

# EASTERN SHORE CHURCH OF CHRIST

DECEMBER 26, 2021



**Minister:** Bryant Evans

**Associate Minister:** Jeffery King

**Youth Minister:** Noah Evans

**Minister, Awarawaunau Church of Christ in Guyana:** Elvis Bernard



**Thank you for joining us today at Eastern Shore Church of Christ!**  
Whether you are a long-time member here or a visitor, we are thrilled to have you. Please be sure to stick around following services so we can get to know you a little better, and let us know if we can do anything for you!

## Today's Sermon

### **Looking for Jesus John 12:20-26**

<sup>20</sup> Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. <sup>21</sup> So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." <sup>22</sup> Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. <sup>23</sup> And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. <sup>24</sup> Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. <sup>25</sup> Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. <sup>26</sup> If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

**John 12:20-26 ESV**

### Elders

Sid Chupek  
Scott Kelly  
John Langham  
Jonathan Ling

### Deacons

Chad Chupek  
Scott Lloyd  
Peter Verrett  
Jesse Olive

### Sunday

Worship 10 AM  
Bible Study 5 PM

### Wednesday

Bible Study 7 PM

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We have a wide variety of events, such as game nights, trips to various local events, singings, and devotionals for all ages.

**See more  
details inside the bulletin!**

## Events for this week:

### Monday– Thursday:

**Exposure Youth Rally**, we will depart for Huntsville on Monday at 8:30 AM from the church building. If you have any questions, please see Noah.

### Tuesday:

**Men's Weekly Brown Bag Bible Study**, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall.

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### **Next Sunday:**

**Lads to Leaders:** will have Bible Bowl practice at 4:30 PM on Joshua 1-5, 19. There will be no puppet practice.

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**If you are not receiving our email, phone or text alerts**, please let Glenda know by emailing her at [glenda.verrettescoc@gmail.com](mailto:glenda.verrettescoc@gmail.com).



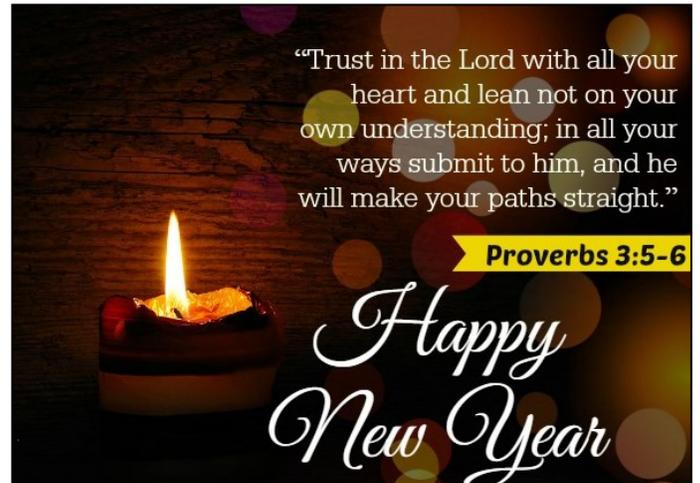
Visit us on  
Facebook and  
YouTube!



We will be posting pictures, announcements, and more here each week, so please check it out! If you cannot find the page, see [Bryant](#).

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

01/04 Richard Davis  
01/11 Juanita Bramblett  
01/13 Susan Ling  
Isobel Velazquez  
01/16 Marvetta Clevenger  
Danny Velazquez  
01/16 Robert Cagle  
01/23 Leigh Kellum  
Tommy Ratliff  
01/26 Jerry & Sherran Brown  
01/29 Bobbi Evans  
01/30 Hunter Harp  
Dwight Isehower



## Mark Your CALENDAR



- 01/02 L2L Bible Bowl at 4:30 PM on Joshua 1-5, 19. There will be no puppet practice.
- 01/04 Men's Bible Study, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall
- 01/09 Area Wide Youth at Scenic Hills church. Please see Noah for details.
- 01/14 Primetimer's Bible Study, 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring finger foods and drinks. Open to all ages.
- 01/15 Ladies Bible Study, 8:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall.  
Youth Devo, 5 PM. Location is TBD.
- 01/16 L2L Bible Bowl at 4:30 PM and puppet practice following our evening Bible classes.
- 01/18 Men's Bible Study, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall
- 01/22 Couple's Shower for Mary Carol Cagle & Hunter Harp at the church building. Time is TBD.
- 01/25 Men's Bible Study, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall
- 01/30 5th Sunday Fellowship Meal following our morning services.

# Why Jesus?

By: Bryant Evans on May 11, 2021

Someone may ask, "why do I need Jesus?" Someone else may ask, "what's so special about Jesus? Can't I learn how to live a fulfilling life by studying other great people of wisdom from ancient times?" While those questions, and others like them, might never occur to us who have lived in a Christian environment all of our lives, they are fair questions. In our multicultural world, people are seeking truth in many strange and different places. How can we respond?

