



Welcome to East Lumberton

As Senior Pastor of ELBC, I want to welcome you to our church. We are a diverse church of believers whose goal is to lift up the name of Jesus Christ. We welcome all races, ages and walks of life to come be a part of our church family. We are glad you came and we hope you feel at home with us today. If you are visiting for the first time, please see one of our greeters in the vestibule to get a visitor's packet, so that we can get to know you better.

MINISTERS ON-CALL

Rev. Michael Bowen (910) 736-6170
Rev. Roger Smith (423) 557-5515

EMERGENCY PRAYER REQUEST

Melissa Humphrey (910) 416-0312
Donna Holden (910) 534-0616

If you have an Emergency Prayer Request and would like for your church family to be in prayer, please contact Donna Holden or the church office. Melissa Humphrey may be unavailable for a brief period of time.

Weekly Willing Workers

VAN DRIVERS	
12/14: Howard Reaves, Jr. (910-316-2819)	12/21: Robert Mishue (910-827-9096)
CHILDREN'S CHURCH	
Children's Church is provided for children ages 2 thru kindergarten	
2 & 3 years old	
12/14: Madison & John Reaves, Margert Ramirez	12/21: Chasity & Noah Reaves
4 & 5 years old	
12/14: Janice & Brian Bullock, Michelle Smith	12/21: Donna Holden, Christy Locklear, Kathy Buffkin
NURSERY WORKERS	
newborn to 2 years old	
12/14: Claudia Cooke, Cindy Horne, Elisha Parker, Chasity Reaves	12/21: Claudia Cooke, Whitney Hester, Haley Smith, Alana Taylor
DEACONS OF THE WEEK	
Nick Stone (910-740-4070) & David Baxley (910-734-0613)	
INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY	
12/14: Brenda Hester	12/21: Buddy Cribb
FIRST IMPRESSION TEAM	
12/14: Joyce Simmons, Lisa Smith, Debby Bledsoe	12/21: Suzette Taylor, JoAnn Hayes, Debby Bledsoe

For your safety, please know we have a security team in place for all services.

SUNDAY MORNING

“The Greatest Christmas Presence”
Matthew 1:23

Theme: “The Importance Of The Virgin Birth”

- I. The Miracle Behind The Birth Of Christ (v. 23a)
- II. The Message Behind The Birth Of Christ (v. 23b)
 - A. It Reveals A Fulfilled Prophecy
 - B. It Reveals A Flawless Person
 - C. It Reveals A Forgiveness People
 - D. It Reveals A Future Pathway
- III. The Magnificence Behind The Birth Of Christ (v. 23c-23d)
 - A. The Isolation Of The Name Emmanuel (v. 23c)
 - B. The Importance Of The Name Emmanuel (v. 23d)

SUNDAY EVENING

“Deacon Ordination”

Noah Reaves



Menu for Dec. 17th

Church-wide Christmas Caroling

5:45 PM-6:30 PM Soup, Sandwiches, Desserts and Drinks

6:30 PM-8:00 PM Church-wide Christmas Caroling

8:00 PM Cookies and Hot Cocoa

No Charge * Please sign up in the hallway



New Years' Eve Watch Night Service

On Wednesday, Dec. 31st, we will host a New Years' Eve Watch Night Service from 9:00 PM until midnight. Also, there will be **NO** nursery during the New Years' Eve Watch Night Service and there will be **NO** Wednesday Evening worship service at 7:00 PM. This event will include, games, a late-night breakfast buffet and we will pray in the New Year. This event is for the whole family and everyone is invited. Please sign-up on the sheet in the hallway, we need a headcount for the food.



Sunday, December 14th
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Morning Worship Service
4:00 PM WMU Meeting
5:00 PM Church Council
6:00 PM Evening Worship Service/Deacon Ordination

Monday, December 15th
7:00 PM Baptist Men

Tuesday, December 16th
7:00 PM Outreach

Wednesday, December 17th
5:45 PM-6:30 PM Soup, Sandwiches, Desserts and Drinks
6:30 PM-8:00 PM Church-wide Christmas Caroling
8:00 PM Cookies and Hot Cocoa

Sunday, December 21st
9:45 AM Sunday School
11:00 AM Morning Worship Service
6:00 PM Evening Worship Service



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eastlumberton@gmail.com

Join Us On These Platforms!



