



Emergwood
BAPTIST CHURCH

CHURCH PROFILE

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EMERYWOOD'S IDENTITY

At Emerywood Baptist Church, we seek to build a community of faith where people from all walks of life are welcomed to experience God's unconditional love. We are "a different kind of Baptist." Solely aligned with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF), we are moderate in theology and practice, emphasizing freedom in Biblical interpretation and the participation of women and men in all aspects of church leadership and Christian ministry.

As we strive to grow into the likeness of Jesus Christ, we put the Lordship of Christ and timeless Biblical truths at the heart of our worship and spiritual formation.

We are Christian by conviction, Baptist by tradition, and ecumenical in spirit. From our beginnings until now, many of our members and visitors have had backgrounds in a wide variety of Christian denominations, helping to foster a culture of mutual respect for differing views. We are an authentic and loving community that enjoys intergenerational fellowship. We support one another through prayer, encouragement and practical help in times of need, "mourning with those who mourn and rejoicing with those who rejoice."

A key outward expression of EBC's welcoming Christian hospitality is our open communion table.

HISTORY

Emerywood was founded May 1956 by 41 original charter members as a suburban church to serve the needs of a rapidly growing residential area. According to our founding bylaws, Emerywood was established to worship God, engage in the study of Scripture and to offer a church to the surrounding area. Throughout Emerywood's history, we have been a church committed to missional outreach and community service, empowering spiritual formation, openness and acceptance, relationship building and inspirational sermons.

