

GOD with US



Worth the Wait

Luke 2:22-35

Ralph Nygard, Lead Pastor

December 17, 2017

FROM THE PASTOR

Dear Church family,

2 Corinthians 8:9-12 NLT *“You know the generous grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty he could make you rich. Here is my advice: It would be good for you to finish what you started...Let the eagerness you showed in the beginning be matched now by your giving. Give in proportion to what you have. Whatever you give is acceptable if you give it eagerly. And give according to what you have, not what you don’t have.”*

During the Christmas season many people get so wrapped up in the spirit of gift giving, that they end up in credit card debt that will take several months or more to pay. We should really take time to think about the true reason for gift giving. We should give gifts to others because of our love for them, and seek to give based on our capacity to give, not just to fulfill their desires. We should give to others with a joyful heart and not out of a sense of obligation. I remember as a 6 year old receiving my first bicycle. I went out to the garage and remember how excited I was to get just what I had hoped for. The bicycle was not brand new, but had been renewed by my Father with a fresh coat of paint and new tires. Even though my parents struggled financially; they made sure that they did their best to provide for me and didn't try and live beyond their means.

Likewise, the Bible teaches us that it is not the size of the gift that matters to God, but rather the willingness of our heart to give according to one's resources. When we give of our resources to the Lord, it should be based on a different motivation. Our reason for giving of our time, talents, and money is not because we owe God. Rather, we should give because of our gratitude for what God has done for us. The word of God states **“that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.”**

We should give because of the demonstration of God's love for us. Jesus became poor so that we could become rich in our relationship with the Father. We should never get to the point that we can ever say that we have given enough or that we can't give at all because we can't afford to give. Our gratitude should be so great because of our experience of God blessings; we should try and figure out how much more we can give to the Lord's work. Even when our physical resources are small, the blessings are great when we give a proportional gift to God out of a heart filled with love. Does the giving of your life and resources indicate a true love for God?

In His Love,

Pastor Ralph

WELCOME TO OUR GUESTS!

Welcome Guests!

- Info packets available in the Lobby
- "Energize Worship": Kids, 1st - 6th grade dismissed from 10:30 am worship
- Babies - Preschool: age groups available in the preschool area, 9:15 AM to Noon
- Cry Room available at N.E. corner of Worship Center
- Need a Bible? Free at the Information Desk

ANNOUNCEMENTS

• **Caroling Opportunity Today at 3 PM**

Meet at 3 PM in the choir room to do some caroling at a Health Care Facility. Also, on Dec 21 at 3 PM (choir room) the Kidz will be caroling.

• **Christmas Eve Candlelight Services: Dec 24 at 9 AM and 11 AM**

Please join us for a time of worship this Christmas Eve! Childcare is available up to age 4, if needed. There will be no Sunday School Classes.

• **2018 Offering Envelopes**

Are available to pick up at the tables, in the hallway, outside the Media Library. If you would like envelopes, please indicate on your connect card and they will be made available the following Sunday.

• **Military Board: Updates Needed**

If your loved ones have come home from the military or have recently left for service please provide us with a picture so we may include them on our Military Board in the West Wing. Please use the Connect Card or contact the office.

• **Bring Christmas to Those in Need**

If you are interested in sponsoring a child please stop by the lobby and pick up one of the sponsorship ornaments. Or if you would just like to just buy a toy to give in general, please drop it off to the church office before Dec 19.

• **Gift Wrapping Party: Dec 20 from 4 - 8 PM: Room 200**

We will be having a gift wrapping party to wrap all of the gifts that have been received this month. Being good Baptists, it will be a potluck as well! If you have extra tape, and wrapping paper please bring it with you.

• **VPK First Friends has Openings**

Currently there are a few spots open in our 3 year old classes for 3 day and 5 day vpk. If interested, please contact Dee Helbig or Jenny Rider at preschool@egfirst.org or 254-2339 ext 25.

• **Bulletin Stuffers Sought for 2018**

Are you available Friday mornings at 9 am for about 45 minutes? Please use the connect card to let us know of your interest.

THIS WEEK AT EG FIRST!!

