

# THE HOME PAGE

Volume No. 47

June 3, 2019

Issue No. 21

## DEACON ELECTION Sunday, June 30

On Sunday, June 30, our church will vote to elect six deacons to serve a three-year term. As we approach this important election for our church, please prayerfully consider whether you are willing and able to serve as well as for whom you will vote on that Sunday. If you are not able or willing to serve, please contact Denise at [denise@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:denise@esbcgreenville.org) to have your name removed from the ballot.

### Important Dates To Remember

**Sunday, June 16** – This Sunday will be the last day to have your name removed from the deacon ballot. If you do not wish to be considered for election, please ensure your name is removed.

**Sunday, June 23** – A sample ballot will be provided in the bulletin that Sunday for you to use when prayerfully considering for whom you will vote. Absentee ballots will be available in the church office for members of our congregation who will be absent on June 30.

**Sunday, June 30** – Ballots will be provided for voting during both morning worship services.

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### NEW CHURCH PICTORIAL DIRECTORY

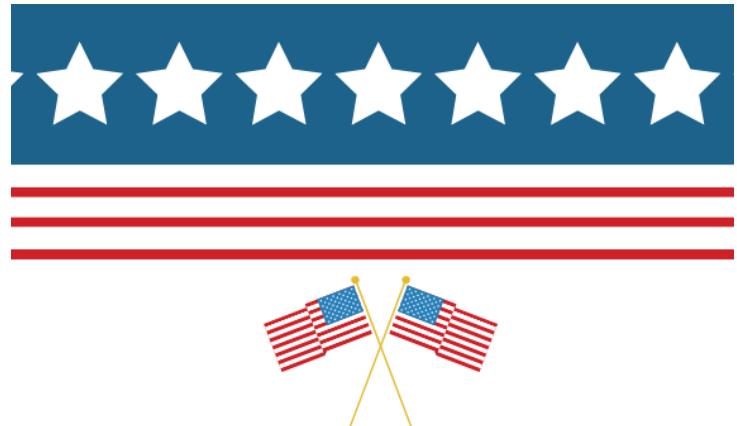
It's been three years since our last pictorial membership directory was published. Our church has experienced tremendous growth since 2016 with 148 new members. This summer we will have photography sessions so our church families can come and have their family portraits made for the directory. Our new pictorial directory will be available in the early fall for distribution to our congregation.

The photographers from Lifetouch will be here at ESBC on the dates listed below for photography sessions. Watch for more information on how to sign up to have your family included in the new pictorial directory.

#### Photography Dates

Wednesday – Saturday, July 17-20  
Monday – Tuesday, July 22-23

Weekday hours: 2:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
Saturday hours: 10:00 am – 5:00 pm



JOIN US FOR AN

## INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION

EARLE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH  
225 WEST EARLE STREET

**5:30PM PARADE  
6PM STEVE'S FAMOUS BBQ- \$5 PER PERSON  
7PM CELEBRATION OF FREEDOM CONCERT**

July 4, 2019

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**XYZ MONTHLY CATERED  
MEAL AND FELLOWSHIP  
for all senior adults  
Tuesday, June 25  
11:00 am in the Fellowship Hall**

**Musical Program:** Ellen Heyward and friends.

**Menu:** Chicken Salad, Marinated Vegetables, Pickled Beets, Pasta Salad, Lemon Squares, Crackers, Tea and Coffee

**Mission Project:** School Supplies for Church Without Walls

Call Jan Brown at 864-350-5541 to sign up! Regular attenders (people on the permanent list) should call if they can NOT attend.

The cost of the meal is \$6.00 per person.

