

THE MESSENGER

EASTERN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

TOTAL COLLECTED: \$24,633.02

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!



lottimoon.com



QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

Our Quarterly Church Business

Meeting will be held on

Wednesday, January 22

at 6:00 p.m.

in the Reception Room.



EASTERN HILLS
BAPTIST CHURCH

CONTRIBUTION STATEMENTS

The 2024 Contribution Statements will be available to be picked up AFTER Sunday School & AFTER Worship this Sunday, January 19, in the CLC Lobby.

I HAVE NO WORDS...

There are seasons of life when words escape us. The circumstance is too severe, too painful, too mind blowing to fully process. It is in these moments, by those going through the loss or tragedy and those trying to comfort, that words are inadequate to convey the hurt, the ache, and the anguish being experienced. So how do we comfort those who are left behind due to the ravages of death? —by being present!

Romans 12:5 says, "Rejoice with those who rejoice, and weep with those who weep." (NKJV).

Dealing with death is uncomfortable, awkward, and painful. Its bite is bitter and sharp, piercing to the very marrow of our souls. Our natural response is retreat, withdrawing from the discomfort in hopes of denying its existence or avoiding its consequences. Yet, it is there, as big as a 9-foot growling Grizzly standing on its hind legs. It cannot be dismissed; its effects are obvious to all who are under its umbrella.

In recent weeks, our church family has felt the sharp knife of death as it is slashed through with butchering results. What do we say to someone who has lost a friend, a spouse of 50 plus years, a father, a mother, a grandchild still in the prime of life, a brother, a sister, or a prematurely born child? Oh, we have well-meaning platitudes we convey in those moments of heartbreak, but what words can truly bring solace when there is none to be found? Scripture of course brings some level of comfort and encouragement. Hymns or songs that speak of loss and the assurance of something greater through a faith relationship with Christ speaks softly to us.

Yet, in the middle of despairing sorrow what words bring healing? Words, at these moments, for the most part anyway, are not remembered. The individuals experiencing the loss are so mind numbed in grief that they simply are riding the wave, just trying to reach shore. The rushing waves of grief are too loud, their churn too enveloping to fully comprehend what is being said to them.

I have found, both as one who has experienced grief and tried to comfort others through their grief, that the most important thing that one can do to bring comfort to someone in the season of loss is to BE PRESENT. Just being in the room with them, giving a hug when appropriate, bringing a warm dish of food, sending a card, making a phone call, checking on them days and even weeks after the initial impact of loss is first felt. That is what is remembered by the one going through deep loss.

(continued, next page)

(continued from page 1)

Jesus gave us the example of how we should empathize with those who are grieving as seen in John 11:35 "Jesus wept!" He wept over the death of Lazarus. He wept as he felt the deep heartbreaking sorrow being experienced by his dear friends Mary and Martha.

When comforting someone who has lost a loved one, being genuine in your concern, being present in the moment, and displaying the character of Christ in our attitude conveys more than any spoken word we may wish to share.

"I have no words." Maybe it is better that way. Feel their pain, walk with them, love them. That is what a church family does!

Thank you for being a part of a church family who has demonstrated that in these weeks of great loss!

Keith Pate

LIBRARY MEMORIALS:

The book, "What Happens Next - A Traveler's Guide Through The End of This Age"

By Max Lucado

given in memory of

DEMARIAS BOWLES

(sister of Betty Kirby)

given by Sisters in Christ SS Class.

The book, "Finding Our Way"

By Leslie Vick

given in memory of

MILDRED LOUISE KELLEY

(sister of Grace Veazey)

given by Barbara Rodgers.

Women's Ministry Bible Studies

ABIDE by Jen Wilkins

Begins January 14

Tuesday, 9:30 AM, Reception Room

Facilitated by Susan McKim

(10 weeks with March break)

Precepts Bible Study by Kay Arthur

Romans - Part III

Begins January 14

Tuesday, 9:00 AM, Room 139

Led by Rebecca Morris

IN THE PULPIT

SUNDAY, January 19 | 10:30 AM
Pastor Jeremy Smalley
Illogical Love
Matthew 5:43-48

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, January 12, 2025

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Total In-Person..... 217
Remote..... 34

WORSHIP

Worship Care.....9
Worship Service.....206
Total Worship.....215

SENIOR ADULT EVENTS

Monday, January 27, 8:00 AM - Senior Breakfast Bunch, Chappy's on Perry Hill Road.

