



May 3	AWANA	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	6:45PM
May 6	Men's Breakfast	9:00AM
	Men's Wild Game Supper	6:00PM
May 7	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
	AWANA Musical	6:30PM
May 10	AWANA Awards Night	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
May 14	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
	<i>Mother's Day-Child Dedication</i>	
May 17	Leadership Meeting	5:30PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	6:45PM
May 21	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Moring Worship	11:00AM
	<i>Graduate Recognition</i>	
May 23	Coffee With Carson	8:30AM
May 28	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
May 29	Memorial Day-Church Office Closed	
May 31	Camp Harlem	9:00AM-2:00PM



Rev. Carson Britt  
Pastor  
Evan Powell  
Minister of Youth and Children  
Rebekah Dickerson  
Minister of Music and Media  
Ashley Driggers  
Administrative Assistant  
Lindsey Rogers  
HBC Pre-K Director

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*Happy Anniversary*

Happy Birthday

05-23	Harold & Margie Smith	05-01	Tara Cooper
		05-02	Kevin Allen
		05-03	Terry Carter
		05-04	Brenna Cook
		05-04	Zack Gaskins
		05-05	Jason Truitt
		05-08	Mickey Loneragan
		05-10	Kelsi Barrs
		05-14	Luci Smith
		05-15	Ray Fulcher
		05-18	Rob Lewis
		05-20	Barry Fleming
		05-21	Susan Camp
		05-21	Payton Perdue
		05-22	Margie Smith
		05-23	Easton Hill
		05-29	Lynda Adams
		05-31	Holly Laughery

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

## Begin Praying Now for Our Guinea Mission Team:

Carson Britt, Brett Rogers, Lindsey Bryant, Ryan  
Guy, Amerson Guy



## FINANCIALS

as of April 23, 2023

Actual Expenses YTD \$129,128  
Actual Received YTD \$113,596

## Deacon of the Month

Curtis Rhodes  
318-607-5137

# CONNECTIONS

HAPPY

MOTHER'S  
DAY

May 2023

The  
Pastor's

How do you respond to interruptions? Are you one of those who can take an interruption in stride? Or, do they completely throw you off task? Are interruptions welcomed? Or, are they frustrating? I suspect your answer to these questions will likely depend on two variables. What you are doing when you are interrupted. And, who is the one interrupting you.

Our days are filled with all kinds of tasks. Maybe you're like me and you stay on task much more easily if you have a list to keep you on track. But, when you get off track – when the phone rings, a child begins to scream, an unexpected visitor stops by – how do you respond? I must admit that I am not always one to welcome interruptions. This is especially true when I am intently focused on the task at hand. But we live in a world of unrelenting accessibility. My phone is generally in my pocket or within arm's reach. And with this accessibility interruptions have become a bit more frequent for all of us. Additionally, we live our lives at a frenetic pace. Trying to juggle work, home, ball practices and games, music lessons, taking care of aging parents, and still serve at church can be incredibly tiring. And again, all of these things are to be done in the midst of the many interruptions that come each day.

But interruptions are not always bad. In fact, I would propose for you that it is good practice for us to create space within each of our days to accommodate interruptions. As Christians, we should be on the look-out for Spirit initiated interruptions. I get it, this is hard to do. But in our busyness we often miss opportunities to "entertain angels" as the author of Hebrews says. In our busyness we often miss Spirit ordained moments of ministry.

I know that the month of May is incredibly busy for everyone with mother's Day, graduations, and end of year awards and ceremonies. But, there is (hopefully) a season of rest coming with the months of June and July. In this season I hope you will create habits that allow daily time for those spirit ordained interruptions. Let's develop eyes that intentionally look for these interruptions so that we can be blessed and be a blessing to others. I expect that when we create this space we will discover what all we have missed in the midst of our busyness.

*Press on!  
Carson*

LOVE  
GOD

LOVE  
PEOPLE

MAKE  
DISCIPLES

## Church News



To enroll your child visit the church office Monday thru Thursday between 9am-4pm. Or to schedule an appointment outside these hours call the church office or email the director Lindsey Rogers at [lindsey.rogers@gmail.com](mailto:lindsey.rogers@gmail.com)

### CAMP HARLEM

**MAY 31ST-JUNE 2ND**  
**9AM-2PM**

RISING PRE-K THROUGH  
COMPLETED 5TH GRADERS

Register at  
[harlembaptist.org/events](http://harlembaptist.org/events)



**MAY 7**  
(PRE-K LUNCHEON)  
MEXICAN BUFFET & DESSERTS

**MAY 21**  
(GRADUATION LUNCHEON)  
STEAK, POTATOES  
& DESSERTS



*If God always met my expectations, He'd never have the opportunity, to exceed them.*

Recently, God really laid it on my heart to expect the best from Him. To have a faith that expects God is going to do what He promised, that He loves us enough to take care of us, that He wants good things for us, and that He who is Lord of the universe is big enough and loving enough to provide – and even bless us to thrive.

