



THE MESSENGER

EASTERN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

ONE BODY, ONE FELLOWSHIP, ONE CHOIR

“Now you are the body of Christ and individual members of it.” (1 Corinthians 12:27)

1 Corinthians 12 illustrates how the individual parts of our physical body are closely linked just as we are connected in the body of Christ, the Church. One great illustration of this was seen in our Christmas program, “Celebrate Christmas – The Light Has Come,” which was held on December 8. The program included children, youth, and adults singing together and participating in various readings, and other musical arts. There were many people behind the scenes who participated by running lights, sound, cameras, and multimedia presentations. All these combined to present the full message of Hope this Christmas season.

As the preparations for the program were coming together and finally the presentation itself was upon us, I was reminded of how important every person is in this massive undertaking. No one, no matter their role, is insignificant! When someone is not present, their absence impacts the whole. Each voice in the choir contributes their part to the whole of the sound. Some voices are stronger, clearer, and more vibrant than others, but ALL contribute to a blend that no one could achieve in isolation. Those running lights, sound, or media, if not present would leave a hole in the full impact of the message to be conveyed. All are important!

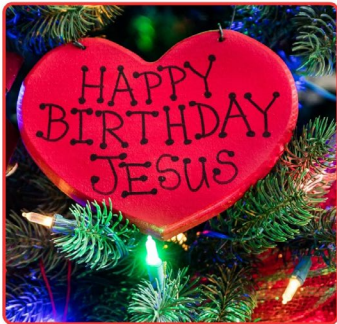
Some would ask why would you put that much time and effort into something that is presented once? Is it worth it? Why not just have the congregation sing all the music for the annual Christmas program? After all, congregational singing involves everyone. Certainly, congregational singing is vital to the health of the church, and even in this type of program we try to include these opportunities. However, there are times when a choir, ensemble, and soloists can present something that speaks a fresh different voice. When we are not singing, but listening to a great choir or soloist, we are given the opportunity to stop and truly reflect on the words, melodies, and harmonies and ponder the message with deeper contemplation.

Doesn't this type of production take a lot of time? Absolutely, but so does anything that is done with excellence! If a person is a part of an athletic team, they are required to put in hours of grueling practice to train their bodies to be at their best to compete and hopefully win. When we train ourselves musically to present something in worship, I believe our calling is even to a higher standard. We should never slough off and give half an effort to church, rather present our best since it is for the King of kings.

This week I read 1 Chronicles 21. The passage is lengthy, and time constraints prohibit my recounting it now. Read it when you have a moment. Suffice to say David sinned and he was instructed by an angel to build an altar to offer a sacrifice for his sin. He was even told where to build the altar. When he went to the individual to acquire the property, Araunah, the owner, offered to give it to the king, and even throw in the animals to sacrifice. David replies in 1 Chronicles 21:24 **“No, I insist on paying the full price. I will not take for the Lord what is yours and sacrifice a burnt offering that costs me nothing.”**

Preparation for genuine worship costs us something, or it should. Thank you to all who sacrificed to make Sunday nights presentation possible. God honored our efforts! We were able to encourage our church family. We also were a witness to many who came from outside our church as we proclaimed that Jesus Christ is the Light of the world! **God bless you all.**

Keith



SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15
4:00 - 7:00 PM
EHBC GYM
BABIES TO 6TH GRADE
Event is free.
Children will make crafts,
enjoy a Bible story and
end with a party.
Parents will have 3 hours to
shop, wrap gifts or rest!
You must pre-register in advance
so that childcare can be available.

FAMILY NATIVITY WALK

* Come celebrate Christmas with your EHBC family and bring your Nativity to display at our Nativity Walk. A placard will be displayed with your name and any information you want to share about your Nativity. Santa will also be at the walk for children to visit. Cider & Cookies will be served.

* Sunday, December 22
3:00 - 4:30 | Reception Room *

Donations will be accepted to help provide Bibles for the Montgomery Fire & Rescue Training Academy Graduates.

* Contact: Cyndi Arnold, 303-1156

You will set up your display on Sunday, December 22, between 1:30 - 3:00 PM. There will be helpers stationed at the Reception Room door to assist you in transporting your items into the building. Please sign up in Sunday School by this Sunday, December 15, or call the church office on Monday.



**2024
CELEBRATE CHRISTMAS
THE LIGHT HAS COME!**



Pastor Jeremy Smalley



**LOTTIE MOON | GA POST OFFICE
CHRISTMAS CARDS**

You can mail your Christmas cards to anyone in the church by sending them through the GA's mailbox located in the CLC lobby.

