sins; and He rose again for our salvation. The Gospel is a matter of literal history.

Second, the Gospel is trustworthy. Because the Gospel is historically true, you can depend on Christ to save you. The message of Christ is worthy of all acceptance.

Thirdly, the Gospel is timeless. Its truth will endure forever. God will faithfully preserve His Word throughout all eternity.

The Gospel is not fake news!

In Christ,  
Bro. Chad

Christmastime is here, and I’m looking forward to another joyful season of special worship services on Sunday night.

This coming Sunday, Bro. Paul and the Prime Time Singers will lead us into the Christmas season with the presentation of their Christmas musical “Forever God is with Us.”

The following Sunday night, December 9, Bro. Harold and the Sanctuary Singers will be leading us in worship with a selection of Christmas songs, and our own Mr. Ron Massey and Mrs. Cathy DeRousse will be performing specials on the piano and organ as well.

At last, on December 16 we will be having our annual Family Night at Christmas Service. Bro. Wayne Cooper will be leading the service this year, so if you and your friends have a special song or act you would like to perform, please sign up with him soon.

Mark your calendars now and join us for these special evening services. Invite your family and friends to join you too, and we will be blessed as we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord.

We all enjoyed our Thanksgiving Dinner this year! We appreciate everyone who worked hard to make this event possible, and we thank each one of you for coming out and bringing a covered dish to share. We especially thank the Special Days Committee for setting up for the dinner, and Mrs. Jerri Price and those who helped her for putting out the decorations. Finally, we thank the “Triple J Lawn Service” and the Unity Sunday School Class for providing the turkey for our dinner. God bless all of you!!

## Minister of Music



The month of December will be alive with the musical sounds of Christmas. Be sure and mark these dates.

On the evening of the 2<sup>nd</sup>, Bro. Paul will lead the prime Time Singers in their musical offering. The Singers always do a fabulous job and those of you who don't normally show for an evening service, please come out and support the Prime Timers!

On the evening of the 9<sup>th</sup>, the Sanctuary Singers will present a selection of seasonal choral songs along with beautiful piano and organ solos/ duets from Ron and Cathy.

On the evening of the 16<sup>th</sup>, make plans to be present for the Family Night Christmas Concert. We always have an outstanding roster of singers with lots of smiles and music. Bro. Wayne Cooper will organize this evening and I so appreciate his talents and desire to serve within the body of believers here at Emmanuel. If you wish to sing on this evening, please contact Wayne ASAP as time is of the essence!

Bro. Harold

## Associate Pastor / Sr Adults

I don't know how much of a hand God had in determining the calendar of the USA, but I really appreciate how Thanksgiving comes so close to Christmas. For me, Thanksgiving is the gateway to Christmas. I know that many merchants see it as the beginning of the Christmas sales season, but for me it's more that giving thanks is the gateway to Christmas. In Luke 7:11-19, Jesus came upon ten lepers who cried out for healing. In accordance with His compassion, Jesus told them to go show themselves to the priests. As they went their way, they were healed. According to the Scriptures, "One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him - and he was a Samaritan." Only one of the ten, a Samaritan at that, turned back to praise God and to give thanks to Jesus. I believe that the thankful hearts are the ones who truly experience the presence of God that the advent of Jesus represents. We have so much for which to be thankful. And if you can't find enough to be thankful in what you have, give thanks for these: Did a hurricane blow away or flood your house? No? Give thanks to God. Did a wildfire consume your home or the lives of those you love? No? Give thanks to God. Has someone senselessly taken the lives of those you love? No? Give thanks to God. However much we have or however little we have, it is only by the mercies of God that we have it. We deserve far less. Give thanks to God. I have known people who regularly gave gifts to their grandchildren, but eventually quit doing it because they never received any thanks or acknowledgment of their gifts. God is much more gracious than that. But what if He is withholding blessings because we have not yet acknowledged all He has given and done for us? Jesus is the greatest gift of all. For that alone God deserves all the praise and thankfulness we can muster. So as we approach Christmas, don't forget to give thanks for the Giver and the Gift.

Bro. Paul



### Deacon - Widow Banquet

Friday, December 7

6:00 p.m. / FLC

Please sign up in the office or call the church office, 686-7548, and let us know how many of your widows will be coming with you.

**PRIME TIME TRIPS - December 13** – leaving at 4:30; Dinner at Roma's, then to **Grand Cane** for Back Alley Theatre's presentation of "In-laws, Outlaws, and Others (That Should Be Shot)." Cost is \$10.00, plus dinner. Bus is full; overflow is on the van or in personal vehicles.