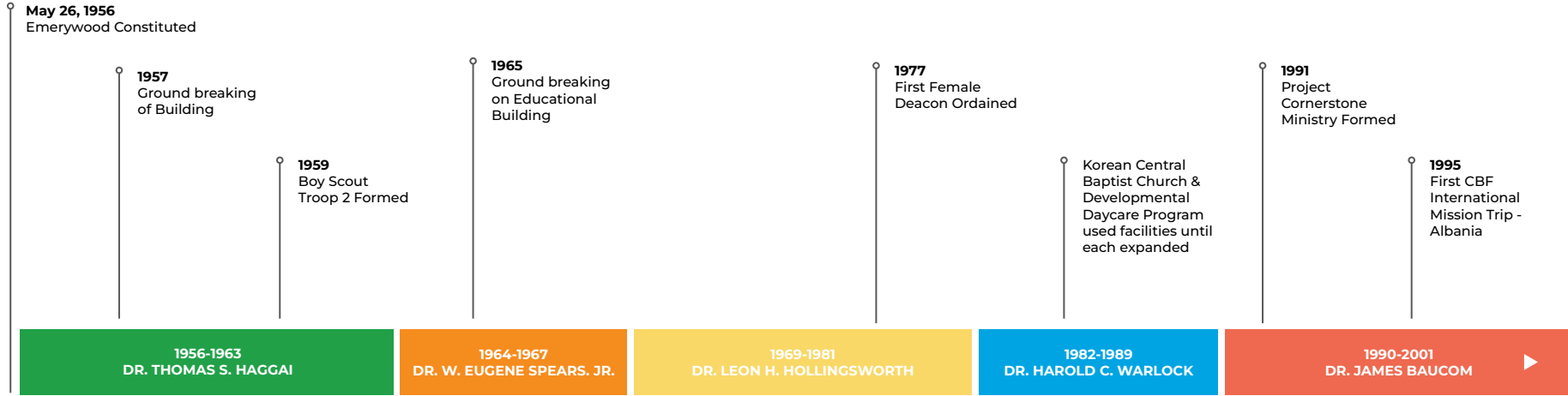


MEMBERSHIP

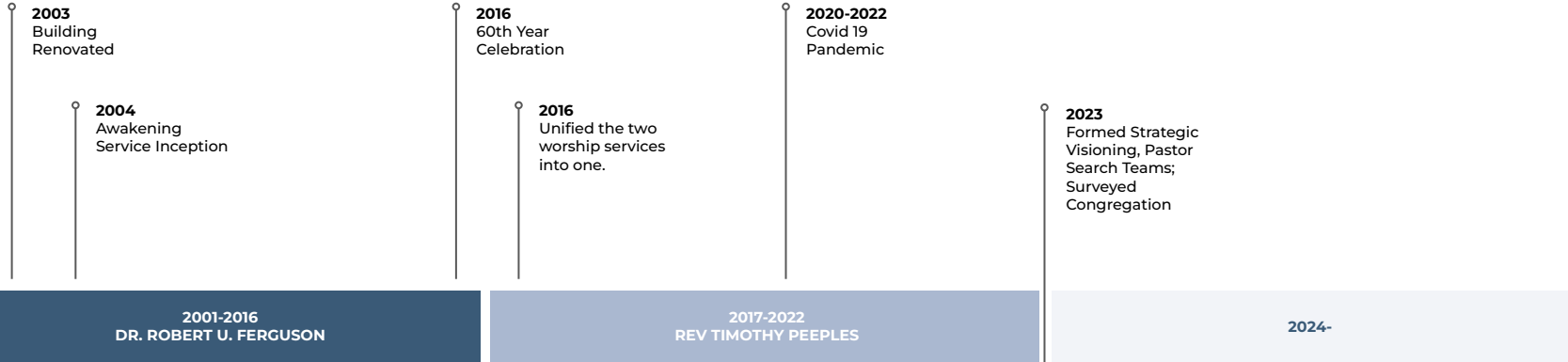
Emerywood's membership is composed of people from many walks of life. We come from various educational, economic, political and religious backgrounds. The formal education level of the membership is high, and many are professionals. There is a rich Christian theological diversity and receptiveness among the membership. We believe it does not matter who you are or where you have come from, there is still a place for you.

Members are received into the church in the following ways: Confession of Faith and Baptism, transfer of letter, or Statement of Faith.

TIMELINE



TIMELINE (CONT.)



CORE VALUES

"At EBC, you can be yourself. In a community of love and acceptance, we're challenged to think about our faith in new ways. What's special is the respect we have for each other when our views are different. Particularly in today's world, that is refreshing."

This recent comment from one of our members captures the unique balance of Emerywood. We seek to build authentic Christian community. We are a "thinking church," yet we hold fast to the Gospel message. We are assured by the unchanging character of God, and recognize the need to respond, adjust to and love a changing world. The principles of Scripture guide our faith walks and we believe God is always at work around us, continuing to speak through others, experiences and relationships. We care deeply for each other and support each other in times of need, yet we're committed to reach beyond ourselves and love our neighbors, offering compassion to our community and world.

Authentic Community • Open Acceptance
Missional Engagement • Intergenerational Fellowship
Unconditional Love • Welcoming Hospitality
Spiritual Formations • Moderate Theology
Mutual Respect





CHURCH LEADERSHIP

Emerywood's church leadership is made up of ministerial staff, administrative staff and lay leaders who work together to develop and engage God's vision for Emerywood.



REV. DR. STEPHEN D. MARTIN
INTERIM SENIOR MINISTER

Rev. Dr. Stephen D. Martin, better known as Steve, serves as interim senior minister. Steve comes to us from Kernersville, having completed his Intentional Interim Ministry training through the Center for Congregational Health in Winston-Salem. He served his first interim position at Union Cross Moravian Church. Before that, Steve was the minister of First Baptist Church in Kernersville for 20 years. Steve is a storyteller, an artist, and an avid cyclist. Just ask him, and he'll pull out his phone to show off pictures of his art.



REV. KELLEY KENNEDY
MINISTER TO CHILDREN

A life-long Emerywood member, Kelley is a part-time minister responsible for coordinating and promoting a balanced program of Christian education and personal development for children (birth through fifth grade). She presents the Children's Message in worship each week, oversees our Godly Play and Worship Wonders curriculums, and develops programs, like Vacation Bible School and intergenerational fellowships, throughout the year to engage children and families. As a mother of 3, Kelley believes that one of the greatest of God's gifts to us, God's people, is the gift of a child.



SOPHIE CARTER
YOUTH MINISTER

Sophia is from Cherryville, NC and a recent graduate of High Point University. She acquired a B.S. in Psychology and pursued the pre-medical track there. Sophia is currently pursuing her Masters of Divinity at Wake Forest University. In the future she would love to combine her deep love for Christ and her passion for psychology in her chosen profession. She is excited to be a spiritual leader for our youth. She is always trying to learn more about Christ, the world, others, and herself. Through this learning, Sophia strives to adopt the compassionate eyes of Christ.



JEFF WHICKER
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC &
ACCOMPANIST

Jeff Whicker has lived in the Triangle since 1986 when he attended Law School at UNC-Chapel Hill. He worked as an attorney for ten years before returning to his first love, music. He served as choral director at Riverside High School for seven years, but since 2004 he has worked primarily as a church musician. He also has accompanied the All-County Chorus and served as pianist for many schools in the Durham area.



