



## EBC Messenger

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Emmanuel Baptist Church



@EmmanuelEBC1151



## Issue 26-4th Quarter 2025

### From the Desk of the Pastor



#### Emmanuel Baptist Church: Fourth Quarter Reflections & A Forward Look into 2026

As we close the curtain on 2025, my heart is overwhelmed with gratitude. This fourth quarter marked a season of strength, service, and sacred moments that embodied the heartbeat of our ministry—loving God and serving His people with excellence.

#### Celebrating Women & Honoring Survivors

We were especially blessed during Women's Weekend and Survivor Sunday, which we prayerfully combined this year to maximize impact and relevance. It was more than an event—it was an experience of empowerment, healing, and sisterhood. We were graced by the preaching of Lady Lisa Fambro, whose timely word reminded us that God can give beauty for ashes and strength for every survivor's story.

#### Honoring Service, Sacrifice, and Legacy

In November, we took time to honor our military veterans on Veterans Day, recognizing their sacrifice and service to our nation. We also celebrated the often-overlooked yet essential arms of ministry—the Ushers, Greeters, and Nurses—those who serve on the front lines of hospitality and care. One of the most moving moments came as we honored the legacy of Brother Albert Barker Sr., who served faithfully as an usher for over 50 years. In loving tribute, Mother Birdia Barker made a generous donation in his memory, and a plaque in his honor will soon be displayed in the vestibule as a lasting reminder of servant leadership.

#### Compassion in Action

The holiday season gave us another opportunity to be the hands and heart of Christ. Through the generosity of our members and partners, we provided turkeys and grocery items to families in need—ensuring that their tables were filled and their hearts encouraged.

#### Celebrating Christmas with Joy & Excellence

Our Christmas Celebration was nothing short of joyful. With gift card giveaways, festive music, photography, and a spirit of love in the room, it was a celebration of God's greatest gift—Jesus Christ.

A special thank you to our Social Media Ministry, who work behind the scenes to ensure every worship experience is streamed with quality, consistency, and care. Your work matters more than you know.

### Upcoming Events

**January 25, 2026**

**Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Installation of Officers**

**February 8, 2026**

**Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Super Sunday  
(Family and Friends)**

**February 14, 2026**

**12-6 pm**

**Eclipse Event Center, Beloit  
Black Herstory Day  
Sponsored by Black Women in  
Business. Over forty vendors.**

**February 22, 2026**

**Emmanuel Baptist Church  
Black History Sunday.**

### Newsletter Staff

Patricia Foster—Editor

Linda L. Ward—Publisher

Francine Hinchen—Reporter

Natasha S. McNeal—Reporter

OJ Newburn, Sr.—Pastor

## **A Night of Unity & Worship**

On New Year's Eve, we closed the year in our tradition of unity, worshiping alongside our brothers and sisters from New Zion and Community Baptist Church. Pastor Hearns delivered a soul-stirring word, and the sanctuary was filled with gratitude as we counted down together into a new year. These moments of joint fellowship continue to remind us that the Church is bigger than anyone building—we are one Body.

## **A Look Ahead: Into the Deep – 2026 Vision**

We are thrilled to have entered Phase Three of our sanctuary upgrades, including new carpet and pews that reflect our commitment to excellence in sacred space. We are especially grateful to the Jim & Cheryl Caldwell Foundation for their gracious donation that has made this possible. Full updates will be shared at our 2026 Vision Meeting, and I believe what's coming is worth every prayer and seed sown.

As we move into 2026, our emphasis is clear: we are going "Into the Deep"—leaving the shallow waters of routine and fear to walk in deeper faith, obedience, and purpose. Greater still lies ahead for Emmanuel.

## **Closing Gratitude**

To every Emmanuel member, Legacy contributor, and faithful partner, thank you for your giving, your prayers, your presence, and your trust in God's leadership through this church. As Scripture assures us in 1 Corinthians 15:58, "your labor is not in vain in the Lord." We've witnessed God's hand in 2025, and I believe with all my heart that He's not finished yet.

