



**101 Main Street
Newport News, VA
23601
757-595-3300**

**Weekly Newsletter
November 28, 2011**

Words from Pastor Lynwood



The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year

Yes, as the song says, "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" We are flooded with Christmas music, Christmas lights, and lots of Christmas "activities." And although the Christmas "fluff" is often distracting, most of us are able to see through the bells and bows. In spite of the world's attempt to pull us away, we generally make time to gather with family and friends and celebrate the true meaning of Christmas.

But many will find this time of year to be very painful. The memories of past hurt, which remain hidden throughout the year, are now driven to the surface. Many are required to face someone who has caused them pain, or face the memory of a past Christmas, which brings the person (and pain) back into view. Obviously, this is not the turmoil which God intends for our life... especially not as we celebrate the birth of His Son.

We cannot properly celebrate the birth of Jesus without reflecting on why He was born. Through His life He offered us a message of eternal hope, and through His death on the cross He offered us the complete forgiveness of sin. With this single act of unbelievable love, Jesus removed the sin, which would otherwise keep us eternally separated from our Heavenly Father. This is the manner in which we are to love and forgive others.

Jesus told a parable about a servant who had an enormous debt canceled. *"The servant fell on his knees before him, 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go" (Matthew 18:26-27).* But when the servant went away, he refused to cancel the relatively minor debt a fellow servant owed him. *"Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt" (Matthew 18:30).*

Jesus used this parable to show that unless we completely forgive others from deep within our heart, we have somehow failed to understand the forgiveness we have already received. *"Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?" (Matthew 18:33).*

Any "sin" which others may commit against us is small when viewed in light of the many sins we have committed against God! We have been completely forgiven of so much! In Ephesians 4:32 we read, *"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you."*

During this most wonderful time of the year, let's reflect on the awesome gift we have been given through our Savior. Then, let's give to others as we have already received. Let's love and give the gift of true forgiveness.

Forgiven and forgiving by His grace, Lynwood

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STAFF

Rev. Lynwood Wells
Pastor

Rev. Harald Aadahl
Associate Pastor of
Education, Family Life and
Youth

Dreama Johnson
Office Administrator

Christy Kuhnle
Pianist, New
Celebration Director

Robbie Ayscue
Choir Director

Tommie Wheeler
Custodian

Sunday School and Worship Report

Sunday School Enrollment.....	184
Contacts.....	9
Visitors.....	6
Total present	99
Last Week.....	115
Worship November 27.....	116

HBC Counting Report November 27, 2011

8-103 Drink Machine.....	\$ 5.10
8-200 Future Growth.....	\$105.00
8-110 World Hunger.....	\$100.00
8-407 PORT- Thanksgiving Day Offering.....	\$123.00
8-600 GA- Shoebox	\$32.00
8-503 Christmas Poinsettias.....	\$85.00
Total Designated.....	\$450.10
Total Budget Receipts.....	\$4467.00
Total Deposit.....	\$4917.10

Contributions for 2011

The end of the year is quickly approaching, in order to have your contributions posted for 2011 you will need to have them in by Wednesday, December 28th. Please plan accordingly.

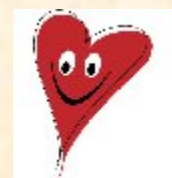


November 30th
 Wednesday Night Dinner
 5:15pm
 Rotisserie Chicken
 Cheddar Rice
 Vegetable
 Waldorf Fruit Salad
 Dessert
 Adults \$5.00 Children \$3.00
 Family of 4 or more \$15.00
 Call the church office for
 reservations

Please plan now to attend the following special services as we celebrate the birth of Christ.
 Christmas Eve 5:00pm
 Christmas Day
 Worship Service 10:30am

The Happy Hearts

Please note that the cut off date for paid reservations to Williamsburg Lodge is This Sunday, December 4th. The cost is \$15.00 If you are planning to go please see Sylvia Williamson with money in hand. We will plan to meet at the church at 10:30am on Tuesday, December 13th. We will travel by church bus and car pools. This is the perfect time of year to wear your Christmas finery and join in the celebration of the birth of our Lord with joy and thanksgiving.



