

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. 72

Wednesday, January 29, 2020

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When I took Speech Class in college, the professor made us all memorize a poem and recite it to the class. We had to use the appropriate dramatic flair and gestures too. I still remember the poem I memorized for that assignment. (Aren't you impressed?) It was "Cupid Swallowed" by Leigh Hunt, which reads as follows:

The other day, as I was twining,
Roses for a crown to dine in,
What of all things midst the heap
Should I light on fast asleep?
But the little desperate elf,
The tiny traitor – Love himself!
By the wings I pinched him up
Like a bee, and in a cup
Of my wine I plunged and sank him;
And what do you think I did? I drank him!
Faith, I thought him dead, Not he!
There he lives with tenfold glee;
And now this moment, with his wings,
I feel him tickling my hearts strings.

So Romantic, isn't it? . . . We can just picture this poor man overwhelmed by love, shot through by Cupid, and his life is never the same. Perhaps you look at love in the same way. People today talk about "falling in love," as if it were an accident. Others, who have been hurt by love, curse the emotion with bitter hatred. Yet what is love?

To be sure love is an overused word. We talk of loving our wives, loving our husbands, loving our families; but then we talk about loving our dogs and cats too. We even say we love pizza! To be sure, love is a very worn out word.

But when the Bible talks about love, it's more than just an emotion. It's a decision. A decision to give of oneself to another unconditionally, whether one feels like doing so or not. In the Greek, the word for this kind of love is *agape*. This is God's love, and this is the love that He also has put in our hearts. When we give our lives to Him, we love Him because He first loved us, and we love one another just as He loves us.

This is true love!

Do you truly love God, and do you truly love others? Do you give of yourself to others even when you don't want to? Do you sacrifice your all for the Lord, freely giving Him everything?

What if God's love defined our marriages? . . . Our homes? . . . Our churches? . . . Our friendships? . . . Our workplaces? . . . Our neighborhoods? . . . Our cities? . . . Our country?

"Beloved, let us love one another, for love is of God; and everyone who loves, is born of God and knows God. He who does not love does not know God, for God is love." (1 John 4.7-8)

Happy Valentine's Day,

Bro. Chad

Minister of Music



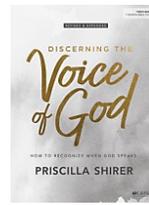
Greetings to all!

I want to thank Stephen & Sheralyn Gordon and my lovely wife, Lori, for their direction with the youth's participation in the Christmas Eve service. The AIM program is off to a positive start. The musical component of AIM will begin this Sunday afternoon at 5:30 in the upstairs choir room. Once again, we will begin a youth ensemble and will learn the song entitled "This is Amazing Grace." I hope to include the young people on the platform, along with the Sanctuary Singers, for a joint performance of this anthem. Sanctuary Singers, thank you for your dedication to the choir during the winter months.

Please keep our youth and the AIM program in prayer as we are considering several ideas for the months ahead. These projects will require much dedication and concentration. It is exciting to witness our young people stepping up and using their gifts for the glory of God. May the Lord richly bless you.

Bro. Harold

Opportunities



A NEW BIBLE STUDY begins Monday, February 24 at 9:30 a.m., Discerning the Voice of God by Priscilla Shirer. Please call the church office to sign up as soon as possible so that we will know how many books to order and how large a space is needed. The only cost will be for the book.

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

Adult Sunday School classes will meet in their regular classrooms this Sunday, Feb. 2, and our Worship Service will be back in the Sanctuary this week. Thank you for your ongoing support during this time!!!

YOUTH GARAGE SALE

On February 9 in the Fellowship Hall we will have an interest meeting for those willing to help with the annual youth garage sale on March 7.



SECURITY NEEDED - We still need a few more men willing to help with our Sunday morning and evening security. The more people we have the more we can space out the Sundays that you help. This is a very important ministry and if you are willing to help see Dave Linn. You can let Dave know if you prefer morning or evening. Thanking you in advance for your response!

FAMILY GAME NIGHT - Thursday, Jan. 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!

FEBRUARY COUNTING COMMITTEE

Jim Howard Donnie McCaa
Charles Shirley

Youth Minister

Happy New Year to everyone! I hope everyone's year is off to a good start so far. As the year starts off I think it is wise for all of us to evaluate our lives and find areas where we can use spiritual improvement and focus on improving those areas this year.

