



Join us on Wednesdays at 6:45pm in the sanctuary or online!



May 9, 2021

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



July 7, 14, 21, 28
informational meeting
April 11 & 25



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Harlem, GA
Permit No. 8

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

Happy Anniversary

- 05-07 Mark & Amy Williamson
- 05-17 Duane & Shannon Starrenburg

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

Happy Birthday

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 05-01 Marcus Lovett | 05-18 Rob Lewis |
| 05-01 Tara Cooper | 05-20 Barry Fleming |
| 05-02 Kevin Allen | 05-21 Susan Camp |
| 05-04 Brenna Cook | 05-21 Peyton Perdue |
| 05-05 Jason Truitt | 05-22 Margie Smith |
| 05-08 Mickey Lonergan | 05-29 Lynda Adams |
| 05-10 Kelsi Barrs | 05-31 Holly Laughery |
| 05-13 Jim Clark | |
| 05-14 Luci Smith | |
| 05-15 Ray Fulcher | |
| 05-16 Caleb Johnson | |

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



MAY 31, 2021

CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE

FINANCIALS
as of April 25, 2021

Actual Expenses YTD \$105,307
Actual Received YTD \$113,062

CONNECTIONS



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

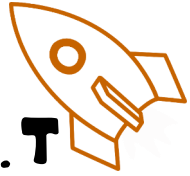
As I sit in my office and reflect on all that has happened over the past several months and all that we hope to see happen over the next several months I can't help but be grateful. We have come a long way from where we were a year ago. After ten months where the bulk of our on campus engagements were limited to worship we have finally been able to enjoy a few new opportunities. In March our women's ministry hosted a wonderful women's conference that I believe was both encouraging and challenging to all who attended. Evan and our family ministry team have been busy hiding Easter eggs at homes, hosting a Putt Putt green jacket tournament, and planning and executing our first ever Spring Fling. Each of these events have been encouraging and fruitful. We also saw great participation in our annual Hearts for Harlem event as we served and loved on numerous individuals throughout our community. What a blessing it has been to be active and serving you and serving alongside you in these recent weeks. This busy trend continues this month with a Youth Ministry Golf Scramble (May 1), Child Dedication (May 9), and Graduate Recognition (May 23).

I'm excited and encouraged to see our faith family come to life in these ways. I must admit however, that my excitement and optimism comes with a high level of caution. No matter how badly I want this pandemic to be over, I recognize that we still have a ways to go. The recent spike in Covid 19 cases in India are a stark reminder of this. Additionally, we would do well to be mindful of the millions of individuals who continue to mourn the loss of loved ones. I think we would all do well to strive daily to be mindful of what has taken place this past year. I know for most of us it is a year that we would prefer to forget. But, I know that God has been at work. He has been faithful. Just as God challenged the Israelites to remain mindful of what He did in their lives, we too would do well to remember God's faithfulness to us on both the good and bad days. So, as we continue to move forward let me challenge you to remember what God has done. Strive daily to express prayerful thanksgiving to our God for his providence in your life. Pray for those who have lost loved ones and who continue to struggle through this season. And know, that regardless of what comes next, that we are not alone in this journey. Thanks be to God for this good news!

Press on!
Carson

Church News

B.L.A.S.T



Will meet
May 2, 9, 16

YOUTH
MINISTRY

WEDNESDAYS
@ 6:45pm



GRADUATE RECOGNITION SUNDAY!



The end of the school year is fast approaching. Harlem Baptist will be celebrating its annual Graduate Recognition Day on Sunday, May 16th. Because Covid-19 has thrown so much into disarray, it's been hard to keep track of exactly who all will be graduating this school year. If you are a member or long-time visitor of HBC who is graduating high school, please contact the church office and make sure it is known. We don't want to miss out on honoring any of our high school graduates on May 16th. Thanks!

Dear Church Family,

We cannot begin to express how thankful and blessed to call you our Church Family. We would like to thank you all for all the ways you have shown us your love and support during our battle with cancer. While we are still waiting for the results for our newest scans, we didn't want to wait any longer to tell you thank for everything!

Love in Christ,
Jerry and Jill Williams



My daughter loves to sing, but lately she has become particularly attached to praise and worship music (which makes my momma heart so, so happy). She picked up a few songs from listening to the radio and to our band practice before church on Sundays, and I am so excited to know that she is enjoying something other than the latest Disney princess song. (No judgement here; I am just ready to, ahemm, *Let It Go!*) But now

– now she is stuck on the *same three praise songs*. Over and Over and Over and Over. It's all she wants to listen to. It is both the best thing ever and a momma's worst nightmare.

