

Preschool News

Kathy Mitchell

Our February was phenomenal – who doesn't love a Valentine's Day party! This month our studies included a lesson on the importance of good nutrition, a unit on dental health since February was **National Dental Health Month** and as we mailed our Valentines we talked about how our postal service works. As we celebrated President's Day we learned many facts about our presidents and we ended the month with our Louisiana studies unit. As always – a good time was had by all.

This month I would like to take a minute to say thank you and congratulations to our lead teachers. We started this new year with one hundred percent of our preschool staff certified to teach preschool in a Tier III center. All of our teachers have worked hard to earn a bachelors, an associate or a CDA in the early childhood field. Our center was awarded four stars from the state of La. for the 2020 calendar year. I say this not to boast, but in an effort to help you know how committed we are to this ministry and the children God sends to us.

That being said....we are still looking for several part time employees. We are in need of 3:00-5:30 p.m. teachers and substitute teachers. Please be in prayer with me that God will help us fill these much needed positions.

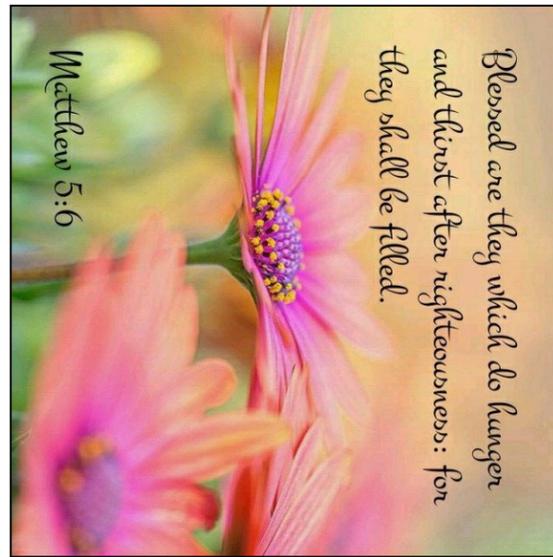


Robert Grafton

Outward Expression, Inward Reality

There are moments when we should stand still in silence before the Lord—that in itself is a posture of worship. However, if we find ourselves in corporate worship with our arms folded, mouthing the words with a bored look on our face, this posture indicates we may not be experiencing an inward heart of adoration, wonder, and awe that is characteristic of true, spiritual worship. We should ask God to draw us nearer to him and seek how he desires to be worshiped. How will you respond in the presence of God? Stand, kneel, bow? More on that this Sunday.

There's still time for you to join us in choir as we prepare extra music specials for Palm Sunday and Easter. We would love for you to join us each Sunday in the loft and each Wednesday at 6:00 for rehearsals in the choir room.



Emmanuel Baptist Church
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Ruston, LA 71270

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The Lighthouse

EMMANUEL
BAPTIST

RUSTON, LOUISIANA
www.ebcruston.org

March, 2020

BE READY

"But even if you should suffer for righteousness, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear or be intimidated, but in your hearts regard Christ the Lord as holy, ready at any time to give a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you."
1 Peter 3:14-15

We live in a world that is fallen, tainted by sin. This is something the scripture shows, but also a truth we experience daily. In this world full of people who are scurrying from one appointment, entertainment opportunity, or obligation to another, do we stand out as those who have hope? Are we prepared to give a reason for that hope?

Do you see the eternal, immeasurable, value of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ? There is no other religion or faith that truly reveals a remedy for our most pressing problem, which is sin. If there is an Almighty Creator who is worthy of complete obedience and we have sinned against Him, how could we ever do enough good things to atone (pay) for our own sin, especially since we still continue to sin daily through our own selfishness. The hope for sinful humanity is only through the grace of God we see extended through the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

If the only hope is Jesus, do you feel prepared to share Him? Is the Gospel story so precious to you that it is on the tip of your tongue and foremost in your mind? There will be ample opportunities to share the Gospel during this Easter season. I want to encourage you to be apart of our Gospel trainings we will be conducting on Sunday nights at 6 p.m. during March. We will be reviewing the Gospel story, identifying essential Gospel components, and practical ways to share the Gospel. Looking forward to seeing you there!!