JENNIFER HINSON
CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR

Jennifer is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Jennifer has a Bachelor's degree in Business with a minor in Economics and English. She started working with the church in 2015 and transitioned to Church Administrator in November 2021. She is married and has two young children. Jennifer enjoys reading, shopping, and vacationing with her family.



MUFFY UNDERWOOD
CHORAL SCHOLAR, ALTO/SOPRANO

Muffy received her BA in Vocal Performance from Wingate University, and can be seen performing in various choirs and theatre productions around the Triad. When not singing, Muffy loves to spend time with her friends, family and all of their pets.



OLIVIA MARTINEZ
HOUSEKEEPER

Olivia has been a part of the EBC family since 2001. In her position as housekeeper, she takes excellent care of all aspects of the physical building that is Emerywood Baptist. She and her husband, Edgar, live in High Point. Her interests include flower gardening, working out, Zumba, cooking, and cheering on the UNC Tar Heels. She also enjoys family time with her children and grandchildren.

LAY LEADERSHIP

Emerywood believes that a healthy church is built through an active congregation. Therefore, we encourage and empower the congregation to become lay leaders in areas that they are passionate about.



DEACON OFFICERS

Every year, four Deacons are elected as officers of the Diaconate and form the Deacon Advisory Ministry Team. The purpose of the Deacon Advisory Ministry Team is to advise and give counsel to the Senior Pastor. The Deacon Officers are responsible for supervising the business affairs of the church. They make educated decisions through recommendations from different stakeholders of the church - the staff and ministry teams - for visioning and identifying needs. Before key decisions are made, the Deacon Board usually seeks approval from the Diaconate, and if need be, the congregation. This Board also sets up task forces at their discretion and replaces members of the Finance Committee or Personnel Committee if a vacancy occurs.

Emerywood has two additional church officers that do not have to be on the Diaconate: the Church Clerk and the Church Historian.

DIACONATE

Emerywood currently has a 21-member Diaconate comprised of 11 men and 10 women. Each year, the congregation nominates and votes on a slate of 7 people to serve a 3-year team on the Diaconate. Deacons are active members, are spiritually grounded leaders, and are well- respected. Usually, the nominees reflect a cross section of the congregational makeup.

Although Deacons predominately serve in an administrative role, Deacons are called to be examples of servant leaders. They are ordained lay leaders who support, care, and actively engage with the congregation and ministers. Deacons spend time discerning and guiding decisions that are in the best interest of Emerywood and God's will for the church.



MINISTRY TEAMS

Emerywood operates on a team model, where every member of the team is an equal collaborator working to advance the purpose of the team. Any member may join any team except for the Personnel and Finance Committees, which are appointed by the Deacon Advisory Team. The team chair facilitates meetings, guides the direction of the team, and communicates with other leaders and church staff.



