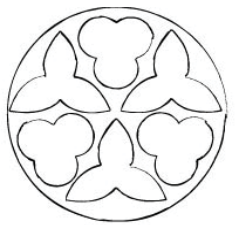


EMMANUEL LIFE



PASTOR DR. CHRIS THACKER
WWW.EMMANUELALEXANDRIA.ORG

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EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA, LA

A PLACE TO BE, A PLACE TO BECOME

Upcoming Events

Friday, December 20

10:30 a.m. Day School Christmas Program - Bolton Chapel (reception following in Weems Hall)

6 - 9 p.m. **Youth Tacky Christmas Sweater Party** - Logan & Katie Franks' House (96 Credeur Rd., Pineville)

Saturday, December 21

5 - 9:30 p.m. **Parents' Night Out (birth - 6th grade)** - Family Life Center

6 - 9 p.m. **Christmas Dinner Party** (Adult 5 & 6 "B")- El Parian Restuarant (2624 Old Marksville Hwy., Pineville)

Sunday, December 22 **Advent IV**

9 a.m. Breakfast - Weems Hall

9:30 a.m. Bible Study

10:50 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary

5 p.m. **Caroling & Chili** - Weems Hall

Tuesday, December 24

Office Closed - Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 25

**Office Closed - Christmas Day
No Activities or Supper**



Looking Ahead:

Thursday, December 26

Office Closed

Sunday, December 29

No Breakfast or Sunday School

Regency Worship, 2:30 p.m. - 5131 Masonic Drive, Alexandria

Tuesday, December 31

Office Closed - New Year's Eve

Wednesday, January 1

Office Closed - New Year's Day

No Activities or Supper

Thursday, January 2

Office Closed



Christmas is always waiting

From My View...

Anxiety and panic were the feelings that seemed to rule my heart Monday. Part of it was realizing that Christmas will be here next week and I don't feel the least bit ready. I don't even have the lists started to finish shopping for final gifts and Christmas dinner too. My in-laws are coming, but I'm not sure when...how much do I really need to clean my house?


It's so easy to get caught up in seasonal activities, events and "to dos" that we can become overwhelmed. That's where I was, and then I was reminded of our theme for Pilgrimage to Bethlehem - "Nothing is Impossible with God."

This is always true, as His word tells us so. Many times we try to do it all ourselves, when all we need to do is simply remember to rely on the Father and His promises.

By: Karen Hamilton

Whether we are marking off a checklist of things to do, missing a loved one, or just not feeling in a seasonal spirit, God is there for us. CHRISTMAS is the ultimate evidence of that! 1 John 4:9 tells us that "This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him."

One of the truly great things about Christmas is that it's always ready for us. Even, and especially when we don't feel ready for Him. Jesus is always there, waiting for us to come to him. He is waiting to share our burdens, tears, joy and the freedom of His salvation.

God help us to fill our hearts with love this season and to share to most precious gift of all...the story of your son. Merry Christmas, and in the words of my seven-year-old, "Dear God, help Jesus to have an awesome birthday!" 

Bethlehem Bulletin

On the 4th day of Bethlehem we were blessed with over 1,076 pilgrims, which puts our four-day total at about 3,500.

Comments from the Pilgrims.

...."I was truly blessed!! It made everything real to me that my Lord and Savior was born in a place like this."

...."A beautiful tradition that I love. This is always my Christmas gift."

...."Truly a splendid and authentic

presentation. I am very grateful."

...."Thanks to all the people and hard work to share God's word and miracles."

...."Great work on bringing me to a place in my faith I have not been in a while."

...."Absolutely wonderful! We come every time you do this. The entertainment in the sanctuary is wonderful and the streets of Bethlehem - just amazing that you can create this reality."

...."That was absolutely amazing. It was more than I expected."



ALL CHURCH

Caroling & Chili

5 p.m.

Sunday, December 22

Weems Hall

Everyone is invited to go caroling to our local home-bound members. We will leave the church and go in groups to nursing homes and residences.



Please call the church office at 442-7773 if you can bring any of the following: a pot of your favorite chili, a dessert to share, and/or a van for transportation.

You can also e-mail Scottie Brooks at scottiebrooks@emmanuelalexandria.org.

