



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, May 29, 2019

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With Memorial Day this past Monday, we are all mindful of our troops, and we thank God for the many men and women who are willing to fight for our freedoms. We also honor the sacrifice of those who given their lives in defense of our nation, and we pray for their families. Because evil is real, freedom is never free. It must be purchased with blood.

As we think of Memorial Day, I believe it is also good for us to remember the price Jesus paid for our freedom from the Law when He shed His blood for us on Calvary. Romans 5:6-8 declares that "when we were still without strength, in due time, Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

In this passage, the apostle Paul is saying that it's hard to find people who will die for even a good man. Every time I read this verse I think of our military, and the willingness of people to die for our nation. We applaud their valor and their courage. I also think of our first responders, who every day run into one tragedy after another. Willing to go into burning buildings and even take on gunfire to protect innocent people, they are heroes among us. There may be few of them, but they are there. Look around you, and you can find them, people willing to die for good people. They exist.

But Christ did not die for good people: He died for sinners. Would any of you go to prison and suffer the death penalty in the place of a murderer? I doubt it. Perhaps I speak for myself, but I would not die for an evil man. Yet this is exactly what Christ has done for us. He willingly laid down His life for us even though we rebelled in our wickedness against Him. For a good man someone might die, but God – the very thought of the contrast strikes us – demonstrated His love for us in that He died for us while we were yet sinners. What love is this, *that Thou, My God, shouldst die for me?*

The other day I stopped by the church and ran into my office to pick up some books to read, and my boys stayed outside and played on the front lawn around the three crosses. When I came out, Jordan was on the middle cross, the cross that represents Jesus' cross, and he shouted out, "Look at me, Daddy, I'm Jesus." And the very thought of it hit me, and it pierced my heart like a knife.

I could never give up my son for someone else – not even a good man let alone an evil man! Yet this is what my Heavenly Father did for me. The love of the Father was outpoured at Calvary. The Father gave up His Son for sinners, and Jesus died for us. Never lose the wonder of God's love, and never allow the Devil to tempt you to doubt it.

Happy Memorial Day! See you Sunday.
In His service,
Bro. Chad

Minister of Music



Psalms 113: 1-3

"Praise ye the Lord, praise, oh you servants of the Lord, praise the name of the Lord. Blessed be the name of the Lord from this time forth and forever more. From the rising of the sun unto the going down of the same the Lord's name is to be praised."

Fellow church members, we have precious few minutes to share each week in praise and worship, so I encourage all of you to "Come into His presence with thanksgiving in your hearts!"

Psalms 16:11 tells us that in His presence there is fullness of joy and pleasures forever more. God the Holy Spirit wants to fellowship with each of us, so welcome His presence and don't waste an opportunity to meet with the Father!

In the month of June, we will look forward to the fifth Sunday morning service and Men's Choir special music. There will be no fifth Sunday night singing as the church will meet in the FLC for a time of food and fellowship.

Bro. Harold

Associate Pastor / Sr Adults

I have a plecostomus. No, that's not a painful physical condition, it's a bottom-dwelling scum sucker (no lawyer jokes, please; we have one in our midst now). It's a fish in my aquarium. His purpose was to scabble up the algae and other detritus on the walls and floor of the aquarium. When I first put him in the tank, he was very industrious. He would even work his way up and down the air tubes. He was doing a good job and growing, too. I don't know how it happened, but he discovered that it was a lot less work to swim upside down and vacuum the fish food from the surface of the water when the other fish were fed (that's when he got the name Hoover). I tried to discourage this habit by touching him with my hand or the net. He would head to the bottom and sulk, but come back to the surface as soon as I left. I researched this issue on line and discovered that my plecostomus was not unique. However, this is the first one I've ever had that did this. I was disappointed. I did not try to punish him, nor did I like him any less. But he was not accomplishing the purpose for which he was intended. Algae began to grow on the bottom and the tank was not as clean as it had been. We experienced a power loss and the filtration system was off for several hours. Not long after this, Hoover went to that great aquarium in the sky. Maybe if he had fulfilled his purpose and kept the aquarium clean, he might have survived a little bit longer.

