



CALENDAR

June 1	Men's Breakfast	9:00AM
June 2	Sunday School Morning Worship Church Luncheon Baby Shower for Kristen Camp	9:45AM 11:00AM 12:15PM 2:00PM
June 5	Youth OASIS	6:45PM 6:45PM
June 9	Sunday School Morning Worship <i>Communion during service</i>	9:45AM 11:00AM
June 12	Church Conference Youth OASIS	6:00PM 6:45PM 6:45PM
June 16	Sunday School Morning Worship	9:45AM 11:00AM
June 19	Youth OASIS	6:45PM 6:45PM
June 21	Women's Event <i>Painting & Tea</i>	6:30PM
June 23	Sunday School Morning Worship Deacons Meeting	9:45AM 11:00AM 12:15PM
June 25	Coffee with Carson	8:30AM
June 26	Camp Harlem <i>Youth activity after Camp Harlem</i> OASIS	9:00AM-1:00PM 6:45PM
June 27-28	Camp Harlem	9:00AM-1:00PM
June 30	Guinea Breakfast Q&A Morning Worship	9:30AM 11:00AM

—No Wednesday—
Night Activities
July 3rd

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

06-05 Rob & Brandi Lewis
06-08 Berry & Paige Fleming
06-09 Scott & Leanna Williams
06-13 Mark & Roxie Whitaker
06-15 Jimmie & Nancy Lewis
06-19 John & Hope McClellan
06-20 James & Irene Oliver
06-24 Tommy & Rachael Stolte
06-25 Ken & Beverly Welch
06-26 Lance & Kate Ellis

Happy Birthday

06-01 Leslie Perdue
06-03 Beverly McCorkle-Welch
06-03 Darlene Rainwater
06-05 Ben Hill
06-05 Katie Powell
06-10 Brooke Moore
06-17 Drue Williams
06-18 Kristen Camp
06-23 Joy Ray
06-24 Andre Miller
06-26 Brett Rogers

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



CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE

June 12th at 6:00PM

FINANCIALS

as of May 26, 2024

Actual Expenses YTD \$147,501
Actual Received YTD \$156,621

Deacon of the Month

Tommy Stolte
314-800-4844

CONNECTIONS

June 2024



HELLO
Summer

The Pastor's Desk

We are now two weeks into our summer sermon series where we have been and will continue to look carefully at what scripture tells us about the Holy Spirit. I pray that this series has already been helpful and encouraging for you all. I am really excited to see how our understanding of the Spirit expands throughout the summer. But if this is going to happen we must all be intentional to take what we are hearing on Sunday morning and to study it and apply it in our daily living. So let me challenge you with three things as we move forward with this series.

One: Make worship attendance a priority. Now I recognize that the summer months offer unique opportunities for travel for many of us. This is certainly true of my family as well. But during the summer, when our routine is changed, our tendency is to let laziness creep in. This past week in our message time we acknowledged that the Spirit plays a fundamental role in applying salvation to our lives. Without the work of the Spirit, salvation is out of reach for all of us. Without the work of the Godhead, we would never see the kingdom of God. This knowledge calls us to place worship in the place of highest priority.

Two: Each week as we open God's word together, strive to take a learner's posture. I am striving to be intentional in putting some of my key points on the screen to help you better grasp the message. If you're a note taker, I suspect this has been helpful for you. If not, let me encourage you to try to take a few more notes. This will allow you to study more deeply later in the week.

Three: Take what you learn into your week. Go home and reread the passages that we studied on Sunday. Have discussions about the message with others. Whenever a tangible application point is given, be intentional to put that in play in your daily living. Here's an example of this: on week two of our series I challenged you all to pray daily for one unbeliever throughout the summer. Write down that person's name and/or set a daily reminder on your phone to pray for that individual. This is a tangible way you can take what you have learned and put it into practice.

