

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



It's been said that we may be the only Bible some people ever read. In other words, people around us often judge the truthfulness of Christianity by its affect in our lives. If they see us as hypocrites, they may not go any further in their investigation of the gospel.

Every day we rub shoulders with people who are watching us. Your life will demonstrate to them whether Christianity is true or false. They make value judgements about you by your attitudes and actions.

What we need is a revival of all these important qualities of our past. These are what I am calling the "Forgotten Virtues" of our culture in our exciting new message series... You don't want to miss!

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



The Virtue Of Integrity

It's been said that we may be the only Bible some people ever read. In other words, people around us often judge the truthfulness of Christianity by its affect in our lives. If they see us as hypocrites, they may not go any further in their investigation of the gospel.

Every day we rub shoulders with people who are watching us. Your life will demonstrate to them whether Christianity is true or false. They make value judgements about you by your attitudes and actions. Have we made the right choice?

After his Sunday messages, the pastor of a church in London got on the trolley Monday morning to return to his study downtown. He paid his fare, and the trolley driver gave him too much change. The pastor sat down and fumbled the change and looked it over, counted it eight or ten times. And, you know the rationalization, "It's wonderful how God provides." He realized he was tight that week and this was just about what he would need to break even, at least enough for his lunch. He wrestled with himself all the way down that old trolley trail that led to his office. Finally, he came to the stop and got up, and he couldn't live with himself. He walked up to the trolley driver, and said, "Here. You gave me too much change. You made a mistake." The driver said, "No, it was no mistake. You see, I was in your church last night when you spoke on honesty, and I thought I would put you to the test."

Fortunately, the pastor passed the test. Do you pass the test when unbelievers look at you and your life and wonder if the gospel is true? It's a convicting question. When we live lives of integrity, opportunities for evangelism and ministry surface. When we don't, those opportunities dry up and slip away forever.

I have been encouraging you to develop a life of integrity. In some respects, it's a life-long process. But we have to begin somewhere. Our lives are the collection of choices we have made in the past both good choices and bad choices. Perhaps you have seen the poem:

*Sow a thought, reap an act.
Sow an act, reap a habit.
Sow a habit, reap a character.
Sow a character, reap a destiny.*

I would encourage you to begin to focus on the verses and biblical principles delineated here. If you want to be a person of integrity, it won't happen overnight. But if you don't make a deliberate plan to be a person of integrity, it will never happen at all.

On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

June 8, 2021

Dreama is out of town this week so the
Contribution information will be included in next
Week's Forecast.



Another Way to Give



Vacation Bible School

August 9th– 13th

6:00pm– 8:30pm

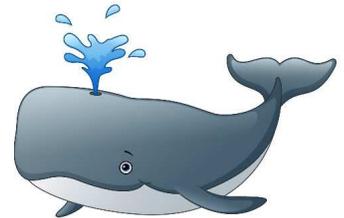


Table Captains are needed. We can use YOU!

Contact Dreama to help or register!



We will be celebrating our graduates in morning worship on June 13th.

Please plan on being a part of this special service.

Happy Birthday for the next two weeks

6/9 Kimberly Michie

6/11 Dave Gwaltney

6/14 Scott Kuhlne

6/15 Brooklyn McDowell

6/18 Lloyd Ware



Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226

Serve The City

June 12th– Big Volunteer Day 9am-2pm

Register online at <https://www.stcpeninsula.com>

Big Volunteer Week– July 13th– 17th. Registration is open now!

WMU Focus

WMU Missions Focus for June– Lackey Free Clinic. Services provided there are Primary and Specialty Medical Care, Dental Care, Free and Low Cost Medicines, Behavioral Health Counseling, Spiritual Care, Better Vision Eye Care.

Food Pantry at HBC

HBC gives food away on Tuesdays and Thursday. See Sue Monfalcone to volunteer and for more information on how you can help.

