

THE HOME PAGE

Volume No. 53

August 20, 2025

Issue No. 32

AN UPDATE FROM THE DEACONS

The August Deacons Meeting is a transitional meeting before the new group of deacons begin their term in September. Margo Love, the outgoing chair and moderator, welcomed the new group of deacons and offered her appreciation to those continuing and rolling off. New officers for next year: Bob Walker, chair and moderator; Martha Newton, vice chair; Stuart Moore, secretary. In addition to discussing the responsibilities of a deacon, the group discussed how to best minister and provide pastoral care to the congregation. This conversation will continue in the coming months. Deacons will meet with clusters at the cluster meetings on Sunday, September 14.

Other items addressed at the meeting:

- We are getting closer to seeing plans and costs regarding a columbarium. The committee discussed two spaces on the property. A presentation is projected for the fall.
- The deacons decided to move forward with having drawings made for a designated coffee area in the Welcome Center before making any further decisions. This project would be covered by the Patricia Hill estate.
- A revised job description that combines the Preschool and Children's Ministry Councils was approved.

DISCERNMENT LISTENING SESSION SIGN-UP

Listening sessions are scheduled for Friday, September 12th and Saturday, September 13th. Sign ups for listening sessions will continue on Sunday, August 24th. A member of the Discernment Team will be in the Welcome Center before Sunday School, between Sunday School and Worship, and after Worship.

These sessions are limited to 10 people each. They will last 50 minutes and start on the hour.

Friday, September 12th: ~~1:00 pm, 2:00 pm, 3:00 pm, 4:00 pm, 7:00 pm, 8:00 pm~~

Saturday, September 13th: ~~8:00 am, 9:00 am, 10:00 am, 11:00 am~~

The session times in bold have slots still available. All other sessions are full. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact any member of the Discernment Team.

Co-Chairs: Meredith Smith, Wayne Turner 812-786-0351 (retired and more readily available)

Team: Brittney Clow, Calder Standridge, Helen Hewitt, Wendell Cothran and Randy Ellenburg

DOUBLE NEWSLETTER EDITION

Please keep and refer to this newsletter for two weeks. The next edition of The Home Page will be published on Thursday, September 4th. If you have any questions, please contact Ellen Heyward at ellen@esbcgreenville.org or 233-5332, ext. 205.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Main Entree (\$8)

August 27th: BBQ, Slaw, and Baked Beans

September 3rd: Taco Bar

Grilled Chicken Salad (\$8)

Mixed Greens, Cucumbers, Tomatoes, Bacon Bits, Cheese and Assorted Dressings

Pizza Entree (\$5)

Two Slices of Pizza (Cheese or Pepperoni)

Please remember to **register by 12:00 pm on Monday, August 18th**. This deadline is to give our caterer an accurate headcount.

August 27th Reservations

September 3rd Reservations

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

ESBC Coffee Meet

Sunday, August 24 - 2:00 pm

Cohesive Coffee

301 Airport Road,
Greenville

Join us for
some coffee
and casual
conversation!



JOIN US IN WORSHIP

Sunday, August 24

9:15 am: Sunday School

10:30 am: Worship

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Anthem: *As the Deer* by the Sanctuary Choir

Scripture: Psalm 19 and Revelation 21:22-27

Sermon Series: Doxology—Declaring God's Glory

Sermon: "Doxology" by Gary Strickland

Sunday, August 31

9:15 am: Sunday School

10:30 am: Worship

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

New Church Year Begins

Anthem: *Hymn of Promise* by the Sanctuary Choir

Sermon by Gary Strickland

DEACON OF THE WEEK



Bob Walker is our deacon of the week. Bob has been a member of Earle Street since 2006. He and his wife, Judy, have been married since 1970 and have four children and eight grandchildren. He is an academic advisor for the Health and Wellness Division at Greenville Technical College. He and Judy operate an income tax preparation service called Walker Taxes Ranger, LLC. In addition to his role as a deacon, Bob serves on the Community Missions Team, is a member of the Sanctuary Choir, and Sunday School teacher.

