

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



It's hard to imagine what it must've been like to encounter the One who was foretold by prophets and arrived as a baby in a manger. In this new and exciting Christmas series, "Witness His Majesty," the story of Christ's miraculous birth is told by people who saw Him firsthand, like Joseph, a wise man, and the innkeeper's son, as well as by Mary's mother and a shepherd's wife, who had to believe without yet seeing Jesus for themselves.

We began in week one imagining together what things would have been like for "The Mother of Mary" What would it have been like if Mary's family didn't at first believe her story about conceiving God's baby? Then last week we looked through the eyes for Joseph and the tumult of emotions which tested his will and character.

This week, we will focus on the "The Innkeeper's Son." Though he was only 14 when it happened, the innkeeper's son, now grown, recalls what it was like the night his dad made room in the barn at their inn for a desperate man and his pregnant wife. Looking at his dad as a hero, the innkeeper told his boy that tonight, it was God who was the true hero, sending His Son to save us all!

***Join Us Each Week For A Fresh Look At The Birth
Of Jesus and What It Means To Each
Of Our Lives Today!***



“Christmas Joy!”

Joy is one the great blessings of Christmas. It shows up Christmas services with beautiful music. Joy is in the giving and receiving presents. Joy can be evident in reconnecting with family. True joy is not dependent on circumstances but is a gift from God even when times are tough.

Joy is contagious. I remember years ago, one December when our “Singing Saints” group caroled at a local rehabilitation center, I noticed some residents joined in the singing while others did not. One man in a wheelchair frowned through every song. No hint of a smile at all. I could see that life had been hard on him by his physical weakness. His face was stern, his eyes sad.

When asked if he would join in the singing, he shook his head. He didn’t move away from us but remained in the hall near us. Soon his lips formed the words of a familiar carol.

“I thought you weren’t going to sing,” I asked.

“It was too hard to not do it.” I have never forgotten his response. As much as he tried, he couldn’t resist it. His eyes grew a little brighter. The power of Christmas joy drew him in.

What makes Christmas joy so special?

Joy comes with the birth of Jesus because Old Testament prophecies for salvation had been fulfilled. God kept His word and the Word became flesh. This is a reason for joy.

Joy is expressed through music retelling the story of Jesus’ birth. In the first two chapters gospel of Luke there are four different songs about Jesus’ birth: Elizabeth, Mary, Zacharias and Simeon. All of these reflect wonder and joy at what the Lord has done.

Joy comes from God. The angels proclaimed: *“Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord.” Luke 2:10-11*

Their message brought the joy of salvation. We can receive the message of Christmas joy and spread it to those around us. Joy to the world! The Lord has come! Let earth receive her king! Let every heart prepare Him room.

Look in the manger to see the good news of great joy—a Savior has been born. May that joy touch your heart in a new way this year and always!

On the grace journey to Christmas together with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

December 7, 2021

Budget \$4125.00
Lottie Moon \$455.00
Chaplains Fund \$100.00
Cash in Cash out– Sonshine Kids \$25.00
Food Closet \$355.00
PORT \$1000.00
Total Deposit \$6040.00

Budget Vote for 2022

\$312,635.68

2 no

27 yes

Total Vote 29

November Recap

Budget Deposits \$18,917.86
Budget Expenses \$23,963.22
Designated Deposits \$5623.65
Designated Expenses \$6548.78

PDF/ RR \$14,466.13

PDF \$5188.09

RR \$8901.63

Deacons \$376.41

Money Market \$173,123.08

Building Fund \$38,464.70
Savings \$123,990.99
Outreach \$10,667.39

Designated Account

\$71,349.77



Children's Christmas Workshop

Saturday, December 11th 10am-2pm

Spread the word!

You can register now! Ages 4– 12 years old!

Fliers are available in the Connection Center.

It is a fun time for all! Invite your neighbors!



Southern Baptist churches collect the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for the sole purpose of supporting International Missions. Every penny of the offering goes to the International Mission Board's overseas budget, thus supporting our missionaries and their work.

Collected to Date: \$1105.00



Calendar

Tuesday, December 7th

1:00pm-2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, December 8th

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, December 9th

1:00pm– 2:00pm Food Distribution

Friday, December 10th

1:00pm– 2:00pm Food Distribution

Saturday, December 11th

10am-2pm Children's Christmas
Workshop

Sunday, December 12th

10am Live Worship at HBC
Virtual Worship Online
Sonshine Kids

Tuesday, December 14th

1:00pm–2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, December 15th

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, December 16th

1:00pm– 2:00pm Food Distribution

Saturday, December 18th

Christmas Dinner and Musical 6:00pm

Sunday, December 19th

10am Live Worship at HBC
Virtual Worship Online
Sonshine Kids

Happy Birthday in December

- Derrick Moore 12/18
- Meghan St. Ours 12/19
- Joyce Spiers 12/20
- Bea Ware 12/22
- Karen Simpson 12/25
- Anne Edison 12/30
- Brenda Egnot 12/30



Lock up/ Greeter

- 12/12 Stan Langdon
- 12/19 Joe Wircenski

Counter

- 12/16 Sue Monfalcone
- 12/20 Myrna Powell

Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226

WMU Focus

The WMU Focus project for the month of December is socks for Hilton Plaza and also money for the Chaplain's Fund.

