



Elm Grove Baptist Church
8180 Barksdale Boulevard
Bossier City, LA 71112

Address Service Requested

White Steeple Banner

Elm Grove Baptist Church

January 2026, Volume 27, #1

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Kurt Zortman, Pastor
Charles Anderson, Music/Ed Minister
Katie Dyer, Youth Minister
Halle Sarvis, Children Minister



Pastor's Pen

January is a time of year where many are looking for areas for self-improvement in the New Year. In Colossians 3:10-17, the Apostle Paul gives us some practical instructions for where we can focus our resolve in 2025: to put on the new person. With this resolve comes three things for our consideration.

First, putting on the new person means we have a new image. Our image is what others see when they look at or think about us. Every Christian has two different images of themselves they can present to the world: the old person and the new person. The old person is the way we were before Christ, and the new person reflects the very image of Jesus. When we “put on” the new person, that means we look like Jesus in the world. This new person stands in sharp contrast to the world in almost every way. Our new image in Christ, if put on, means we will absolutely stand out as different in the world.

Second, putting on the new person means we have a new walk. There are some practical ways that we can show our new image as the new person through the way we walk in the world. The new person demonstrates a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, patience, bearing with others, forgiving others, and loving others. Every single one of these things you can find as the defining characteristics of how Christ walked in the world. Our new walk fundamentally means we have to stop doing the old things we once did and replace them with the new.

Finally, putting on the new person means we have a new outlook. Paul tells us that how we view the world around us and our circumstances will show us whether we have put on the new person or if we are still holding an outlook of the old person. The defining outlook of the new person is one that gives thanks and

gratitude to God in all things. Because the new person understands what Christ has done, is doing, and will do for each one of us who trust in Him every day.

Paul has called us to open up our spiritual closets and to take an inventory. There might be things hanging in this closet that we haven’t worn all year, but are part of the “new person”, and we need to dust them off and put them on. Likewise, the very favorite thing that we have been wearing in our lives all year, might just be part of the “old person”, and that thing needs to be hung up in our closet never to be worn again. Let us resolve to put the new person on and wear that in our New Year. Happy New Year!

Blessings,

Pastor Kurt

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Sherry Hudson	3rd
Kurt Zortman	5th
Suzanne Zortman	7th
Kevin Lott	13th
Karen Lee	16th
Beverly Lee	20th
Lisa Zeller	26th
Ruby Barnes	29th
Betty Durland	30th



CHARLIE'S CHATS

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who participated in the Praise Choir in 2024. Your commitment and support are such a blessing to me.

I would also like to thank Karen, Savannah, Judy, Pam, Josiah and Devon for their faithfulness in playing the instruments, working the computer and running the sound each week. We couldn't do it without you!!

We hope you were blessed by the Christmas Eve Service.

Thanks to all of you who attended.

JESUS IS RIGHT FOR WHATEVER IS WRONG IN YOUR LIFE!



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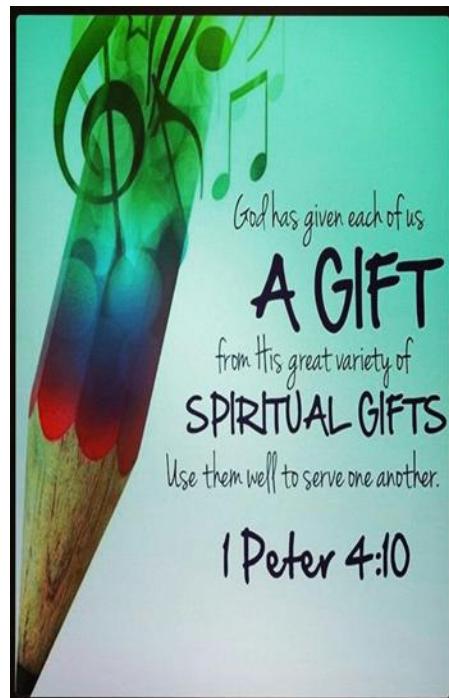
CHECK OUT OUR QR CODE!

SENIOR ADULTS MINISTRY FELLOWSHIP

**Saturday, January 10
from 12 to 2 p.m.**

10TH ANNUAL CHILI COOK OFF

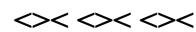
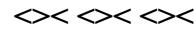
**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25
AFTER WORSHIP
MAY THE BEST CHILI WIN!**



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Make the Connection

at 9:30 a.m.



Wednesday Night Worship 6:30 p.m.

Adult Bible Study & Praise Choir Practice

Church Council
January 7th at 5:45 p.m.

Quarterly Business Meeting
January 11th
after Morning Worship

**May GOD BLESS YOUR
EVERY ADVENTURE
IN THE COMING YEAR!**

JEREMIAH 29:11