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Eddie Andrews

ATTENDANCE REPORT

Week of August 17, 2025

Sunday School Attendance

On Campus.....	133
Virtual	0
Total.....	133

Worship Attendance

Sanctuary	180
Preschoolers and Children.....	25
Total.....	205
Online Viewers	77

MINISTER ON CALL

August 22-24

Lucy Wilkinson

(864) 270-6436

lucy@esbcgreenville.org

August 29-31

Janice Hinnant

(864) 346-3834

janice@esbcgreenville.org

WEDNESDAY DISCIPLESHIP GROUPS

6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall

For all adults!

Waiting Produces a Spiritual Harvest: 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall: Through this time of study we will look at examples of those who found themselves waiting in various circumstances. We will find that each situation was unique but the waiting was placed in God's hands.

Moms Group: 6:00 pm in Room 205

This group is for moms of all ages! We will discuss parenting and be a support system for each other.

Mens Group: 6:00 pm Room 204

A new men's group will begin meeting for Bible study, shared learning, fellowship, and group activities.

BUDGET REPORT

Report for August 17, 2025

Weekly Budget Requirements.....	\$18,235
Budget Gifts (this week)	\$20,306
Budget Offering Requirements.....	\$601,755
Budget Gifts to Date	\$489,468
Global Missions Offering	\$24,932



GREAT EARLE PUMPKIN PATCH

The 3rd Annual Great Earle Pumpkin Patch is almost here!

We're kicking things off on Saturday, October 4th at 4:00 pm with a big pumpkin unload party—and we need YOU! Come help us unload the truck, and if you can, bring some snacks or drinks to keep our pumpkin crew fueled.

Then the fun really begins—starting Sunday, October 5th, the Pumpkin Patch opens and we'll need friendly faces to help with sales and connect with our community!

Pumpkin Patch Hours:

- Monday – Friday: 10:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Saturday: 9:00 am – 6:00 pm
- Sunday: 11:30 am–6:00 pm

Got a busy schedule? No worries—just reach out to Lucy (lucy@esbcgreenville.org) if you need to tweak your shift. Grab your spot now using the sign-up link below!

Volunteer in the Patch

Let's make this the best Pumpkin Patch yet as we help raise money to offset the 2026 mission trips to Ecuador and the Bronx!

From the Minister Of Music and Worship

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

Youth Choir—This Sunday, August 24 is Super Sundae! We will meet in the choir room with singing at 4:00 pm, and finish in the fellowship hall with ice cream at 5:00 pm. Come see what is in store for us this year!

Preschoolers and Children—We have a new schedule on Wednesday evenings! Choir is from 6:00 – 6:30, and activities from 6:30 – 7:00. Come join us!



FALL MOUNTAIN CAMPING WEEKEND AT TABLE ROCK

There are still a few spots open for our getaway October 10–12!

Each campsite is \$120 for the weekend and comes with water and power hook-ups—perfect whether you like to keep it simple or add a touch of “glamping.”

This weekend is always a favorite—time to slow down, hike the trails, share meals, laugh around the campfire, and enjoy meaningful conversations with our church family.

Don't wait—reach out to Lucy today to reserve your spot!

YOUTH CHOIR SUPER SUNDAE

Sunday, August 24th
4:00 - 5:00 pm

6TH - 12TH GRADE





GOAL JUSTICE TEAM MEMBERS NEEDED

GOAL (Greenville Organized for Accountable Leadership) is a growing interfaith coalition of congregations located throughout Greenville County committed to organizing for justice and solving critical community problems. ESBC has recently joined as their 30th member congregation and we are looking for people to serve as team members. Key events and dates for those interested in participating are:

- **ESBC House Meeting** - to occur between September 4th, 2025 and October 30th, 2025.
 - Discuss most important issues we see in the community to be brought before the full group for voting at Community Problems Assembly
- **Community Problems Assembly** - November 26, 2025 at 6:30 pm
- **Rally** - March 12, 2026 at 6:30 pm
- **Nehemiah Action** - April 9th, 2026 at 6:30 pm

Please reach out to Grey Register at greyregister@gmail.com or 704-880-5400 if you are interested in serving as a team member or if you have more questions.



