

CELEBRATE Easter

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 AT 10:30 AM

We invite you to join us as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord. The music and morning message will focus our attention on the hope that is ours. Because He lives we can know that our sins are forgiven, we have a home in Heaven, and we have a Companion and Guide for life in Jesus. Easter weekend at Eastland Baptist is fun, memorable, and meaningful for the whole family!

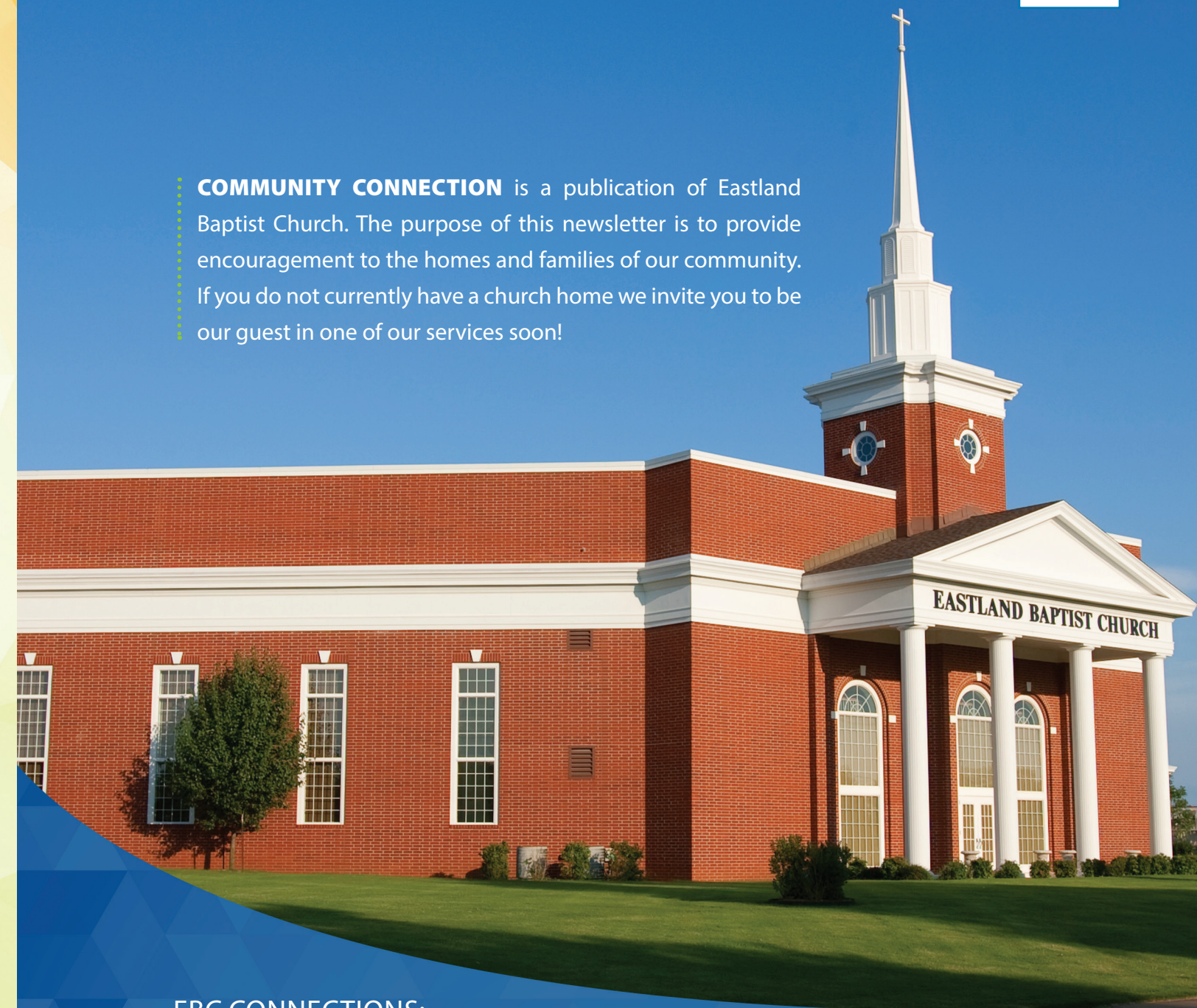


*There will be an Egg Hunt for children
(through 4th grade) after the morning service*

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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!



