THE HOME PAGE

Volume No. 51 February 16, 2023 Issue No. 7

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
Wednesday, February 22 at 6:00 pm

We invite you to join us at 6:00 pm for our Ash Wednesday service. The worship service will be in the sanctuary for those who wish to attend in person. The service will be also be live streamed via our YouTube channel.

PRESCHOOL AND CHILDREN'S ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE
Wednesday, February 22 at 6:00 pm

This year for Ash Wednesday, we will have a separate Preschool and Children's age-appropriate service during the time of the adult service. The Children's service will be a prayer station service in Room 101A/B and the Preschoolers will learn about Ash Wednesday in Room 102 and 104.

MARCH CHURCH CONFERENCE
Date Changed to March 8

The March church conference, originally scheduled for March 15, has been moved forward one week to March 8. Moving this conference ahead one week will allow participation by members of our church family who are leaving to visit the Holy Land on March 14.

AN UPDATE FROM THE DEACONS

The deacons have scheduled second rounds of interviews with candidates in the Interim Pastor search. The Consultant Search subcommittee continues to interview consultant entities. We thank you for your prayers. We have certainly seen God moving in these processes, and we continue to seek His will.

SENIOR ADULT RETREAT AND SUNDAY

Thursday, February 9, and this past Sunday, February 12, were very meaningful days in the life of our church as we recognized and celebrated the senior adults in our congregation.

On Thursday, we had our fourth senior adult retreat, but it was the first one since 2019. This year's theme was "Being Active The Greater Way." We were challenged and encouraged as we heard from Wendell Cothran and Stephen Clyborne about their own health stories. Judy Lemmons provided us with some valuable educational information on local services available to seniors and Harriet and Lamar McCarrell brightened our day with movement and song. We enjoyed a delicious lunch thanks to Carol Edens, Kim Stidham and their team. Special thanks to the Senior Adult Retreat Planning Team: Jo An Boehm, Linda Kirkland, Judy Lemmons, Kathy Turner, Wayne Turner, Becky Wooten and Jim Wooten. And a huge thank you to each of the seniors who joined us for the retreat!

Our Senior Adult Retreat culminated in a wonderful and meaningful worship service on Senior Adult Sunday. We are so grateful to all the folks who led us in worship. Lamar and Harriet McCarrell and Randy Blackburn did a wonderful job in preparing, leading, and accompanying the Senior Adult Choir. We had 41 people who sang! A big thank you to everyone who participated! We also want to thank Blaun Bennett for leading us in the call to worship and beautiful invocation, Bruce Darling for such a thoughtful children's message, Bettie Fabian for her inspiring testimony, and Joe Pyfrom for his lovely solo. We are grateful to all of you! Finally, a huge thank you to Larry Worley for such a timely and challenging message for us all.

Our Senior Adult festivities concluded with a delicious lunch in the Fellowship Hall, courtesy of the Senior Adult Ministry Council. The lunch, catered by Kim Stidham, was served by teenagers from our youth group. Special thanks to Jean Brown and her team of volunteers who decorated the Fellowship Hall, helped prepare the food and handled all the details of the event. You can see photos of these events on the last page of this newsletter.

We are so blessed by the rich heritage of senior adults we have at Earle Street. We give thanks to God for each of you and are so grateful to you for sharing your time, your gifts, and your wisdom with all of us.

JOIN US IN WORSHIP

Sunday, February 19
10:30 am in the Sanctuary

Transfiguration Sunday

Ordinance of Communion

Anthem: *Hearts of Gratitude* by the Sanctuary Choir

Scripture: Deuteronomy 18:15; Matthew 17:1-5

Sermon: "Listen to Jesus!" by Jay Roland

Wednesday, February 22
6:00 pm in the Sanctuary

Ash Wednesday

Duet: *Create in Me a Clean Heart*
by Janice Hinnant and Wendell Cothran

Scripture: Matthew 6:1-6, 16-18

Meditation: "What Are You Giving Up?" by Janice Hinnant

RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Lynne Hobus

CONGRATULATIONS

Teresa Lewis upon the recent birth of her great-grandson, Huxley Creed Turner.

