

NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Nov 1	Sewing Ministry	7-8:30PM
Nov 3	AWANA	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	6:45PM
	Adult Choir	8:00PM
Nov 6	Church Work Day	8:00AM
Nov 7	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
	Ariel Smith Baby Shower	2-4PM
	Adult Choir Practice	1:30-3:30PM
Nov 10	AWANA	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	6:45PM
	Adult Choir	8:00PM
Nov 14	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
	Luncheon	12:00PM
	OCC Packing Party	12:00PM
	Brenna Cook Wedding Shower	2-4PM
Nov 17	AWANA	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	6:45PM
	Adult Choir	8:00PM
Nov 21	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
Nov 24	—NO ACTIVITIES—	
Nov 25	—CHURCH OFFICES ARE CLOSED—	
Nov 28	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
	Luncheon	12:00PM
	Deacon's Meeting	6:00PM

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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 and Luci Smith
11-22 Jason and 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	
11-15 Lindsey Rogers	

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

Deacon of the Month

Jeremy Davis
678-643-4828

FINANCIALS

as of October 21, 2021

Actual Expenses YTD \$289,501
Actual Received YTD \$307,454

CONNECTIONS

thankful



November 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

Each November many individuals set out on a social media campaign to publically name one thing they are thankful for each day. While I have never participated in this campaign I must admit that it is encouraging to see my Facebook feed filled with positivity and thankfulness. But I can't help but wonder why individuals make such public expressions. Perhaps that seems like a ridiculous question. The answer is simple, individuals express thanksgiving because they are thankful. I wouldn't disagree with this. So, maybe the better question to ask then is why do these individuals choose to express their thanksgiving in this manner? Why choose social media as the outlet? Is this their only outlet where thanksgiving is expressed? Is this the appropriate place to do so?

The book of Psalms is filled with expressions of thanksgiving. These psalms offer readers some valuable insight into how we should go about expressing our thanksgiving and to whom we should offer these expressions. Take for example the 95th Psalm. The psalm begins with these words: "Come, Let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song" (Ps. 95:1-2, NIV). In calling the reader to "sing for joy to the Lord" and to "shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation" the psalmist clearly identifies the how and the who of thanksgiving. This pattern however is not reserved only for the 95th Psalm. Rather, it is a pattern we see throughout the psalms. That is, expressions of thanksgiving often align themselves with acts of worship and they regularly identify the subject of the thanksgiving.

As worshipers of the Triune God, we must strive regularly to align our patterns of thanksgiving with the patterns we see in scripture. When expressing thankfulness we must always identify the One who has given us a reason to be thankful. Furthermore, our sincere thankfulness to God must always be accompanied with genuine worship of the giver of good things. This year as you find creative ways to offer thanksgiving, on social media or in some other manner, I want to urge you to follow the same pattern that we see in scripture. May we strive regularly to give credit to the One who gives us a reason to be thankful. And, may our expressions of thanksgiving lead us towards sincere worship.

I look forward to singing hymns of thanksgiving alongside you in worship throughout the month!

Press on!
Carson

Church News

B.L.A.S.T



Meets every Sunday!

Family worship service will be held on every 5th Sunday and only the nursery will be available.

YOUTH MINISTRY

WEDNESDAYS
AT 6:45PM

JOIN US FOR A BABY SHOWER
IN HONOR OF

Ariel Smith

NOVEMBER 7TH 2-4PM

HOSTED IN THE FLC
CLASSROOM

Registry:

[www.babylist.com/
ariel_chris_amelia](http://www.babylist.com/ariel_chris_amelia)

Wedding Shower

IN HONOR OF

Brenna Cook

Sunday, November 14th

2pm-4pm

(Located in the FLC-
Classroom)

Registered at Bed, Bath, and Beyond
and would like gift cards to Lowe's.



HBC LUNCHEON

Mena



November 14— Chicken Cordon Blue and Fixings

November 21— Mexican Buffet

December 12— Pork Chops and Fixings

December 19— Pot Roast and Fixings



As I look back on the last 18 months of dealing with life in a pandemic; and as I consider all that has happened in so many people's lives in 2021—so many battles, so many trials, and struggles, so many scars. I can't help but remember this song. God is never surprised by what we are facing, and I think we tend to forget that at times. Often we get to the other side of the valley and forget to turn around and praise Him for all that He did in the midst of our personal darkness.

"Because of the Lord's great love, we are not consumed; His compassions (His mercies) never fail. They are new every morning. Great is Thy faithfulness." Lamentations 3:22-23

We often forget that these verses do **not** say that God is faithful, and therefore we will have no hard times. No, it speaks to our deepest signs and longings and pains and reminds us that God is faithful *during* our hardest moments. His mercies are new every day because we *need* them—they do not take away the struggle, but instead hold us tight to Him in the midst of the storm. And we must remember that those verses continue to say:

"The Lord is my portion; therefore, I will wait for Him" Lamentations 3:24

Are you waiting for the Lord in hurting season? Don't just sit back and wonder if He is there. Pray! Trust! Worship! Serve! Even when you don't have the answers, or even if every moment of surrendering to God's timing is a personal sacrifice that no one else will ever see. Waiting for the believer is never to be passive— we are always to be trusting, trying, and proving His faithfulness in our lives, by remembering and recalling all that He is doing in the midst of the struggle, and worshipping Him in spite of our pain.

