

The Home Page

Weekly Newsletter of Earle Street Baptist Church



Welcome
Home

VOL. 39

December 8, 2011

NO. 47

The mission of Earle Street Baptist Church is to worship God (*worship*); to share the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed (*missions*); to be a home to all who would enter (*fellowship*); to minister to the needs of one another (*ministry*); and to assist in spiritual growth (*education*).

Earle Street Baptist Church • 225 West Earle Street • Greenville, SC 29609



This Sunday, December 11, is the last day to enroll!

Enrollment is underway for our new initiative, 3D Groups: Discipleship, Discovery, Devotion. These groups will provide fellowship and learning opportunities as we build a multi-dimensional faith. We will still offer Prayer Meeting on Wednesday night, but in addition we will be offering eight different small groups with various emphases meeting at various times throughout the week. There will be groups about parenting, book studies, missions opportunities, among others. Information on each of the eight small groups can be found on our web site.

Sign up any of these ways:

Email or call Greg Dover: greg@esbcgreenville.org
or 233-5332. ext 203

Mail or bring in a completed registration form:
ESBC, 225 West Earle Street, Greenville, SC 29609

Register online: Go to the "News & Events" tab on our web site (www.esbcgreenville.org), then click on the "Events Registration" link.

STEWARDSHIP REPORT

So far, our church pledged 58% of our 2012 operating budget and 44% of our capital budget, compared to 52% and 66% respectively last year on the third Sunday of our pledge emphasis. If you have not made your pledges yet, we encourage you to complete the cards mailed to you or available in the pew racks, and mail them or place them in the offering plate as soon as possible. We will be receiving pledges through the end of the year, and we are hoping and praying to move closer each week to the 100 percent mark on both budgets by that time.



**LONDON - SIGHTS,
SOUNDS,
AND
INFORMATION!**

INTERNATIONAL MISSION STUDY

Destination: London

Wednesday, December 14, 6:30 p.m.

Adults in the Fellowship Hall

Children in their RA and GA classrooms

Lottie Moon was a woman of small stature, but she did great things on the mission field in China. Come to the International Mission Study to learn more about this radical missionary and hear about the work being done by missionaries in London and around the world.

Join us in
WORSHIP ON SUNDAY - December 11

9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent

COME YE FAITHFUL

by Hal H. Hopson

Please join us for this beautiful service
of music and readings
presented by the Sanctuary Choir,
accompanied by Susan McCarrell Lyon, flute;
Joyce Fankhauser, harp; Gwen Miller, organ;
Debbie Blume, piano.
Narrated by Amy and Chris Barras.

This Sunday, December 11, 2011

9:15 a.m.

Ushers: Mark Aycock, Frank Hawkins, Dennis Long,
A. D. Harris, Bill Burt, and Tom Whitehurst

Acolyte: Jackson Brewer

Preschool Coordinator: Joyce Harris

10:30 a.m.

Ushers: John McCutcheon, Greg Hammond, Zack Taylor,
Drew Mackenzie, Chris McCarrell, Josh Shugart,
and Bryson Blackwell

Acolyte: Adam Pearce

Preschool Coordinator: Terri Chambers

Sound Technician: Eddy Leo

Deacon of the Week: Blaun Bennett

Sunday School Greeters

9:15 a.m.

Don Kennerly (Welcome Center),
Greg Hammond (Robinson Street Side),
Leslie Harmon (First Floor Side),
Deacon of the Week (Sanctuary)

10:30 a.m.

