

# MESSENGER


## *Why do a newsletter?*

In today's rapidly evolving world, where information is readily available at our fingertips, the power of community and connection remains as vital as ever. For churches within a conference, a well-crafted newsletter can serve as a powerful tool to foster unity, inspire faith, and keep members informed about upcoming events and spiritual resources.

The Messenger provides a platform for churches to share their stories, celebrate milestones, and highlight the unique contributions of each congregation. By showcasing the diverse ministries and activities within the conference, it can help members develop a deeper appreciation for the broader church community. This shared sense of belonging can strengthen bonds between individuals and churches, fostering a collaborative spirit and encouraging cross-church initiatives.

The Messenger can be a valuable resource for spiritual nourishment. By featuring inspirational messages, devotions, and testimonies from various individuals, it can help members deepen their faith and connect with God on a personal level. Sharing stories of answered prayers, miraculous healings, and acts of compassion can uplift readers and inspire them to live lives of faith and service.

A well-organized newsletter can keep members informed about upcoming events, such as worship services, conferences, retreats, and community outreach programs. By providing timely updates and reminders, newsletters can help to increase attendance and participation in these events. Additionally, newsletters can highlight volunteer opportunities, mission trips, and other ways for members to get involved in the life of the church and the broader conference community on a state and general level.



*To Keep Members Informed and Engaged  
To Build a Stronger Conference Community  
To Promote Church Unity and Collaboration  
To Inspire Faith and Encourage Spiritual Growth*

*Please contribute to your Emmanuel newsletter!  
Next deadline Feb 1.*

**Abe Branch Celebrates 44 Years with Worship and Revival**

This year marked a significant milestone for Abe Branch as the congregation came together to celebrate its 44th Homecoming. True to its mission and values, the church commemorated this occasion in the best way possible—through heartfelt worship and praise to the Lord.

The Homecoming celebration was not just a look back at four decades of faith and fellowship; it was a time to refocus on the journey ahead. The week that followed was dedicated to spiritual renewal, featuring a powerful revival led by Bro. L.W. Peters. His sermons resonated deeply with those in attendance, challenging the congregation to reflect on their personal walks with God.



Bro. Peters delivered messages that sparked self-searching and called for a recommitment to prioritizing faith in everyday life. Through his words, members were encouraged to examine their spiritual disciplines and ensure their relationship with God remained strong and vibrant.

The revival served as a reminder that Homecoming isn't just about celebrating the past—it's about reigniting the fire to move forward in God's purpose. The congregation left inspired, ready to take on the challenges of their faith journey with renewed strength and determination.



As Abe Branch enters its 45th year, the church community continues to stand as a testament to what God can accomplish through a dedicated and united body of believers. With worship at its core and a commitment to growing in faith, the legacy of Abe Branch remains bright and full of promise.

**Abe Branch Doubles Impact for Children in India**

Last year, Abe Branch made a significant mark by completing 100 boxes for Samaritan's Purse. But this year, the vision expanded, and the results are nothing short of inspiring. After prayerful consideration, the decision was made to aim even higher—this time, doubling the effort to bless children at Jesse's Mission Emmanuel Church in India.

With a goal of assembling 200 gift bags for the Emmanuel mission, the church community rallied together. Beginning in January, members tirelessly gathered supplies, pooling resources to make the vision a reality. The efforts culminated in a powerful partnership between **Rubies and Grace** and **Men Being Men**, whose collaboration brought love and hope into every bag they packed.

The bags are more than just gifts—they're an extension of God's love. Each one is filled with essential items and small treasures carefully selected to bring joy to children who have so little. Yet, beyond meeting physical needs, these gifts serve a greater purpose: to open hearts to the message of Jesus Christ.

"Every effort, every penny spent, is worth it if these gifts can make a difference in the lives of these children," shared a team member involved in the mission. "It's about showing them they are loved and valued, and ultimately leading them to the greatest gift of all—Jesus."

The story of Abe Branch and this year's gift bags is a testament to what happens when a community answers God's call to give. It's proof that with faith, determination, and unity, a small idea can grow into something that impacts lives across the world.

As these 200 gift bags make their way to India, they carry not only tangible items but also the prayers and love of those who assembled them. May they be a beacon of hope and a reminder of the incredible power of generosity and faith.





## Abe Branch's Little Arrows Shine at Old Main Lighting Ceremony



Bethany and Ava, whose verses brought a personal and powerful touch to the performance.