RESOURCES

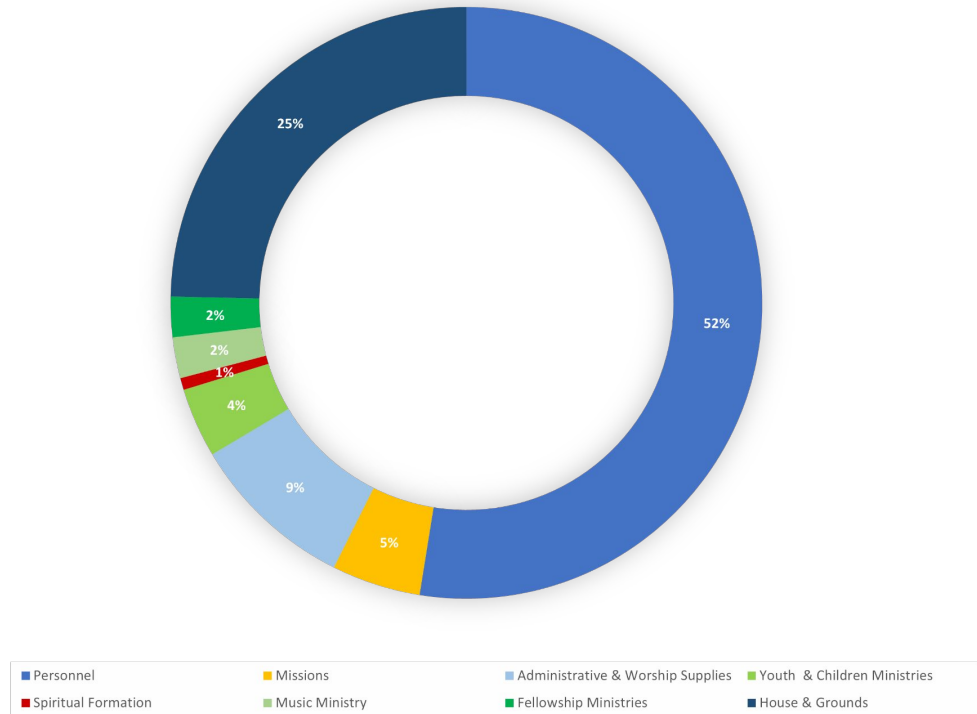
FINANCES

Emerywood operates on a December 31 fiscal year. Each year, a budget is developed and met through pledges and other gifts. Emerywood maintains two Endowment Funds for future needs and reserve capacities. Currently, the Endowments collectively are valued at \$1.8 million. One requires a draw each year to go towards missions or building funds. The church is currently debt-free.

STEWARDSHIP

Stewardship encourages and engages members to pledge their time, talents and tithes for the upcoming year. The foundation of the budget comes from the pledges received.

2024 Allocation of Budget



FACILITIES

Emerywood Baptist Church is nestled in the heart of High Point, North Carolina, just minutes from Thomasville, Winston-Salem, and Greensboro. Our church rests on 6+ acres of beautiful open grounds, located at the corner of Westchester and Country Club roads. The facilities were well-built and have been maintained.

Emerywood has a long-standing tradition of making rooms available in its building on a rent-free or low-rent basis to community organizations. Currently, the following organizations are using the facilities on a regular schedule: Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, and (2) community churches. We look forward to future partnerships when needed.



AMENITIES

MAIN FACILITIES

Sanctuary (Seats 225 to 260)
Fellowship Hall &
Industrial Kitchen (Capacity 250)
8 Adult Classrooms
Choir Room
Elevator
Library
Office Suite
Gathering & Meeting Spaces

CHILDREN'S AREA

2 Nurseries,
Godly Play Room,
5 Classrooms

YOUTH AREA

Multipurpose Room,
2 Classrooms, Full Kitchen

GROUNDS

Playground
Picnic Area
Outdoor Chapel
Volleyball Court
Multi-purpose Field
Parking Lots
Columbarium



THINK,



LIVE,



SERVE,



FAITHFULLY

At EBC, Our ministries center around thinking (worship, prayer and discipleship) , living (fellowship) and serving (missional engagement and congregational care).

THINK:

WORSHIP, PRAYER, SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Spiritual growth is at the center of Emerywood's identity and calling. We offer opportunities for children, youth and adults to explore their faith and grow in their walk with God. The goal of Spiritual Formations at Emerywood is to create space for us to encounter God. At present, this includes worship, Bible study, spiritual practices, intentional prayer and retreats. Our hope is that each person finds a connection with their Creator in a way that is meaningful, powerful, and shapes the entirety of his or her life.





WORSHIP

We believe worshipping together is central to being a part of a community of faith and nourishing our life with God. Worship at Emerywood seeks to offer an inviting environment for us to encounter God in meaningful ways. Each Sunday and on special holy days as we worship, our hope is that we are honoring the Word of God, the diversity of our fellowship, and the transformational power of the Holy Spirit at work among us.

At EBC, we meet for one worship service featuring a blend of traditional hymns and more contemporary music. Weekly, we average 80-100 participants in worship, and 20-40 online.

Emerywood also seeks understanding and service relationships with congregations of other denominations and faiths. Leaders from other denominations and countries have been welcomed into Emerywood's pulpit.

ANCIENT PRACTICES

We often incorporate ancient, sacred practices into worship. Through the blending of these into the services, we are reminded that worship is bigger than any one of us and is rooted in deep traditions central to our faith.

Monthly, we celebrate the Lord's Supper by Intinction or Passing of the Plate. Our Deacons and ministerial staff together offer the elements in this tradition. At Emerywood, we practice open communion. We believe all who proclaim Christ as Lord are welcome at the communion table.