### Family Night at Christmas

December 16 / 6:30 p.m.

Bring your family and friends, a song to sing and a snack to share.

No nursery for Family Night at Christmas



### Office Closed

Christmas Eve / Lord's Supper

December 24 / 6:00 p.m.



### Van Driver - December 4

Gary Palmer  
(318) 286-2075

CHURCH KEYS



**ARE YOU IN THE RIGHT KEY?** – If you have a set of keys, and if you have had them for a while, the gate key you have may not work on the main gate on the east side. See Bro. Paul if you think you may have the wrong key. We have a lot of keys out. Ask yourself, "do I really need a set of keys?" If you do not come to the church outside of office hours once a month or more, probably not. We have keys available to lend on an occasional basis.

## Youth Minister

The youth finished up October by having a scavenger hunt on Halloween night. The scavenger hunt was full of fun riddles and Bible riddles. The students greatly enjoyed testing their wits to find all the items. November has been a busy and exciting month for the youth and me personally. The youth took some time to shop and pack boxes for Operation Christmas Child. The youth ended up contributing 10 boxes to OCC. The youth also sold Poinsettias to raise money. Thank you to everyone who has contributed to this fundraiser.

Coming up in December the youth are having a Progressive Dinner on the 15th. If you have not already signed up for text updates on the youth program you can text @abedwell to 81010.

I feel very blessed and honored for Emmanuel recognizing the call God has on my life by ordaining me. A little something God has been talking to me about is the importance of taking time to rest. As I'm writing this article I'm wrapping up a few days spent at my parents in Alabama. These last few days have been restful and God has reminded me of taking time to breathe and take in his presence and reflect. We also need to give our bodies time to rest. It is easy to get caught up in today's world and go, go, go until we exhaust ourselves to the point that we are not giving the attention God has called us to give in certain areas of our lives. Busy-ness many times becomes our idol. So I challenge you this week to set aside whatever amount of time you feel led to rest and reflect on what God has done in your life. I hope everyone had a Happy Thanksgiving and will have a Merry Christmas.

Bro. Austin

### MEMORIAL GIFTS

#### Fund: Budget

**In Memory of: James Mullins**

By: Tumblewood Creations

**In Memory of:**

**Lannette & Leonard Davis**

By: Floyd & Phail Dean Jones

**In Memory of:**

**Joe Gangenes,**

**John Gangenes,**

**Clyde Spillers**

By: W.P. Spillers, M.D.

**Fund: Benevolent**

**In Memory of: Cecil Fowler**

By: Bob & Karen Johnston

By: George & Laverne Smith

### HONORARIUMS

**Fund: Lottie Moon**

**In Honor of: Ron Tibbit,**

**LeRoy Wilson**

By: W.P. Spillers, M.D.

**In Honor of: Lucy Johnson**

By: Claire Pennington

### MEMORIAL GIFTS

**Fund: Lottie Moon**

**In Memory of: Margaret Bell**

By: Michael Bedgood

**In Memory of:**

**Rogell Fortenberry**

By: W.P. Spillers, M.D.

**Fund: Youth**

**In Memory of: Hazel Shaw,**

**Joe Breedlove**

By: Tommy & Betty Shaw

**In Memory of:**

**Our Parents & Loved Ones**

By: Ron & Diane Denny

**In Memory of: Mark Cordray,**

**David Ardoin**

By: Roy & Margaret Cordray

**In Memory of:**

**Derrell Howard**

By: Gwen Howard

**Fund: T W B**

**In Memory of: Lee Musselman**

By: Leesa & Jimmy Sitter

**Fund: Brazil**

**In Memory of: Cecil Fowler**

By: Rose Turner

### DECEMBER COUNTING COMMITTEE

Carl Morgan

Mike Martin

Ken Richmond

## Children's Ministry

**CHRISTMAS** -- It is so sweet to experience the Christmas season through the eyes of a child -- their amazement, their wonderment, their excitement. I love hearing the children tell of how excited they are to have turkey and dressing and LOTS and LOTS of pies! One little fellow even said they were having "gecko" for one of their holiday meals! LOL! And he also said he was getting a gecko for one of his Christmas gifts! But while the children are so excited about gifts and Santa, they are equally excited when we begin talking about Baby Jesus, the manger, Mary and Joseph, the angels, and the shepherds. Their excitement and amazement actually begins with the TRUEST and GREATEST GIFT, our Savior Jesus.

