

Pray.

On July 7 the congregation approved full time ordained pastors to serve as elders. Please pray for the following men as they began their service on August 1.

PASTORS

Craig Harris
Van Barnhill
Danny Beech
Leland Brown
Dave Bruner
Dean Henderson
Matt Reagan
Steve Tuck

Staff.



Rose Anderson
Women



Van Barnhill
Men & Local Impact



Danny Beech
Equipping



Leland Brown
Community & Young Adults



Dave Bruner
Global Impact



Mike Doll
Orchestra



Craig Harris
Executive



Dean Henderson
Worship



Will Kramer
Middle School



Dustin Raley
Worship



Matt Reagan
Campus Outreach



Carl Schooling
Pastoral Care



Steve Tuck
Children & Family



JD Zubia
PCA Headmaster

Sermon.

Speaker: Buster Brown, Senior Pastor

Message: A Living Hope

Text: 1 Peter 1:3-5

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.
1 Peter 1:3-5

Peter is addressing the church in Asia Minor as they are entering a period of "soft persecution" where they will be marginalized for their faith.

"What is obvious is that it is extremely difficult to live in the modern world with any semblance of serenity- perhaps even difficult to live here with any degree of sanity- unless we learn to use the theological virtue of hope that has been entrusted to us."
Philip Bochanski, *The Virtue of Hope*

"Hope is one of the Theological virtues. This means that a continual looking forward to the eternal world is not (as some modern people think) a form of escapism or wishful thinking, but one of the things a Christian is meant to do. It does not mean that we are to leave the present world as it is. If you read history you will find that the Christians who did most for the present world were just those who thought most of the next. The Apostles themselves, who set on foot the conversion of the Roman Empire, the great men who built up the Middle Ages, the English Evangelicals who abolished the Slave Trade, all left their mark on Earth, precisely because their minds were occupied with Heaven. It is since Christians have largely ceased to think of the other world that they have become so ineffective in this. Aim at Heaven and you will get Earth "thrown in": aim at Earth and you will get neither."
CS Lewis, *Mere Christianity*

How to Deal with Hopelessness (from CS Lewis)

1. The Fool's Way - puts the blame on the things themselves and thinks that if only I can attain the next _____, then I will have happiness.
2. The Way of a Dissolute but Sensible Man - he settles down and learns not to expect too much, and represses the part of himself that used to want more. This is, of course, a much better way than the first, and makes a man much happier and less a nuisance to society.
3. The Christian Way

Why Despair?

1. The u_____ of news outlets.
2. I_____.
3. The push to self-_____.

A lively living hope that cries out, "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ because of His great mercy."

"In this I greatly rejoice." (v.6)

Why This Hope?

1. We've been caused to be born again to this hope. *"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God."* John 1:12-13

(continued >>)

Sermon.

(continued)

2. The glory/power of the resurrection (the focal point of our worship).
3. We have an inheritance that is fixed and certain.

Election

- Is humbling and leads to worship.

God's Purpose of Grace

Election is the gracious purpose of God, according to which He regenerates, justifies, sanctifies, and glorifies sinners. It is consistent with the free agency of man, and comprehends all the means in connection with the end. It is the glorious display of God's sovereign goodness, and is infinitely wise, holy, and unchangeable. It excludes boasting and promotes humility.

Baptist Faith and Message, Article 5, 1st paragraph

- Leads to confidence. (v.5)

...But I am not ashamed, for I know whom I have believed, and I am convinced that he is able to guard until that day what has been entrusted to me." 2 Timothy 1:12

"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." Philippians 1:6

- Is lively, living/pressing into the wind, and it ultimately helps to muffle the drumbeat of the world, because of the resurrection of Jesus from the dead (the focal point of the character and mercy of God).

"Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation." Psalm 42:5

"In the Lord I take refuge; how can you say to my soul, "Flee like a bird to your mountain, for behold, the wicked bend the bow; they have fitted their arrow to the string to shoot in the dark at the upright in heart; if the foundations are destroyed, what can the righteous do? THE LORD IS IN HIS HOLY TEMPLE" Psalm 11:1-4a

- Is an awaiting inheritance which is imperishable, undefiled and unfading.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Why is hope living and lively in the life of a Christian?
2. How does the living hope "muffle the drumbeat of the worldly system"?
3. What does Lewis mean when he says that one way to deal with disappointment and hurt is "the Fool's Way"? What does that involve?
4. Why is prayer without action not truly biblical praying?
5. Why does election "promote humility and exclude boasting" (Baptist Faith and Message, Article 5)?
6. What did Spurgeon mean when he said, "Hope is like a star which is most likely seen not in the sunshine of prosperity but in the darkness of night"?

What would your week look like if you lived out the reality of a lively, pressing into the wind, looking forward to an eternity Hope?

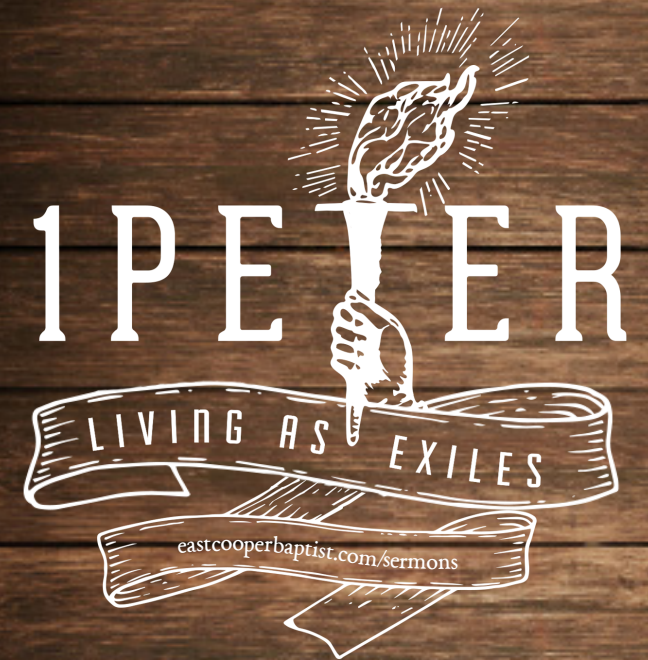
Who are your three?



Your mobile devices are welcome! After the service we encourage you to share pieces of the sermon or worship on social media that you think others will find encouraging. Tag ECBC using #ecbcharleston.

Listen to sermons online at eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons

AUGUST 18, 2019



"Equipping people to pursue Jesus Christ passionately as they impact the culture"

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843.856.3222 x PRAY (7729)

prayer@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 by the Welcome Center following the worship services to say hello 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 | @pastorbusterb

Traditional Worship / Sunday Equip•u Classes
Sanctuary 9:00a & 10:45a
Contemporary Worship / Sunday Equip•u Classes
Worship Center 9:00a & 10:45a



Next Steps.

1. Attend a Guest Luncheon

Get to know us better at our next Guest Luncheon and see what God has in store for you. You'll meet our pastor and some of our staff and enjoy fellowship with a great meal. Our next free luncheon is **October 13 at 12:15p** in the Gym. For more information, please contact Carol at carolw@eastcooperbaptist.com.

2. Find an equip•u Class

Our equip•u classes are groups that meet before or after the worship services to study the Bible in depth. Visit the Welcome Center to pick up an equip•u guide or go online to choose from a variety of classes. Register for track classes at eastcooperbaptist.com/classes.

3. Join a Community Group

An authentic biblical community provides a place where we can grow, learn, and serve as we seek to know Jesus. We have a variety of over 30 open groups from students to adults. Please go online today to locate a group near you. eastcooperbaptist.com/groups

4. Become a Member

Register online for our upcoming New Members Class on Saturday, **October 19**. This class is a basic introduction to our church family and is a requirement for joining the church. We designed this class to clearly explain what we believe at East Cooper Baptist.

5. Serve in equip•them

Equip•them is the serving arm for Sunday morning ministries. We have nearly 600 opportunities to serve. Some needs require 15 minutes before the service, others may require the whole equipping hour. eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

Childcare.



We have a safe and loving environment for your children where they can learn about God. Please take advantage of our nursery for children up to age three during the worship services. Our ushers are ready to assist you.



