

Emmanuel Praises and Prayer Page

Praises:

Adam Evans made a promo video highlighting Robin Stewart and her ministry with Habitat for Humanity. The Children's Team had a positive lunch meeting last Sunday. The group that went to NC to help at the OCC distribution center had a good time (Keith and Eileen Mayer, Brian Brown, Doug and Kathy Reeder, Emily and Lakin Hardbarger). The Healthy for the Holidays event was informative and helpful. Thanks to Michelle Miller, Eileen Mayer and Elissa Filozof. We sent two large boxes of winter gear to Michelle Busiek in Alaska this past week. Thank you for your help in collecting these items. For all those who have purchased Christmas gifts for the Westbrook clients that we support every year... Thank you!! Brent Duncan was ordained into the ministry after an ordination council on 12/7 at Vienna Baptist. Bob and Sandy Myers were with us in worship on 12/7. Kurt and Amber Busiek and their son Conner were with us in worship on 12/7. We had 11 stars in the Red Books last week, which represents members engaging other people with the gospel and prayer. Phil Morris got a good report from his oncologist on 12/2. He feels blessed and is thankful for the prayers. Our Tuesday Fellowship senior ministry had a positive Christmas lunch this past week. This week we approved our 2026 ministry leaders and 2026 Ministry Budget of \$423,000. Emmanuel is a generous church, through November we have given the following: Sanctuary Loan 62,000 (loan balance 133,000), Help Fund 30,000, Necessity Closet 14,000, Missions and Ministry 102,000, Total giving: \$522,000.

Thank You:

From Bill & Linda Gainer: "We would like to express our thanks to all of our friends at EBC for all your prayers, calls, and cards during the past year. A special thanks to Pastor Kurt. He has been super supportive. We are living at The Pines in Marietta and are very happy. The care we are getting is very good and we are making new friends."

New Prayer Concerns:

Wandalene Drake will begin a year long immunotherapy to address her cancer on 12/17 at Ruby. (11/30)
Rebecca Galbreath is having serious medical issues; she may need a feeding tube. (11/30)
Diane Hays is having some on-going eye tests before having a procedure (11/30)
Maridor Keck for a sense of God's presence and peace.
Tony Lopez, friend of Jane Graham, will have a heart cath on 12/28. (12/14)
Brian Raitz is recovering from knee replacement surgery on 12/10.
Andrew Wolfe, WV National Guard soldier, critically wounded on 11/26 who is still recovering. (12/7)

On-Going Prayer Concerns:

Our Search Team (John Nicholson, Blaine Hess, Rich Shawver, Christa Raitz, David Brooks & Joe Stephens) as they seek an interim pastor and continue their search for a full time pastor.
Joyce Ault had some cancer related surgery and on-going medical tests and procedures She is staying with her son as she heals.(10/26)
Mike and Sherra Ferrell are both having some on-going medical tests. Send them a card at 3416 Greenview Dr. Parkersburg, WV 26104.
Jane Graham is having some on-going tests and a doctor visits in December. Send her a card at: 21 Woodland Park Dr. Parkersburg, WV 26104. (11/30)
Tara Jones Henderson is asking for prayer for IFT's Tiffin Tuesdays as she connects with more international college students through this holiday season. (11/23)
Diane Huffman is doing therapy to help her speech and swallowing. The therapy is going well. She will be having on-going infusions. Pray for continued healing. Send her a card: 804 Hillcrest St. Parkersburg, WV 26101 (8/10)
Nancy Johnson, Buck's sister in law, is recovering from emergency colon surgery. (11/30)
Trina Kuipers, the Salvation Army cook, is recovering at home in a wheelchair. She is hoping to have a double knee replacement surgery on 1/5. Send her a card: 418 Avery St., Apt 403, Parkersburg, WV 26101 (8/31)
Brianna Laas, Cheryl Wons step-granddaughter, is facing a legal decision on 2/5 that will greatly impact her life.
Robert Miller, a friend of Kim Matheny, is recovering from a serious motorcycle wreck. (12/7)
Connie Perry is being treated for macular degeneration and will have hip replacement surgery early in 2026. (12/7)
Tabatha Powell is having ongoing medical tests. She had an MRI on 11/17. Pray for healing & peace. (10/26)
Diana Wagoner has been struggling with her health; on-going kidney tests. (11/30)
Brenda Wheeler has been diagnosed with macular degeneration. She is having on-going eye tests. Send her a card at: 1250 31st St., Apt. 804 Parkersburg, WV 26104 (11/2)
Cancer Prayer Concerns:
Cancer prayer concerns can be found as an insert in the bulletin the first Sunday of each month. Please consider sending a card of support to anyone with an address listed.



