

December 12, 2022

# EASTSIDE CHURCH



a loving neighborhood church



## PARKING LOT THOUGHT

*A recap of Sunday's Sermon from Pastor Doug.*

**"The birth of Jesus brought great joy and so much more. His resurrection overcame death and brings continuous joy forever.**

**Focus your life on His resurrecting work, encouraging God's people, bringing new life to the lost. If we will commit to this then we will experience great joy in this life and eternal joy on our own resurrection day."**

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# MEMORY VERSE CHALLENGE

How did you do?

## Chapter 4 | Unity in the Body of Christ

<sup>1</sup> I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,

<sup>3</sup> eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. <sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—

<sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

## EVENT SPOTLIGHT



# CHRISTMAS WORSHIP NIGHT

Wednesday, December **14**, 6:30PM

6:30-7:30 worship

7:30-8:30 food & fellowship

- bring a savory or sweet dish for sharing
- invite family & friends



[eastsidechurchwma.org/current-events/](http://eastsidechurchwma.org/current-events/)



# EASTSIDE CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE @ 4:30

## EVENT FOLLOW-UP

### CHILDREN'S MINISTRY FAMILY NIGHT

... was a great success with over 40 adults and kids attending! Families had the joyous opportunity to worship, learn from God's Word, and have tons of Christmas fun. A big thank you to the terrific team of volunteers who made this evening extra special.







... and special thanks to Michelle "Backwards" Flanagan for making the whole thing happen!

*(Keep pointing her in the right direction when you see her.)*





## **CHURCH FAMILY CHRISTMAS POTLUCK.**

... great food, great fellowship!

So glad you could join us!

Leftover food was delivered to the laundromat in our complex.









## LESS STRESS, MORE MEANING THIS ADVENT SEASON

**And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.” (Luke 2:10-11)**

On Sunday, we lit the JOY candle and celebrated the reality, shared by Pastor Doug, that “resurrection overcomes death and brings great joy forever!” We were challenged to pour ourselves into “Kingdom-building, resurrection work” to experience great joy in this life.

While we are called to always be looking and serving outwardly, we don’t want to miss the joy that God gives us when we help ourselves by practicing self-care. It’s an area where we tend to cut corners. Rather than asking, “How can I bless myself?”, we are more likely to ask, “How little sleep can I get by with?” As servants of Christ, we can be so outwardly focused on caring for family and neighbors that we don’t take care of our own body, mind, and spirit in ways that are life-giving and bring glory to God. It is hard to feel the joy of Christmas if we are too stressed, tired, sick, or distracted. Selfishness and self-care are not the same thing!

**Are you valuable to God? Yes!** Are you worth the investment in yourself to take a walk, listen to music, have an unhurried conversation, or go to the doctor? Yes! The death rate around the holidays is disturbingly high with many deaths attributed to: unhealthy choices; abuse of food and alcohol; delayed medical treatment; and other holiday stressors. Chronic stress is bad for us and running on adrenaline for too long is dangerous.

So, think about some God-honoring activities that bring you joy and remind you who you are in Christ. We are called to love and serve others, and we are called to following Christ’s balanced model of caring for Himself—He prayed, rested, fellowshiped, and never abused his body with sinful indulgences.

Loving your neighbor as yourself implies that you do love and care for yourself! Reflect on what brings you joy and prayerfully try to put more of *that* into your life. Sometimes it helps to look back to childhood or other seasons of life for some inspiration.



**Be encouraged! "Take delight in the LORD, and he will give you the desires of your heart" (Psalm 37:4).**

-- Ashley Willis | [ashleyw@ecburg.org](mailto:ashleyw@ecburg.org)



## PRAYER & PRAISE

The Lord is faithful! We praise Him for His goodness, His faithfulness and His provision! We bring Glory to His name when we express our praises and share our burdens with Him.

**As a congregation let's be faithful in prayer this week:**

1. **Pray for peace this advent season.**
2. **Pray for those who need the message of the coming of Christ.**
3. **Pray to be a peacemaker in the season ahead.**

**Do you need prayer?** Eastside prayer team members would love to pray for you confidentially. If you would like your prayer requests to be shared, we will lift them up during our weekly prayer times.

Contact [prayer@ecburg.org](mailto:prayer@ecburg.org)

**Scheduled Prayer Times This Week:**

- **Saturday Mornings**  
In person @ Eastside 9-10 am (*stay for the Bible Study @ 10!*)
- **Thursday Evenings**  
7-7:30 pm call-in
- **Sunday Mornings**  
9:30 in the foyer before the service

[Check times and instructions here.](#)

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Get involved in neighborhood ministry.  
Reach out to [serve@ecburg.org](mailto:serve@ecburg.org)

### LITERACY FOR LIFE

**Each Wednesday Eastside hosts a Literacy for Life** group, which is usually attended by several women from our neighborhood. Lively discussion and laughter help these women build confidence in their English in a wonderful and meaningful time together.

