

The HBC Weekly Forecast
Hilton Baptist Church. www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org
101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601



Over the past year of 2020, our lives have changed dramatically and in countless ways. We learned to shop differently, socialize differently, and travel differently. We have been challenged to be safe and socially distanced we were forced to try and experience new technology and create new routines.

Whenever you start something new can be *scary*. it can also be *sacred*. Especially when we allow God to create something new *inside us* so that we can adapt to the new *around us*...

*“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come:
The old has gone, the new is here!!” 2 Corinthians 5:17*

Change is happening all the time around us. Nothing stays the same, except our ability to synchronize our lives to adapt to the new and different. The same Jesus we serve who is the “...*same yesterday, today and forever,*” is also the Jesus who encourages us with the promise “*I make all things new!*” Revelation 21:5



Get Ready For Your Leap Of Faith!

“Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.” Hebrews 11:1

Indiana Jones' father is dying of a gunshot wound. The brave explorer has wound his way through a labyrinthine tomb in search of the one relic, the Holy Grail, that would save him. Figuring out each clever riddle, he ends up at a doorway to oblivion. Before him, a gap too far to jump across, and below him a bottomless pit, a fall into which would surely kill him. For those who have seen the movie, Indie says it to himself and knows it to be true. “It’s a leap of faith.” He has to jump, and trust that the thing he does that will kill him is actually the very thing that will save him, and his father. So, he closes his eyes—and leaps!

Have you ever taken a leap of faith? Have you ever jumped out on a limb, knowing it shouldn’t hold you, but believing that it would? We live on faith all day, every day. Faith that the earth will keep turning and gravity will keep us on the ground. Faith that breathing in will give us the oxygen we need at every moment. Faith that if the airplane is going fast enough, the wings will lift it off the runway. But these aren’t really leaps of faith because we’ve observed these things over and over, and some trust is built up that things will keep going as they have in the past.

No, a leap of faith is trusting, as the writer of Hebrews reminds us, in something unseen. A conviction of belief for something we haven’t observed firsthand. It was a leap of faith for Daniel to brave the lion’s den. It was a leap of faith for Abraham to raise a knife to his son Isaac as a sacrifice by God’s command. It was a leap of faith for the Centurion to trust that his servant was healed on the word of Jesus alone.

Encountering the challenges of 2021 will be another leap in our faith!

God desires and blesses leaps of faith. He is glorified in those who trust in Him wholeheartedly, with nothing else to go on other than God is Who He says He is. After Jesus’ resurrection, Thomas wanted to see Jesus before he believed that He had been raised from the dead. And He did! When Jesus saw him, He said, *“Have you believed because you have seen Me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed” (John 20:29).*

Are you willing to take a leap of faith into 2021? Are you willing to trust God on something, sight unseen?

“God, help me to know how to take a leap of faith for You. I want to please You by the way I trust You. I know You will do what You have promised. So let my life bring glory to You by the way I live for You, and have faith in You, and give You the benefit of my doubts. In Jesus’s name, Amen”

On the grace journey of travelling 2021 with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

December 29, 2020

Budget \$6500.35

In memory of Emma Beard for Birthday and Christmas \$150.00

In Memory of Hilda Laubach from the Tribble Class \$49.81

8-107 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering \$1977.00

8-112 Chaplains Fund \$50.00

8-145 Cash in Cash out- \$1.00 coffee Fund

8-145 Cash in Cash out- Insurance Claim on Van \$406.41

8-403 Food Closet \$2241.89

Total Deposit \$11,376.46

PORT

Starting January 6, 2021, HBC will be hosting PORT nightly until January 27.

PORT will look different this year compared to others. Please pray for Pam as she leads in this ministry and all the workers that we will have working here. And please pray for our quests, we are blessed to be able to help the less fortunate during these cold months.

Happy Birthday for the next two weeks

12/30 Anne Edison

12/30 Brenda Egnot

1/8 Zach Lowman

1/9 Debbie Greene

1/10 Mia Kuhlne

1/10 Heather Collins



Collected to Date

\$3797.00

MAY YOU SHINE
THE LIGHT OF
CHRIST IN THE
NEW YEAR!