Pray for Our Missionaries

BB, DH, EM (Central Asian People) JH, RW (East Asian People) Danielle Flannery (European People) NF (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) KD, JU (South Asian People) Rolly Delgado (AZ) Dale Huntington (CA) John Wiggins (FL) Derrick Marcus (IN) Larry Lucas (LA) Marilyn McClendon) Adewale Jimatanrareje (MD) Jeffery Deel (OH) Barbara Decker (OK) Mauricio Botello (Ontario)



Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!

Calendar

Monday, June 7th

Church office closed

Tuesday, June 8th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

6:30pm Vision Team Meeting

Wednesday, June 9th

Church Office Closed

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, June 10th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

Sunday, June 13th

Graduation Sunday

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Monday, May 14th

Flag Day

Tuesday, June 15th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, June 16th

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, June 17th

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

Sunday, June 20th

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

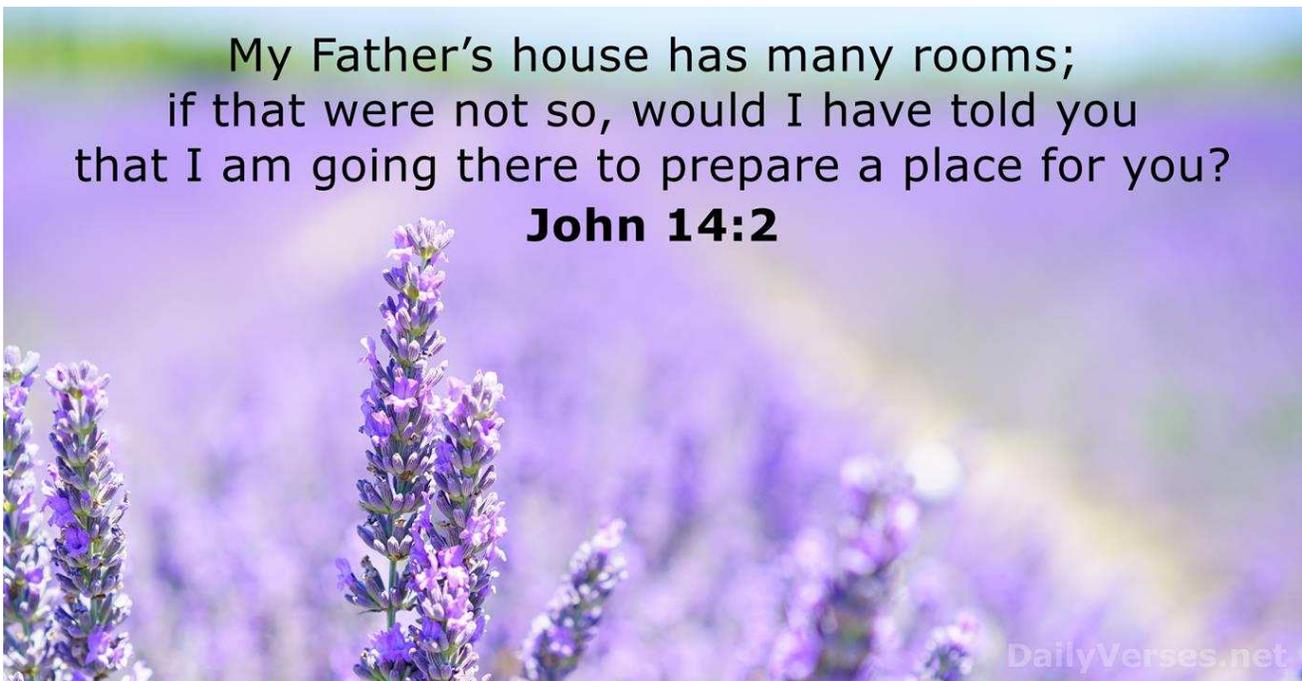
Happy Father Day

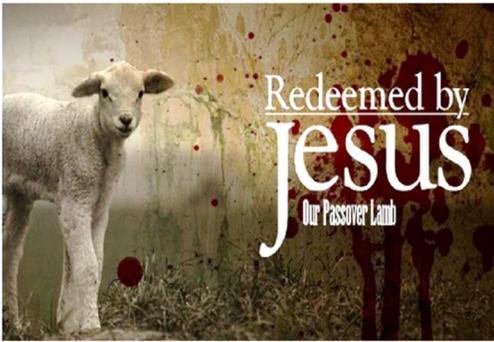
The church office will be closed on Monday, June 7 and Wednesday, June 9th

Karen Simpson will be in the office on Tuesday, June 8th to answer the phone and be there for food referrals from the United Way.

