

## Prayer?

Please list your prayer requests with detailed information of people in need. Thank you!

## Year-End Giving.

To be sure you receive contribution credit for 2023, please have your giving to the Finance Office by the following times:

**Offering:** Dropped in the giving boxes on or before Sunday, December 31, 2023.

**Postal Mail:** Post-marked by USPS by December 31, 2023 (any mail postmarked in 2024 will be credited to 2024).

**Online:** By 11:59pm on December 31, 2023.

**Hand-delivered:** By 12:00pm, Thursday, December 21, 2023\*

\*The church offices will be closed between December 22nd and January 2nd so please make prior arrangements for your year-end giving. If you have any questions or special considerations, please email the Finance Team at [finance@eastcooperbaptist.com](mailto:finance@eastcooperbaptist.com)

843.856.3222 x PRAY (7729)  
[prayer@eastcooperbaptist.com](mailto:prayer@eastcooperbaptist.com)

# NEW TO ECBC?

For more information email [info@eastcooperbaptist.com](mailto:info@eastcooperbaptist.com)

First Time Guest?

We'd love to get to know you!

SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



## Sermon Notes.

**Speaker:** Buster Brown, Senior Pastor  
**Message:** Sharing in the Common Life  
**Text:** 1 John 1:1-4

*"That which was from the beginning, which we have heard, which we have seen with our eyes, which we looked upon and have touched with our hands, concerning the word of life—<sup>2</sup>the life was made manifest, and we have seen it, and testify to it and proclaim to you the eternal life, which was with the Father and was made manifest to us—<sup>3</sup>that which we have seen and heard we proclaim also to you, so that you too may have fellowship with us; and indeed our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>And we are writing these things so that our joy may be complete." 1 John 1:1-4*

In order to have strength for the journey (Psalm 84:5-7), God has so built us that we receive mutual strength by treasuring the greatness of all that God is for us in the person and work of Jesus Christ.

*"God made us: invented us as a man invents an engine. A car is made to run on petrol, and it would not run properly on anything else. Now, God designed the human machine to run on Himself. He Himself is the fuel our spirits were designed to burn, or the food our spirits were designed to feed on. There is no other. That is why it is just no good asking God to make us happy in our own way without bothering about religion. God cannot give us a happiness and peace apart from Himself, because it is not there." C.S. Lewis*

*"Spiritual warfare is all encompassing. It touches every area of our lives...our families, our relationships, our church, our neighborhoods, our communities, our places of employment. This is virtually no part of our existence that the Evil One does not want to maintain or reassert his unhealthy or perverse influence." Clinton Arnold, Dean of the School of Theology at Talbot Seminary*

*"Scripture lays down the basis of fellowship in 1 John 1:7; 'if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.' Jesus Christ, then, is the source and fount of all spiritual communion. Only when rightly related to the Lord do we experience true fellowship with another Christian. Just as light and darkness are incompatible, so a believer can have no real fellowship with an unbeliever. Neither can the Christian be in fellowship with one who walks contrary to the teaching of Christ (2 John 9-11), or a professing brother who is immoral, idolatrous, a drunkard, or a thief (1 Corinthians 5:11).*

*Scripture lays down several guidelines for enhancing the communion of believers in the body. (1) Love one another with the same compassion that Christ displayed to his own (John 13:34-35; 15:12). The law of fellowship should be the rule of love (Hebrews 13:1). (2) Cultivate that spirit of humility that seeks the other person's honor (Philippians 2:3-5). (3) Lighten fellow believers' load by bearing one another's burdens (Galatians 6:2). (4) Share material blessings with brothers and sisters in need (2 Corinthians 9:13). (5) Tenderly correct a sinner while helping to find solutions to the problems (Galatians 6:1). (6) Succor a fellow believer in times of suffering (1 Corinthians 12:26). And (7) pray for one another in the Spirit without ceasing (Ephesians 6:18).*

(continued >>)

## Sermon.

(continued)

*The Christian will want to seriously regard the saying of an anonymous saint, 'You cannot draw nigh to God if you are at a distance from your brother.'*  
**Baker Encyclopedia of the Bible**

1. Jesus Christ is eternal (v. 1).
2. Christ has eternally existed with the Father (v. 2).
3. In the fullness of time, God came in the form of a man (v. 2-3).
4. Because of the incarnation, the apostle John has, and all believers have, obtained fellowship with the Father and the Son (v. 3b).
5. This proclamation leads to fellowship with other believers (v. 3a).
6. The proclamation leads to intense joy (v. 4) (Psalm 16:1-3).

### APPLICATIONS:

1. The more I ponder, rejoice in, and treasure Jesus the greater my joy/purpose/peace/hope.

*"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. <sup>16</sup>For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together." Colossians 1:15-17*

2. As I ponder, rejoice in, and treasure Jesus the more I will walk in the joy of self forgetfulness and kingdom mindedness.

*"But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." Matthew 6:33*

3. The more I ponder and think through the reality of all that Christ is and what he has done for me and my union in him the more embrace will be my relationships and friendships with like-minded pilgrims.