ATTENDANCE REPORT

Week of February 12, 2023

Sunday School Attendance

On-Campus	189
Virtual	7
Total	196

Worship Attendance

On-Campus	273
Virtual	178
Total	451

BUDGET REPORT

Report for February 12, 2023

Weekly Budget Requirements	$28,873
Budget Gifts (this week)	$14,204
Budget Requirements to Date	$202,114
Budget Gifts to Date	$156,612
Global Missions Offering	$7,028

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Libby Young is our deacon of the week. Libby and her husband Kurt have been worshipping at Earle Street since 1999. They have lived in South Carolina since 1995 but grew up in the Northeast and met at college in Rhode Island. Libby is a librarian at Furman and has two grown daughters, Monika and Cecily. In addition to serving as a deacon, Libby has been leading the No One's Perfect Sunday School Class for almost 20 years.

WHILE THE SEARCH CONTINUES

While the Deacons are diligently praying and seeking to find the interim pastor God has for our church, we are blessed to have the following ministers delivering our Sunday morning messages:

February 26: Tim Saunders

March 5: David Newton

WEDNESDAY NIGHT MEALS

Wednesday, February 22
5:00 - 5:45 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Make your reservation by midnight, February 12

Main Entree: Baked Ham, Macaroni and Cheese, Green Beans and Rolls

Salad Entree: Boxed Grilled Chicken Salad with Assorted Toppings and Dressing

Pizza Entree: Two Slices of Pizza (Cheese or Pepperoni)

WEDNESDAY MEAL RESERVATION

XYZ MONTHLY MEETING AND MEAL

Thursday, February 23
11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall

Cathy Schwartz once again brings her solo handbell ministry to XYZ! For more than 25 years, she has been bringing her handbells, dulcimers, surprise instruments and laughter to the program. If you plan to stay for the meal following the program, please make a reservation by clicking below or calling the church office. Our mission project this month will be donations for the United Ministries Food Pantry.

XYZ MEAL RESERVATION

From the Minister of Administration

Denise Plumblee (ext. 211) – denise@ESBCgreenville.org

Wednesday Evening Meal Volunteers Needed
Since resuming our Wednesday evening meals the first of this year, many families in our congregation have been eating with us each week. The Kitchen Leaders and the Food Services Committee have worked hard to make the preparation and serving process smooth and easy. We have a great group of volunteers that assist on Wednesday evenings but we still need some additional hands. Wednesday evening meal volunteers serve from 4:15 until 6:00 pm. They help the Kitchen Leaders with preparing the plates, serving the plates to the church family and then cleaning up the kitchen. Volunteers can serve one or more Wednesdays a month.

If you would be willing to serve in this area of ministry or need more information, please reach out to me.

DONUTS & DADS
Sunday, March 5
9:15 am on the First Floor
Dad, grandpa, uncle or any male mentor is invited to join their preschooler or children on Sunday, March 5th for Donuts & Dads! We ask that each child invite one 'dad' to accompany them to Sunday School! If you have any questions, please contact Karli Selz at karli@esbcgreenville.org.

From the Connections Minister

Jay Roland (ext. 203) – jay@ESBCgreenville.org

ESBC Family,

I am so thankful to be a part of a church that loves living on mission for God. One mission field that I am passionate about is our local, public school systems. Healthy relationships between schools and churches have the potential to produce much Gospel fruit.

During our Global Missions Celebration, Angela McNeal, a Community Ministry Strategist and Heart 4 Schools leader for SC Baptists came and spoke with one of our small groups. Did you know that in South Carolina, as a result of the pandemic, 57% of students are behind grade level in ELA? When third graders don't read at grade level, they are four times more likely to drop out before graduating and if they live in poverty, that number jumps to eight. 1 in 7 children in South Carolina faces hunger. 46% of teachers report high daily stress (tied with nursing as the most stressful job in our country). Every year around 6,000-7,000 South Carolina teachers leave their positions. In our state, we have around 1,100 international teachers.

Talk about an opportunity to be the hands and feet of Jesus, sharing the Gospel in word and deed! Angela and her team want to help us get started. If you are interested in helping serve local schools, shoot me an email or a text, and let's begin to pray together about how God might use ESBC to make a difference at a local school!