Visit The App Store & Download Our App Today!

December 14, 2025

Church Theme for 2025:
You Can't Out Give God - 2 Corinthians 9:6-7



Staff Directory

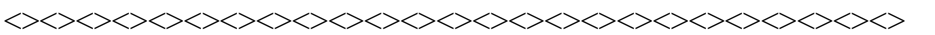
Senior Pastor Rev. Michael S. Bowen (910) 736-6170	Associate Pastor for Families Rev. Roger D. Smith (423) 557-5515
Minister of Senior Adults Rev. Ricky Donaldson (910) 499-5218	Worship Team Leader Mr. Matthew Horne (910) 734-4356
Ministry Assistant Ms. Janet Taylor	Worship Team Mr. Larry Cooke & Mr. Shon Anderson
Treasurer Ms. Kenan Chance	Custodian Mr. Jeff Pait

Theme for 2025: You Can’t Out Give God
2 Corinthians 9:6-7

11:00 AM MORNING WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude	Pianist
Invocation & Welcome	Rev. Roger Smith
Call to Worship	Sanctuary Choir
	“Christ Is Born”
Offertory Hymn	
	“Joy To the World”
Congregational	
	“Away In a Manager”
Message in Song	Abby Britt
Message in Song	Sanctuary Choir
	“Born In Bethlehem”
Message	Rev. Michael S. Bowen
	“The Greatest Christmas Presence” Matthew 1:23
*Hymn of Commitment	
	“Softly and Tenderly”

Benediction	Layman
Postlude	Pianist



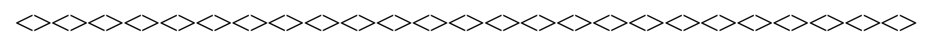
Hymn of Commitment
During the Hymn of Commitment if you would like to talk with someone about salvation, join the church or become a candidate for baptism, our Pastors will be available at the front during this time.




Birthday Celebrations
Dec. 14th - Dec. 20th



15 th	Thomas Walters	Bobby Horne
	Elisha Parker	Hannah Dow
16 th	Jean Bozeman	20 th James Hunt
19 th	Dot Pittman	





Nominating Committee Request

The Nominating Committee is asking, if anyone is interested in serving as WMU Director, Assistant WMU Director, Sunday School Director, Building Committee and Personnel Committee, please contact Cindy Horne or anyone on the Nominating Committee. Thank you in advance for your willingness to serve.

Year-End Closing

Due to end of the year billing, **NO** church credit cards are available for charges from Dec. 15th until after Jan. 1st. Also, if you would like to receive a contribution statement for 2025 with your contributions listed for tax purposes, please sign the sheet in the hallway. These will be printed on an individual bases. If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact Kenan Chance.



6:00 PM EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE

Prelude	Pianist
Invocation & Welcome	Rev. Roger Smith
Message in Song	Sanctuary Choir
	“Go Tell It on the Mountain”
Offertory Hymn	
	“We Three Kings”
Congregational	
	“O Little Town Of Bethlehem”
Message in Song	Thomas Walters & Michelle Smith
Message in Song	Sanctuary Choir
	“When Love Crossed Over” Soloists: Nick Stone and Alana Taylor
Biblical Qualifications for Deacon	Rev. Michael S. Bowen
Charge to Candidates and Laying on of Hands	
Presentation of Certificates	
	Deacon Ordination Noah Reaves

*Hymn of Commitment	
	“I Surrender All”

Benediction	Layman
Postlude	Pianist



OPPORTUNITIES OF THE WEEK

Today	9:45 AM	Sunday School
	11:00 AM	Morning Worship Service
	11:00 AM	Haitian Ministry
	2:00 PM	Nursing Home Ministry (Harborview Nursing)
	4:30 PM	Handbell Choir
Wednesday	6:00 PM	Evening Worship Service
	5:45 PM	Family Night Supper
	6:30 PM	Children’s Choir (Grades 1-6)
	7:00 PM	Prayer Meeting, Nursery thru Grade 12
	7:45 PM	Bulletin Deadline
Thursday	7:45 PM	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	Google Meeting



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WMU Meeting

The regular monthly WMU meeting will be held **TODAY**, at 4:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact Gwen Mishue.



