

# THE MESSENGER

# EASTERN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH



In Memory/Honor Of: Given By:

Ted Payne and Cherry Payne Curtis and Marie McKay Gene and Scott Flournoy Nell Flournoy

Mom & Dad Dworak Bette Edmonds

Morris & Peggy Kendrick Pam & Neal Kendrick Linda Westbrook, and Norman & Bobbie Rahn J.C. Conner and Sandy Conner Brenda Soloman

Earl & Clara Watson and Gray & Judy Watson Bob & Clara Piper Walter & Steve Sievers Betty Hutchinson Our Mothers, Polly Sanford Larry & Jeannie Lanier and Zem Lanier Our 36thWedding Anniversary Larry & Jeannie Lanier

Craig Hill, Britt Howard, Jan Howard Cooper & Hurley Families Lubye & Dorothy Paul Jim & Beverly Crain

Judi Lackey Russell Lackey Howard Duncan Judy Duncan and Family Joe Smith Dot Smith and Family Ed Kitchens Brenda Kitchens and Family Annette Banks Kenneth Banks Dawson Morris Jack and Lisa Lumpkin Morris G. I. Jackson Lenora Jackson and Family Barbara Wilson Lenora Jackson and Family Oma Jeffcoat Lenora Jackson and Family Larry Armstrong CeCelia Armstrong

Chuck Peppers Elea, Danny & Marty Peppers Henry and June Richards Sandra Wilson & Family Donnie Richards Sandra Wilson & Family Ralph Beasley Linda Beasley Virginia Carmichael Bobby & Angela Carmichael Ann E. Smith Bobby & Angela Carmichael Walt Edmonds Bette Edmonds Lez Edmonds Bette Edmonds Bradley Fitzgerald Pam & Neal Kendrick Grady & Eunice Grimes David & Terry Grimes Don & Nelda Miller David & Terry Grimes Dr. Alex Johnson Debbie Johnson Jim & Betty Martin Charles & Dinah Bundrick Sandy Harmann

Moses & Johnnie Mae Stevens Brenda Soloman

Ray & Bonnie Morris Rebecca Morris, Amanda & Jamie Fowler

Martin & Brenda Glover Jim & Beverly Crain

Please pick up poinsettias at the end of the Christmas Eve Service, Sunday, December 24.

## **LOVE Exhibited in Unity**

We are approaching the third week of Advent. The themes of the Advent season include Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. Each of these are intertwined and exhibited in the person and presence of Jesus Christ. It is through His coming to earth in human flesh, living among us, demonstrating how we are to live and treat each other that these attributes are fully revealed.

Several years ago, when I was still early in my ministry, the chairman of deacons at that time challenged us to memorize Romans 12. I did so, but over time I am afraid I have only retained the first two verses that I can recite with surety. Our recent Experiencing God study has awakened me to understand why this deacon thought the chapter was important for our memorization. It speaks to both our individual and corporate responsibility to Christ and His Church.

It starts with Paul urging us to present our bodies as living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to God...to not conform to the standards of the world but to live according to God's calling—renewing our minds through a constant dependency upon Him. As a result, we will know His pure and perfect will (verses 1-2).

It goes on to explain how God's people are joined together as a church body. He illustrates this through sharing the interconnectedness and interdependency of the parts of the body. Each part has a function and when one is absent or impaired the whole body is affected (verses 3-8).

The second half of the chapter is about love. He explains how we are to love one another, be devoted to one another, honor one another even above ourselves (v 10). He goes further to share that this love is displayed through harmonious living (v 16).

Harmonious living—unity. Here is where sometimes we make a mistake. We think harmony means unanimity or being unanimous on each issue that arises. That is probably impossible on this side of Heaven. However, we can be unified even when we disagree if we have true love for each other. In music, harmony occurs when notes are sounded simultaneously to produce chords that are pleasing to the listener. In chordal progressions there are often dissonant chords that produce a strident, harsh, or grating effect. These chords when sounded in isolation are usually not very pleasing to the ear, however they can add musical interest to the piece, and when resolved to a more pleasing consonant chord there is a release of energy that is exhilarating.

In the church we will never have complete agreement on every issue, however we can agree on the main thing that in God alone, revealed in the personage of Jesus Christ, we have Hope and when we receive that Hope we can live in Peace with one another.

This season clothe yourself in God's love. Live in harmony with those in the fellowship. Extend grace and forgiveness generously. Then JOY will fill your heart and our fellowship this most blessed season!

God bless you all!

