

April

CALENDAR

April 3	AWANA Easter Musical Youth No OASIS	6:30PM 6:45PM
April 6	Men's Breakfast	9:00AM
April 7	Sunday School Morning Worship Church Luncheon	9:45AM 11:00AM 12:15PM
April 10	NO ACTIVITIES-SPRING BREAK	
April 14	Sunday School Morning Worship	9:45AM 11:00AM
April 17	AWANA Youth OASIS	6:15PM 6:45PM 6:45PM
April 20	Masters Jr. Tournament	10:00AM
April 21	Sunday School Morning Worship Church Luncheon Deacons Meeting	9:45AM 11:00AM 12:15PM 1:15PM
April 24	AWANA Youth OASIS	6:15PM 6:45PM 6:45PM
April 28	Sunday School Morning Worship Next Steps Luncheon	9:45AM 11:00AM 12:15PM
April 30	Coffee with Carson	8:30AM



MAY 8TH AT 6:30PM
AWANA STORE TO FOLLOW

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

Happy Birthday

04-05	Jeremy & Liza Davis	04-01	Valerie Allen
04-10	Raymond & Sheila Fulcher	014-02	Raymond Fulcher
04-17	Andrea & Casey Allen	04-02	Leslie Arnold
04-18	Jordan & Grier Whitaker	04-05	Jim Laughery
04-30	Julian & Lynda Adams	04-06	Harold Smith
		04-09	Kirsten Sawyer
		04-10	Jerry Williams
		04-11	Rosie Cook
		04-11	Alan Hall
		04-11	Travis Liming
		04-11	Sonja Solomon
		04-12	Paige Fleming
		04-13	Summer Laughery
		04-15	Steve Camp
		04-19	Becky Windham
		04-21	Caleb Sawyer
		04-24	Dianne Mundy
		04-26	James Oliver
		04-27	Katy Arrowood
		04-27	Carson Britt

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



HBC PRE-K REGISTRATION 2024-2025



HBC members may enroll beginning March 31st. Open enrollment to the public will begin April 4th

FINANCIALS as of March 24, 2024

Actual Expenses YTD \$76,923
Actual Received YTD \$96,305

Deacon of the Month

Brett Rogers
770-596-2662

CONNECTIONS

April 2024

The
Pastor's
Desk

We often think of Easter as a single day or event. Yes, it is a wonderful day - but it is still often limited to a single day or event. But did you know that within the seasonal church calendar (referred to as the liturgical calendar), Easter lasts for seven weeks? Not only that, the reason the church now recognizes Sunday as the Sabbath is because Sunday is the day that Jesus rose from the grave. The intent here is to allow the good news of the resurrection to not only extend beyond a single day but we are to also begin each week celebrating and rejoicing the good news of the resurrection. As believers in the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we should be a people whose lives are drastically shaped daily by this momentous occurrence. But how does one go about doing this?

One of my favorite New Testament scholars is a British Anglican priest named N.T. Wright. I recently read an article that mentioned some of Wright's thoughts on the subject of the Easter season. Wright claimed that this season should be marked with celebrations, one after another, as believers delight in the reality that the One who was dead is now alive! But I would add to this thought and say these same behaviors and attitudes should be lived out all year long. When we do not allow the resurrection of Christ to drastically shape all aspects of our lives we are limiting the power of this salvific event. We are failing to see how this event not only affects our lives in the present, but it also affects our lives for eternity. There is no other event, nor will there ever be another, that has implications that reach so far.

Now I suspect that few of us are going to throw resurrection parties weekly. So how should we go about living our lives in light of the resurrection event? I recently read an article by Presbyterian pastor Stuart Strachan who speaks to this. He says that the resurrection calls believers "to internalize the message of God's great love and hope and new life that has been offered through His Son. This practice starts with an event outside of ourselves, and has the ability to lead to ripples of kingdom life wherever it is embraced" (in his book *Preaching the Resurrection*).