MUSIC MINISTRY

Emerywood has a distinct history of high-quality music ministry designed to enhance worship and our love for God. We often blend traditional music with secular music to add richness, relevance and joy. Our dedicated choir meets Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings, and we often have guest musicians including string quartets or a partial orchestra for special presentations. EBC also has a small handbell ensemble that accompanies holiday cantatas and other performances with a multi-octave set of handbells and chimes.

BIBLE STUDY SUNDAY MORNINGS

There are many ways for adults to grow in faith at Emerywood. One way is through Sunday morning Bible Study. Each week classes meet to share fellowship, prayer, and study Scripture.

The majority of our classes use the “Nurturing Faith” curriculum based on the lectionary, an ancient Bible reading schedule that helps the church stay connected with different voices in scripture. This curriculum engages us in all Scripture, instead of only what makes us comfortable.

Some classes follow a lecture format, while others have an open discussion. Some are composed of similar age groups, while others are intergenerational. Each seeks to create a caring community and challenges its members to grow and develop their faith, both individually and collectively.





INTERCESSORY PRAYER TEAM

EBC has a dedicated prayer team that meets weekly for over an hour to pray “in one accord” for the physical and spiritual needs of members and church associates. The prayer team also prays for the leadership of the church and for church direction, fruitfulness, ministries, vision, unity and more. The prayer team additionally serves as a “care team” by sending encouragement cards and notes to members experiencing grief, illness or crisis, as well as cards to those celebrating birthdays, who we pray for by name.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Every Wednesday morning, an adult Bible study is held at the church, currently led by our Interim Senior Minister. Over 25 people participate regularly in a format that combines lecture and discussion centering around a selected book of the Bible or Biblical topics such as spiritual gifts or the fruit of the Spirit.



CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

At EBC, we take our commitment to children – God's most precious gifts – as a high calling. Through study, worship and fellowship, we strive to provide our youngest members with a strong foundation for their faith. We seek to communicate that they are valued, protected and celebrated by the congregation of the church.

We affirm and uphold the idea that children learn and grow in their faith by attending corporate worship. In conjunction with worshipping with the congregation, we offer Worship Wonders 2 Sundays a month. The children aged K-5 leave the service after the Children's Sermon. We go to our own worship space, where we go through a process of laying an altar with cloth, cross and candles. We light the candles, signifying the Trinity, and ring a chime – opening our hearts to God and our time together. We sing, have a child's version of Lectio Devina of the Days text and share our Sunshine and Clouds (one happy thing and one not so happy thing about their week).

We pray and close in song. Our Christian education takes place on Sunday at 11 AM after worship, following the Godly Play method, with the Bible lesson taught through storytelling, followed by a time of "wondering" about the story, characters and their actions, followed by quiet play. Vacation Bible School is a highlight of our year. Because of our ministry size, we can tailor our curriculum to our group, and the arts are a large component.



NURSERY

Our nursery is staffed by childcare professionals. We provide loving, engaging, and age appropriate nursery care for the children. The nursery is open Sundays from 9am to noon and during various other church activities.

STUDENT MINISTRY

The Student Ministry is designed for grades 6 through 12. It is more than an awesome place for teenagers to go and hang out! It's a family. Emerywood students are unashamedly themselves. We believe that God created us all differently. Our Student Ministry, has strong parent involvement. Events are planned by the youth team, composed of 5 youth, 1 parent, and our youth minister., and carried out by parents and our congregational community.

Vespers are a relaxed time of food, games, and worship on Sunday Evenings. Doors open at 5:00 for dinner, games and small bible study.

Throughout the year, we go on outings, retreats, lock-ins, mission opportunities, fellowship events and many other fun events to help grow in community and faith alongside one another. These events also provide an easy opportunity to reach out and invite others to become a part of this growing community.



LIVE:

FELLOWSHIP MINISTRIES

Emerywood's people truly care for each other and enjoy getting to know one another beyond our small groups and Sunday School classes. Emerywood actively works on building intergenerational relationships. From youth-sponsored games nights, to senior adult gatherings, intergenerational mission trips, to Bible and book studies and serving alongside each other on teams, we learn from each other and experience deeper relationships.





SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

EBC's Senior Adult Ministry is an active and vital asset to church life, engaging some 50 to 75 people at regular fellowship meals and events. This ministry provides opportunities throughout the year for traveling, serving those in need together and developing strong friendships. In addition, our senior adult members are actively involved in all ministries of our church.

CHURCH PROFILE // LIVE

MONTHLY INTERGENERATIONAL WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP MEALS

Members and visitors of all ages look forward to our monthly Wednesday night gatherings that include a church family meal, fellowship around the table and fun games and activities to help us connect and laugh together.

