

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 1	Men's Breakfast <i>At Red Oak Manor</i>	9:00AM
August 2	Worship Service Sunday School Worship Service Church Luncheon <i>Promotion Sunday</i>	9:00AM 10:15AM 11:15AM 11:15AM
August 4	HBC Pre-K Open House	
August 5	Worship Night <i>Located in the FLC</i>	6:30PM
August 8	Church Work Day	8:00AM
August 9	Worship Service Sunday School Worship Service <i>Deacon Election-Both Services</i>	9:00AM 10:15AM 11:15AM
August 12	MIDWEEK Resumes	6:30PM
August 15	Youth Kingdom Day <i>At Kiokee Baptist Church</i>	10:00AM
August 16	Worship Service Sunday School Worship Service Church Luncheon	9:00AM 10:15AM 11:15AM 11:15AM
August 19	MIDWEEK	6:30PM
August 23	Worship Service Next Steps Breakfast Sunday School Worship Service <i>Deacons Meeting After Second Service</i> Church Conference	9:00AM 10:15AM 10:15AM 11:15AM 6:00PM
August 25	Coffee with Carson <i>At Harlem Java House</i>	8:30AM
August 26	MIDWEEK	6:30PM
August 30	Sunday School Joint Family Worship <i>Church Luncheon to Follow Service</i>	9:00AM 10:15AM

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Rev. Carson Britt
Pastor
Evan Powell
Minister of Youth and Young Adults
Rebekah Dickerson
Communications and Connections Minister
Sang Lee
Worship Leader
Ashley Driggers
Administrative Assistant
Lindsey Rogers
Director of Children's Ministries

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Harlem, GA
Permit No. 8

ANNIVERSARIES		BIRTHDAYS	
08-05	Chris & Ariel Smith	08-04	Alice Jones
08-06	Gary & Kathy Holley	08-05	Zach Fleming
08-08	Emmit & Annette Coleman	08-10	Dale Arnold
08-11	Steve & Susan Camp	08-10	Roxie Whitaker
08-19	Caleb & Alicia Sawyer	08-13	Edee Sweatman
08-27	Jerry & Jill Williams	08-15	Taryn Birchfield
		08-16	Inez Brown
		08-16	Grier Whitaker
		08-18	Rachael Hill
		08-25	Emmit Coleman
		08-25	Jimmy Tankersley
		08-26	Tony Mundy
		08-29	Carol Carter
		08-31	Alicia Sawyer

DEACON ELECTIONS

August 9th in both services

MIDWEEK Resumes: August 12th

Adult Classes Include: Genesis, Parenting, and Essentials of Faith

FINANCIALS

AS OF JULY 28, 2026

Actual Expenses YTD \$202,886
Actual Received YTD \$201,101



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Harlem Baptist Church

CONNECTIONS

August 2026

LOVE GOD

LOVE PEOPLE

MAKE DISCIPLES

Rest. Do you know what it means to truly rest? When was the last time you felt genuinely rested? What do you do to find rest?

My suspicion is that, for many of us, rest has become an abstract concept. We've spent years getting by on the bare minimum. In fact, setting aside regular time to rest our minds and bodies often comes with a side of guilt. We know there is always something else we could be doing to be more productive. We see others who aren't resting and convince ourselves that we shouldn't either. We treat rest as a reward reserved only for those who have worked tirelessly for long enough. We believe that if we stop, we'll only fall further behind.

In America, rest is often viewed as an unacceptable indulgence—something that invites judgment and guilt rather than gratitude. And over the past several weeks, I have found myself asking one question again and again: How did we get here?

As most of you know, I recently returned from a six-week sabbatical. Since coming back, the question I've been asked most often is, "Do you feel rested?" To be honest, I'm not entirely sure how to answer. Mentally and spiritually, I was able to rest. Spending time in God's Word simply for my own renewal was deeply refreshing. Having intentional, unhurried time with Jennifer and our children was a tremendous gift. But because I've experienced guilt and even judgment for resting in the past, I found it surprisingly difficult to truly rest. Instead of exerting myself mentally, as my work usually requires, I found myself exerting myself physically. But hey—my garden has never looked better!

So I'll ask the question again: How did we get here?

I think somewhere along the way we began to equate rest with laziness. We've been convinced that to rest is to fall behind, lose ground, or indulge ourselves. In the process, we've forgotten something remarkable: God Himself rested. Not only did God rest, but out of the Ten Commandments, one is devoted to remembering and keeping a day of rest. Somehow we've overlooked that. At some point, we have to wrestle with what that means.

Either rest is a lazy indulgence—and if that's true, what does that say about a God who rested? Or we must conclude that rest is a good gift, commanded by a loving God because He knows that we need it.

Over the next month, we'll spend our Sunday mornings exploring what the Bible has to say about rest. In a season when the pace of life only seems to accelerate, I think we could all benefit from rediscovering God's good gift of rest. My prayer is that, together, we'll learn not only how to rest, but why God commands it—for His glory and for our good.