This Week.

For detailed information please go online.

SUN

AUG 18

Equip•u Classes
9:00a & 10:45a
GriefShare
10:45a-12:00p B227

MON

AUG 19

Reengage Marriage Program
6:30-8:30p D203 Choir Room

TUE

AUG 20

Womens Book Club
6:30-8:30p Host Home
Worship Band Rehearsal
6:30-8:30p Worship Center



CAMPUS
OUTREACH
CHARLESTON

cocharleston.org

Through our partnership with Campus Outreach, we have the ability to live out our mission on the local college campuses in the Charleston area. Campus Outreach is currently on 3 campuses: The Citadel, The College of Charleston, and Charleston Southern University.

SUPPORT A STAFF MEMBER cocharleston.org/give

Currently 6 people are raising support to join their team to make disciples on these campuses. Consider supporting them today to help them get on the campus!



Parker Lewis



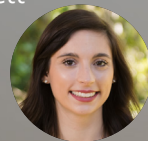
Tiffany Keiper &
Eric Burnett



Marion Stallings

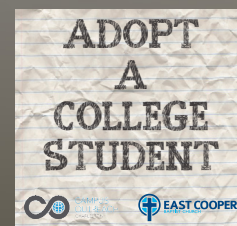


Dèja Richardson



Madison Ling

ADOPT-A-STUDENT



At East Cooper Baptist Church, members have the opportunity to "adopt" a college student and provide a home away from home. This is a chance for members to invite students into your home for a meal or a break from dorm life. If you are interested in serving in this way, please fill out the form at eastcooperbaptist.com/college.



361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222

Upcoming.

For detailed event information please go online.

TODAY GriefShare is a friendly, caring group of people who will walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences. Contact Carl at carls@eastcooperbaptist.com for more information.
MORE INFO ONLINE



MONDAYS Reengage is a marriage enrichment program. Marriages in any condition can benefit. This program meets every Monday night from 6:30-8:30p. Childcare is provided for infant to 5th grade. **MORE INFO ONLINE**



AUG 30 We want to partner with parents who are fostering or adopting children or who have a child with special needs. Fun Nights are a night for kids to have fun and for parents to have a time of respite.
REGISTER ONLINE



SEPT 1 If you are interested in being baptized, please register for a baptism date online. An ECBC pastor will then contact you to schedule an interview before your baptism date. Baptism is required for membership at ECBC.
REGISTER ONLINE



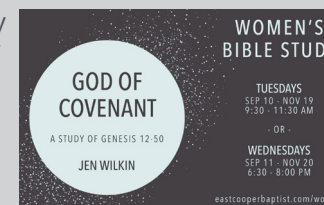
SEPT 6 A large, weekly gathering of 200+ men desiring to know God, themselves, and their brothers in a deeper way. We meet 6:20-7:30a on Friday mornings in the gym, enjoy a hot breakfast, and 20 minute message from Buster. **PLAN TO ATTEND**



WEEK OF SEPT 8 An authentic biblical community provides the place where we can grow, learn, and serve as we seek to know Jesus. For us, these communities are built around small groups. You can find a list of open groups on our website.



SEPT 10/11 Join us this fall as we study Genesis Part 2 - *God of the Covenant* by Jen Wilkin. You can join on Tuesdays at 9:30a or Wednesdays at 6:30p. The workbook for this study is \$13. Childcare is available with registration.
REGISTER ONLINE



SEPT 12 A women's video study in Genesis from author and speaker Jen Wilkin. Join on Thursdays at 9:30a. The workbook for this study is \$13. Childcare is available with registration.
REGISTER ONLINE



NEW TO ECBC?
After the service, stop by the Welcome Center

Please complete the perforated section and place in the offering plate or bring by the Welcome Center.

08.18.19

Hello.

If you're here for the first time, please come by our Welcome Center and say hello. We'd love to answer any questions and say thanks for being our special guest today.

I/We attended worship at:

9:00a 10:45a

I am a first time guest

Name

Spouse

Birthdate

MO DA YR

Spouse Birthdate

MO DA YR

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
- Request a personal visit
- Subscribe to newsletter
- Join a Community Group
- Other