We hosts these events every month except during the summer, with meals ranging from covered dish , to grilled hot dogs, to a full, traditional Thanksgiving feast.

Between 65 and 75 participants of all ages typically attend these gatherings coordinated by our Church Administrator.



SERVE:

MISSIONS AND CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Emerywood knows we are called to show our love to people who are sick, hurting, grieving, and the marginalized. Often church members can be found taking care of our own congregational needs in seasons of hardships, but Emerywood does not stop there. We extend our care past our own walls and reach into the community. From missions and outreach, to using our resources wisely, to intentional planning on Ministry Teams, we look to see where we can foster relationships, offer a friendly ear to listen, and walk through situations alongside those who are hurting.



MISSIONAL ENGAGEMENT

Emerywood Baptist Church seeks to live out a call to serve our neighbor next door and around the world. We believe that the mission of God is best done together and not left up to one group or generation in the church.

Emerywood provides financial and volunteer support to many human service agencies throughout High Point, Guilford County, and around the world. Over the past three years, we have distributed more than \$214,000 in mission support. Our missional efforts are divided into five categories. We believe these areas address the greatest needs of our community and highlight our congregations' skills and passions: Poverty, Hunger, Education, Housing, and Global Missions Partnerships.

GLOBAL

Emerywood values being connected locally as well as globally and believes that we are in a unique position to help support and share the stories of Missionary Field Personnel all around the world. Emerywood gives to both state and national Cooperative Baptist Fellowship governing levels and has direct missionaries for whom we are an encourager church partner (dedicated to helping fund their work on the mission field for at least the next 3 years) as well as sending mission teams to serve alongside them. Currently, Emerywood has Global Mission partnerships and supports CBF field personnel in Spain and Japan. We partner with and support a family from Emerywood in Zambia. We have partnered with field personnel in New York City.



LOCAL - ONGOING INVOLVEMENT

Members of EBC support learning activities at the neighborhood elementary schools, Northwood and Fairview Elementary. The school's student populations are extremely diverse and a large number of children come from homes where the family income falls below the federal poverty line and/or are refugees, and immigrants battling language and culture barriers. Throughout the school year, Emerywood works with Communities in Schools to provide breakfast buddies, lunch buddies, and intentional reading tutors each week. In addition, members volunteer for many High Point agencies, including Open Door Ministries, YMCA and Caring Services.

CONGREGATIONAL LED SERVICE MINISTRIES

EBC FOOD PANTRY

The Emerywood Food Pantry currently serves approximately 30 food-insecure families monthly in the High Point area, while engaging 35-plus volunteers of all ages in our congregation. While the EBC Food Pantry ministry has been established over 20 years, it was refreshed and reimagined in the summer of 2023 when it became a completely lay-led ministry.

The ministry works in teams. Team One takes reservations from clients the week before; Team Two picks up food from the Second Harvest Food Bank; Team Three shops for other needed grocery staples, Team Four stocks the food on the shelves, Team Five fills the bins with the individual family grocery needs, and the final team distributes the food and essentials on Saturday in a drive-through pick up at the church.



Often, children and youth from our church accompany their parents to fill bins and help with the food distribution, which offers an opportunity for young people to experience the joy of helping our neighbors in need.



In addition, our entire congregation is invited to donate various needed items during the year and to donate turkeys and hams during the holidays of Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas. Often 30 to 40 families are recipients of the holiday meats.

CONGREGATIONAL CARE

Many of our members work in conjunction with our pastoral staff to provide holistic congregational care. Weekly, our ministers, deacons, and some ongoing volunteers make hospital visits, while our Visitation team ensures that our home bound and nursing home members are regularly visited. We also have a small "Care Team" - a core group that visits the in-betweens, those recovering from operations or sickness but not in need of long-term care.

We have several members who are trained Stephen's Ministers as well as several retired pastors and chaplains in our congregation.

EBC VISITATION TEAM

The purpose and mission of the EBC Visitation Team is to "bring the church to" our homebound members. It is also a place of spiritual enrichment for our team members, as well as those we visit. Our visitation team currently has about 15 members who serve 30-plus members of our congregation. The number of members we serve changes with hospital visits and other crisis situations that might arise. We have monthly meetings, when possible, to train and discuss how to better serve our homebound with their spiritual needs and personal needs. We also look for local resources that may help our members and ways we can assist in our community. Our goal is to continue to serve those who are unable to participate with us in other venues but are still a part of our Body of Christ and have been for decades.

