

Little Free Pantry

Items needed in are canned meats, vegetables, and soups, mac & cheese, breakfast foods, toiletries such as soap, deodorant, shampoo, and paper goods. Cash donations are also appreciated. We cannot accept items in glass jars or perishables.

EBC now offers online giving through our church website. You can use a credit or debit card for a one-time gift or recurring transaction. Also available is a one time or recurring ACH transaction.



We will NOT be selling Christmas Poinsettias this year.



Extended Care Workers

Dec 7	Betty Clifton, Jessica Guidry Sara Haley
Dec 14	Shirley Hooten Klay & Bailey Young
Dec 21	Jana Burchett, Diane Klump Charlotte Rabe
Dec 28	Jodi Christensen, Reene Shedd Jordan Story

A Monthly Publication Of:
Emory Baptist Church
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 Emory, TX 75440

December Weekly Schedule

Sunday

9:15 A Sunday School Small Groups
 10:30 Morning Worship
 (In person & online)
 5:00 P Celebration Choir Rehearsal
 6:30 Evening Worship
 RA's & GA's /CB (K-5th)
 Youth Ministries/MH (6th-12th)

Monday

10:00 A Church-wide Prayer Meeting

Tuesday

9:00 A Threads of Service/MH
 (2nd & 4th Tuesday)
 6:30 P Recovery Ministry

Wednesday

5:30 P Fellowship Meal/FH
 6:30 Wednesday Worship/FH
 KidzPraise/CB (K-5th grade)
 Youth Ministries/MH (6th-12th)

Friday

7:00 A Men's Discipleship/
 Y'all Come Back Cafe

Ministry Staff

Pastor - Dr. Richard D. Piles
 Minister of Music & Senior Adults - Chris Henderson
 Minister of Youth & Education - Ronnie Witt
 Director of Preschool Ministries - Cecily Kirby



Volume 25, Number 12

December 2025

Emory Baptist Church exists to:

Love God (Matt. 22:37-38), Love People (Matt. 22:39-40), and Make Disciples (Matt. 28:19-20).



T.E.L. Christmas Caroling to Homebound Members

Tuesday, December 9
 Leave EBC at 9am

Wednesday, December 24

Church office will close at 12pm
 Christmas Eve Worship 5:30pm
 No Wednesday Meal

Sunday, December 28

No Evening Activities

Wednesday, December 31

No Backpack Buddies
 No Evening Activities
 No Wednesday Meal



LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS POST OFFICE

The Lottie Moon Post Office mailbox is available through the end of the December in the front foyer. You can bring your Christmas cards for EBC members and place in the "drop off" box.

The money you would have spent on postage can be placed in an offering envelope and indicate it is for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Hosted by T.E.L.

"But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves." James 1:22

Dr. Richard D. Piles, Pastor
 Chris Henderson, Minister of Music & Sr. Adults
 Ronnie Witt, Minister of Youth & Education
 Cecily Kirby, Director of Preschool Ministries

Pastor's Pen

The greatest gift ever given is spoken of in 2 Corinthians 9:15, "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift!" Of course, we know that gift is God's Son, Jesus Christ.

If you have received that gift, I want to challenge you this Christmas season to give that gift to someone else. There is no doubt in my mind that God will send countless people across my path and your path this Christmas season who need the gift of Jesus.

You don't have to memorize a certain presentation or be able to answer everyone's questions. You simply have to be willing to share what Christ did in your life.

As for your December calendar, our 2026 proposed church budget will be available on December 7. Also on December 7, our Celebration Choir will be sharing their Christmas Music & Drama Presentation in our Morning Worship Service at 10:30 AM. On December 21 at 6:30 PM, we will have our December Members' Meetings that will include our budget discussion and a vote.

Don't forget to take advantage of our Lottie Moon Post Office hosted by T. E. L. throughout the month. Please remember, we will NOT be selling Christmas Poinsettias this year. We would encourage you to make a contribution directly to our Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

Finally, don't miss our Christmas Eve Worship Service on December 24 at 5:30 PM. Merry Christmas, and thanks be to God for His indescribable gift in Jesus!



Bro. Richard
Pastor

Choir Corner with Chris

Merry Christmas, church family! I hope you all had a wonderful Thanksgiving with your family and friends and are now excited to celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Savior of the world.