Friends, I want the summer of 2024 to be a memorable summer for us all. I pray that it is a summer filled with new adventures and extra time spent with family. But I pray also that this summer will be even more memorable for the spiritual growth that has occurred in all of our lives because we chose together to grow in the knowledge of the Holy Spirit.

One final note: On Sunday, June 2nd, we will have a guest speaker who is known well by many of you all. Blake Sticher will be sharing a Spirit given message with us on this date and we will continue in our Holy Spirit sermon series on June 9th.

I look forward to a memorable and growth-filled summer!

*Press on!
Carson*

LOVE
GOD

LOVE
PEOPLE

MAKE
DISCIPLES

Church News



GUINEA MISSION BREAKFAST Q&A

Join us for a breakfast on **June 30th at 9:30am**. Afterwards we will have a presentation along with time for questions and answers with missionary to Guinea, Dr. Aaron Baldrige, from our ministry partner, Hope Ignited. *There will be no Sunday School on this day.*

HBC 150th Anniversary Celebration

YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN FORMER CHURCH STAFF AND THE HBC CONGREGATION FOR A DINNER OF CELEBRATION OF THE CHURCH'S 150TH ANNIVERSARY.

AUGUST 10TH AT 6:00PM

\$20 PER PERSON

RSVP BY JUNE 30TH

PLEASE LET US KNOW OF ANY AGES UNDER 18



JUNE 2
(150TH ANNIVERSARY)
**Mexican Buffet
& Desserts**

NO LUNCHEON JUNE 16TH

DEACON NOMINATIONS

Deacon Nomination Process will begin June 9th and continue through June 30th. Nomination forms will be available in the Welcome Center. Please return these to Carson or to the church office.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The nomination process will take place in June-August. This means our nominating committee will be working throughout the summer to fill church wide committee vacancies and recruit volunteers to serve in various ministries. Those serving this year's nominating committee are: Jennifer Guy, Marshal McCallie, and Edith Sweatman. Please pray for them as they do this valuable work and prayerfully consider where you will serve in the coming church year.

Coffee with Carson



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

**Tuesday, June 25th
8:30AM**

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



HBC Family,

This summer is going to be a BIG time in the life of our church. *Here's a quick overview of what the next few months have to offer.*

At the end of this month, on **Wednesday, June 26th – Friday, June 28th**, we have Camp Harlem. At last check, we had 78 children registered for Camp Harlem. Only about 20 of these children are actively attending one of our normal children's ministries on a weekly basis. So... what does this mean? It means Camp Harlem is a HUGE outreach event. We are once again going to have nearly 100 participants, and there will be so many kids that we don't normally have an opportunity to minister to. With this major opportunity comes major responsibility. **We need helpers!** Talk to me to volunteer for one or all of the three days of Camp Harlem!

In mid-July, we are taking children away for a Kids' Summer Camp. The camp, called CentriKid, will be hosted July 12 – 14th at Brewton-Parker College in middle Georgia. It looks like we will take about eight 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders to this overnight camp which will be a terrific time to foster depth in spiritual development. And they will also have a ton of fun as well!

Finally in mid-August, Harlem Baptist is celebrating its 150th Anniversary. I don't know a whole lot about what we have in store, but I know there is a whole weekend of festivities planned to mark the occasion.

These three big events are stacked on top of a layer of our "normal" events and programming; things like Men's Prayer Breakfast, small group discipleship meetings, small group service projects, Coffee with Carson, youth group meetings on Wednesday nights, Oasis, and of course... Sunday morning worship.

In case you are wondering why I have used my space in this Newsletter to tell you all about what is going on at our church this summer, it's because I want to draw attention to one important fact:

While summer is a time where many of us will be intentional about taking a break from our busy lives, God takes no breaks. The work of the Lord takes no breaks. Church life will be here and will continue on in the summer just as it does in the other seasons. And God's earthly Kingdom will continue to grow and advance in the hot summer months. So... don't be a stranger! As the author of the book of Hebrews says, let us *"not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encourage one another all the more..."*

We all need respite. But don't let a week or two of respite become a full season where you have put your relationship with God – or your relationship with His church – on the back-burner. If you do, you will miss out on the blessing of witnessing firsthand all the mighty ways He is moving in our community.