The Visitation Team is led by a Registered Nurse and Chaplain certified through the International Fellowship of Chaplains who has experience as a Faith Community Nurse and as a spiritual care provider in a local hospital.



MINISTRY ASPIRATIONS



While Emerywood has a number of established and vital ministries, there are other ministries we aspire to. Over the last several years, disruptions including the Global Pandemic side-lined several key ministries. We would like to re-start and revitalize some of these, along with beginning new ministries.

Generally, these new and revitalized ministry aspirations are in the areas of: lay leadership development, family ministry engagement, spiritual formation, a church-wide unifying service mission and fellowship/outreach ministries.

For example, we would like to launch small care/connect/discipleship groups at our church and to enhance the spiritual enrichment and fellowship opportunities for young children and their parents and for teens and their parents. We would like to design an ongoing service/mission project that would engage our congregation regularly in helping a community or communities in need.

We have completed a process of identifying these ministries as important areas of growth, based on congregational input. Our lay leaders are in the beginning stages of exploring or launching some of these ministries.

One newly-launched ministry is a Sunday morning Bible study and fellowship group for Spanish speaking Christians and seekers. The class will be led in Spanish by a church member who is a former missionary in Latin American. At times, the leader may speak in English with an interpreter. This small but growing group of Latinos has felt warmly welcomed in our church, and is acclimating into our congregation.

In order to launch and refresh ministries, we believe an essential foundation is to better develop and raise up lay leadership in our congregation. We look to partner with our new senior pastor to help cast and execute a vision for engaging and equipping lay leaders to fully develop these ministries.

HIGH POINT

OUR COMMUNITY





DEMOGRAPHICS

High Point is in the heart of the Piedmont Triad Region, which is the 37th largest metro area in the country with a population of nearly 2 million. High Point, with a population of approximately 115,000, along with Greensboro and Winston-Salem and surrounding towns, make up the Triad. Chartered in 1859, High Point is the midway point between Charlotte and Raleigh, Washington, D.C. and Atlanta, and New York and Miami. Convenient access in and out of the city is provided by way of five interstate highways, the Piedmont Triad International Airport, and Amtrak passenger rail service.

BUSINESS

Due to its easy access by railway, High Point became the early hub for furniture manufacturing and has remained “The Furniture Capital of the World” for over a century. It earned its nickname as North Carolina’s “International City” because of 70 internationally headquartered companies operating year-round facilities. High Point hosts semi-annual furniture and textile markets. The High Point Furniture Market is the world’s largest home furnishings trade show. Its impact on the city and state include:

- Attendance of over 100,000 visitors from around the world annually
- Use of 10.6 million square feet of showroom space
- \$5.39 billion dollar economic impact is produced for the region annually, based on a Duke University study



EDUCATION

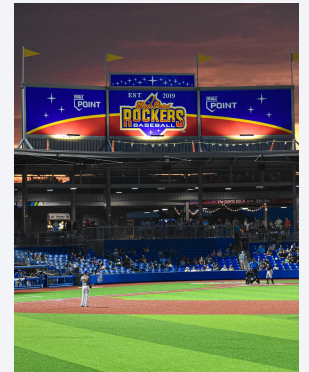
High Point's commitment to building a better future is found in its educational choices. Students of all ages find a wide variety of public and private educational opportunities in and around the immediate area. High Point University is one of 15 colleges and universities within 5 miles of downtown High Point. Recent additions to the campus include pharmacy, health science, nursing and law schools.

Four of North Carolina's community colleges are within 25 miles of downtown High Point, readying high school graduates for the workplace and teaching seasoned professionals new skills. High Point has 9 accredited private day schools providing a variety of learning environments with standard course offerings, special needs education and college preparatory curriculums. The city is unique in that it lies in four counties, each with its own public school system, including Guilford, Davidson, Forsyth, and Randolph counties.

QUALITY OF LIFE

High Point has many great opportunities for recreation. From golf courses to tennis complexes, from the Oak Hollow Marina to City Lake Park, from the greenways to many neighborhood parks, there are many opportunities to enjoy the community outdoors. In addition, High Point has a great Arts community, which promotes theatre productions, outdoor concerts, art classes, an art gallery, and festivals.