Let's go deeper.

With love and expectation,  
Pastor OJ Newburn, Sr., M.Div.  
Senior Pastor

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## **EBC LIFE ENRICHMENT** (Sunday School)

### **YOU ARE INVITED: EXPERIENCE THE JOY AND GROWTH OF LIFE ENRICHMENT (EBC SUNDAY SCHOOL)**

We warmly invite all members to participate in our vibrant Life Enrichment program! Whether you are a long-time member or new to Emmanuel, Life Enrichment offers a wonderful opportunity to learn, connect, and grow together in faith.

- Life Enrichment classes provide in-depth exploration of scripture and spiritual topics, helping you gain greater insight into your beliefs and how they apply to everyday life.
- Our classes are a place to connect with fellow members, share experiences, and support one another on your spiritual journey.
- We offer classes for children and adults, ensuring that everyone can find a place to learn and grow.
- Life Enrichment provides a safe space to ask questions, share perspectives, and delve deeper into topics that matter to you.

Get involved by volunteering as a teacher or helper, strengthening both your faith and your leadership skills. Life Enrichment meets every Sunday at 9:00 a.m. We encourage you and your family to come and experience the joy, learning, and fellowship that Life Enrichment brings. **No prior sign-up is necessary—just come as you are and be ready to grow!**

Women's Month Celebration  
Sip & Paint - Octpber 4, 2025

The Women's Month celebration began with a meaningful Sip & Paint activity. During the event, participants painted images of leaves floating in water, representing the act of letting go. This visual metaphor served as a powerful reminder that releasing things from our lives is not a sign of failure, but rather an opportunity for renewal. The beautiful paintings created by attendees reinforced the message that even when circumstances become difficult or life appears to be falling apart, there is hope. Through faith, God is able to bring forth new life and growth from challenging situations. The theme "LEAVE it behind!" encouraged everyone to embrace change and release, renew, and rise again.





Women's Month  
Dinner and Black Violins Show  
October 11, 2025

The women of EBC met at the Tavern on Clark Restaurant in Rockford, IL., for a delicious meal and fellowship before attending the Black Violins concert at the Coronado Theater. The Black Violins is an acclaimed hip-hop/classical fusion duo that brings their unique sound and energetic performance to their shows. It was a dynamic show featuring the two classically trained musicians (in violin and viola) and a DJ for an energetic performance that resonated with a diverse audience. The Black Violins' music does not exist within a certain genre but exists in a space as open and unrestrained as their minds that produce it.



**Women's Weekend 2025**  
**Saturday, October 25 – Sunday, October 26, 2025**

Emmanuel Baptist Church's annual Women's Weekend is always a meaningful time of connection and encouragement for women of faith. This year's theme, "We Won't Fail," served as both a declaration and a reminder — that when our lives are rooted in God, we are equipped to persevere, to rise, and to walk confidently in purpose.

The committee for Women's Month: Deaconess Erika Daniels - Chair, Mother Becky Kendall, Sis. Jaemie Harley, Sis. Regina Hendrix, Sis. Andrea Hattie.

A special highlight of the weekend was the Women's Brunch held Saturday, October 25th at 10:00 a.m. Women gathered for a beautiful morning of fellowship, conversation, and spiritual encouragement. The brunch featured guest speaker Barbara Hickman, who was warmly introduced by her daughter, Linda Fair-Hickman. Together, their presence added a touching and personal element to the gathering, reminding everyone of the power of legacy, testimony, and the influence of godly women across generations. The brunch atmosphere reflected exactly what Women's Weekend represents — women coming together in faith to uplift, inspire, and strengthen one another.



The celebration continued during Sunday Worship on October 26th at 10:00 a.m., where the congregation welcomed Lady Lisa Fambro of Christian Growth Center in Rockford, Illinois, as the guest speaker. Her message spoke directly to the hearts of women, emphasizing perseverance, faith, and trusting God through every season of life. She reminded us that our circumstances do not define us, our challenges do not disqualify us, and with God's guidance, we are never walking alone.