The life of faith, my friends, is not easy. Living for Jesus is not easy. It is a winding road, often steep and burdened. But once we've tasted God's best, which is a thousand times more than we could expect, we learn that it is worth every effort. But we don't want to lose our blessings in the midst of exhaustion and disillusionment. We should always consider and count the cost of what this journey is asking of us. And we should always remember one beautiful, glorious truth that pours itself throughout each day.

**God never once promised us the strength to do everything that He is showing or asking us to do all at once. He only promised the strength for one. day. at. a. time.**

It is so simple, yet so profound. There are times when I look at a schedule, or a month, or even a week, and I think, "God, there is just no possible way I am ever going to get all of this done. I'm working as hard as I can - I want this life You've given me. But I just don't see how to achieve what You are asking." And it is then that His soft, sweet voice whispers, "Live today."

When you choose to live today, the shame of yesterday fades because you know you're forgiven and you can't change the past. The worries of tomorrow are dimmed and are blocked out by peace and security that God holds tomorrow.

God has already exceeded my expectations in so many special ways. I can't wait to watch Him exceed my weakness with His strength as I walk, one day at a time, with my sweet, sweet Jesus. I still get tired. But my arms know that there is rest at the end of this day. My eyes know that what is most important is usually not what is seen. My spirit knows where its final destination lies. My mind knows the One who created all wisdom and guides my path. My ears know my Master's voice. My heart knows the One True God that calls me into a more intimate, personal relationship with Him. Because suddenly, I'm not just expecting His best. I'm experiencing it.

-Rebekah

## CHILD DEDICATION

**SUNDAY, MAY 14TH**

Please let the church office know if you plan on participating.

*Women's Ministry:*  
*"Mothers hold their children's hands for a while, their hearts forever."*

In May, we honor Mothers and Graduates.

*Proverbs 31:28*  
*"Her children arise and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praises her."*

**Happy Mothers Day !**

**MOTHERS:**  
Do you know if your child knows Jesus as his/her Lord and Savior? Carson has told us: "This is a choice one has to make. No one can make it for us." Before your graduate enters this new chapter in life, please pray about an opportunity to ask this question if you are not sure.

On January 19,2019, I heard a college football coach end a speech with Colossians 3:23 "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters."

What better words could a mother give to a graduating son or daughter?  
Blessings,  
Kathy

## AWANA Awards Night

**WEDNESDAY**  
**May 10th**  
**6:15PM**



There is some unfortunate timing regarding this monthly HBC newsletter going out. Because we always try to have our newsletters available to read on the 1<sup>st</sup> of each new month (if not before), we (staff) have to write our articles in advance. Which is no big issue typically, only this time around we have a big church-wide Family Ministry Event taking place on Sunday, April 30<sup>th</sup>. I would love to wait until after the event is over to write my article, but that is impossible so I am going to write my article as if the Spring Fling has already happened.

Thank you to an awesome group of folks that I get to work with on big projects like the annual Spring Fling: the Family Ministry Team. I love each of you and appreciate your hard work in making the night a success. Thanks also to Mark Whitaker and the rest of the Men's Ministry team for providing us with hot dogs and hamburgers. Thanks to all the families who came out for the event, and for signing up to bring side dishes and desserts. I hope you all had a blast and I hope the evening was a great reminder that being in relationship with our Creator is one of the "sweetest" gifts we could ever hope for!

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In addition to celebrating a wonderful Spring Fling event, I would be remiss to not include words of deep gratitude towards so many of you for the love, encouragement, and support you have offered to me and Katie in the past week. As I write this newsletter article, we have now had "Baby P" for one full week and **wow** has the week been a blur. I can't say enough about how much we appreciate our faith family wrapping us up in a loving embrace and advocating for us at the beginning of our foster care journey. I don't want to single any individuals out because there have been SO MANY of you who have bent over backwards to love us in special ways, so to all of you: thanks a million. Thanks for the homecooked meals. Thanks for the clothes donations. Thanks for the monetary gifts. Thanks for the donations of baby wipes, baby "gear", and other baby "stuff". Thanks for calls to check on us and see how we are doing. Thanks for good conversations and prayers. Thank you, thank you, thank you. My heart is so full and we are endlessly grateful.

-Evan

MEN'S MINISTRY  
**WILD GAME SUPPER**  
GUEST SPEAKER: REGGIE THACKSTON

**SATURDAY, MAY 6TH | 6:00PM**

**DOOR PRIZES!**  
**NO COST-BRING A FRIEND!**



**Coffee with Carson**



All retirees are invited to join Carson at Red Oak Manor for breakfast!

**Tuesday, May 23**  
**8:30AM**

Let us know if you are coming!  
706-556-6439 or [church@harlembaptist.org](mailto:church@harlembaptist.org)