

Vox

Voice of Emmanuel Baptist Church

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Affirmation Sunday

Thomas Waters

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Affirmation: Agreeing with or consenting to a statement or request. The act of affirming, a positive assertion. A solemn declaration made under the penalties of perjury by a person who conscientiously declines taking an oath.

Sunday: The law of nature and the clear commandment of God's word is a portion of time is to be set aside for the worship of God. That day is referred to as a Sabbath, a day set apart unto God. Since the time of Christ's resurrection, the Christian Sabbath has been observed on Sunday (John 20:19; Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2). Thus, those who believe in the perpetuity of the 4th Commandment often refer to Sunday as "The Lord's Day," viz., the day which refers observers unto the Lord Jesus Christ (Revelation 1:10).

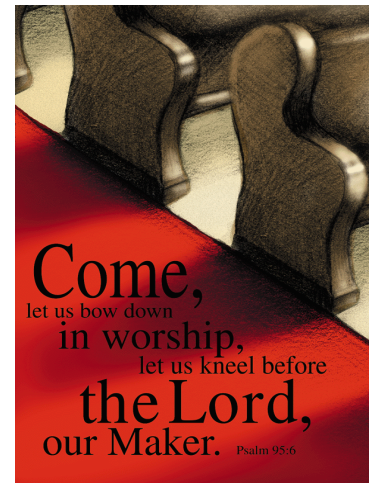
Affirmation Sunday: September 19, 2010, the Lord's Day that has been set apart for the members of EBC to remember her establishment and affirm their promises of membership.

Promises: Each member of EBC, whether they became part of the church at the constitution of the church on September 24, 2008, or since then, has made the following promises;

1. We promise to walk together in a manner worthy of our Christian calling with all humility, gentleness, patience and brotherly love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in order to make our fellowship delightful to God, edifying to ourselves and a witness to others (Romans 14:19; Ephesians 4-5; Colossians 3:1-17).

2. We promise to pray for one another, bear one another's burdens, aid one another in sickness and distress, watch over, exhort and encourage one another for good and if one should be overtaken in sin or stray from the fellowship, in humility and gentleness seek to recover and restore such an one (James 5:16; Hebrews 3:13, 10:24; Galatians 6:1-2; James 5:19-20).

3. We promise faithfully to meet together on the Lord's Day, financially contribute cheerfully and regularly to support the ministries of the church and willingly and humbly use our gifts and talents to the glory of God and the



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Luncheon to Honor Veterans of the Korean War

Saturday, September 11, 2010—Noon
Emmanuel Baptist Church



Poem written by Dietrich Bonhoeffer
shortly before his death in a
concentration camp.

By gracious powers so wonderfully sheltered,
and confidently waiting come what may,
We know that God is with us night and morning,
and never fails to greet us each new day.
Yet is this heart by its old foe tormented;
still evil days bring burdens hard to bear;
Oh, give our frightened souls the sure salvation
for which, O Lord, You taught us to prepare.
And when this cup You give is filled to brimming
with bitter suffering, hard to understand,
We take it thankfully and without trembling,
out of so good and so beloved a hand.
Yet when again in this same world You give us
the joy we had, the brightness of Your Sun,
We shall remember all the days we lived through,
and our whole life shall then be Yours alone.

Affirmation Sunday

Continued from page 1

edification of the body (Exodus 20:8; Hebrews 10:25; 1 Corinthians 16:2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Romans 12:3-8).

4. We promise to strive together for the purity and truth of the Gospel, public worship and the ordinances, and to avoid causes of and those who cause division (Jude 3; Romans 16:17; 2 Timothy 2:23; Titus 3:8-11).

5. We promise to honor God in our homes, bring up our children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord, and be just in our dealings, faithful in our engagements and exemplary in our conduct (Joshua 24:15; Ephesians 5:22-6:9; Matthew 5:13-16; 1 Peter 2:13-16).

These promises are not forgotten relics but the building blocks for our bonds of fellowship. For the welfare of EBC and their own soul, it is the duty of every member to consider often the promises he has made and keep them.

Make your plans to include the services for the entire day. There will be no Sunday School, and the Morning Worship will begin at 10:30 AM. Lunch will follow so bring your favorite dish. The evening service at 6:00 PM will include a musical offering entitled *God of Grace*.