This year's Women's Weekend was a beautiful celebration of womanhood among women of faith. From the brunch tables to the sanctuary seats, the spirit of "We Won't Fail" was evident — in worship, in fellowship, and in the shared commitment to encourage one another. It was a powerful reminder that when women stand together in faith, we create space for healing, growth, and renewed purpose.

We are grateful for every woman who attended, served, and supported these moments. May the impact of this weekend continue to echo in our lives as we uplift one another, deepen our faith, and boldly walk in who God has called us to be.

Because in Christ... we won't fail.



Mother Willie M. Garner



Dorothy Lister



Jaemie Harley



Regina Hendrix



Lady Veronica Newburn



**Kitchen Helpers:**  
Mason Nora,  
Dea. Rick  
Daniels, Dea.  
DeCarlos Nora,  
Dea. Emmitt  
Riddle, Tim  
Harris, Michael  
Nora, Verell  
Shumpert





ANNIE LAURA SEALS HALLELUJAH NIGHT  
October 31, 2025

For years, Emmanuel has chosen to host "Hallelujah Night" as a Christian alternative to Halloween, providing a secure place for kids to enjoy festive activities without safety concerns of traditional trick-or-treating. This celebration at EBC is named after long-time member, Annie Laura Seals, who was a very special person who loved and cared for most of the young children during church service. She was loved and appreciated by parents and kids alike. Annie Laura died after returning from a trick-or-treat walk around the neighborhood of the church.

Annie's brother-in-law and great nephew, Curtis Cotton and John Hill, attend the festivities each year and bring a celebratory cake in her honor.





**Honoring Those Who Served: The Importance of Veterans Appreciation Day**  
**Sunday, November 9, 2025**

Every year, Veterans Appreciation Day gives us a sacred pause — a moment to step back from the rhythm of our daily lives and intentionally honor the men and women who chose service, sacrifice, and courage for the sake of our nation. It is more than a date on the calendar. It is a reminder that the freedoms we enjoy come with a cost that many were willing to pay.

Veterans Day is not only about recognizing military history; it is about acknowledging living testimonies sitting among us. It is about recognizing and offering gratitude to those who stood in places most of us have only seen in books or on screens. These individuals carried responsibility far heavier than uniforms, and many continue to carry unseen burdens long after their service has ended.

At Emmanuel Baptist Church, we are blessed to worship alongside several veterans — individuals who embody discipline, resilience, humility, and commitment. Their service did not end when their military careers concluded. Many continue to serve through mentorship, leadership, worship, community involvement, and quiet faithfulness. Their presence among us is a living example of what it means to answer a call bigger than oneself.

Scripture reminds us, *“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends”* (John 15:13). While not every veteran was called to the battlefield, each one accepted the possibility of sacrifice. That willingness alone speaks volumes.

Veterans Day invites us to move beyond a simple “thank you” and into deeper appreciation — through prayer, listening, support, and honor. It challenges us to recognize the humanity behind the title “veteran” and to celebrate the faith, strength, and perseverance that continue long after the uniform is folded.

Again this year, the presentation and retiring of colors was performed by the American Legion Veterans Organization of Beloit, along with a 21-gun salute and the playing of “Taps”.



## Veteran of Honor

Each year, Veterans Appreciation Day holds special meaning for me, as one of the veterans I honor is my own mother, Doris F. McNeal.

Doris served in the United States Women's Army Corps from 1969 to 1971. She completed her basic training in Anniston, Alabama, and was later stationed at the Presidio of San Francisco in San Francisco, California. During her time in the Army, she served as a clerical specialist and achieved the rank of E5, a role that required discipline, accuracy, and a strong sense of responsibility.

My mother often reflects on her military service as a season that shaped her character. The Army instilled in her the importance of being responsible, punctual, and respectful — values that have remained evident throughout her life and the way she has poured into her family and community.

