

Notes:

This Week:

Tuesday: 10:00 AM- Women's Bible Study

Wednesday: 6:00 PM- Adults focused prayer time and bible study in Crossroads
6:00 PM- Children's Ministry in Education building

Sunday: 9:15 AM- Sunday School
10:30 AM- Worship Service

What the Pastor is Reading: *Elders and Leaders* by Gene Getz

Next Week's Passage: Ephesians 1:7-10



A Note From the Pastor:

So often today I find that the heart of Christians is in the right place but their priorities regarding life are skewed. It doesn't take long for misplaced priorities to impact the relationship one has with those around them, it doesn't take long for misplaced priorities to impact you personally, and ultimately it doesn't take long for misplaced priorities to impact the relationship we have with God.

Our answer to misfocused priorities is resolutions. Often at pivotal points in life, whether it be tragedy or triumph, maybe an event, a point in time such as the onset of a new year, we are driven to look inward at the lives we lead. We often see things there in need of improvement, change and redirection. The outcome: a resolution to lose weight, get healthy, save more money, be a better person, the list goes on and on. Many times, these resolutions last until the next buffet or someone gets on your last nerve.

Here's a challenge for you as you reflect on the past year and the approaching New Year. Rather than subject yourself to the vanity of a resolution, seek to do all things righteously before God. So often our choices in life are determined through one of two lenses, either the lens of religion or the lens of relevancy. I challenge you to process those same choices in righteousness. You see religion and relevancy deal with who we are on the surface, the temporal. Righteousness deals with who we are on the inside at the core of who we are, that which is eternal.

When religion or relevancy drive our decisions about time, energy, and money and these decisions are first run through the gauntlet of our wants, wishes and wills. What comes out at the other end is what's left for the Lord. When we dictate the parameters of what is righteous based on the necessities of our lives coming first, we miss out on the best God has for His children.

I pray you have a great 2023! As you make righteous decisions, I trust God will increase you. Happy New Year!

**In His Service,
Pastor Barry**

Announcements

Sock Tree: Thank you to all who donated to the sock tree this season! We were able to donate 136 pairs of socks to One More Child because of your generosity!

Giving Statements: End-of-year giving statements are on the foyer table. If you did not receive one contact the church office.

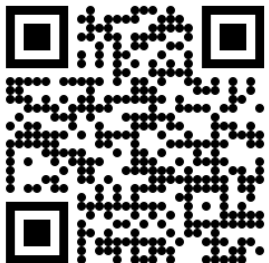
Offering: Did you know you can give your tithe/offering online? See our website www.ebcparish.org (click the **giving** link).

Watch On-Demand: If you missed a Sunday or would like to rewatch a sermon, they are updated weekly on the website www.ebcparish.org (click the link **Messages**). You can go back and watch anytime.

Financial Snapshot:
January 1st giving: \$2,330.80

Save the Date!

Business Meeting: Our next church-wide business meeting will be January 22nd immediately following the morning service.



If you are a guest today, scan this code to let us know who you are and how we can pray for you.

January 8, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

Call To Worship

The Church's One Foundation

Worship in Prayer

Worship in Song

Like a River Glorious

Worship in Song

Rejoice in the Lord

Worship in Word

Pastor Barry Campbell

Invitation

How Can I Fear

If you would like to discuss a spiritual decision or have a prayer request, please scan the QR code or call the church office (941) 722-0218.

The Church's One Foundation

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the Word:
From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.

Elect from ev'ry nation, Yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, One Lord, one faith, one birth;
One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, With ev'ry grace endued.

'Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore;
Till, with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great church victorious Shall be the church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union With God, the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee.

Like a River Glorious

Like a river glorious Is God's perfect peace,
Over all victorious In its bright increase;
Perfect, yet it floweth Fuller ev'ry day,
Perfect yet it growth Deeper all the way.

*Stayed upon Jehovah, Hearts are fully blest
Finding, as He promised, Perfect peace and rest.*

Hidden in the hollow Of His blessed hand,
Never foe can follow, Never traitor stand;
Not a surge of worry, Not a shade of care,
Not a blast of hurry Touch the spirit there.

Ev'ry joy or trial Falleth from above,
Traced upon our dial By the Sun of Love;
We may trust Him fully All for us to do
They who trust Him wholly Find Him wholly true.

Rejoice in the Lord

God never moves without purpose or plan
When trying His servant and molding a man.
Give thanks to the Lord though your testing seems long;
In darkness He giveth a song.

*O rejoice in the Lord. He makes no mistake.
He knoweth the end of each path that I take.
For when I am tried and purified,
I shall come forth as gold.*

I could not see through the shadows ahead;
So I looked at the cross of my Savior instead.
I bowed to the will of the Master that day;
Then peace came and tears fled away.

Now I can see testing comes from above;
God strengthens His children and purges in love.
My Father knows best, and I trust in His care;
Through purging more fruit I will bear.

How Can I Fear

When Shadows fall and the night covers all,
There are things that my eyes cannot see.
I'll never fear, for the Savior is near;
My Lord abides with me.

*How can I fear? Jesus is near.
He watches over me.
Worries all cease; He gives me peace.
How can I fear with Jesus?*

When I'm alone and I face the unknown,
And I fear what the future may be,
I can depend on the strength of my Friend
He walks along with me.

Jesus is King, He controls ev'ry thing;
He is with me each night and each day.
I trust my soul to the Savior's control;
He drives all fear away.