As their song drew to a close, Bethany stepped forward to share a poignant reminder of the true meaning of Christmas, reciting Luke 2:12-14:

*"And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men."*

The Little Arrows' performance was more than just music; it was a testament to the spirit of the season and a reflection of the joy and hope Christmas brings. Their voices, paired with the profound words of Scripture, left an indelible mark on all in attendance, reminding everyone of the true light of Christmas—the birth of our Savior.

The Old Main Lighting Ceremony continues to be a treasured tradition, and this year, Abe Branch's Little Arrows helped make it especially memorable with their heartfelt contribution to the celebration.

## Thanksgiving Feasts

On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, our church experienced a beautiful display of community and generosity. Thanks to the heartfelt efforts of Sis. Sandra and the God Did It Food Ministry, we were able to distribute boxes filled with Thanksgiving food items to every family in attendance.

The event was a true embodiment of gratitude and service, as members of the congregation came together to ensure everyone could enjoy a traditional Thanksgiving meal. Each box was thoughtfully packed with essentials for the holiday, including pantry staples and festive treats, making the celebration accessible to all.

"This ministry is a reflection of God's love in action," shared Sis. Sandra, whose dedication to serving others has inspired countless individuals within the church and beyond. "We are so grateful for the opportunity to give back and make a difference."

On December 3rd, Abe Branch's Little Arrows had the honor of performing at the annual Old Main Lighting Ceremony at the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. This cherished event, organized by the Chancellor's Office, draws the community together each year to unveil the dazzling Christmas decorations and lights adorning Old Main, the university's historic first brick building, constructed in 1923 as the Croatan Indian Normal School of Robeson County.

The evening was filled with festive joy as school officials delivered inspiring messages, and the UNCP Singers set the mood with a medley of Christmas tunes. The excitement reached a crescendo with the dramatic introduction of the Grinch, followed by the flipping of the "Old Main switch," illuminating the building in a spectacular display of lights. But the true highlight of the night came when the Little Arrows were invited to close out the event. Despite a few members being absent due to illness, the group delivered a heartfelt performance of **"Go Tell It on the Mountain,"** captivating the audience with their youthful enthusiasm and talent. The crowd erupted in cheers, especially during standout solos by



"Not what we say about our blessings, but how we use them, is the true measure of our thanksgiving."

- W.T. Purkiser



Greetings from AEHC!

We are so excited to see so much progress being done on our new church building. Every step of this project we can boldly proclaim - God did it!



In October we held a yard sale and the Lord blessed mightily.



Also in October, we closed out a wonderful revival with Bro. Larry Peters. We thank

God for the great services we had that week and the greater plans God has for AEHC. A shift is coming and we already are feeling it!



The Spirit of God met us in a special way as we celebrated our 54th Homecoming. We were honored to have Bro. Randy Coffey come and preach for us and challenge us with the words Jesus said to Peter, "Feed My Sheep". It is surreal to think that Homecoming 55 we will be in our new building.



On November 10th we had a wonderful day of honoring our pastor, Bro. Tim Phillips. Words cannot describe how much we love him and thank God for him. To God be the Glory for all He is doing at Alexandria.

Thanks to Bro. Rex and Sis. Angel Mashburn for being with us and making Bro. Tim's day so special.



Also on Nov 10th, we proudly honored our veterans for their selfless service and unwavering dedication to protecting our freedom. God bless our veterans!



The Sunday after Thanksgiving brought the Bufford Family back to AEHC. Bro Justin passionately preached, "No Place Like Home for the Holidays", and Sis Kelli blessed us with her testimony and singing. We are looking forward to having them come back.



2024 was a year of building - in the natural and spiritual! God is moving mightily in our midst, and we look forward to 2025 which Bro. Tim has declared to be the year of revival.





Greetings to the ladies of the Emmanuel Holiness Conference! It's hard to believe we are at the end of another year. As I think back over the

months that have passed, I am grateful for the times we've shared together in worship and in fellowship. Our first annual "Beauty for Ashes" Ladies Conference was a great success! Also, my heart continues to be stirred by the theme of our General Assembly, "Ascend, The Time Is Now." Truly the time is now to purpose in our hearts to give God our all. It's time to go to higher heights and deeper depths in God. As we grow in love and unity, God will work in and through us in ways we have never experienced. Let's put this principle at work and watch God move:

**"I'LL LIFT YOU AND YOU LIFT ME, AND WE'LL BOTH ASCEND TOGETHER!"**

How do we do this?

