

EMMA ANDERSON
MEMORIAL CHAPEL

NEWSLETTER

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Meet Rick Benton BOG Chairman 2019-2021

Do True Leaders Ever Really Retire?

Born and raised in Kannapolis, North Carolina, Rick Benton had never heard of Topsail Island until the late 1970s when he met his future wife Bettye. He learned about the island during visits with her family, and was later introduced to Emma Anderson through Bettye's cousin Dwight Davis and his wife Sandra, affiliates of the chapel. In the early 80s, he and Bettye bought property in Surf City. They built their beautiful beach home in 2004 and have lived there full time since 2008.

In 2012, after 32 years of public service and almost as many years serving numerous civic and nonprofit organizations, Rick decided it was time to slow down and smell the salt water. Except that he didn't.

He became an independent consultant for Wilmington Business Development helping to create jobs and encourage investment in both New Hanover and Pender counties. He recently served as president of Kiwanis Club of Topsail Island Area. And he's very busy at Emma Anderson.

It's no surprise that Rick hasn't slowed down. His professional life — all in North Carolina — was varied and busy, and cultivated his exceptional leadership skills. Among his many roles he was city manager, first in Ayden then in Roanoke Rapids, and retired after serving as manager of Pender County. Rick graduated from Wake Forest University with a degree in biology, and holds a master's degree in public administration from North Carolina State University.

Rick has served on several chapel committees over the years. He currently serves on the Missions, Benevolence, and Endowment and Planned Giving committees. He has participated in recent mission projects including in Guatemala in 2017, and in Western Pender County in 2016 after Hurricane Matthew flooded the area. Rick is one of the sound system techs during Sunday worship, and he attends our weekly Men's Bible Study.



At left, Rick Benton (blue t-shirt) with happy Guatemalan family after their new stove was installed. Also pictured: EAMC affiliate Rich Pollock (yellow cap) and Adolfo, our bus driver, translator, stove builder and all around good guy (yellow shirt).

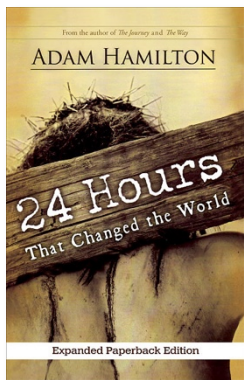
When asked what his goals for EAMC will be during his two-year tenure as chairman, Rick was quick to respond. "I'd like to facilitate what's already happening with church growth, especially with respect to missions, communications and activities," he answered. "I want to continue our practice of discerning God's will for our chapel by asking 'what would God have us do' and listening for His answers.

"We just need to continue to focus on the priorities that were agreed upon last May by the Trustees and Board of Governors in a special discernment session— to improve and grow our ministries for our guest ministers and missionaries, implement programs to further engage and integrate our young families and youth into the life of the chapel, and practice fiscally responsible stewardship of our facilities."

Rick and Bettye have two sons, Ross (who has a 4-year-old son Ashton) and Bret (who is recently married). In his spare time, Rick likes to travel with Bettye, golf, bike and spend time with Ashton. He still goes to Kiwanis meetings every Tuesday morning and Men's Bible Study on Fridays.

Rick welcomes your suggestions, questions or concerns. Contact him at rickbenton56@gmail.com or give him a call at 910-604-3835.

Join us to study 24 hours that changed the world



Come join us for a co-ed Winter Bible Study to study 24 Hours That Changed the World, January 9 - February 20, 2019, at 6:45 p.m. in the upper room of the Fellowship House.

From the author's website—

"... Adam Hamilton guides us, step by step, through the last 24 hours of Jesus' life in his popular, heartbreaking, and inspiring book.

"No single event in human history has received more attention than the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth. In this book, Hamilton will help you experience and understand the significance of Jesus' suffering and death like never before."

Sign up on the bulletin board in the south wing of the chapel, or by contacting Jean Bell (tpslbeach@gmail.com; 910-328-2345) or Julia Sherron (jbsherron@gmail.com; 910-690-2595). Books cost \$12. Please pick one up from Jean or Julia prior to January 9 to read the first chapter.

REFLECTIONS

January 2019



In 2018, our Board of Governors' Chairman Frank Sherron asked us to be aware of "God Sightings" in our daily lives and report back to the board during our bi-monthly meetings. We might call these spiritual "aha!" moments when we recognize God working in our lives. Another word to describe these "spiritual revelations" is epiphany. It is a word that dates back to ancient Greece and means "appearance" or "manifestation" usually by the gods.

The modern American poet, Maya Angelou defines epiphany this way: "It's the occurrence when the mind, the body, the heart, and the soul focus together and see an old thing in a new way." Psychologist Elise Ballard sees epiphanies as "major, life-changing revelations that have had the greatest impact on our lives" (*Psychology Today* blog, January 25, 2011).