DONATIONS NEEDED

- | | |
|------------------------------|--|
| • Travel-sized body wash | • Paper towels |
| • Bar soap | • Toilet paper |
| • Sunscreen | • Tissues |
| • Bug spray | • Disinfectant wipes |
| • Disposable razors | • Petroleum jelly (Standard tubs) |
| • Deodorant (aerosol) | • Wash cloths |
| • Foot powder | • Men's and women's underwear |

Place donations in the Welcome Center.
Items in bold are in high need.

UNITED MINISTRIES PLACE OF HOPE DONATIONS

United Ministries' Place of Hope Day Shelter provides individuals experiencing homelessness with basic services and compassionate support—offering a safe, welcoming space where participants are treated with dignity and respect as they access personalized support to meet unique needs. They are currently looking for the following items that we will be collecting in the Welcome Center. Bolded items are in high need. Please reach out to Grey Register at greyregister@gmail.com or 704-880-5400 if you have more questions.

CALLING ALL 3RD – 5TH GRADERS!

Are children too young to serve as worship leaders? My answer is no, which is why we give all 3rd – 5th graders the opportunity to serve as acolytes. The acolytes come in at the beginning of each worship service and light the Christ candle on the communion table. This may seem like a random and unimportant activity, but lighting the Christ candle is a symbol of bringing the light of Christ into our worship. Consequently, the acolyte carries the light of Christ back out of the sanctuary at the end of the service, which symbolizes that we all take the light of Christ out with us.

We began having the children serve as acolytes several years ago. Why 3rd – 5th graders? They are old enough to handle the responsibility, and I've yet to meet a child that didn't like to have a lighter in their hands! We use the acolytes during the school year, from September through May.

If your child will be a 3rd – 5th grader this coming year, I hope he or she will consider serving as an acolyte in worship. Please contact me at janice@esbcgreenville.org to sign your child up to acolyte, or if you have any questions. The opportunity to serve God can never start too early!



YOU ARE INVITED TO OUR

BREAKFAST BASH

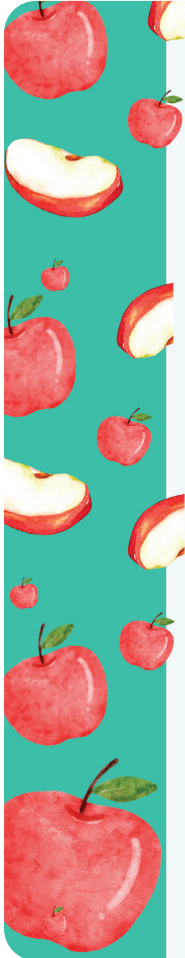


SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7TH

8:15 AM IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL

BRING A BREAKFAST ITEM TO SHARE!
DONUTS, CASSEROLES, FRUIT, OR
PASTRIES...ANYTHING YOU ENJOY FOR BREAKFAST!

COFFEE AND JUICE WILL BE PROVIDED.

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

APPLE ORCHARD TRIP

**TUESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 23
2:00 PM**

JUSTUS ORCHARD
187 GARREN ROAD
HENDERSONVILLE, NC 28792

SIGN UP NOW TO JOIN
US FOR A FUN DAY AT
THE ORCHARD!

TRANSPORTATION WILL
BE PROVIDED FOR
THOSE WHO WISH TO
RIDE THE VAN.



ESBC DOWNTOWN LEAGUE

BASKETBALL SIGNUPS

ONLINE ONLY @ESBCGREENVILLE.ORG
SEPTEMBER 21 - OCTOBER 5

**\$40 CHILDREN & YOUTH
\$50 ADULTS**

PRACTICES START OCTOBER 6TH WEEK
GAMES START:
11/6 MEN AND WOMEN
11/8 K4-8TH GRADE
11/10 9-12TH GRADE

BASKETBALL SEASON IS ALMOST HERE

Get ready—it's time to hit the court! We're putting together teams for all ages (K4 through adults!), and we want YOU to be part of the action.