I believe the Bible shows us the way:

1. Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ (Galatians 6:2).
2. Engage in prayer, lifting each other before the throne of grace, knowing that "The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much." (James 5:16)
3. Encourage one another with the promises of God, fostering hope and perseverance.

Through the Ladies Auxiliary we have created platforms that provide opportunities to encourage and hold up one another in prayer, build up one another's faith, as well as create new friendships and strengthen those friendships already established.

### **\*THE MESSENGER**

The church newsletter is a communication tool that keeps everyone abreast of what's going on in our churches across the states, provides updates of the work on the mission field, information about upcoming events, etc.

### **\*EHC LADIES AUXILIARY FB PAGE**

This page was created for our Emmanuel Holiness Ladies to post testimonies, words of encouragement, prayer request, etc.

### **\*PRAYER SISTERS**

Another great way to grow in love and unity! There is power in prayer! Knowing that someone is daily holding you up in prayer helps strengthen faith and relationships.

### **\*BEAUTY FOR ASHES**

#### **ANNUAL LADIES CONFERENCES**

An annual planned event where our ladies come together to grow in worship, fellowship, learning and fun!

### **\*EHC LADIES AUXILIARY**

#### **BIRTHDAY CALENDAR (New for 2025)**

These calendars are designed to promote unity and strengthen one another as ladies pray for each other on their respective birthdays. In addition to praying, each person will receive a birthday card by ladies all across the states! Let's UPLIFT each other on our special day!

### **\*ZOOM MONTHLY BIBLE STUDIES**

#### **(New for 2025)**

It's important to be women of the Word. This is just another platform to promote spiritual growth by sharing insights into God's Word.

**Will you join me in prayer for our leaders, our churches and one another? I know that God has great things in store up ahead. Let's purpose in our hearts to be participators instead of spectators!!**

**WHAT KIND OF CHURCH WOULD MY CHURCH BE, IF EVERY MEMBER WAS JUST LIKE ME?**

*Carrie Hilton*

Ladies Auxiliary President





Have you ever seen a tiny acorn? It's hard to believe that such a small thing could grow into a big, strong oak tree. But with time and the right conditions, that's exactly what happens!



Just like an acorn, we as Christians are growing and changing all the time. We start out small, but with God's help, we can grow into strong and mighty followers of Jesus.

Think about it: When you were a baby, you couldn't walk or talk. But with time and practice, you learned how to do those things. It's the same with our spiritual growth. We start out learning simple things about God, like praying and reading the Bible. But as we grow older, we can learn more and more about Him.

Even in the Bible, we see examples of young people who were used by God in mighty ways. David, a young shepherd boy, became a king. Daniel, a young man, was wise enough to interpret dreams and save a whole nation. Jeremiah, a young prophet, spoke God's words boldly. And Samuel, a young boy, heard God's voice and became a great leader.

Just like a tree needs water and sunlight to grow, we need God's Word and His Spirit to help us grow spiritually. When we read the Bible, we're learning more about God and His ways. And when we pray, we're talking to God and letting Him know our thoughts and feelings.

Remember, Christians never stop growing! Whether it's learning more about the Bible, strengthening our faith, discovering the power of prayer, or simply spending quiet times with God, spiritual growth takes time and effort. But it's worth it! Just like the mighty oak tree, we can become strong and faithful followers of Jesus.

So let's keep growing, little by little, day by day. With God's help, we can become all that He wants us to be. Tiny acorn to mighty oak!



## Missions

I would like to thank God for another opportunity to be the World Mission Director for the EHC. Thank each and everyone who has supported us along the way. I thank you for everything in every way that you have helped. God has truly blessed the mission field this year. We are excited to see how God will move next year!

We have a praise report from Jessie's Mission this past week. They had an open air meeting in which 500 people were saved! I want to thank everyone that has been helping out with the shoe boxes that are being sent to India to the children for Christmas. We will be buying meals for the children during Christmas in India as well as Kenya. The children will truly enjoy this!

