



EBC NEWS: ISSUE MAY 2010

Come worship with us every Sunday and for our MOTHER'S DAY SERVICE at 8:00am and 11:00am



*A woman that feareth the Lord, she shall be praised.*

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# EBC NEWS

## PASTOR'S COLUMN:

### Church Etiquette

(Frequently Asked Questions)

In times past most who attended worship services or any related church activities knew how to conduct themselves. Church members knew what to do if they were sick or had a death in the family. Most knew what to do if the church leaders and or congregation faced them with a burden that required intervention. Their parents or other elders in the church taught them. For one reason or another, we seem to have lost those codes of conduct that were once understood and practiced by all, even those who were not members. In this issue and future printings of our newsletters, I would like to help each of us to rediscover or perhaps discover for the first time those practices that honor God and serves the best interest of all.

First of all, it must be stated that not all practices are the same in every church. Church leaders throughout church history have begun new practices for different reasons more than likely because of some need of their day. Many have been handed down generation to generation with the original meaning being forgotten or lost. Nevertheless, we have continued to do things in accordance with scripture. It must also be pointed out that we are not under the OT Law and therefore are not required to keep the Jewish Law, however we would do well to observe the spirit of the Law and abide by its principles. Moreover, we should ask ourselves if our church is keeping the great commandment of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ to love one

another as he has loved us. If all would endeavor to practice this commandment, many would know in their hearts what is proper and what is not.

Before addressing specific practices... some general, historical, and biblical understanding regarding practices by God's people should be stated. The reason for having rules and a code of conduct (I am not aware of any publications on church etiquette that has been generally accepted by all) finds its basis in the OT Law where God spelled out specifically rules, regulations, and requirements for Israel both as a nation and as spiritual delegate of God. Many of the practices of worship services, relating to one another, and relating to leadership has been taken from the Old Testament and New Testament, including historical accounts of interaction with God's chosen leaders and instructions on dealing with fellow members of God's people and those who are His people. For example, **Psalm 100** is often cited as representing the attitude of the worshipper that we are to come to church and "make a joyful noise to the Lord... to enter into His gates with thanksgiving".

**Hebrews 13:7** speaks of those whom God has put in charge of His flocks, "Remember those who rule over you, who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follow, considering the outcome of their conduct." Clearly, the priority of the great commandment is emphasized in **1 Corinthians 13**, "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could

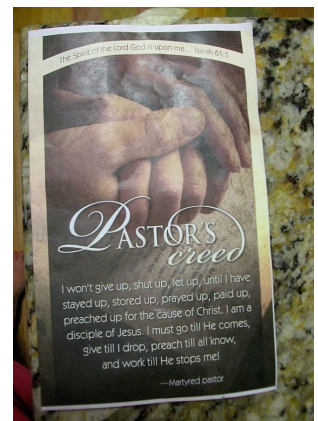
Byron J. Day



*remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing. "*

In future articles I will continue looking at church etiquette and frequently asked questions. Some questions to be addressed: What about food and drink in the worship service? When is the appropriate time to move during the service? What should I wear to worship service? If you have questions that you would like to have answered, send them to me by email: [bday-ebc@verizon.net](mailto:bday-ebc@verizon.net) and I will try to include them in future articles.

Byron J. Day  
 19 years of Pastoral Service  
 April 2010





## PASTOR DAY'S 19th PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY

EBC held its annual Pastoral Anniversary Celebration last month for Pastor Byron Day and Sis. Pamela Day for their 19 years of pastoral service. Pastor Day is also President of the Baptist Convention MD/DE, Secretary of the National African American Fellowship of Southern Baptist Convention, Counselor, Teacher, Spiritual Advisor, Husband, Grandfather and much more to many. The anniversary theme was ***"The Spirit of The Lord Is Upon Me"*** and taken from the scripture ***Isaiah 61:1. "The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me to preach good tidings to the poor; he has sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound."***

The guest pastor was Reverend Robert Anderson, Pastor of Colonial Baptist Church in Randallstown, Maryland. We thank you Pastor and Sis. Day for your years of faithful service!

### INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGE:

#### **HOLD ON TO YOUR DREAM!**

Have you thought God was trying to tell you something? Have you ever realized one day with a deep burning conviction about your dream or vision or calling? The Lord can use our dreams to show us wonderful things! The Lord has a perfect plan for your life and He will reveal it to you. He will give you the spiritual desire to bring that plan into fulfillment, but it must be followed up with daily dedication to continuing in the Word of God. The blood of the Lamb and the Word of God **together**, will ground and stabilize you as a Christian. When you become a born-again believer, something very special happens to you. People with spiritual birthrights are called by the Lord to fulfill His plan on earth. Your inner desire to bring a specific goal or plan from the Lord into fulfillment **is** your dream! Or calling! Your spiritual goal or dream, must go hand-in-hand with unwavering faith and with a diligence to work and cause it to come to pass. Don't allow yourself to be moved by every new bad circumstance that comes your way. You'll be a victim of those circumstances, however, if you commit yourself wholeheartedly to your Godly calling or your dream—the circumstances will be a victim of your faith. God wants to give you favor!

People who have dreams are people who have a reason to continue, regardless of conditions! Dreams and Callings are given to you to help people. Hold on to your dream! You start with a dream and let it grow inside your heart, taking you into an even greater dream. Dream a dream and let it lead you into greater visions. **PRAY, "Lord, I am available to be a dreamer of Your dreams. Give me the spiritual judgment so that I may be a help to others. Cause me to become an encouragement—one who can look beyond dreams and see You behind them!"**

Do you have a dream? Remember, that it was not born of the flesh, but of the Holy Spirit! Don't let the enemy steal what the Lord has given you. With God *nothing* would be *impossible*. Through faith, your God-given dreams become a reality. Don't be afraid to dream what others call impossible.

#### **HOLD ON TO YOUR DREAMS UNTIL THEY COME TRUE!**

**Dr. Dorothy Height (March 24, 1912 - April 20, 2010)** A key figure in the American Civil Rights Movement. *"I want to be remembered as someone who used herself and anything she could touch to work for justice and freedom.... I want to be remembered as one who tried."*

**Benjamin Hooks (January 31, 1925 - April 15, 2010)** A Baptist Minister, American Civil Rights Leader and Attorney... *"Black men who have succeeded have an obligation to serve as role models for young men entrapped by vicious cycle of poverty, despair and hopelessness."*

Dr. Dorothy Height and Benjamin Hooks were **TRUE** leaders that committed themselves to serving the Lord and others.

*..."A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way."....*

**Arise, Embrace God's Call**



2010

How ya doing??

EBC set-forth on a journey with it's members for 2010 to read the Bible together. We began on Jan. 1st and now we are five months into us growing in faith together. *Awesome! Sooo...* How ya doing? Hope well! If you have any questions or have that spiritual desire to talk about what you have read thus far, then please do not hesitate to contact the church and one of the ministers will be in touch with you, or come to Bible Studies on Wednesdays at 7pm. Missed a few days or weeks reading?.. No Problem! *Blessed is the one who reads the Word of God!*



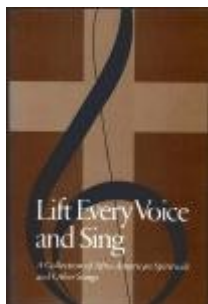
### CREATING A LEGACY OF FAITH, HOPE & LOVE

What kind of spiritual foundation are you laying for your children and grandchildren? How can you live on long after your earthly life is over? What will they remember or take from you as a spiritual heritage? Unsure? What your children will take from you is more about who you are and how you live on a day to day basis. Their concept on how we view God and how much we let Him into our daily lives. The only thing we take from this life into eternity is our relationship with Christ. It is never too early or too late to affect someone for eternity. Our purpose to is to serve and glorify God. Our service to God comes in the service to others. Our service to others has **eternal** consequences. It is our greatest legacy. The greatest legacy you can leave is in the lives you touch for God.

### MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

#### Music Ministry

LIFT EVERY VOICE and SING!  
LIFT EVERY VOICE and SING!



The Music ministry leads the church in singing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs which glorify, praise, magnify, and give thanks to God, and which encourages, edifies, and invokes the people of God to worship, serve and give thanks to Him. Ministering God's Word through music is a doorway to Praise, to bring each person to a close encounter with the living God and an important part of our spiritual process.

Looking to serve by ministering to the hearts and souls to others by sharing God's love through song or instrumentals? Contact Sis. Virginia Jackson at: [vafrompa411@yahoo.com](mailto:vafrompa411@yahoo.com) or come to Choir Rehearsals every Tuesday at the church at 7:30pm.

*"I Lift Up My Eyes To The Hills. Where Does My Help Come From? My Help Comes From The Lord, Maker Of Heaven And Earth." PSALMS 121:1-2*



### GOT NEWS??

We want to hear from you! **Deadline for our June newsletter submittals is Wednesday, May 19th.** Please email to either Sis. Nanette Stokes at [Instokes@verizon.net](mailto:Instokes@verizon.net) or Sis. Joyce Bargeman at [joyceqargeman@hotmail.com](mailto:joyceqargeman@hotmail.com) or Sis. Karen Shields at [kds921@hotmail.com](mailto:kds921@hotmail.com).

**HOORAY!! -**

**Sis. Andrea Wright** will receive her **Master's Degree in Computer Engineering with a focus in Computer Networks and Systems from the University of New Mexico this month. CONGRATULATIONS!!**

**GRADUATING** - Elementary, Middle, High School or College? EBC wants to hear from you. Email your information no later than May 19th.



**EBC MEMBER SPOTLIGHT:**

Sis. Evelyn Davis —

Has been a member of Emmanuel for 12 years and counting. She is a mother of five children and has three grandchildren. She retired from the federal government in 2005 doing Human Resources with 35 years of service. Evelyn knows a thing or two or three on serving. She currently belongs and serves on the Anniversary, Usher, Missions and Building Ministries at EBC. Evelyn enjoys **TRAVELING**, going to flea markets, **TRAVELING**, reading, **TRAVELING**, spending time with family and friends and **TRAVELING**. (*Whew!..what's next on your traveling agenda?..smile*)

Sis. Davis currently works at EBC as Secretary and Office Manager. She bridges the lines of communication between it's members, the community and the Church. EBC salutes Evelyn Davis for all her work, commitment and always open to help in any way she can, THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO!!!!



**CAREER CORNER:**

**HOT RESUME RULES -**

If you are looking for a new gig, then it's probably time for a résumé tune-up. First, ditch those empty and overused catchphrases. CareerBuilder conducted a study on the following words and says that hiring managers are **not** impressed with the following:

- People Person, - Go getter, - Team Player, - Hardworking
- Multitasker, - Self-starter, - Results or Goal-oriented

Rather than use these vague descriptions, insert more substantial information into your résumé. For example, if you are results-oriented, don't say it—**show it!** For example, state: "Increased profits by 15 percent." That's an actual result!

For additional employment resources go to Maryland's One-Stop Career Centers located in all counties. Website: [www.dlir.state.md.us/county](http://www.dlir.state.md.us/county).



**UP COMING EVENTS:**

**EBC's Mother's Day Service.**

Please join us in worship for our Mother's Day Service. Worship services are at 8am and 11am.

**EBC Ladies Retreat**

**SAVE THE DATE—July 24th, 2010** for the 1 DAY RETREAT CONFERENCE. Please sign-up and see the information flyer in the foyer for more details.

**Emmanuel Baptist Church Annual Community Day** will

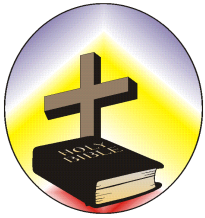
be held June 12, 2010, from 10am—4pm. This event includes: *prayer, food, games, church information, clothing giveaway, fun and more.* EBC welcomes everyone in the community and we look forward to seeing you there!