Office Closed

Please note that the church office will be closed for the holidays on the following dates:

December 24 - 26

December 31 - January 2

MISSIONS

World Missions 2013

These donations include CBF Global and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

"TOTALLY HIS: Heart, Hands, Voice is this year's theme and Emmanuel's goal is \$5,000.

Collected as of 12-17-2013

Lottie Moon	\$1,195.63
CBF Global	975.62
Total	2,171.25

- C** Dr. Chris Thacker, *Pastor*
- Dr. Larry Taylor
Pastor Emeritus
- H** Dr. Lee Weems
Associate Pastor - Education
- U** Rev. Jerry Cauley
Minister of Music
- R** Rev. Susan Cauley, *Associate Minister of Music & Organist*
- C** Gail Smith
Children's Ministry Director
- H** Rev. Greg Carroll
Youth Minister
- S** Scott Brooks
Activities Director
- T** Gayle Carroll
Day School Director
- A** Charleen Courtney
Pianist
- F** Karen Weems
Homebound Director
- S** Butch Berry
Facility Manager
- T** Pat McKee
Finance Manager
- D** Donna Blair
Administrative Assistant
- A** Karen Hamilton
Publicity Secretary
- F** Carolyn Robinson Wilson
Director of Food Services
- F** Ricky Keller
Custodian
- Adolphis Wilson
Custodian

PILGRIMAGE

Generosity in Bethlehem

Members of Emmanuel have been very generous with their time, talents, donations and prayers.

It takes a village to create a village. Thank you to all steering committee members and those who worked with them.

Thanks to those who took care of the smallest Bethlehem citizens: those who spent numerous hours constructing and de-constructing the city; those who made sure we were clothed; those who made sure the pilgrims were greeted with hospitality, cider and warmth; those who fed the masses and made Weems Hall so welcoming; those who made sure the pilgrims had a place to park and kept us all secure; those who put together and performed the music and drama as the pilgrims waited for their tours; those who made sure the community knew about Pilgrimage to Bethlehem; those who helped everyone learn and deliver their lines; those who made the shops in the city come to life and those who helped us pray our way to Bethlehem. Kudos to everyone!

Thanks,
Gail and Libby

PTB Costume Return

Please wash and return your costume to the Costume Room on second floor. Please put it on a hanger with your name if you think you might want to wear it again. Please do NOT leave costumes in the office unless you are unable to climb the stairs. If you made a costume please leave it at home. If you have one that belongs to Emmanuel please return it so we can have an inventory.

Signs & Shekels for PTB

Please **return yard signs and stakes** to Weems Hall or the church office. Also, we are down about 60 **shekels**. If someone you know accidentally took some home please return them to the church office.

Emmanuel Baptist Church
430 Jackson Street
Alexandria, LA 71301

Office: 318-442-7773
Fax: 318-443-3153
Day School: 318-442-7775
Family Life Center: 318-442-1302

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PTB CONTINUED

Thank You Donors

These people and businesses made generous donations that helped Pilgrimage to Bethlehem 2013.

Members of Emmanuel and

- Dick & Pat Sandlin
- Connie & Ed Hixson
- Bobby & Helen Paul
- Danny & Debbie Hebert
- Norman & Becky Karmales
- Mike Armand

Businesses

- Atwood's Bakery
- Chick-fil-A
- Community Coffee
- Guillory's Specialty Meats
- Kroger
- Loewer Power Sports
- Long's Preferred Products, Inc.
- Louisiana Fountain Supply Co.
- McDonald's (Alexandria & Pineville)
- Mac's Fresh Market
- Sam's club
- Sayes Office Supply
- Sonic
- Super 1 Foods

CHILDREN

Parents' Night Out

(Birth - 6th grade)

5 - 9:30 p.m.

Friday, December 21

Family Life Center

Cost: \$5 per child

RSVP to the church office at 318-442-7773 by noon Friday to avoid extra fees.

TAKE NOTE

Feliz Navidad!

(Young Adult 5 & 6 "B")

6 - 9 p.m.

Saturday, December 21

El Parian Mexican Restaurant

(2624 Old Marskville Hwy., Pineville)

Bring a \$5-10 gift per person who would like to participate in the gift exchange. These can be funny gag gifts or whatever you would like to bring. We will draw numbers and "steal" items, etc. Free Parents' Night Out for those attending the party.

