



January 2025
EBC
Connect

DISCOVER~DEVELOP~DISCIPLE
Helping people discover and develop into disciples of Christ



**NEW YEAR, NEW YOU
OR NEW YEAR,
SAME YOU?**

It is the time of the year when people look at what they may have accomplished over the

outgoing year and make plans and resolutions for the oncoming year. Some will see the last year in a pass or fail kind of way, some may see it as a year of missed opportunities or new accomplishments, and some may even label it as a good or bad 2024. The challenge of looking at the past year is viewing it from God's perspective and not our own. The problem of making resolutions for the new year is that we normally make them requiring tangible evidence...such as losing weight, gaining strength, building up a savings account, getting a new job, or gaining some other material things.

When you think about the new year, keep this in mind:

But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God. (1 Corinthians 6:11, NIV)

God has provided everything, yes, I mean everything you need in your life emotionally, mentally, and spiritually to face a new year with great anticipation and excitement. You were washed, sanctified, and justified by Jesus. Knowing these facts helps us to see that no matter what 2025 may bring, God has already prepared you for what is to come. You are His beautiful Masterpiece, created in Christ Jesus for good works. Every second, every minute, every hour of every day of every year there is an opportunity for God to do something amazing in your life.

**So now the question is:
In this new year what will you allow God to do?**

*"And now we welcome the new year,
full of things that have never been."*

Rainer Maria Rilke (German poet, 12-4-1875 to 12-29-1926)

Here is to another year that God has granted us the opportunity to serve Him in the Enka-Candler area, because I still believe **GOD'S NOT DONE!**

I love being your pastor!
Chris L. Reese



MINISTRY OPPORTUNITY



**Roadside Litter Pick-up
January 18, 2025**

If you're interested in participating in this community ministry opportunity, please see Pastor Chris for details.

Calling all ladies and girls!

Please join us for an afternoon of fun, food, and friends as we welcome in 2025!

Saturday, January 11
12:00 o'clock noon
Enka Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
Bring a friend and your favorite dish.

Cheers to the New Year 2025!

Proudly serving whatever you bring!

If you have questions call Debbie at 828-633-1063

January 2025		Small Groups meet every Sunday at 9:30 a.m. (unless otherwise noted)
JAN 01	happy new year	
JAN 05 COMMUNION SUNDAY	6:00 p.m.	Brief Business Meeting Bible Study with the Pastor CIA / Youth
JAN 07	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
JAN 08	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
JAN 11	12:00 p.m.	Ladies' New Year's Luncheon
JAN 12	9:00 a.m. 6:00 p.m.	2nd Sunday Celebration Bible Study with the Pastor CIA/Youth
JAN 14	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
JAN 15	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
JAN 19 ABCCM SUNDAY	6:00 p.m.	Adults on Mission CIA / Youth
JAN 21	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
JAN 22	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
JAN 25	8:00 a.m.	Men's Breakfast
JAN 26	6:00 p.m.	Bible Study with the Pastor CIA / Youth
JAN 28	10:30 a.m. 11:30 a.m.	Group Bible Study Prayer Meeting
JAN 29	6:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study



THE SUNDAY RUSH

For many believers, Sunday morning goes something like this: Oversleep because the

weekend's late-night fun wasn't compatible with Sunday's early-morning responsibilities. Jump out of bed and shower. Make sure everyone's up. Let the pets out, and scarf down breakfast. Herd the family into the car. Screech into the church parking lot. Run through the front doors of the sanctuary. Plop down in a pew. Open a hymnal. Sing some songs. Hear a sermon. Leave church to go home and take a nap.



Does this sound familiar? There's obviously something wrong with this scenario: Where is the worship? Sure, this family made it to the service, but praise and study of the Word was just something on their list of activities. There was no room for an encounter with God, because the time of worship seemed to be an interruption of their Sunday, not the focus of it.

Psalm 100:4 tells us to "enter...His courts with praise." Does this characterize your experience of worship each week? As we head into the new year, don't let the "Sunday rush" become a problem. How can you plan ahead and prepare your heart, mind, and family to meet the King? Remember, worship is not something you **HAVE** to do, it's something you **GET** to do! "I rejoiced with those who said to me, 'let us go to the house of the Lord'" (Psalm 122:1). ~ copied



SMALL GROUPS AT EBC

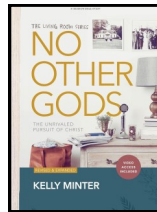
Beginning January 5th, the **ADULT CO-ED SMALL GROUP** will begin a new Bible study on the end times by Max Lucado: *What Happens Next, a Traveler's Guide Through the End of This Age*. In contrast to the confusion and anxiety that often comes with this topic, Max Lucado believes God wants us to be prepared, not scared; informed, not intimidated. He writes: "The future is not frightening if you know the future. And you can know the future when you know who holds it." **This class begins at 9:30 a.m.** in the Church Fellowship Hall. All are welcome.