My Father's house has many rooms;
if that were not so, would I have told you
that I am going there to prepare a place for you?

John 14:2





By The Blood Of The Lamb

Imagine with me. It is a hot dusty day in a hot dusty land. The wind rises, blowing hair into the eyes of a young man. All around are the noises and smells of the market and temple. The air is filled with the bleating of sheep, the lowing of oxen and the shouting of people. Each step he takes he is hustled and pushed by those around him. They all are heading to the same

destination. The temple.

The young man presents his lamb to the Levite priest before him. The priest examines the lamb thoroughly. He opens his mouth, checks his hooves. Runs his hands up and down each leg. He checks for flaws, defects. Then the priest nods solemnly. Relief floods the young man's heart. His offering was perfect. Acceptable. A weight lifts off his shoulders. He is forgiven.

Did you notice? Did you see? The priest didn't look the young man up and down. He didn't glance his shoes, look in his eyes, or ask for a record of how he spent his time in the last week. There is no third degree or scrutiny of the man's heart and character. The young man did not have to be perfect or acceptable to be forgiven. The sacrifice needed to be perfect and acceptable. The sacrifice needed to be blemish free.

The Bible says *"you must bring to the Lord as the penalty for your sin a female from the flock, either a sheep or a goat. This is a sin offering with which the priest will purify you from your sin, making you right with the Lord."* Leviticus 5:6 The Old Testament sacrificial code is a shadow and a foreshadowing. It shows us how we are forgiven. It shows us how we become acceptable with God.

Just as the young man had his sin covered by the blood of the acceptable lamb so too, we come before God covered and made acceptable by an offering. The offering of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

1 Peter 1:1-19 *And the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. It was the precious blood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God.* And just as the priest didn't examine the young man to see if he was blemish free God doesn't look at us, he only looks at the Lamb of God who takes away our sins. The blood of Jesus, the Lamb, covers us and makes us acceptable.

Did you see that? Did you feel that? We don't need to be perfect to come to God. The perfect sacrifice was given in Jesus. When we first come to God (pre-Christian) we are totally blemished and defective because of sin. The Bible says we are dead to God. We are made acceptable by trusting in the sacrifice of Jesus. The sacrifice has been paid. We are forgiven.

This is what faith is!

We Are Called To Belong, Not Just Believe – by Rick Warren



“God’s family is the church of the living God, the pillar and foundation of the truth.” (1 Timothy 3:15b)

You are called to belong, not just believe.

Even in the perfect, sinless environment of Eden, God said, *“It is not good for the man to be alone”* (Genesis 2:18a NIV). We are created for community, fashioned for fellowship, and formed for a family, and none of us can fulfill God’s purposes by ourselves. The Bible knows nothing of solitary saints or spiritual hermits isolated from other believers and deprived of fellowship.

The Bible says we are put together, joined together, built together, members together, heirs together, fitted together, and held together and will be caught up together (1 Corinthians 12:12; Ephesians 2:21-22, 3:6, 4:16; Colossians 2:19; 1 Thessalonians 4:17).

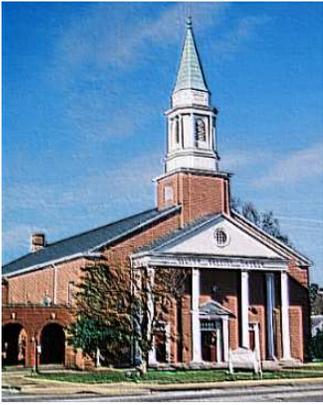
You’re not on your own anymore!

While your relationship to Christ is personal, God never intends it to be private. In God’s family you are connected to every other believer, and we will belong to each other for eternity. The Bible says, *“In Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others”* (Romans 12:5).