When asked if she would serve her country again, her answer is simple and powerful: yes. Given the opportunity, she says she would remain in the Army longer and pursue additional training, embracing even more growth and development through service.

On this day, I honor not only her uniform, but the woman her service helped form. I am grateful for her sacrifice, and thankful that her example of strength and commitment continues to speak throughout her life.



EBC – ‘HELPS’ MINISTRY RECOGNITION  
November 16, 2025

Pastor O.J. welcomed students from Blackhawk Technical College and encouraged them to come back any Sunday.

The guest minister for the day was Dr. Demetrious K. Williams of the Community Baptist Church of Greater Milwaukee, WI. His sermon focused on 1 Corinthians 15:58.

Dr. Williams stated that we pause today to celebrate – those who make the church’s ministry move; those who may not be on the microphone, but who are always on the mission; those who do not need a title to serve because they understand that servanthood is the highest form of leadership. We honor the ushers who keep the doors of the house open with grace, the greeters who make strangers feel like family, and nurses who bring comfort and care when the body or spirit grows weary. They may not preach the sermon or sing the solo but without them the church would lose its order, its welcoming embrace and its warmth.



*Pastor O.J. and Dr. Demetrious K. Williams*

Drawing from 1 Corinthians 15:58, Dr. Williams reminded the congregation that Paul’s message to the church at Corinth—and to believers today—is to persist in doing what is right. He assured that labor done for the Lord is never wasted but holds eternal significance. Acts of service in Christ’s name sow seeds for a heavenly harvest and secure treasures that endure beyond the reach of theft or decay. Dr. Williams encouraged everyone to remain steadfast in doing good, promising that in due time, those who persevere will reap their reward.

The roles of ushers, greeters, and nurses within the church were likened to the broader mission of the church in the world: guiding the lost to safety, welcoming the marginalized, immigrants, and the forgotten, and tending to the wounds caused by injustice, poverty, and pain. The call was made to remain steadfast, unmovable, and always abounding in the Word of the Lord.

Pastor O.J. then presented a commemorative plaque in honor of the late Albert Barker, Sr., recognizing his fifty years of dedicated service on the usher board. The plaque will be displayed in the foyer as a lasting tribute.



To express gratitude for their hard work, Pastor O.J. presented gifts to all nurses, ushers, and greeters. The members honored included:

- Nurses: Gayle Listenbee, Marilyn McKinley, Linda Fair, Leslie Bridges, Brenda Jones-Harper, Betty Hendrix



- Ushers: Debra Triplett-Davidson, Doris McNeal, Lance Ward, Cleve Doss, Verell Shumpert (not pictured), Anderson Hereford, Walter Ward, Elaine Munro



- Greeters: Fannie Edwards Dukes, Syretha Washington, Willie M. Garner, Carmen Quillins, Andrea Matthews (not pictured).



BLACKHAWK TECHNICAL COLLEGE VISITATION  
November 16, 2025

Individuals who have spent time away from home understand the value of a well-prepared, home-cooked meal. Emmanuel's Mothers Ministry responded to a request from Blackhawk Technical College advisor Linda Fair by inviting members of the college's men's and women's basketball teams as well as the Minority Excellence Organization to attend a church service, followed by a meal. The gathering provided an opportunity for meaningful fellowship, complemented by a soul-food dinner prepared by the ministry members.



Blackhawk Technical  
College students with  
advisor Linda Fair.



Blackhawk Technical  
College students with the  
Mothers Ministry.

## **A Joyful Celebration: Emmanuel's Annual Christmas Party** **Sunday, December 21, 2025**

Each year, Emmanuel Baptist Church closes out the season with one of our most anticipated traditions—the Annual Christmas Party. This year's celebration was held following Sunday worship at the Rotary Riverside Center in Beloit, Wisconsin, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and it truly delivered everything a Christmas gathering should: warmth, laughter, connection, and joy. The Christmas party committee was chaired by Linda Ward, other include were Mother Francine Hinchen, Mother Doris McNeal, Gardenia Simon and Dea. Tony Gates.