We are planning several trips in the following year and seeing more churches built. Pray that God will move mighty and souls will be saved for the Kingdom of God. Thank you for your prayers and contributions. **If God directs you to assist with the Christmas boxes and meals, please mail any proceeds to:**

**PO Box 203  
Tabor City, NC 28463.**

Thank you sincerely,  
Bishop John Causey; World Mission Director

### **Look For God by Max Lucado**

With the passing of years, Henry's life had changed. His children were grown. The neighborhood was different. He was unhappy. He asked his minister if he was unhappy for some sin he'd committed. "Yes," the wise pastor replied. "The sin of ignorance. One of your neighbors is the Messiah in disguise, and you have not seen him." With time, Henry saw things in people he'd never seen. When others spoke he listened. After all, he might be listening to the Messiah. The bounce returned to his step. His eyes took on a friendly sparkle. He said, "All I know is that things changed when I started looking for God."

Now, that's curious. The old man saw Jesus because he didn't know what he looked like. The people in Jesus' day missed him because they thought they did. How are things looking in your neighborhood?





The 2024 General Assembly was a resounding success, marking a significant moment of growth, unity, and inspiration for our churches and community. With hearts full of gratitude, we reflect on the immense support that made this gathering possible.

While it is impossible to name every individual who played a vital role in bringing this event to fruition, we extend our deepest thanks to all who contributed. Members from various churches came together in the spirit of service, each offering their unique gifts and efforts to create an unforgettable experience for everyone involved.

One of the most encouraging aspects of this year's assembly was the presence of new faces among us. Seeing fresh enthusiasm and hearing new voices was a testament to how God continues to move within our conference, drawing more people to His purpose. It fills us with hope and excitement for what lies ahead as we rise to fulfill the calling He has placed on us.

As we look toward the future, we anticipate even greater things. We hope to see an even larger gathering of believers at our next conference and the upcoming camp meetings. Let us carry the spirit of this assembly forward, ascending further in the Lord and embracing the opportunities He provides to grow in faith and purpose.

To everyone who participated, prayed, or supported this event in any way—thank you.

Together, we are rising to God's call and stepping into a future filled with His promise and glory.

## Highlights from 2024 General Assembly

A Triumph in Fellowship





***When God stands at a person's right hand,  
 that person is guaranteed to stand strong.  
 So come, enemies of the truth! Rush at me  
 like a storm if you want. God holds me up.  
 God stays with me. Who should I fear?"***  
 ~Charles Spurgeon

Greetings to All in the Name of Jesus,  
 Christmas is upon us, and what a joy it is to  
 celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus, the  
 Messiah. This season is a precious time to  
 reflect on God's immeasurable love,  
 demonstrated so beautifully through the gift of  
 His Son. My prayer is that each of you  
 experiences the true joy of the season that  
 Christ brings—a joy that transforms our hearts  
 and carries us into the new year with hope and  
 purpose.

Twenty-twenty-four has indeed been an  
 eventful year, filled with evidence of God's  
 hand at work in the Emmanuel Holiness  
 Church, Inc. The Lord has opened doors and  
 made ways that we could not have imagined.  
 Together, we have accomplished much to  
 advance the mission and vision of this great  
 organization. I give thanks for every member,  
 minister, and leader who has played a part in  
 this journey of faith and service.

I want to express my deep gratitude for your  
 continued trust in my leadership as overseer  
 for the next four years. The challenges before  
 us are many, but I am continually reminded of  
 God's faithfulness to guide and strengthen us  
 through each one. As the Apostle Paul wrote,  
 "He who began a good work in you will carry it  
 on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus"  
 (Philippians 1:6).

Looking ahead to 2025, we are filled with  
 expectancy for what the Lord will do. Several  
 significant events and initiatives have been  
 planned to build upon the momentum we have  
 gained. These opportunities for worship,  
 fellowship, and growth will strengthen us as a  
 community and deepen our commitment to the  
 Kingdom. I encourage each of you to  
 participate fully, as we continue to walk  
 together in faith.

As I come to a close, I want to extend heartfelt  
 wishes from my family to yours for a Christ-  
 filled Christmas and a prosperous New Year.  
 May the light of His love shine brightly in your  
 hearts and homes this season, and may His  
 peace guide you throughout the coming year.

In His Service,

*David Clewis.*

General Overseer  
 Emmanuel Holiness Church, Inc.