WMU – December Outreach Project

Money will be collected for the Chaplain's Fund

Serve The City – sign up: stcpeninsula.com

Jan 5, 9:00-12:00 - food distribution at Berkley Village

Jan 9, 12:30-3:30 (Big Work Day) - yard work, sorting goods at Heart of Giving warehouse, trash pick up and lawn maintenance Elmerton Cemetery

Jan 24, 2:00-4:00

Trash pick up and lawn maintenance Elmerton Cemetery (partnering w/ Hampton Roads Hikers)

PORT – sign up: signup.com/go/qbHOttb

Hilton Baptist is Site B from Jan. 6-26 4 volunteers needed nightly 6:30-9:00

Food Pantry Focus

Sunday Dec. 27 Wednesday Jan. 6, 4:00-6:00pm

Hope Boxes for Appalachia

We are doing boxes for the kids that are eastern Kentucky deep in the Appalachian Mountains. Please pick up all the information in the Mission Outreach Corner.

For additional information or if you have questions, contact Pam at 660-4226

Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!



Calendar

Tuesday, December 29th

1:00-2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, December 30th

No Wednesday Night Bible Study

Thursday, December 31st

Church Office Closes at 1pm

Friday, January 1st

Happy New Year

Sunday, January 3, 2021

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

Tuesday, January 5th

6:00pm Vision Team Meeting

Wednesday, January 6th

PORT

Thursday, January 7th

PORT

Friday, January 8th

PORT

Saturday, January 9th

PORT

Sunday, January 10th

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

Pray for our Missionaries

Kiana Lee (American People) RM (Central Asian People) GB (East Asian People) MN, HR (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) DW (South Asian People) MG (Southeast Asian People) Amanda Brock, LS (Sub-Saharan African People) Jeff Bachman (CO) Thomas Gold, Greg Mott (MN) Jesus Cancino (Quebec) James Gibbs (TX) Allan McCullough (VA)





“PRAY” - New 4 Week Message Series!

Prayers aren't empty words hurled at the sky. They're conversations—in fact, they're the most important conversations of our lives. Find out just how much it matters when you pray!

This four-week series focuses on Paul's prayers for the early church and the "so that" statements he used in his writing. Each week, we learn to pray *so that* Christ may dwell in our hearts, we'll understand every good thing in Christ, we'll have one mind and voice to glorify God, and we can discern what is best.

“PRAY” – Our new 4 week message series begins this week! Plan to be here and invite your family and friends!

The Last Impression...

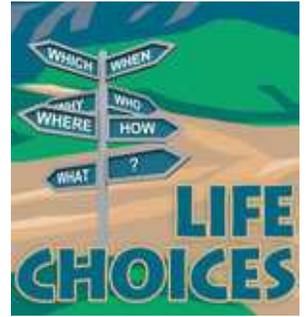
As another year rolls around, you may want to check out these signs that you are getting older:

- Everything hurts and what doesn't hurt doesn't work.
- You keep repeating yourself.
- You feel like the morning after and you haven't been anywhere.
- Your little black book contains only names that end in M.D.
- You keep repeating yourself.
- You finally reach the top of the ladder and find it leaning against the wrong wall.
- Your mind makes contracts your body can't meet.
- You look forward to a dull evening.
- ◆ You turn out the lights for economy rather than romance.
- ◆ You sit in a rocking chair and can't get it going.
- ◆ Your knees buckle, and your belt won't.
- ◆ You keep repeating yourself.
- ◆ You're 17 around the neck, 42 around the waist, and 105 around the golf course.
- ◆ Your back goes out more than you do.
- ◆ You sink your teeth into a steak, and they stay there.
- ◆ You have too much room in the house and not enough in the medicine cabinet.
- ◆ You know all the answers, but nobody asks you the questions.
- ◆ You're proud of your lawn mower.
- ◆ You keep repeating yourself...



What We Think

There is much we cannot control that takes place around us. We surely cannot control the weather, and we cannot control the things others may do or say. But, we do have the power to control ourselves! Every moment of every day, each of us makes decisions – choices – about how we will proceed in life.



Much of our life's direction is determined by the sum total of these daily decisions!

In all of our choices, the area that is perhaps most difficult to control, but at the same time is the most important, is the choice of what we think! There is a saying that goes like this –

Watch your thoughts, for they become words.

Watch your words, for they become actions.

Watch your actions, for they become habits.

Watch your habits, for they become your character.

Watch your character, for it becomes your destiny.

What we think, we become. Through the years, this phrase has been attributed to many individuals. Regardless of who originally penned these words, they are so true. In fact, they are biblical! Proverbs 4:23 tells us to *"be careful how you think; your life is shaped by your thoughts."*



Harvest What You Plant

Pretend you've come to visit me. I'm working in my greenhouse. (Neither my house nor my thumb is green, but let's pretend.) It's the perfect spot for flowers and fruit. You've always thought I was a bit crazy, but what I do next removes all doubt. I strip seeds off weeds – crab grass, grass burrs. You can't believe what you've just seen.