*"What Satan put into the heads of our remote ancestors was the idea that they could 'be like gods'—could set up on their own as if they had created themselves—be their own masters—invent some sort of happiness for themselves outside God, apart from God. And out of that hopeless attempt has come nearly all that we call human history—money, poverty, ambition, war, prostitution, classes, empires, slavery—the long terrible story of man trying to find something other than God which will make him happy." C.S. Lewis*



Your mobile devices are welcome! After the service, we encourage you to share encouraging pieces of the sermon or worship service on social media.  
Tag ECBC using [#ecbcharleston](https://twitter.com/ecbcharleston).

Listen to sermons online at [eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons)

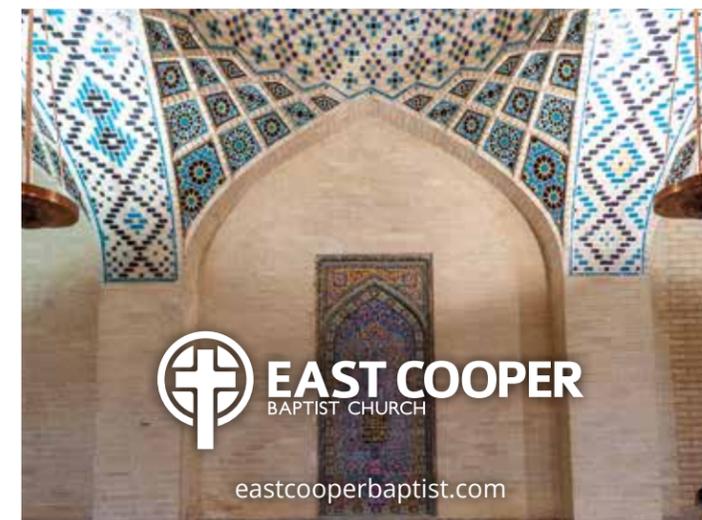
DECEMBER 10, 2023



LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®

CHURCH GOAL: \$625,000

DECEMBER - JANUARY



 **EAST COOPER**  
BAPTIST CHURCH

[eastcooperbaptist.com](http://eastcooperbaptist.com)



# Welcome.

We're glad you are here to worship with us. If you are new to East Cooper Baptist, we would love to meet you. Please stop anyone with a name-tag and let us answer any questions you may have. Thanks for being our guest.

**Buster Brown**, Senior Pastor  
busterb@eastcooperbaptist.com | 843.856.3222 x2006

**Traditional Worship and Classes**  
Sanctuary 9:30am & 11:00am  
**Contemporary Worship and Classes**  
Worship Center 9:30am & 11:00am

## Ways to Give.

Giving is part of our worship to God. Through your faithful giving, God continues to change lives here in our area and around the world.



**Give in-person** by dropping your gift in any giving box located throughout the church.

**Give online** by visiting our website at: [eastcooperbaptist.com/give](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/give).



**Give via text** by texting the word "GIVE" to 843-202-4848.

## Get to Know.

**Sharon Gravely**



### HIGH SCHOOL MINISTRY ASSOCIATE ON STAFF

Sharon grew up in a military family and lived in many places throughout her childhood. The Lord called Sharon to Himself at the age of 22 after many years of hearing the gospel from her parents and their faithful prayers for her salvation. She joined the East Cooper staff in 2023. Sharon is married to Randolph, and they have four sons. In her free time, she enjoys hanging out with her family and reading.

# REFRESH

2024

LIVING GENEROUSLY  
4 week series beginning in January

Refresh is a class that takes place every January! Each year this class will contain an update to our vision goals, reminders about our vision language, and some specific teaching geared towards this season of our church family's life. Refresh 2024 will be about Living Generously. We're asking all of our church members to commit to attending this four-week class.

Classes start January 7 in the East Cooper Gym and will be offered at both 9:30am and 11:00am on Sundays, and at 6:30pm on Wednesday evenings. We look forward to growing with you there!

To register, go to [eastcooperbaptist.com/refresh](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/refresh) or scan the QR code



## Upcoming.

### LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

100% of your gifts support International Mission Board (IMB) missionaries.



[eastcooperbaptist.com/lottiemoon](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/lottiemoon)

### CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING SERVICES

Our Christmas Eve services will be held that Sunday morning in the Sanctuary at 9:30 & 11:00am. Kids of all ages attend services with parents.

PLAN TO ATTEND.



[eastcooperbaptist.com/events](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/events)

### THAILAND MISSION TRIP

This team will work with our global partner, Ann, to help run an English camp and do outreach on the college campuses. This trip involves a lot of walking.

APPLY ONLINE.



[eastcooperbaptist.com/serve](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/serve)

### SERVE ON THE WELCOME TEAM

We need volunteers who can serve in our parking lot, as door greeters, make coffee, or help people find their way at our Welcome Desk.

SIGN UP TODAY!



[eastcooperbaptist.com/serve](http://eastcooperbaptist.com/serve)

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### First Time Guest?

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SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



12.10.23

## Hello.

Please complete the perforated section and take to the Welcome Desk or place in any giving box located around the church.

I/We attended worship at:

9:30am  11:00am

I am a first time guest

Name

Spouse

Birthdate

Spouse Birthdate

Address

City

State

Zip

Mobile

Spouse Mobile

Email

Spouse Email

Preferred method of contact:

Call  Text  Email

Interested in the following:

Become a Christian

Join the Church

Meet with a Pastor

Subscribe to newsletter

Other