Some of you know that one of my favorite songs to sing is  
 "I'm Not Afraid to Trust Him " by the Whisnants because it  
 goes perfectly with my favorite verse,  
 Isaiah 41:10:

**Fear thou not;  
 for I **A**m with thee:  
 be not d**I**smayed; for I am thy God:  
 I will s**T**rengthen thee;  
 yea, I will **H**elp thee;  
 yea, I will uphold thee with  
 the right hand of My righteousness.**

Praise God! This verse has helped me through so many dark  
 times and hard trials over the last year. I am so thankful He  
 upholds me with His right hand. He sustains me through  
 everything I go through. I can't do it on my own, but through  
 His righteousness the impossible becomes possible.  
 Whenever I may waver, He is steadfast and true.

There's no need to worry or fear because He's got me, always.  
 He holds my hand! It's not the other way around. If it were,  
 I'm weak and might let go, but praise God He upholds me! I  
 don't know about tomorrow but I know He holds my hand!

I know. Without a shadow of a doubt, I know. I am  
 persuaded because I know. I know His right hand is holding  
 mine. I know where my strength comes from.

Do you trust Him? You can. He never leaves us or forsakes  
 us. When we can't stand on our own, it is Him that holds us  
 up. He upholds us with the right hand of His righteousness. I  
 am so glad He gives us what we need. He equips us for the  
 journeys that we take in life. His mercy never fails us. Over  
 and over, God comes through for me. Every hard week I have  
 ever faced, He has been the reason I have made it through.  
 It is because of His unending grace!



**Are you enjoying the Messenger?**  
We would love to publish your church news and events!  
Don't wait on your pastor to send it in, help them out!

Please send us photos, church articles, & testimonies via [rebecca@alexandriaehc.com](mailto:rebecca@alexandriaehc.com).

- Please submit photos in jpg or png format; don't embed photos (i.e. copy into a Word document).
- Please submit photo captions or articles in a Word doc, Google doc, or in the body of an email.
- Submissions are published as they are received and as we have room.
- You should receive a confirmation that we received your submission.
- The editor reserves the right to edit or omit any submissions.
- The Messenger will be published quarterly.
- Deadlines will be as follows: February 1, May 1, August 1, & November 1.
- Due to printing costs, the Messenger is now digital. It can be viewed at [alexandriaehc.com/messenger](http://alexandriaehc.com/messenger).

Thank you for your support and contributions.



**Alive Pentecostal YOUTH Conference**

**SAVE THE DATE**  
JANUARY 9-10, 2025

**MIKE SWITZER**  
Evening Speaker

**TIMOTHY BAGGETT**  
Standards & Convictions

**VANCE TOUCHTON**  
Witnessing & Winning

**TO BE DETERMINED**  
Day Speaker

**EMMANUEL HOLINESS HEADQUARTERS**  
13057 HWY 211 W  
BLADENBORO, NC 28320

**Registration:**  
252-312-8968

**IRVIN & DAWN AMBROSE**

**DICKIE & CHARLOTTE WEBB**  
Worship Music

Jan 24 @ 7 PM  
Fellowship Meeting  
w/ Bro. Cody Kennedy  
Jacksonville EHC  
Jacksonville, AL

Feb 8 @ 10 AM  
Conference  
Alabama Campgrounds  
Lafayette, AL

Feb 12 - 14  
Winter Campmeeting  
Friendship Holiness  
Anderson, SC

March 28th @ 7 PM  
Fellowship Meeting  
w/ Bro. Lonnie Self  
Refuge Holiness  
Anniston, AL

April 11 @ 7 PM  
April 12 @ 10:30 AM  
A Fresh Anointing  
Ladies Fellowship w/  
Sis Linda Baughtman  
Alexandria EHC  
Alexandria, AL

April 13 @ 11 AM & 5:30 PM  
Guest: Sis Linda Baughtman  
Alexandria EHC  
Alexandria, AL

April 25 @ 7 PM  
Fellowship Meeting  
w/ Bro. Chris Wilkerson  
Eastside EHC  
Opelika, AL

May 30 @ 7 PM  
Fellowship Meeting  
w/ Bro. Travis Stephens  
Alexandria EHC  
Alexandria, AL

June 4-6  
Ladies Conference  
EHC Headquarters  
Bladenboro, NC

July 21-25  
Alabama Youth Camp  
Bible Methodist Campgrounds  
Pell City, AL

July 28-August 1  
Campmeeting  
EHC Headquarters  
Bladenboro, NC

August 22/23  
Mens/Ladies Conference  
Friendship Holiness  
Anderson, SC

*Mark  
YOUR  
Calendar*

