

stay CONNECTED



Join us on Wednesdays at 7PM for our online Adult Bible Study.



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Rev. Carson Britt
Pastor
Evan Powell
Minister of Youth and Children
Rebekah Dickerson
Minister of Music and Media
Ashley Driggers
Administrative Assistant

Happy Anniversary

- 11-01 Clay & Lucy Smith
- 11-22 Jason & Raven Truitt

* Please call the Church Office if your anniversary is not listed.

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
| 11-01 Rachael Piorkowski | 11-18 Evan Powell |
| 11-01 Jetta Moon | 11-19 Kenneth Welch |
| 11-06 Julian Adams, Jr. | 11-21 Kacee Morris |
| 11-07 Emily Lonergan | 11-28 Ky Arnold |
| 11-08 Emalaine Cooper | 11-30 Mandy Rhodes |
| 11-10 Ashley Weber | |
| 11-11 Jaime Adams | |
| 11-11 Ryan Guy | |
| 11-13 Curtis Rhodes | |
| 11-17 Caden Birchfield | |
| 11-15 Lindsey Rogers | |

* Please call the Church Office if your birthday is not listed.

Deacon of the Month

Steve Camp
706-836-3943

FINANCIALS
as of October 25, 2020

Actual Expenses YTD \$283,450
Actual Received YTD \$316,137

CONNECTIONS



November 2020

THE PASTOR'S DESK

Our Vision:
To glorify God through loving Him and serving others

Our Mission Statement:

A Faith Family helping to make and develop mature disciples of Jesus Christ

On Tuesday November 3rd we will go to the polls to elect the individuals who will lead our country for the next several years. Most notably, we will be electing the man who will serve as president of our great country as well. And, while many of you have probably already cast your vote I do want to share a few pastoral thoughts with you regarding the election and the days and weeks that will follow.

Scripture clearly states how Christ followers are to treat our elected officials. In 1 Timothy 2 Paul urges Timothy to pray for all those in authority saying, "I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people – for kings and all those in authority, that we may live peaceful and quiet lives in all godliness and holiness." (1 Tim 2:1-2, NIV). In sum, Paul reminds us of our call to pray for all elected officials (democrats, republicans, independent...etc.). Secondly, scripture also states that we are to submit to the governing authorities. Paul says in Romans 13:1-2, "Let everyone be subject to the governing authorities, for there is no authority except that which God has established. The authorities that exist have been established by God." Now, I recognize that if the winner of the election is not your choice, many you may struggle to believe that he or she has been "established by God." But, if we truly believe in the sovereignty of our God, then we must also believe that God knows who will win the election and that He in fact has placed that individual in that position. Furthermore, our God will use whomever that may be to accomplish his purposes. Let us rest in knowing this truth.

Finally, I want to remind you that the allegiance of the Christ follower belongs first and foremost to Jesus Christ. In the book of Deuteronomy God says to Israel, "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be on your hearts. Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates" (Deut. 6:5-9). Jesus called this (the first part specifically) the greatest commandment. For Jesus, this is THE most important thing for His followers to remember. Over the next several weeks we will each be given opportunities to reveal to those around us, and particularly our children, exactly who our first love is. Our reactions to those who fall on the opposite side of us politically have the potential to be very revealing. Let me encourage you to heed this commandment, and do as God instructed Israel by placing those words in prominent places to remind you and others of your first love.

Press on!
Carson

Church News



joins us for an outdoor *Thanksgiving Dinner*

Sunday, November 15, 2020

5:30 *om*

To sign up to bring a side dish visit our website at
www.harlembaptist.org/events/

**this event will accommodate social distancing guidelines



CHURCH CONFERENCE

SUNDAY, November 8 | 12pm

The church conference will meet right after service. If you are unable to come in person you can login to the zoom meet with the **meeting ID 831 0717 3011** and **password 085154**.



B.L.A.S.T.

Will meet November 1st & 15th

YOUTH
MINISTRY

WEDNESDAYS @ 6:45pm



¹⁴ Do everything without grumbling or arguing, ¹⁵ so that you may become blameless and pure, "children of God without fault in a warped and crooked generation."¹⁶ Then you will shine among them like stars in the sky ¹⁶ as you hold firmly to the word of life. *Philippians 2:14-16b*

Did you catch that? Do EVERYTHING without grumbling or arguing. *Everything. EVERY. SINGLE. THING.* I cannot express to you how vital this is during the coming days, that we as believers in Christ be above reproach, "blameless and pure, children of God without fault," by *choosing* to live life without grumbling/complaining, without getting into meaningless arguments with others. Paul says that in this way we will shine as a light among the current generations.

