4th Annual Community Outreach

Free Car Wash and Hot Dog Roast

Please consider being a part of this heartfelt attempt to love on our community by providing free services. Our car wash and hot dog roast will be held on April 30, 2016 from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm., at South Hills Mall on Buck Jones Rd. We need help with food, supplies, donations…we will post a promotion board in the breezeway for signing up with your choice of item to contribute or allow us to borrow. On the day of the event, we need volunteers for holding signs before and during the event, washing cars, drying cars, cooking hotdogs, serving hotdogs, handing out literature, and generally helping out. Don’t miss this opportunity to show our community God’s love through the efforts our wonderful Ephesus church family!
Our Church Family

PRAYER REQUESTS...

Donna & Ed Thomas
Our Homebound members
The World Situation

Throughout this month, we want to love on, pray for, and celebrate Donna Thomas. Donna is retiring as Minister of Music, with Sunday April 24 being her final Sunday in that role.

Donna has given Ephesus the very best years of her life, pouring herself into guiding the music program and worship ministry of this church out of deep love for Jesus Christ and a passion for helping people connect with God.

You may drop cards off in the Library through April 10. Then, after worship on the 24th, we’ll have a reception in Donna’s honor, featuring several special ways for the church to show its appreciation and gratitude.

We certainly all want to be praying for God to bless Donna and Ed as she closes one chapter in her life and begins a new one.

Wednesday Night Supper
6:00 PM
April 6, 2016
Covered Dish

Please RSVP to church office by Monday, Monday April 4 at noon

Missions Night - 6:30 PM

Pastor Greg’s Sermons for April

Sermon Series—The Quest: The Search for Faith in the Valley of Doubt—continues in April!

Sunday April 3 (Lord’s Supper): Divine Conspiracy, Luke 24:24-27, 30-32 – Still unrecognized by the two disciples, the risen Christ teaches the greatest Bible lesson never recorded! The Scriptures Old Testament point to how God has been working behind the scenes of history to reclaim the human race from a desperate tragedy of its own making. The Lord’s Supper celebrates how that process culminated in the suffering, dying Messiah.

Sunday April 10: Special guest, Kenny Evans, brings his unique talents in music, song, and testimony all the way from Pigeon Forge, Tennessee! Kenny will also be in concert featuring Oldies Hits of the 50s and 60s at 6:00 PM.

Sunday April 17: Senior Adult Day, with special guest speaker, Rev. Tom Edwards—Steve Edwards’ brother!

Sunday April 24: Incurable Homesickness, Luke 24:28-32 – We all long to live in a different world than the broken one we know. The risen Christ grants the two disciples a glimpse of that home.

Church Record

Month of February

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>SS</th>
<th>Worship</th>
<th>Receipts</th>
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<td>124</td>
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<td>$29,407.24</td>
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Building Fund Receipts: $165.00
Building Maint. Receipts: $285.00
Gateway Donation: $700.00

Required Weekly Receipts: $8,832.21
Average Weekly Receipts: $7,351.81

Over/(Under) Weekly Needs for the month ($1,480.40)

Year-to-date:

| Budget Requirements: | $76,545.80 |
| Budget Receipts:      | $64,157.29 |
| Over/(Under) Budget Needs: | ($12,388.51) |
| Weekly Average:       | $8,019.66 |
| Building Fund Receipts: | $310.00 |
| Building Maint. Receipts: | $570.00 |
| Gateway Receipts:     | $1,400.00 |
| Annual Budget:        | $459,274.76 |

Church Staff

Greg Templin, Pastor              pastorgreg@ephesusbaptistchurch.com
Donna Thomas, Min. of Music       donnat@ephesusbaptistchurch.com
Kevin Fleegle, Min. of Youth      kevinf@ephesusbaptistchurch.com
Lisa Baker, Admin. Assistant      lisab@ephesusbaptistchurch.com
Lynda Lee, Organist/Accompanist   lynnlee9786@gmail.com
Kenneth Cook, Outdoor Sexton     lisaemery@gmail.com

From the Pastor’s Desk

An open letter to Donna Thomas:

Dear Donna,

In a time like this, it’s difficult to find words that come anywhere close to expressing how I feel, not to mention communicating what you deserve to hear. I just want you to know how much I appreciate you, how much I thank you for all you have been and have done in almost 18 years of ministry here at Ephesus Baptist Church, and how much I am going to miss you after you retire this month!

For me, personally, you have been, not only a fellow staff minister working together to plan and lead in worship, but also a friend and prayer partner. Your passion for prayer has been a model for how to talk and listen to God, making a lasting impact on my life. Your joy in the Lord is expressed so beautifully through your gifts in music and singing. But those are simply ways of continuing the conversation that is prayer.

As a member of the choir, I won’t miss those grueling rehearsals when you cracked the whip mercilessly to make us better! I’m kidding of course! But I will miss the wonderful balance you were able to strike between challenging and having fun on the other. I’ll miss your laugh.