Players: Sign up online between September 21 – October 5 to claim your spot!

Coaches & Helpers: We can't do this without you—let Lucy know if you're ready to step up and lead a team or help make the season awesome.

Let's pack the gym, build some teams, and make this season the BEST one yet!



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Samaritan's Purse sends gift-filled Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes to children in need around the world together with the message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. By filling ordinary shoeboxes full of toys and other fun items, you can be part of giving boys and girls what may be their first gift ever! This year our church is encouraged to pack our boxes online. You can pack your shoebox online by clicking below! Be sure to write in Earle Street Baptist Church so we receive credit!

Pack A Shoebox Online

Dear Earle Street Family,

As part of wrapping up my term as Deacon Chairperson, I recently went back through my notes and all of our meeting minutes from the past two years, and I am amazed to see what God has done through our church. Among other things, we have:

- Reached out to the community with two successful pumpkin patches, trunk or treat nights, Halloween at Earle, successful VBS weeks, and the first (of many to come) Lemonade Stands.
- Served as hands and feet of Jesus during two effective Operation Inasmuch days, several Habitat Days, and many, many hands-on workdays - building, planting, painting, fixing, helping, and providing transportation.
- Supported a refuge family with housing, transportation, English lessons, advocacy and friendship
- Got to know each other and the Lord better at dozens of Public Faith and Coffee Meet Ups
- Added a Documentation Oversight Committee
- Renovated the Family Life Center and the Boy Scout Building
- Updated the History Wall with the significant events from our 100th anniversary
- Researched, recommended, piloted, and approved significant improvements to how we elect deacons.
- Welcomed 8 new babies and 12 new members into our fellowship
- Sold a bus
- Read the Centered-Set Church, and participated in church-wide discussions regarding our church's mission focus. Adopted a statement and process that allows members to contribute as the Lord directs. Established the Greater Way Fund and the Missions Vision Team to administer the fund.
- Conducted a meaningful "Discovery Class" for guests and new members
- Held two inspiring Global Missions Celebrations
- Participated in multiple uplifting and fun joint music events with other churches
- Joined with 29 other churches to tackle problems in Greenville County, such as mental health, homelessness, and pedestrian safety
- Held two fun and very well-attended Wildfire events
- Sponsored and participated in mission trips to Thailand, House on Beekman, Ecuador, and Gary to Ethiopia
- Supported the Pastor Search Committee through prayer as they conducted an exhaustive search
- Began researching the building of a columbarium
- Carried out missions and ministries, known and unknown, to those who are hurting, ill, poor, hungry, home-bound or in facilities - too many to list
- Worshipped together, sang together, learned together, fellowshiped together, and prayed together.
-

This. THIS. THIS!! This is church! We are not "on hold". We are not "waiting to see". We are not "taking a break". We are the church and we are at work!

Many of YOU are the ones making it happen. You have picked up missions, ministries, and programs that were previously led by people who are no longer with us and carried them forward with energy, enthusiasm, and joy. You are doing twice as much – or three or four times as much – than you were doing five years ago. You may be tired, you may be stressed, you may be overwhelmed, but we never see it. We see joyful, kind, patient, servant hearts. I thank you again and again for that.

If you have not participated in the items above, what are you waiting for? With the new church year, now is the time to get started! What better gift do we have to offer to our new pastor than a thriving, spirit-filled church, busy at work!?! Contact anyone on the Nominating Committee (John Love, Helen Hewitt, Vicki Merck, Woody McCutcheon, Curtis Dobbins, and Nancy McCarrell) and they can help you find your place of service. Or, take a look at our clusters on the 3rd floor bulletin board to see where is God waiting for you to jump in. No talent, skill, or service is too small for the Lord to use!

As for me, I am no longer mourning for the days that were or dreaming of the days that may come. I am worshipping, rejoicing and relishing in the "right now". And as far as I am concerned, it can last a long, long time. We are the church and we are strong!

Praise God, from Whom all these blessings flow!

Margo Love