

October CALENDAR

October 2	AWANA	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	6:45PM
October 6	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
	Church Luncheon	12:15PM
October 9	AWANA	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	6:45PM
October 10	2nd Thursday	6:00PM
	<i>Music Rehearsal</i>	
October 13	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
October 16	AWANA	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	6:45PM
October 17	Women's Event	6:30PM
	<i>International Potluck</i>	
October 20	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
	Church Luncheon	12:15PM
October 23	AWANA	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	:45PM
October 27	Sunday School	9:45AM
	Morning Worship	11:00AM
	Fall Festival	5:00PM-7:00PM
October 30	AWANA	6:15PM
	Youth	6:45PM
	OASIS	6:45PM

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

10-27 Dale & Leslie Arnold	10-06 Stephanie Lewis
	10-13 Jennifer Britt
	10-17 Kelly Lonergan
	10-22 Ashlyn 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.

YOUTH DODGE BALL TOURNAMENT

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11TH AT NOON



FINANCIALS

as of September 26, 2024

Actual Expenses YTD \$237,886
Actual Received YTD \$245,664

CONNECTIONS

October 2024

The Pastor's Desk

"We are Harlem!" This is a phrase that is heard throughout the year and in a number of different contexts throughout our community. We probably hear it and say it the most at a sporting event. We also hear it, read it, or say it when one of our own is in a trying season. It is a phrase that is both encouraging and challenging. It reminds us that we are part of something bigger than ourselves. It reminds us that we have a "crowd of witnesses" rooting for us and praying for us to finish well. In its simplest form, it reminds us that we are all part of this community that we call Harlem.

Community is a vital part of our lives. We were created to be in relationship with one another. Our tendency, however, is to put parameters on this idea of community in several ways. For many of us, we find community at the ball field, the Oliver Hardy festival, at the Java House, in our neighborhoods, and hopefully at church. But community is about more than just proximity. It is about more than a common zip code. Community is about having a group of people who celebrate with us during seasons of celebration and who mourn with us during seasons of grief. Community is about finding people with whom we can share anything and everything. But do we?

How many of us have individuals with whom we regularly share our joys, sorrows, and sins with? Finding this level of community requires a great deal of vulnerability and trust. We might be willing to share our joys with others, but we are much slower to confess our sins to one another. Some might have zero problem being vulnerable and trusting others, but your issue with finding this level of community is a problem of time. I must confess that my reasoning for not finding this level of community is a combination of both of these problems. It's hard to find the time to gather weekly with individuals to talk through my joys and my struggles. But if I did find the time I know I would struggle to embrace such a high level of vulnerability.

God's word reminds us that we are to live in community with one another. Romans 12:5 says, "Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn." James tells us, "Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed" (James 5:16, ESV). Again, we are unable to rejoice, mourn, confess, and pray for one another if we are not living in community with one another.

If you're currently engaged at HBC you have noticed that God is doing some amazing things. But if we are going to continue to grow as a church and continue to carry out the Great Commission in Harlem and beyond, we must be a church that is committed to growing in relationship with one another. So as this season continues, let me challenge you to join a discipleship group. Find "your people" and share your joys, sorrows, and sins with them. When we begin to live in community together, I believe that we will discover new depths of faith!

*Press on!
Carson*

Church News



Mena

OCTOBER 6
(MUSIC & MEDIA)
CHICKEN CORDON BLEU
& FIXINGS

OCTOBER 20
(YOUTH)
PIZZA/SPAGHETTI
WITH SALAD



We are needing volunteers for the upcoming Oliver Hardy Festival to help with parking and to provide refreshments. If you are interested in participating please contact the church office.



I am writing this newsletter article on September 17th. This is a good bit earlier than I usually would write an article for the monthly newsletter, but we are expecting to bring home from the hospital an addition to the family in the next several days. As Katie and I eagerly await Sonny's debut, I want to thank all of you for the outpouring of support and love you have shown to us in the past weeks. In throwing Katie a shower at the church, you have positioned us well to meet the material needs for our new child. Not only that, but your sustained encouragement, your generosity, and your loving kindness have buoyed us mentally and emotionally as we prepare to enter into a slightly stressful season of life. So... from the bottom of my heart, thank you. We can enter this new era of "The Powell Family" with hopeful confidence because we have such great supporters in our corner from the extended HBC faith family.

