

Prayer?

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

Elders.



Frank Pettersen
Elder Chairman



Jeff
Armfield



Scott
Broome



Buster
Brown



Taso
Chakeris



Clint
Cole



Joe
Diamond



Mike
Dorrity



Troy
Draughn



Rick
Gwinn



Jonathan
Jellema



Don
King



Walt
Lancaster



Burke
Lee



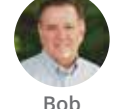
Josh
Malone



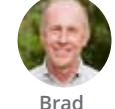
Nathan
Mansell



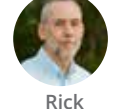
Ted
Melchers



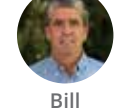
Bob
Nagy



Brad
Reed



Rick
Rummel



Bill
Watson, Jr.



Bill
Wilson

Sermon.

Speaker: Pastor Buster Brown

Today's Message: Stumbling into Despair or Living with Hope

Today's Text: Ecclesiastes 3:16-4:3

1. In the Place of Justice

"Moreover, I saw under the sun that in the place of justice, even there was wickedness, and in the place of righteousness, even there was wickedness. I said in my heart, God will judge the righteous and the wicked, for there is a time for every matter and for every work." Ecclesiastes 3:16-17

In the place of justice there was evil, and instead of righteousness at work, there was wickedness.

Ecclesiastes 3:17 = Bleak Resignation, as compared to Romans 12:19-21, which says, *"Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' To the contrary, 'if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.' Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."*

2. Oppression and Despair

"Again, I saw all the oppressions that are done under the sun. And behold, the tears of the oppressed, and they had no one to comfort them! On the side of their oppressors there was power, and there was no one to comfort them. And I thought the dead who are already dead more fortunate than the living who are still alive. But better than both is he who has not yet been and has not seen the evil deeds that are done under the sun." Ecclesiastes 4:1-3

"Many die too late, and a few die too early. The doctrine still sounds strange, "Die at the right time." Friedrich Nietzsche, Live Dangerously

3. No Hope

"I said in my heart with regard to the children of man that God is testing them that they may see that they themselves are but beasts. For what happens to the children of man and what happens to the beasts is the same; as one dies, so dies the other. They all have the same breath, and man has no advantage over the beasts, for all is vanity. All go to one place. All are from the dust, and to dust all return. Who knows whether the spirit of man goes upward and the spirit of the beast goes down into the earth? So, I saw that there is nothing better than that a man should rejoice in his work, for that is his lot. Who can bring him to see what will be after him?" Ecclesiastes 3:18-22

- Man has no advantage over the beast (all is smoke and mist).
- Both beast and man go to the same place.
- "Who knows?"

4. Despair or Man Made in the Image of God?

- What does it mean to be an image-bearer? The nature of our being, relational abilities, cultural mandate (Genesis 1:26-28.)
- How thoroughly has sin impeded or marred the glory of image-bearers? Substantial but not total.
- Can the 'image' be restored?
- What is the significance for today? All people are worthy of respect and Christian love because they are made in the image of God.

(continued >>)

Sermon.

(continued)

"Probably earthly pleasures were never meant to satisfy it, but only to arouse it, to suggest the real thing. If that is so, I must take care, on the one hand, never to despise, or to be unthankful for, these earthly blessings, and on the other, never to mistake them for the something else of which they are only a kind of copy, or echo, or mirage. I must keep alive in myself the desire for my true country, which I shall not find till after death; I must never let it get snowed under or turned aside; I must make it the main object of life to press on to that country and to help others to do the same." C.S. Lewis, Mere Christianity

Westminster Confession, Chapter 33 - Of the Last Judgment

Section 1. God hath appointed a day, wherein He will judge the world in righteousness by Jesus Christ, to whom all power and judgement is given of the Father. In which day, not only the apostate angels shall be judged, but likewise all persons that have lived upon earth shall appear before the tribunal of Christ, to give an account of their thoughts, words, and deeds; and to receive according to what they have done in the body, whether good or evil.

Section 2. The end of God's appointing this day is for the manifestation of the glory of His mercy, in the eternal salvation of the elect; and of His justice, in the damnation of the reprobate, who are wicked and disobedient. For then shall the righteous go into everlasting life, and receive that fullness of joy and refreshing, which shall come from the presence of the Lord; but the wicked who know not God, and obey not the Gospel of Jesus Christ, shall be cast into eternal torments, and be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory of His power.

