

#### June 1

Sunday School 9:45AM Morning Worship 11:00AM Guinea Mission Trip Commissioning Camp Harlem Volunteer Meeting 12:00PM Church Luncheon 12:15PM June 2-12 Rev. Carson Britt

Rebekah Dickerson

Administrative Assistant

Lindsey Rogers HBC Pre-K Director

Minister of Youth and Children

Communications and Connections Minister

Happy Anniversary

Rob & Brandi Lewis

Barry & Paige Fleming Scott & Leanna Williams

Mark & Roxie Whitaker

Jimmie & Nancy Lewis

John & Hope McClellan

Tommy & Rachael Stolte

James & Irene Oliver

Ken & Beverly Welch

Ken & Edee Sweatman

Brett & Lindsey Rogers

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING:

**Our Guinea Mission Team** 

**Camp Harlem** 

**Discipleship at HBC** 

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Safety as they travel

**Student Ministry Trip to Charlotte** 

That relationships with the Lord would grow

That relationships with one another would increase

That the Lord would raise up new disciple makers

That the new discipleship opportunities will form

That unity amongst our students would be established

Pastor Evan Powell

Sang Lee Worship Leader Ashley Driggers

06-05

06-08

06-09

06-13

06-15

06-19

06-20

06-24

06-25

06-29

06-30

#### Guinea Mission Trip

June 4 6:45PM Youth OASIS 6:45PM June 8 9:45AM Sunday School Morning Worship 11:00AM June 11 Youth 6:45PM OASIS 6:45PM June 15 Sunday School 9:45AM 11:00AM Morning Worship June 18-20 Camp Harlem 9.00AM-1.00PM June 18 OASIS 6:45PM June 22 9:45AM Sunday School 11:00AM Morning Worship Communion during worship service Deacons Meeting 12:15PM June 22-26 Youth Summer Trip to Charlotte, NC June 25 OASIS 6:45PM June 29 Sunday School 9:45AM 11:00AM Morning Worship Family Worship Service Church Luncheor 12:15PM

Upcoming Events:

July 2

### No Wednesday Night Services

July 12 Men's Breakfast

#### Men's Breakfast 9:00AM at Red Oak Manor July 11-13

Centrikid Camp

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

06-01

06-03

06-03

06-05

06-05

06-10

06-17

06-18

06-23

06-24

06-26

We want to be a praying church. Here are some specific ways you

can be praying for HBC throughout the month of June.

That they would effectively display Christ-likeness in all that they do

That seeds of faith would be planted into the lives of all who participate

That we would connect with unchurched families in meaningful ways

That the Lord would burden all of our attendees to grow in the Lord

That God would provide and equip all the volunteers we need



Happy Birthday

Beverly McCorkle-Welch

Darlene Rainwater

Leslie Perdue

Katie Powell

Brooke Moore

Drue Williams

Kristen Camp

Andre Miller

Brett Rogers

Ben Hill

Joy Ray



LOVE

June 2025

The

Desk

Pastor's

Our mission statement at HBC is "Love God, Love People, Make Disciples." The first two elements of this statement can certainly be challenging to put into practice, but scripture makes it pretty clear how we are to love God and love people. In fact, we can begin by turning to the Ten Commandments. The first four commandments deal with our relationship with the Lord. If you strive to obey these commandments you will be in good position to love God well. The final six commandments address our relationship with others. If we obey these commandments we will position ourselves well to love others. Certainly, there are other nuances in how we are to love God and love people, but for the most part, we have pretty clear Biblical direction. So how about making disciples?

In Matthew 28 we see where Jesus commissioned His disciples to "go therefore and make disciples of all nations." This is the text where we get that final part of the mission statement for HBC. But what Jesus fails to do in Matthew 28 is tell us what makes a disciple. He also fails to detail for his apostles how they are to go about making disciples. He does say that they are to baptize and teach these new disciples. But he doesn't exactly give a step by step method in how to go about doing this. Our tendency is to think that this is a call to evangelism. That is, the call to make disciples is a call to go out and share the gospel with others and lead them to Christ. And yes, this is certainly part of it, but conversion is simply the beginning of the disciple making process. There is more to disciple-ship than acceptance of the gospel. I would argue that a disciple is not merely one who accepts the gospel, it is one who is striving daily to follow Jesus. A disciple is one who desires to serve as Christ served. A disciple is one who longs to be in a growing relationship with Christ and is putting in the work to do that. Finally, I believe disciples of Christ are those who are committed to making more disciples of Christ.

At HBC, I believe that we have placed emphasis on the need to make disciples. Discipleship classes have grown two fold over the past four or five years. The number of individuals serving has increased in that same time. Still, there are many individuals within our community who are not serving and who are not participating in a discipleship group. Our tendency when thinking of making disciples is to think about the unchurched in our community. But I would propose to you that we would be far more effective at reaching the unchurched in our community if we took seriously the call to make disciples of every individual who fills our pews each week. And, if we are going to make that happen, we need to create more discipleship opportunities at HBC.

Over the next couple of months I want to invite you to join me in praying over HBC. Pray that the Lord would send us more individuals who are passionate about making disciples who will make disciples. Pray that the Lord would burden every individual attending HBC to take the necessary step of joining a discipleship group. Finally, pray that our current and future discipleship groups would be increasingly fruitful in their efforts to make disciples who follow Jesus more faithfully!

