

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



How do we remain hopeful in a world that seems hopelessly broken? How do we continue to trust a God that seems conspicuously absent? How do we find peace in a world that is spinning out of control?

If you've ever asked questions like these, you're not alone . . .
and you're not the first.

Uncertainty is nothing new. And the uncertainty we face today is no different from the uncertainty faced by the men and women of the Bible. And like them, we are left to question God's faithfulness, his presence, his concern. In this 3-part series, we're reminded that . . .

“He's Still Got the Whole World in His Hands!”*

Join us live at HBC 10:00 am this Sunday for a sanitized and safe worship experience – Or tune into Facebook Live and join in with our virtual worship experience – Invite a friend!



He's Still Got The Whole World In His Hands!

“The Most High rules in the kingdom of men, and gives it to whomever He chooses.” Daniel 4:25

When we raise our eyes and see the chaos around us, our natural instincts are to cower in fear. We feel overwhelmed by what we see and the things we hear. In our hopelessness and despair we sometimes feel defeated and resolved to that “Que Sera” mentality of “What will be will be.”

But, as a Bible believer, here are three words that should not be in your vocabulary: luck, coincidence, and fate. Replace them instead with the word providence, which means *“to see in advance and to provide for.”*

The Westminster Confession of Faith, written in the seventeenth century, states: *“God the great creator of all things doth uphold, direct, dispose, and govern all creatures, actions, and things from the greatest even to the least, by his most wise and holy providence.”*

That means God is in charge, not us! But what about our human will? Can't we act independently?

Theologian Dr. R. C. Sproul wrote, *“God's sovereign providence stands over and above our actions. He works out His will through the actions of human wills, without violating the freedom of those human wills.”*

Look at Joseph. His brothers tried to destroy him, but instead their efforts put him on the throne of Egypt and fulfilled God's will. Later he said, *“You meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring about this present result” (Ge 50:20).*

Judas' most heinous act helped bring about the best thing that ever happened, Christ's atonement for our sins on the cross.

Are you confused because of the things going on around you? One reason is because we often only look at the situation with our physical eyes. Use your eyes of faith to look beyond the horizon of the natural. Access the mind of Christ and you will begin to clearly see the God “who works ALL things together for your good” is still working on your behalf.

On this side of eternity, we look through a glass darkly. But there is coming a day when our faith shall be sight and the clouds be rolled back as a scroll. When we get to heaven God's light will put away darkness. Until then, trust Him. And rejoice, He's got the whole world in His hands—including you!

On the grace journey of travelling 2021 with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

January 12, 2021

Budget \$4406.00

Budget Designated –In Memory of Hilda Laubach \$25.00

Budget Designated– In Memory of Emma Fischer \$25.00

Budget Designated– Initial Offering \$65.00

Lottie Moon- \$100.00

Chaplains Fund \$75.00

Cash in Cash out– Sonshine Kids \$20.00

Cash in Cash out– Sonshine Kids in honor of Dreama's Birthday \$20.00

Cash in Cash out– Rent COP \$750.00

Food Pantry \$20.00

Food Pantry– In Memory of Emma Fishcer \$25.00

PORT \$500.00

Total Deposit \$6031.00

Lottie Moon
Collected to Date
\$3907.00

Letters of Thanks Received

- ◆ You were right there when it mattered most with you Help and Support...And you made more of a difference than you probably even realize. Thanks for all your help with the Hilton Home. Hope we can continue to work together on this much needed project. Carolyn Widener, Bethany United Methodist Church
- ◆ Thank you so much for all your prayers and gifts. May God continue to bless you richly. Blessings, Marisa Sanchez
- ◆ Never Doubt that a small group of thoughtful citizens can change the world: Indeed it's the only thing that ever has. Health and Happy New Year! Thanks for all you do at PORT. Charles Crone



WMU – January Mission Emphasis

Collecting money for PORT

Serve The City – sign up: stepeninsula.com

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

Contact Pam Cook—757-660-4226

Food Pantry Focus

Sunday, January 31 Pack the Pantry Sunday. Bring your nonperishable items when you come to church OR if you do not attend in person worship come by Wednesday

February 3- 4:00-6:00pm Drive Thru Back parking lot, pop your trunk and we do the rest!

