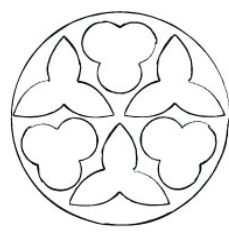




EMMANUEL LIFE



DR. CHRIS THACKER, PASTOR
WWW.EMMANUELALEXANDRIA.ORG

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 19
MAY 14, 2015

EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH, ALEXANDRIA, LA A PLACE TO BE, A PLACE TO BECOME

Upcoming Events

- Friday, May 15**
10:30 **Dayschool PreK Graduation**
Weems Hall
- Sunday, May 17**
9:00 **Senior Breakfast - FLC**
Large Art Gallery
9:00 Breakfast
9:30 Sunday School
10:50 **Worship - Senior Recognition**
Noon **Church Council Meeting - Weems Hall**
Noon - 1:30 **TAG Kickoff - FLC**
4:30 **Youth Life - Weems Hall**
- Wednesday, May 20**
5:00 Supper - Weems Hall
5:15 Kiddie Corral open (Birth - Kindergarten) - FLC
5:30 FLC Open (Grades 1 - 6)
5:45 **Business & Prayer Meeting**
6:45 **Summer Choir Kickoff - home of Jerry and Susan Cauley, 236 White Oak, Pineville**
7:30 FLC Closed (except to children whose parents are in choir or committee meetings)

Looking Ahead

- Friday, May 22**
Round Table Luncheon - Noon, Weems Hall. Guest Mike Tudor
Youth Lock-in - 8:00 p.m. Friday to 8:00 a.m. Saturday, FLC
- Sunday, May 24**
Worship - Scott Bryant, guest preacher
Youth Crawfish Boil - 2:00, home of Jim and Stephanie Hickman, 294 Hwy 470, LeCompte
- Monday, May 25**
Church Office Closed - Memorial Day Holiday
- Tuesday, May 26**
TAG Team Begins - 9:00 - Noon
Terrific Tuesday Kickoff: "Rolling Into Summer" (Kindergarten - 6th Grade completed); - Noon - 2:00, FLC; Bring your own lunch and a pair of socks to skate.
- Wednesday, May 27**
Blood Drive - 4:30 - 7:15, Room 105
Summer Reading Program - 5:45 - 6:30, Church Library
- Thursday, May 28**
H2O Homeless Outreach - 10:00 - Noon, EBC Parking Lot
- Friday, May 29**
Parent's Night Out - 5:30 - 9:30, FLC

Sabbatical: Renewal and Wonder

Below you will find some helpful information pertaining to our pastor's sabbatical program.

What are the dates for the sabbatical? Chris' last Sunday preaching will be May 17. He will resume his normal schedule the week of August 17.

Will the pastor be aware of important happenings at Emmanuel during his time away? Yes. Chris will be in contact with Dr. Lee Weems throughout the summer. They will discuss any pressing matters the pastor needs to be made aware of.

How is the sabbatical being funded? The sabbatical grant is funded through Lilly Endowment, Inc., a private philanthropic foundation dedicated to deepening Christian life in American congregations. One of the Lilly Foundation's primary aims is to provide opportunities for established pastors to renew their commitments to excellence in pastoral ministry.

How is this sabbatical different than a vacation? While the sabbatical grant provides for time spent with family, the purpose of the program is to foster an experience of pastoral renewal. Chris has chosen to focus his three months on the theme of restoring a sense of wonder and creativity in his ministry.

Through an extended season of intentional reading, writing, prayer, travel, and creative exploration, Chris hopes to deepen his own spiritual reservoir in order to serve Emmanuel most faithfully.

Who will be preaching during the summer? The majority of Sundays will be covered by two university chaplains - Dr. Scott Bryant from ETBU and Dr. Burt Burleson from Baylor. Dr. Bryant is scheduled to preach May 24 through June 14. Dr. Burleson will preach during the month of July. On Father's Day, June 21, we will host Bo Prosser, Coordinator for Organizational Relationships with the CBF. In addition, we will hear sermons from our own Lee Weems, Susan Cauley, Lyndon Marcotte and Kate Murphy.

How can we pray for our pastor during this time? We can pray for our pastor's spiritual and vocational growth. We can also pray that he will be open to the many ways the Spirit might illumine his heart and mind with fresh insight and practice for ministry. Also pray for Jessica and the Thacker boys, especially during the times when Chris is away from family.

Together let us pray that God will bless this season of growth for Pastor Chris and the Emmanuel family.