Jackie Peace/Veronica Blair (Welcome Center),
Kevin Freeman (Robinson Street Side),
Becky Bridges (First Floor Side),
Deacon of the Week (Sanctuary)

Preschool Welcome Center

9:15 - Graham Sizemore

10:30 - Tommy Davis

HOMEBOUND C.A.R.E. MINISTRY

“A” Team

Celeste Clyborne, Cindy Doolittle,
Gene Harrison, Jan Lewis, Jackie Peace
Phone Visits: Del Ross

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions

Church Goal - \$10,000

Given to Date - \$ 3,120

Still Needed - \$ 6,880

From the Pastor

Stephen Clyborne (ext. 204) – stephen@ESBCgreenville.org

Regardless of what your Christmas Eve traditions might be, I hope you will include one of our (identical) Christmas Eve services as a part of them. To me, it is one of the most meaningful services of the year. The service begins in darkness, symbolizing the darkness of the world without Christ. When the Christ candle is lit, the entire Sanctuary is filled with light as we sing the traditional carols and hear the familiar Christmas story as if we were hearing it for the first time. This year, Bill Hueble will be singing *O Holy Night*. The Sanctuary Choir will be singing as well. During communion, the house lights will grow dim again as we each light our candles and go out into the night singing *Silent Night*. It is everything a Christmas Eve service should be, and the message that night will be entitled “All Eyes on Jesus.” This is the night when the eyes of the world, if just for a few moments, will be fixed on the Babe of Bethlehem; and as a community of faith, we will hear again the invitation of the familiar hymn:

Turn your eyes upon Jesus.

Look full in His wonderful face.

And the things of earth will grow strangely dim

In the light of His glory and grace.

We have deliberately planned our services at times that hopefully will not conflict with family celebrations, but may actually be a part of your family celebrations. Come at 5:00 p.m. before your family gathering or at 11:00 p.m. after your family gathering, and please bring your family with you.



From the Minister of Music and Worship

Janice Hinnant (ext. 202) – janice@ESBCgreenville.org

Sanctuary Choir - We have our dress rehearsal with the instruments this Saturday, December 10, at 10:00 a.m. Please be in the choir loft ready to sing at 10:00 a.m. We sing for both services on Sunday.

Earle Street Ringers - Thank you for your beautiful ringing this past Sunday. You set the tone for a lovely service. Enjoy your break, and we will begin rehearsals again on January 8.

The Greenville Chorale will present “A Family Christmas” concert this Saturday, December 10, at 7:30 p.m. at McAlister Auditorium at Furman. This will be a concert of classic Christmas pieces, beloved carols, and audience sing-a-longs. You can see me for tickets, or purchase them at the door. Tickets are \$25 for adults and \$15 for students.

SPIRITUAL GIFTS INVENTORY

If you have not yet filled in a *Spiritual Gifts Inventory*, please pick up a hard copy available in the church office, complete it, and turn it in or mail it to the church office as soon as possible. Or you may complete and submit the survey on-line through the web site. We would like to have as many people as possible to complete the survey so we can compile the results and hopefully more effectively match the gifts of our members with the needs of our church.

COLLEGE STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Noah Garrett

New York University
25 Union Square West
Apt. C2-7BB
New York, NY 10003

Please pray for Noah this week, and if you can, send a note of encouragement, support, and care.

FOR THE RECORD

Sunday - December 4, 2011

Attendance

9:15 a.m. Worship Attendance	172
10:30 a.m. Worship Attendance.....	208
Total Worship Attendance.....	380

Sunday School

9:15 a.m. Attendance	173
10:30 a.m. Attendance	183
Total Sunday School Attendance	356
2011-12 9:15 Average Attendance	154
2011-12 10:30 Average Attendance	160
Total Sunday School Average Attendance.....	314
Enrollment (to date)	788

2011 Operating Budget

Weekly Budget Requirements	\$16,277
Budget Gifts.....	\$22,412
Budget Requirements (to date).....	\$797,573
Budget Gifts (to date).....	\$802,250

Capital Improvement Fund Budget

Weekly CIF Budget Requirements	\$1,975
CIF Budget Gifts	\$1,100
CIF Budget Requirements (to date).....	\$96,775
CIF Budget Gifts (to date).....	\$91,382