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. Boxes are due February 21st

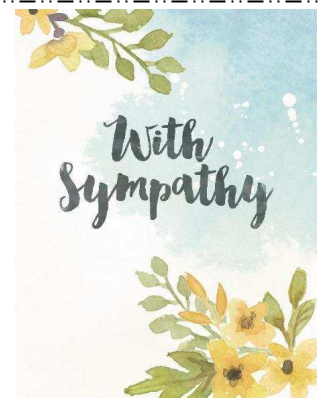
For additional information or if you have questions, contact Pam at 660-4226

We want to express our deepest sympathy to Richard

and Kathy Batkins

on the passing of their dad, Tommy Batkins.

*Please remember this family in your prayers
during this difficult time.*



Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!

Calendar

Monday, January 11– PORT

Tuesday, January 12 - PORT

1:00pm– 2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, January 13– PORT

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, January 14– PORT

1:00pm– 2:00pm Food Distribution

Friday, January 15– PORT

Saturday, January 16– PORT

Sunday, January 17– PORT

10am Live worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

Tuesday, January 19– PORT

1:00pm–2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, January 20– PORT

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, January 21– PORT

1:00pm–2:00pm Food Distribution

Friday, January 22– PORT

Saturday, January 23– PORT

Sunday, January 24 PORT

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

Happy Birthday for the next two weeks

1/13 Cathy Childs

1/13 Dreama Johnson

1/14 Mary Frances Beech

1/18 Debbie Riesbeck

1/20 Scott Dillon

1/23 Barbara Michie

1/23 Estelle Westfall



Pray for our Missionaries

LG, JG, JJH (Central Asian People) SK, ES (East Asian People) MH, EJ, KR, JS (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) SI (South Asian People) Amos Crews (AL) Cody Bilby (CO) Robert Allen (KY) Johnny Russell (MN) Edner William (Ontario) Scott Iken (WY)

Please continue to keep our PORT guests and volunteers in your prayers again this week. Thanks to Pam for heading up this important ministry, we appreciate your love for the homeless and we pray that God will bless you greatly.

My Relationship – “It’s Complicated!”

Facebook has an “It’s Complicated” option for a relationship status. If we’re honest, that’s what all of us should use. Relationships – all relationships – are complicated.

A graphic showing the text "Relationship Status: it's complicated" in a blue and white color scheme, with "it's complicated" in a larger, bold font.

So, how do we navigate this area of our life that is ever-present and indeed complicated? How do we define within the terms of our new and ever changing culture just what the basis and definition of our current status with another person is really all about?

Here’s the key, we must find our fulfillment in Christ and not others. This doesn’t mean we don’t enjoy being around people – we do – but they are not what completes us.

I like to think of it in this way. Christ is our completion; He makes us whole. Other people, including our spouses and significant others are our “compliments.” They enhance and enrich our lives.

I’m not a big fan of the term “my other half” for our spouse or significant other. That indicates that without someone else I am only 1/2 a person. But that’s not true. And this leads to giving single people a terrible and inaccurate thought that they are incomplete because they are single.

Both Paul and Jesus indicated that being single was a good thing. They weren’t anti-marriage, but they certainly weren’t anti-single.

Here’s the other problem with thinking we need another human to complete us – we will enter relationships expecting way too much from the other person.

In essence, we’re saying they need to be God in our life.

Someone has said, “Even the best spouse makes a terrible god.” It’s true. And to put another person in the position of trying to accomplish what only God can do – that’s devastating to any relationship.

Today’s Good News is that we can uncomplicate our relationships in a significant way just by learning the truth that in Christ we are already complete.

Then we can enter into relationships with others not needing them to be God, but just enjoying their company – as we compliment them and they complement us! So, go ahead, dive in, just remember you’re already complete – and that’s Good News!



Get A Grip On Your Griping!

"Do everything without complaining..." Philippians 2:14

Isn't complaining really just about words? No, it's much more than that!

First, complaining hands your power over to the people and circumstances you complain about, making you feel like their victim. It diminishes your ability to think of solutions, conditions your mind negatively and blunts your ability to receive creative ideas from God.

Positive outcomes don't grow in negative soil! You can't complain and create simultaneously. *"Can both fresh water and salt water flow from the same spring...can a fig tree bear olives, or a grapevine bear figs?..." (James 3:11-12)*

Complaints are verbal expressions of negative beliefs. They cancel positive intentions and confessions, rendering you powerless to reap the gains God offers. Complaining focuses on a past you can't change. It keeps you scavenging in yesterday's debris, searching for evidence about "who did what" and "when" and "why," while your present slips fruitlessly away.

