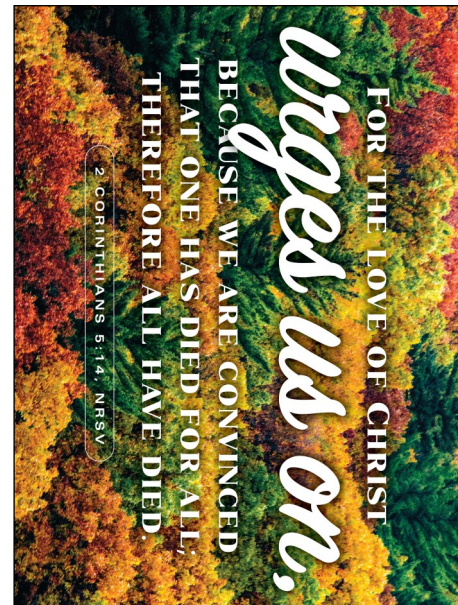


The A B C's of Support for Our Pastor

- A**ccept him.
- B**efriend him.
- C**ompliment him.
- D**efend him.
- E**ncourage him.
- F**ellowship with him.
- G**ive him time for his family.
- H**elp him serve the Lord.
- I**nclude him in your plans.
- J**oin him in leading others to Christ.
- K**indness toward him.
- L**ove him/lift him up to your family/friends.
- M**inister with him.
- N**otify him when he is needed.
- O**pen your homes and hearts to him.
- P**ray for him.
- Q**uote him correctly.
- R**ecognize his role.
- S**trengthen him/support him.
- T**hank him for his faithfulness.
- U**ndergird him.
- V**oice your feelings to him/not others.
- W**ork with him.
- X** out every word of criticism.
- Y**ield yourselves to God with him.
- Z**eal for Christ and His church.

October is Pastor Appreciation Month. Please join the church staff as we pray for and encourage our Pastor and his family.



Emmanuel Baptist Church
1200 Farmerville Hwy.
Ruston, LA 71270

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October, 2020

Normal!?

We have seen a slow progression over the past several months toward “normal” in our church life. I do not like the media’s use of the term, “new normal.” This term implies that this is simply the way it is going to be and we might as well get used to it. I believe we are slowly moving back toward normal church ministry and activities. We are just doing these things with a few modifications. When the time of risk has passed we will be able to remove those modifications. Those include, mask wearing, the minimization of physical contact, and the need to create distancing by having multiple services. I do not consider those modifications to be “normative,” but they are certainly appropriate for the time being. I cannot wait until hugging, handshaking, and the gathering of the entire church body will be part of our normal routine once again.

Join us for worship...

Sundays

9:00 a.m.—Morning Worship
Adult 5, 6, 7

9:00 a.m.—Sunday School
**Preschool, Children,
Youth, College, Adult 2, 4**

10:15 a.m.—Sunday School
Adult 5, 6, 7

10:15 a.m.—Morning Worship
**Preschool, Children,
Youth, College, Adult 2, 4**

Wednesdays

6:00 p.m.
Bible Study &
Prayer Service

I am so thankful for the renewal of certain practices within the church as the restrictions and risks have begun to lessen. It was a blessing to meet with our JOY group this past month. We are praying that will be able to continue. As I write this newsletter article, I am looking forward to our first brotherhood men’s prayer breakfast. Please pray with me for our men’s ministry to grow and our men to be encouraged to disciple, encourage and serve across generations. All of these things are being done with certain precautions in place, but we are so thankful to feel the freedom to fellowship in these and other ways once again.

3 Prayer Requests:

Pray for your church. We are continuing to move through our church membership reconciliation plan. Pray those who have received letters will see our sincere desire to have them worshipping and growing with us once again. Pray for the reconciliation task force as we move into the next phase of calling and visiting those who have been absent for a long time. Pray for good visits and the Holy Spirit to work.

Pray for our state. There were 39 Southern Baptist churches that were left uninhabitable after hurricane Laura. This will be a slow recovery for southwest Louisiana’s residents. There will be so many opportunities for ministry and sharing the Gospel.

Pray for our nation. We are a nation divided and broken in so many ways. Pray for our leaders and our election coming up in November, but please pray for a spiritual awakening, a revival. Pray God’s people would renew their commitment to being set apart people who are not of this world. Pray we will renew our commitment to live and share the Gospel. Only God can turn back the tide of secularism, falsehood, and evil that is so prevalent today.

“First of all, then, I urge that petitions, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all those who are in authority, so that we may lead a tranquil and quiet life in all godliness and dignity.”
1 Timothy 2:1-2, CSB



Stephen Nutt

Strive for Excellence

Sometime ago I read an article that explored the topic of how we are to serve God; more specifically, serve with excellence. Several questions were brought up that really made me think about this topic. As we strive to reach out and minister to those in the neighborhoods around us, what must our attitude be? Excellence!