In Christ,
Jay Roland

From the Minister Of Music and Worship

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

Youth Choir and Handbells
We only have two more rehearsals before Festival By the Sea! I need the balance for your trip and your permission slip no later than Sunday, February 26. If you did not receive the email from me with your balance, please let me know. See you Sunday!

Sermon from Sunday, January 29
On Sunday, January 29, we were unable to livestream or record the worship service. Todd Wilson was our guest preacher that day. If you would like to have a copy of his sermon, please email me, and I will send it to you.

EASTER EGG HUNT
Sunday, April 9 at 9:00 am

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be on Easter Sunday, April 9! Preschool and Children's families will gather at 9:00 am to celebrate Easter before Sunday School that day. Preschoolers and Children will go to different areas, depending on their ages:

Babies-K3: Courtyard
K4-1st Graders: Small Playground
2nd-5th Graders: Large Playground

WILDFIRE
Saturday, March 11
7:00 - 9:00 pm in the Family Life Center
This Sunday is the last day to purchase tickets!

What is Wildifre? Wildfire is our annual youth fundraiser! Attending Wildfire means you are giving our youth an opportunity to attend camps and mission trips during the summer. This year, our youth are raising money to offset three summer trips: Look Up Lodge, the Bronx Mission Trip and the Thailand Mission Trip. We would love to have your support!

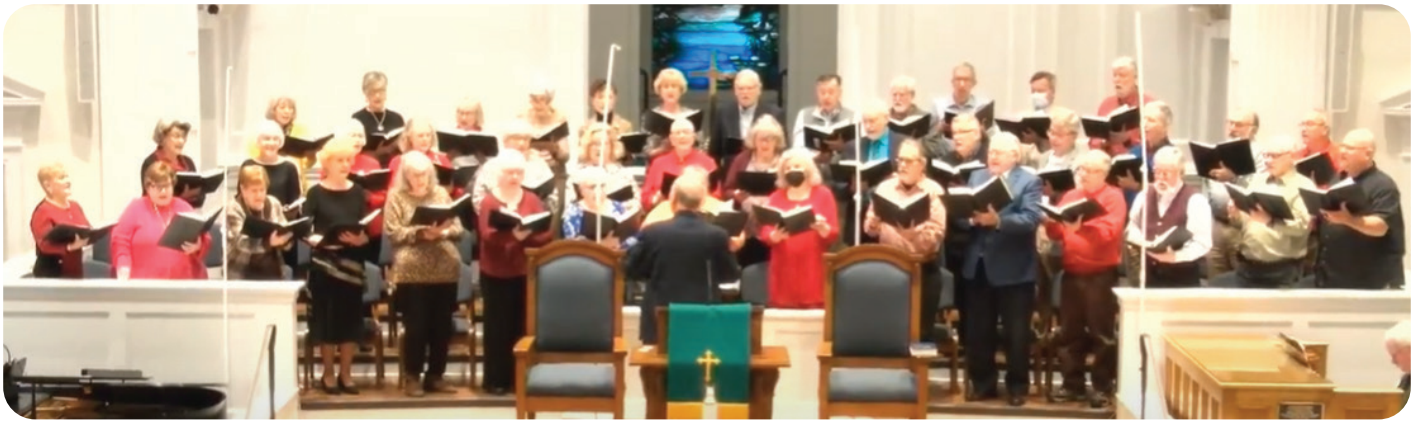
For Those That Can Attend
We are so excited to celebrate Earle Street Baptist Church's 101st birthday! To celebrate, we will be drawing inspiration from the "101 Dalmatians" movie, so come as a movie character, pull out that mink stole from the attic or just wear red, white and black to compete for our Best Dressed Award (optional).

In addition to delicious desserts and Will Middleton leading us in fun table games, we will also have a huge silent auction for you to shop. There are Single Ticket options available as well as Table Ticket (party of 8) options available for purchase. Tickets will be available online (www.esbcgreenville.org/events) beginning this Sunday, February 5th and ending Sunday, February 19th.

For Those Who Can't Attend But Want To Support
We understand if you are unable to attend for any reason and are so thankful you still want to support this event and our youth. You can make a flat donation using the Flat Donation Ticket option.

Tickets are available online (www.esbcgreenville.org/events) through this Sunday, February 19.

WILDFIRE TICKETS



SENIOR ADULT
RETREAT