

May CALENDAR

May 1	National Day of Prayer - The Sanctuary will be open from 11:00AM to 1:00PM and 4:30PM to 6:30PM for prayer	
May 3	Men's Breakfast at Red Oak Manor	9:00AM
May 4	Sunday School Morning Worship Church Luncheon	9:45AM 11:00AM 12:15PM
May 7	AWANA (Last Regular Meeting) Youth OASIS	6:15PM 6:45PM 6:45PM
May 11	Sunday School Child Dedication During Service Morning Worship	9:45AM 11:00AM
May 14	That Big Spring Event	6:00PM
May 18	Sunday School Morning Worship Graduate Recognition Church Conference	9:45AM 11:00AM 6:00PM
May 20	HBC Pre-K End of Year Program	6:00PM
May 21	Youth OASIS	6:45PM 6:45PM
May 26	MEMORIAL DAY-CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED	
May 27	Coffee with Carson at Red Oak Manor	8:30AM
May 28	Youth OASIS	6:45PM 6:45PM
May 31	YOUTH AT BRAVES GAME	

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

05-23 Harold & Margie Smith

05-01 Tara Cooper  
05-02 Kevin Allen  
05-03 Terry Carter  
05-04 Brenna Cook  
05-05 Jason Truitt  
05-07 Roger Kubeck  
05-18 Rob Lewis  
05-20 Barry Fleming  
05-21 Susan Camp  
05-21 Peyton Perdue  
05-22 Margie Smith  
05-29 Lynda Adams  
05-31 Holly Laughery

FINANCIALS

AS OF APRIL 27, 2025

Actual Expenses YTD \$122,180  
Actual Received YTD \$125,373

CONNECTIONS

May 2025

The  
Pastor's  
Desk

One of my favorite shows growing up was “Boy Meets World.” In one of the earlier seasons, there is a scene where big brother Eric Matthews teaches his little brother, Corey, about the difficulty of life. In that scene, Eric hits Corey on the head and says, “Life’s tough, get a helmet.” As I’ve grown older I’ve come to realize just how true those words are. If I’m being honest, there are moments where I wish a helmet would protect me from the challenges that come in life. Have you ever felt this way? Have you ever felt like you needed a helmet from all of the things that life throws at you?

It occurred to me several months ago as I listened to a friend share some of what his family is facing that there are many people who are overwhelmed with life. Things like sickness, grief, finances, problems within marriage, addiction, and a host of other things make life feel really heavy at times. Even the good things in life can be overwhelming if we’ve got too many of them going on at one time. So what are we to do when we feel overwhelmed? How do we overcome the anxiety and the stress that seems to always be pressing in on us? Scripture gives us a couple ways that we should respond to life’s challenges.

One of our responses to life’s burdens is to invite others to help us carry those burdens. Paul says in Galatians that we are to “Carry each other’s burdens.” And when we do this we are “fulfilling the law of Christ.” If you look at Jesus’ life, you will see that he often helped others carry their burdens. People who were sick came to him. Those who were lost or abandoned found their way and they found love in Him. We see consistent pictures of Jesus helping to carry the burdens of others throughout each of the gospels. And the greatest, most impactful way Jesus did that was through his sacrifice – which took on the burden of sin for all of humanity. Jesus modeled what it looks like to help others carry their burdens. And scripture calls us to do that good and helpful work.

The second way that we face our burdens is to simply take them to Jesus. Just as Jesus helped so many carry their burdens as he walked on earth, he longs to help you and me carry our burdens as well. Jesus said, “Come to me, all you who are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest.” In Christ we can exchange our burdens for rest. What a tremendous promise that is!

I have this tendency to bottle up my burdens and not let them out. I keep them to myself because I am hyperaware of the fact that everyone else has their own burdens they are trying to manage. But we were not designed to keep things bottled up. We were created to live in community with one another and in communion with God. We only have true community when we choose to walk with one another in good seasons and difficult seasons. We only have true intimacy with the Lord when we cling to him in all of life’s seasons. So, rather than looking for a figurative helmet to put on to help us endure the trials of life, let’s choose to bring others into our lives in the good and the bad, and let’s commit to looking to Jesus in the midst of it all.

Press on!  
Carson

## Church News



*Mena*  
**MAY 4**  
GUINEA MISSION  
HAMBURGER STEAKS  
& FIXINGS  
**MAY 18**  
(TBD)  
PORK CHOPS  
& FIXINGS

### Tapping Into the Power of God

Credit to: Justin Firesheets, Church Production Magazine, 5.23.21

*When I read this, I couldn't have better expressed my own thoughts about how believers (including and especially myself) struggle with living life in our own power. Enjoy! – Rebekah*

It can be easy to become self-reliant. The world demands we be the best. We eat stress for breakfast and anxiety for lunch. We become accustomed to everyone around us coming to us for help. But the more this happens, the more comfortable we may become relying upon our own strength and abilities—and the easier it can become to forget the importance of serving as a channel or conduit for the supernatural power of God.