## Jesus lives

In the last 50 years, there has been increasing curiosity about so-called Eastern religions. These include faiths such as Buddhism, Hinduism, Shintoism, Taoism, and Sikhism. These groups all originated on the Indian sub-continent or in regions of Far East Asia. Generally, though not always, these religions are polytheistic. They adhere to the concept of multiple gods. They have become attractive to the Western mind because of their emphasis on peace, meditation, and the prospect of an improved life.

Reincarnation is a common tenant of each of these religions: a continuous cycle of birth, life, death, and rebirth. According to their teachings, their founders have discovered a way out of the reincarnation cycle. For example, in the case of Buddha, he discovered the path to enlightenment and left behind his teachings for his followers.

But in no case is there anyone like Jesus. Like these founders, Jesus did leave a body of teaching for his disciples to follow. But unlike these founders, Jesus died a physical death and was resurrected to a visible life before men (John 20, 21 especially 24:24 – 29). A few weeks later, Jesus ascended back into heaven (Luke 24:50 – 53). Jesus did not ascend into heaven and leave his disciples to fend for themselves. Jesus remains intimately involved in the daily life of his people. Perhaps most importantly, Jesus mediates between mankind and God (1 Timothy 2:5). Jesus remains the high priest for his church (Hebrews 8:1 – 7).

Even though they may not believe that Jesus is God (John 1:1 – 4), many do believe that a great teacher, known as Jesus of Nazareth, walked the earth in the 1<sup>st</sup> century. Jesus is not simply an ancient teacher. He is a living teacher! That Jesus lives is the message that we should be shouting from the rooftops. This was Paul's message to the polytheistic Greeks in Athens in Acts 17:29 – 34. The resurrection of Jesus was a common theme in the preaching of the early church. One might even say that the Christians were obsessed with the idea of Jesus' resurrection and the prospect of their own resurrection to eternal life. Let us become obsessed with the resurrection of Jesus every day.

## Jesus Loves

Love is a foundational teaching of Jesus Christ. According to Jesus, the two greatest commandments revolve around love. Man must love God, and a man must love his neighbor (Matthew 22:34 – 40). The parable of the Good Samaritan, found in Luke 10:25 – 37, expands the understanding of neighbor to all people. We must love all people not just those with whom we are comfortable with but everyone.

Can you imagine a more needful teaching in our world today? The late Jerry Clower, famed country comedian from Mississippi, once observed that people always told him what the world needed most. While Clower appreciated their observations, he disagreed. In his thinking, what the world needed more than anything else was love. We agree.

The emphasis on loving others, as taught by Jesus, will appeal to the people of our world. People need to be loved. People want to see others being loved. The Christian needs to show love in his own life while promoting love among others.

With all their mysteries and rituals, Eastern religions cannot come close to the message of Jesus Christ. Those who seek peace and solace in this world can find it in Jesus, not in idol gods.

**Please keep in your prayers:**

**Julie Doughty** is having ongoing health problems (daughter of Jerry Doughty).

**Mike Martin**– is recovering from small bowel obstruction surgery.

**TR Clevenger**– has suffered a bad back injury and will be having surgery Dec. 30th.

**Please remember our friends and loved ones who are fighting cancer:**

**Jamie Langham, Mike Sanford, Bryant Evans, Gus Stranch** (great nephew of Patti Van Iderstine), **Jeff Stewart** (friend of Jerry Doughty), **Sharon Vandevender** (wife of Donna Neu’s nephew), **Sarah Kennedy, Dot Oubre and Jim Bose** (friends of Patti Van Iderstine), **Darnell Jackson** (mother of Jaqueline King), **James Doughty** (brother of Jerry Doughty), **Angela Flit** (cousin of Dwight Isenhower), **Will Scott and Paul Thorkelson** (friends of Dwight & Julia Isenhower), **Aaron Bell** (Youth Minister of Valley View church & a friend of the Sanford’s), **Wanda Bobinger** (cousin of Patti Van Iderstine), **Mary Neely Hopkins** (sister of Jamie Langham), **Paula Wyer** (cousin of Glenda Verrett), **Joe Smith** (brother of Sherran Brown).

**Please keep our shut-ins in your prayers:**

**MaeBelle Perry, Lum Morrison, Elizabeth Till, James & Ann Christopher, Don & Phyllis Gill, and Jane Betts.**

**Privileged to Serve**

Greeters:	Tim & Patrice Kenney
Usher:	Peter Verrett
Building Lockup:	Noah Evans
Treasurer Assistants:	Sid Chupek and Hunter Harp

**Sunday Morning**

Lord’s Table (presiding):	Kent Purser
Leading Prayer:	James Day Danny Velazquez
Leading Singing:	Caleb Ratliff
Scripture Reading:	Andrew Ashley

**Wednesday Evening**

Leading Prayer:	Chad Chupek William Hill
Leading Singing:	Jesse Olive

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