



# 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. 71**

**Wednesday, February 27, 2019**

**09**

***"I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine making request for you all with joy, for your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this very thing, that He who began a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1.3-6)***

I read the story of a quiet forest dweller who lived high above an Austrian village along the eastern slopes of the Alps. He had been hired many years ago by the town council to clear away the debris from the pools of water up in the mountain crevices that fed the lovely spring flowing through their town. For many years he had served the village, faithfully removing the leaves and branches, and clearing out the silt that would otherwise choke and contaminate the fresh flow of water. By and by, the village became a popular attraction for vacationers. Swans floated along the crystal clear spring, mill wheels of various businesses along the water turned freely, farmlands were naturally irrigated, and the view from restaurants was picturesque and beyond description.

Years passed. One day the town council met for its annual meeting. As they reviewed the budget, one man's eye caught the salary figure being paid the obscure keeper of the spring. He asked their accountant, "Who is the old man, and why do we keep him on year after year? No one ever sees him. For all we know this strange old man of the hills is doing us no good. He isn't necessary any longer!" So, by a unanimous vote, they dispensed with the old man's services.

For several weeks nothing changed. By early autumn the trees began to shed their leaves. Small branches snapped off and fell into the pools, hindering the rushing flow of sparkling water. One afternoon someone noticed a slight yellow-brown tint in the spring. A couple of days later the water was much darker. Within another week, a slimy film covered sections of the water along the banks and a foul odor was soon detected. The mill wheels moved slower, and some finally ground to a halt. Then, the swans left, as did the tourists.

The embarrassed council quickly called a special meeting. Realizing their gross error in judgment, they hired back the old keeper of the spring. Within a few weeks the river that brought life to their village began to clear up. The mill wheels turned again, the swans came back, and the landscape quickly greened up. Once again, the hamlet in the Alps was full of life.

This story is more than an idle tale. It carries with it a vivid relevant analogy directly related to the church. For the church is the body of Christ, and all of its members are necessary and needful. Some of us work out in the open, and some of us work behind the scenes. But all of us are necessary, and all of us must be faithful.

Don't ever think that your part in the Lord's work is not important. God has equipped and gifted you for His service, and we need you to be faithful. Even your prayers and words of encouragement are great gifts to us, and your deeds of kindness are always appreciated. As your pastor, I thank God for all of you, and I never take any one you for granted. Thank you for being faithful to the Lord!

In His service,  
Bro. Chad

## Minister of Music



Greetings to all the Emmanuel faithful.

The month of March will give us five Sundays with which to make music. Welcome to our new EBC choral members, Amy Weathersby and Martha Palmer. The Sopranos and Altos are flying high and now we can use a few more good men! Come and join us on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 pm. You need not have sung at the Met or have had a storied singing career to be a member of this choir. We all enjoy ourselves in fellowship every week while learning good music. In addition we have two of the finest musical accompanists anywhere in Ron Massey and Cathy DeRousse.

On the morning of March 31st, the Men's Choir will assemble for the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday morning special music. Do remember gentlemen that we will have a fellowship breakfast at 8:30 a.m. followed by a quick rehearsal at 9:00.

On that evening the church will enjoy a 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday night Fellowship singing. Bro. Wayne Cooper will emcee the proceedings and we know that surprises can abound when Wayne steps forward in his sequined jacket to lead an evening of song! If you are interested in being a participant for that evening then let Wayne and or me know of your musical intention and we'll sign you up for the Christian Jubilee!

Harold

**GRIEF SHARE / SUPPORT GROUP** - Begins, Thursday, February 28, 6:00 - 7:15 p.m., at Summer Grove Baptist Church, 8924 Jewella Avenue, Room 2-S, (enter the south entrance beside the playground). The facilitator is Kathy Freeman. Call to Register - 686-1470.

**EMMANUEL CHURCH FAMILY** - A special thank you to all you came to help us celebrate our 50th Anniversary. Also, thanks for all the cards and gifts.

Love in Christ, Bo & Debbie Shackelford



### **MEN'S CHOIR SUNDAY, MARCH 31**

March 31 is a fifth Sunday. That means it's time for Men's Choir. Join us for a great breakfast at 8:30 in the FLC, then rehearsal in the choir loft at 9:00. It's easy! It's fun!

**WINTER JAM 2019** - The youth will be going to Winter Jam at the CenturyLink Center in Bossier on Friday, March 1. We will leave the church at 3:00 p.m.