In the church, we observe the season of Epiphany as starting with the coming of the magi to see the baby Jesus, celebrated on January 6 and lasting all the way until the first day of Lent on Ash Wednesday, this year on March 6. It is a season of new beginnings or new "God sightings" for us.

As we begin the new year of 2019 may we be aware of the "Counselor, ...the Spirit of Truth" (John 14:16, NIV) living with us and in us; teaching us and reminding us of everything Jesus has said to us (Jn.14: 26) so that in experiencing these "life-changing revelations" we may experience God's peace and not be afraid (Jn. 14:27).

May you have a joyful and revealing New Year!

Rich Pollock is a retired Presbyterian minister. He lives in Topsail Beach with his wife Julia. Both are active affiliates of Emma Anderson Memorial Chapel. Rich happily fills in at the pulpit when a guest minister is unavailable for Sunday worship.

Our 2019 Ministers: By the Numbers

The Minister Selection Committee has been busy following up with our invited ministers for this year and has almost "finalized" the schedule. There are a few dates for which ministers are still to be announced. And there will probably be changes during the year due to unforeseen circumstances. Here is a snapshot of who we have lined up so far:

- Baptist: 16, Southern Baptist: 3, Southern Baptist Convention: 1
- Presbyterian; 8, Presbyterian USA: 1
- United Methodist: 6, Methodist: 4
- Nondenominational: 4
- Pentecostal Holiness: 2
- Episcopalian/Anglican: 1
- Pastor: 30, Retired: 9, Chaplain: 3, Other: 4
- Male 41, Female 5
- First timers: 15

2020 Minister Applications can be found in the Chapel vestibule or by contacting Hope or Dan Longest, ministerinquiry@eamc.com. Please complete your information then forward the application to a minister you would like to have preach at Emma Anderson. Thank you for your continued interest in the unique ministry of our Chapel.

You can see the full list of 2019 ministers on our website.

Heartfelt thanks from the Benevolence Committee ❤️



From left: Maggie Parrish, Beth Holder, Janine Stidley, Connie Taylor, and Butch Parrish sort toys and food for recipients of the Community Holiday Assistance Program (CHAP) of Eastern Pender County.

The Benevolence Committee thanks you for your generous donations of food, toys, and gift cards during the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. You put big smiles on the faces of more than **686** adults and **697** children in our community! A very special thank you to all of the extra volunteers who wrapped gifts, staffed the distribution location or otherwise helped to make our benevolence projects in 2018 so impactful.

Operation Christmas Child 2018

Our 10th Year

Millions of Christmas "shoeboxes" filled with toys and other treasures are collected during National Collection Week every November for distribution by Samaritan's Purse to children around the world. The goal? To spread the Good News of Jesus Christ! Our generous affiliates last year donated 130 filled shoeboxes, which then were delivered to drop-off centers in Sneads Ferry (N.C.) and Wilmington (N.C.).

Before these shoeboxes can bring hope and joy to children, each one has to be carefully inspected and made

ready for overseas shipment. This takes place in Samaritan's Purse processing centers located across the United States. In 2018 the eight processing centers were located in Atlanta, Baltimore/Washington, Boone (N.C.), Charlotte, Dallas/Ft. Worth, Denver, Minneapolis and Southern California. These centers were open from November 20 through December 15 and only closed only on Thanksgiving Day and Sundays.

During the first week in December, 26 EAMC affiliates worked three days in the Boone processing center. We had many returning workers and also welcomed first-timers Hope and Dan Longest, Sharron Batchelor, Rucker Eggleston, Beth Dent and Lynn Yates. Along with the other volunteers, each day we processed roughly 50,000 shoeboxes that were headed to Ghana. The Boone processing center inspected more than 604,000 shoeboxes by December 4.

We enjoyed working in the processing center and seeing how varied the shoeboxes' contents could be. One thing was always the same-- each box had been packed with love. We also enjoyed fellowship at our motel, and our group meals at an Italian restaurant and the Daniel Boone Inn. We even were able to enjoy a beautiful snowfall on our last day!

A big thank you to all who made our 10th annual Operation Christmas Child mission project such a joy and success! Visit eachapel.org/OperChristmasChild to see our photos.

Debo Bell, Co-Chair



#OCCitemofthemoth



It's not too early to plan your 2019 OCC shoeboxes! We'll give you new ideas every month.

In January, focus on hats, gloves and scarves. Take advantage of seasonal retail sales or make your own.

See [pinterest.com/OperationChristmasChild/boards](https://www.pinterest.com/OperationChristmasChild/boards) for knitting and crocheting ideas from Samaritan's Purse.

Gentle reminder from the Outreach Committee. . .

Share the Table in Surf City needs our support year round. If you're cleaning or preparing to leave your beach home for the winter, please consider donating your extra unopened perishable or non-perishable food items to the pantry.