See you soon! Mary 882-8396 Sylvia 873-8801

Christmas Musical & Dinner - Prior Hall

December 16 & 17 Dinner served at 6pm Music at 7pm

Adults \$5.00 each Children \$3.00 each

(no family prices for this event)

Dinner: Baked chicken, vegetables, salad and cheesecake

Tickets for each night will be available at the following times for purchase outside the kitchen door in the hallway

Tickets can be purchased at the church office

Monday through Thursday 8am—5pm

Wednesday November 30 - 5:15pm

Sunday December 4 - 9am, 10:15am and 12pm

Wednesday December 7 - 5:15pm

Sunday December 11 9am, 10:15am, 12:00pm

LAST DAY TO BUY TICKETS

Come for Music if you can not come for Dinner!



Hilton Singing Saints

December 5

Mennowood 2:00pm

After singing we will be going to Barbara and Bob's house— Don't forget

To bring your favorite food!

December 12

Riverside Day

Need some great Christmas Gifts?

HBC Cookbooks \$12.00 - Woodcuts of the church \$10.00

HBC Christmas Ornaments \$5.00 - HBC Note Paper \$4.00

See Brenda Windstead,

Sue Monfalcone

or stop by the church office

There is a display in Library window

See display in Library Window



Children's Christmas

Workshop

Saturday December 10th

Preparations are now being made for the Christmas Workshop. We need volunteers in all areas. Please see Debbie Reisbeck or Denise Vassar to help!



Weekly Assignment Schedule

Greeters

December 4 Richey Cooper
Debbie & Joyce Greene

December 11 Betty Lou Blanchard
Hilda Laubach

Lock Up

December 4 Bob Spiers
December 11 Robbie Ayscue

Van Driver

December 4 Susie Adams
December 11 Lloyd Ware

Nursery Workers

December 4 SS- Lauren Harris
Worship- Nancy Mitchell
December 11 SS- Amanda Whiesark
Worship - Amanda Whiesark

Children's Church 'Peace Makers'

December 4 Debbie Reisbeck
December 11 Tracy Venable

Sound Operators

December 4 Tim Humphreys
December 11 Bob Spiers

Usher

December 4 Michael Jackson
December 11 Joe Wircenske

Deacon of the Week

December 4 Sylvia Williamson
December 11 Joe Wircenske

*If you can not be present for your date,
please contact a replacement
person.*

Upcoming Meetings

In November

November 28 - 6:30pm

Facilities Team

Wednesday - November 30

6:15pm

Church Business Meeting

Upcoming Meetings

December

December 5

Worship Team Meeting 6:30pm

December 6

Deacon's Meeting 6:30pm

December 12

Vision Team Meeting 6:30pm

This Week at HBC

Wednesday, November 30th

5:15 pm Wednesday Night Dinner
6:15 pm Church Business Meeting
6:15 pm RA's & GA's
6:00 pm-7:30 pm Youth Bible Study
6:15 pm NC Practice
7:30 pm Adult Choir Practice

Saturday, December 3rd

9:30 am International Mission Prayer
Breakfast

Sunday, December 4th

8:45 am NC Practice
9:00 am Welcome Center
9:15 am Sunday School
10:30 am Worship Services

Church Business Meeting

**This Wednesday,
November 30**

**Please mark your calendar now for all the HBC
upcoming activities!**

Wednesday 11/30 Dinner 5:15pm and Business Meeting 6:15pm
Saturday 12/3 WMU / Men's Fellowship Prayer Breakfast 9:30am
Wednesday 12/7 PORT Begins
Saturday 12/10 Children's Workshop- 10:00am - 3:00pm
Saturday 12/14 No Dinner Served, Prayer Meeting only
Friday 12/16 Christmas Program, Dinner Served 6pm
Tickets available Adults \$5, Children \$3
Saturday 12/17 Christmas Program, Dinner Served 6pm
Tickets available Adults \$5, Children \$3
Wednesday 12/21 All church activities cancelled
Saturday 12/24 Christmas Eve Service 5:00pm
Sunday 12/25 No Sunday School, Worship Service Only 10:30am
Nursery Provided, No Children's Church
Wednesday 12/28 All church activities cancelled

Missions and more

PORT Clothing Items Needed

We are in need of the following clothing items for PORT. Please place your donation in the Missions Room.