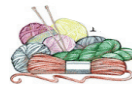
Endowment Fund Capital Loan

Capital Loan from Endowment Fund	\$250,000
Loan Balance (to date).....	\$202,081

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering \$ 3,120
(total received as of December 4)

CONGREGATIONAL QUILT

We would like to have a piece of fabric from every individual in our church family. If you have not submitted a piece of fabric that in some way represents the story of your life, please pick up a form, follow the directions, place your submission in a zip-lock bag, and turn it in to the church office as soon as possible. Forms are available in the church office and on the web site. As our church continues to grow, our quilt will always be a work in progress. But as God continues to weave our stories together into the fabric of the gospel story, our quilt will not be complete without your contribution.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls for Linda Bean, Jensie Malphrus, and Kathy Stenhouse as well as a lap robe for Ted Malphrus are on display outside of the Prayer Room. Please go by the Prayer Shawl table and pray for Linda, Jensie, Kathy, and Ted.

90TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

Sunday, March 18, 2012

Our 90th anniversary celebration is just around the corner!

If you know of any former ESBC members who might like to be invited to this special celebration, please send their names and addresses to Denise in the church office. You can reach Denise by phone at 233-5332, ext. 211 or by email at denise@esbcgreenville.org.



For anyone in need of prayer at any time. Call 331-0926, ext. 700 for a list of phone numbers.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Lamar Craze Sherri Nasim James Sheppard



WEDNESDAY, December 14

MENU: Fish and Chips, Slaw, Hush Puppies, Tea/Coffee, Dessert.

WORKERS: Setup-Don and Sandy Kennerly, Becky Spivey, Candice Eubanks. Clean up-Jan and Mike Brown, David Bridges.
Cashier - Lenwood Cochran

If you do not have a permanent reservation, please call the church office no later than Monday, 10:00 a.m., to reserve a meal.

(Children's menu also available.)

Church Office: 864-233-5332
Automated Attendant: 864-331-0926

CHURCH STAFF

Pastor – Stephen Clyborne

Ext. 204, stephen@ESBCgreenville.org

Associate Pastor – Greg Dover

Ext. 203, greg@ESBCgreenville.org

Minister of Music and Worship – Janice Hinnant

Ext. 202, janice@ESBCgreenville.org

Minister of Preschoolers and Children – Paula Hayes

Ext. 209, paula@ESBCgreenville.org

Minister of Youth and Recreation – Lucy Wilkinson

Ext. 212, lucy@ESBCgreenville.org

Ministry Assistant - Joyce Johnson

Ext. 200, joyce@ESBCgreenville.org

Ministry Assistant - Denise Plumblee

Ext. 211, denise@ESBCgreenville.org

Earle Street Baptist Church



Just as a body, though one, has many parts,
but all its many parts form one body, so it
is with Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:12

EARLE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: The Home Page

Church Office Phone: 864-233-5332 · Fax: 233-0082 · E-mail content for this publication to: denise@ESBCgreenville.org
Website: www.ESBCgreenville.org **EARLE STREET BAPTIST - (UPS 567640)** Published weekly except one week in July and December by Earle Street Baptist Church, 225 W. Earle Street, Greenville, SC 29609. Periodical postage is paid at Greenville, SC 29602. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Earle Street Baptist, 225 W. Earle Street, Greenville, SC 29609.



DO YOU NEED SOMEONE TO PRAY WITH YOU?

The Christmas season is filled with joy, wonder, and laughter. However, the holidays are difficult for some people as they face grief, sorrow, or loneliness. If you are facing a difficult time during this Christmas season and need someone to pray with you, we invite you to share your prayer request with our staff. Their email addresses and phone extensions are available at the top of this page.

