

stay CONNECTED



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

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



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



Brad Marchman
from the Georgia Baptist Convention



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

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Happy Anniversary

06-05	Brandi & Rob Lewis	06-19	John & Hope McClellan
06-08	Paige & Berry Fleming	06-25	Ken & Beverly Welch
06-09	Scott & Leanna Williams	06-26	Lance & Katie Ellis
06-13	Roxie & Mark Whitaker	06-29	Ken & Edee Sweatman
06-14	Scott & Kelly Tam	06-30	Brett & Lindsey Rogers
06-15	Jimmie & Nancy Lewis		

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

Happy Birthday

06-01	Leslie Perdue	06-20	Evelyn Stokes
06-03	Beverly Welch	06-23	Joy Ray
06-04	Brandi Starrenburg	06-24	Matthew Murphy
06-05	Ben Hill	06-24	Andre Miller
06-05	Katie Powell	06-26	Brett Rogers
06-10	Brooke Moore		
06-11	Lance Ellis		
06-11	Carla Lovett		
06-17	Dakota Nale		
06-17	Drue Williams		

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

Deacon of the Month

Ken Sweatman
706-799-6304

FINANCIALS as of May 26, 2021

Actual Expenses YTD \$127,229
Actual Received YTD \$142,696

CONNECTIONS

Welcome
BACK TO CHURCH

Join us back in the Sanctuary June 20th

June 2021

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

In the 9th Psalm David says, "I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart; I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. I will be glad and rejoice in you; I will sing the praises of your name, O Most High" (Ps 9:1-2, NIV). Sometimes in the midst of hardship one of the best things we can do is find reasons to give thanks. In this Psalm David expresses thanks to God because God has defeated the enemy; the wicked have been destroyed. Certainly, it is pretty easy to give thanks in the midst of victory. But, what about in the midst of defeat or hardship? Can we give thanks to God when we are anxious? Can we give thanks to God when we are grieving or when we don't get the test results we were hoping for? We all know that this is incredibly difficult. But in my experience, identifying those reasons for thanksgiving suddenly makes our hardships a bit more bearable. Gratitude in the midst of hardship allows us to focus on the good rather than the bad. As the saying goes, we no longer see the glass as half empty.

Over the past 14 months I have made a conscious effort to find things in my life for which to be thankful. Although Covid has certainly been a major instigator for hardships over this time, I think we all know that even without a pandemic life gives us ample reasons to not be grateful. The same has been true of my life. While Covid has certainly made life much more challenging, I must admit that the trying days I've encountered over the past 14 months has not all been caused by Covid. Still, in spite of that, I have attempted daily to remain grateful. At times I've failed miserably. At times, I've expressed frustration, even anger, with God because things didn't turn out like I had wanted. But, knowing how poor my attitude has been at times, I'm all the more grateful for the grace of Jesus Christ. When I sinfully took out my anger and frustration on others Jesus gave me grace (and so did they). In fact, he continues to do that with each new day. And while I strive daily to not let my circumstances dictate how grateful I am, I must confess that I am still human. And, because of that, I am a bit more grateful when my circumstances are moving in a positive direction.

So, as I sit at my desk and write this article I must share that I am a bit more grateful today. And yes, this is largely because my circumstances have changed a little. This past Sunday in our deacons meeting it was decided that on January 20th we would move back into our sanctuary for Sunday morning worship. As you might imagine, I'm very excited about this! Still, I want to share with you, as your pastor, that this move is not the only thing I'm grateful for this morning. I must admit that I'm deeply grateful for you all as well. In the midst of the most trying year of my short pastoral journey, you all have extended understanding, grace, and cooperation to our staff. Although you may not have always agreed with the decisions I've made, you have still largely been supportive and encouraging. Unfortunately, this has not been the case for many other pastors throughout the world. I recently heard of a church not too far from Harlem that has terminated their entire ministerial staff. Certainly the pandemic played a major role. So today, as I reflect on the past year, I'm grateful. And while my spirit of thanksgiving has not been super consistent in that time, I am again grateful for the grace of Jesus Christ which has carried me through this season.

I hope that you will be able to join us for worship throughout the month of June, but especially on June 20th as we return to our Sanctuary for worship.

Press on!
Carson

Church News



Will meet
June 6, 13, 20

YOUTH
MINISTRY

WEDNESDAYS
@ 6:45pm

YOU'RE INVITED!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JULY 7, 14, 21, 28

5:15 PM-8:00PM

(DINNER PROVIDED)

Ages 4 year through rising 6th graders

REGISTER ONLINE AT HARLEMBAPTIST.ORG/VBS



Tapping Into the Power of God

Credit to: Justin Firesheets, Church Production Magazine, 5.23.21

When I read this, I couldn't have better expressed my own thoughts about how believers (including and especially myself) struggle with living life in our own power. Enjoy!