New - socks, underclothes for both men and women and T-shirts

Gently used - large jeans, sweatshirts, long sleeved shirts and coats.

Please see Pam Cooke if you have any questions.

P.O.R.T.

We will be hosting PORT

December 7th—14th.

We need you! Please go to Prior Hall and find a place where you can help and sign up!

WMU and Men's Fellowship International Mission Prayer Breakfast

Saturday December 3rd

9:30am

Mr. Edwin Aadahl will be the guest speaker. We are looking forward to this time together. Please make plans to attend.

Church Food Pantry

Food pantry donations can be made anytime. Not only food can be donated but also toilet paper, soap, shampoo etc.

Thank you for giving to help those who are less fortunate!

December

H.E.L.P Dental
Clinic



Toothpaste,
toothbrushes,
dental floss & money

Church Pantry

Using Caution and Discernment In Our Generosity A "No Solicitation Policy" On HBC Property

In response to concerns expressed by our membership, and increased incidents of non-church members seeking out individuals for solicitation of funds or assistance – The Pastor and Deacon Body have found it necessary to establish a "No Solicitation Policy" on HBC property for the protection of our members and Church Family. All requests for money or food assistance should be directed through the Church Office to be carefully considered by our Benevolence Committee. They will be responded to by our church on a case-by-case basis and provided for according to our available resources. All individual church members are encouraged to be aware of this policy and abide voluntarily.

**PURE WATER,
PURE LOVE**
A Ministry of WMU



OUR ON GOING
MISSION



Poinsettias

We will be decorating our church sanctuary with Christmas Poinsettias. You will find a form in the weekly bulletin which can be filled out to make a donation to help purchase them. You can give your donation In Honor or In Memory of a loved one. We will list all the names in our Christmas Bulletin and Forecast. Just fill out the form and place it in the offering plate or bring it to the office with your donation. .

Hilton School of Music

Christmas Recital

Sunday,
December 18th
7:00pm
In the Chapel



There will be a reception to follow.

Being Mistaken as a Servant

And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the saints, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. (Ephesians 3:17)



As we approach Christmas over the next few weeks, I find myself more and more aware of the awesomeness of the nativity story. The Almighty God of the universe who poured the entirety of Himself into the form of human flesh to become the only begotten Son of God.. He who is the omnipotent God limiting Himself to weakness. The Alpha and Omega choosing to know his own beginning and end, though his own birth and death.

He is King of Kings and Lord of Lords, make no mistake about that. Yet Jesus didn't care if someone mistook him for a servant, and that's why he was comfortable grabbing the towel instead of the spotlight.

Can you see how much trust Jesus had in the Father that he would lay down all of his privileges in order to pick up the towel and bowl of a servant?

What we see in Jesus is what God wants in us: someone who fully grasps the magnitude of God's love, allowing the length, width, depth and height of his love to seep into our deepest parts. His love scrubs away our insecurities, and it gives us the energy and grace to serve others with the same passion that Jesus has to serve us (Ephesians 3:18–19).

The more you become like Jesus, the more you will passionately serve others. And that means they may mistake you for the “help.” Don't let that bother you, because if you get down on your knees, say, to clean up a spill, you'll find Jesus is already there with a wink, a smile and a towel. In fact, if you never learn to serve others with humility, you will never enjoy the closest fellowship possible with your Master.

You'll find him pleased that you are as passionate to serve others as he is to serve you. By passionately serving others, God will ignite the power in you to grasp the width, length, height and depth of his love for you and for those you serve.

As pastor of HBC my ongoing prayer is that God will fill our church with servant-hearted people. Will you join me? Ask God to show you specific ways you can serve others, starting today. Most likely it will be joining Him to grab the towel rather than the spotlight... and someone just might mistake you for just another one of the Father's special servants...

