

Prayer?

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

Elders.



Frank Pettersen
Elder Chairman



Jeff
Armfield



Scott
Broome



Buster
Brown



Taso
Chakeris



Clint
Cole



Joe
Diamond



Mike
Dorrity



Troy
Draughn



Rick
Gwinn



Jonathan
Jellema



Don
King



Walt
Lancaster



Burke
Lee



Josh
Malone



Nathan
Mansell



Ted
Melchers



Bob
Nagy



Brad
Reed



Rick
Rummel



Bill
Watson, Jr.



Bill
Wilson

Sermon.

Speaker: Pastor Buster Brown

Today's Message: The Tragedy of Forfeiting the Wonder

Today's Text: Ecclesiastes 1:1-18

1 "The words of the Preacher, the son of David, king in Jerusalem.
2 Vanity of vanities, says the Preacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity.
3 What does man gain by all the toil at which he toils under the sun?
4 A generation goes, and a generation comes, but the earth remains forever.
5 The sun rises, and the sun goes down, and hastens to the place where it rises.
6 The wind blows to the south and goes around to the north; around and around goes the wind, and on its circuits the wind returns.
7 All streams run to the sea, but the sea is not full; to the place where the streams flow, there they flow again.
8 All things are full of weariness; a man cannot utter it; the eye is not satisfied with seeing, nor the ear filled with hearing.
9 What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done, and there is nothing new under the sun.
10 Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has been already in the ages before us.
11 There is no remembrance of former things, nor will there be any remembrance of later things yet to be among those who come after.
12 I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem.
13 And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with.
14 I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind.
15 What is crooked cannot be made straight, and what is lacking cannot be counted.
16 I said in my heart, 'I have acquired great wisdom, surpassing all who were over Jerusalem before me, and my heart has had great experience of wisdom and knowledge.'
17 And I applied my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is but a striving after wind.
18 For in much wisdom is much vexation, and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow."

*Vanity of vanities.
Vanity reflects that which is fleeting, elusive and ephemeral. It is living life ONLY under the sun (with an unbiblical world and life view). (Ecclesiastes 1: 2, 9, 13-14)

"One of the greatest tragedies of the fall of man (into sin) is that we get tired of FAMILIAR GLORIES." Quote by Clyde Kilby, Reading the Bible Supernaturally, John Piper

(continued >>)

Sermon.

(continued)

Under the Sun Worldview	Biblical World and Life View
1. The created order reflects unceasing vanity/weariness. Ecclesiastes 1:5-7,9	1. Psalm 19:1, "The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork." Psalm 24:1, "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein..."
2. Man's gifts and senses under the sun are providing diminishing returns and weariness.	2. All wonderful gifts from Creator God point to the deeper and ultimate hope that awaits us in Heaven. There is real joy in life on Earth, but not ultimate joy. (Psalm 84:10-12)
3. Man's legacy is quickly forgotten and minimally appreciated.	3. Revelation 14:12-13 (Psalm 56:7-8)
4. Wisdom is a "lousy job" to try to understand and appreciate life, and results only in vexation and sorrow.	4. "There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry, Mine!" Abraham Kuyper, Princeton Stone Lectures, 1898

The Believers Response to the Man Who Cries Out "Vanity of vanities. All is Vanity."

1. Labor to not lose the wonder of the God who is trinitarian in His glory and marvelous in His works. We lose the wonder through a life of dissipation when we give our affections to idols and those who mock God (or inattention or sin). "A disciple is a forgiven sinner who is learning Christ in repentance and faith." The Vine Project, Colin Marshall & Tony Payne
2. Strive to understand the glory and mercy and majesty of Christ. "When once the soul of a believer hath obtained sweet and real communion with Christ, it looks about him, watcheth all temptations, all ways whereby sin might approach to disturb him in his enjoyment of his dear Lord and Saviour, his rest and desire. How doth it charge itself not to omit any thing, nor to do any thing that may interrupt the communion obtained! A believer that has gotten Christ, is like one that hath found great spoils, or a pearl of price. He looks about him every way, and fears every thing that may deprive him of it. Riches make men watchful; and the actual sensible possession of him, in whom are all the riches and treasure of God, will make men look about them for the keeping of him." John Owen, Communion With God Vol. II, The Banner of Truth Trust, p.126
3. Understand the brevity of life. "If death is not a daily reality, then Christ's triumph over death is neither daily nor real. Worship and proclamation and even faith itself take on a dream-like, unreal air, and Jesus is reduced to something like a long-term insurance policy, filed and forgotten — whereas he can be our necessary ally, an immediate, continuing friend, the Holy Destroyer of Death and the Devil, my own beautiful Savior." Walter Wangerin, Mourning into Dancing



Your mobile devices are welcome! After the service we encourage you to share pieces of the sermon or worship on social media that you think others will find encouraging. Tag ECBC using #ecbccharleston.