### **Van Driver - March 3**

Gary Palmer  
(903) 766-2182

## Associate Pastor / Sr Adults

Some of our newer members who have not come from Southern Baptist backgrounds may be wondering about these ladies for whom we collect money three times a year – Annie Armstrong, Georgia Barnette and Lottie Moon. Rest assured that your contributions are not going to any individual. These offerings are named in honor of women who were very influential in encouraging Southern Baptists to support mission causes in an organized, cooperative way. This month begins our focus on missions in North America, named in honor of Annie Armstrong. Annie was born in Baltimore, Maryland, in 1850, and lived there until her death in 1938. Contrary to the expectations for women in her day, Annie provided significant leadership for mission causes. Among her accomplishments: started Bay View Mission for the poor and addicted; formed the Women's Missionary Union and served as its first president; led the formation of missions organizations for children; wrote over 18,000 letters in one year advocating for missions; refused a salary because she would never give to the Lord "that which costs me nothing;" supported the first black female missionaries; secured funds to relieve China missionary, Lottie Moon, who had served for 11 years without a furlough; advocated for Native Americans and poor mountain people; and much more. To date, over \$1 billion has been given through the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering to support church planting and compassion ministries in the U.S. and Canada. One hundred percent of all gifts go to support missionaries. Our goal this year is \$7,000.00. When you think of all that Annie Armstrong accomplished by herself over her lifetime, it's not much. Pray and give generously to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ right here in North America. We sure do need it!

Bro. Paul



### **SUNDAY SCHOOL BREAKFAST, March 3**

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.

**WE WANT TO THANK . . .** Our church family for the support, visits, gifts, phone calls and texts that came from our church members during the past months. In particular we want to express our appreciation for your sincere prayers. The last four months have been difficult but we truly believe prayers from our church family and those of friends, family and loved ones are what sustained us. God has heard your prayers and provided the strength we so desperately needed. Thank you so much.

Charlie and Linda Marable

# Youth Minister

First of all I would like to start by thanking everyone. Thank you to everyone who volunteered their time during the garage sale week. Thank you to everyone who donated items. And thank you to everyone who came out and bought from the sale. In all we raised about \$3800.

The youth over the past month on Wednesday nights have started talking about issues we face everyday in society. So far we have covered abortion and depression. This month we are going to spend some time discussing a Biblical view of relationships.

Also the youth have a couple of events coming up in March. We will be going to Winter Jam on March 1. Then March 29-31 we will be having a Discipleship Now at the church. Micah Stowell will be coming to lead us in worship that weekend.

And remember, if you would like to get more regular updates about the youth program text @abedwell to 81010.

Bro. Austin

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

### Fund: Budget

In Memory of:

Carolyn Whitfield

By: Carroll Insulation

In Memory of:

Hazel Sturdivant,  
Carolyn Whitfield

By: Floyd & Phail Dean Jones

### Fund: Youth

In Memory of: Eva Martin,

Windom Wilson

By: Billie Martin

## MEMORIAL GIFTS

### Fund: Children's Ministry

In Memory of:

Alex Preston Johnson

By: Mark & Glenda Johnson

## HONORARIUMS

### Fund: Children's Ministry

In Honor of:

Jimmy Gentry's Birthday

By: Linda & Jimmy Gentry

# Children's Ministry

**EXCITING EMMANUEL EASTER EVENT (E4)** – Even though Easter falls late this year, April 21, we have already begun making plans for this year's Easter event. Our E4 will be held on the Saturday before Easter Sunday, April 20, 10:30-noon. The **EMPTY** eggs will be in the hallways around the middle of March. You know what to do – grab a bag, fill them with candy, goodies, etc. – and return the **FILLED** eggs. Our Easter event is an outreach to our community; we will have flyers and invitations available for our members to distribute.

**VBS** – Wow! Is it already time to start planning for VBS??? YES!! VBS at Emmanuel will be held June 2-6, 6-9 pm (Sun.-Thurs.). Our theme this year is "In the Wild." We'll start out at Panoramic Point for Worship Rally. Then travel to the Watering Hole for Bible Study, Cockatoo Canyon for Crafts, Bullfrog Bog for Music, and Pachyderm Path for Missions. Our VBS kids will be photographers, looking to get pictures of God's beautiful world and learning about real life encounters with Jesus from the Bible. It's going to be a fun week!



**WORKERS:** You can go online and get an advanced look at the material (lifeway.com/VBS). I will be purchasing our curriculum soon and will let you know when it is available.