Sunday, December 17:

Prayer First: 8:30 AM - Room 104 and Conference Room

Library Open: 8:45 - 9:15 AM and 10 - 10:30 AM

Youth Leaders Prayer Time: 9 AM

Revolution United Bible Study: 9:15 AM

Caroling: 3 PM

Revolution United Worship: 6 PM (Doors open at 5 PM)

Tuesday, December 19:

Library Open: 9:30 AM

Wednesday, December 20:

Moms in Prayer: 8:45 AM

Families on Mission: Potluck and Gift Wrapping: 4 PM Room 200

Dinner Served: 5 PM

Library Open: 5:45 PM

Wednesday Night Programs: 6:15 PM

Praise Band Rehearsal: 6:30 PM

Traditional Choir Rehearsal: 7:30 PM

Thursday, December 21:

Families on Mission: Christmas Event: 10 AM Fellowship Hall

Kidz Caroling: 3 PM Choir Room

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

12/24: Bonnie Dowdy, Katherin Pearson, Hezekiah Phelps

12/25: Myshel Morgan

12/26: Ann Connor, Sedina Bush, Carol Bush, Donovan Rogers

12/27: Betty Farlow, Bill Schneider, Monica Hall

12/28: Lou Ann Stapleton, Mike Schmitt, Vincent Temaat, Patrick Albanese

12/29: Linda LeBoeuf, Corbin Conley

12/30: Carlos Milholi, Cyndy Adair, Paula Dickerson, Tamyra Dawson,
Sherry Keene

THANK YOU!

Thank you for making the 2017 Seafarers Gala a huge success and for celebrating 20 years of ministry with us. Your gift is blessing families from all over the world. Blessings, Mark Wodka

In the Front Lobby

HomePointe[™]
Building Strong Families

Visit for FREE resources for marriage, parenting, life seasons
and other great resources!

www.egfirst.org/ministries/homepointefamilyministry

IN MEMORY OR HONOR

To Challenge to Build

In Memory of Chaplain Joe Hunt from Bebe Ballard

SPECIAL CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE

Wednesday, December 20th at 6 PM to approve the 2018 Church Budget, please make plans to attend.

YEAR END GIVING OPPORTUNITY

Did you know that when you file your taxes, that giving to a church or a non profit organization will help reduce your tax burden? Just like the deductions of mortgage interest, the IRS allows you to reduce your taxable income by the amount you donate. It is a benefit that we can give the church money instead of the government. Although, this is a wonderful benefit, it is not the reason why we give. We should give out of gratitude because God first gave to us. Any gifts received in the office by Dec. 31st will be credited to the 2017 giving statements. Thank you for your faithfulness!

OUR MISSION:

LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, SHARE JESUS, REACH THE WORLD

Facts and Figures December 10, 2017

Weekend Worship Attendance 520

Weekly Budget Needed 18,191.27

Budget Offering	12,597.05
Designated	2,100.00
CTB Debt Retirement	95.00
Lottie Moon	1,830.00

Total Offering 16,622.05

To Date Figures

Budget Goal	909,563.50
Received	919,644.05
CTB Gifts	2,527,427.50
CTB Year	19,305.05
Lottie Moon	9,270.00

Wednesday Night Dinner December 20, 2017

Suggested Donation

\$5 Adult...\$3 Child...\$15 family

Chicken Pot Pie, Italian Green Beans,
Roll, Apple Cobbler

Entree Salad:

Salad Plate

No Reservations Needed

Deacons on Call Dec 17 - 23

Ray Kotowski	693-0942
Ed Davis	266-3966
Roger Wiseman	626-7322

WEEKLY MEMORY VERSE

James 1:16-17 “Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change.”

9:15 am Sunday Traditional Worship

Choral Praise: Shepherd’s Joy

Fellowship Time: Come on, Ring Those Bells

Message in Song: What a Strange Way to Save the World
Chuck Sink

Worship Songs Today:

O Come All Ye Faithful

Sing We Now of Christmas

Good Christians Now Rejoice

What Child Is This

Mary Did You Know

Child in the Manger

Joy to the World

10:30 AM Sunday Contemporary Worship

Worship Songs Today:

My Soul Magnifies the Lord

What a Beautiful Name

Glory In the Highest

King of Heaven

Great Are You Lord

Silent Night

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



Vivian Mello has been helping out here at the church for a while. She is extremely active in the Families on Mission clothing ministry. She shows up to organize, fold, move, unpack and repack clothes at least three times a week. Then on top of that she has been a huge help on Wednesday nights helping out with dinner. Thank you so much for all you do Vivian!

Eau Gallie First Baptist Church

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