



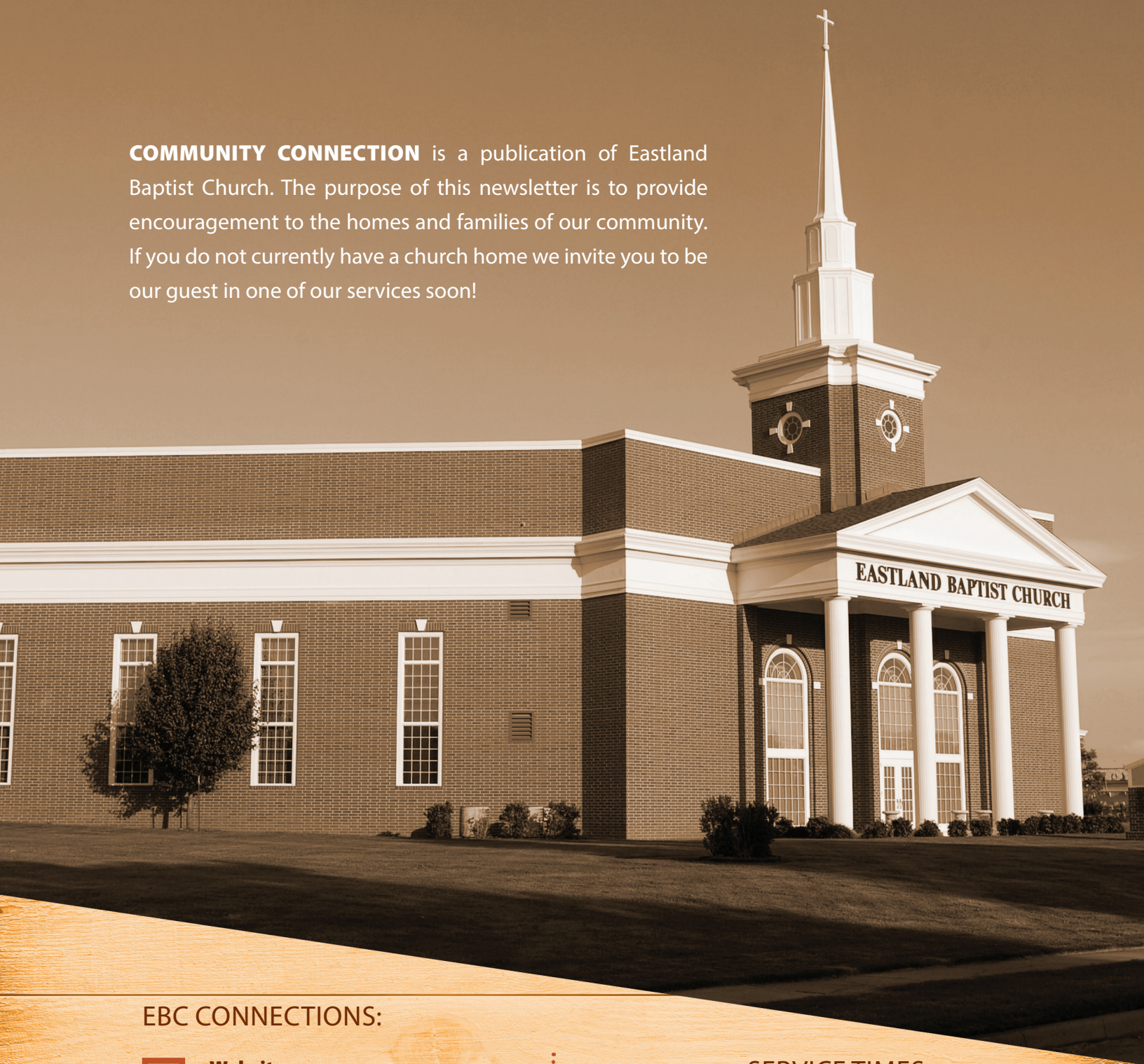
Eastland Baptist Church •

Community

..... Connection

FALL 2017

COMMUNITY CONNECTION is a publication of Eastland Baptist Church. The purpose of this newsletter is to provide encouragement to the homes and families of our community. If you do not currently have a church home we invite you to be our guest in one of our services soon!



