

**West End Baptist Church**  
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**Church Staff**

**Pastor**  
Dr. Mark Hughes

**Music Director**  
Kay Ingram

**Organist**  
Brett Neville

**Church Secretary**  
Kelly Amos

**Church Office Hours**  
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
(Monday – Friday)

**April Torch Deadline:**  
**March 19**



# The Torch

West End Baptist Church

Volume 62, Issue 03



## Sharing Abundant Life



Our national missions partner is the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship. Each year we commit a portion of our budget to the Offering for Global Missions, or OGM. We also offer opportunities each Christmas and Easter season for an additional special offering. 100% of these gifts will send CBF field personnel to share the Good News of Jesus Christ around the world. Jesus said in John 10: 10, “I have come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.” You can be a part of helping others live more abundantly this year.

Togo, West Africa is one of the poorest countries in the world, and life is hard for many of our brothers and sisters. In smaller communities, children have limited access to healthcare, education, and even food and water. Field personnel Lynn and Michael Hutchinson lead Togo House which provides opportunities to pray and study the Bible, as well as practical ministries like providing summer camps, programming and life skills for kids and helping adults learn new skills to increase their income and grow more food. Lynn writes, “In West Africa there are so many needs,

people begin to believe they have nothing... Togo House ministries focus on what we DO have and how to make the most of that. This sense of abundance in Christ is what we want people to know.”

In Fort Worth, Texas, the biggest dream for refugees living in the U.S. is simply to go home. But they can’t go home due to danger and persecution. Some refugees are highly educated but may no longer be able to work in their field. Many refugee women have never had the opportunity for an education in their home countries. Language is a barrier, and after resettlement support is gone, refugees are on their own. Gifts to the OGM helps prepare refugee children for school in the U.S. and offers English classes for mothers through Karen Tomorrow’s Ready for School program. Tomorrow also operates a year-round library program for refugee children, and a summer program where children read, hear stories, attend VBS and participate in sports and other activities.

Your gifts to the Offering for Global Missions is more than money in an envelope; it literally is life, and life more abundant for people like Assou and Sevi, brothers in Togo who are looking with hope at their future. It is life, and life more abundant to Nabeha who worked with the U.S. Army in Iraq, which put her and her husband and daughter in danger, so they fled to

# Birthdays

## March

- 01– Claire Baxter
- 02– Paige Williams
- 06– Donald Kennedy
- 07– Keith Drinkwater
- 08– Barbara Ferguson
- 11– Jace Wall
- 12– Chip Carrier
- 15– Amos Wallace
- 21– Judy Miller
- 31– Margaret Eggleston

## April

- 04– Pastor Mark Hughes
- 05– Kris Frazier
- 08– Kay Smith
- 12– Kimberly Gibbons  
Olivia Allen
- 18– Daire Wall
- 19– Elaine Esposito
- 22– Roselyn Henshaw
- 23– Elizabeth Taylor  
Daniel Hughes
- 25– Mike Esposito
- 26– Pattie Orange



**March**

**Nursery/Toddler**

- 01- M.J. Gibbons & Volunteer
- 08- M.J. Gibbons & Volunteer
- 15- M.J. Gibbons & Volunteer
- 22- M.J. Gibbons & Volunteer
- 29- M.J. Gibbons & Volunteer

**March**

**Children’s Church**

- 01– Doretha Moody
- 08– Doretha Moody
- 15– Melba Felty
- 22– Mike Wicks
- 29– Kelly Hughes

**Ushers & Greeters**



- 01– Kay & Frank Smith
- 08– Claire Baxter & Ellie Lester
- 15– Martha Newton & Donald Schmidt
- 22– Charlotte Elder & Melba Felty
- 29– Verlina Dean & Pam Covil

**Deacons of the Week**

**March**

- 01– Brett Neville & Mike Wicks
- 08– Ava Brendle & Gladys Kennedy
- 15– Joey Haire & Mike Wicks
- 22– Mike Barr & Pam Covil
- 29– Jerry Mize & Ken Wright

**March Bus Drivers**

- 01- Chip Carrier
- 08– Charles Franck
- 15– Mike Barr
- 22– Sieg Felty
- 29– Mike Wicks

**Wednesday Night Supper**

**Cooking Teams:**

- 04– Burnett/Wicks
- 11– Mize
- 18– Wright/Baxter
- 25– Pate

America desiring to live in peace and safety.