The Christmas Party is more than an event—it's an experience. It's a time when our church family comes together simply to enjoy one another outside of the pews. We shared food, filled the room with conversation and laughter, and yes...we danced. The afternoon truly reflected the heart of Emmanuel: loving fellowship and genuine community.

One of the highlights, as always, was the raffle. The excitement in the room was contagious as tickets were called and winners were announced. Cheers, playful groans, and plenty of good-natured humor filled the space. The raffle never fails to bring an extra layer of fun—and this year was no exception.

As music played and plates emptied, what lingered most was the spirit of togetherness. Moments like these remind us that church is not only about where we worship, but who we journey with. Our Annual Christmas Party continues to be a beautiful reminder that Emmanuel Baptist Church is a family—one that knows how to celebrate, laugh, dance, and create memories together. Thank you to the suppliers who help make are Christmas party a success: Anita's Soul Food, Unique T's and Things, Mookey Moore Photography and D.J. Josh.

Here's to another wonderful year, another joyful gathering, and many more moments of fellowship to come.

The Media Ministry was recognized by Pastor OJ for their outstanding work throughout the year.



L to R: Pastor OJ, Dea. Kevin Leavy, Sean Leavy II,  
Madison Leavy, Natasha McNeal, Min. Carol Hendrix  
(Missing: Madison Daniels and Ryann Hendrix)

Presentations to Pastor and Lady V:



*Leslie Bridges and granddaughter from the nurses.*



*Mother Fannie Edwards-Dukes from the greeters.*



*Mother Willie M. Garner from the Mothers Ministry.*



**LEFT:**  
*Gardenia Simon from the Decoration Ministry.*

**RIGHT:**  
*Rebecca Kendall and Curtis Cotton from the Trustee.*

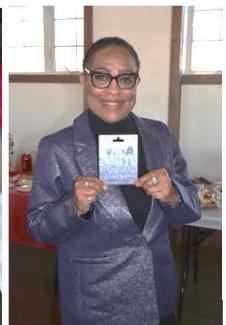


**LEFT:**  
*Dea. Tony Gates from the Deacon Ministry*

**RIGHT:**  
*Elder Penny Devereueawax, Elder Sean Leavy, Min. Lyndon Lambert*



Raffle Winners:



L to R:  
Mother Pat  
Foster,  
Gardenia Simon,  
Elder Penny  
Devereueawax



L to R:  
Tim Listenbee,  
Tanya Harper,  
O.P. Simon,  
Mother Doris  
McNeal



Bethany Bolton

Brennan Bolton

Garry Hendrix

Gayle Listenbee



Linda Ward, Grand  
prize winner!

NEW YEAR'S EVE JOINT WORSHIP  
December 31, 2025 - 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.

The congregations and choirs of EBC, New Zion Baptist-Beloit, and Community Baptist of South Beloit, IL, joined together for the 13th Annual New Year's Eve Joint Worship service. Some members of other churches and the community were also in attendance. EBC's Pastor O.J. Newburn hosted, Pastor James Ivy of New Zion was worship leader, and Pastor Robert Hearns of Community brought the message.

After devotional period and testimony service, sermon brought by Reverend Hearns. His sermon topic, "A New Year's Resolution for a New Year's Revelation", was taken from Psalm 1:1-3. He stated that once again the Lord has allowed a few of us to cross over into a new year – 2026. It's not because we've been so good but because the Lord has been so good to us. When we think of all we have gone through in 2025, it was the Lord who heard our petitions, entertained our supplications, answered our prayers, healed our bodies, directed us, prepared us, redeemed and restored us, and even blessed us to still be here. If it had not been for the Lord on our sides, where would we be.

New Year's is a time when people all over are making resolutions, ranging from losing weight to stopping bad habits. Many resolutions fail because they are self-imposed, self-willed, and self-propelled. Many of these ideas do not include God; anytime God is not in the picture, failure is on its way. What we need is a New Revelation, coming from God through the scripture. It is divinely inspired by Him and contains God's plan and purpose for our lives that will guide us into the new year.