TUESDAY MORNINGS AT EBC

Join us at **10:30 a.m.** each Tuesday morning for **Group Bible Study**: We are currently studying the book of Judges, by David Jeremiah.

Prayer Meeting follows at 11:30 a.m.



WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT EBC

Ladies, please join us at **6:30 p.m.** each Wednesday evening for Bible Study and fellowship around the table **beginning January 8, 2025**. We will begin the new year with, "*No Other Gods: The Unrivaled Pursuit of Christ*, an 8-session study about modern day idolatry, by Kelly Minter. *Idols don't stand out like they used to. The gods may look different but the enslavement to them is the same.*

If you are interested in joining this study, or if you have any questions, please contact Polly Stanberry at 828-335-5100 or email pstanberry@bellsouth.net.

MISSIONS

Can you believe it!? A new year is upon us and Missions are more important than ever at EBC! Our **JANUARY emphasis for ABCCM** is on easy-to-open and easy-to-prepare foods such as instant mashed potatoes, soup, instant oats, Vienna sausage, peanut butter, etc. Their pantry empties very quickly so all donations are needed and are very much appreciated.

It is such a blessing knowing we can always count on you... and because of your generosity and heart for missions, our **Lottie Moon Mission Offering contributions**, as of **December 22**, total **\$3,092** greatly surpassing our goal of **\$2,100**. A huge **thank you** to all who donated to this very worthwhile mission offering.

NEW YEAR CROSSWORD

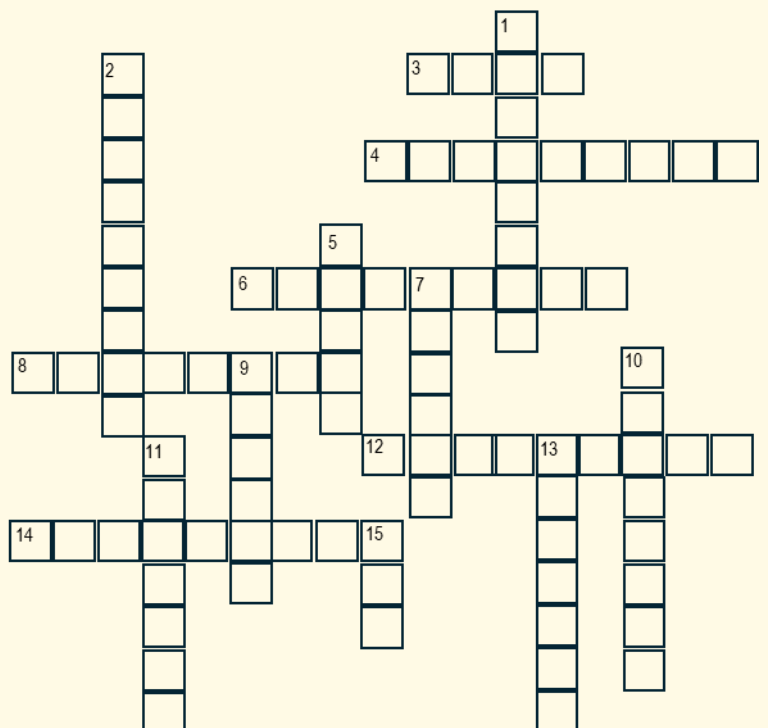


Down

- A chart with days weeks and months
- A white sparkling wine
- Beautiful vocal instrumental or combined sound
- A drinking glass with a foot and stem
- A man's dinner jacket
- A handheld firework that emits sparks
- The first month of the year
- Round rubber bag that is inflated with air
- Opposite of old

Across

- The period of 365 days
- A device containing gunpowder and other combustible chemicals which causes spectacular effects and explosions when ignited
- A timing device with two connected glass bulbs containing sand
- Small bits of paper usually colored
- Observe - party
- An act of counting numerals in reverse order



NEW YEAR CROSSWORD ANSWERS

Down
 1. Calendar 2. Champagne 5. Music 7. Gilet 9. Tuxedo 10. Sparkler 11. January 14. Balloon 15. New

Across
 3. Year 4. Fireworks 6. Hourglass 8. Confetti 12. Celebrate 14. Countdown