March Memory Verses:

MARCH 1: LIVE THE NEW LIFE—FELLOWSHIP *"What we have seen and heard we also declare to you, so that you may also have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ."* 1 John 1:3

MARCH 8: LIVE THE NEW LIFE—FELLOWSHIP *"And let us watch out for one another to provoke love and good works, not neglecting to gather together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging each other, and all the more as you see the day approaching."* Hebrews 10:24-25

MARCH 15: LIFE THE NEW LIFE—WITNESSING *"Follow me," he told them, "and I will make you fish for people."* Matthew 4:19
"For I am not ashamed of the gospel, because it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes, first to the Jew, and also to the Greek." Romans 1:16

MARCH 22: PROCLAIM CHRIST—ALL HAVE SINNED *"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God."* Romans 3:23
"We all went astray like sheep; we all have turned to our own way; and the Lord has punished him for the iniquity of us all." Isaiah 53:6

MARCH 29: PROCLAIM CHRIST—SIN'S PENALTY *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord."* Romans 6:23
"And just as it is appointed for people to die once—and after this, judgment." Hebrews 9:27

Join us for worship...

Sundays

9:00 a.m. Bible Study
10:15 a.m.
Morning Worship
6:00 p.m.
Evening Worship

Wednesdays

5:00 p.m. Fellowship Meal
6 p.m. Recharge Service
Youth Bible Study
Mission Organizations
Adult Choir Practice
College Ministry—
"Explore"

MARCH

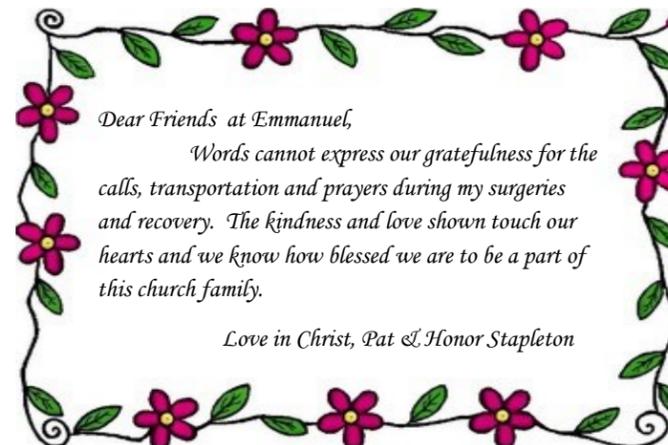
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Deacon/Widow Luncheon LBS-4 p.m. WOM 5 p.m.—A7 EWS—6 p.m.	2 <i>Ladies Prayer Group—10:30 am</i>	3 Men's Prayer Group—8:00 a.m.	4 Wednesday Night Meal—5 p.m. WNR—6 p.m. LBS—6 p.m. Deacons 7 p.m.	5 JOY Council 11:00 a.m. Adult 7 Dept.	6 ADULT GAME NIGHT @ FLC (sand., snacks) 6:00 p.m.	7 CTR reserved for wedding shower 10:00 a.m.
<i>Week of Prayer for North American Missions & Annie Armstrong Easter Offering March 1-8</i>						
8 Lord's Supper 10:15 a.m. N. Home—2:30 pm LBS—4 p.m. Teacher Mtg—4:50 pm EWS—6 p.m.	9 <i>Ladies Prayer Group—10:30 am</i>	10 Men's Prayer Group—8:00 a.m.	11 Wednesday Night Meal—5 p.m. WNR & Business Mtg—6 p.m. LBS—6 p.m.	12	13	14
College Retreat						
15 LBS—4 p.m. EWS—6 p.m. C. Retreat	16 <i>Ladies Prayer Group—10:30 am</i>	17 Men's Prayer Group—8:00 a.m.	18 WEEC 4 p.m. Wednesday Night Meal—5 p.m. WNR—6 p.m. LBS—6 p.m.	19 JOY Luncheon 11:00 a.m.	20	21 EBC Work Day 8 a.m.—Noon
22 LBS—4 p.m. EWS—6 p.m.	23 <i>Ladies Prayer Group—10:30 am</i>	24 Men's Prayer Group—8:00 a.m.	25 Wednesday Night Meal—5 p.m. WNR—6 p.m. LBS—6 p.m.	26	27	28
DNOW						
29 LBS—4 p.m. Community Wide Easter Service @ The Bridge—6 p.m.	30 <i>Ladies Prayer Group—10:30 am</i>	31 Men's Prayer Group—8:00 a.m.				