As we continue to move through the Easter season, let's spend some time considering what sort of "event outside of ourselves" that the resurrection calls us to. Perhaps it calls you to serve in a new or more involved capacity. Maybe it calls you to experience deeper more meaningful worship. Or, maybe the resurrection challenges you to expand your current perspectives and/or worldviews. No matter how the resurrection story changes you, we know that this good news simply cannot leave us unchanged. Let's strive daily to live in light of His resurrection!

Thanks be to God! He is risen!

*Press on!
Carson*

Church News

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



APRIL 7
(HBC PRE-K)
STIR FRY & FIXINGS

APRIL 21
(MEDIA)
GRILLED CHICKEN
& FIXINGS

CHILD DEDICATION

SUNDAY, MAY 12TH

To have your child dedicated please contact the church office.



In honor of our 150th Anniversary, we will be creating a cookbook highlighting the wonderful cooks of our church. Starting April 7th and running through May 18th we will be collecting recipes for our cookbook. The forms will be located at the Welcome Center. You can return the completed forms to the same location or give to Susan Camp, Nancy Lewis, Susan Knight or Roxanne Whitaker. We also need a cover for our cookbook. If you would like to design the cover, please submit your design to one of the listed ladies by May 18th. A copy of our 130th cookbook will be located at the Welcome Center as well.



Happy Easter!

At this time of the year, these song lyrics never seem far from my mind:

*You're the resurrection that we've waited for.
You buried the night and came with the morning.
You're the King of Heaven; the praise is Yours.
The longer the quiet, the louder the chorus.
You're the living water – God, we thirst for You.
The dry and the barren will flower and bloom.
You're the sun that's shining, you restore my soul.
We will sing a new song
Because death is dead and gone like the winter.
We will sing a new song
Let hallelujahs flow like a river.
We're coming back to life
Reaching towards the light
Your love is like springtime.*

Because of Christ Jesus – and because of the empty tomb – our hearts can know springtime. His joy comes with the morning!

Important Upcoming Dates:

Master's Juniors Putt-Putt Tournament – April 20th 10:00am
located at Putt-Putt Fun Center

Church-Wide Spring Fling – May 5th on the Harlem Baptist lawn at 5:00pm

CALLING ALL HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

If you are a high school graduate in the class of 2024 and wish to be recognized on **Sunday, May 19th**, please reach out to Evan Powell.

-Evan



JUNE 26-28

—SCAN TO REGISTER—



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Saturday, April 6th
at 9:00am
Red Oak Manor
Harlem, GA



*Not what my hands have done
Can save my guilty soul
Not what my toiling flesh has borne
Can make my spirit whole
Not what I feel or do
Can give me peace with God
Nor all my prayers and sighs and tears
Can bear this awful load*

*Thy work alone, O Christ
Can speak to me of grace
Thy power alone, O Son of God
Can all my sin erase
No other work but Yours
No others Blood will do
No strength but that which is Divine
Can bear me safely through**

*"Not What My Hands Hath Done" (1991 Baptist Hymnal, #339)

Sometimes we get to know our favorite church songs so well, that we begin to sing them by rote. We don't think about what we are singing – we just so enjoy the comfort of the familiar that we, unintentionally, forget that we are singing to God. We forget that we are commanded to "praise, extol, and honor the King of Heaven" (Daniel 4:37), not just to bring music.

When I find myself bringing musical worship to God out of habit, rather than intention, it is those moments when I like to seek out either very new or very old songs. Something outside my comfort zone. Something with lyrics so powerful, I can barely get them out through the tears.

As we move beyond Easter into April – check yourself at the door of worship. Lay aside burdens and worries and cares, pause for a moment to pray for the ability to hear what you are singing, to mean what you are lifting up, and to be touched by it – whether it be an old favorite or something completely different to you. **Do not waste time in worship singing by rote.** We have so much to praise our God for – so much to be thankful for as we remember what He did for us at Easter.

May these words of my mouth and this meditation of my heart, be pleasing in your sight, LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer. (Psalms 19:14)



SATURDAY, APRIL 20TH

10:00AM

AGES 3 YEARS-ADULTS

LOCATED AT PUTT-PUTT

Coffee with Carson

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

Tuesday, April 30th
8:30AM

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