Thursday, January 30, 11:30 AM - Lunch & Bingo, Reception Room, Sweetcreek Barbeque. The cost is \$10.00. Sign up online, in Sunday School or call the church office.

Thursday, February 6, 11:00 AM - Lunch at the Conecuh Sausage Store, Evergreen, AL. Bus will leave the church at 10:00 AM. Sign up online, in Sunday School or call the church office. *Deadline to sign up is Noon, Thursday, January 30.*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER
JANUARY 22
Poppy seed chicken, rice, pineapple casserole, turnip greens, roll and peach cobbler

*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.

BUDGET REPORT

YTD BUDGET REPORT

Budget Requirements \$60,260.92
Budget Receipts 59,102.13
UNDER BUDGET 1,158.79

2025 - WEEKLY BUDGET REPORT

January 12, 2025

Budget Requirements \$30,130.46
Budget Receipts 29,450.04
UNDER BUDGET 680.42

DESIGNATED

Designated \$4,025.00

Food Distribution Volunteers Needed

Friday, January 17 at 1:00 p.m.

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

Saturday, January 18 at 9:00 a.m.

- Meet in the EHBC gym to prepare for distribution.



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 2024.

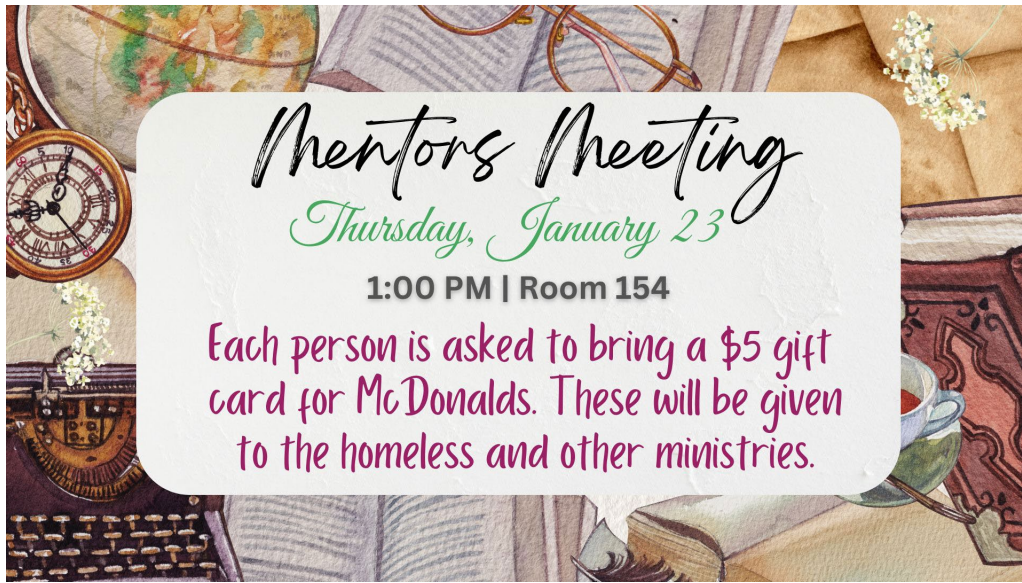
If you need assistance with your online giving, please call the church office at 272-0604.

Sanctuary Flowers

The following dates are available for placing flowers in the Sanctuary:

JANUARY - 2025	FEBRUARY - 2025	MARCH - 2025
Sunday, Jan 26	Sunday, Feb 9 Sunday, Feb 16	Sunday, Mar 2 Sunday, Mar 9 Sunday, Mar 30

If you would like to provide flowers in the sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one, please call the church office.



Mentors Meeting

Thursday, January 23

1:00 PM | Room 154

Each person is asked to bring a \$5 gift card for McDonalds. These will be given to the homeless and other ministries.

EHBC KIDZ!
LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, SOUL, MIND AND STRENGTH

January 19 - Bible Skills
Children's Worship
Grades: K-3
Please bring your Bible.

EHBC EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

- **MINISTRY ASSISTANT**

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

2025
Offering Envelopes

THE OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE AND ARE LOCATED IN THE OLD OUTREACH OFFICE.

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
9:00 AM - Ladies' Precepts Bible Study, Room 139
9:30 AM - WEM Bible Study, Reception Room

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