Following Christ includes belonging, not just believing. We are members of his Body — the Church. C. S. Lewis noted that the word “membership” is of Christian origin, but the world has emptied it of its original meaning. Stores offer discounts to “members,” and advertisers use member names to create mailing lists. In churches, membership is often reduced to simply adding your name to a roll, with no requirements or expectations.

To Paul, being a “member” of the church meant being a vital organ of a living body, an indispensable, interconnected part of the Body of Christ. We need to recover and practice the biblical meaning of membership. The church is a body, not a building; an organism, not an organization (Romans 12:4-5; 1 Corinthians 6:15, 12:12-27).

God’s purposes for his church are identical to his five purposes for you. *Worship* helps you focus on God; *fellowship* helps you face life’s problems; *discipleship* helps fortify your faith; *ministry* helps find your talents; *power* helps fulfill your *mission*. There is nothing else on Earth like the church!



HBC - Becoming The Church God Intends Us To Be!

There is no greater movement in the history of the world than the church. The church, at her best, is unstoppable! This passage describes the key components of a healthy local church.

The church is not a building we come and sit in; it is a movement we choose to be a part of. The church = people. In Acts 2, as the people met together, the church became attractive to a watching world. God added to their number every day!

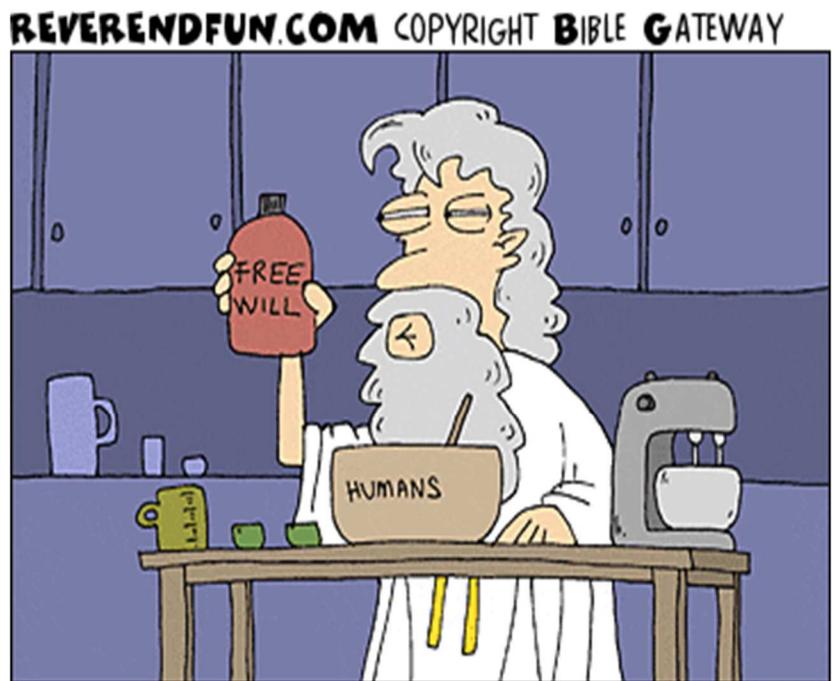
The reality is that the hope of the world is the message of Jesus through the local church. *And you have a place in that!* You are invited to be a part of the greatest movement in the history of the world.

If you view church as only a place you go to once a week, then you are missing out on all that God intended for you. God desires you to belong to a small group community, a group of people you can be challenged with, share with, cry with, and laugh with. This group wants to do life with you. This fall, when groups launch back up, make a commitment to join a group. The reality is we are all better together.

Along with that, God is inviting you to use your gifts within the church. Opportunities exist for you to follow Jesus. By serving, you will experience the awe and favor of God, in the guests we greet, the kids we serve and students we invest in. No matter where you choose to serve, there will be life change in you, and in those you serve.

***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!***



09-07-2007

**EVER WONDER IF GOD HAD ANY SECOND
THOUGHTS?**

God's Great Puzzle

Would you agree that nothing is so disappointing as when you are completing a jigsaw puzzle and discovering that one last piece is lost. The 2500 piece puzzle looks broken without it. It's incomplete, so the whole message isn't there. That ultimate pinnacle is not reached ... the beauty of the puzzle is diminished.