AS OF MAY 28, 2025 Actual Expenses YTD \$122,180 Actual Received YTD \$125,373

FINANCIALS

CONNECTIONS is a monthly publication of Harlem Baptist Church PO Box 790 Harlem GA •706-556-6439• e-mail Church@HarlemBaptist.org

PEOPLE

ΜΑΚΕ DISCIPLES

# CONNECTIONS



Press on! Parson

# Church News



We are excited to share with you that, with the blessing of the personnel committee and our deacons, we have hired *Sang Lee* to be our new worship leader. For many of you, Sang needs little introduction as he has been a consistent part of our worship team for the past several months. We do however want to share with you a little information about Sang to help you get to know him a bit better.

Sang was born in South Korea and raised in Augusta, GA. He began his worship ministry journey in 2015 at True Light Community Church, where he eventually served as Worship Director. He and his wife Shann are proud owners of Harlem Java House, a coffee shop here in Harlem, and they are excited to be part of our vibrant community. Sang brings a passion for leading worship that connects people to God in spirit and truth, and he is looking forward to serving and growing alongside the family at Harlem Baptist Church.

Sang will officially begin his new role on Sunday, June 1st. I know that you will make Sang feel right at home here at HBC!

# **Nominating Committee**

This committee will be working throughout June-August to fill vacancies on ministry teams and committees. Please prayerfully consider how/where you will serve at HBC in the coming church year.



Deacon nominations forms can be found in our welcome center. Please nominate up to 4 people and turn this form into the church office by June 22, 2025. In ministry in general, and in communications in particular, it can be easy to get bogged down in the question, "Is anybody hearing this?" It can be challenging at times to measure results, because we might not know who hears us for weeks, months, even years after the fact. People don't tell you that they heard your announcement and chose not to show up – so you never know if it actually reached them when they are not there. Further, quantifiable results are hard when God is working in people's lives at various speeds and depths all around you. The rule of thumb, taught all throughout Scripture, is that our job in ministry is obedience, not results. What has God called me to do? Where is He moving so we can get on board? Is the seemingly crazy next step coming from Him, as the Spirit works in us to hear and understand His heart and desire for our church and those around us? We cannot be results driven because that's not our job, but the metrics of results gives us something tangible to hold on to when it seems no one is listening...

I was encouraged this past week by a song I've known a long time, and I hope that you, in your own walk with Christ, will be as well. Because it is a reminder that being personally heard and noticed is not the goal, even though it is what we will look at to see if we are on the right track. Far more often, God is working behind the scenes, moving and changing things until suddenly all of the puzzle pieces seem to fall into place. But in the meantime, we have a definable goal – a metric that we CAN use day in and day out, and it doesn't revolve around how others respond. Rather, it reminds us that, as Christians, what we do is not about us. We're not the center of the story. He is. And it makes obedience easier when you focus on the goal – showing others Christ and what He has done so that they may know Him more.

> So let me go down, down, down in history As another blood-bought faithful member of a family And if they all forget my name, well that's fine with me I'm living for the world to see Nobody but Jesus Cause I'm just a nobody Trying to tell everybody All about Somebody Who saved my soul Ever since You rescued me You gave my heart a song to sing I'm living for the world to see Nobody but Jesus

> > -Rebekah

JUNE 1ST

(Youth)

CHICKEN/FISH

& FIXINGS

JUNE 29TH (Building Renovations)

STEAK, POTATOES

& FIXINGS



JUNE 18-20 | 9AM-1PM



Volunteers are still needed! If you are interested in volunteering please scan

the QR code.

# Camp Harlem Volunteer Meeting June 1st

Immediately after worship service

## **GUINEA MISSION TRIP**

Our mission team will be heading to Guinea this summer! We will commission our team during service on Sunday, June 1st. Mission Team members are Carson Britt, Lindsey Braynt, Chase Stolte, Rachael Stolte, and Brett Rogers. Please be in prayer for safe travels and to be the hands and feet of Jesus during their time there.

# YOUTH SUMMER TRIP:

Our youth will be traveling to Charlotte, NC for a week of spiritual renewal and fun. Please be in prayer for them!



kah

Summer is a welcome invitation for students and teachers alike. But summer is also a good time to examine the rhythms of life. That's because for so many of us, the rhythm changes. Many of us will take time off work during the next 2-3 months. Kids are out of school. Our workdays begin to look and feel a little different. Even the created world has drastic changes... By the time you read this newsletter article, we will be about 3 weeks away from the longest day of the calendar year. The sun won't set until about 9pm. So we could reasonably stay active much farther into the day than we can in, say, December... when the sun sets at about 5:45pm.

With all these transitions around us, it would be easy to get swept away with life's changing rhythms. As we drift from the daily norm, it would be understandable if many of us also drifted from spiritual discipline... and drifted from prioritizing our walk with the Lord. But even though summer brings with it some distractions and changes, it also brings many opportunities. Especially for families, summer is a perfect time to be reflective and evaluate whether the household habits are healthy and oriented around God, or if they are only adding to family dysfunction. Because God is "over all and through all and in all" (Ephesians 4:6), if our families and homes aren't intentional about structuring their schedules around time spent with God, the evidence will leak out into our daily lives. We need God desperately. His grace, His mercy, His provision... they stay us through all the seasons of life. But when we get too busy for Him, we are unplugging ourselves from the ultimate source of life power.

This summer, accept the invitation to take a closer walk with the Heavenly Father.

-Evan

## June 22-26