December 14, 2025

“Third Sunday of Advent:
God Gives Us Peace ”

"Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand." ~ Romans 5: 1-2

“This is the day the LORD has made;
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.”

~ Psalm 118:24

Announcements and Ministry Opportunities

Call to Worship

“Emmanuel: Hallowed Manger Ground”
“Is There Room in Your Heart?” Praise Team

Musical Meditation “Be Thou My Vision”
David Enoch, Organ

Introit “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”
Chancel Choir w/t Jonathan & Tyler Brooks

*Responsive Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Leader: "Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again, Rejoice!"

People: "Let your gentleness be evident to all."

Leader: "The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything..."

People: "...but in every situation, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your requests to God."

Leader: “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding..."

People: "...will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus."

*Hymn No. 131 "Angels, from the Realms of Glory"

*Opening Prayer with Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

Greeting One Another “O, How He Loves You and Me”



Emmanuel Baptist Church

1710 23rd Street ~ Parkersburg, WV 26101
Phone: (304)-485-5171 ~ Fax: (304)-485-5194
Website: www.ebcwv.com ~ Email: info@ebcwv.com

Children’s Moment (Advent Candle Lighting)

Advent Candle Lighting: The Gift of Peace
Insert: Responsive Reading, Devotion & Choral Response Courtney Johnson

Ministry Moment Marriage Course

Offertory Ministry Video: The Key Sober Living

*Doxology

Praises & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response “Amen” Chancel Choir

Choir Anthem “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”
Chancel Choir

Message: “Lessons from the Wise Men...”
Pastor Kurt Busiek

Scripture Passage: Matthew 2:1-12
“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem 2 and asked, “Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” 3 When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. 4 When he had called together all the people’s chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 5 “In Bethlehem in Judea,” they replied, “for this is what the prophet has written: 6 “‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel.’” 7 Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. 8 He sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him...”

Hymn No. 163 "As with Gladness Men of Old"

~ A deacon will be available at the front of the church if you have a question or need prayer. ~

Benediction: “The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the Lord turn his face toward you and give you peace.” ~Numbers 6: 24-26

Postlude “A Celebration of Praise”
David Enoch, Organ

~ Before you leave, greet someone you do not know. ~



If you are a Guest at Emmanuel,
we want to welcome you
to our church!

If you're a Guest with us today: If you would like to know more about Emmanuel or if you have questions about the Christian faith, please contact our Guest Coordinator, Terry Ash at 910.547.4474 or Pastor Kurt Busiek 304.485.5171 or kurt@ebcwv.com. If you are a guest, please fill out a guest card then pass the card along to the Pastor, or place the card in the offering plate. Pastor Busiek offers a LIFE Sunday School class (Sundays at 9:40 am) for guests who want to know more about Emmanuel and the Christian faith.

Last Week

Stewardship Report - December 7

Does Not Include On-Line Giving

General	\$ 11,977.68
Missions	1,361.10
Maintenance Fund	<u>272.22</u>
Total	\$ 13,611.00

Designated Funds:

Sanctuary Renovation Loan	\$ 1,600.00
Benevolence Help Fund	455.00
RMMO	250.00
Staff Gift	1,545.00

Stewardship Report-Month of Nov.