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SEPTEMBER 9, 2018



EAST COOPER
BAPTIST CHURCH

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

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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 **October 7th at 12:15p** 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 pick up 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. eastcooperbaptist.com/groups

4. Become a Member

Register online for our upcoming New Members Class on Saturday, **October 20th**. 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 believe at East Cooper Baptist.

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. eastcooperbaptist.com/serve

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

SEP
9

Equip•u Classes
9:00a & 10:45a
HSM D-Group Kick-off
6:00-8:00p Worship Center

MON

SEP
10

Reengage Marriage Program
6:30-8:30p D-Wing Choir Room

TUE

SEP
11

Women's Bible Study
9:30-11:30a Worship Center
Worship Band Rehearsal
6:30p Worship Center

WED

SEP
12

WAM
6:30-8:00p A-Wing Classrooms
Choir & Orchestra Rehearsal
6:30-8:00p Choir Room
MSM T4:12
6:30-8:00p Gym
Women's Bible Study
6:30-8:00p B218/B219

THU

SEP
13

Women's Morning Devotional
6:30-7:30a D-Wing Choir Room
Women's Marriage Study
9:30-11:30a D-Wing Choir Room
Young Adults Connect
7:00p Annex

FRI

SEP
14

Man2Man
6:20a Gym
MSM Fall Retreat
Friday-Sunday Look Up Lodge

SAT

SEP
15

Prime Time Adults Lunch
12:00-1:30p D-Wing Multi Rm.

THIS MONTH: FOSTER & ADOPTION

FEATURED MINISTRIES

Throughout the month of September we are featuring all of our local ministries in the area of foster and adoption. This includes ministries helping with prevention, intervention, and restoration. In the Welcome Center you can find information on these ministries we partner with:



YOUR COFFEE DONATIONS HELP SUPPORT THESE MINISTRIES.

Giving Year-to-date \$617,433
Ministry Expenses \$514,371
(fiscal year August 1, 2018-July 31, 2019)



361 Egypt Road • Mount Pleasant, SC 29464 • 843.856.3222

Upcoming.

For detailed event information please go online.

TODAY Come get on track with God's word by joining an equip•u class. There are classes for all ages and stages, or you can register for track classes at either 9:00a or 10:45a. **REGISTER TODAY**



TODAY 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.



TODAY ECBC members have the opportunity to "adopt" a college student and provide a home away from home. This is a chance for you to invite students into your home for a meal or a break from dorm life. Go online today for more information.



TODAY Equip•them is the serving arm for Sunday morning ministries. We have many opportunities to serve. The Children's Ministry is a vital ministry and one that is in need of volunteers. Go online today and start serving.



SEP 11/12 Join the Women's Ministry for this video study in Acts with Kay Arthur. Tuesdays from 9:30-11:30a or Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30p. The workbook for this study is \$15. Childcare is available with registration. **REGISTER TODAY**



SEP 13 The Young Adult Ministry meets every Thursday night for Connect. This is a great opportunity to gather during the week, be encouraged in the Word, and get to know others in our group. Join us in the Annex at 7:00p.



SEP 24 Have you thought about becoming a Foster Parent? Lifeline is having an orientation at the Church at Life Park on becoming a foster parent, followed by a 6 week course that will teach you about Lifeline's foster care program. **REGISTER TODAY**



SEP 28 Make plans now to attend our next Aware Conference: Parenting in the Digital Age. Sessions will include topics like The Effects of Technology (and What it Means for Our Affections) and Our Culture and Our Calling. **REGISTER ONLINE**



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.

Hello.

09.09.18

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:

☐ 9:00a ☐ 10:45a

☐ I am a first time guest

Name

Spouse

Birthdate

MO DA YR

Spouse Birthdate

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