STUDENT MINISTRY Adron Hart

As I begin to write this article, I am enjoying some much needed sunshine after the season of rain we have experienced and it has me looking forward to spring. I enjoy God's creation as new life spring's forth and I am reminded that Jesus died so that we could have newness in life as it says in Romans 6:4. **THANK YOU LORD!**

For those that are interested in helping with our **Homeless Ministry**, we are scheduled to go to Monroe on **April 4th**. The plan is to take ham, sides, little Debbie cakes and waters. The church is going to purchase the hams but we will need people to warm them up. We also will need 5 of the one gallon cans of green beans brought to the church ahead of time so we can prepare them in one big pot. I am also in need of potato salad.

In the next couple of weeks we will have our annual **"Envelope Donation Wall"** set up in the back hallway. This is how we are able to attend summer camp each year and are always thankful for your generosity. You can simply take an envelope from the wall and whatever number is on that envelope is the amount that you place inside of it and either place it in the offering plate or give it to the office. Thank you! And as always, please continue to pray for the youth and myself!



Ministry spotlight Stephen Nutt

I am continually amazed at how God moves and works in our lives and world. While we may be amazed at what God chooses to do, we should never be surprised to see God's involvement since His Word is clear about work of the Holy Spirit in our world (John 14:26). The Spirit is always working somewhere, and we are seeing it now in the life of Emmanuel Baptist Church.

There are several things happening at EBC that I want to remind you about. In the recent weeks you have heard us mention the website www.blesseveryhome.com and how it can aid you in praying for your neighbors. I hope you have taken advantage of this website and have begun to pray for the people who live around you. Wouldn't it be great if every household in Ruston was being prayed for in some way? Also, our Pastor has encouraged us to memorize scripture this year. How are you doing? Do you have someone holding you accountable to this task? I hope so, and I want to encourage you to stay committed to memorizing the assigned verse each week.

God is blessing us in many ways at Emmanuel and with one of those blessings comes a need to hire a **Children's Intern**. Will you continue to pray that God will provide the right person, in the right time to fill this important position? I think we can all agree that it is great to see the children's ministry grow! But to continue, we need more help! Along with the new Intern, we are also in need of more workers in this ministry. There are all kinds of ways for you to get involved! If you feel God is leading you to work with our children, please let me know. I'd love to discuss the opportunities that are available.

As a preview, let me tell you about one upcoming children's event where we are going to need some help. On **April 5, 2020** we will hold an outreach-focused **Easter Egg Hunt** here at Emmanuel. Mark your calendar and stay tuned for details about how you can help with this important outreach.

God has a ministry for each one of you. Don't miss out, find a place to serve and watch God use you to wonderful ways.



Finals begin for the students next week. I know they would appreciate your prayers as they finish the second quarter.

We are finishing up an 8 week study on the book of Ephesians, and we are half way through Hebrews. We have been learning that we are all to be more than spectators within the body of Christ. Everyone has a role to play.

We have an upcoming **Retreat** on **March 13-15th**, and are praying that the Lord would challenge our students to become spiritual warriors. Please join us in praying that our students would know that they are more than conquerors through Christ.

Thanks so much to the Hammons, Noles and Hotts for helping our students have a great **Valentine's Mystery Dinner** tour. We have an awesome college ministry team that are always up to serving and being role models for our students.