# JOIN US IN WORSHIP

## Sunday, June 9

*Pentecost Sunday*

**Solo:** *Holy Spirit, Flame and Fire* by Amy Andrews  
**Anthem:** *O Breath of God* by the Sanctuary Choir

**Scripture:** Acts 2:1-21

**Sermon:** "What Does This Mean?" by Chuck Emory

### USHERS

**9:15 am:** Sayle Lewis (Captain), Frank Hawkins, Emory Hendrix, A. D. Harris, Rob Traywick, Tom Whitehurst, Donna Dorn, Rick Green

**Preschool Coordinator:** Bethany Hovis

**10:30 am:** Steve Davis (Captain), Rob Traywick, Drew Mackenzie, Mary Beth Young, Mary Arrowood, Jill Pearce, John Swiger

**Preschool Coordinator:** Bethany Hovis

**Sound Technician:** Jay Gibson

**Video Technician:** Hugh Cureton

**Deacon of the Week:** Mary Arrowood

### GREETERS

#### Welcome Center Greeters

9:15 am: Steve and Sandra Davis  
10:30 am: Jackie Peace

#### Preschool Welcome Center Greeter

9:15 am: Kathryn Brooks

### PRESCHOOL WELCOME CENTER

9:15 am: Kesina Lewis  
10:30 am: Janet Landers

### HOMEBOUND MINISTRY TEAM A

Cindy Doolittle, Sally Wise, Jackie Peace, Nellie Farnsworth, Wayne Turner, Saundra Richards

## THIS WEEK AT ESBC

### Sunday, June 9

8:00 am	Early Bird Sunday School Class (CR 203)
9:00 am	Onesimus Men's Class (Room 201)
9:15 am	Media Library Open
10:30 am	Sunday School/Worship (All Rooms)
2:00 pm	Sunday School/Worship (All Rooms)
	Strategic Planning Committee Meeting (CR 200)
	Youth Leave for LookUp Lodge
3:00 pm	Gym Reserved (McAlister)
6:00 pm	Deacons Meeting (CR 203)

### Monday, June 10

6:00 pm	Gym Reserved (Pearce)
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### Tuesday, June 11

9:15 am	Staff Meeting (CR 200)
10:30 am	WMU Mission and Fellowship Group (FH)
6:30 pm	Boy Scouts (Scout Building)
7:00 pm	Band Rehearsal (FH)

### Wednesday, June 12

6:00 am	Gym Reserved (Boone)
5:00 pm	Media Library Open
5:30 pm	Youth Open Gym
5:45 pm	Dinner (Fellowship Hall)
6:00 pm	Men's Bible Study Group (Room 300B)
6:30 pm	Prayer Meeting (FH)
	Youth Bible Study (FLC)
	RAs and GAs (Room 205)
	Mission Friends (First Floor)
7:15 pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

### Thursday, June 13

5:00 pm	Preschool Pool Party (Montebello Pool)
5:30 pm	Gym Reserved (Day)
7:00 pm	Gym Reserved (Pearce)

### Friday, June 14

6:30 pm	Gym Reserved (Day)
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### Saturday, June 15

12:00 pm	Fellowship Hall Reserved (Komoroski)
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CR: Conference Room

FH: Fellowship Hall

FLC: Family Life Center

## Wednesday Night Meal

### Wednesday, June 12

Taco Salad, Lemon Bars, Tea and Coffee

## WEEKLY SPOTLIGHT

This year we plan to spotlight the various teams, committees and entities that function and work together in our church. This week's spotlight shines on our Apartment Ministry Team and is written by Chuck Emory.

## **Apartment Ministry Team**

Did you know that Earle Street Baptist Church has an Apartment Ministry Team? Well, we do! The team operates as part of the Missions Cluster, and its mission is to coordinate the church's ministry to and with local apartment complexes and similar residential communities. The team's formation and its mission arise out of ESBC's relationship with Landwood Ridge Apartments.

Landwood Ridge is an apartment complex located on McAlister Road in Greenville's Nicholtown Community. Some years back, ESBC's Evangelism Team (now known as the Bridge Builders Team) began a relationship with the residents of Landwood Ridge as an evangelistic outreach effort. As the team got to know the folks there, it became apparent that there was already a strong community of faith among the residents. The relationship that developed from there is truly a wonderful friendship, fellowship, and partnership between our church and that community.