It can be easy to become self-reliant. The world demands we be the best. We eat stress for breakfast and anxiety for lunch. We become accustomed to everyone around us coming to us for help. But the more this happens, the more comfortable we may become relying upon our own strength and abilities—and the easier it can become to forget the importance of serving as a channel or conduit for the supernatural power of God.

Many of us may think nothing of wrapping up our prayers and blessings with an “in Jesus’ name, Amen” tag; that’s the way we’ve done it for years, and it’s just a jargon routine we have settled into. But what does that really mean? And do we really mean it? The Bible continually proclaims that the name of Jesus is the most powerful name we could ever say. That’s the key to having demons tremble, chains break, and the floodgates of heaven open. **More is accomplished supernaturally by the name of Jesus than by any other means.** Operating in Jesus’ name means that there’s no room for my own name anymore. I’m laying down my own sense of identity and ability and exclusively leaning on His. It’s not about my own resume or skills, but about His. It’s a process of me ceding control of my own life and circumstances. I’m moving over and letting Jesus take the wheel.

There’s power in the humility of knowing that we are just vessels for God to use however He chooses. And there’s excitement and freedom that comes from knowing that when I make that choice, I don’t have to carry the weight of expectation anymore. I can have peace and know that regardless of what happens, the supernatural power of Jesus can flow through me to do far more than I could ever do on my own. And when I bow my head to pray, I can be confident that I will be part of something special. Not because of who I am or what I can do, but because of the choice I’ve made to work for an Audience of One and give Him the glory for all that happens. In Jesus’ name, Amen!

-Rebekah

Dear Church,
Thank you for thinking of Linda and me during your recent missionary work here in Harlem. We both appreciated and enjoyed the goodie bags!

Once again you all have demonstrated the worth and value of serving your local community with missions.

Again, Thanks!
John & Linda Eckenroth



Graduation Party
for Daniel Dickerson
(Hosted by Rebekah Dickerson)

Saturday, June 5th
2pm to 4pm
Harlem Baptist FLC
Drop in or Stay!
Everyone welcome!

Women's Ministry:

It's times for an outing!

When: Tuesday. JUNE 8, 2021
Where: White Hills Farm (Lavender Farm)
What: Amy will help us make a craft COST: \$15
TIME: WE WILL MEET AT CHURCH : 9:30am

PLEASE RSVP BY MAY FRIDAY 28TH
The number we have going will help Amy plan for our craft.

You can RSVP TO THIS EMAIL
OR kholley7@yahoo.com OR TEXT 706-831-0080

Please pay by June 6(Sunday)
Make checks payable to Harlem Baptist Church.
Give these to Susan Camp or me please. Stopping for lunch on the way home is a fun option if you are interested!!
Looking forward to this outing!
Kathy



On behalf of the HBC Family Ministry Team.... Happy Summer! To all students, teachers, and parents weary from a stressful, inconvenient school year unlike any other – we pray that you will find rest, relaxation, and joy in these next few summer months. And summer is a great reminder that while a substantial percentage of our community is on a “break”, God does not take breaks. He is living and active, always. Never sleeping, never slumbering, God is simply at work all the time.

The question is – what is God working on right now?

From a church ministry standpoint, that question is easy to answer. God has been at work inside Harlem Baptist for some time now. This coming Wednesday evening we are opening back up the Youth Building after significant renovation throughout this past year. Later in the month of June, we will again return to the sanctuary for Sunday morning worship service, and even that will have a fresh, new look to it. Also in June we have a short youth summer trip – one of the only “big events” that the youth program has been able to have since the Covid-19 outbreak. Then there is Vacation Bible School throughout the month of July. And once August gets here (I know... it's hard to think about right now), we will finally get AWANA started back again for our elementary school aged children.

We can all testify that God has been and is hard at work in our midst! Let's give Him praise for that... Go God! But not only should we be moved to praise and worship, we should be moved to a desire to *participate* in God's work. If there is anything I have learned in my lifetime, it is that God's will will be done regardless of whether I am cooperating with Him or not. But it will be so much better – for me and for those around me – if I pray and ask God how I can get on board with all the work He is already doing.

This summer is the perfect opportunity to pray such a prayer. God, thank You for the work You have been doing. And please help us to know how we can join You in Your work – whether it is a work you are doing in our lives, in our homes, in our church family, or in our community... and God give us the strength, motivation, courage, and/or inspiration to do it!

Amen!
Evan

Dear All,

I got the nicest surprise this morning. Jessica brought me a bag of goodies from you. It was very special to remember me. I have missed going to church. I've tried to keep current with activities and watch sermons online, but it is not the same. I've enjoyed Carson's sermons. Even though I am by myself. I still use encouragement to stay on the straight and narrow! Thank you for remembering me in such a delightful way.

-Kristie Dozier