My desire is to see this church continue to reach out and minister to those around us for many years to come. To do this we must have more people leading in vital ministry areas and serving with excellence.

Consider how you would answer these questions, then seek God's guidance on what is next for you:

- ◆ Do I see my service as doing something ok or do I see it as impacting eternity by the quality of my service?
- ◆ At my place of employment, do I work just to get a paycheck or do I see my work as if I am working directly for God?
- ◆ Do I place most of my attention on what I am doing or do I spend more time being concerned about what others are not doing?

Soon the Committee on Committees will begin staffing service ministries. To aid them in this process, there is a survey that shows the areas of service at Emmanuel Baptist Church. It is on the tables leading into the sanctuary. Please take some time to pray where God may lead you to serve this next year, then fill out the survey and turn it in.

Let's serve with excellence, God deserves it!



Preschool News

Kathy Mitchell

Dear Church Family,

Fall has finally come to preschool. I know this for sure because as I walk down the hall I am met with leaves, pumpkins, happier teachers and other delicious signs of this season.

For our ministry project this month we collected boxes of cereal for the **Baptist Children's Home & Fall Food Roundup**. Our children loved counting, sorting, measuring and stacking the boxes donated. We always use this project to talk about the importance of following the example of Jesus and helping others.

Our October ministry project will be the **St. Jude Trike A Thon**. We are looking forward to learning about bicycle safety with BikeWell Bear and raising money for St. Jude. St. Jude has helped so many families right here in Louisiana with their fight against childhood cancer. If you would like to help us help St. Jude please give me a call and I can provide you with information on that.

As I tell you every year fall is my very favorite season. I fully intend to put aside this pandemic panic and the storm stress to fully and completely embrace this autumn. I am going to intentionally live each day seeking the joy our Father promises.

I pray that as we enjoy fall and head into the holiday season that you too will choose to take your joy back and intentionally choose to glorify Jesus Christ in all that you do.



Chris Campbell

Our college/young adult class is glad to have brother Sam Riley teaching with us on Sundays, and we thank those who have volunteered to adopt students, make breakfast for Sunday mornings, and fix dinner on Wednesday nights. We plan to have an **"adoption reveal get-together"** on **Sunday, October 4** (time TBA). Members of our class will also be leading the congregation in worship on October 4. On Wednesday nights at 7 p.m. we continue our study through I John.

**STUDENT
MINISTRY**

Adron Hart

I am excited about our state moving forward in our covid phases. I'm thankful that we are getting healthier but also that we can start planning a little more in the future. We have planned a small weekend trip to Branson, Sight and Sound Theatre to see **'NOAH'**! We are going Oct 10-11. Please be praying for our health and safe travels. We will still practice covid mask policies and social distancing as much as possible.

Also, the student ministry is ordering some new Tshirts for our students. We will have a **LIMITED AMOUNT** of shirts on sale for \$13 each for anyone that wishes to purchase one. I will be posting the final designs around the church in the coming weeks.

Just a reminder that we shall be taking "Thanksgiving" style plate lunches to the **homeless** on Saturday, November 7th. At this time, it will be done the same as we have each time this year. We will assemble the to-go bags at the church and then take them over to Monroe to hand out.

Please continue to pray for our students during this school year!!



Lee and I want to thank everyone for all the phone calls, text messages and food during his recent illness. Most of all we thank you for the prayers. God is so good! Thanks again.

Vickie & Lee Culbertson

Our hearts are so grateful for the precious time you blessed us with on the occasion of our retirement. Words of affirmation and encouragement, thoughtful cards, beautiful new Bibles, a cake, flowers, and reflections of the past several years brought us so much joy. We have received more from the students and the church than we ever gave. Thank you for the privilege of serving in the college ministry and welcoming us into the Emmanuel family. Our days of service are not over, we are just shifting to a lower gear!

Randy & Kittie Trail



Robert Grafton

Jesus told us in John 13:35, *"As I have loved you, so you must love one another. All men will know that you are my disciples if you love one another."*

Our love in action will bring joy to a brother or sister in Christ and even show nonbelievers that we are Christians not only in name but in deed as well. This thought is expressed in the hymn *They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*. Our Christian faith is not only shown when we help someone in need but can be expressed by our words and actions – even on social media. Recently I read through a new friend's facebook posts about becoming a Christian 10 years ago (non-EBC member). However, the videos and words used on their other posts were not very Christ-like. Let's guard our actions to show Christ's love through our Christ-like words and deeds.