Visit sharethetable.com/programs for the food pantry address and hours.

If you'd like to contribute to **HURRICANE RECOVERY EFFORTS** in our area, we welcome your donation. You can mail a check earmarked for Disaster Relief for Hurricane Florence to EAMC, PO Box 3071, Topsail Beach, NC 28445. Thank you for your compassion!

JANUARY MINISTERS

6 EPIPHANY SUNDAY. **Reverend Eddie Smith**, Pentecostal Holiness, Pastor, Shiloh Pentecostal Holiness Church, Godwin NC. Sponsors: Mrs. Becky Spell-Vann, Clinton NC

13 **Reverend Dr. Charles Hutchens**, United Methodist, Senior Pastor, Centenary United Methodist Church, Mt. Ulla NC. Sponsors: Mr. & Mrs. Tim Horner, Surf City NC

20 **Reverend Dr. Jerry Harper**, Baptist, Retired, Oriental NC, Sponsors: Mr. & Mrs. Larry Combs, Topsail Beach NC

27 **Reverend Randy Martin**, Southern Baptist, Retired, Roanoke Rapids NC. Sponsors: Mr. & Mrs. Rick Benton, Surf City NC

JANUARY CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Sunday worship: 10am, year round, Chapel. Sunday School: All ages, 8:45am year round, Fellowship House

1 HAPPY NEW YEAR!

6 Epiphany Sunday

19 Board of Governors meeting, 9am, Fellowship House upper floor. All are welcome.

21 Martin Luther King Day

Visit eachapel.org/calendar for all of our events.

FOR REFERENCE

Bereavement Notices: If you are a chapel affiliate (you've attended services at least once) and would like to have an announcement sent to affiliates regarding a death in your family, please contact Frank Sherron or Sandra Davis.

Chancel Flowers: Sign up on the calendar in the south wing of the chapel or contact Macon Basinger by email or phone to sponsor Sunday flowers. Cost is \$85. A local florist selects and delivers the flowers for you.

Church Directory: You can be included in our online directory at any time. Contact directory@eachapel.org with name(s), home/beach address (plus 2nd address, if you have one), email address(es), home/beach phone number(s), cell phone number(s), and a photo. Copies of the printed directory are available at no charge for new affiliates. A supplement with updates is periodically emailed (or mailed via USPS, if necessary) to those who are listed. *Note: we do not share your information with anyone at any time for any reason.*

EAMC Emails: To continue receiving our newsletter and other email announcements, remember to notify us if you change your email address. To prevent our emails from being snagged by your spam folder, add newsletter@eachapel.org to your address book.

Gifts of Securities: If you'd like to make a gift to EAMC of appreciated stocks or mutual funds, contact Dee MacMillan at 910-340-1237 or Herb Ormond's office at 877-343-3576.

Home Communion: If you or someone you know is unable to attend Communion service at the chapel on the first Sunday of any month or on special holidays, but would like to receive Communion at home that day, please contact the coordinator Michelle Reynolds by email or phone.

Library Hours: Sundays 8:50 - 9:30 a.m. and by request. If you can't visit, a librarian will be happy to deliver a book locally. Librarians: Nancy Green (910-328-1092), Gerry Horner (910-328-7251), Nancy Howell (910-328-0354), Frances Keir (919-522-3934) and Grayson ReVille (910-328-1244).

Ministerial Sponsorships: Nominations are being accepted for guest ministers for 2020 until mid-October 2019. Any affiliate-- someone who has worshipped at EAMC at least once-- is eligible to nominate a guest minister. Pick up an application in the vestibule of the chapel or request one via email from Hope or Dan Longest. For more information about the nominating process, [click here](#).

Missionary Apartment Respite: If you know of a missionary who is on assignment abroad and will be coming stateside on furlough then returning to his or her assignment, please let him or her know about our Missionary Ministry. A family of six (max.) can enjoy a respite for six nights at no charge in our Missionary Apartment. We especially welcome referrals from affiliates who know of missionaries associated with their home churches. Spread the word! Any questions? Contact Sandra Davis. Read our brochure for more info.

Newsletter: Current and previous issues are available on our website. Please let us know if you stop receiving the newsletter.

Outreach: If you would like the chapel to send a note of encouragement or sympathy to an affiliate of the chapel who needs uplifting, please let Connie Taylor know.

Sunday School: Three-year course of study from Sept. 2018-2021: "Bible Studies for Life". Learn how to connect God's Word to your life in an intentional way. Join us anytime for great teaching and fellowship, 8:50-9:45 a.m., Fellowship House. ADULTS: top floor; CHILDREN: ground floor.

Emma Anderson Memorial Chapel is a nondenominational church that gathers for worship, the preaching and teaching of God's Word, and Christian fellowship.

Our mission is to glorify God and to proclaim Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior of all.

EMMA ANDERSON MEMORIAL CHAPEL

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