Emmanuel Baptist Church
430 Jackson Street
Alexandria, LA 71301
(318) 442-7773

Emmanuel Life is published weekly, except for the week of New Years, by Emmanuel Baptist Church, 430 Jackson Street, Alexandria, LA 71301. Postage Paid at Alexandria, LA POSTMASTER: send address changes to Emmanuel Life, 430 Jackson St., Alexandria, LA 71301

CHOIR



Summer Choir Kickoff
Wednesday, May 20
6:45

home of Jerry and Susan Cauley
236 White Oak Blvd., Pineville
Would you like to sing in the choir, but can't make a long-term commitment to rehearsals? Then Summer Choir is for you! Join us for six weeks of rehearsal, sing in the Summer Choir Concert on June 28, then take a break from rehearsals and sing that music with us on remaining summer Sunday mornings.

ALL CHURCH

Pilgrimage to Bethlehem
at the May Business Meeting
Wednesday, May 20
5:45 in Weems Hall

During the May Business Meeting on Wednesday, May 20, the church will vote whether to commit our time and offerings to present Pilgrimage to Bethlehem in December, 2015. Church members are encouraged to attend this meeting to discuss the issue and vote.

Have You Heard?

Jim Barnett was inducted into LSU School of Renewable Natural Resources Hall of Fame.
Mike Tudor received the H.E.A.R.T. Award by the Alexandria Convention and Visitors Bureau for his contribution to our central Louisiana community. H.E.A.R.T. - (Helping Encourage Art, Recreation and Tourism).
Congratulations to both of these men!

ACTIVITIES

Blood Drive
Wednesday, May 27
4:30 - 7:15 in Room 105

Daniel and Jennifer Byles proudly announce the birth of their daughter **Olivia Lorece** on Thursday, May 7. Proud grandparents are **Patsy and Jerry Byles.**

MISSIONS

Mission of the Month: May Book Drive for Lake Providence

During April and May we are collecting gently used books to distribute to school children along with book bags. **Please remember that the mission gives backpacks to students from Pre-K to 12th grade so books for all ages are appropriate and needed.**

You can drop off books at the Mission Corner of Weems Hall or in the foyer of the Sanctuary.

H2O Homeless Outreach
Thursday, May 28
10:00 - Noon
EBC Parking Lot

Warm weather is here and the needs of our local homeless change to warm weather items such as:

- Shorts and T-shirts
- Underwear (new only)
- Tennis shoes
- Caps
- Sunscreen

Nepal Earthquake Relief
Doctors Without Borders
www.doctorswithoutborders.org

U.N. World Food Program
www.wfp.org

Samaritan's Purse
www.samaritanspurse.org
CBF Missions
www.cbf.net/nepal

Baptist Global Response
www.gobgr.org

Save the Children
www.savethechildren.org

ROUND TABLE

Round Table Luncheon
Friday, May 22
Noon in Weems Hall

Mike Tudor will speak about what he learned and further research has shown about the status of the church under Communism and recent positive developments. He will share his own private views of the Castros and Che Guevara which some may find surprising.

Mike highly recommends viewing these before his presentation as it will give you some insight.

- Oliver Stone's *Commandante* (a 2-minute clip at www.youtube.com/watch?v=XVORpc4EXIQ)
- *Motorcycle Diaries* (a movie on the life of Che Guevara)

TAG TEAM



TAG Team Kickoff
Sunday, May 17
Noon - 1:30
Family Life Center

Come chow down on some carnival food with your child in the Family Life Center. When the auditions and games begin, parents will meet to get all the details of the show. Meal costs: \$3/person or \$10 family max

GRATITUDE

Many thanks...

**To the many persons who supported the 2015 Holy Rowers whether by financial contribution, well wishes and/or being at the races and cheering us on. Special thanks to Julie Morris and Hixson Brothers for providing us some much needed shade during our recovery times, Tammy Franks and Danielle Marcotte for being responsible for our kids while we raced, as well as to Fran Anderson for keeping us fed and hydrated.

**To the Activities Committee members who helped "man" the events and food line at the church picnic, those who brought delicious desserts and those who brought canopies to provide some shade at dinner time.

It was a busy weekend and all seemed to go well. Thanks to all who supported and participated in these activities.

Scottie Brooks
Activities Director

GRADUATION



Call for Graduates

May is the month for graduations and we would like to recognize the members of Emmanuel who are graduating from high school, college, or graduate school.

Please submit your graduate's name, school name and degree **no later than Thursday, May 16** by calling the church office or emailing the information to Elaina Ayres at publicity@emmanuelalexandria.org