



Forerunner

Emmanuel Baptist Church

Chad Hardbarger . **Pastor**
Harold Ashcraft . **Minister of Music**
Austin Bedwell . **Youth Director**
Denise Griffin . **Children's Director**

Connecting people to Jesus and one another.

Vol. 71

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

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"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



THANKSGIVING DINNER

Our church Thanksgiving Dinner will be Sunday, November 24, at 5:00 p.m. Every family is asked to bring a covered dish to share. Thank you Triple J Lawn Service and Unity SS Class for providing the meat this year. Come join us for this time of fellowship and bring your family and friends!

Minister of Music



Happy Holidays to everyone!
December will be a busy and enjoyable time with lots of musical offerings and opportunities for fellowship!

On December 8th, the Prime Time Choir will present "Bethlehem's Child" during the evening service. Please make your plans to come out and support Myrna Wood and all the fine singers.

On the following Sunday evening, December 15th, the Sanctuary Singers will present a varied selection of Christmas musical tunes along with Ron Massey's holiday piano specials. The Men's Quartet is planning to throw in a couple of songs as well so be sure and mark your calendars.

On December 22nd, this is your golden opportunity to ascend to the platform and be a part of the EBC Family Christmas Night. Many church members will come out of the woodwork and dust off their vocal chords and musical instruments to make special music on this family evening. Won't you consider being a part? One need not have a degree in music as we will all be average Joe's and enjoying down home music and fellowship.

On December 24th, we will gather for our annual Christmas Eve service beginning at 6:00 pm.

We hope that you will take advantage of these musical opportunities and support all of our singers during the month of December.

Bro. Harold

Associate Pastor / Sr Adults



YOUTH – POINSETTIA FUNDRAISER

Cost per plant is \$10.00

The Deadline to Order is

THIS SUNDAY EVENING,

November 24!!!

See any youth and buy a poinsettia (s) by this Sunday, November 24th in memory or honor of someone and decorate our church Sanctuary on display from December 1 - 24. Price is \$10.00 per plant - pay by check to EBC or cash. Complete form by writing name/names on form to be printed in the bulletin insert. Pick up your poinsettia on December 24 after the Christmas Eve service.



SPECIAL UPCOMING MUSICAL EVENTS

Prime Time Choir

presents **Bethlehem's Child**

Sunday, Dec. 8 / 6:30 p.m.

Sanctuary Singers

Presents **Collection of Christmas Songs**

with **Ron Massey**

Sunday, Dec. 15 / 6:30 p.m.

Family Night at Christmas

December 22 / 6:30 p.m.



Deacon - Widow Banquet

Friday, December 6

6:00 p.m. / FLC

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

Thank You

It is with great humility that I thank everyone for the prayers, visits and phone calls, as I try to travel this journey to be better with my Lord and Savior.

Love, Margaret Ray

PRIME TIME LUNCHEON - DECEMBER 3

Our upcoming Prime Time will be Tuesday, December 3 at 12:00 noon. Our special guests for our program will be The Bloom at Bossier Bell Ringers. If you need transportation to Prime Time, let Gary Palmer (286-2075) know by Sunday, December 1st. Bring a friend, a dish to share and a dollar to cover expenses. Come and stay for game time following the program.

PRIME TIME TO BRANSON AT BETHANY

December 4 / 9:30 a.m.

Cost per person: \$10.00

Please pay for your tickets in the church office and pick them up during office hours.

PRIME TIME TRIP THURSDAY, DECEMBER 12

Back Alley Theatre, Grand Cane, LA.

"Christmas Belles"

Cost: \$15.00 + Dinner

Leave the church at 4:00 p.m.

Dinner at Roma's, 8905 Mansfield Road

Sign up in the Church Office

There will be a sign up sheet in the church office.



Van Driver - November 24

Burt Gruubs
(318) 996-3333

Youth Minister

November has been a month of a couple of service opportunities for the youth. We went shopping to pack shoeboxes for operation Christmas child. The youth ended up packing 9 shoeboxes for OCC. Also the youth helped prepare and wrap gifts for the church's home bound ministry. The youth are planning on having a day to go and deliver them to the homebound. Through November we have also continued our study through Revelation and will continue through it in December.

This month we got to see AIM put on their first performance, a skit to Brandon Heath's song "Give Me Your Eyes." I'm really proud of them taking the courage to get up there and put in the time to worship God through the arts. And if you missed their performance, you missed out on a blessing. Thank you to Mrs. Lori Ashcraft for taking the time to work with the youth on the skit. I look forward to seeing what else comes out of AIM in the future.

We have a few events coming up in December, you can find a list of those events in the bulletin. But make sure your signed up for text alerts just in case a last minute change has to be made to any events. To sign up for alerts text @abedwell to 81010.