EBC CONNECTIONS:

 **Website**
eastlandbaptist.org

 **Blog**
pastordorrell.com

 **Twitter**
twitter.com/EBCtulsa

SERVICE TIMES:

Sunday - classes for all ages @ 9:30am

worship service @ 10:30am

evening service @ 6pm

Wednesday - Bible study @ 7pm

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Eastland Baptist Church •
Community
.....Connection

Spring 2016

Maintaining a Positive Relationship with your Teen



By Troy Dorrell
Lead Pastor

One of the keys to maintaining a positive and influential relationship with your teenager (or any other person for that matter) is to be aware of and address a wounded spirit. The Bible tells us that a wounded spirit is hard to bear, that strife can separate friends, and that offenses bring with them a hardness of heart. If an offense in our home occurs, just imagine all the damage that can be done. In many homes parents and their teenagers may not experience a close relationship in part because of an offense that created an injured spirit, which in turn creates distance. Most of us understand that dynamic in our marital relationships. Hurt results in distance and loss of closeness. The problem with teens is that they often do not articulate their hurt. They often just keep it inside and little by little allow their hearts to be moved far away from our own, until one day rebellion, resentment, or indifference has taken hold.

The answer to this dilemma is simple but not always easy. When you know your child has a wounded spirit because of something you have done, discuss it, address it, and if necessary apologize for your part in their hurt. Too often pride and fear keep parents from being real and asking for forgiveness

for poor choices or attitudes. Your esteem in their eyes will only increase if when wrong, you admit it. If the offense comes because they simply did not get their way and you know your decisions and reactions are appropriate, then hold your ground with kindness and explanation. Give them extra attention and keep the ropes of relationship tight. Do something together to bridge the gap and things will turn out okay. Frequent talks and a little probing will help you know if an offense has occurred and your child has a wounded spirit. If you discover one, deal with it quickly and you will keep the heart of your teen.



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WORSHIP WITH US SUNDAYS AT 10:30AM Lively & Conservative Music

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 with words that are packed with promise and assurance. Everyone finds them easy to sing because they are familiar. Come Join us this Sunday.



Keys to a Happy Marriage

Your marriage is a wonderful and unique gift that God has entrusted to you. God teaches us that the relationship you have with your spouse is to be exclusive and enjoyed! It's easy for life to get busy, and often one of the first things placed on the backburner is our marital relationship. I want to encourage you today to stop and take inventory of your marriage and be sure that you're doing the following:

PROTECT YOUR MARRIAGE

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Make sure that your marriage is an exclusive relationship that you protect. I may be old school in my thinking but I believe that intimate conversations should be reserved for your spouse. It has been proven that self-disclosure is a gateway to intimacy. Make your spouse feel special by reserving parts of your heart only for them.

Between our commitment to our kids, extended family, church, school, and work it's easy to misplace value on the most important human relationship in our life. Coach John Wooden said, "The best thing a father can do for his children is to love their mother." It's important to love your kids and value them, but don't sacrifice your marriage in the process. When the marriage relationship is right the children often fall into place. Be sure that your marriage is at the top of your food chain!

Spring is a great time of year to take stock of your marriage and recommit yourself to your spouse. Schedule a date night soon and love the mate God has blessed you with!

To further enrich your marriage, visit our staff blog at pastordorrell.com for helpful articles on marriage and the home

PLAN YOUR MARRIAGE

Planning is a fundamental key to success. Confucius once said, "A man who does not plan long ahead will find trouble at his door." If successful people are people who plan, why not plan your marriage? Plan to spend time with your spouse each week, plan to say something special to them when you greet each other after work, and plan several times together throughout the year for the two of you to connect.

By Daniel Fleet
Associate Pastor