EBC

Vox is a monthly publication of Emmanuel Baptist Church, www.ebcjesup.net.

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Submit information to Chlo Dukes by the fifteenth of the month preceding publication by email, in person, or at the church office. The editor reserves the right to edit for content or space. *Soli Deo Gloria!*

A Deeper Perfusion

David Friedrich

... He
breathed
on them
and said,
'Receive
the Holy
Spirit' "

John 20:21-22
NIV

When is someone dead? In the medical field it used to be when breathing and a beating heart stopped. As a medic I've seen people die in this sense; suddenly there is no air going in and out and no blood going round and round. Life has stopped in this person. Then we begin CPR and other

interventions, and amazingly some "come back to life" before our eyes. Because people can be brought "back to life" in this way and kept alive through machines, now the final word in the medical field is this: people are dead when they are brain dead, when there is no more electrical activity in the brain.

The Scriptures have two understandings for life and death. The first one is very similar to the old clinical definition. "The LORD God ... breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being" (Gen. 2:7, NIV). When the breath of life in the form of oxygen travels from the air to the blood to the body, we have perfusion and therefore life. Take away the breath of life, and we die: "He breathed his last and died" (Gen. 25:17, NIV).

And yet the Scriptures have another understanding for life and death. This one is so important that one can be clinically alive (breathing, walking, chatting with a friend) yet considered among the dead, full of maggots and worms. This is why Adam died in the garden of Eden when he disobeyed, "for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die" (Gen. 2:17, ESV), although he lived for another 800 years!

Another life, a deeper perfusion, that is more vital and potent than the breath of life is what Adam lost. It is a living communion of trust, love, joy and obedience. To be with God in this way is to be alive in the fullest sense

of the word. This is what was lost in Adam and what has been restored in Jesus: "Again Jesus said, 'Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.' And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit' (John 20:21-22, NIV)." God at the first creation breathed the breath of life into the nostrils of Adam, to make him a living being. God accomplishing a new creation in Christ breathes the Holy Spirit into the core of our being, producing eternal life. "And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you." (Romans 8:11, NIV). Christians should be the most alive people on the planet.

How different would our day be if we lived with the confidence that God is not only getting up with us in the morning and walking with us as we go through our day, but He is actually "closer ... than breathing, and



nearer than hands and feet" (Tennyson)? How much more would that deeper perfusion make it's way into our relationships and the details of our lives? Let's find out as we trust our Lord and His promise: "On the last and

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Go to the church website www.ebcjesup.net and see this newsletter in color!

The Prodigal In ALL of Us

Luke 15:11-32

Will Brooks

As I read this portion of God's Word, it is obvious to me that times of my life parallel that of the Prodigal Son. I too was running from God and was more concerned with pleasure than holiness. My sin was against heaven and evil in His sight (Psalm 51:4). I was a wayward creature who had disdain and resentment towards my Creator. Being dead and lost in sin, I was unworthy to be called God's son and was in desperate need of His forgiveness. But by the grace of God and the work of the Holy Spirit, my wake up call came just as surely as the Prodigal Son's did. My sin became evident to me, and I knew that I needed forgiveness. It was clear that I had to turn from my sin, become submissive to God's authority, and beg for His forgiveness.

We all lived this way. We were all born prodigal sons. The natural tendency of every human heart is hostile toward God and cannot please Him (Romans 8:7-8). All of us at one time or another walked according to the [pleasures] of this world, living in the lusts of the flesh, and by nature were children of wrath (Ephesians

2:2-3). Every one of us has been guilty of self indulgence, dissipation, and unrestrained lust. We all sold our birthright, wasted our lives and squandered every blessing God gave us. We traded away God's bountiful goodness for a moment of cheap self-satisfaction.

We all filled our stomachs with the slop the pigs ate instead of seeking God.

So, dear reader, if you are convicted of the waywardness, resentment, wastefulness and sin presently in your life, I urge you to turn to Jesus, submit to His authority and beg for His forgiveness.

God is slow to anger and swift to forgive. He is eager, willing and even delighted to save sinners. He alone can blot out all of your iniquities. God's lavish grace will triumph over every imaginable sin. Draw near with

confidence to the throne of grace, so that [you too] may receive mercy and help in time of need (Hebrews 4:16). If we confess our sins, [God] is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us of all unrighteousness (I John 1:9).