"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him he endured, the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinners, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart." - Hebrews 12:1-3

Jesus considered it joy to suffer more than any other has suffered. He was betrayed in the garden. He was unjustly arrested. He was falsely accused and farcically tried. He was mocked, spat upon, and degraded. He was flogged. He was pierced and punished, beaten and bruised. He was made to carry a cross upon His shoulders – a cross fitting for our own sins. He made his way to Golgotha. And he was nailed to the tree. And He endured all this willingly for the joy set before him. What was that joy? That joy was communion with you and me. That joy was salvation for sinners. That joy was becoming sin so that we could become righteousness. That joy was an intimacy with all who have faced trials and temptations of many kinds. That joy was a kindred togetherness with those who have no business being a part of the family of God. That joy was a Savior whose spirit is gentle and lowly in nature. And He is just gentle enough for us to approach Him and His Heavenly throne with confidence. How cool is that?

UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES:
Church-Wide Fall Festival – Sunday, October 27th; 5pm – 7pm
Bring Your Parent 2 Youth Night – Wednesday, October 30th at 6:45pm
Youth Dodgeball Tournament – Monday, November 11th at Noon

-Evan

**BRING YOUR PARENT
2 YOUTH NIGHT**
Wednesday, October 30th
At 6:45PM



Coffee with Carson

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

**Tuesday, October 22nd
8:30AM**

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

HBC will be taking orders for Poinsettias to prepare for the upcoming Christmas Season. To place an order please contact the church office.



Music MINISTRY

At the beginning of this month, we had a week that will always be unforgettable to me. On Wednesday, the tragic shooting at a Georgia high school sent shockwaves across the state. And then on Thursday, and again on Friday, we here at Harlem buried two long standing members of our church and community.

Honesty compels me to say that I do not personally know anyone who was injured or killed at Apalachee High School. But I grew up a *literal* ten miles down the road from it. It opened my freshman year at the other high school in Winder. And I have many friends and connections who were directly affected by this heartbreak. Additionally, I did not know either of the gentleman we buried at the beginning of the month very well. But I have come to know them, even in the midst of this heartache and grief.

It never ceases to amaze me how much I learn about individuals during their funerals. Ministry, at times, calls for the need to attend the final life celebration of folks that we may not know well, sometimes at all. It is an honor all of us who work in occupational ministry recognize; that we can help serve and love on families during times of grief, even if we are not connected to them previously.

But this month, during these dark hours, it was impressed upon me just how much of an impact we make on each other's lives. And how we often don't know that impact until we can't know it. Until our life-breath is no more. But it is becoming clearer to me just how much we have the ability to impact others for good or for evil. It is heartbreaking that a young man impacted so many lives at Apalachee in such a terrible way, ripping away the innocence of childhood for many and sending nightmares into teachers and administrators throughout the state. But is soul-refreshing and incredible to see the impact that our two local gentlemen had on other people, these long-standing members and leaders in the Harlem community. Both funerals were packed. Both funerals spoke of how they impacted others. Both shared Jesus with those in attendance because of the lives of these men.

We impact those around us every single day as we come in contact with them. And I wonder for myself...do people see joy, hope, friendship, support, and encouragement from me? Do they feel and know the love of Jesus when I am around? Do they look for my phone call, or dread my number appearing? What is the impact I am having on my friends, my family, this church, Harlem? It is my deepest prayer that the young man from Apalachee will someday be changed by the Gospel; that God will seek him out, and the impact of such change will have a ripple effect for others across the world. And I pray that my life will impact others to see who God is and all that He has done in my life, that they will know my Jesus, the Savior for all. How are you impacting others in your life today?

-Rebekah

HBC WOMEN'S EVENT

**INTERNATIONAL
POTLUCK**

October 17th 6:30PM

HBC Pre-K

The HBC Pre-K will be collecting items for Operation Christmas Child for the month of October. Donations can be dropped off at the church office.

Shoobox Items:

- Toothbrushes
- Washcloths
- Hair Brushes/Combs
- Socks
- Flash Lights with Extra Batteries
- School Supplies
- Small Toys

*No candy, toothpaste, food, liquids, etc.