Consider what your special offering might be this year to the Spring OGM. Use the special missions offering envelope in your box of giving envelopes and mark it and your donation “CBF-OGM” between now and Easter. Your gift to the Offering for Global Missions will help countless individuals and families live life more abundantly!

Blessings,  
Pastor Mark



The Benevolence Team would like two people to partner together to pack once every four to eight weeks for the Food Pantry. This would occur on the Wednesday before the 2nd and 3rd Thursday. Each person would have 5 or 6 items to buy each month for the pantry and keep the pantry stocked with these items. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Millie Wright at 520-4465 or 536-1786 or [milliewright@comcast.net](mailto:milliewright@comcast.net).



Our congregation hosts a Girl Scout troop two Saturdays a month. We are blessed to have them utilizing our facility and are excited to partner with them for their activities. On March 8, members of the troop will be with us in worship. They will be helping to hand out bulletins and will be recognized during the prayer time. AND if you are a fan of Girl Scout Cookies, there will be a table set up following worship that day to pick up your yearly favorites.



Time to “Spring Forward.” Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 8. Make sure you move your clocks FORWARD one hour before going to bed on the 7th.



The Spring Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, May 2 from 8:00 AM until 1:00 PM. We are currently accepting donations for the church booth. We do not accept clothing. Donations of household items, furniture, toys, etc. can be brought to the church office Monday through Friday 9:30 AM until 3:00 PM. Call the church office if you have questions. 733-9331.



The Fellowship Committee will host an Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, April 11 from 11:00 AM until 1:00 PM. A hot dog lunch will also be prepared for the children. Invite your loved ones and neighbors! Who knows, maybe the Easter Bunny will show up!

At this time we are asking for the congregation to donate individually wrapped candies to place in the eggs. A donation box is outside the church office.

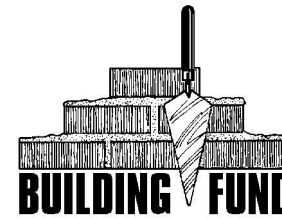


Join us March 13-15 on the mountain at Eagle Eyrie in Lynchburg for Journey: A Retreat for High School Students! Through our retreat verse of John 20:21, youth will explore what it means to live as “sent” people. As Christians, our calling is to live out God’s mission every day whether it’s in our own neighborhood or another country. We have been sent, but what does that look like? This interactive weekend will be a time for youth to learn about what God’s mission is and what that looks like in the community of faith. They will listen to the experiences of churches on mission in Virginia and begin to develop their own stories of faith within the larger church community. Barriers will be torn down. Differences and commonalities will be celebrated. We have been sent as one church with one mission. Where are we going?

If you have a high school youth who would like to attend, please see SanDee or Mark Moore.



The Deacon Council will host breakfast on Sunday, March 29 beginning at 9:00 AM.



Have you considered a regular donation each month to the Building Maintenance Fund? A regular donation now can build into a great resource for some of the larger upgrades and repairs that a building requires. The generosity of previous generations is protecting the emerging needs we have now, and your prayerful gift can ensure those behind us have the same protection. A little now can mean a lot later.



The Bible tells us that tithing is a way to show that we trust God with our lives and our finances. But the tithe wasn’t put in place for God’s benefit—He already owns everything. He doesn’t need our money. Instead, tithing is meant for our benefit because sacrificing

a portion of our income helps us look outside our selfishness and makes us more aware of the needs of others.

In fact, one of the main purposes of tithing is to support the needs of pastors and the work of the local church. Tithes help pay the pastor’s salary, keep the church’s lights on, and meet the needs of the community.

Tithing is an act of faith that helps us keep our priorities straight. It reminds us that we don’t own anything in this life. God is in control, and we’re only managers of what He’s given us.

Ever notice how unselfish people tend to make better spouses, friends, relatives, employees and employers? Yeah, they usually have better finances too! That’s the beauty of tithing. We don’t give to get, but God often blesses us with more if we’re good managers of what we already have. Tithing recognizes that God is our provider and that we will prosper with more than just money if we rely on Him.

If you’re struggling with the idea of tithing or giving, spend some time asking God to give you wisdom around the topic and show you ways that you can help others—or even just be more generous. Even if giving doesn’t come naturally, prayer can help soften our hearts and refocus our intentions.

- Dave Ramsey