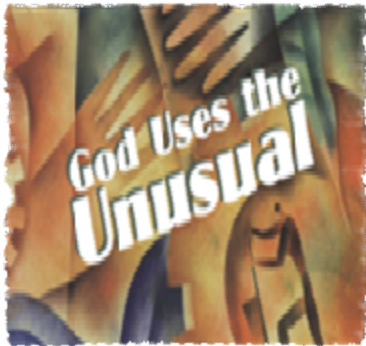
No Ordinary People

Do you think that your life doesn't mean much? Have you ever thought that your life is insignificant and that God has never given you anything of importance to do? Well, maybe you are doing exactly what God wanted you to do! God wants us to be faithful in whatever tasks He has given us. Any responsibility that God gives us, including the ordinary responsibilities of life, isn't "ordinary" in His eyes!



Do you remember Joseph, the husband of Jesus' mother, Mary? As far as most people were concerned, Joseph was just an ordinary man who never did anything special in life. He and Mary were poor, and after they settled in Nazareth, Joseph spent the rest of his life as a humble carpenter. (Matthew 13:55) He never preached or did missionary work. He simply raised his family and did his job to the best of his ability. But how did God see Joseph? Out of all the families in the world, God entrusted His Son to Mary and Joseph. God knew Joseph would be the perfect earthly father for Jesus (although in reality God was Jesus' father, not Joseph). Because of Mary and Joseph's faithfulness, "Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men." (Luke 2:52)

Thank God for the responsibilities He gives you! Thank Him too for His forgiveness when you fall short. But thank Him most of all for Jesus Christ, and that someday soon you will go to be with Him in Heaven if you have trusted Him as your Lord and Savior.



God Uses the Unusual

As you look back at all you have done and experienced in your life, are there things you wish hadn't happened? Are there decisions you made, that when you think about them now, you wish you had made a different choice? If you are like most folks, you will admit that your life hasn't been perfect in every way. I know in my life, there are many things that I wish I could undo.

When we begin to consider all the "less than ideal" choices and decisions we have made, it tends to make us think that God could never use us in His service. Why would God ever want to use someone like us, where there are so many more-qualified people that He could choose.

In 1 Corinthians 1:27 the Bible tells us that "God has chosen the foolish things of the world to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to shame the things which are strong." You see, God not only can use flawed and foolish people – but He has! In fact, as we enter into this Christmas season, we can see in the Bible just how God has chosen and used many such flawed people to bring about His perfect will in the incarnation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Communication with Pastor Wells



Will we meet our 2011 budget goals by 12/31/2011?

The Answer Is In Your Hands...

"Don't store up treasures here on earth ... Store them in heaven where they will never lose their value."

According to legend, a very wise old man lived on a hilltop overlooking the beautiful city of Venice in Italy. It was reputed that he could answer any question anyone might ask him. Two local boys figured they could trick him so caught a bird and took it to the wise sage. "Tell us," they asked, "is the bird in our hand dead or alive?"

The wise man replied, "Son, if I say the bird is alive, you will close your hands and crush it to death. Or, if I say the bird is dead, you will open your hands and it will fly away. The answer is in your hands."

And so it is with life, as well as with how we will end 2011 at HBC. Whether we succeed or fail, live meaningful or empty lives, lay up treasures in heaven or go empty handed to meet our Lord and Savior, it's all in our hands! For whatever we sow we reap. It's the law of the harvest.

Will you consider making a special 2011 year-end gift to HBC this Christmas – and help us to launch into next year with “VISION 2015” to accomplish greater things for God than we ever have before?

Pray and ask God what He would have you do!





December Birthdays

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Mary Linthicum Beverly Tawney
4	5	6 Leeann Jones	7 Carrie Anne Brothers	8 Patricia Collins	9 Nadine Batkins	10 Laura Ashburn
11 Jana Ashburn	12	13	14 Diane Figuenick	15	16	17 Walter Seaborn, Jr
18 Brittaney Hudgins	19 Dee Dee Ripley Meghan St. Ours	20 Joyce Spiers	21 Louise Barton Joseph Hudson	22 Bea Ware	23	24 Meghan Tawney
25 Karen Simpson	26 Charles Biddle Carrie Williams	27	28 Jean Davis	29 Mark Rogers	30 Anne Edison Brenda Egnot	31 Edith Bradley
<p><i>If your birthday is incorrect or is missing, please contact the church office.</i></p>						