Does Include On-Line Giving

General Fund	\$ 33,806.99
Missions	3,841.70
Maint. Fund	<u>768.34</u>
Total	\$ 38,417.03

Designated Funds:

Sanctuary Renovation Loan	\$ 7,665.61
Benevolence Fund	2,074.11
Necessity Closet	933.24
Latrobe St. Mission Lunch	2,486.22
Scholarship	404.00
Misc. Missions	459.40
Memorial Fund	100.00
Operation Christmas Child	475.57

Giving Options

You can give online at www.ebcwv.com or
you can mail your check to:
EBC, 1710 23rd Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101

Attendance - December 7

8:30 a.m. Service In-Person	40
10:45 a.m. Service In-Person	147
On-Line Attendance	561

Deacon of the Month for December

Rick Cline

Service Leader Today:

Keith Mayer



Today - December 14

8:30 & 10:45 a.m. Worship Services in the Sanctuary,
FB or You Tube Live at 10:45 a.m.
Find service links at www.ebcwv.com
9:30 a.m. Sunday School:
LIFE Class: Parlor (Christmas Devotion)
Seekers: Rm 201 (Colossians)
Encouragers: Rm 224 (Acts)
Youth Sunday School: Rm 203
12:00 p.m. Lunch & Caroling: Conference Room
2:30 p.m. Celebration Ringers Rehearsal: Sanctuary

Monday - December 15

12:00 p.m. Women's Bible Study: Olive Garden
7:00 p.m. AA Meeting: Fellowship Hall

Tuesday - December 16

10:00 a.m. Tuesday Bible Study: Conf. Room & Zoom
(<https://zoom.us/j/87185860738>, Code 087181)
Reflections on Mary & Joseph
5:15 p.m. Temple Challenge: Fellowship Hall

Wednesday - December 17

9:00 a.m. Men's "J" Dollar Breakfast: St. Michael's
10:30 a.m. Staff Meeting: Conference Room
4:30 p.m. Voice Lessons by Donna
5:00 p.m. Dinner: Fellowship Hall (menu & sign-up in
today's bulletin insert)
5:15 p.m. Orff Ensemble Rehearsal
6:00 p.m. Bible Study: Conference Room & Zoom
<https://zoom.us/j/87185860738> Code: 087181
Reflections on Mary & Joseph
Youth Christmas Party & Choir
6:15 p.m. Children's Christmas Party

Thursday - December 18

5:00 p.m. Gallipolis Lights Trip
5:15 p.m. Temple Challenge: Fellowship Hall

Happy Birthday to:

Dec. 15 Michele Johnston
Bob Butler
16 Erin Butterfield
Liz Cremeans
17 Bekah Brooks
18 Ken Barton
Melissa Johnson

Blessings
on your
Birthday!



Salvation Army Meal Schedule:

December 21 ~ Salvation Army
December 28 ~ Parkersburg Catholic High School

Greeters:

Bob & Judy Langkamer
Phil & Cynda O'Brien
Sarah Stephens & Melissa Davis
Rick & Tammy Cline

Announcements

Children's Ministry (PreK-5th):

- AWANA: Wednesdays at 6pm
- Mark Your Calendar:
- December 17 at 6:15pm: Children's Christmas Party
- December 21: Children's Live Nativity -10:45a service
- NO AWANA on December 24 or December 31

Youth Ministry (Grades 6-12):

- Youth Group: Wednesdays at 6pm in the Upside Down (Hope House) for recreation, snacks, games, and a lesson.
- Youth Christmas Party: Re-scheduled to **Wednesday, Dec. 17th at 6pm.**
- Youth Live Nativity: The live nativity today at 6pm is canceled due to inclement weather.
- Snow Camp January 16-18: Registration is open! If you want the church to cover your registration, let Joe know you're planning to go.