Write the name *only* of the person you are sending it to - no address needed! Place the cards in the slot by the first letter of the LAST name.

Pay the normal postage by check or cash, drop into the lock box located next to the GA Post Office.

**Holiday Schedule - The church office will be closed on:
Wednesday, December 25 & Thursday, December 26
Wednesday, January 1, 2025**
There will be no Wednesday night supper, services or activities.

IN THE PULPIT

SUNDAY, December 16 | 10:30 AM
Pastor Jeremy Smalley
The Birth of Christ
Matthew 1:18-25

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, December 8, 2024

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Total In-Person..... 225
Remote..... 37

WORSHIP

Worship Care.....8
Worship Service.....186
Total Worship.....194

SENIOR ADULT EVENTS

Thursday, December 19, 9:00 AM - Celebration Singers & Voices of Victory will sing at The Crossings Assisted Living-Eastchase. The bus will leave EHBC at 8:45 AM.

BUDGET REPORT

YTD BUDGET REPORT

Budget Requirements \$1,355,583.04
Budget Receipts 1,236,979.99
UNDER BUDGET 118,603.05

WEEKLY BUDGET REPORT

December 8, 2024

Budget Requirements \$27,664.96
Budget Receipts 31,518.98
OVER BUDGET 3,854.02

DESIGNATED

Designated \$3,948.75

TOTAL COLLECTED: \$7,708.00

EHBC GOAL: \$35,000

Every dollar you give goes to the mission field to support gospel transformation among the lost. Thank you for your generosity!

lottiemoon.com



**Christmas Eve
Candlelight Service
December 24 - 5:00 p.m.**
NO CHILDCARE FOR SERVICE

**Christmas Day
December 25
No Wednesday Night
Supper, Service or Activities.**

The church office will be closed on Wednesday, December 25 - Thursday, December 26.



**STRENGTH TO STAND CONFERENCE | EHBC Youth, 7-12th Grade
December 27-30, 2024 | Pigeon Forge, TN**

The cost is \$125 per person. You can register online through the Realm App or easternhills.church. The cost includes conference fee, hotel, meals, and fun surprise outings. If you have questions, please contact Taylor Noah.



**WEDNESDAY
NIGHT SUPPER
DECEMBER 18**

**Sunday chicken, rice pilaf, carrots,
lima beans, roll and strawberry shortcake**

Cost is \$8 per person, \$30 max per household.
Reservations must be made by noon on Monday.

Reservations can be made online, by calling the church office, or by completing a reservation card located in the back of the pews. Completed cards can be placed in the offering plate or boxes.



Sanctuary Flowers
December 15, 2024

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

**16th Annual
Past and Present Family Caregiver
Christmas Brunch**

**Friday, December 13th, 2024
9:00 a.m. to noon
Reception Room
Eastern Hills Baptist Church**

*If you are a caregiver, past or present, you are invited to join us. This event will allow you a little break from caring for your love one while letting go of worries and enjoying time with friends, both old and new, plenty of festive food, Christmas music, door prizes and more!
We will even have a special visit from Santa Claus!*

If you should need someone to provide care for your loved one while you attend this event, please RSVP to Nancy McLain by Monday, December 9th, at (334) 233-2139 or call the church office at (334) 272-0604.

**Food Distribution
Volunteers Needed**

Friday, December 20 at 1:00 p.m.

- Meet in the EHBC gym to prepare bags for distribution on Saturday.

Saturday, December 21 at 9:00 a.m.

- Meet in the EHBC gym to prepare for distribution.



EHBC EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

- Ministry Assistant

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN APPLYING OR WANT MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT DAN HARRISON.

EHBC KIDZ!

**December 15
Children's Worship
The Christmas Story
Grades: K-3
Please bring your Bible.**

THE MESSENGER

EASTERN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

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

POSTAGE

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

SUNDAY
9:15 AM - Sunday School
10:30 AM - Worship Service
8:30 - 10:15 AM - Library Hours

TUESDAY
6:00 AM - Men's Prayer Meeting in the RR

WEDNESDAY
5:00 PM - Supper, Gym
5:45 PM - Acteens
5:45 PM - M² Music & Missions (4K - 6th grade)
6:00 PM - Adult Bible Study - Reception Room
6:15 PM - ONE (7th-12th grades) in the Youth Room
6:15 PM - Adult Choir Rehearsal

ADDRESS LABEL