Wow, isn't it the same as God and his Word?

Like a puzzle, the body of Christ consists of many parts, which together make a complete picture. God has equipped each believer with particular gifts needed to do what God has called him or her to do. When that person is missing or not able to carry out his role, an important part of God's plan is missing. The picture is incomplete. Not only does that person miss out on being part of God's great puzzle, but all the other pieces are affected too. They won't connect as a whole.

God has a perfect plan for His body of believers ... including you! Like the pieces of a puzzle, each one of us has a specific place and a specific task to fulfill. When every piece is in its God-designed place, the picture is perfect. But when just one piece is missing, the body is incomplete and Satan gains.

So, when you see others struggling, realize that you are hurt when they aren't able to fulfill their roles. You are part of that incomplete mosaic of believers. Look to help those who struggle, not only because God calls you to "care for the least of these," but also because you will benefit from being part of a complete picture.

Today, take ownership of your place in the puzzle. Are you a lost piece ... one that dropped off the table? Are some of your edges worn down or jagged ... not fitting smoothly into the other pieces? Ask for feedback today from 2 people who are close to you. How can you fit better into God's puzzle? Your decisions can sabotage God's perfect fit, so align your decisions with God's ways. Stop working against God. Working with your God-designed fit will lead to a pleasurable and easier life. The kind of puzzle piece you are is your decision, so choose well.

Prayer: *Father God, Thank You for letting me know that I am an important part of Your Grand puzzle. And thank You, Father, for equipping each member of Christ's body, the church, to do what You have called him or her to do. Help me to be aware and sensitive as You lead me to do my part. Instead of judging or ridiculing others who are struggling, help me encourage and assist them in fulfilling what You have called them to do. I ask this in the name of the ultimate picture on the puzzle box, Jesus Christ; and all God's children say – Amen!*

Guard Your Heart

The Bible says, *“Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life.” (Pro 4:23)*



You are the overseer of your heart. Each day you must monitor what goes on there. You can't blame your bad attitude, resentment and unforgiveness on others. You are responsible! When somebody offends you, it's up to you whether or not you let bitterness take root. You can't control what other people do, but it's the “inside” part – the part you can control – that God holds us accountable for. You get to decide whether or not irritation turns into anger, anger into resentment, and resentment into retaliation.

The reason weeds take over a garden is because the gardener doesn't pull them up fast enough. When your garden is choked by weeds you can't say, “I don't know how it happened!” “Look diligently,” you will see them moving in. The only way to stay free of the weeds the enemy wants to sow in your life is to be attentive to the condition of your heart.

When you're faced with a hurtful, offensive situation, refuse to let a wrong attitude take root and produce bad fruit. Instead, ask God to help you replace those destructive thoughts with mercy and forgiveness towards the people who hurt you.



The Last Impression

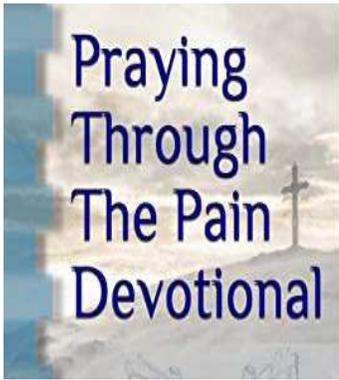
The pastor enjoyed sharing a special “children's message” each Sunday morning. He'd bring all the children up, and they'd sit on the floor, and he'd tell them a story. One day he said, “Boys and girls, I want to tell you a story about someone who likes to live in the woods, but sometimes we can see him in our yards. Anybody have any idea who I am talking about?”

No takers. He said, “I want to tell you about a creature that lives in the woods and sometimes in our yards, has a big bushy tail, likes to eat nuts. Anybody have any idea what I'm talking about?”

No takers. He said, “I'm talking about a creature that lives in the woods, sometimes in our yards, big bushy tail, eats nuts, likes to climb trees, jumps from tree to tree—now, does anybody know what I'm talking about?”