General Announcements:

- Necessity Closet: On 12/9, we helped **14 families (4 new)** and gave out **30 emergency bags** for a **total of 69 people** helped. Donations for the month of **Dec. is Body Lotion.**
- 2026 EBC Calendars: Extra calendars are available to be picked up in the narthex.
- Help the A/V Team: Do you have any smart phones you are not using anymore? Donate them to the EBC A/V Ministry. Drop off in the church office. Please put your name on the devices you donate.
- Power Lift Chair: A power lift chair was donated to the church and needs a new home. Call the office if interested.
- Childcare Coordinator Needed: The 2026 Marriage Course is looking for a childcare coordinator for 7 Fridays beginning Jan. 23rd. Interested? Contact Eileen Mayer.
- Baptism Service: If you or someone you know is interested in baptism, then please contact Pastor Kurt.
- December is Bring a Friend Month: Who do you know that might be interested in joining us for Sunday Christmas service or the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service? Pray about asking someone and let God guide you.
- RMMO: During the month of December, we will be collecting for the Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering (RMMO). There is an RMMO insert today and there are offering envelopes in the pews and narthex.
- Giving Envelopes - If you use giving envelopes and would like to have some made, email: jessica@ebcwv.com or call the office at (304)-485-5171. We can make them weekly, monthly, with or without monthly capital campaign and/or special mission offerings. Stamps are available if you prefer to mail in your offerings.
- Westbrook Christmas Project: Gifts are due back with your snowflake attached **TODAY!** Thank you to everyone who took a snowflake and provided gifts.

- Lunch & Caroling: Join us after church **TODAY** for lunch in the Conference Room and then to area care facilities and homes to spread the joy of Christmas with carols.
- Gallipolis in Lights: Those who signed up will leave the church **Thursday, December 18 at 5pm**, for a trip to Gallipolis, OH to view their Christmas Light display. This trip is fully booked.
- Church Christmas Dinner: Join us on **Sunday, Dec. 21 at 6pm!** Turkey, Ham, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Green Beans, Rolls, & Drinks Provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. *Reservation Required* by using the insert or calling the church office by **Wednesday, December 17.**
- Christmas Eve Service - The church will have their Christmas Eve candlelight service on **Wednesday December 24 at 7:00 p.m.**
- Christmas Day Dinner: First Presbyterian Church **Thursday, Dec. 25 from 12pm-1:30pm.** Meal delivery is available for people who are homebound. See insert for details and how you can help.
- Annual Reports - We are asking for your annual reports no later than **Wednesday, December 31.** Address and phone number changes are also needed for the directory, which is included with the report. Board of Ministry members, Sunday School Classes, Staff, Life Groups, Choirs, EBWM, etc. should turn in reports to Jessica at jessica@ebcwv.com. Thank you very much.
- Ballroom Dance Lessons: Re-scheduled for **Wednesday, Dec. 31st.** See details below.
- New Years Eve Dance - Join us in the Fellowship Hall for Ballroom Dancing from **6:30-9:30 p.m. on Wed. December 31st.** (Good way to burn off some of those extra holiday pounds!) This event is open to all who participated in the Couple's Dance Lesson Series AND all others. There will be a short refresher lesson 7:00-7:30. Only \$10/couple. You are welcome to bring a snack/treat to share. If you are interested, call/text Keith or Eileen Mayer at (304)-834-2563.
- Life Line Health Screening: EBC is once again hosting this low cost community health screening. See the insert for information on scheduling your appt. on **Thursday, Jan. 22 9am-4:30pm.**

Mark Your Calendars:

- Wed., Dec. 17: 6pm Youth Christmas Party
6:15pm Children's Christmas Party
- Thurs, Dec. 18, 9am-1pm: Westbrook Christmas Party
- Sun., Dec. 21, 6:00 p.m. - Church Christmas Dinner
- Tues., Dec. 23: 9am Gustke Christmas Party
- Wed., Dec. 24, 7:00 p.m.: Christmas Eve Service
- Wed-Thurs-Fri, Dec. 24-26: Office Closed
- Wed & Thurs, Dec. 31 - Jan. 1: Office Closed