**Interested in joining in?** We'd love to hear from you. Better yet, just show up at the church at 9:30 Wednesday morning!



## BRENTWOOD APARTMENTS

**Brentwood ministry continues!**

**Extra hearts and hands are always welcome.** We yearn to divide the children into small groups to increase effectiveness of this precious ministry.

# SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Welcome Kids!

We're having a great time with the 'Hands-on Bible Curriculum'!

[Please click here to register](#) your child(ren) and learn more about what we do.

**A few more helpers are needed** -- contact Michelle Flanagan for details OR signup at the church.



## YOUNG ADULTS

**As advertised! You are invited!**

**Sundays at 6 PM at the Cox's house: 5500 Scotts Pond Dr., Williamsburg.  
Bring your friends!**

Questions?

Contact Gigi at [coxsgjpeb@comcast.net](mailto:coxsgjpeb@comcast.net)



## YOUTH GROUP

"Children are a gift from the Lord; they are a reward from him" (Psalms 127:3). As our Youth continue to grow, let us pray for them. They are a gift from God and His love for them is reflected through the love we have for them.

**Grades 6 - 12 are welcomed!**

**For more info regarding all things youth and meeting schedules** please contact our **Youth Director Kris Samuel** at **908-227-2421** or at - **[youth@ecburg.org](mailto:youth@ecburg.org)**





## WOMEN / MEN

- **Women's Bible Study: every other Tuesday afternoon, 1:00-2:30 PM**  
Contact Jinks Babey at 757.375.0167 or [JinksBabey@gmail.com](mailto:JinksBabey@gmail.com)
- **Coffee w/ Friends Wednesday mornings @ 8:30, [Column 15](#)** - all are welcome - show up and join in!
- **Small Group every other Wednesday, 6:30 PM**  
for info contact **Patty** at [pattygrayeastside@gmail.com](mailto:pattygrayeastside@gmail.com) or **Ashley** at [ashleyw@ecburg.org](mailto:ashleyw@ecburg.org)

## ADAM-TO-NOAH BIBLE STUDY

Saturdays @ 10 am

understanding the  
**relevance of Eden**  
for your life today



[eastsidechurchwmbg.org/current-events/](http://eastsidechurchwmbg.org/current-events/)

## CONGREGATIONAL CARE

### TURNING POINT

**Are you going through a challenging time in your life?** Would you like to talk it through in a confidential setting? If so, Eastside's Turning Point Ministry is here to give you an extra layer of emotional and spiritual support.

To make an appointment, please email [ashleyw@ecburg.org](mailto:ashleyw@ecburg.org) or call Ashley Willis (M.A. Pastoral Counseling) at 757-784-5165.

## TURNING POINT

### CARE TEAM IN ACTION!

**Are you able to help members of your church family?** Run errands, write notes of encouragement, provide meals are just a few ways you can help others who are experiencing illness,



grieving a loss, or welcoming a new addition to the family.

If so, please email [susanc@ecburg.org](mailto:susanc@ecburg.org) for more info.

**If you or someone you know has a need** that can be met by our Care Team, please email [susanc@ecburg.org](mailto:susanc@ecburg.org)



*Heaven's silence has been broken  
My heart sings hallelujah  
With a child, God has spoken  
My heart sings hallelujah  
Everything changes  
Everything changes*

*Angels come with words of wonder  
My heart sings hallelujah  
Freedom from the curse we're under  
My heart sings hallelujah  
Everything changes  
Everything changes, oh*

*Glory, glory in the highest  
God, we praise You  
Savior, Savior to the lost and broken  
Jesus, Jesus our Redeemer  
Here to save us  
My heart sings, heart sings hallelujah*

*Here today love's incarnation  
My heart sings hallelujah  
He's come to seek and bring salvation  
My heart sings hallelujah  
Everything changes  
Everything changes, oh*

*Glory, glory in the highest  
God, we praise You  
Savior, Savior to the lost and broken  
Jesus, Jesus our Redeemer  
Here to save us  
My heart sings, heart sings hallelujah*

*Come a little closer  
Sing a little louder  
Join with all the angels  
Worship Him*

**SUPPORTING EASTSIDE**



**BUDGET STATUS:**

as of Dec 04, 2022

**Jan to Nov 2022**

Budgeted: \$274,000

Received: \$259,393

**December 2022**

Budgeted: \$36,000

Received Month-to-Date: \$3,556

**Annual 2022**

Budgeted: \$310,000

**GIVING:**

You are a blessing! We so appreciate your continued support.

[Click here](#) for everything you need to know about giving to Eastside Church online, by text or by mail.

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