Simply put, this means that arguing because we feel we are in the right, trying to get the last word, demeaning someone's perspective (or worse – their character), and getting angry over their disagreement of our position is explicitly and totally stated to be counterintuitive and counterproductive to the believer's ability to share the Gospel. We cannot be a light in the darkness when we are demonstrating that darkness with a complaining attitude and an argumentative, angry demeanor or any time we have an argument with someone and are focused on winning the argument or having the last word, we compromise our relationship with the other person – and with anyone observing the discussion. Let that sink in: our need to be right and win an argument becomes more important than the person we are talking to. Is that truly how a Christian is to live?

We are facing a very volatile time in our country, as Election Day nears, and so we must choose. We can argue and fight and focus on winning political debates in every arena of our lives; or we can choose to live life without grumbling about the election results and decide that arguing our political viewpoint in heated, needless debates is not a productive way to demonstrate the Word of Life to a lost and dying world. Let me be clear: while participating in civic responsibilities such as voting and political office are good and right, it is not a Scriptural or spiritual mandate that politics be our focus or our purpose; our job is to share the Gospel. To be a light. God is still God. He will still be on the throne on November 4th. There is no room for debate in Paul's statement. Do **everything** without grumbling or arguing. Even politics. The world does not need another opinion. It needs the words of LIFE. It needs the Gospel

-Rebekah

HBC-Adult Choir Christmas 2020 Schedule

Rehearsals will be socially distanced in the Sanctuary. Masks are suggested, but not required.

Sunday, November 8
2-4PM

Wednesday, November 18
7:45PM

Wednesday, December 2
7:45PM

Wednesday, December 16
7:45PM

::THE MISSION COMMITTEE::

It's that time of the year again! Start collecting items for your shoe boxes for **Operation Christmas Child**. All boxes will be due and collected on **November 15th**. *Here are some easy ways to pack your box:*

STEP 1. Grab your box and decide whether you'll be packing for a boy or girl and which age.

STEP 2. Fill with gifts! Be sure to include a "wow" like a soccer ball or stuffed animal, then fill with other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies. (No food items please)

STEP 3 Pray for the child who will receive your gift. You can also include a personal note and photo.

STEP 4 Donate \$9 online and receive a label to "Follow Your Box" and discover the destination of your shoebox gift.



DONATIONS NEEDED!

We are asking for donations for individually packaged food items to help with **Saturday Sacks** for students at **North Harlem Elementary**. You can bring them to the **FLC** on **Sunday mornings** or drop them off at the church office between the hours of **9am-4pm, Monday through Thursday**.

Items Needed:

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------|-------------|
| -Cereal | -Chips | -Oatmeal |
| -Pop Tarts | -Juice Box | -Cookies |
| -Fruit Bars | -Fruit Snacks | -Applesauce |
| -Macaroni and Cheese | -Pudding | -Fruit Cups |
| -Vienna Sausage | -Jello | |
| -Ravioli | -Grits | |



I want to share a few praises with the church so we can all celebrate a few minor victories in a year when we could use a little more celebrating!

We resumed in-person Wednesday night meetings for the Youth Group on Wednesday, October 14th. We have now had 3 youth group meetings at 6:45pm on Wednesday evenings and we have been having a lot of fun together. The transition back has been made easier because of the consistency of our adult volunteers in the youth – major shoutout to my wife, my sister, and to the Combe family that help me out on Wednesday nights!

We also resumed our Sunday morning BLAST children's worship service on October 18th. As we first return, we will be holding BLAST on a limited basis, but at some point in the near future we hope/intend to get back to a full schedule of four Sundays a month! For November, we will have 2 BLAST Sundays - Sunday, November 1st and Sunday, November 15th. In December, we hope to have 3 Sundays of BLAST. I will update you with that schedule as soon as it is set in stone. Just as I thanked the adult volunteers who help out with youth, I also want to thank all the volunteers who assist with BLAST Children's worship services. You are a faithful bunch, and I especially appreciate your flexibility in recent days. Thanks for helping us build some great momentum within the HBC Family Ministry as we head towards the holidays, and ultimately, a New Year.

Finally, on Tuesday Night, November 10th, the HBC Youth Ministry will be branching out and we will have a very different weekly meeting than usual. Wednesday, November 11th is Veterans Day, and Columbia County public school students have a holiday on that Wednesday. So we are having a youth group party at the Powell House on Tuesday night, November 10th from 6:15pm to 8:30pm. We will have s'mores and games and have a "hangout" night! All 6th-12th graders are invited. Text/call/email if you need my home address!

-Evan