High Point is continuing to grow and realizes the importance of revitalizing a strong downtown. The City Council approved plans several years ago to build a \$30 million baseball stadium that seats people for games and up to 7,500 for concerts and events. Nido Qubein, president of High Point University, has led the fund-raising for an additional \$38 million in amenities that surround the stadium, designed for public use. They include a park, playground, major children's museum, educational cinema, and events center.



REFLECTIONS OF SELF-STUDY:

CONGREGATIONAL FOCUS GROUPS AND SURVEY

During our time of transition, Emerywood's Strategic Visioning Team organized a quantitative survey of our members, held four focus groups and three congregational conversations after worship services to receive input about how God is calling us to minister together. In this study, we looked at our history, present and explored our future.

Based on 50 completed and tabulated survey questionnaires representing 70-plus individuals, focus groups and conversations that engaged dozens more, priorities for our next senior pastor and for our church direction were clearly and definitively expressed by participants. The following are some of the reflections and insights gained through the self-study. The people included in the study represent a true sampling of the church.



Top 3 sermon characteristics



Pastoral Characteristics & Priorities

Ministry Opportunities

Laity is delving deeper into how these ministry opportunities look for Emerywood as we look towards the future.



MEET THE SEARCH TEAM

The Pastor Search Team is comprised of nine members, who represent a cross section of the demographics of the church. This team is composed of active members, lay leaders and Deacons.



A CALL FOR THE NEW SENIOR PASTOR:

Emerywood is a multi-generational church that believes our congregation's faith is nourished by the independent thoughts and contributions of each of our members. All congregants are challenged to evaluate how to live our lives as disciples. The doors of our church are open to all people: we ask only that you be open to learning about Christ's love for each of us. While we debate and disagree on theological topics, we remain steadfast in continued love and support for each other. We are affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and welcome collaboration from other Christian-based organizations.

Emerywood has been served by an intentional interim minister in the past year. We've hosted large and small group listening sessions,

conducted surveys, and prayerfully meditated on God's call for the direction of our church. We are now ready to call a new Senior Pastor to lead Emerywood Baptist Church into the future.

Our next Senior Pastor should be an engaging preacher and a challenging teacher. He or she should demonstrate a rich personal theology rooted in deep biblical knowledge informed by modern scholarship.

We seek a Senior Pastor who will help us apply Christ's teachings to the concerns of the contemporary world. Our next Senior Pastor should teach and preach in ways that challenge our minds, open our hearts, and inspire us to live more like Christ.

It is important that our Senior Pastor listens deeply and forms authentic lasting bonds with our congregation and community. We believe that God's Word comforts the afflicted and afflicts the comfortable. We seek someone with such a pastor's heart that he or she can reach those who are seeking, lost, and hurting, so that they hear redemption and find hope in the Gospel. In addition we seek someone who fosters trust in the congregation in such a way that challenges us to push past our platitudes and niceties and lean into the vulnerability of living a life of faith. ►

A CALL FOR THE NEW SENIOR PASTOR: (CONT.)

We seek a Senior Pastor who is collaborative, creative, and a partner with an inclusive ministry team. He or she must be dynamic and welcome the challenges of leadership in sustaining and growing our congregation into the future. The Church is eager to provide strong minds, bodies ready to serve and talented lay leaders waiting for direction. We believe challenging times have created a tremendous opportunity to strengthen our spiritual programming in order to reach all Christian families during the many stages of life's journey.

Emerywood is committed to local, national and international missions. Over the years we have sought ways to positively impact the most vulnerable among us. Our food pantry reaches over thirty families each month, we share

our worship space with Congolese and Hispanic congregations, and we sponsor missionary families in Japan, Spain and Zambia. We seek a Senior Pastor who is excited to engage our local community and eager to build on this foundation. It is our hope that our next leader will energize and encourage us in the work of God for those inside and outside the church walls.

More than anything, we seek a pastor who feels deeply called to Emerywood. In return, our new Senior Pastor will find a congregation that surrounds them in love, faithfulness, and trust. We will nurture the ministry of our new Senior Pastor through prayer, friendship, and financial support. We believe we are entering a covenant between Pastor and Congregation, ordained by God to build up the Kingdom of God. We are excited to see where God is calling us.

If you are interested in becoming Emerywood Baptist Church's next Senior Pastor, please send your resume and cover letter to emerywoodbaptistpastorsearch@gmail.com

For more information, go to emerywoodbaptistchurch.com



Emerywood
BAPTIST CHURCH

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