

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 2025, please have your giving to the church by the following times:

Offering: Dropped in the giving boxes on or before Sunday, December 28, 2025.

Postal Mail: Postmarked by USPS by December 31, 2025 (any mail postmarked in 2026 must be credited to 2026)

Online: By 11:59pm on December 31, 2025.

Hand-delivered: By Monday, December 22, 2025 at 4pm.

*The church offices will be closed from December 24, 2025 to January 2, 2025 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

843.856.3222 x PRAY (7729)

prayer@eastcooperbaptist.com

NEW TO ECBC?

For more information email 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: The Savior Who Casts Out Fear & Brings Great Joy

Text: Luke 2:8-14

"⁸And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. ⁹And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. ¹⁰And the angel said to them, 'Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. ¹¹For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. ¹²And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling cloths and lying in a manger.' ¹³And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, ¹⁴'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!'" Luke 2:8-14

Jesus is the Savior who saves us from our sin and the judgment that should rightfully fall upon us; and He gives us the hope of life (Matthew 1:21, 1 Thessalonians 1:9-10). Therefore, we live with confidence (no fear) and great joy.

The Old Testament was hope anticipated and the New Testament is hope manifested in the Savior.

1. No fear of rejection or abandonment.

"Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, 'I will never leave you nor forsake you.'" Hebrews 13:5

"³⁵Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword?... ³⁸For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord." Romans 8:35, 38-39

New City Catechism: Question 24

Q: Why was it necessary for Christ, the Redeemer, to die?

A: Since death is the punishment for sin, Christ died willingly in our place to deliver us from the power and penalty of sin and bring us back to God. By his substitutionary atoning death, he alone redeems us from hell and gains for us forgiveness of sin, righteousness, and everlasting life

New City Catechism: Question 25

Q: Does Christ's death mean all our sins can be forgiven?

A: Yes, because Christ's death on the cross fully paid the penalty for our sin, God graciously imputes Christ's righteousness to us as if it were our own and will remember our sins no more.

2. Great Joy

"³I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. ⁴Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall adorn yourself with tambourines and shall go forth in the dance of the merrymakers." Jeremiah 31:3-4

"²To proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of

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Sermon Notes.

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righteousness, the planting of the Lord, that he may be glorified." Isaiah 61:2-3

3. Because salvation is by grace through Christ, it compels worship, adoration, and a desire to walk in the way of the Lord.

"Always you renounce the lesser good for a greater...What you call my struggle to submit (to the will of the Lord) is not struggle to submit, but a struggle to accept with passion (and joy). Picture me with my ground teeth, stalking joy—fully armed too, as it is a highly dangerous quest." Flannery O'Connor

"What Orwell feared were those who would ban books. What Huxley feared was that there would be no reason to ban a book, for there would be no one who wanted to read one. Orwell feared those who would deprive us of information. Huxley feared those who would give us so much that we would be reduced to passivity and egoism. Orwell feared that the truth would be concealed from us. Huxley feared the truth would be drowned in a sea of irrelevance. Orwell feared we would become a captive culture. Huxley feared we would become a trivial culture." Neil Postman, Amusing Ourselves to Death (1985)

4. "Stalking Joy" is grounded in the gospel of grace.

"For me and millions of Western Christians, the single biggest threat to stalking joy is neither crushing despair nor ravenous, carnal, hedonism, but a middling spirituality that adds Christian jargon to an emotionally comatose existence, tossing hours into mindless social media and Netflix, while congratulating itself on avoiding "big" sin." Samuel James, What Netflix Cannot Give—and Death Cannot Take

"¹⁵For I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing... ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! So then, I myself serve the law of God with my mind, but with my flesh I serve the law of sin." Romans 7:15, 19, 24-25

"There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus." Romans 8:1

"³His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, ⁴by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire. ⁵For this very reason, make every effort to supplement your faith with virtue." 2 Peter 1:3-5a

"¹¹But as for you, O man of God, flee these things. Pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, steadfastness, gentleness. ¹²Fight the good fight of the faith. Take hold of the eternal life to which you were called..." 1 Timothy 6:11-12

APPLICATION STATEMENTS:

1. No fear but the confidence that comes from adoption into the family.
2. Place yourself in the path of blessing.
3. Passivity will not yield a delight in God.
4. "Stalking Joy" begins and continues in the gospel of grace.

Listen to sermons online at eastcooperbaptist.com/sermons

DECEMBER 21, 2025



LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING®

CHURCH GOAL: \$700,000

DECEMBER - JANUARY



 **EAST COOPER**
BAPTIST CHURCH

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

Next Week: Combined Worship
Sanctuary 9:30 & 11:00am
Overflow available in the Worship Center both hours.

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.



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

Get to Know.



Daniel Dukes

ELDER ON THE ADMIN TEAM


Through the influence of godly parents, grandparents, and Sunday School teachers, Daniel understood his need for a savior at the age of 14. He began attending ECBC in 1995 and has served as an elder and deacon in the past. Currently, Daniel serves as a community group leader and with Lifeline Children's Services. In his free time, he enjoys playing golf and working out.





4 WEEK SERIES BEGINNING IN JANUARY
REFRESH 2026

MAXIMIZING DISCIPLES

Refresh is a yearly class for all East Cooper Baptist members that includes new content each year. This year, we will be talking about Making Disciples. This class will also 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. We look forward to growing with you there!

Refresh classes will be on Sunday mornings in January during both the **9:30am and 11:00am worship hours. It will also be offered at 6:30pm on Wednesdays.**


Register Today!
eastcooperbaptist.com/refresh

361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222

Upcoming.

COMBINED SERVICES IN THE SANCTUARY

We will have combined services at 9:30am and 11:00am in the Sanctuary on **December 28**. The Nursery Hallway (Birth-3yrs) will be open. We invite other ages to worship with parents. There will be no classes.

SEE YOU THERE.



eastcooperbaptist.com/events

CHRISTMAS EVE

We invite you to take time this Christmas Eve to come delight in the joy, peace, hope, and love of Jesus! Our Christmas Eve services will be held in the Sanctuary at 4:00pm and 5:30pm. Kids of all ages attend services with parents.

SEE YOU THERE.



eastcooperbaptist.com/events

LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING

100% of your gifts to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering support International Mission Board (IMB) missionaries. Please pray about giving this holiday season.

GIVE TODAY!



eastcooperbaptist.com/lottimoon

SERVE THE SOJOURNER

Engage the nations that God is bringing to the tri-county area through hospitality and care for the sojourner. We partner with Nations2Neighbors to serve and share the gospel with refugees in our area.

SIGN UP TODAY.



eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

NEW TO ECBC?

For more information email info@eastcooperbaptist.com

First Time Guest?
We'd love to get to know you!
SCAN DIGITAL CONNECT CARD



12.21.25

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:

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Meet with a Pastor

Subscribe to newsletter

Other