If we want to be blessed in 2026, we must: terminate some people in our circle and delete some contacts in our phones (the ungodly, the sinner and the scornful); saturate ourselves in the divine principles of the Word of God (which will keep and sustain us); stay planted and positioned in the Word of God to be productive and prosperous in 2026. When we stay planted in the Word, nothing can hinder the progress of what God has for our lives in 2026!



*Pastor Robert Hearns (Community Baptist Church); Pastor James Ivy (New Zion Baptist Church); Pastor O.J. Newburn (Emmanuel Baptist Church)*



Combined Choirs under the direction of O'Malley Lomax and Desmond Haney,





Malori Hinchen, MSN, RN, APRN, PMHNP-BC  
Psychiatric Nurse Practitioner  
Geode Health-Rockford, IL.

### Seven Dimensions of Wellness

As the new year progresses, people will often make new year resolutions to improve or change something from the previous year. A common resolution is to save money or read more. Some may also set a goal to become healthier by exercising more or eating better, but when we think about our health, we normally think of our physical health or anything related to our bodies. However, being well and in good health is all encompassing. Not only does it include your physical being, but it includes all areas of our life. These areas in addition to the physical aspect include emotional, spiritual, social, intellectual, environmental, vocational/occupational.



Consider taking a holistic approach to wellness by incorporating and improving in all aspects of your life. In 3 John 1:2, the apostle John greets his friend, "Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth", (KJV), reminding us to prosper, not only in good health but in every way suggesting a holistic or well-rounded view on prosperity. Here are the other six dimensions to achieve that balance.

One way of seeking balance in our lives is to focus on emotional health or mental health. Take care of your mental health by controlling your feelings, emotions, and developing healthy ways to cope with stress. This could be accomplished by seeking therapy, meditation, relaxation or self-care. Properly managing your mental health can improve your physical health.

Spiritual health involves growing in your faith. We can accomplish this by going deeper in God's word, and developing or renewing a stronger relationship with God through prayer, bible study, journaling or stillness. Focusing on our spiritual health reminds us that God will be there for all our needs and decisions.

Social health is centered around creating and maintaining healthy relationships and contributing to your community. Consider volunteering your time at a local organization or visiting with a friend just because. Creating healthy relationships can improve self-esteem, improve mood, and develop resilience.

Intellectual health is all about stimulating your mind. This could involve more reading, completing puzzles, or being more creative. You can increase your knowledge by trying something new or learning a new skill. Concentrating on your intellectual health will help strengthen your cognitive skills, analysis and decision making.

"Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will." (Romans 12:2, NIV). This scripture reminds us to continue to grow spiritually and gain wisdom in all things.

Environmental wellness involves recognizing and creating positive healthy spaces for yourself and your community. Improving your environment includes recycling, decluttering and reducing waste through eco-friendly practice. This dimension will help reduce stress and improve focus as well as promote sustainability.

Vocational or occupational health refers to finding purpose in your life and aligning that purpose with your values. Once you identify your purpose, seek opportunities to instill that purpose into your work. Focusing on your vocational or occupational health will increase satisfaction and improve productivity.

"Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for human masters," (Colossians 3:23, NIV) which encourages us to commit and work diligently in your purpose.

As we move forward in 2026 and grow in our stewardship, I implore you to not only be good stewards of your finances, time and talents, but be good stewards of your health by incorporating these seven dimensions of wellness into your life. It allows us to lead a more balanced and meaningful life.

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## Flu activity remains high across Wisconsin



Wisconsin health officials are reporting "very high" flu activity across the state, with over 4000 people testing positive for Influenza A during the last week of 2025.

The surge is attributed to a new Influenza A variant called H3N2 subclade K, which has caused flu cases to skyrocket nationwide. This particular strain is not covered by this year's flu vaccine, creating additional challenges for prevention efforts.