Christmas musicals will never be the same. You skillfully blended drama, humor, and soaring anthems that still play in my mind years after they were performed. And, was this the last Living Last Supper? How can we continue what so uniquely embodies all you brought to this church and community if you’re no longer here?

Finally, I love you, Donna, my sister in Christ and my friend. God bless you, and come back soon!

-Pastor Greg
WOMEN’S RETREAT 2016
SAVE THE DATE - EPHESUS WOMEN’S RETREAT

September 23-25, 2016 @ Camp Caraway, Sophia, NC (near Asheboro)

Leader: Rev. Martha McDowell. Rev. McDowell - She is a regional director for NCBAM (North Carolina Baptist Aging Ministry), responsible for ministry services in the south central region. Martha led our phenomenal retreat in 2014.

Topic: TBD

Reservations should be made by 6/19/16. The total cost of the retreat is $208 per person (in double occupancy rooms). The church retreat fund provides $15 per Ephesus member per year for a retreat of this type. Payment can be made in 4 installments (third Thursday each month June - Sept): $50 by 6/19, $50 by 7/17, $50 by 8/21, and the balance by 9/18 ($43 for Ephesus members or $58 for our welcomed guests). Checks should be made payable to Ephesus Baptist Church, clearly marked “Women’s Retreat” and placed in the offering plate. Questions? Call Leslie Jordan at 235-2212 or Nelda Johnson at 454-4140.

Make your reservations and invite your friends for this wonderful get-away weekend of Bible study, prayer, games, food, and fellowship at peaceful Camp Caraway with the ladies of Ephesus!

Senior Adult Sunday April 17, 2016

Our guest speaker will be the Reverend D. Thomas (Tom) Edwards (brother of Steve Edwards) from Lexington, SC. Before retiring from active ministry, Tom served as Pastor for churches in SC and VA. He also served 10 years as Crusade Associate with the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association conducting revival crusades throughout the U.S. and Canada. He will be accompanied by his wife Virginia (Ginny) Edwards. Our Senior Adult Choir will be performing. Prospective choir members should be in the choir room by 10:10 am. We Need You!!

On Sunday April 10 we’ll be blessed by a visit from our special friend from Tennessee—

KENNY EVANS
—giving his testimony and singing in worship that morning. Then at 6:00 pm, he’ll be rockin’ his one-of-a-kind Golden Oldies Concert all the way from the Country Tonight Theater in Pigeon Forge! Kenny and Pastor Greg are both from Lake City (Rocky Top), but Kenny got all the talent! Bring a friend along to enjoy Kenny and to have fun glorifying Jesus!

The Ephesus Fellowship of Deacons is now participating in a “Deacon Homebound Communion Ministry”, offering the homebound members of our congregation the opportunity to observe the ordinance of Holy Communion (The Lord’s Supper) at their residence, hospital, or Hospice.

The deacons are also offering this service to members who are not participating in the Homebound Ministry, but who are also unable to attend communion services at the church.

Communion is observed at Ephesus on the first Sunday of each quarter: January, April, July, and October.

To inform our deacons of your request, please call the church office at (919) 851-1928 or email the office at lisab@ephesusbaptistchurch.com.

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<td><strong>3</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Lord’s Supper</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>6</td>
<td><strong>1:00—2:00 pm</strong></td>
<td>Gateway Business Meeting (Fellowship Hall)</td>
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<td>7:00 pm Evening Light WMU Meeting</td>
<td><strong>10:00 am—Noon</strong></td>
<td><strong>CLMC Children’s Story Time</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am—Noon Library Open</strong></td>
<td><strong>Youth at Camp Willow Run April 1-3</strong></td>
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<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td><strong>Kenny Evans</strong></td>
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<td><strong>1:00—2:00 pm</strong></td>
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<td><strong>10:30 am &amp; 6:00 pm Church Council Meeting (Fellowship Hall)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>7:00 pm</strong> Mission Night</td>
<td><strong>10:00 am—Noon CLMC Children’s Story Time</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am—Noon Library Open</strong></td>
<td><strong>4:30 pm</strong> Duke Dinner</td>
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<td><strong>17</strong></td>
<td><strong>Senior Adult Day</strong></td>
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<td>21</td>
<td><strong>9:00 am—Noon Classes 201 &amp; 401</strong></td>
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<td><strong>11:30 am Senior Adult Lunch @ D&amp;S Cafeteria</strong></td>
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<td><strong>10:00 am—Noon Library Open</strong></td>
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<td><strong>24</strong></td>
<td><strong>11:45 am Retirement Reception for Donna Thomas</strong></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>28</td>
<td><strong>11:00 am—1:00 pm Spring Outreach Car Wash</strong></td>
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<td><strong>10:00 am—Noon CLMC Children’s Story Time</strong></td>
<td><strong>10:00 am—Noon Library Open</strong></td>
<td><strong>11:00 am—1:00 pm Spring Outreach Car Wash</strong></td>
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