**Pastor Keith Pate** 



The River Region Band presented a tremendous, festive Christmas concert this past Sunday at Eastern Hills Baptist Church! Their directors, Dale Worth and Major Joe Hansen (USAF), led the group in an uplifting and exciting instrumental program. The group was comprised of approximately 30 instrumentalists. Our own Mark Spain is a member of this delightfully entertaining band.



#### **HOLIDAY SCHEDULE**

The Church Office will be closed Monday, December 25, Tuesday, December 26, and Monday, January 1.

There will be no Wednesday services, activities or supper on December 20 and December 27 due to the upcoming holidays. Wednesday services, activities, & supper will resume on Wednesday, January 3.



#### **REALITY AND TRUTH**

THE THIRD THURSDAY EACH MONTH
 WE STILL NEED SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES TO SIGN
 UP FOR THIS AMAZING MINISTRY.



SANCTUARY FLOWERS | December 17, 2023

In Loving Memory of Jason Armstrong on the anniversary of his birthday given by the Armstrong family.



Sunday, December 24 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship Service



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service December 24 - 5:00 p.m.

NO CHILDCARE FOR EVENING SERVICE

# IN THE PULPIT

SUNDAY, December 17 | 10:30 AM **Guest Speaker: Dr. Jay Stewart** 

# **BUDGET REPORT**

#### YTD BUDGET REPORT

Budget Requirements	\$1,432,075.50
Budget Receipts	1,219,100.44
UNDER BUDGET	212,975.06

### 虰 **ATTENDANCE** Sunday, December 10, 2023 **SUNDAY SCHOOL** Remote......33 **WORSHIP** Worship Care.....9 Worship Service......213

# Total Worship......222

#### **WEEKLY BUDGET REPORT DECEMBER 10, 2023**

Budget Requirements	\$28,641.51
Budget Receipts	24,865.54
UNDER BUDGET	3,775.97

#### **DESIGNATED**

Designated \$5,185.00

#### **Wednesday Night Schedule**

There will be no Wednesday services, activities or supper on December 20 and December 27 due to the upcoming holidays. Wednesday services, activities, & supper will resume on Wednesday, January 3.

Hot Meal: January 3, 2024 Spaghetti, mixed vegetables, mixed green salad, garlic toast and chocolate cake.



#### SENIOR ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14 | 6:00 PM RECEPTION ROOM **\$10.00 PER PERSON** 

Please sign up in Sunday School or call the church office by Tuesday, December 12th.



January 13-15, 2024 | Pigeon Forge, TN The cost is \$260 per person. You can register online through the Realm App or easternhills.church. The cost includes conference fee, hotel, meals, and ticket to the Titanic Museum. If you have questions, please contact Taylor Noah.

#### YEAR END GIVING

We are in the last month to give to our church for this calendar year. If you have any questions concerning your year-to-date contributions, please contact Donna Brown at 272-0604. Remember, all gifts must be received at the church or postmarked by December 31 in order to get proper credit for 2023 contributions.

#### ONLINE GIVING

If you give online as a recurring giver, make sure your gifts do not end at year end. You can also go online to verify your gifts for 2023.

If you need assistance with your online giving, please call the church office at 272-0604.

#### 2024 OFFERING ENVELOPES

The offering envelopes are available and are located in the Library Hallway.



December 17 Children's Worship **Bible Skills, Drills & Thrills** 



# **Volunteers Needed** for Food Distribution

Friday, December 15 at 1:00 p.m.
• Meet in the EHBC gym to prepare bags for

distribution on Saturday.

Saturday, December 16 9:00 a.m.

• Meet in the EHBC gym to prepare for distribution.



# IE MESSENGER

EASTERN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

The Messenger, Eastern Hills Baptist Church 3604 Pleasant Ridge Road, Montgomery, Alabama 36109. 334-272-0604

#### **WEEKLY SCHEDULE**

#### **SUNDAY**

9:15 AM - Sunday School 10:30 AM - Worship Service 8:30 - 10:15 AM - Library Hours 3:00 PM - Grief Share, Conference Room (Grief Share will resume January 14, 2024.)

#### **TUESDAY**

6:00 AM - Men's Prayer Meeting in the RR (Men's Prayer Meeting will not meet December 19, 26, or January 2. We will resume on January 9, 2024.)

#### **WEDNESDAY**

There will be no services or activities on Wednesday, December 20, and Wednesday, December 27, due to the Christmas Holidays.

Wednesday services, activities, & supper will resume on Wednesday, January 3.

We hope you and your family have a Merry Christmas and a blessed New Year!

**POSTAGE** 

ADDRESS LABEL