A Deeper Perfusion

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greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, 'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.' By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive" (John 7:37-39, NIV).

May it be so.

(David Friedrich is a firefighter/medic with the City of Newport News, Virginia..)



Events and Service Opportunities



CHURCH CLEANING

- 04 General Cleaning-Everyone
- 11 Pat & Gary Shepherd
Ann & Carl Lane
- 18 Tony Sumrow Family
Chlo Dukes
- 25 Rob Mikell Family

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 06 JoAnn Lewis
- 09 Gary Shepherd
- 09 Matthew Sumrow
- 26 Nancy Brooks
- 28 Tyler Melton
- 29 Mary Yarbrough



COMING EVENTS

- Lord's Supper & Yawn family to be presented for membership**—*Morning* Worship, September 5
- Veterans of the Korean War Luncheon**—Saturday, September 11, at EBC, Noon
- BIC**—Tuesday, September 14, at EBC, 6:30 pm
- Affirmation Sunday**—Sunday, September 19, at EBC; Morning Worship at **10:30 am** followed by lunch; Evening Worship will include a choral presentation
- Officers' Meeting**—Monday, September 20, 6:00 pm
- WIC**—Tuesday, September 21, at EBC, 6:30 pm
- GACB Fraternal**—September 30-October 2, Trinity Reformed Baptist Church, Jackson, GA

USHERS

- 05 Donzell Lewis and Fred Browning
- 12 Matt Yawn & Will Brooks
- 19 Carl Yarbrough and Tony Sumrow
- 26 Phillip Sumrow and Gary Shepherd

Coat and tie requested or your best Sunday attire. Please contact one of the deacons prior to the scheduled date if you are unable to serve.



FLOWERS

- 05 Kim Wharam
- 12 Ned Youngblood
- 19 Jerell Johnson
- 26 Nancy Brooks

NURSERY ATTENDANTS

- 05 am—Gwen Mikell & Megan Groover
- pm—Freda Smith & Rebekah Sumrow
- 12 am—Melissa Gonzales & JoAnn Lewis
- pm—Fran McElveen & Staci O'Quinn
- 19 am—Maxine & Tony Sumrow
- pm—Joann Westberry & Gail Waters
- 26 am—Katie & Will Brooks
- pm—Jean York & Pat Shepherd



I Do Not Deserve You

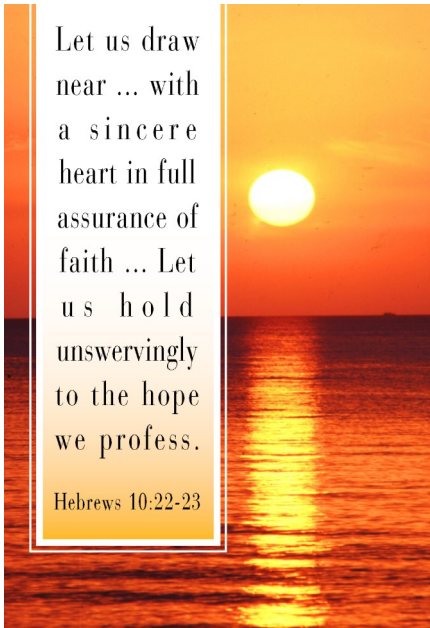
Vivian Griffis

*Lord, I do not deserve You,
but I am trying hard to serve You.
When I am blinded, I need to be reminded.
If I make it, it will be because of You.
Each day You help me,
and I ask You, dear Lord, to lead my way.
I want to be as You would have me to be.*

*Lord, I am so much better off with You beside me,
and You make it known that I am loved and not alone.
Lord, You understand my faltering steps;
You just pick me up and show me the way
and bring back memories of yesterdays.
You just remind me that You are by my side.*

*Faith and prayer make a difference;
They help me get through a lot of difficult times.
Faith is believing what you do not see,
and the reward of faith is seeing what you believe.
No matter where life takes me,
I will have the peace only the Lord can bring.
True blessings in life aren't so much the things
God has given me,
but the very fact He is always near.*

*I thank and praise You, Lord,
for being with me on my journey through life,
and bless You for easing the way.
I pray I will make it home to be with You some day.*



Let us draw
near ... with
a sincere
heart in full
assurance of
faith ... Let
us hold
unswervingly
to the hope
we profess.

Hebrews 10:22-23

EBC

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