Over the years, we have shared many special worship services and meals and other special events with the residents of Landwood Ridge. Most recently, we joined with them for an Easter communion service and also had a cookout and fellowship on Operation Inasmuch Day. Our friends at Landwood Ridge and the ministry we share together are truly a blessing.

The Apartment Ministry Team is led by Andy and Deb Harper, and we would love to have more ESBC members join us in this ministry. If you are interested in joining the team or would like to learn more about it, please contact Chuck Emory at [chuck@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:chuck@esbcgreenville.org). You will be glad you did!

## COMFORT FOOD

In times of sorrow and grief, families need to be together, but they don't need the added stress of having to prepare or provide a meal. That is where our Bereavement Team comes in (if there is no Sunday School class) -- to express sympathy on behalf of the church and arrange a meal for the family of a church member in the event of the death of a church member or a member of his/her family who lived in his/her home at the time of death. This is such an important ministry, and a timely way for our church to support a family during a very stressful time -- just before or after the funeral or memorial service. Would you be willing to join the Bereavement Team and be "on call" to prepare a dish or two to meet the need? If so, please contact Stephen Clyborne, and he will be glad to get you in touch with the Bereavement Team who can get you involved.

# WELCOME HOME



Thomas Lewis

Thomas Lewis joined on Sunday, June 2 by profession of faith and request for baptism. Thomas is the son of William and Teri Lewis.

## RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Jim Brown      Laura Cummings  
Barbara Hawkins      Mark Plasters

# FOR THE RECORD

Sunday - June 2, 2019

## **Worship Services**

9:15 am Attendance.....	198
10:30 am Attendance.....	<u>210</u>
Total Worship Attendance.....	408

## Sunday School

9:15 Attendance.....	130
10:30 Attendance.....	<u>190</u>
Total Sunday School Attendance .....	320

2018-2019	9:15 Average Attendance .....	133
2018-2019	10:30 Average Attendance .....	<u>181</u>
	Total Sunday School Average Attendance.....	314
	Enrollment (to date) .....	912

# BUDGET REPORT

## Sunday - June 2, 2019

Weekly Budget Requirements.....	\$27,050
Budget Gifts.....	\$29,723
Budget Requirements to Date.....	\$595,100
Budget Gifts to Date .....	\$614,761



Pastor - Stephen Clyborne  
Ext. 204, [stephen@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:stephen@esbcgreenville.org)  
Associate Pastor and Minister of Adults - Chuck Emory  
Ext. 203, [chuck@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:chuck@esbcgreenville.org)  
Ministry Assistant - Ellen Heyward  
Ext. 205, [ellen@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:ellen@esbcgreenville.org)  
Minister of Music and Worship - Janice Hinnant  
Ext. 202, [janice@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:janice@esbcgreenville.org)  
Minister of Preschoolers and Children - Bethany Hovis  
Ext. 209, [bethany@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:bethany@esbcgreenville.org)  
Director of Earle Street Preschool Education - Shanna Johnson  
Ext. 207, [shanna@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:shanna@esbcgreenville.org)  
Ministry Assistant - Brenda Melson  
Ext. 200, [brenda@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:brenda@esbcgreenville.org)  
Minister of Administration - Denise Plumlee  
Ext. 211, [denise@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:denise@esbcgreenville.org)  
Minister of Youth and Recreation - Lucy Wilkinson  
Ext. 212, [lucy@esbcgreenville.org](mailto:lucy@esbcgreenville.org)

## EARLE STREET BAPTIST CHURCH WEEKLY NEWSLETTER: The Home Page

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Website: [www.ESBCgreenville.org](http://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.



<https://bit.ly/2WesBTo>

## REFLECTIONS

by Denise Plumblee

“We’ve heard true stories from our fathers about our rich heritage.  
We will continue to tell our children and not hide from the rising generation  
the great marvels of our God—his miracles and power that have brought us all this far.”