Fall Time is Family Time

The fall season is a great time to be involved in a community church and discover the joys and blessings of being part of a larger family. This fall at Eastland we have a host of memorable activities we are all looking forward to. More importantly you will find and meet other people here who are kind, accepting and friendly. We have people from all walks of life who are walking together in their journey with Christ and are always willing to make a new friend and include others in their fellowship. If you are currently not a part

of a community of believers, I sincerely hope you will consider visiting us this fall and see for yourself why so many people have made this their church home.

This newsletter contains articles written by some of the church staff that are meant to be a help and encouragement to you and your family. All the articles were written with the intention of being helpful and meeting the needs of others. Our desire is to introduce others to Jesus Christ and then to simply assist them in following Him through fellowship and instruction. In these pages I hope you will get a small glimpse of who we are, what we are about, and the heart we have to love others.

Sincerely,

Pastor Dorrell



EBC CONNECTIONS:



Website
eastlandbaptist.org



Blog
pastordorrell.com



Instagram
instagram.com/eastlandbaptist

SERVICE TIMES:

Sunday - classes for all ages @ 9:30am

worship service @ 10:30am

evening service @ 6pm

Wednesday - Bible study @ 7pm





Worship As it Once Was

I can remember when I was young every Sunday walking into church and hearing the spirited playing of hymns on the piano. Then at the start of the service the song leader would step up to the platform and call out a song number to which everyone would open their hymnals and begin singing with enthusiasm. The sound of worshipful hearts and voices filled the room and lifted the spirit of all who heard. The songs were filled with truth and were simple to learn. I have not forgotten them over the years.

“Eastland Baptist Church strives to use music to glorify God, magnify His character, and encourage all that are present.”

I am so thankful that today my children can walk into church and experience the same thing—grateful hearts singing praise to God. Many of the songs are the ones I learned as a child, while others are newer but still hold to the same truths. Every Sunday worship service at Eastland Baptist Church strives to use music to glorify God, magnify His character, and encourage all that are present. The songs are uplifting and happy. Everyone finds them easy to sing along with because they are familiar, and the words are packed with promise and assurance.

Our 60-voice choir and 20-piece orchestra only add to the excitement as they present energetic arrangements of songs with inspiring messages of hope and truth. Each service also has a special selection from a group or soloist who pour out their hearts as they sing. All the songs are conservative in nature and are performed not as a show, but to lift up God, glorify Him, and praise Him for all He has done.

As the church song leader, I am thrilled each and every service to see the congregation participate in praising and worshipping God in song. I’m equally thrilled to look over to where my family sits and see my children singing out with their own voices and learning the same songs I learned growing up. The only thing that could top that would be to see new faces this Sunday singing with us.



By Jesse Becker
Music Pastor





5 REASONS You Should Attend Church Every Week

Attending church every week is important, really important.

Church attendance doesn't save you and it doesn't automatically make you a good person, but it does help you become a better one. The word church in the Greek is *ekklesia* which basically means "an assembly". In order to have an assembly you have to be with a group of other people. So why is attending church and getting together with a local assembly so important?

// The reality is that a step away from the church is a step away from Christ. //

1. It's obedience to God

God instructs us to get together and not to fail to do so (see Hebrews 10). If God said it then to do anything other than that would be to disobey.

2. It enables you to strengthen others

When people get together at church it gives them the opportunity to serve and love each other. Galatians 6:2 says, "Bear ye one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ."

3. You are provided wisdom for your life

Pastors are special people that God uses to speak to the needs of the heart. The Holy Spirit often works through these men to pin-point areas in our life we need to work on and improve.

4. Connections

You need connections with real people; it's called face-to-face interaction. We know more about our world and that of each others via social networking; yet we are more isolated than ever before. It doesn't have to be this way and the church fills this hole in our heart by connecting us with others.

