



CALENDAR

October 1
Sunday School 9:45AM
Morning Worship 11:00AM
Church Luncheon 12:15PM

October 4
AWANA 6:15PM
Youth 6:45PM
OASIS 6:45PM

October 8
Sunday School 9:56AM
Morning Worship 11:00AM
Congregational Conversations 6:30PM

October 11
AWANA 6:15PM
Youth 6:45PM
OASIS 6:45PM

October 14
Men's Breakfast 9:00AM

October 15
Sunday School 9:45AM
Morning Worship 11:00AM
Church Luncheon 12:15PM

October 18
AWANA 6:15PM
Youth 6:45PM
OASIS 6:45PM

October 20-22
Youth Trip to Chattanooga, TN

October 22
Sunday School 9:45AM
Morning Worship 11:00AM
Congregational Conversations 6:30PM

October 24
Coffee with Carson 8:30AM

October 25
AWANA 6:15PM
Youth 6:45PM
OASIS 6:45PM

October 29
Sunday School 9:45AM
Morning Worship 11:00AM
Fall Festival 5:00-7:00PM

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
Lindsey Rogers
HBC Pre-K Director

Happy Anniversary

10-27 Dale & Leslie Arnold

Happy Birthday

10-03 Johnny Morris
10-06 Stephanie Lewis
10-13 Jennifer Britt
10-17 Kelly Loneragan
10-20 Pat Cook
10-22 Ashlynn Knight
10-23 Bob Brown
10-23 Emily Adams White
10-24 Lee Ann Meyer
10-24 John McClellan
10-28 Ragen Truitt
10-29 Mark Whitaker
10-31 Nancy Lewis
10-31 Margaret Wilkes

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

»» Govember

We will spend the month of November shedding some light on several of our ministry partners as well as setting up a variety of service opportunities with other ministries in our area. We will be releasing the dates and locations of those volunteer opportunities very soon.

FINANCIALS

as of September 24, 2023

Actual Expenses YTD \$291,406
Actual Received YTD \$281,871

Deacon of the Month

Michael Bryant
478-986-0167

CONNECTIONS

October 2023

The Pastor's Desk

How do you make major decisions in life? Do you have a process that you go through? Do you call on specific friends or family members for advice? Do you simply "go with your gut?" Life is filled with decisions about parenting, marriage, finances, vocation, and health. As life becomes more complicated so too do the decisions that need to be made. At times we find ourselves wondering how we will know what is the "right" decision and what is not. Luckily, our God does not leave us alone to make decisions. In fact, God's word speaks directly to this.

King Solomon says in the book of Proverbs, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding" (Proverbs, 3:5, NIV). If you pause and think about it, our own understanding, our own experiences, the knowledge that we have gained through life is the foundation through which we generally make our decisions. If we don't use the experiences and knowledge that we have gained through life to inform our decisions making how then will we ever make informed decisions? It seems that the prudent way of making decisions would be to rely on our own understanding. What Solomon recognized however is that our knowledge and experiences are limited. Although we may strive our hardest to make informed decisions in life, in reality we will never see things as clearly or as broadly as God sees them. God's perspective and knowledge is far greater than our own.

Learning to trust in God is a matter of submission to His will for our lives. As Christ followers being in God's will should be one of our greatest desires. In my experience trusting God to lead me through my decision making became much easier when I began to live in submission to his will. When I chose to "seek first His kingdom" the decisions that needed to be made become a bit easier as I began rejecting my own desires and instead placed the desires of my heavenly Father at center of my life. But, I have also found that letting the Lord lead me in my decision making has often led others to become critical. When you base your decisions on a deep trust in God rather than on your own understanding or on the understanding of others, you will find that people question you. Still, even in the midst of the questions and opinions, there is no greater joy and no greater comfort than leaning into your trust of God and knowing that you are in God's will.