Psalm 78:4

**Flashback to two years ago.** Sunday, June 4, was a historic day in the life of our church as we broke ground for the new addition to our education building. There was excitement in the air as the Spirit of God moved among us and in us and through us on that day. The celebration was joyful as we placed the stones with our names on them in the foundation of the new building, around the cornerstone (Jesus). None of us knew for sure exactly what the next year of construction held for our church but we were very excited to finally be moving forward. We were just over a year into our three-year capital campaign, *Preparing the Fields*. Our church had approximately \$2,800,000 in our building fund accounts and our plan was to borrow the additional \$1,700,000 from our own endowment fund and a local financial institution to pay for the estimated \$4.5 million building. In his sermon that day, Stephen challenged us in five ways:

1. Remain united and focused on what really matters.
2. Be flexible and cooperative.
3. Be faithful in our attendance, participation and prayers.
4. Help turn our parking challenges into parking opportunities.
5. Be more generous.

**Fast forward one year to July 25, 2018.** That too was a historic day in the life of our church as we dedicated our new building to the glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Again there was excitement in the air as the Spirit moved among us and in us and through us on that day. How exciting it was to finally remove the “construction site – do not enter” signs and allow our congregation to wander through the welcome center, classrooms, hallways and yes, even the bathrooms! We recognized the legacy of those who came before us with the beautiful history wall. We renewed our commitment to our mission statement by making it a focal wall in our welcome center lobby. And we expressed our thankfulness to God for the faithfulness of his people who gave of their time, talents and resources to help make the new addition a reality. Our capital campaign continued to be successful as we passed the two year mark. At the time of the building dedication, we had borrowed only \$550,000 - \$300,000 from our own endowment fund and \$250,000 from the local financial institution. And yes, we had met and managed the challenges that Stephen had offered a year earlier.

**Fast forward one more year to June 2019.** It’s hard to believe it’s been one year since we took ownership of the building and moved in. Even though the new addition was officially finished in June of 2018, we have continued to put the finishing touches on – new signage inside and outside, additional furnishings, and additional safety and security features. This month the final pieces will be put in place as the new monument signs are installed on Stone Avenue and Earle Street. Besides the normal church usage on Sundays and Wednesdays, the new building has allowed us to host a variety of events including a book fair for our weekday preschool program, CPR/active shooter/fire safety and other training programs for our church and community, visitation hours for grieving families, and conference facilities for local law enforcement. The new addition has allowed us to serve our community and church in ways that we never dreamed of. And, as we reach the conclusion of our three-year capital campaign, we are so very close to being debt free on the new building. **As of the publication of this newsletter, the balance on the line of credit with the financial institution is now less than \$10,000!** Once this debt is completely retired, the only debt remaining on the new facility will be to our own endowment fund - \$291,934. Praise be to God!

As we move into the future of this church located at the corner of Earle and Robinson, I think the five challenges from Stephen’s message on ground breaking Sunday still apply with maybe one alteration. While our property constraints will always require creative thinking with regards to parking issues, I would replace that challenge with this one: **Continue to tell the generations that follow of the great marvels of God, his miracles and power that have brought us all this far.**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Stephen Clyborne (ext. 204) – [stephen@ESBCgreenville.org](mailto:stephen@ESBCgreenville.org)

The opening chapters of the Bible have generated a lot of questions - - historical questions, scientific questions, and theological questions. But we often fail to realize that these stories have their own questions of us. They are the first questions from the mouth of God, and they may just be the most important and urgent questions we will ever have to answer. These opening chapters of Genesis provide a theological introduction to the rest of the Bible. And as it turns out, once God raises these questions in the beginning, the Bible never changes the subject.