You can also share your request online through our web site. Simply visit our web site at www.esbcgreenville.org and click on the Prayer Requests button on the home page. If you desire to have one of our staff members contact you concerning your request, simply provide your contact information on the form. Or, if you prefer, you may remain anonymous. None of the fields on the form are required so you may share as little or as much as you desire.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, shall guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:6-7

From the Minister of Preschoolers and Children

Paula Hayes (ext. 209) – paula@ESBCgreenville.org

WINTER FUN ON THE FARM

Children in grades 1-5 are invited to join us for a fun evening at the Ard Farm in Easley on Monday, December 19. We will leave the church at 4:00 p.m. and return at 7:00 p.m. Remember to dress warmly and bring a flashlight. We hope you will come and be a part of this fun adventure. Cost is \$3.00 per child. Please sign up with Mrs. Paula by this Wednesday, December 14.



EARLE STREET CHILD ENRICHMENT MINISTRY COOKIE SALE

Company coming and no dessert? Need something sweet for holiday gatherings but just don't have time to bake? Well, we're here to help! Otis Spunkmeyer cookies are perfect for every occasion. We will have them freshly baked, neatly packaged and ready for you to pick up on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights during December. Order forms are available from Paula Hayes or you may email Jan Hubble with your flavor choice, quantity needed, and the date you want the cookies for pick up. The cost is \$6.00 per dozen.

Flavors available: Chocolate Chip, Ginger Spice, Sugar, Oatmeal Raisin, and Strawberry Shortcake

Cookies will be available for pick up on:

- Sunday, December 11
- Wednesday, December 14
- Sunday, December 18
- Wednesday, December 21

Drop off your order form in the boxes provided in the Fellowship Hall or Preschool Welcome Center. Or you may email Jan Hubble at hubbsquad@aol.com.



MONTHLY CATERED MEAL AND FELLOWSHIP

**Tuesday, December 20
11:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall**

Come and join in the Christmas-sing-along with Harriet and Lamar this month. We will have a little clarinet and piano music too!

Make your lunch reservations with Don Kennerly at 757-9794. Regular attendees do not need to call.

From the Minister of Youth and Recreation



Lucy Wilkinson (ext. 212) – lucy@ESBCgreenville.org

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY

**Wednesday, December 14
6:30 p.m. in the Family Life Center**

Come dressed in your best holiday sweater and join us for our annual Youth Christmas Party! Middle school youth are asked to bring a food item to share and high school youth are asked to bring a drink to share.



HOMEBOUND CAROLING

**Tuesday, December 20
9:00 - 11:30 a.m.**

Another chance to wear your holiday attire! Dress up and join us as we bring Christmas cheer to some of our homebound members. Bring money for breakfast before we sing!

BASKETBALL GAME SCHEDULE

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

TEAM	TIME	PLACE
HS Boys	7:30 pm	Edwards Road
Women	6:30 pm	Home
Under 30 Men	7:30 pm	Home
Over 30 Men	8:30 pm	Home

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

TEAM	TIME	PLACE
1st-2nd Girls	BYE	BYE
1st-2nd Boys	9:00 am	Hampton Heights
3rd-5th Girls	12:00 pm	Taylor's Ct. #1
3rd-5th Boys Green	11:00 am	Northgate
3rd-5th Boys White	11:00 am	Locust Hill
MS Boys Green	12:00 pm	Hampton Heights
MS Boys White	1:00 pm	Locust Hill
MS Girls	2:00 pm	Taylor's Ct. #1
HS Girls	12:00 pm	Northgate

2011 ANGEL TREE

The 2011 ESBC Angel Tree is now up on the second floor bulletin board near the library. If you would like to participate, please select an angel and sign your name next to the corresponding angel's number on the sheet attached to the bulletin board. Each gift should be wrapped with the angel secured to the top of the gift for identification purposes. Gift amounts should not exceed \$35.

Please return your gift on or before this Wednesday, December 14, to Paula Hayes' office.

If you have any questions, contact Jane Leo at 235-5660.



**ADVENT/CHRISTMAS
AT EARLE STREET**

Still to come

Third Sunday of Advent: JOY
Sanctuary Choir Christmas Music
Sunday, December 11 (9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.)