**FAMILY NIGHT AT CHRISTMAS** -- Our Emmanuel children will be singing two songs at our Family Night at Christmas. All of the children have been working very hard for several months learning the songs. Parents, please mark your calendars (Sunday night, Dec.16) so your children can be a part of this.

### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FOR CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

Sun., Dec. 16 -- Family Night at Christmas,  
children sing

**No nursery for Family Night at Christmas**

Wed., Dec. 19 -- TeamKID meets

Wed., Dec. 26 -- NO TeamKID

Wed., Jan. 2 -- NO TeamKID

Wed., Jan. 9 -- TeamKID resumes

**THANK YOU** -- Many thanks to Kim Pao, Brenda Waldrip, Debbie Frey and Cheryl Procell for filling in while Bob and I are out of town. It is such a blessing to have so many people who are willing to help and so very capable of handling things while I'm gone. Thank you for all you do!

**Connecting people to Jesus and one another.**

Saved to Serve, Denise

### Childcare Worship Volunteers:

**1st Sunday, Dec. 2**

Babies: Carole Pacheco

Toddlers: Mike Johnson, Cheryl Procell



**2nd Sunday, Dec. 9**

Toddlers: Glenda Johnson

Twos/Threes: Patsy Shaw, Brenda Waldrip

**3rd Sunday, Dec. 16**

Babies: Diane Denny

Toddlers: Alda Sayles, Deenie Judd

**4th Sunday, Dec. 23**

Babies: Kim Blankenship

Toddlers: Karen VanArsdel

**5th Sunday, Dec. 30**

Babies: Allison Lane

Toddlers: Debbie Frey

MERRY  
CHRISTMAS

*Christmas Day / Office Closed  
December 25*

**Weekly Opportunities**

**Sunday, 12-02-18**

Sunday School Breakfast 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.  
 Prayer Ministry 5:30 p.m.  
 Youth Base Camp 5:30 p.m.  
 Evening Worship Service 6:30 p.m.

Prime Time Singers present ***Forever God Is with Us***

**Monday, 12-03-18**

Prayer for Youth 6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, 12-04-18**

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

**Wednesday, 12-05-18**

Fellowship Supper, FLC, 5:00 p.m.  
 TeamKID 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, 12-07-18**

Deacon / Widow Banquet, FLC, Gym 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

**Saturday, 12-08-18**

WOM Luncheon at the Lewis' 10:30 a.m.  
 Adult 2 Fellowship, FLC, dr 5:30 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

Non-Profit Org.  
 U.S. Postage  
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 Shreveport, LA  
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**Hospital List**

**WK North**

Wendell Collins  
 Judy Gaddis (hm)  
 Carolyn Whitfield  
 (hm)

**WK South**

June Wiseman

**Prayer Concerns**

**Out-of-Town Prayer**

**List**

Charles Goodwin  
 Edie Goodwin  
 Dr. Margaret Pokol

**Prayer List Home**

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

**Special Prayer Needs**

Janine Dunlap  
 Cheryl Jones  
 Michelle Oney  
 Clair Pittman



**Thursday, November 29, '18**

Daniel 3; 2 Peter 1

**Friday, November 30, '18**

Daniel 4; 2 Peter 2

**Saturday, December 1, '18**

Daniel 5-6; 2 Peter 3

**Sunday, December 2, '18**

Daniel 7-8; 1 John 1

**Monday, December 3, '18**

Daniel 9; 1 John 2

**Tuesday, December 4, '18**

Daniel 10-12; 1 John 3

**Wednesday, December 5, '18**

Hosea 1-3; 1 John 4



Kick off your Christmas season by joining your friends in the Prime Time Singers as they present

*Forever God Is With Us* on Sunday evening, December 2, at 6:30. The musical shares how Jesus' coming to earth provides hope, peace and love for today. Bring a friend.

**ANNIE ARMSTRONG CHRISTMAS OFFERING**

Our goal is \$18,000.00  
 Received to Date: \$887.32

**Budget Statistical Report - As of Nov. 18**

Budget Receipts This Week	\$ 5,226.05
Budget Needed Weekly	\$ 13,882.00
Budget Received Year to Date	\$ 565,200.88
Budget Needed Year to Date	\$ 638,572.00

**November 25**

Adult	158
Youth	15
Children	11
Preschool	18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>202</b>



**SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST,**

**December 2** – 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.