I look forward to worshiping alongside you this month!

Press On!
Carson

CHURCH NEWS



CHURCH WORK DAY
AUGUST 8 | 8:30AM

CHURCH CONFERENCE
August 23 | 6PM

Church Luncheon

*Church luncheon will
begin at 11:15AM and continue
after second service.*

AUGUST 2
(Building & Grounds)
Pork Chops & Fixings

AUGUST 16
(Music)
Pepper Steak & Fixings

AUGUST 30
(HBC Pre-K)
Mexican Buffet



Mark your Calendars
August 5th
at 6:30PM
(located in the FLC)

Next Steps Breakfast

**We welcome all newcomers for
breakfast on August 23rd during
Sunday School hour (10:15AM in
the FLC) to learn more about
HBC and how to join.**

COFFEE WITH CARSON



August 25th | 8:30AM
at Harlem Java House

JOINT FAMILY WORSHIP



SUNDAY, AUGUST 30TH

SUNDAY SCHOOL—9:00AM
FAMILY WORSHIP—10:15AM
CHURCH LUNCHEON AFTER WORSHIP

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, August 1st
9:00AM
at Red Oak Manor

Hello Church!

I haven't had the chance to say this recently, but I want you to know how grateful I am to worship alongside you every Sunday. It is such an encouragement to hear our church sing, to watch people lift their hearts to the Lord, and to see the joy that comes from gathering together as His people. All glory belongs to God.

One of the greatest blessings of the local church is that God has given each believer different gifts to build up the body of Christ. None of us have been called to do everything, but all of us have been called to do something. That's why the church is made up of so many different ministries. Worship, media, greeting, children's ministry, and so many others all exist because God has uniquely gifted His people to serve one another.

Peter writes in 1 Peter 4:10, *"As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace."*

Every gift is a gift of grace from God. He didn't give those gifts so we could draw attention to ourselves, but so that we could point others to Him.

When people think about the worship ministry, it's easy to picture the musicians and singers standing on stage each Sunday. But worship ministry has never been about standing in front of people. It's about standing before God with a surrendered heart. It's choosing to lay down the desire for recognition so that Christ alone is lifted up. Every song we sing, every note we play, every lyric on the screen, every sound adjustment, and every behind-the-scenes role exists for one purpose: to help people see Jesus more clearly.

Serving in worship ministry isn't always easy. It requires humility. It requires preparation. It requires dying to both pride and self-pity. There are moments when you have to remind yourself that this isn't about being noticed or appreciated. It's about being faithful. And while that can be challenging, I can honestly say it is one of the most rewarding ways to serve the Lord.

Maybe you've sensed God nudging your heart to get involved, but you've convinced yourself that you're not ready or not good enough. If that's you, don't let fear make the decision for you. We aren't looking for perfect people. We're looking for people who love Jesus, have a teachable spirit, and are willing to faithfully use the gifts God has entrusted to them. Skill can be developed, but a heart that desires to glorify Christ is where ministry begins.

If you've been praying about where God would have you serve, I'd love to invite you to consider the worship ministry. Whether you've served before or have never been on a team, we'd love to talk with you, answer your questions, and help you discern if this is where the Lord is leading.

Let's continue building His church together, using the gifts He has graciously given us, so that in everything, Jesus receives the glory.

— Sang

Youth Kingdom Day

AUGUST 15 | 10:00AM-8:30PM

\$25 PER STUDENT

AT KIOKEE BAPTIST CHURCH

Trust Me

Proverbs 3:5–6

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight."

Over 20 years ago, one of the godliest men I have ever known, whom we called Pops, came and spoke at a youth camp I attended. I will never forget his message. He handed each of us a bright green index card. One side simply read, **"Trust Me,"** and the other side had Proverbs 3:5–6 written on it. To this day, I still keep that index card tucked inside my study Bible.

This summer has truly been a season of trusting the Lord. As I write this, with only three weeks until school begins, we have yet to find a Pre-K teacher for our 3-year-old class. We have hired a new office assistant, but we are still waiting for a background check from Virginia to be processed before it can go through Georgia's system. As of now, only Mrs. Kersey and I are ready to begin the school year.

Have I cried many tears? Yes. Have I worried? Yes.

Last week, as I was looking through my study Bible, that bright green index card fell out. I read those two simple words: **"Trust Me."** Immediately, I went to God in prayer.

I had been saying that I trusted Him with the plans He has for me, our Pre-K, our kids' ministry, and this upcoming school year. But in that moment, I realized I was still trying to handle everything on my own. I was leaning on my own understanding instead of fully surrendering it to Him and trusting that His plans are far better than mine.

But God.

He already knew what this summer would hold, and He remains faithful even when I struggle with doubt.

Maybe you need this reminder today too: no matter what season you're in, God has you. He will hold you, guide you, and sustain you through every season. Sometimes trusting God doesn't look like having all the answers. Sometimes it simply looks like choosing not to give up in the middle of the unknown.

—Lindsey