**HOW CAN YOU HELP??** – We are blessed to have so many of our workers who commit year after year to work in VBS, but we are always looking for more! Let me know if you are interested. And **EVERYONE** can **PRAY, PRAY, PRAY!**

**IS IT WORTH IT???** -- Landry Holmes, Managing Director of LifeWay Kids Publishing, emphasized the importance of VBS:

"VBS is worth it—all the effort, all the expense, all the hours, all the tears. Why? Because VBS is the one week that mobilizes the entire church to reach the community with the gospel, while simultaneously providing a unique discipleship experience for the individual child and volunteer."

The following are the 2017 VBS statistics reported to LifeWay:

- 21,376 churches reported a VBS
- 2,494,059 people enrolled in VBS
- 65,301 salvation decisions from VBS
- 835 decisions made for vocational ministry at VBS
- 160,926 prospects discovered through VBS
- \$7,012,010 given to missions during VBS

## **IT'S WORTH IT!!!!**

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

Saved to Serve,  
Denise

## **Childcare Worship Volunteers:**

### **1st Sunday, March 3**

Babies: Carole Pacheco

Toddlers: Mike Johnson, Cheryl Procell

### **2nd Sunday, March 10**

Toddlers: Glenda Johnson

Twos/Threes: Patsy Shaw, Brenda Waldrip

### **3rd Sunday, March 17**

Babies: Diane Denny

Toddlers: Alda Sayles, Deenie Judd

### **4th Sunday, March 24**

Babies: Kim Blankenship

Toddlers: Karen VanArsdel

### **5th Sunday, March 31**

Babies: Debbie Frey

Toddlers: Allison Lane, Maryssa Bailes



**FAMILY GAME NIGHT** - Thursday, March 28, 6:00 p.m., Family Life Center. The church will provide fried chicken and everyone is asked to bring a dish to share. Come join the fun!

**NEW BIBLE STUDY BEGINS** - A study called "Grace," by Max Lucado, began this past Sunday evening in the Adult 2 classroom (C-124). There will be a total of seven sessions from 5:30 - 6:25 p.m. each Sunday. Deana Berry will lead the sessions. Books are available at Lifeway.

## Weekly Opportunities

### Sunday, 3-03-19

Sunday School Breakfast, 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.  
 Prayer Ministry 5:30 p.m.  
 Grace Bible Study, C-124 5:30 p.m.  
 Youth Base Camp 5:30 p.m.  
 Evening Worship Service 6:30 p.m.

### Tuesday, 03-05-19

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

### Wednesday, 03-06-19

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.

## **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](http://www.ebcshreveport.org)

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### **OFFERING FOR NORTH AMERICAN MISSIONS**

– The Week of Prayer for the Offering for North American Missions, also known as, the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, begins March 3. The theme this year is *Sending Hope*. The AAEO supports more than 5,000 missionaries in North America. There are 363 million people in North America. They speak 350 languages and follow more than 14 different religions. Over 273 million have no relationship with Jesus. If you would like to see that change, pray, then give generously to send the gospel of Jesus Christ to those places where the darkness is greatest. Our goal for this year is \$7,000,00.



**Thursday, February 28, '19**

Numbers 19-21; Mark 4

**Friday, March 1, '19**

Numbers 22-24; Mark 5:1-20

**Saturday, March 2, '19**

Numbers 25-26; Mark 5:21-43

**Sunday, March 3, '19**

Numbers 27-29; Mark 6:1-13

**Monday, March 4, '19**

Numbers 30-31; Mark 6:14-32

**Tuesday, March 5, '19**

Numbers 32-33; Mark 6:33-56

**Wednesday, March 6, '19**

Numbers 34-36; Mark 7:1-23

### Hospital List

#### WK Pierremont - Lifecare

Ron Wiseman

#### Oschners LSU

Pam Rachall

### 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

### **MARCH COUNTING COMMITTEE**

Ronald Causey Carl Morgan  
 Herman Palmer

### Budget Statistical Report - As of Feb. 17

Budget Receipts This Week	\$ 9,426.00
Budget Needed Weekly	\$ 12,654.61
Budget Received Year to Date	\$ 88,458.40
Budget Needed Year to Date	\$ 88,582.27

### February 24

Adult	150
Youth	18
Children	8
Preschool	17
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>193</b>

### **DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME -**

Begins Sunday, March 10th!!  
 Whenever you go to bed Saturday night, March 9th, set your clocks AHEAD one hour.

