

# Elizabeth Baptist Church News

December 2016

## From the Pastor



The following is a blog entry by Eric Geiger on October 27, 2016 that I wanted all of you to read. I have abbreviated some of the items.

Jesus gave His people a clear mission—to make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19). For this reason, a local church exists to make disciples. C.S. Lewis challenged: “The Church exists for nothing else but to draw men into Christ, to make them little

Christ. If they are not doing that, everything else is simply a waste of time. God became Man for no other purpose.”

A church can excel at anything and everything else, but if the church fails to make disciples, she has wandered from her fundamental reason for existence.

Scott McConnell just celebrated ten years of leading LifeWay Research. Here are five big truths from ten years of discipleship research:

### 1. Discipleship is intentional.

Those who are maturing desire to mature. They engage in discipleship opportunities and seek Christ in their daily lives.

### 2. Reading the Bible matters more than anything else.

Reading the Bible is the number one predictor for spiritual growth. Quite simply, those who read the Scripture grow.

### 3. The discipline of Bible engagement impacts every other discipline.

Some spiritual disciplines do not impact all the others. As an example, someone who serves may not be generous in giving. But engagement in the Word impacts every other discipline. Someone who lets the Word dwell in them simultaneously gives, serves, confesses sin, shares the gospel, etc.

### 4. Groups matter. A lot.

Those who are in some type of group (Sunday School, small group, etc.) are much more likely to display markers of spiritual growth than those not in a group.

### 5. There is a deep connection between discipleship and evangelism.

Disciples share the gospel. Those who are growing in Christ tell others about Him. Those who are not growing in their faith are much less likely to articulate the gospel.

## Brotherhood

We received a recent letter from the Mission Dignity organization. The letter expressed appreciation to our church and Brotherhood on behalf of the many men and women who receive monthly stipends. The letter reported that their records indicate that we started monthly donations to Mission Dignity in October 2000 and since that time we have contributed \$18,101.00. Every dollar of this money has been used to assist an aged pastor or his widow. May God continue to use us in this way.

The RA chapter continues to meet each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. We encourage boys in grades 1- 6 to join us and become as our motto says, “We are Ambassadors for Christ,” 2 Corinthians 5:20.  
Roy

## Youth Ministry

Our annual student sponsored fish fry was held on Sunday, November 6. It was a resounding success! We gathered together with 17 students and 15 adult volunteers to provide a delicious meal, and had a great time of fellowship with all who were able to attend. We collected just under \$800.00 which will be used to help pay for our camp trip this coming summer. Thanks to everyone for supporting our students!

Our next event will be a Progressive Dinner for our Youth Christmas party on December 10. If you are interested in providing one of the courses for our meal, please let me know!  
In His Service,  
Brother Don

## Y.E.S. Group

We had a successful meeting in October with our chili cook off. Many events to be conducted quarterly in the future were discussed. Our next event will be February 23 in the fellowship hall. More information on our February event will be coming.  
Brenda and Ed Register

## Elizabeth Baptist Church

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## Sunday School

In Sunday school we engage in real conversations about God and His Word while making friends and establishing bonds of love and fellowship.

Since Sunday school classes are typically small, it is the perfect environment to engage in real conversation about the Word. By engaging in dialog with other members of the class, listening to their questions and hearing the answers, you learn that you are not alone in your struggles in understanding the Word and living out your faith in a world that is increasingly hostile to Christians. As you recognize and embrace that common bond, you develop friendships that will last a lifetime. Friendships will also help keep you accountable and connected to the Body of Christ, especially during times of storm and crisis in your life.  
Danny



## Music

It is nearly Christmas - or at least the media tries to tell us so. The choir can tell you that it somewhat feels like Christmas is close. As our adult choir members are diligently practicing Christmas songs with individual CD's and together as a group on Sunday's, you can be praying for us! We ask for prayers for good health, faithful attendance, and ability to sing with strong voices to reflect His love and His Word.  
We as a choir continue to see how is God blessing our efforts.