*Never Once did You Leave us on our own.
You are faithful, God, You are faithful.*

*Standing on this mountaintop
Looking just how far we've come
Knowing that for every step, You were with us.*

*Kneeling on this battleground.
Seeing just how much You've done
Knowing every victory was Your power in us.*

*Scars and struggles on the way
But with joy our hearts can say.*

*Never Once did we every walk alone.
Never Once did You leave us on our own.
You are faithful, God, You are faithful.
You are faithful, God, You are faithful.*

-Rebekah

Women's Ministry:

How many of you have heard people say "I'm ready for Christmas!"? Well, I'm not. I'm not talking about the shopping. I'm talking about the celebration itself. I always look forward to Thanksgiving. In previous years, it meant a large family gathering with lots of relatives and of course the turkey and dressing. Now, our gathering is smaller and we skype with family who live far away but it is still a day when I feel blessed and very thankful.

Our faith family at HBC is especially **BLESSED** and during this time of year you are asked to give generously to others in many ways.

This month our Sewing Group is making pillow cases. These pillow cases will be distributed to different groups in need. The Neonatal ICU at MCG Children's Hospital & to Safe Homes for Women to name a few. Specific items will be placed in the pillow cases before they are delivered and this is where we need your help.

Flyers have been placed in the Welcome Center and Bins are there for you to place any items you care to donate. If you would like to make a monetary donation; please make your check payable to HBC and mark it WM. Please give this to Susan Camp or myself. We will be making more burp pads and small teddy bears to put in the pillow cases as well.

Our Women's ministry is so thankful for women who are giving of their time and talents to minister to others and for a church who supports us and has a facility where we can work. There is always room for others to come and join us on the first Monday of the month in the FLC at 7pm.

*"The earth has yielded its produce;
God, our God blesses us. " Psalm
67:6*

MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND
YOURS WITH A VERY
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!!!

Kathy 😊



These past few months in HBC Children's and Youth Ministry have been awesome. Crazy, awesome, and fun! Early fall has offered me much encouragement and restoration in regards to my service to Harlem Baptist, especially considering how difficult and discouraging 2020 was.

To recap a few of the highlights from HBC Family Ministries, in case you missed it...

Three times in the past two months I have broken a previous "attendance record" in the Youth Building for youth group on Wednesday nights. Through my first 5+ years, I never had more than 26 students on any given Wednesday night. All of the sudden, three weeks into the new school year, I had 28 students at one time. Then 29 two weeks after that. And then 36 students two weeks after that.

Not only that, but AWANA has started back full-swing this semester. I know I was a little concerned about how many children we would be ministering to after such a long hiatus, but we are back to having an average of about 50 children each Wednesday night. Across AWANA and Youth, one Wednesday in October **we had 90 kids total.**

Last Sunday night was our Fall Festival, which was very well-attended and even drew in several visitors. Thanks to those who came, thanks to those who had fun, played games, ate good food, and participated in a wonderful night of church fellowship. Thanks to those who were observant and struck up conversations with folks who were visiting that night. And a special, special thanks to everyone who helped and worked very, very hard behind the scenes to pull off such a great event. There are too many of you to name in this space, but you know who you are... and I hope you know just how much I appreciate you! A BIG thanks to you all for picking up my slack and being there for me with whatever I needed, usually a minute before I even realized I needed it! And by the time many of you will wind up reading this article, the HBC Youth Program will have just had our first ever Dodgeball Tournament featuring a guest appearance by some of our awesome church deacons! What an awesome an exciting time for our church family and in the Children's and Youth Programs.

However, great attendance is not all there is to effective church ministry – a fact we are all probably very aware of. I am praying for deep spiritual roots to be planted in the lives of these children and students, especially because many of them do not have families who are fully invested in the life of Harlem Baptist or any church for that matter. Would you join me in this prayer? Not only that, but for those who can, would you consider serving somewhere across our HBC Family Ministries, whether in AWANA, youth on Wednesday evenings, or BLAST on Sunday mornings? Finally, we need you PRESENT. You may not think that coming on Sunday mornings and occupying a pew does much good for our faith family, but you would be wrong! There are few things more welcoming and reassuring to visitors and guests (many of whom are parents of all these children and youth we are playing host to on Wednesday nights), than having a large gathering of church folks who all clearly have a strong bond in the Lord – because that is something they want to be a part of! Working together, we can and will make an impact in our growing community – I believe that with all my heart. But it takes all of us! We need your help! As November is upon us, would you consider praying about what your role is in the life of Harlem Baptist as we try to finish out this calendar year strong and begin anew in January?

-Evan