Second, complaining is toxic to your relationships. *"...Do you not know...a little leaven leavens the whole lump?" (1 Corinthians 5:6)* Complaining invites others to complain. Injected poison toxifies every part of the body. Subtly, your relationship, your family, your workplace, your church and your environment become polluted. Complaining polarizes relationships. People who don't like stress, anxiety and negativity begin to distance themselves from you.

"The tongue has the power of life and death..." (Proverbs 18:21) – your life and death, and the life and death of others. So pray, *"Set a guard over my mouth, O Lord..." (Psalm 141:3); help me to avoid complaining.*

The Last Impression

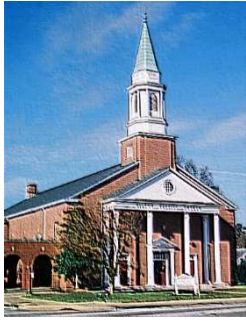
A middle-aged man was waiting for the bus. While he waited, he watched a young boy eat five candy bars, one right after the other. He said to the boy, "Eating all that candy is bad for your health and can rot your teeth."



The boy replied, "Mister, my grandfather lived to be 97 years old!"

The man said, "I'll bet he didn't eat five candy bars in a row."

The boy answered, "No, but he sure knew how to mind his own business!"



***Start Off The New Year Of 2021 Right,
With A Special Gift Of Faith!***

As we are beginning 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, let us consider sowing a special seed in our giving at the very outset of the year in an expression of our faith in His faithfulness.

“Give Your Best To God And Expect His Best Back To You!”



**P.eople
O.ffering
R.esources
T.together**



**PORT Winter Shelter Ministry
A Very Special “THANK YOU!”
To ALL Who Have Helped Or
Who Are Helping!**

***God preserved us
through 2020...
Let’s expect miracles
in 2021!
Please remember
your commitments and
giving and be part
of the blessing!***

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Thanks to Joy Garman

03-26-2007

**ONCE PASTOR DAVE NAILED THE PERFECT
SERMON, THE SPONSORSHIPS FINALLY
STARTED ROLLING IN**



Always Dependent Upon God's Blessing!

In his book *Turning Points*, historian Mark Noll has identified a dozen “decisive moments in the history of Christianity.” They range from the fall of Jerusalem in A.D. 70 to the Council of Nicaea in 325 to the conversion of the Wesleys in 1738 to the Edinburgh Missionary Conference in 1910, and the Charismatic movement of the last century.

In each of these pivotal events, the church stood at a crossroads involving and interweaving history, doctrine, and sociopolitical and cultural forces and trends. The decisions and actions of key leaders at these times, under God's sovereignty, shaped the future of the church for years to come.

In the book of Haggai we read the story of a turning point in the spiritual life of God's people. They had gone from neglecting the new temple and the spiritual state of their own hearts to obediently rebuilding the temple and joyfully participating in genuine worship. They had moved from self-centered to God-centered, and as a result were poised to experience His blessing on their harvests and community.

The prophet's final message is addressed to Zerubbabel, and it parallels the messianic passage earlier in the chapter (vv. 6-9). The first part reaffirms that God is sovereign and has a plan for the nations (vv. 21-22). The second part portrays Zerubbabel as a “signet ring” on God's hand (v. 23). One meaning of this image was that God would bless Zerubbabel as a leader, as opposed to King Jehoiachin, who as a “signet ring” had been discarded.

A second meaning of this picture was that Zerubbabel was a type or foreshadowing of Christ. Generally, a king's signet ring carries the authority of the king, just as Christ the Son is equivalent in authority to God the Father. From our vantage point in history, we know that Zerubbabel was in the line of David and an ancestor of Jesus. Zerubbabel, then, was chosen by God to lead in a special task, rebuilding the temple, at a key time in history, and both who he was and what he did had spiritual significance beyond that time, just as God had planned.

We know that Jesus the Messiah has come, and He will come again. We can have hope and confidence! *“While we wait for the blessed hope—the glorious appearing of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ,” we are “to say ‘No’ to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives” so as to become “a people that are [Christ's] very own, eager to do what is good” (Titus 2:11-14).*

In response to the cry of our faith, Christ says, “Yes, I am coming soon.’ To which John responds yes... Maranatha!

‘Amen. Come Quickly, Lord Jesus” (Rev. 22:20).



Fooled By Illusions

Now we see things imperfectly, like puzzling reflections in a mirror, but then we will see everything with perfect clarity. All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God now knows me completely.