International Missions Emphasis
Wednesday, December 14 (6:30 p.m.)

Fourth Sunday of Advent: LOVE
Sunday, December 18 (9:15 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.)

Church Family Christmas Celebration
Wednesday, December 21 (6:30 p.m.)

Christmas Eve Communion Service
Saturday, December 24 (5:00 and 11:00 p.m.)

Christmas Day Worship Service
Sunday, December 25 (10:30 a.m. only)
No Sunday School, and no 9:15 a.m. service

No regular activities – Wednesday, December 28

Churchwide Breakfast
Sunday, January 1 (9:15 a.m.)

Worship Service
Sunday, January 1 (10:30 a.m. only)
No Sunday School, and no 9:15 a.m. service



Join the Church Email List!

Would you like to receive the *Home Page* each week by email, along with a sermon preview for the next Sunday?

Go to our web site at www.esbcgreenville.org and click on "Join the church email list." Enter your email address in the box and click "submit." Or you can email Denise Plumblee at denise@esbcgreenville.org and ask to be added to the email list. *It's that simple.*

If you receive the *Home Page* by email and do not need to receive the newsletter by U.S. Mail, please contact Joyce Johnson at 233-5332, ext. 200 or joyce@esbcgreenville.org and ask her to remove your name from the mailing list.

THIS WEEK'S OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, December 11th

- 8:00 am Early Bird Sunday School (Conference Room)
- 9:00 am Media Library Open
- 9:15 am Sunday School/Worship Service
- 10:30 am Sunday School/Worship Service
- 11:30 am Damascus Road Sunday School Class Party (Fellowship Hall/Kitchen)
- 1:00 pm Gym Reserved (Pearce)
- 2:00 pm 3rd-5th Grade Girls Basketball Practice (Gym)
- 2:00 pm Sunday School Council Meeting (Conference Room)
- 3:00 pm Middle School Girls Basketball Practice (Gym)
- 3:00 pm Preschool Council Meeting (Room 301)
- 3:00 pm Discipleship Team Meeting (Conference Room)
- 4:00 pm Women's Basketball Practice (Gym)
- 5:30 pm High School Girls Basketball Practice (Gym)

Monday, December 12th

- 5:30 pm Weight Watchers (Family Life Center)

Tuesday, December 13th

- 7:30 am Breakfast with Greg (Stax's Original)
- 9:15 am Staff Spiritual Life Group (Pastor's Office)
- 10:00 am Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 10:00 am WMU Group 1 (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:30 am WMU Study and Fellowship Group (Dot Smith's Home)
- 6:00 pm Volleyball (Gym)
- 6:30 pm Boy Scouts (Scout Building)
- 7:00 pm Band Rehearsal (Fellowship Hall)

Wednesday, December 14th

- 5:00 pm Media Library Open
- 5:45 pm Dinner for Everyone (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 pm Middle School Boys/Girls Small Groups (FLC)
- 6:30 pm Youth Christmas Party (Family Life Center)
- 6:30 pm International Missions Emphasis (Adults - Fellowship Hall)
(Children - RA and GA class rooms)
- 7:30 pm Men's Basketball Practice (Gym)

Thursday, December 15th

- 11:30 am CEM Christmas Program (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 pm 1st-2nd Grade Boys Basketball Practice (Gym)
- 6:00 pm Scouts PACK Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 pm WMU Serendipity Group (Room 301)
- 6:30 pm 3rd-5th Grade Boys Basketball Practice (Gym)
- 8:00 pm High School Boys Basketball Practice (Gym)

Friday, December 16th

- 5:30 pm Fellowship Hall/Kitchen Reserved (All God's Children Sunday School Class)
- 5:30 pm 1st-2nd Grade Girls Basketball Practice (Gym)
- 6:30 pm Middle School Boys Basketball Practice (Gym)

Saturday, December 17th

- 4:00 pm Family Life Center/Media Room Reserved (Homesley)