Bro. Paul

HILLTOP U: A SENIOR ADULT CONFERENCE –

May 29 - May 31 – Hilltop University is a spiritual retreat for Boomers and Senior Adults at ETBU. Conference events include corporate worship, preaching, Bible studies, concerts, breakout sessions, and dessert fellowships. This year's line up includes: Dr. Jimmy Draper, Legacy Five, the Foto Sisters and more. For costs, schedules and other information, go to www.etbu.edu, go near the bottom of the page and click on Hilltop U.

It's almost time for....

Vacation Bible School



AMAZING ENCOUNTERS WITH JESUS

Invite your friends, neighbors and family

June 2 - 6, 2019

6:00 - 8:30 P.M.

Ages 4 through 5th grade

No Adult VBS this year.

Snack Supper 5:00 - 6:00 Mon. - Thurs.



LADIES TEA
"Finding Your Happy Place in Jesus"

Ms. Claire Pennington,
Special Speaker
June 22 at 2:00 PM

Please sign up in the church office or in your Sunday School Class today. We will have a **High Tea Table Decorating Contest** and a **Fashion Show** during this event!

If you would like to enter the High Tea Table Decorating Contest by setting up and decorating one of our tables using your own beautiful china, please call/text Mrs. Marsha Hardbarger at 318-455-3540. If you would like to participate in the Fashion Show, please call/text Mrs. Jeri Price at 318-344-7418.

Dear Emmanuel Baptist Church . . .

Our heart felt thanks to all of you who called, visited, brought food and most of all prayed for our family during our recent loss. Your support and generosity blessed us and helped us as we move forward. A special thanks to Bro. Chad for his constant and loving ministry to our family in recent months.

Youth Minister

May has been a relatively slow month for the youth. We have been continuing our study through the book of Romans. We will be starting chapter 9 this coming month. The last two weeks of May have been spent canvassing the surrounding neighborhoods with flyers for Emmanuel's upcoming VBS. Getting out in the neighborhood to minister can always be a little uncomfortable since we have become so unaccustomed to it. Getting out to pass out these flyers and hang them up has been a great opportunity to help students take some small steps to getting use to ministering in situations where the people are unfamiliar to them. I believe all of us need to get into the practice of being more involved in ministering in our communities, whether that ministry is handing out flyers for church events or sharing the Gospel with the cashier at the gas station.

I would like to say congratulations to all our high school seniors who have graduated this month. We had four seniors. They are Maryssa Bailes, Josiah Mangum, Amberlyn Walsworth, and Evan Wilson. We recognized these students on May 19 and prayed for them as a church family. Let us make sure that Sunday is not the only day we prayed for them. As they enter this next step in life let us be sure to continue to shower them in prayers. When we pray for someone, that should not be our stopping point, but our starting point. As you pray for them, pray for opportunities to share with them, whether it be words of encouragement or words of advice.

To get regular updates on the youth program join the messaging list by texting @abedwell to 81010. If you have a student, I highly recommend joining this list. We have a busy summer of various events coming up. By being on the list you get reminders the week of events. Also, at times things happen where we have to cancel or alter an event at the last minute. When that happens, I always send a message out through our messaging system to let people know. I pray everyone has a blessed month of letting the Gospel be known in their neighborhood.

Bro. Austin

Children's Ministry

EBC FAMILY FIELD DAY -- Thank you to our Heavenly Father, who held off the rain, and made it possible for us to have our EBC Family Field Day. We had lots of fun! Our contestants were age 4 to 50-60 ("guess-timate"). And once again, thankfully, no injuries. We had a few tumbles, but everyone was able to walk at the end of the day. A HUGE thank you to all the following who worked to make our field day a success:

Field Day Team -- Cheryl Procell, Rose Turner, and Austin Bedwell

Bro. Bo Shackelford -- getting the field ready

Bro. Chad & Graylan Mangham -- chief sausage grillers

Marsha Hardbarger -- slushie maker

Lilly Bowe -- picture taker

Ronald and Darlene Causey -- picture taker and staying to the end to mop up (literally!)

VBS -- IT'S HERE!!!! -- By the time you are reading this, VBS will be just a few days away! We begin on Sunday, June 2, at 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary. The church and hallways will be decorated to resemble the great outdoors. It will be lots of fun but the REAL purpose is to present the love and gospel of Jesus Christ to children. Please join us in prayer for God to bless and move in the hearts of everyone attending.