The first question raised by God comes in the context of the story of the man and the woman (later named Adam and Eve) in the garden. God placed the man and the woman in a garden of Paradise and made just one rule: they should not eat the fruit from the forbidden tree of the knowledge of good and evil. But we all know the story of how the serpent planted seeds of doubt not by a temptation to do something vulgar or corrupt, but by the temptation to be like God. It was not a downward call that got them, but the call upward that ensnared them. As soon as they ate the fruit, they realized they had broken fellowship with their Creator. The Bible says it this way: "The eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves aprons. . .and they hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden." But then they heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and they knew they had been caught. The guilt was eating them alive, and they got real quiet. And in the deafening silence, the LORD asked the question that still rings in our ears: "Where are you?" It is the first question the Bible ascribes to God. And it may be the most basic, urgent question you will ever hear God ask: "Where are you?" Where are you in relationship to God?

Well, that was the first but not the last question God ever asked. In the very next story, the same God who came looking for Adam and Eve, came looking for their son, Cain. You may remember Cain's story, too - a tragic story of petty jealousy which ended in murder. Cain and his brother, Abel, both offered sacrifices to God, who accepted Abel's offering, but not Cain's. Cain let it get to him. Rather than letting it go, he stewed in it. And one day, as he and his brother were out in the field, Cain killed Abel. And the LORD asked yet another probing question: "Where is your brother?" Where are you in relationship to your brother (or sister)?

When it comes right down to it, God has only two questions to ask. Oh, they may be phrased in different ways throughout the Bible, but God never gets too far away from these two questions: "Where are you?" and "Where is your brother or sister?" And you can read the rest of the Bible, from cover to cover, and never get past those two questions.

(continued to right)

When asked about the greatest commandment, Jesus said it this way: "The first is to love God and the second is just like it, love each other." And the writer of First John echoed the same truth when he wrote: "If you say you love God and do not love your brother and sister, you are a liar." The world will know we love God not by our doctrine, not by our view of the Bible, not by how Baptist we are, not by our budget, not by our buildings, but by our love. It is the theme of the Bible. It is the agenda of God expressed in the form of two probing questions: "Where are you?" and "Where is your brother or sister?" And in terms of the Christian faith, it doesn't get any more basic than that.

There is nowhere we can hide to avoid the penetrating questions of God: "Where are you?" and "Where is your brother or sister?" Consider the chilling possibility that the first questions God ever asked may finally be the only questions that really matter.

## FROM THE MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Janice Hinnant (ext. 202) – [janice@ESBCgreenville.org](mailto:janice@ESBCgreenville.org)

We are still in need of ushers. If you would be willing to serve as an usher, please let me know!

## FROM THE MINISTER TO PRESCHOOLERS AND CHILDREN

Bethany Hovis (ext. 209) – [bethany@ESBCgreenville.org](mailto:bethany@ESBCgreenville.org)

**Work Out Wednesday!** We are excited to welcome Nick Schneiders, an ESPE parent and former basketball player, to lead our 1st-5th graders in a basketball clinic next Wednesday, June 12th. Children will meet in the children's department at 6:30 pm, and then head over to the gym. Children need to wear comfy clothes and tennis shoes, and parents may pick up their children in the gym at 7:15.

**Help Needed for VBS:** We are looking for crew leaders for VBS! This job requires ZERO planning and gives you the opportunity to get to know a group of children very well. We also need some helpers in the kitchen.

### VBS Dates to Keep in Mind

June 23rd: VBS training (2:00 for station leaders, 2:30 for crew leaders)

June 29th: Decoration Workshop at 9:00 am (Can't help during VBS? Come help make decorations!)

July 7th-11th: VBS from 5:00 to 7:30

**Summer Activities:** The preschool pool party is coming up on June 13th. The evite has been sent! Let me know if you did not receive it!

**Ages 3s, 4s, and 5s:** For the summer, our 3/4 year old class and our kindergarten class will be combined on both Sunday mornings for Sunday School and Wednesday nights for Mission Friends!

**Thank You:** Our children's pool party was SO much fun! Thank you, Lucy and Tommy, for hosting!