1 Corinthians 13:12

In 1846, when he was 52 years old, Stephen Kearny was given command of the U.S. Army of the West. His assignment: To explore and secure control of the Western U.S. This frequently arduous assignment brought his army through many dangers. They encountered deserts, rivers, and seemingly endless prairies.

Critical to their success was seeing clearly, knowing what was ahead, being prepared, and making the best decisions about the path to take.

In his book about the American West, Hampton Sides describes how Kearny's army faced particular challenges in mountain regions. "Climbing imperceptibly into a thinner, drier atmosphere, the men found it harder to judge distances." They found themselves "tricked by optical illusions" and mirages.

One soldier provided this description: "Nothing appears as it is. About a mile distant from us appeared a crystal lake, studded with numerous islands, so perfectly defined that no one could imagine it to be anything else than a real lake. Though prepared for the illusion, many of the men believed it real."

Many people go through life fooled by illusions, even depending on the way things just appear.

The Bible encourages us to realize that there are many ways we can be deceived by illusions. That things can appear different than they really are. Jesus warned how easy it can be to make distorted evaluations of others. He warned us why we need to ask God for discernment, about others, about ourselves, about the circumstances we face, and about the world.

In your life, ask God for clarity and wisdom. Ask that you might not be fooled by illusions and the way things appear, but might see the world through His eyes.

Consider the following prayer...

"Father, I seek Your wisdom and discernment. Help me to see things in the world the way You see them. In Jesus' name. Amen. Pray especially for discernment for Pastor Lynwood and entire HBC Vision Team as they lead us to the next level of where God would have us be!"

An Old Farmer's Advice

- Your fences need to be horse-high, pig- ight and bull-strong.
- Life is simpler when you plow around the stump.
- Words that soak into your ears are whispered... not yelled.
- Meanness don't jes' happen overnight.
- Forgive your enemies. It messes up their heads.
- Do not corner something that you know is meaner than you.
- It don't take a very big person to carry a grudge.
- You cannot unsay a cruel word. Every path has a few puddles.
- When you wallow with pigs, expect to get dirty.
- The best sermons are lived, not preached.
- Most of the stuff people worry about ain't never gonna happen anyway.
- Don't judge folks by their relatives.
- Remember that silence is sometimes the best answer.
- Live a good, honorable life. Then when you get older and think back, you'll enjoy it a second time.
- Don't interfere with somethin' that ain't botherin' you none.
- If you find yourself in a hole, the first thing to do is stop diggin'.
- Sometimes you get, and sometimes you get got.
- The biggest troublemaker you'll probably ever have to deal with watches you from the mirror every mornin'.
- Always drink upstream from the herd.
- Good judgment comes from experience, and a lotta that comes from bad judgment.
- Lettin' the cat outta the bag is a whole lot easier than puttin' it back in.
- If you get to thinkin' you're a person of some influence, try orderin' somebody else's dog around.





Psalm 23 For The Workplace

The Lord is my real boss, and I shall not want.

He gives me peace, when chaos is all around me.

He reminds me to pray before I speak and to do all things without murmuring and complaining.

He reminds me that He is my Source and not my job. He restores my sanity every day and guides my decisions that I might honor Him in all I do.

Even though I face absurd amounts of e-mail, system crashes, unrealistic deadlines, budget cutbacks, gossiping co-workers, discriminating supervisors, and an aging body that doesn't cooperate every morning, I will not stop, for He is with me!

His presence, His peace and His power will see me through. He raises me up, even when they fail to promote me. He claims me as His own, even when the company threatens to let me go. His faithfulness and love are better than a bonus check.

His retirement plan beats every 401K there is! When it's all said and done, I'll be working for Him a whole lot longer; And for that... I will bless His Holy name!

One Last Laugh...

There were two men shipwrecked on this island. The minute they got on to the island one of them started screaming and yelling, "We're going to die! We're going to die! There's no food! No water! We're going to die!"

The second man was propped up against a palm tree and acting so calmly it drove the first man crazy. "Don't you understand?!? We're going to die!!"

The second man replied, "You don't understand, I make \$100,000 a week."

The first man looked at him quite dumbfounded and asked, "What difference does that make?!? We're on an island with no food and no water! We're going to DIE!!!"

The second man answered, "You just don't get it. I make \$100,000 a week and I tithe ten percent on that \$100,000 a week. My pastor will find me!"