5. Accountability

At church you get accountability, and you *need* accountability! Too many people today are not taking responsibility for what they think, say, and do. Accountability helps us be responsible people who make the lives around us better.

The reality is that a step away from the church is a step away from Christ. Christ loves the church and gave His life for it, and when we abandon faithful attendance to a local assembly we demonstrate a lack of love and concern for that which is good and right.

The challenge is simple: This fall would you attend a church and be faithful in your attendance each week?

By Daniel Fleet
Associate Pastor



THE VALUE OF HAVING YOUR CHILDREN IN CHURCH

Children are a wonderful gift from God. The Bible says, “Children are an heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward.” As a parent, I understand that I only have one opportunity to positively impact the lives of my children. Therefore, I want to be intentional concerning the way I raise them. I’m sure you share the same desire.

It’s probably safe to say that there is nothing more important than our children’s relationship with the Lord, and church is a wonderful place where that relationship can be cultivated and maintained.

Here are a few reasons why you should bring your children to church and keep them in church:

1. CHURCH ANCHORS THEM IN THE THINGS THAT MATTER MOST

Most churches strive to teach children the right things to value in their lives. In a world that is increasingly crying out to value the wrong things, bringing your children to church will reinforce their hearts and minds to remember that God is real, He is at work, and they should live for Him.

2. CHURCH CAN HELP INSTILL GOOD CHARACTER

Children are taught the Bible at church, and the Bible is filled with stories and principles that help them become better people. They will learn about things like honesty, kindness, and unselfishness. The sad reality is character has been digressing in our society. So, why not ensure your children go to a place where character will be reinforced and built upon? Children that are taught to build good character make for better homes, better employees, and just better people.

3. CHURCH PROVIDES AN ATMOSPHERE FOR POSITIVE INFLUENCES

Being around fellow believers encourages children in their faith, and provides them with other people to look to for spiritual guidance and friendship. Church is a place filled with happy people who are trying to live for God and do right. That is the kind of place you should want your kids to be on a consistent basis.

By Andrew Calabrese
Associate Pastor



Special Fall Days



PUMPKIN SUNDAY SUNDAY, OCTOBER 1ST

After the morning service children 12 and under will receive a free pumpkin.



FALL FESTIVAL SUNDAY, OCTOBER 8TH

Join us for our special Fall Festival Day complete with lunch after the service and carnival games for the whole family.

One Way

Have you ever been hiking? I've hiked in numerous national parks from coast to coast and have seen some amazing sights. With hiking, comes potential danger. Trails and cliffs are ever-changing and produce hazards that are potentially life threatening. Imagine being on a high mountain trail with a sheer 1,000 foot drop. You're basking in the majestic scenery when suddenly, you lose your footing. You frantically attempt to cling to the rugged terrain to evade falling to certain death. Your fingers tightly grip the rocky edge of the cliff that you're on. After a few moments of hanging you can tell that even with your increased adrenaline levels your strength is not sufficient to pull yourself back up to safety.

Imagine the numerous thoughts that would be hurtling through your mind. Thankfully, another hiker sees the event and rushes to your aid. He acts quickly and in a matter of moments secures himself to a large, stable tree and extends himself out to you shouting, "Take my hand!, take my hand! I can save you!"...How incredibly foolish would it be for you to say, "No! I can pull myself up! I can save myself?"

Every human being experiences the spiritual representation of this drastic event. All of mankind will one day be spiritually hanging from a cliff and there won't merely be a 1,000 foot fall, but eternal separation from God. Impending tragedy awaits to all those who are born into this sinful world, but there is a way to avoid this otherwise imminent disaster.

There is One who has the ability to save you from this separation. His name is Jesus. Sometimes sinful man believes that he can pull himself up to acquire salvation, but only the power of Christ's sacrifice on the Cross can save an individual who chooses to accept His outreached hand of salvation.

John 14:6 *"Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me."*

By Joe Monds
Mission Intern



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