One kid raised his hand to take him out of his misery. The pastor said, “Do you know what I'm thinking about?”

The kid said, “Yeah. I know the answer should be Jesus, but it sure sounds like a squirrel to me.”



Praying Through The Pain

“Draw near to God and He will draw near to you.” James 4:8a

Does it ever feel like the heartbreak in your life is trying to break you? I understand. I really do. I’ve been in that place where the pain of heartbreak hits with such sudden and sharp force that it feels like it cuts through skin and bone. It’s the kind of pain that leaves us wondering if we’ll ever be able to function like a normal person again.

But God has been gently reminding me that pain itself is not the enemy. Pain is the indicator that brokenness exists. Pain is the reminder that the real enemy is trying to take us out and bring us down by keeping us stuck in broken places. Pain is the gift that motivates us to fight with brave tenacity and fierce determination, knowing there’s healing on the other side.

And in the in-between? In that desperate place where we aren’t quite on the other side of it all yet, and our heart still feels quite raw? Pain is the invitation for God to move in and replace our faltering strength with His. I’m not writing that to throw out spiritual words that sound good; I write it from the depth of a heart that knows it’s the only way.

We must invite God into our pain to help us survive the desperate in-between.

The only other choice is to run from the pain by using some method of numbing. But numbing the pain — with food, achievements, drugs, alcohol or sex — never goes to the source of the real issue to make us healthier. It only silences our screaming need for help.

We think we are freeing ourselves from the pain when, in reality, what numbs us imprisons us. If we avoid the hurt, the hurt creates a void in us. It slowly kills the potential for our hearts to fully feel, fully connect, fully love again. It even steals the best in our relationship with God.

So how do we get this new strength? How do we stop ourselves from chasing what will numb us when the deepest parts of us scream for some relief? How do we stop the piercing pain of this minute, this hour?

We invite God’s closeness. For me, this means praying. No matter how vast our pit, prayer is big enough to fill us with the realization of His presence like nothing else.

Our key verse (James 4:8a) reminds us that when we draw near to God, He will draw near to us.

What a wonderful revelation,, When we invite Him close, He always accepts our invitation!



Radiant Certainty

" You will grieve, but your grief will turn to joy. A woman giving birth to a child has pain because her time has come; but when her baby is born she forgets the anguish because of her joy that a child is born into the world. So with you: Now is your time of grief, but I will see you again and you will rejoice, and no one will take away your joy." – John 16:20-22

There are some days when, frankly, I don't feel much like worshipping God. There are probably more days like that than I'd care to admit. But usually those are days are when I'm staring at my circumstances and making faithless judgments about what I see around me. And I struggle with the God-truth that he is in the circumstances that surround my life – all the circumstances.

Have you ever considered that heartbreak is part of God's plans for you, *"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future"*? (Jeremiah 29:11) We put so much energy into avoiding the hurt when God would have us embrace it. He wants us to know that he can heal our hurts, even use our hurts for his benefit, and for us to faithfully believe that sometimes the circumstances we think are harming us are actually positive situations God is engineering.

As always, Jesus shows us the way – because he is the Way. Jesus embraced the pain of God's plan for his life, and he did it with full faith that God was still working the plan to bring a *"hope and a future"* to your life and mine. (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV) Christ was so sure that his grief would turn to joy that he showed a radiant certainty in God's faithfulness.

And we, too, can have this radiant certainty about God's hand in our lives. We can say, when it comes to God's faithfulness, *"I know because I know that I know."* That's radiant certainty. The Cross was Christ's glory, not His penalty – and the same is true of difficult circumstances in our lives!

A Final Laugh... "Tainted Money "

Timmy didn't want to put his money in the offering plate Sunday morning, so his mother decided to use some hurried creative reasoning with him. "You don't want that money, honey," she whispered in his ear. "Quick! Drop it in the plate. It's tainted!"



Horrified, the little boy obeyed. After a few seconds he whispered, "But, mommy, why was the money tainted? Was it dirty?"

"Oh, no dear," she replied. "It's not really dirty. It just 'taint yours, and it 'taint mine," she replied. "It's God's."