"I thought you wanted a greenhouse full of flowers and fruit!" you say.

"I do," I answer.

You ask, "Then don't you think you ought to plant flower seeds and fruit seeds?"

My foolish response, "Do you have any idea how much those seeds cost? No thanks, I'm taking the cheap and easy route."

Think for a moment of your heart as a greenhouse. Consider your thoughts as seed. Some become flowers. Others weeds. Sow seeds of hope and enjoy optimism. Sow seeds of doubt and expect insecurity. Galatians 6:7 says, *"People harvest only what they plant."* It starts in your heart. Pray that prayer today... *"create in me a clean heart Lord"*.

The Last Impression...

As a man and his wife were getting ready for bed, the wife was standing in front of a full-length mirror taking a hard look at herself.

“You know, dear,” she said, “I look in the mirror, and I see an old woman. My face is all wrinkled, my hair is grey, my shoulders are hunched over, I’ve got fat legs, and my arms are all flabby.” She turned to her husband and said, “Tell me something positive to make me feel better about myself.”

He looked hard for a moment thinking about it and then said in a soft, thoughtful voice, “Well, there’s nothing wrong with your eyesight.”

Services for the husband will be held Saturday morning at 10:30.



Taking Root: Be Grounded

In 2004 in Sweden, researchers found the oldest known living plant on earth, a 13-foot-tall Norway spruce. The visible part of the tree - the part above ground - is about 600 years old; but the tree's roots predate Abraham.

In fact, scientists believe they go back thousands of years. Whenever a stem or trunk dies, a new one emerges from the root stock, and that's what gives the tree its incredible longevity.

In Job 14:7-9 we read, "There is hope for a tree, if it is cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its tender shoots will not cease. Though its roots may grow old in the earth, and its stump may die in the ground, yet at the scent of water it will bud and bring forth branches..."

The Bible says we're like trees planted by the waters that spread our roots by the river (Jeremiah 17:8). We are told to be rooted and grounded in love (Ephesians 3:17) and rooted and built up in Him, established in the faith (Colossians 2:7). Jesus warned of the danger of springing up quickly, but having no roots, withering away (Matthew 13:6).

Personal Bible study is the best way to sink your roots deeply into the faith. At the beginning of this New Year, make up your mind to read and meditate on God's Word daily. You'll be like a tree planted by rivers of water that brings forth its fruit in season (Psalm 1:3).

New Years Resolution of Good Habits

“So I tell you this, and insist on it in the Lord, that you must no longer live as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their thinking.”

(Ephesians 4:17 NIV)



One of the things God does when he saves us is to target the bad habits in our lives. They're not good for us, and some have profound spiritual dimensions, so God wants to see them broken.

Occasionally these negative or bad habits are changed in an instant. There are other times, however, when God has to change things in our lives in order for entrenched habits to be overcome. He has to renew our minds, because we are used to thinking a certain way, and our thoughts may automatically go down old tracks that are not healthy for us.

It isn't enough to get rid of the old habits, however; we also have to begin some new practices. In his letter to the Ephesians, the apostle Paul told them not only to put off their "old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires," but also to "put on the new self"; not only to "put off falsehood," but to "speak truthfully to [their] neighbor" instead; not to steal any longer, but rather to "work so that they may have something to share with those in need."

It is said that it takes about a month or usually forty days or so, to make or break a habit, so as we put these good things into practice, we will gradually see good habits forming – habits such as spending time with the Lord and reading his Word every day.

It goes without saying that we must use wisdom in staying away from former haunts and refraining from watching or listening to things that could reignite old passions. And also to know that in the process, we are on a new journey and that we serve the God who make all things new!

Finally, we know that we can make new resolutions until we're tired of doing so, but nothing is going to change unless Christ is living his life through us; and, thankfully, that is what is promised to every believer. It is not our strength or the power of our traditions that transform us. It is sole the power of Jesus that frees us from our past and launches us into the newness of our futures!

Let's ask the Holy Spirit for the strength to walk in such a way that we are always aware of His presence and power. Let us trust in His renewal to break bad habits and the grace to make new, godly habits that will help us in our walk with the Lord, to the glory of his name.

On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood

Protected from the Big and Small

In May 1995, a 34-year-old construction worker by the name of Randy Reid was doing some final welding on top of a nearly completed water tower in one of Chicago's suburbs. At one point, Randy unhooked his safety belt so he could reach for some pipes. But at that same moment, a metal beam slipped off a nearby crane, and bumped the scaffolding Randy was standing on.