Section 3. As Christ would have us to be certainly persuaded that there shall be a day of judgment, both to deter all men from sin; and for the greater consolation of the godly in their adversity: so will He have that day unknown to men, that they may shake off all carnal security, and be prepared to say, Come Lord Jesus, come quickly, Amen.

Life Under the Sun

- Despair
- No hope ("Who knows?")
- Non-existence is better than life
- Darkened in understanding
- Alienated from the life of God (Ephesians 4:18)

Life of Purpose

- Proverbs 4:18-19
- Matthew 6:33
- 1 Thessalonians 5:5-9 *"For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ..."*

A disciple is a forgiven sinner who is learning Christ in repentance and faith.



Questions for discussion are available online under this sermon.

OCTOBER 7, 2018

ECCLESIASTES
REFRAMING WORTH



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

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 Bible Classes
Sanctuary 9:00a & 10:45a
Contemporary Worship / Sunday Bible 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 **TODAY 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 20th**. 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

OCT 7

Equip•u Classes
9:00a & 10:45a
ECCO Bag Distribution
Pick up your bags today!
Guest Luncheon
12:15p Gym
HSM First Sunday
5:30-7:30p Worship Center

MON

OCT 8

Reengage Marriage Program
6:30-8:30p D-Wing Choir Room

TUE

OCT 9

Women's Bible Study
9:30-11:30a Worship Center
Worship Band Rehearsal
6:30p Worship Center

WED

OCT 10

Prime Time Adults Lunch
12:00-1:30p D-Wing Multipurpose WAM
6:30-8:00p A-Wing Classrooms
Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal
6:30-8:00p Choir Room
MSM T4:12
6:30-8:00p Gym
Women's Bible Study
6:30-8:00p B218/B219

THU

OCT 11

Women's Morning Devotional
6:30-7:30a Welcome Center
Women's Marriage Study
9:30-11:30a D-Wing Choir Room
Young Adults Connect
7:00p Annex

FRI

OCT 12

Man2Man
6:20a Gym
HSM Fall Retreat
Fri-Sun Crowders Ridge Camp

THIS MONTH: COMMUNITY OUTREACH

FEATURED MINISTRIES

Throughout the month of October we are featuring all of our local ministries in the area of helping those in need in our community. This includes ministries helping with the homeless and people or families in crisis situations. Stop by the kiosk in the Welcome Center to find information on ministries like:



YOUR COFFEE DONATIONS HELP TO SUPPORT THESE MINISTRIES.

361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222



Upcoming.

For detailed event information please go online.

TODAY Come get to know us better at our Guest Luncheon. Meet a few of our pastors and church members while enjoying a great meal. The lunch is free and held in the Gym after the second service. **SEE YOU THERE**



TODAY In an effort to assist in relief and recovery efforts for those in areas impacted by Hurricane Florence, we are asking for people to purchase \$50 gift cards from retailers. Also, there are opportunities to volunteer. **LAST DAY TO DONATE**



TODAY The Grocery Bag Sunday program is a cooperative effort between ECCO and local churches. These donations are critical in helping to maintain a steady flow of food. **PICK UP YOUR BAG AS YOU LEAVE**



OCT 19 & 20 The Sent Conference is an opportunity for students to consider how God would send them into that lost world. We will discuss three destinations to which they may be sent: the city, the campus, and the world. **REGISTER ONLINE**



OCT 20 In this class you will learn more about what we believe as a church, ways that you can be more involved, and how you can become a member. This is a great way to get to know other people at ECBC. Childcare is available. **REGISTER TODAY**



OCT 22 SAVE THE DATE PCA proudly presents its 2nd Annual Christmas Tree, Garland and Wreath Sale! All proceeds from the sale will go directly to the PCA Annual Fund. You'll find trees from 5 to 10 feet and a variety of options on wreath and garland sizes.



OCT 26 Join in on all the fun at our annual Fall Festival! At this community outreach you'll find trunk-or-treating, music, and tons of fun. Plan to come with your family or group of friends and decorate your car. **REGISTER YOUR CAR TODAY**



NOV 3 SAVE THE DATE We invite everyone to this church-wide day of service where we will be loving on our community in the name of Jesus. We will work on projects like construction, craft making, painting, and yard work. **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.

Hello.

10.07.18

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:

9:00am 10:45am

I am a first time guest

Name

Spouse

Birthdate

Spouse Birthdate

MO DA YR

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