The youth have had a good start to the year so far. We are continuing our study of Revelation into this new year. We did take a break from our study of Revelation one Wednesday night. On that Wednesday night we had one of our students volunteer to lead a Bible study. That student was Bailey Hardbarger and she done an amazing job at leading us in a study on Daniel 5. It is definitely encouraging seeing our students stepping up and being the spiritual leaders God has called them to be in today's culture.

We have several events coming up in the next several weeks. On February 28 the youth will be attending Winter Jam in Bossier city. Also we will have the youth annual garage sale coming up March 14 and if you are interested in helping with the garage sale we will have an interest meeting on February 9. Do not forget if you want to stay up to date on youth news text @abedwell to 81010.

Bro. Austin

Children's Ministry

"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

1st Sunday, Feb. 2

Babies: Carole Pacheco

Toddlers: Cheryl Procell



2nd Sunday, Feb. 9

Toddlers: Glenda Johnson

Twos/Threes: Patsy Shaw, Brenda Waldrip

3rd Sunday, Feb. 16

Babies: Diane Denny

Toddlers: Alda Sayles, Deenie Judd

4th Sunday, Feb. 23

Babies: Kimm Blankenship

Toddlers: Karen VanArsdel

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Fund: Budget

In Memory of:

Earl Douglas,
Matt Fletcher

By: Penny & Sam Duncan

MEMORIAL GIFTS

Fund: Flag Pole

In Memory of:

Windom W. Wilson,
Ron Turner

By: Billie W. Martin

In Memory of:

Derrell Howard

By: Gwen Howard

PRIME TIME LUNCHEON, FEBRUARY 4 AT

NOON. The program will consist of talents from Emmanuel Baptist Church. If you need transportation to Prime Time, let Bro. Gary Palmer (318-286-2075) know by Monday, Feb. 3rd. Bring a friend, a dish to share and a dollar to cover expenses. Come and stay for game time following our program.

OUR SINCERE SYMPATHY TO . . .

Curt and Mary Jones family and friends in the loss of Joyce Jones.



Van Driver - February 2

Gary Palmer
(318) 286-2075



Van Driver - February 9

David Whitfield
(318) 925-8571

Weekly Opportunities

Sunday, 2-01-20

Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship Service 10:45 a.m.
Handbell Rehearsal 5:15 p.m.
Youth Base Camp 5:30 p.m.
AIM, FLC 5:30 p.m.
Evening Worship Service 6:30 p.m.

Monday, 2-03-20

Moms in Prayer, Fh 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday, 2-04-20

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

Wednesday, 2-05-20

Credo 1:00 p.m. - 4:15 p.m.
Fellowship Supper, FLC 5:00 p.m.
TeamKID 6:00 p.m.
Youth Impact 6:00 p.m.
Mid Week Prayer Service, FLC 6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary Singers Rehearsal 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, 2-06-20

Moms in Prayer 9:30 a.m.

FORERUNNER

Emmanuel Baptist Church

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Phone: (318) 686-7548

Prayer Line: (318) 686-9898

Visit our Home Page:

www.ebcshreveport.org

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2020 PROPOSED BUDGETS are available in the church office and foyer. This budget will be voted this Wednesday, January 29.



Thursday, January 30, '18

Exodus 22-23; Matt. 17:1-13

Friday, January 31, '18

Exodus 24-26; Matt. 17:14-27

Saturday, February 1, '18

Exodus 27-28; Matt. 18:1-20

Sunday, February 2, '18

Exodus 29-30; Matt. 18:21-35

Monday, February 3, '18

Exodus 31-32; Matt. 19:1-15

Tuesday, February 4, '19

Exodus 33-34; Matt. 19:16-30

Wednesday, February 5, '19

Exodus 35-36; Matt. 20:1-16

Hospital List

Prayer Concerns

Out-of-Town Prayer List

Charles Goodwin
Edie Goodwin

Prayer List Home

Margaret Alexander
Ruth & Lloyd Rainer
Nell Seeger

Special Prayer Needs

Janine Dunlap
Cheryl Jones
Michelle Oney
Clair Pittman

Budget Statistical Report - As of Jan. 19

Budget Receipts This Week	\$ 12,302.58
Budget Needed Weekly	\$ 11,184.28
Budget Received to Date	\$ 33,281.49
Budget Needed Year to Date	\$ 35,552.84

January 26

Adult	108
Youth	15
Children	7
Preschool	15
TOTAL	145

2019 CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS are available to be picked up. They are located in the Lottie Moon mail box!