

# Prayer?

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

Name

Confidential for Pastors only

# Elders.



Derek Walden  
Elder Chairman



Jeff Armfield Scott Broome Buster Brown



Taso Chakeris Clint Cole Joe Diamond



Mike Dorrity Troy Draughn Daniel Dukes



Mark Fitts Jonathan Jellema David Kornegay



Burke Lee Josh Malone Nathan Mansell



Robert McCants IV Ted Melchers Doug Musgrave



Bob Nagy Mark Nelson Frank Pettersen



Ned Rupp Bill Watson, Jr. Bobby Weaver



Mike Weeks Bill Wilson

# Notes.

# Sermon.

Speaker: Buster Brown

Today's Message: Groaning and the Hope of Heaven

Today's Text: Colossians 3:1-4

*"If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory." Colossians 3:1-4*

*"For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience." Romans 8:18-25*

Thinking with depth and clarity about trials and eternity, verse 18.

1. When we are tone deaf to the realities of the eternal world we are living in a "world without windows" (Peter Berger).
2. Embracing the "already but not yet" (inaugurated eschatology) which anticipates the coming of Christ and underscores the significance of daily living.
3. Groaning inwardly as we eagerly await ("on tip-toes") with joy, disappointment, and expectation.

*"The immediate, which is formed by our present circumstances and our short-term prospects, may sometimes be horrific. We may be suffering a job loss, health crisis, a public scandal, the death of a child, or a close friend, or a job-like combination of disasters. But however bad the immediate, the ultimate is always hopeful, and in the tension between the immediate and the ultimate lies the possibility of the resilience of faith." Os Guinness, Fool's Talk, pg. 71*

4. Groaning and physical decay, verse 23.
5. Hope as we wait with patience.

*"Hope is not something that is now seen, for if that which is hoped for is now realized, it is no longer a hope but an attained reality. What is emphasized again is the "not yet" character of Christian redemption, for believers do not yet possess their resurrection bodies. In verse 25, Paul closes the circle by saying if believers hope for what they do not see, then they "wait eagerly" for that hope "with endurance" regarding attendant circumstances." Thomas Schreiner, Romans (Baker Exegetical Commentary on the New Testament), pg. 439-440*

Biblical verses to meditate on and memorize for the month of December:

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God." Hebrews 12:1-2*

*"Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing." James 1:2-4*

DECEMBER 3, 2017



LOTTIE MOON  
CHRISTMAS OFFERING®

CHURCH GOAL: \$400,000

DECEMBER 3 - JANUARY 28



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

eastcooperbaptist.com

# Year-End Giving.

Thank you so much for your consistent financial support throughout the year! To be sure you receive contribution credit for 2017, please have your giving in by the following times:

**Hand-delivered:** To the ECBC office by 12:00 noon on FRIDAY, December 29th.

**Mail:** Post marked by USPS by December 30, 2017 will be credited to 2017. Any mail postmarked in 2018 will be credited to 2018.

**Online:** By 11:59p on December 31, 2017.

843.856.3222 x PRAY (7729)  
prayer@eastcooperbaptist.com

Contact info available  
online.



# 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 **January 14 at 12:30p** 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 pickup 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.

### 4. Become a Member

Register online for our upcoming New Members Class on **January 20, 2018**. 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 at East Cooper Baptist believe.

### 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.

## 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

DEC 3

**Equip•u Classes**  
9:00a & 10:45a  
Get Angel Tree tags today  
Welcome Center  
High School Christmas Party  
6:00-8:30p Off Campus

MON

DEC 4

**Lifeline FosterCare Training**  
6:00-8:30p B214  
**Families Count Class**  
6:00-9:00p Annex  
**Reengage Marriage Program**  
6:30-8:30p Choir Room D-Wing

TUE

DEC 5

**Churchwide Prayer Meeting**  
6:30p Sanctuary  
**Elder Meeting**  
7:15p Choir Room D-Wing  
**Deacon Meeting**  
7:15p Annex

WED

DEC 6

**WAM**  
5:30-6:30p A-Wing Classrooms  
**Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal**  
6:30-8:00p Choir Room  
**MSM Dive Teams**  
6:30-8:00p Annex

THU

DEC 7

**Young Adult Connect**  
7:00p Annex

FRI

DEC 8

**Man2Man**  
6:20a Gym

SAT

DEC 9

**Eagle Harbor Christmas Party**  
1:00-4:00p Eagle Harbor Ranch

**LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING\***  
CHURCH GOAL: \$400,000  
DECEMBER 3 - JANUARY 28

The IMB uses 100% of the gifts given to Lottie Moon to send missionaries all over the world. Our church goal is \$400,000, you may give:

- **ONLINE** at eastcooperbaptist.com
- **BY OFFERING PLATE**
- **TEXT 843-202-4848: GIVE #lottiemoon 50** (to give \$50.00)

You may check the progress of our offering online too!  
Questions please email: finance@eastcooperbaptist.com



361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222

## DECEMBER: FEATURED MINISTRIES

Stop by the kiosk in the Welcome Center for more information.

**GLOBAL IMPACT**

**CAMPUS OUTREACH**  
CHARLESTON

## Upcoming Events.

For detailed event information please go online.

**TODAY** Join us as we celebrate Advent this year. Download today the e-book, "Good News of Great Joy," from John Piper. This book is a collection of readings for each day of the Advent season. Available at desiringgod.org/books. **DOWNLOAD TODAY**



**DEC 5** A monthly gathering for our church to come together to pray. Join us at 6:30p in the Sanctuary to pray. We will be praying for our church, community, nation, and the world. Please make plans to attend. Nursery is provided. **SEE YOU THERE**



**DEC 10** Come cheer on our very own Palmetto Christian Academy at the 22nd Annual Mount Pleasant Christmas Light Parade. The festivities begin at 5:30p with a fireworks show then floats will start down Coleman Boulevard. **SEE YOU THERE**



**DEC 17** Join us for a festive holiday evening with Christmas Dinner and Caroling. This is a churchwide event so everyone is invited. Dinner is FREE, however, donations are encouraged. Dinner will be served at 5:30p in the Gym.



**DEC 24** Celebrate our Eternal King this Christmas Eve. We will have three identical combined services all in the Sanctuary. Our 10:45a service will have childcare from birth to kindergarten. No childcare will be offered for the evening services at 4:00p & 5:30p.



**DEC 28** Campus Outreach's New Year's Conference will feature speakers like David Platt, sharing biblical truths, perspectives, and messages about topics pertinent to us in our walks with God. Cost is \$229. **REGISTER ONLINE**



**FEB 2-4** Register now for the 2018 Women's Retreat at Ocean Reef Resort in Myrtle Beach, SC. This will be an exciting weekend of fun, fellowship, and renewal. Speaker Charlene Rupp will be talking about being Fully Loved & Fully Known. **REGISTER TODAY**



**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.

12.03.17

## Hello.

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