

EASTERN SHORE CHURCH OF CHRIST

AUGUST 14, 2022



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!

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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Today's Sermon

God's Desire
1 Timothy 2: 3-4

³This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, ⁴who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

1 Timothy 2:3-4 ESV

**What's
Happening**

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:

Tuesday:

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

Friday:

Primetimer's Bible Study, 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Open for all ages. Please bring finger foods and drinks.

Saturday:

Ladies Monthly Bible Study, 8:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a breakfast item to share.

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Next Sunday:

Area Wide Youth at Creekwood church of Christ. The van will leave the church building at 4 PM if you need a ride. Please see Noah Evans for details.

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Couples Shower for Ryan Purser & Rebekah

Werling, 4-7 PM at the church building on Saturday, August 27th. They are registered at Amazon, Target, Bed Bath & Beyond. Link for their registry:
<https://www.zola.com/registry/werlingpurserwedding>

Birthdays & Anniversaries

08/14 Vivian Davis
Nelda Sanford
08/16 Ann Christopher
08/19 Cindy Hatcher
08/23 Ricky Hovater
Jeffery King
08/24 Jim Riley
08/30 Jesse Olive
08/31 Bob & Linda Ledford



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](#).

Mark Your CALENDAR

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|-------|--|
| 08/21 | Youth Area Wide at Creekwood church. |
| 08/23 | Men's Bible Study, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall |
| 08/27 | Couples Shower for Ryan Purser & Rebekah Werling. |
| 08/28 | Youth Devo at the Lings following evening Bible Classes. |
| 08/30 | Men's Bible Study, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall |
| 09/05 | Labor Day Holiday, office will be closed. |
| 09/06 | Men's Bible Study, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall |
| 09/11 | L2L Kickoff following our evening Bible Classes. Please bring finger foods and drinks. |
| 09/13 | Men's Bible Study, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall |
| 09/16 | Primetimer's Bible Study, 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring finger foods and drinks. |
| 09/17 | Ladies Monthly Bible Study, 8:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring a breakfast item.
Sills/Seasholtz Wedding in Georgia |
| 09/18 | Youth Area Wide at Summerdale church. |
| 09/20 | Men's Bible Study, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall |
| 09/24 | Area Wide Singing Service, 6 PM at ESCOC |
| 09/25 | Mark Your Calendar Meeting following our evening Bible Classes. |
| 09/27 | Men's Bible Study, 9-10 AM in the Fellowship Hall |

The Assembly

By: Bryant Evans

The Lord's apostles called the Christians to assemble every first day of the week (Acts 20:7; 1 Corinthians 16:2). From the first Pentecost after Jesus' resurrection until today, his people have joined together for worship on Sunday. Christians assembled even during the terrifying days of the Black Death in the middle ages, although the numbers suffered due to death, illness, and fear.

In 2019 churches shuttered because of an illness vastly inferior to the Black Death. Now, 2 and 1/2 years later, some still have not returned. The persistent pandemic practice is to remain at home and watch worship services via streaming apps. We began experimenting several months before anyone had heard of COVID. We did so for outreach but also to provide a means of worship for those who could not attend. I'm glad we did.

Those positive for COVID or with COVID in their homes should stay home. Likewise, fevers, flu-like symptoms, and many other illnesses should be treated in isolation. The stream is designed for you. Also, those who find themselves away from an assembly of believers might use the stream.

But I grow concerned when I hear of those who remain at home because they are more comfortable in their own house. Why bother with rising early, bathing, and dressing for worship services when your couch is so close and so much more inviting than a pew? Someone else may prefer the isolation of their living room because they are introverted and non-social. And, let's face it, some people are just lazy.

So then, how do our assembly habits look to Jesus? Would he be honored by our Persistent Pandemic Practice?

What is the Assembly?

The Assembly is a reunion of the saints.

Monday through Saturday can be a lonely time for devout Christians. We are alone in a culture where Jesus is a joke and Christians are constantly criticized. What a joy to be together with like-minded, Jesus-loving people!

Paul looked forward to his time with Christians. He wrote to the Christians in Rome, *"that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine"* (Romans 1:12). Each Christian I see encourages me. When we reunite, we also assemble around the Lord's table. I know we have the "portable chalices," but Communion (1 Corinthians 10:16) implies being together.

We need these smaller reunions at Eastern Shore to prepare for the big reunion on the Golden Shore!

The Assembly is a filling station for the saints.

Of course, the Assembly is far more than back-slapping, handshaking, and hugs. We assemble to renew our spiritual energies, to recharge our batteries. I need to be reminded of the hope that is in Jesus. I want to hear of heaven and its glories. I want my heart filled to overflowing with the love of Christ. I also need to be reminded of God's grace and mercies that keep me from condemnation.

You can hear these things over the internet. But we know that it is not the same, especially the singing. The New Testament never talks about choirs or performers in worship. We come together to worship, and we all sing together. Participating in the lyrical sacrifice of praise fills one with comfort, joy, and peace.

The Assembly is a training class for the saints.

In the secular world, training never stops. Accountants, doctors, lawyers, nurses, teachers, and others must constantly sharpen their skills and be reminded of the fundamentals of their work. Christians are no different.

Eight times inspired writers spoke of reminding Christians of their duty. These reminders often came as letters intended to be read aloud to the local church. Even though many Christians had a face-to-face relationship with the apostles, they needed repeated teaching and training. We can never get enough of the teaching that comes formally from the pulpit but also from the assembled members.

The Assembly is a hospital for the saints.

Isolation is not good. It may be needful, but it is never a good thing, especially for long periods. The world will often dink us and sometimes cut us deeply because of our faith. Bear Bryant once said that "principles have consequences." A principled Christian life is fraught with consequences. Beyond the spiritual assaults are the troubles of living in the world. Death, illness, finances, and myriad other problems beset the believer daily. God's people can restore and rebuild one another.

Telemedicine has become popular. But tell me, would you prefer to see your doctor in person or over the internet? Saints struggle often, and we need one another to restore our spiritual health. Jesus said the hungry and thirsty would be filled (Matthew 5:6), so come and be filled!

Please keep in your prayers:

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

Richard Davis has to have dialysis three times a week.

Jackie King received a good report that there is no evidence of cancer.

Wanda Bobinger received news that her cancer has spread to her back (cousin of Patti Van Iderstine).

Donna Ellison is recovering from surgery. The initial observation showed no cancer cells in the lymph nodes (mother of Amanda Olive).

Sandy Kelly will be having knee surgery on Monday.

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

Mike Sanford, Jamie Langham, Gus Stranch (great nephew of Patti Van Iderstine), **Jeff Stewart** (friend of Jerry Doughty), **Sarah Kennedy, Jim Bose and Betty Carter** (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), **Joe Smith** (brother of Sherran Brown), **Margaret Tucker** (Sister-In-Law of Linda Farris), **Donna Ellison** (mother of Amanda Olive), **Shea Hovater** (Sister-In-Law of Rickie & Sharon Hovater), **Will Scott** (friend of Dwight Isenhower).

Please keep our shut-ins in your prayers:

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

Privileged to Serve

Greeters:	Jesse & Amanda Olive
Usher:	TR Clevenger
Building Lockup:	Jesse Olive
Treasurer Assistants:	Jonathan Ling and Noah Evans

Sunday Morning

Lord's Table (presiding):	Jeffery King
Leading Prayer:	Kent Purser
	Chad Chupek
Leading Singing:	Jesse Olive
Scripture Reading:	Josh Ratliff

Wednesday Evening

Leading Prayer:	John Sibley
	Noah Evans
Leading Singing:	Todd Sanford

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