Church Council Meeting

There will be a Church Council Meeting **TODAY**, at 5:00 PM, in the Choir Room. All Department Heads and Committee Chairpersons please be sure you or a representative are at this meeting. Please bring your calendar as we plan for the next quarter.

Angel Tree

This year’s Angel Tree is for residents at a local rest home. If you have an angel, all gifts should be returned by **TODAY**. Instructions are attached to each angel. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact Sharon Leggett or Lisa Hendren.

Baptist Men

The monthly meeting of the Baptist Men will be held on Monday, Dec. 15th, at 7:00 PM, in the Fellowship Hall. A meal will be provided. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact John Reaves.

CPR (Contact, Prayer, Recovery)

The regular monthly outreach will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 16th, at 7:00 PM. We will have **PRAYER** at the altar. If you have any questions and/or concerns, please contact Molly Horne.

Church-wide Christmas Caroling Wednesday, December 17th

- 5:45 PM Supper-Soup, sandwiches, dessert and drinks
- 6:30 PM-8:00 PM-Church-wide Caroling
- 8:00 PM–Hot Cocoa and cookies, Fellowship Hall

There will be a hay ride truck going throughout the community and the bus will be going to Wesley Pines to sing to the residents there.

Proposed Budget for 2026

The proposed budget for 2026 has been placed at all entrances for your review. It will be presented for vote on Dec. 28th during the morning worship service, with no discussion.

Senior Adult Christmas Party

The “Joy Bells” will be having their annual Christmas Party on Thursday, Dec. 18th, at 5:30 PM, in the Fellowship Hall. Great food, fun and fellowship! **This will be a catered meal, therefore you MUST sign-up on the sheet in the hallway.** Please bring a copy of your favorite recipes. We have plans to make a cookbook.

Also, if anyone is interested in going to Alabama Theater “The Souths Grandest Christmas Show” on Wednesday, Dec. 31st, at 3:00 PM. The cost will be \$42.00 per person, if 20 or more are attending. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Ricky Donaldson.

Christmas Card Mailbox

WMU is hosting the Christmas Card Mailbox from Dec. 1st to Dec. 21st. The cards are for active church members and the cost for each card is 30 cents per card. All proceeds go to our Building Fund.

Youth (Grades 7-12)

The youth will be preparing spaghetti dinners for our homebound/shut ins on Friday, Dec. 19th. We are needing youth to assist with boxing and delivering these meals. Anyone who can participate should be at the church by 4:00 PM. After the meals are delivered the youth will return to the church for their annual Christmas Party. There will be a sign-up sheet in the hallway. If you have questions and/or concerns, please contact Roger Smith or Kristie Martin.

Boys & Girls Home, Lake Waccamaw Christmas Offering

Be a part of the Great Commission this season of giving and helping others. We are collecting gifts for the Boys and Girls Home at Lake Waccamaw. **Special offering envelopes have been placed at all entrances or you may use a regular offering envelope and designate to Boys and Girls Home.** May God multiply our gifts!

Baby Shower: Lexi Britt and Wyatt Chance

Everyone is cordially invited to participate in a Drop-Off Baby Shower for Lexi Britt and Wyatt Chance. Proud Grandmother is Kenan Chance! We are asking you to drop off your gift or gift card at the table in the preschool area no later than Sunday, Jan. 4th. They are registered at Amazon. Also, diapers and wipes are greatly appreciated.