The scaffolding tipped, and Randy lost his balance. He fell 110 feet to the ground below. In landing, he just missed a pile of rocks and construction debris on the ground. Instead he landed face down on a pile of dirt.

A fellow worker saw the whole accident and immediately called 911. When paramedics arrived, they couldn't believe their eyes. They found Randy completely conscious, moving, and complaining that he had a sore back. Even though he went through such a horrendous fall, Randy still maintained his sense of humor. As paramedics carried him on a backboard to the ambulance, Randy asked one thing. He said, "Hey guys, be careful, will you? Don't drop me." When he arrived at the hospital and was examined by the doctors, and they discovered that the only injury he suffered was a bruised lung.

Friends, I think sometimes our faith resembles Randy. God protects us from harm in a 110-foot fall, but we're still nervous about three-foot heights. By that I mean, we have faith that God will save us from hell and death, but we're afraid that He won't be able to protect us from the smaller difficulties we are going to face this coming week.

The Last Impression...



A church deacon sat visiting with one of the shut-in members when the woman seemed to go into cardiac arrest. The deacon rushed to the phone and called 9-1-1, asking that they send an ambulance to the house immediately.

The operator asked, "What's the address, sir?"

The deacon wasn't sure of the exact address, but he knew she lived in the last house on Eucalyptus Lane.

The operator asked, "Can you spell that for me, sir?"

After a long pause, the deacon asked, "Um, how about if I carry her over to Oak Street and you can pick her up there?"



The World Beyond

"He will wipe away every tear from their eyes; and there will no longer be any death; there will no longer be any mourning, or crying, or pain; the first things have passed away." –

Revelation 21:4

In the last work written before he died in 1992, French composer Olivier Messiaen tried to imagine what lay beyond death. The work, called "Illuminations of the Beyond," was the culmination of a lifetime in which Messiaen pondered the things of God.

He described how he often spoke "of faith to atheists." But in this final work, Messiaen tried "simply to imagine what will come to pass." He focused on Jesus, "who will be the light of the resurrected: they will shine with the light of Christ."

In his last interview, he commented, "I imagined myself in front of a curtain, in darkness, apprehensive about what lay beyond: resurrection, eternity, the other life."

A famed musician described the first time he heard this piece in concert. When the music proclaimed, "And God shall wipe away all tears," he "started to weep uncontrollably." The music had such "incredible emotional power."

What the Bible tells us about Heaven should fill our hearts with joy. We can look forward to spending eternity with Jesus in the glorious place He has prepared for us (John 14:3). There, every problem we experience on earth will seem unimportant.

Today, do not be in despair or allow worry or fear to fill your heart. Remember, if you have committed your life to Jesus, you will spend eternity with Him. He will wipe away every tear from your eyes.

Attend in-person this Sunday – Arrive by 9:45 for seating

Watch "Facebook Live!" 10:00 AM

We are striving to be..."HBC Safe!"



COVID-19
guidelines

"Facebook Live" devotionals with Pastor Lynwood in

"Messages From Mill Point!" 9:00 AM Mon. – Fri. 15-minute daily

Wednesday nights 7:00 pm on *Facebook Live Midweek*

Bible Study" with Pastor Lynwood & Special Guests!



***Saying Hello To 2021
With A Special Gift Of Faith!***

As we come to the beginning of a bright and hopeful New Year, we want to plant our seed early on for the blessings we hope to receive during the next 12 months. To accomplish this, we need to sow our seed generously at the very outset of the year in an expression of our faith in His faithfulness.

The New Year is a reminder of the nature of our God... *“Behold I make ALL things new!”* And now is the time to lay hold of the promise of Isaiah where God says, *“Behold I do new things, and now they shall spring forth, verily you shall know them: I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.”* Isaiah 43:19

What do you believe God has for you do to honor Him as 2021 lies ahead?

The faith we as a church are willing to demonstrate beginning now in January will help set the goals we can aim for in the rest 2021 as we seek to strengthen the spiritual foundations of our beloved church. Each day we celebrate our past, we must likewise, in faith, created our future. Imagine an HBC where people are drawn by our love, faith and generosity – and want to come and be a part of a growing, vibrant church family.

The harvest of that dream we can look forward to is made possible by the seeds of our faith and financial gifts we sow now – Let’s celebrate all God has done for us this Christmas by doing all we can for Him!

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp

NO CARL! I SAID "REPENT"!



God is doing some exciting new and powerful things through the faithful people of God at HBC...

Please remember your commitments and giving and be part of the miracle!