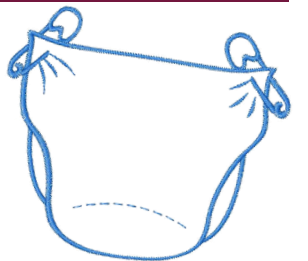
***Finally, please pray for the work that will be done this summer – particularly during the week of Camp Harlem. We are in the business of planting seeds. But the planting is not enough. Let us water those seeds with the fervent prayer of many saints, and let us trust and wait and expect the Holy Spirit to bring much growth to that which has been planted!

-Evan

YOU'RE INVITED TO

Diapers & Wipes Shower

FOR Katie Powell



SUNDAY, JULY 21ST | 2:00PM



JUNE 26TH-28TH

9AM TO 1PM

AGES 4 YEARS TO FINISHED 5TH GRADE
\$3 PER KID/PER DAY (\$25 FAMILY CAP)



MEN'S BREAKFAST

**Saturday, June 1st
at 9:00am**

Red Oak Manor
Harlem, GA



It is now June of an election year. This past week we celebrated Memorial Day – a day to honor and remember those who have died serving our country, fighting for our many very precious freedoms. And as the year moves on, will find people practicing these freedoms of speech, of voting, of disagreeing with others at the top of their lungs – and not always in a kind way.

There was a conflict similar in nature to our current political climate that took place in the book of Galatians. These new believers had divided into two parties – those who believed that followers of Jesus also had to obey the Jewish law, and those who believed that faith in Christ was enough.

This conflict came about because so many new believers at that time were Gentiles – they had never had to follow the Jewish laws before. They just knew that they believed in Jesus. But before we fault the other side, we must remember that this situation wasn't easy for the Jews. Never before had Gentiles been allowed to worship with them without first undergoing Mosaic requirements such as circumcision. The idea that it wasn't required was unfathomable to them. It was unprecedented. The division in the early church was stark – and it was becoming a huge problem.

And so we come to Paul's words to the church at the beginning of Galatians chapter 5: "For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." He speaks that requiring circumcision was obligating believers in Christ to keep the whole of the Jewish law, rather than accepting that Christ's sacrifice was enough. *But he didn't stop there.*

He then goes on to speak to them all saying, "for you were called to freedom, brothers. **Only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for the flesh, but to love and serve one another...** if you bite and devour one another, watch out that you are not consumed by one another (v.13-15)." He specifically admonishes all the believers to not abuse their freedom in Christ; if you disagree, you must still be kind and sincerely care for one another. Furthermore, he discusses that the fruits of the spirit are things like love, joy, patience, *kindness, and self-control*, but that the works of the flesh are "enmity, strife, jealousy, *fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions*, divisions" (among other things). And he declares that if we are truly living by the Spirit, then we will *put to death* such works of the flesh, in the power the Spirit provides.

Friends, believers, dear Christians – I call to you now as we are pulled deeper into this election season to not allow your freedoms to permit you to succumb to the works of the flesh – to anger, bitterness, division with others, to a lack of self-control over our tongues when speaking, to caring more about sharing our opinion of current politics than sharing about the power of the cross of Christ. **Too often, when practicing our daily lives, our habits, our attitudes, our conversations, and ESPECIALLY our politics, we fail to genuinely care about the relational collateral damage we are doing, both among other believers or as the world is watching.**

"For freedom Christ has set us free; stand firm therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery." Do not allow the flesh to have power over us during this election year. Instead, let us treat everyone we meet with kindness, dignity, respect, and honor, no matter our differences or politics – just as Christ so commanded us to do: "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another" (John 13:35). And love doesn't just ignore someone you disagree with – it fully embraces them as a person that Christ died for.

-Rebekah