"H3 viruses are usually one of the most virulent or serious viruses of all the influenza viruses. So even a little protection is still worthwhile for people to get vaccinated," said Tom Haupt, Wisconsin DHS Respiratory Disease Epidemiologist.

# 1st Quarter Birthdays and Anniversaries

<u>January Birthdays</u>		<u>February Birthdays</u>		<u>March Birthdays</u>
Barbara Hickman	Jan 1	Jaida Kroning	Feb 4	Doris McNeal
Michael Nora	Jan 1	Chadwick Clark	Feb 15	Ludean Lockhart
Willard Snow	Jan 3	DeCarlos Nora	Feb 15	Irma Bradford
Pamela Smithson	Jan 4	Emetia Riddle	Feb 16	A'Blesin Wilson
Sheila Fletcher	Jan 10	Rosie Barnett-Curry	Feb 21	Dorothy Lister
Rashai Turner	Jan 12			Tiffany Henry
Glenn Beard	Jan 15			Pastor Oriental Newburn
Shayla Morrow	Jan 15			Eugenia Woodson
Mary Kay Grady	Jan 15			Emmett Riddle
Delon Bridges	Jan 16			Chatania Richie
Sean Leavy II	Jan 16			Jada Richie
Desmond Haney	Jan 17			Willie M Garner
Carmen Quillins	Jan 18			Sharon Scott
Syretha Washington	Jan 20			Phil Selmer
O.P. Simon	Jan 21			
Bry'Azjah Bolton	Jan 23			
DeCarlos Nora III	Jan 23			
Andrea Mathews	Jan 24			
Malynda Riddle	Jan 26			
Helen Whitley	Jan 27			
Eld. Penny Devereueawax	Jan 27			
Marilyn McKinley	Jan 30			

## Anniversaries

Kevin & Ruthie Leavy	Jan 20
Emmett & Gayle Riddle	Feb 6
David & Becky Kendall	Feb 19
O.P. & Gardenia Simon	Mar 30