I hope everybody has a Happy Thanksgiving and a Merry Christmas. I pray everyone has a blessed holiday season.

Bro. Austin

Youth Fall Calendar*

- 12/2 - Skating at Hot Wheels
- 12/14 - Progressive Dinner
- 12/21- Christmas lights at Natchitoches

*To get times and updates on events text @abedwell to 81010



YOUTH
EVENTS

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Fund: Budget

In Memory of:

Spillers & Ganges Service
Men, WWI, WWII, Korea

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

Fund: Prime Time Choir

In Memory of: Harold Bledsoe

By: Wayne & Carol Dillman

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Fund: Brazil

In Memory of:

Shirley Walsworth

By: Patty Stowell

In Memory of:

Harold Bledsoe,

Shirley Walsworth

By: DeWayne & Grace Kelly

Fund: T W B

In Memory of: Harold Bledsoe,

James Mullins

By: Faith S.S. Class

Children's Ministry

Family Night at Christmas -- Please mark your calendars for our Family Night at Christmas. It will be held on Sunday, Dec. 22, in the evening service. This is such a sweet time for our church family to spend together as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Our children are working on some songs to sing.

The holiday season is here! The commercials are already making us feel guilty if we haven't done our shopping, decorated our house, brined the turkey (whatever that is!?!?...don't judge me! I'm NOT the cook in our family!), and do everything else we're expected to accomplish in these six weeks! And I even saw a new commercial that I hadn't seen in past years -- people are "Secret Santa-ing" themselves and buying themselves a new car! I wonder where they send the bill for the "Secret Santa" car notes?

Please don't get me wrong -- I love the holidays and all the events and activities surrounding them. But I never want the activities to overshadow the true meaning of Thanksgiving and Christmas. May our Heavenly Father keep an outpouring of thankfulness in our hearts and a burning desire to know Him more, obey Him more, trust Him more, and love Him more!

Thank you, Emmanuel Family, for the opportunity of serving our God in our church fellowship. I love you!

"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, Dec. 1

Babies: Carole Pacheco

Toddlers: Cheryl Procell



2nd Sunday, Dec. 8

Toddlers: Glenda Johnson

Twos/Threes: Patsy Shaw, Brenda Waldrip

3rd Sunday, Dec. 15

Babies: Diane Denny

Toddlers: Alda Sayles, Deenie Judd

4th Sunday, Dec. 22

Babies: Kim Blankenship

Toddlers: Karen VanArsdel

5th Sunday, Dec. 29

Allison Lane, Debbie Frey

Van Driver - December 1

Gary Palmer
(318) 286-2075



Weekly Opportunities

Sunday, 11-24-19

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
 Morning Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Thanksgiving Dinner 5:00 p.m.

Monday, 11-25-19

Youth Evangelism Conference, Alexandria
 Moms in Prayer, FLC 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 11-26-19

Youth Evangelism Conference, Alexandria
 Prime Time Singers, FLC, mr 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday, 11-27-19

No Evening Activities

Thursday, 11-28-19



Office Closed

Friday, 11-29-19

Office Closed

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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 Permit #1325

Hospital List

WK North

Cindy Davis

Prayer Concerns

Out-of-Town Prayer List

Charles Goodwin
 Edie Goodwin

The Glen

Sue Fant

Prayer List Home

Margaret Alexander
 Ruth & Lloyd Rainer
 Nell Seeger

Special Prayer Needs

Fran Bledsoe
 Janine Dunlap
 Cheryl Jones
 Michelle Oney
 Claire Pittman



Thursday, November 21, '19

Ezekiel 35-37; James 3

Friday, November 22, '19

Ezekiel 38-39; James 4

Saturday, November 23, '19

Ezekiel 40-41; James 5

Sunday, November 24, '19

Ezekiel 42-43; 1 Peter 1

Monday, November 25, '19

Ezekiel 44-46; 1 Peter 2

Tuesday, November 26, '19

Ezekiel 47-48; 1 Peter 3

Wednesday, November 27, '19

Daniel 1; 1 Peter 4

NOVEMBER COUNTING COMMITTEE

Ronald Causey Carl Morgan
 Herman Palmer George Smith

Budget Statistical Report - As of Nov. 10

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------|
| Budget Receipts This Week | \$ 17,130.40 |
| Budget Needed Weekly | \$ 12,654.61 |
| Budget Received Year to Date | \$ 546,392.45 |
| Budget Needed to Date | \$ 569,457.45 |

November 17

| | |
|--------------|------------|
| Adult | 148 |
| Youth | 16 |
| Children | 5 |
| Preschool | 14 |
| TOTAL | 183 |

DECEMBER COUNTING COMMITTEE

Danny Adcock Mike Asher
 Mark Johnson John McCarty