"LORD, you establish peace for us; all that we have accomplished you have done for us." Isaiah 26:12

Connecting people to Jesus and one another.

Saved to Serve,

Denise

Childcare Worship Volunteers:

1st Sunday, June 2

Babies: Carole Pacheco

Toddlers: Mike Johnson, Cheryl Procell



2nd Sunday, June 9

Toddlers: Glenda Johnson

Twos/Threes: Patsy Shaw, Brenda Waldrip

3rd Sunday, June 16

Babies: Diane Denny

Toddlers: Alda Sayles, Deenie Judd

4th Sunday, June 23

Babies: Kim Blankenship

Toddlers: Karen VanArsdel

5th Sunday, June 30

Babies: Allison Lane

Toddlers: Debbie Frey

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Fund: T W B

In Memory of:

Gail Edwardes

By: Leesa & Jimmy Sitter

Fund: Brazil

In Memory of: Gail Edwardes

By: Cheryl Procell

HONORARIUMS

Fund: Benevolent

In Honor of: Bruce Flores

By: Doug & Debbie Frey

Youth Mission Trip



This Summer, July 14-19, the Youth Group is planning a trip to the Mission Lab of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary. If you need information regarding this trip contact Bro. Austin.

JUNE COUNTING COMMITTEE

Burt Grubbs
Ken Richmond

Ron Denny
Donnie McCaa

Weekly Opportunities

Sunday, 6-02-19

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
 Vacation Bible School 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Monday, 6-03-19

Snack Supper 5:00 p.m.
 Vacation Bible School 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Tuesday, 6-04-19

Prime Time Singers 10:30 a.m.
 Prime Time Luncheon 12:00 noon
 Snack Supper 5:00 p.m.
 Vacation Bible School 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Wednesday, 06-05-19

Snack Supper, FLC, 5:00 p.m.
 Vacation Bible School 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Thursday, 06-06-19

Snack Supper 5:00 p.m.
 Vacation Bible School 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

FORERUNNER
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Prayer Line: (318) 686-9898
Visit our Home Page:
www.ebcshreveport.org

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IMAGO DEI – June 9, 16, 23 & July 14, 21, 28 – Bro. Paul will lead this video-driven study in our evening services. Imago Dei means the image of God. Having a well-rounded view of the image of God will help us better understand ourselves, God, and the restoring work of salvation that comes to us through Jesus Christ. We can understand what God intended his image to be, how sin corrupted it, and how Jesus restores it through the power of the cross and the indwelling presence of the Holy Spirit. *Imago Dei* examines the image of God as seen in the Bible, as it applies to relationships between ourselves and others, and in our mission service to others and in our obedience to the Great Commission. The goal of this Bible study is to help us: understand what it means to be created in the image of God; discover renewed purpose in serving others for the glory of God; and to be better equipped to participate in the mission of God. If you would like a copy of the study book for \$10.00, please call the church office.



Thursday, May 30, '19

2 Kings 18-20; John 1:19-51

Friday, May 31, '19

2 Kings 21-23; John 2

Saturday, June 1, '19

2 Kings 24-25; John 3:1-21

Sunday, June 2, '19

1 Chronicles 1-2; John 3:22-36

Monday, June 3, '19

1 Chronicles 3-4; John 4:1-42

Tuesday, June 4, '19

1 Chronicles 5-6; John 4:43-54

Wednesday, June 5, '19

1 Chronicles 7-8; John 5:1-17

Hospital List

Progressive Care

Beverly Bass

Christus Highland

Sue Fant (the Glen)

Highland Place

(on Irving Place)

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

Budget Statistical Report - As of May 19

Budget Receipts This Week	\$ 9,143.80
Budget Needed Weekly	\$ 12,654.61
Budget Received Year to Date	\$ 250,833.39
Budget Needed Year to Date	\$ 253,112.20

May 26

Adult	139
Youth	23
Children	12
Preschool	13
TOTAL	187

FAMILY GAME NIGHT - Thursday, May 30, 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!

Van Driver - June 2

Gary Palmer
 (318) 286-2075