## MEMBERSHIP

<u>New Members</u>
Pasquel Wynton
Tasha Wynton
Tanya Harper
Aloncia Harper

<u>Deceased Members</u>
Susan Morrow

Dec 12

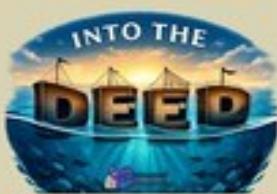
## CHURCH VAN

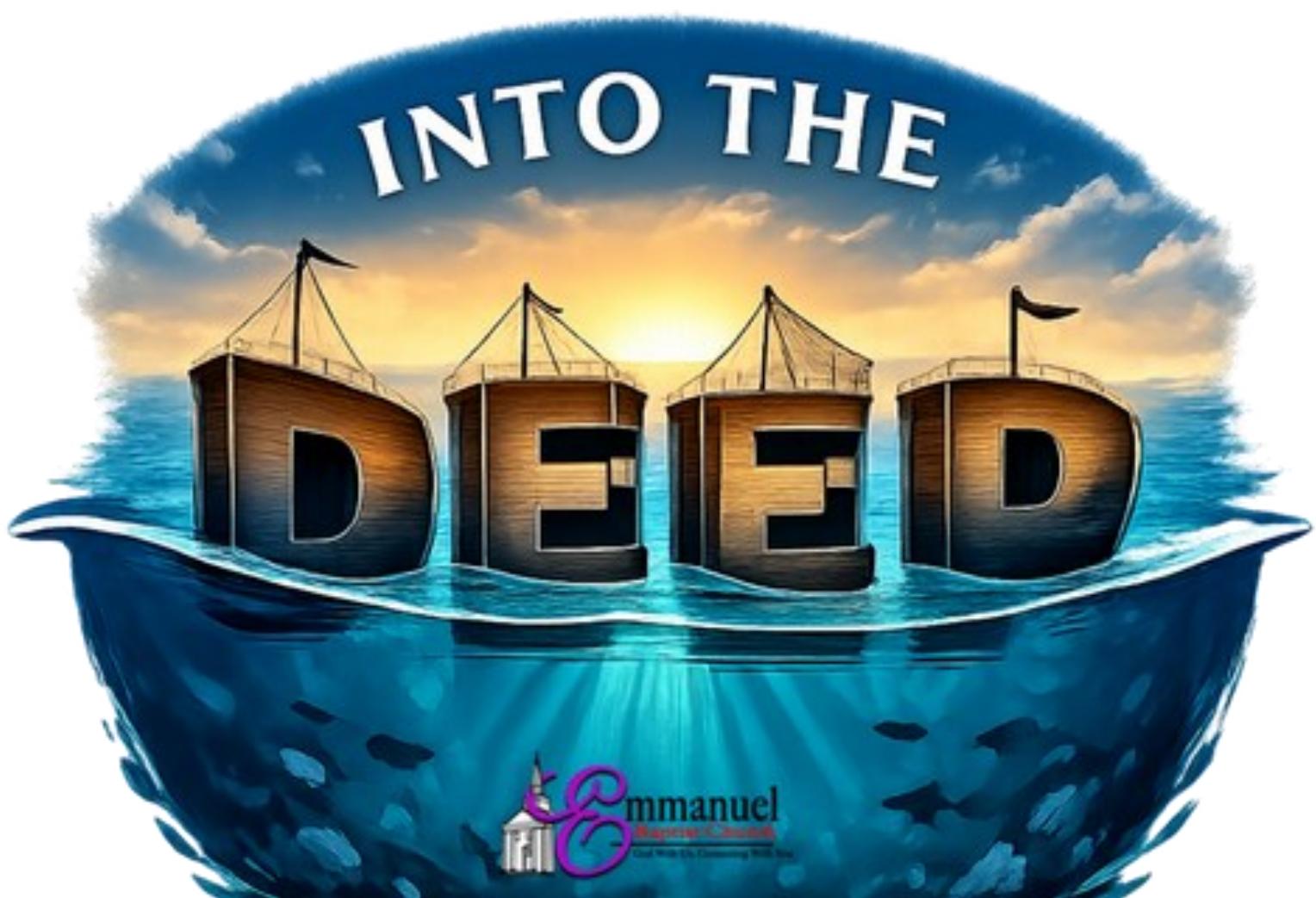
WHAT A BLESSING!!! Because of the generosity and kindness of the Jim and Cheryl Caldwell Foundation, EBC has purchased a brand-new 2025 van. This blessing will meet a significant transportation need within the church's ministry and will strengthen its ability to serve our congregation and community. Many thanks to Jim and Cheryl Caldwell.



# 2026 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Jan 4: Vision Sunday  
Jan 19: Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
Jan 25: Installation of 2026 Officers  
**Feb 8: Super Sunday (Family & Friends Day)**  
Feb 22: Black History Sunday  
March 8: 5th Pastor's Anniversary  
March 29: Palm Sunday  
April 5: Easter Sunday  
**Apr 26: 109th Church Anniversary**  
May 10: Mother's Day  
May 24: Pentecost Sunday  
June 6-7: Homecoming Weekend  
**June 15-17: Vacation Bible School/Summer Revival**  
June 19: Juneteenth  
June 21: Father's Day  
June 28: Graduate's Day  
July 11-12: Men's Weekend  
Aug 4: National Night Out  
Aug 8-9: Youth Day/Back to School Bash  
Sept 6: Labor Day Weekend Cook-Out  
**Sept 27: Choir Day/Musicians' Appreciation Day**  
Oct 10-11: Women's Weekend  
Oct 25: Survivor Sunday (Cancer Survivors)  
Oct 31: Annie Laura Seals Hallelujah Night  
**Nov 8: Military/Veteran's Appreciation Day**  
Nov 9-11: Fall Revival  
**Nov 15: Usher's/Greeter's/Nurse's Appreciation Day**  
Nov 26: Thanksgiving Day  
Dec 20: Christmas Worship  
Dec 31: New Year's Eve Service







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