Many of us may think nothing of wrapping up our prayers and blessings with an “in Jesus’ name, Amen” tag; that’s the way we’ve done it for years, and it’s just a jargon routine we have settled into. But what does that really mean? And do we really mean it? The Bible continually proclaims that the name of Jesus is the most powerful name we could ever say. That’s the key to having demons tremble, chains break, and the floodgates of heaven open. **More is accomplished supernaturally by the name of Jesus than by any other means.**

Operating in Jesus’ name means that there’s no room for my own name anymore. I’m laying down my own sense of identity and ability and exclusively leaning on His. It’s not about my own resume or skills, but about His. It’s a process of me ceding control of my own life and circumstances. I’m moving over and letting Jesus take the wheel.

There’s power in the humility of knowing that we are just vessels for God to use however He chooses. And there’s excitement and freedom that comes from knowing that when I make that choice, I don’t have to carry the weight of expectation anymore. I can have peace and know that regardless of what happens, the supernatural power of Jesus can flow through me to do far more than I could ever do on my own.

And when I bow my head to pray, I can be confident that I will be part of something special. Not because of who I am or what I can do, but because of the choice I’ve made to work for an Audience of One and give Him the glory for all that happens.

In Jesus’ name, Amen!

–Rebekah

## NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER Thursday, May 1st

The Sanctuary will be open  
from 11:00AM to 1:00PM and  
4:30PM to 6:30PM for prayer.



**YOUTH AT BRAVES GAME --MAY 31ST**

This is a free event for our youth at HBC. We will depart from the church at 12:145 pm. We should return around 10:00pm.



**MAY IS**  
**NATIONAL**  
**FOSTER CARE**  
**AWARENESS MONTH**

**MEN'S**  
**BREAKFAST**

**Saturday, May 3rd**  
**at 9:00am**  
Located at Red Oak Manor



Not too long ago, Taylor Swift started a movement. Not sure if that’s necessarily what she was trying to do, but she did it nonetheless. The “movement” she started was that of a lot of people over-using the word “era”. I’m no “Swiftie”, but I believe it started because one of her most recent concert tours was named “The Eras Tour”. It makes sense that Taylor Swift would name her concert tour “The Eras Tour”. After all, she’s had a lot off different eras. The country music era. The pop music era. The blonde hair era. The brown hair era. The Travis Kelce era...

And for months after this long string of concerts, lots of people took to social media to proclaim that they were in their “Messy Hair, Don’t Care” era or their “Soy Latte” era... ya know, silly stuff. Every now and then someone would be a little more thoughtful with their proclamation – they were in their “Getting Rid of Toxic Relationships” era. It was a declaration of intent. A self-reflective examination; an admission that we are moving from one season of life to the next.

I feel like I have recently moved into a different era of life. An era after my mother’s passing. And while this era feels very different – it is filled with moments of sadness and quiet emptiness – I feel like God’s provision is clear in the timing of this era. What I mean by this is: it was only five weeks from the time my family buried my mother until we celebrated Easter. And this is significant because my Mom always loved Easter. More than most people. She loved decorating her house with little woodland creatures. She loved bright, bold colors. And she loved family gatherings. So Mom always thrived at Easter time.

Easter felt different without her. She was missed terribly, of course. But also, Easter meant a lot more to me this year than it has in years past. It seemed more significant. And as we met at the church together and praised and worshipped the Risen Savior together, my Mom was on my mind often. And it dawned on me that she, too, was experiencing a different era; the Resurrection Era.

I mentioned this in Sunday School last week, but Easter this year offered me tremendous hope. The empty tomb – which I badly needed – was a comforting and powerful reminder that death is not the end. Because of God’s power on display through the resurrection of Jesus, the stone was rolled away. Jesus had defeated death and overcome the grave. Death has lost its sting. And because of that, my Mom is shrouded in victory right now. Her faith has been made sight.

The truth is, for Christian believers, we are all living in the Resurrection Era. We are under the era of King Jesus’ reign. And there is only one more era to come... when Jesus comes back and reclaims the earthly domain; when he joins the New Heaven and New Earth. And when we will all go to be with Him forevermore. This is good news, friends. The best news.

–Evan

*Coffee with Carson*



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

**Tuesday, May 27th**  
**8:30AM**

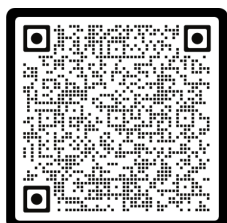
*Let us know if you are coming!*  
706-556-6439 or church@harlembaptist.org

— church —  
**CONFERENCE**  
May 18 | 6:00PM

**CAMP HARLEM**  
**JUNE 18-20**

**VOLUNTEERS**  
**NEEDED!**

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR  
THIS YEARS CAMP HARLEM! TO  
SIGN UP TO BE A VOLUNTEER SCAN  
THE QR BELOW.



VOLUNTEER!!