The Elizabeth Baptist Church choir has been asked to sing at Monticello's Lighting of the Christmas Tree on Friday, December 2. Come see us perform at 6:00 p.m.

Our choir will present the Christmas program on December 18 along with children and drama. Don't miss that Sunday!  
Singing for God's glory,  
Merry

~Sunday Schedule~

9:45 am Sunday School for All Ages  
 11:00 am Worship Service  
 4:30 pm Choir Practice  
 6:00 pm Evening Worship Service

# December 2016

Wednesday Schedule~

3:00 pm TeamKID  
 6:00 pm RA's, GA's, Mission Friends  
 6:00 pm Prayer Meeting

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>Lottie Moon Christmas Offering All Month</i>				1	2 6:00 pm Downtown Christmas Tree Lighting  Upward Sports Booths	3
4 6:00 pm <i>Family Christmas Party</i>	5	6 6:30 pm <i>Deacon &amp; Wives' Christmas Party Fellowship Hall</i>	7 9:00 am EaglesWings 10:00 am <i>Day WMU Christmas Luncheon</i> 6:00 pm Evening WMU	8 7:00 pm BMW Meeting @ Karen Hebert's home	9	10 6:00 pm <i>Youth Christmas Party</i>
<b>Week of Prayer for Foreign Missions, December 4 - December 11</b>						
11 7:00 pm Business Mtg	12	13	14 TeamKID Caroling	15 6:30 pm <i>Staff Christmas Party @ Dennison home</i>	16	17 9:00 am Choir Practice
18 8:30 am Deacons' Meeting 11:00 am Choir Christmas Program No Choir Practice 2:00 pm Choir @Opera House	19	20	21 9:00 am EaglesWings  Prayer Meeting  No TeamKID RA, GA or Mission Friends	22	23	24 6:00 pm <i>Christmas Eve Service</i>
25 11:00 am <i>Christmas Service</i> No Men's Brkst No Sunday School No PM Service No Choir Practice	26	27	28 Prayer Meeting  No TeamKID RA, GA or Mission Friends	29	30	31 

**TeamKid**

The holidays are upon us.

This month the children are making cards for back pack buddies. The backpacks go home from school on Friday so that children will have food for the weekend. Without back pack buddies many children in our area would not have any food during the weekend.

On December 14 the children will be going to the homes of our shut in's to sing carols and visit. We are so blessed during this time of year. I would like to invite our TeamKID parents to come to the church services planned in December. It really sets the mood for the holiday season. Reach out to someone who may need a friend.

Blessings to all for a Happy Holiday.  
 Pam

**Women's Missionary Union**

The WMU groups have been busy. There were the usual meetings and the studying about and praying for the missionaries. In addition we have been busy gathering items and shipping them for the Samaritan's Purse shoebox ministry. We ended up with 97 shoeboxes. Praise the Lord! A big "thank you" to the GA's and their leaders for packing 54 shoeboxes on Wednesday night, November 9. Once again, I have to say thank you to all the generous people who gave items and money for this important ministry. The boxes go around the world and about 40% of them lead to salvation for the recipients. It is a miracle that we can have an active part in that.

By the time you read this, the BMW will have held their soup ministry for the widows and widowers. The BMW are sponsoring a local family for Christmas. Kudos to this active and generous group. We look ahead to the Week of Prayer for International Missions and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. Our Church's goal is \$4,000.00. Please pray about your gift for this important offering and help us reach our goal by Christmas. The GA's, RA's and Mission Friends continue to have a good time in learning and participating in missions.  
 Shirley

*Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.  
 Hebrews 10:24-25 NLT*

**Church Staff and Leadership**

Rev. Robert Dennison, Pastor  
 Rev. Don Self, Youth Minister  
 Pam Brock, Children's Director  
 Merry Dennison, Pianist  
 Jeanette Nativio, Administrative Assistant

Roy Faglie, Chairman of Deacons & Brotherhood Director  
 Shirley Faglie, WMU Director  
 Joel & Joann Clark, Custodians  
 Danny Deason, Sunday School Director

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

Church Office Email

secretary@ebcmonticello.com