



THE MESSENGER

EASTERN HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH



Carolyn Grace Leavell
Pike Road High School



Commit your way to the Lord whatever you do, and He will establish your plans.
Proverbs 16:3 (NIV)



Thomas Westbrook Crossley, Jr.
Alabama Connections Academy



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

**Congratulations to
Sandy Harmann
who completes
Two years as
Interim Children's
Director on May 15!**



Mentors Meeting

Thursday, May 22

1:00 PM | Room 154



First Choice – Project Life Change Baby Bottles
India Herrig will join us as our speaker and share more about First Choice.

Homeless Sleeping Mat Ministry Wins 2025 Award

Our 2017 Beginning: When former staff member, Greg Gosselin, asked about interest in crocheting mats for the homeless, crocheting was too painful for the hands of many of those interested, so Karla Groves, found a YouTube video on how to weave them instead. Karla's husband, Lou, bought wood and other materials and made the first three weaving frames, and later David Grimes made two more. Karla became leader of this varied group, who empathizes with the plight of our community's homeless and serves them by making sleeping mats out of plastic bags. She invited ladies from EHBC to her home, where we enjoyed a potluck lunch together each week and began the process of making mats.

Covid-19 hit in 2020-2022, and we were benched like the rest of the world for two years. However, Karla stayed busy making 48 mats herself during that period of time.

We regrouped 5/8/2021, partnering with Dalraida Global Methodist, where Pastor Mike Cobb offered us rooms on their second floor, where we could keep the 6-foot frames set up, store supplies, and establish weekly workshops on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Our group grows by teaching others through speaking and power point presentations to other organizations that are interested in donating to our ministry. We have helped seven other churches start their own Mat Ministries.

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Why do we need so many volunteers?

It takes 2,005 plastic bags to make one mat beginning with three labor intensive processes with thousands of wadded-up bags, before starting the weaving.

1. Smooth and fold each bag
2. Cut bags into strips
3. Loop strips into weaving ropes
4. Weave strips onto the loom
5. Crochet the carrying strap

Once the technique is learned, a mat can be woven (step 4) in 2-4 hours. The rest is what takes “a village.”

Donated items we roll into each mat:

Twin-size blanket, small pillow, book - *Jesus of Nazareth*, \$5 food card from McDonald's, heavy duty poncho, cap & gloves in the winter months, hygiene kits with travel size soap, lotion, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, boxed wipes

So far we've made and delivered 642 mats through various homeless organizations such as Mid-Alabama Coalition for the Homeless, Quiet Storm Outreach, Reality & Truth, Mobile Rescue Mission, Mercy House, Love Loud Montgomery and many others.

Hands On River Region's Volunteer of the Year Awards:

- 2023 Individual Volunteer of the Year – Karla Groves
- 2025 Group Volunteer of the Year – Homeless Sleeping Mat Ministry

As humble as we feel to be recognized for the faithfulness of this ministry's participants, making life a little easier for “the least of these,” as Jesus commands and looking forward to The Father's “Well done, faithful servant” are our most treasured rewards. We'd love for you to join us and share these blessings as well.

Co-written by Karla Groves and Sharon Myers

Food Distribution Volunteers Needed

Friday, May 16 at 1:00 p.m.

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

Saturday, May 17 at 9:00 a.m.

- Meet in the EHBC gym to prepare for distribution.



VBS NEEDS

WE NEED EMPTY TALL PRINGLES CANS FOR VBS. YOU CAN DROP THEM OFF IN THE CHURCH OFFICE. THANK YOU!



Carpenters for Christ will be traveling to Fairburn, GA, June 6-14, 2025. They will be building a sanctuary - Living Word Church Ministries. Please pray for travel mercies, good weather and an effective build.

VBS 2025



Eastern Hills Baptist Church

3604 Pleasant Ridge Road
Montgomery, AL 36109

June 2 - 6

8:30 AM - 12:00 PM

4 Years - 6th Grade

Scan QR code to register as volunteer or participant.



IN THE PULPIT SUNDAY, May 18 | 10:30 AM

Pastor Jeremy Smalley
"The Resurrected Life"
I Corinthians 15:29-34

ATTENDANCE

Sunday, May 11, 2025

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Total In-Person..... 194
Remote..... 25

WORSHIP

Worship Care.....14
Children's Church.....10
Worship Service.....188
Total Worship.....212

SENIOR ADULT EVENTS

Monday, May 26 - Senior Adults will not meet for Breakfast at Chappys due to the Memorial Day holiday.

Thursday, May 29, 11:30 - Lunch & Bingo to follow in the Reception Room, lunch will be Sweet Creek BBQ. The cost is \$10 per person. Sign up online, in Sunday School or call the church office.

BUDGET REPORT

YTD BUDGET REPORT

Budget Requirements	\$572,478.74
Budget Receipts	459,524.76
UNDER BUDGET	112,953.98

2025 - WEEKLY BUDGET REPORT

May 11, 2025

Budget Requirements	\$30,130.46
Budget Receipts	16,458.00
UNDER BUDGET	13,672.46

DESIGNATED

Designated	\$715.00
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B I N G O



SENIOR ADULT LUNCH AND BINGO

Thursday, May 29
11:30 AM | Reception Room,
SweetCreek BBQ: \$10 Per Person



*Sign up through Realm, in Sunday School
or call the church office.*



July 7-11, 2025 | Monday - Friday

Worship Arts Camp is open to students that have completed 2nd grade - 12th grade.
Campers are divided by grade levels: 2nd-5th grades, 6th grade, 7th-12th grades.

Cost:

- \$340 before May 22
- \$350 after May 22

Register & pay \$100 deposit on realm.org/events or contact Joy, 272-0604 ext. 214.
\$100 scholarship available to first 10 students (2nd-6th grade) with perfect attendance in Children's Choir.

Sanctuary Flowers

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

MAY - 2025 Sunday, May 25	JUNE - 2025 Sunday, June 15 Sunday, June 29	AUGUST - 2025 Sunday, Aug 3
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*If you would like to provide flowers in the
sanctuary in honor or memory of a loved one,
please call the church office.*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

MAY 21

TACO BAR

DESSERT: COOKIES

**THIS WILL BE THE LAST WEDNESDAY
NIGHT SUPPER BEFORE SUMMER BREAK.
SUPPERS WILL START BACK
ON AUGUST 6.**



May 18 - Bible Skills
Children's Worship
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 - Bible Study Groups
10:30 AM - Worship Service
8:30 - 10:15 AM - Library Hours

TUESDAY

6:30 AM - Men's Prayer Meeting in the RR
9:00 AM - Ladies' Precepts Bible Study, Room 139

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
7:00 PM - Youth Choir

ADDRESS LABEL