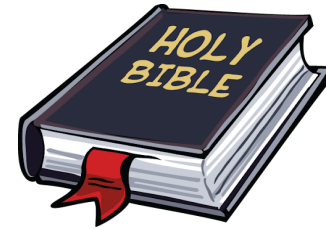
In the month of December, we celebrate a season called Advent, or the arrival of Christ. On each of the four Sundays leading up to Christmas Day, we will be focusing on one of four themes: Hope, Love, Joy, and Peace. On these four Sundays, we will be lighting a candle and reading scripture corresponding to each of those themes to prepare our hearts for the Christ candle, which we will light during our Christmas Eve Service on Wednesday, December 24th.

On December 7th, the Second Sunday of Advent, the Celebration Choir, along with KidzPraise, the EBC Praise Team, and the EBC drama ministry led by Phyllis Mikulak, will be presenting *Vignettes of Christmas*, a Christmas scenic musical that will go through four different scenes with music and narration.

Thank you so much for the outpouring of love and support you have shown Grace and me as we prepare to welcome our son next month. He is growing quickly, and we are praying that everything continues to progress well. We have been blessed beyond belief and are so excited to meet our baby boy.



Bro. Chris
Minister of Music & Senior Adults



DAILY BIBLE READING

Dec 1	Ezekiel 45-46 2 Peter 3	16	Amos 7-9 Revelation 7
2	Ezekiel 47-48 1 John 1	17	Obadiah Revelation 8
3	Daniel 1-2 1 John 2	18	Jonah Revelation 9
4	Daniel 3-4 1 John 3	19	Micah 1-3 Revelation 10
5	Daniel 5-6 1 John 4	20	Micah 4-5 Revelation 11
6	Daniel 7-8 1 John 5	21	Micah 6-7 Revelation 12
7	Daniel 9-10 2 John	22	Nahum Revelation 13
8	Daniel 11-12 3 John	23	Habakkuk Revelation 14
9	Hosea 1-4 Jude	24	Zephaniah Revelation 15
10	Hosea 5-8 Revelation 1	25	Haggai Revelation 16
11	Hosea 9-11 Revelation 2	26	Zechariah 1-3 Revelation 17
12	Hosea 12-14 Revelation 3	27	Zechariah 4-6 Revelation 18
13	Joel Revelation 4	28	Zechariah 7-9 Revelation 19
14	Amos 1-3 Revelation 5	29	Zechariah 10-12 Revelation 20
15	Amos 4-6 Revelation 6	30	Zechariah 13-14 Revelation 21
		31	Malachi Revelation 22



Sunday, December 7
2026 Proposed Budgets Available

Sunday, December 21
2026 Budget Vote



Children's Ministry Christmas Ornament Sale

Christmas Tree ornaments made by our kindergarten-5th graders are for sell, and the proceeds will go to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering.

You may select an ornament from the children's tree in the Front Foyer. Cost is by donation.

If you need an announcement included in the January newsletter, **please contact Teresa White no later than Wednesday, Dec. 17.**

Nursery Rhymes

For unto you is born this day in the city of
David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2:11

Legend of the Candy Cane -unknown

Look at the candy cane.
What do you see?
Stripes that are red,
Like the blood shed for me.
White is for my Savior,
Who is sinless and pure.
“J” is for Jesus My Lord,
That’s for sure!
Turn it around,
And staff you will see.
Jesus my Shepherd
Was born for me!

May you all have a blessed Christmas
spent with the ones that you hold dear!

Merry Christmas!



Cecily Kirby
Director of Preschool Ministries

Sonbeam Day School

Memory Verse:

For there is born to you this day in the city of
David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.
Luke 2:11

Bible Story:

Birth of Jesus

Nursery Rhyme:

I’m a Little Tea Pot

Family Bible Question:

Who was the strongest man who ever lived?
Hint: Judges 14:6

Important Dates:

December 6th: Christmas Around the Park
and Parade (4-year-old classes only)

December 16th: Pajama Day

December 17th: Christmas Program and Live
Nativity

December 18th: Christmas Party/Christmas
Deck out Day

December 22-January 5th: Christmas Break

Please continue to pray for our ministry,
staff, students, and their families.



Cecily Kirby
Director of Sonbeam

Student Ministry Spot

My friend Pierce from Ganado, TX came by the church one Wednesday a few weeks ago. I gave him a tour of the building and even the future plans for the FLC addition. But, I made sure to point out the prayer room to him on the way to the youth room. He asked, “Is that where all the cards come from? That’s a great ministry.” We have been praying for Pierce for about a year and a half, now. It has been cool how God has used his story to spread the good news of the Gospel and the goodness of God in uncomfortable times. And it has been cool that God has used EBC in praying for him and encouraging him during this time.