**All Are Welcome!**

**Sharing the gospel!** Join the EBC Evangelism Team on Saturday, May 8th, from 10-4 at the **Laurel Main Street Festival.**

**The Finance Ministry** will be hosting two financial workshops in June focusing on retirement/investment planning and money management for teens and young adults. For more information email: [ebc-finance@verizon.net](mailto:ebc-finance@verizon.net).





**EMMANUEL BAPTIST CHURCH of LAUREL, MARYLAND**  
**\* A BIBLE PREACHING, BIBLE TEACHING, BIBLE BELIEVING CHURCH \***

## Emmanuel Baptist Church

11443 Laurel-Bowie Road  
Laurel, Maryland 20708

### CONTACT INFO:

PHONE: 301-490-5149

E-mail: [ebc-laurel@verizon.net](mailto:ebc-laurel@verizon.net)

### OFFICE HOURS:

Tuesday - Thursday, from 10:00am - 4:00pm

Website: [www.emmanuelbaptist-laurel.org](http://www.emmanuelbaptist-laurel.org)

### CHURCH SERVICES:

Wednesdays: Bible Study at 7:00pm

Sundays: 8:00am and 11:00am

## OUR MISSION

The Mission of Emmanuel Baptist Church is to corporately and publicly worship, praise, glorify and give thanks to the Trinity God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit; to minister the Word of God to believers; to promote fellowship among the body of Christ; to promote evangelism at home and abroad, and to reach out to minister to the needs of the local community and the world.



## A MOTHER'S DAY TRIBUTE: My Walk with Christ

By: Sis. Mary Elder with Joyce Bargeman

**Sis. Mary Elder** has been a member of Emmanuel Baptist Church (EBC) since 2004. Her surname is very fitting for someone of her stature in the church—one of EBC's elder members who is very much loved and respected by all. Sis. Elder's own mother died when she was four years old, and the native Tennessean was raised by a foster mother. This mother of three, grandmother of nine, and great grandmother of 13 shares how her walk with Christ has helped her provide guidance to her family. Sis. Elder relates:

*"I haven't always been saved. I've made mistakes like others who have gone through life without the guidance of the Holy Spirit. My nearly 40 years of following Christ began in the 1970's. I knew that there was another part of life that was more important than what I was living. I would go to church but that was it."*

Each Sunday night Sis. Elder began listening to a radio program that featured a local minister's sermons. The subject of several sermons was the householder who planted a vineyard, lent it out to husbandmen, and sent his servants to receive the fruit during harvest. The servants were beaten, killed and stoned (Matthew 21:33-46). The householder thought that if he sent his son to collect his portion, the husbandmen would reverence the son. They subsequently killed him also.

*"One Sunday night I got ready for bed, tuned the radio to the station, and turned out the lights. The minister was preaching the same sermon. I asked myself 'what does he mean?' The Spirit let me know that God was speaking, and He had sent his Son Jesus, who was killed on the cross through no fault of his own. At that point I knew there was something missing in my life. That sermon was my starting point. That was my first inkling about Jesus—why He came into the world, Who sent Him, and what His purpose was. From that point on, my life changed."*

Sis. Elder says God has given her a sense of peace that instills patience and makes her more grateful to God for how He has kept her and her family. *"He teaches us not to judge others and never to compare ourselves to others, but to be thankful for whom we are."* She continues to impart these lessons on her family.

*"God has brought me through during times of illness, loss of loved ones, and challenges my family has faced. They watch me to see how I react to things, and when you really have the Spirit within you, guiding your family through life's trials and tribulations becomes easier."*

Sis. Elder's regular devotional activities include daily Bible readings and prayer three or four times per day. *"It only takes a few words, and God knows what is needed before it is asked."* Sis. Elder recalls saying nightly prayers with one of her great granddaughters and ending the prayers with the statement, **"Well Lord, it's been a mighty good day and I thank You."** The child asked why she always ended her prayers that way and Sis. Elder answered, **"with so many things going on in the world, I'm thankful that we aren't on the evening news, that we have place to live, and that we have each other's love."**