How easily our little ones can pick up a song, of any kind, remember it, sing it without worry about what others are thinking, and be willing to repeat it over and over again because it means something to them. Should not we, as adult believers, be willing to do the same – and not just because we like the music, *but because we love the truths contained in them?* We need to ask ourselves, do I truly *enjoy* worshipping God in song? Am I willing to hear a song on repeat because my heart needs it? Do I put aside my concerns about people's opinions and judgements and chose to worship God publicly anyway, even if all I can make is joyful noise?

I have two different relatives who LOVE to sing – and absolutely can not carry a tune a in a bucket. Yet, neither is ever ashamed to worship. Nor is my three year old. Their focus is on singing praise – not on gaining praise from others.

So in honor of Emerald's newest favorite song:

God of exceedingly, God of Abundantly

More than we ask or think, Lord, you will never fail

Your name is Powerful – Your word unstoppable

All things are Possible in You!

Make way through the waters, Walk me through the fire

Do what You are famous for, what You are famous for

Shut the mouths of lions, Bring dry bones to life and

Do what You are famous for, what you are famous for

I believe in You – God, I believe in You

-Rebekah

::: YOUTH TRIP :::

Youth Summer Trip to
Charlotte, NC

When: June 8 – June 11
Cost: \$215

Deadline to Sign up:
Sunday, May 23rd

Rising 6th graders are invited!
For more information see Evan Powell

Women's Ministry:

Ladies it was great to see some of our Ladies participating in our Hearts for HARLEM project. 45 folks received gift bags filled with all kinds of goodies & more importantly a visit. It's always a blessing that goes both ways when you take the time to let someone know you are thinking of them.

I've had several ladies ask "when are we doing something next?" Well I sent an email to Amy Sutton of White Hills Farms today to see if we could come out & do a workshop with her. She will get back with me with ideas & costs & we will go from there.

Make the most of each day touching lives as you go.

Blessings,
Kathy



2020 was a... tumultuous year, to say the least. Considering the Covid-19 outbreak, social protests, and an election cycle that was filled with tension, it was a pretty rough-and-tumble year. A friend of mine who is a pastor in Houston posted this prayer on his blog in the aftermath of George Floyd's death - the date on his blogpost is from June 1st, 2020. Almost a whole year, later, much of my friend's prayer still feels relevant today. They are words that stuck with me throughout the past year; words that I have prayed myself when I felt like the world was falling to pieces. I want to share them with you all as they might be of spiritual encouragement to you. I especially like how Scripture-driven this prayer is: "Father, we pray for the leaders of our dear country. We ask that you give them wisdom and you may change their hearts so that they may fear you. Leaders who do as Your Words says in Micah 6, 'seek justice, love mercy, and walk humbly' with You – give us leaders like that. And help us to be an encouragement to those leaders when the opportunity presents itself. Father, we pray for justice. You are a God of justice. Your Word tells us in Psalm 98 that justice and righteousness are the foundation of Your throne. As your people, Father, we ask that you move in our hearts to be motivated for justice. To live as Your Word says in Isaiah 1, that we 'learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression'. Strengthen us towards these ends. When we see what is happening in our streets, may we do as Your Word commands in James 1 – may we be quick to hear and slow to speak. Help us always to do what we can to be peacemakers on this earth. We pray for peace in our country. In Romans 12, Your Word tells us that vengeance is in your hands, not ours. It further tells us that evil is not overcome with more evil, but with what is right and good. Father, it feels like we are in a dark valley right now. There is fear and uncertainty. But Your Word says in Psalm 23, 'Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. For you are with me.' Lord write that verse on all of our hearts in these uncertain days. Finally, Father, Revelation 21 tells us of a day when there will be a new earth. A day when you will redeem all things. A day when there are no more tears, no more death, no more injustice or suffering. We long for that day. Come quickly, Lord. Save the peoples of the earth, and bring us all to your eternal Kingdom. We love you oh God, but not nearly so much as you have first loved us. Amen."

-Evan

Important Dates:

Sunday, May 16th – High School Graduate Recognition Day; celebrated during morning worship service

Tuesday, June 8th through Friday, June 11th – Youth Summer Trip to Charlotte, NC (rising 6th graders invited!)

Wednesday night Youth Meetings on vacation – month of July
Vacation Bible School; Wednesday nights throughout the month of July;
7th, 14th, 21st, 28th

*It is our hope and expectation to re-launch AWANA next school year!