In my daily quiet time recently I read the following quote from George Muller, a Prussian missionary, who started five orphanages in England and served over 2000 children. After years of learning to trust in God George writes the following words: *Be slow to take new steps in the Lord's service, or in your business, or in your families: weigh everything well; weigh all in the light of the Holy Scriptures and in the fear of God. Seek to have no will of your own, in order to ascertain the mind of God regarding any steps you propose taking, so that you can honestly say you are willing to do the will of God, if He will only please to instruct you. But when you have found out what the will of God is, seek for His help, and seek it earnestly, perseveringly, patiently, believably, expectantly; and you will surely in His own time and way obtain it.*"

*Press on!
Carson*

Church News





OCTOBER 8
POT ROAST & FIXINGS

OCTOBER 22
CATFISH/CHICKEN
& FIXINGS



October is a busy month in the music world as churches and choirs all around dive deep into their preparation for Christmas! Our Adult Choir will also begin meeting for Advent season rehearsals. Our first rehearsal will be Saturday, October 21st from 9am to 11am. (Don't worry – I will make sure to have coffee ready!!) If you or someone you know loves to sing and desires to serve by leading worship with the Choir, please come join us!!

Our AWANA Choir did such an amazing job leading worship this past Sunday. What a great group we have! I hope you enjoyed it as much as I did. They will be singing again on Sunday, November 5th. I can't wait!!

Enjoy this beautiful fall-ish weather and pray there is more to come!!

God Bless,
Rebekah Dickerson



Upcoming Music Events & Dates

- OCTOBER 21ST – Christmas Choir Kickoff (9am-11am)
- NOVEMBER 5TH – AWANA Choir singing in Worship
- DECEMBER 6TH – AWANA Christmas Program/Store
- DECEMBER 9TH – AWANA Choir in Christmas Parade

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, October 14th
9:00am
Red Oak Manor
Harlem, GA

Sign up at the Information Station
by October 13th

Contact Brett Rogers for more info

Wednesday Night Dinner

Monthly Menu

1st Week	Pizza
2nd Week	Chicken Nuggets & Fries
3rd Week	Pancakes/Sausage
4th Week	Baked Spaghetti

guest speaker
OCTOBER 8TH
Jeffery Harris



I don't often do this, but I want to share with you all something we recently talked about in the youth group on Wednesday nights. In September we had a brief, 2-week Bible study series called "Labeled" where we discussed the different labels that we sometimes put on people. Often these labels are unfair, and sometimes these labels are unearned. We feel the sting and hurt of these labels when others apply them to us. You know the kind of labels I am talking about: "Loser. Geek. Dumb blonde. Bored housewife. Weird. Crazy", etc.

If we are not careful, as we go through life and collect one of these labels, sometimes we begin to accept this label as part of our identity. For example, if someone calls me a failure enough times, eventually I am going to start believing I am a failure. And that is exactly what Satan wants us to do. But Satan's sly ways are no match for God's might. God is in the business of re-labeling. And the labels God gives to each of us are secure... Satan can't strip them away no matter how hard he tries. Where Satan labels us a hypocrite, God labels us a sinner, saved by grace. Where Satan labels us a bad person, God labels us as redeemed. Where Satan labels us unworthy of love, God labels us as dearly loved. God labels us as His child, as a co-heir with Christ, as fully forgiven, and as a valued member of the Royal Family. Just as God did on the Damascus Road when he re-labeled Saul and radically transformed his life, God has the power to turn hearts and stories around.

We know that because of Christ Jesus' sacrifice and because of God's mighty power, we don't have to identify with any single label that the world tries to give us. Our God has labeled us as His precious creation, and that identity has been sealed by the Holy Spirit. The only question remains: which label will we choose to identify with? Which label will we allow to speak for us? As I concluded our series in youth by challenging our students with: Never Accept A Label That God Didn't Give You!

Important Dates/Announcements:
Sunday, October 8 and Sunday, October 22: Congregational Conversations
Friday, October 20-Sunday, October 22: Youth Trip to Chattanooga, TN
Sunday, October 29: Church-Wide Fall Festival

-Evan

Coffee with Carson



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

Tuesday, October 24th
8:30AM

Let us know if you are coming!
706-556-6439 or church@harlembaptist.org