The story of Christmas is in many ways a story of intercession and encouragement. We often think of Matthew’s and Luke’s account of the Christmas story with shepherds, wise men, and a baby in a manger. But, I often think of John’s account in John 1:9 & 14:

The true light, which gives light to every-one, was coming into the world.

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Jesus entered into the world He created and “put on” humanity to dwell with us. Even though He is God over the story, He also came into the story to comfort & encourage us and to redeem and rescue us, to bring us back to Himself.

We will begin signing up for the ‘26 Winter Retreat soon. And we were also able to reserve 50 spots for Camp Zephyr July 13-17. So mark you calendars for the coming year.

As the year winds down, I hope you make time to reflect on God’s comfort in the Christmas story and Christmas season. And I pray we are encouraged for 2026. **Bro. Ronnie**

Minister of Youth & Education

Pray for our Military

Joshua Allen	Colin Mayo
Gabe Baker	John McCann
Robert Barrientos	James McGarry
Joshua Crain	Travis Mosley
Jaxon Davenport	Robert Palin Jr.
Christopher Donaldson	Robert Sandlin
Jeremiah Duke	Josh Satterfield
Nicholas Endris	Kenny Schulze
Peter Hughes	Garrick Stainaker
Travis Johns	Kolby Stephenson
Christian LaToof	Kristy Tunney
	Colton Wilkerson



**T.E.L. Christmas
Meal & Gift Exchange
Tuesday, Dec. 16 12noon, FH**

The T.E.L. hostesses will provide the meal and attendees need to bring their favorite dessert or treat to share!

Also, please bring a wrapped, unmarked gift (\$15-\$20). December word is “joy”.



DECEMBER 2025

Calendar Online: go to www.emorybaptist.org and click on "Schedule"

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>Lottie Moon Week of Prayer ends</div>	<div>1 WOM 11am Christian Quilt Guild 6:30pm FH</div>	<div>2</div>	<div>3 Backpack Buddies 10:30am Meatloaf</div>	<div>4</div>	<div>5</div>	<div>6</div>
<div>7 2nd Advent 1st Fruits on 1st Sunday Vignettes of Christmas Program 10:30am</div>	<div>8 <div>2026 Proposed Budgets Available</div></div>	<div>9 TEL Christmas Caroling Leave EBC 9am</div>	<div>10 Grilled Pork Loin Chops</div>	<div>11 SAM Lunch & Game Day/FH 12pm Fun for Seniors</div>	<div>12</div>	<div>13</div>
<div>14 3rd Advent Lord's Supper 10:30am</div>	<div>15</div>	<div>16 TEL Christmas Lunch 12pm/FH Word is Joy</div>	<div>17 Backpack Buddies 10:30am Sonbeam Christmas Program 6:30pm Youth Christmas Party 6:30pm in Youth Room Enchiladas</div>	<div>18</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div>
<div>21 4th Advent Members' Mtg. 6:30pm 2026 Budget Vote</div>	<div>22 Rains ISD & Sonbeam Christmas Break Dec 22-Jan 5</div>	<div>23</div>	<div>24 Church Office Closes 12pm Christmas Eve Worship 5:30pm</div>	<div>25 Merry Christmas</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>
<div>28 No PM Activities</div>	<div>29</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>31 No Backpack Buddies No Meal No PM Activities New Year's Eve</div>			



Members' Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 2 Stacy Vititow | 17 Laura Mitchell |
| 3 Ariana Baker | Juany Perez |
| Billy Madden | Karen Sweeden |
| Hatley Scott | 18 Randy Cole |
| 4 Heath Sisk | 19 Charlotte Rabe |
| Alfonso Villa | 21 Lou Madden |
| 6 Keri Gowin | 22 Steven Johnson |
| 7 Carroll Ethridge | Deanna Moore |
| Johnny Laney | 25 Randy Davis |
| 9 Jessica Guidry | Christy Piles |
| 11 Jarrod Thurman | 26 Lorraine Dougherty |
| 13 Cash Dale | Rene Drake |
| 14 Sharon Hodges | Wanda Shaw |
| 15 Steve Beaver | 27 Bret Guidry |
| Jimmy Perez | 30 David Gowin |
| Shelby Vaughn | Linda Rimbey |
| | 31 Kenneth Shipp |
| | Lacy Witt |

Members' Anniversaries

- 3 David & Reese Shedd
12 Bradford & Kalie Berry
17 John & Teresa Runion
27 Johnny & Pat Laney
Walter & Sandra Dougherty
30 Jamie & Jessica Guidry