

## **Preschool News**

**Kathy Mitchell** 

As I write to you today I am at home with my daughter and her family awaiting hurricane Laura. It is very hard to think of anything else, but I know God is in control and there are lessons in the storms.

Our preschool ministry is going very well. All of our older students are back in school so we just have our preschoolers during the day. God has blessed us in so many ways during this pandemic. For the most part our students and teachers have remained well and I thank Him for that.

I hope you will continue to pray for the preschool ministry and all of the children's ministries at Emmanuel. It is so important that we root our children in God's word. Right now we have several opportunities for service concerning our children's ministries. My prayer is that if God would have you work with our children that you would be open to that call.

"As your children shall be taught by the Lord, and great shall be the peace of your children." Isaiah 54:13



Thank you church family for all the calls, cards, thoughts and prayers during my mother's illness and homegoing.

Theresa Snipe & Family





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RUSTON, LOUISIANA www.ebcruston.org

September, 2020

### "See, now is the acceptable time; now is the day of salvation!" 2 Corinthians 6:2b

Time is running out. We are confronted with the finite nature of our lives, influence, and abilities on a regular basis. This should not be something that causes a Christian to be anxious or upset. We know, serve and love a Father who is infinitely able to direct our paths and our lives in order to accomplish His purposes. We should allow the Lord to develop wisdom in our hearts when it comes to serving Him in this life. I only have so much time to share the gospel and others have a finite amount of time to hear and heed its call.

# Join us for worship...

### Sundays

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

9:15 a.m.—Sunday School Preschool, Children, Youth, College, Adult 2, 4

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

10:30 a.m.—Morning Worship Preschool, Children, Youth, College, Adult 2, 4

## Wednesdays

6:00 p.m. Bible Study & **Prayer Service**  Our lives have been paused in many areas due to the threat of the COVID-19 virus. We could allow the fear, anxiety, and uncertainty of these pauses to keep us from being faithful in our praying, giving, and going. The Great Commission has not been put on pause. The world has not quit spinning and people have not stopped slipping into eternity. Even as I write this newsletter, there are two storms in the gulf that could care less that we have been told to pause our lives due to this pandemic. There are likely people in our state that could lose their lives and spend eternity in eternal punishment.

What can we do in times like this? We can be faithful to pray. Pray for our state and nation. I am not talking primarily about the election coming up. We need to pray for souls that are continuing to languish in darkness. September 13-20 is our Week of Prayer for State Missions. We will be giving out prayer guides and posting prayer prompts on Facebook each day of that week.

We can be faithful to give. When people in our churches are hurting financially this affects giving in the churches of our convention. This negatively affects the ability of our Louisiana Baptist Convention to carry out all of our convention sponsored mission endeavors. We are currently receiving the Georgia Barnette State Missions Offering. We need to dig deep to help support Louisiana Baptist Missions.

We must be faithful to go. How can we go? We are being told of the danger that threatens us. Are you going to the grocery store and the doctor? Students, are you going to school? There are a few of you who are unable to leave your home for any reason, but I bet you have a phone. Serving the Lord is often a dangerous endeavor. How much risk would you be willing to bear to share the Gospel? Would you risk the ridicule or negative opinion of others? Would you risk crossing a waiting room? Would you risk rejection in the frozen food aisle at the grocery store? Most of us have not paused all our going. Make sure you are willing and ready to share the Gospel as you go.





Josh & Taylor
Pate



Grant Garlington



Frankje Tygart



Tristan Lovell



Butch & Candy Daniels



#### **Robert Grafton**

I recently read and want to share some content of an article on why corporate worship matters. God's people have always learned their faith through the preaching and singing of the Word. We have a vision of heaven where believers from every tribe, nation, and language sing to our Creator and Redeemer. The foretaste of that occurs when God's people gather and sing together in church. God has commanded more than 200 times in Scripture to gather and sing together.

Much of what people know and believe about God comes from the songs we sing. <u>Hearing</u> these songs fails to produce the same effects as <u>singing</u> them. Because this is true, what we sing and how we sing in church matters a great deal to all of us.

"I will sing to the Lord all my life; I will sing praise to my God as long as I live." Psalm 104:33



#### Chris Campbell

While we may be unable to do many of the traditional activities due to COVID, our students are looking forward to the start of a new school year and the special opportunities for ministry and outreach it will bring. This begins with **College Sunday** on **September 13**! Wear your favorite college gear, and then join us in the FLC for a meet and greet (after the second service) with our college/young adult students.

Anyone interested in adopting college students this year can sign up and meet with potential adoptees! Tentatively, we would like to have our **Adoption Reveal Party** on **Sunday, October 4**. We plan to start off our Wednesday night meetings with a **Back-To-School Social** on **September 16**, and begin our Wednesday night studies on **September 23** with 1 John. If you have any questions about or suggestions for our college ministry, please contact me - and thank you for your prayers!



#### dron Hart

School is in full swing with my students and has proven to be one of the strangest school years that we have witnessed. If you don't believe me, just ask ANYONE!! Everyone is talking about covid 19 and how our lives and our families lives are affected in great detail. We can tell you all the ways to prevent covid, what the doctors are saying about covid, what the news and President Trump are saying, and the list continues. I say all of these things because I'm praying that our country and world will begin to talk about our Lord Jesus in this way. We always talk more and in great detail about the things that we are interested in. What are you interested in? Who or what consumes your thoughts? Just something to think about and for myself to think about.

I would like to thank those that helped with our **BACK TO SCHOOL LAKE DAY** this past week. Thanks to Brad Kimbell for cooking, Frankie Tygart for organizing, Jamey and Christina Moore and Alicia Kimbell for set up and take down, Mlee Jarmon and Tony Stark for providing boat rides for the students. We had an amazing time at lake claiborne and we were able to minister not only to our students but also to several people that were hanging out nearby. Thanks to everyone.

For all that have been asking about the homeless ministry in monroe, we are signed up for <u>Saturday</u>, <u>November 7th</u>. We will provide some type of thanksgiving meal on that date.



#### **Stephen Nutt**

I like being busy, but it sometimes gets me in trouble. Busyness can be a good thing if you keep it in check, but is also can be very unhealthy. When I have some idle time I like to tinker or start a project, and in most cases I try not to stop until it is done. Many times when that happens it squeezes out something else I need to do. Staying active, getting things done and accomplishing a task is good, but when it gets in the way of spending time with God, it is not good. This happened with Martha when Jesus came to visit her house (Luke 10). She was so busy tending to what she thought was important at the time that she missed out on listening to and being with Jesus. Has that ever happened to you? It has to me! How do you guard against busyness?

As we start getting back to "normal" now, make an action plan to guard against getting so busy again that you neglect time with God. Let me remind you of simple steps to help: 1. Read the Bible daily. Find a daily reading plan or scripture based devotional book and block off a designated time each day. (morning works best for me)

2. Spend time praying each day. Praying and listening to God is vital to the Christian walk. 3. Have someone hold you accountable to the first 2 things. None of those are new ideas, but it seems I need to be reminded often.

Perhaps you do too? It's easy to get too busy, especially now that we're trying to make up for lost time the last few months. But I think we'll all find it is amazing how much more can get accomplished when Jesus guides our steps and we push busyness aside.

One last thing I would like challenge you to do, call someone in our church family that you have not seen lately. An encouraging phone call is always a boost for everyone involved.



Pickup Date: September 21