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. Bring your non-perishable food to restock the pantry the last Sunday of every month.

'Pray for Our Missionaries/ Ministries

KE, WK (Central Asian People) Myoung-Seok Bae, CC (East Asian People)
JC (European People) HK (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) MB, KE, AR (South Asian People) Charlie Bone, CC AD (Southeast Asian People)
James Langston, Scott MacDonald, Mark Wint (Sub-Saharan African People)
Jay Simard (Alberta) Cathy Chinn (KY) Todd Bolton (OH) Dean Johnson (OK) Brian Hensley (TB)

Aluminum Cans

Recycle your cans at HBC and help Support missions! Bring them to HBC and place them in the gym or the church office. All money collected goes to missions!

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

Thanks to all who rang the bell at the Walmart on Jefferson and Mercury on Saturday. The bucket HBC had raised \$403.09 for the Salvation Army!

Thanks for your time to help others!

Salvation Army Angel Tree

Thanks to all who helped provide toys and happiness to the 6 kids that we had names for. Their Christmas will be extra special because of you!

Bread Give Away

We have changed the location of where we give bread on Sunday Mornings. Please check the back of the church on the right hand side. It gives Sue more room to put the goodies out for give away. Don't leave on Sunday Morning without checking it out!

Sedgefield Elementary School Outreach

We are collecting individually wrapped sweet treats and snacks to present to the teachers and faculty of Sedgefield Elementary School when they return to school in January. We also will have cards for you to fill out on the Mission Outreach table this Sunday. Make sure you pick up a few cards and write a note of encouragement to the staff/ faculty of Sedgefield School. Just drop off your treats and cards at the Missions Outreach Table.

Upcoming Events in the Church through December 31, 2021

Saturday, December 11th– Children’s Christmas Workshop

10 am-2pm Kids 4– 12 years old

Saturday, December 18th– Church Christmas Musical and Dinner

6:00pm Dinner 7:30pm Musical

We will be having a covered dish dinner for our Christmas Dinner this year. The church will be providing chicken and we are asking everyone that is attending the dinner to bring side dishes and desserts. We will be putting it all together and enjoy a wonderful church family dinner and musical.

Friday, December 24th

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service 5:00pm

Sunday, December 26th– Sunday Worship 10am

Sonshine Kids Church

December 31st– Community Dinner 5:30-6:30pm

If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



shutterstock.com · 537507619

Don't Get Stressed

The Wrapping Ministry wants to bless you with your gift-wrapping needs. This is **FREE** service offered to anyone. Allow us to come to your home or you can bring your items to ours. You can also choose to attend our event on December 18, 2021, at Hilton Baptist Church 101 Main Street.

- *All supplies are provided at any site at no cost, *Services are performed at location of your choice, *Fellowship and prayer are always encouraged
- *Light snacks are offered at event

There isn't anything that can't be wrapped. We are flexible with requests. Call to schedule a personalized session or reserve a time slot at the event.

For more information or to reserve a time slot contact:

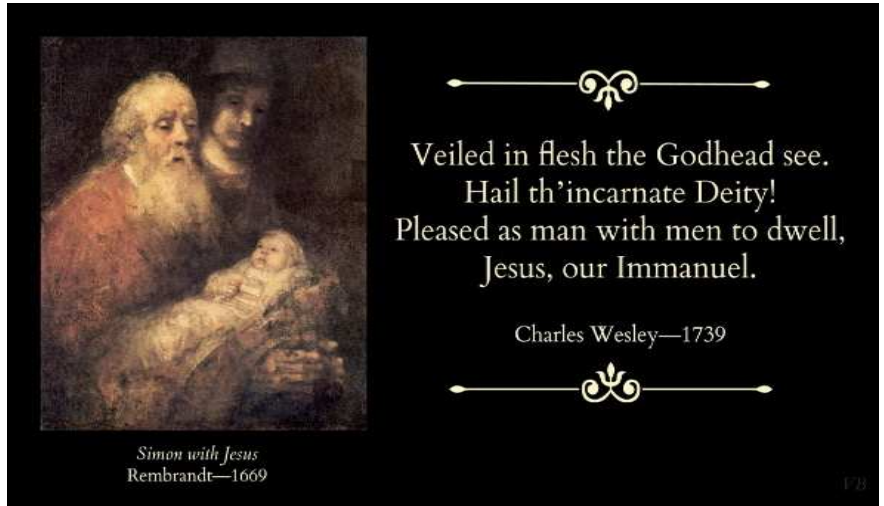
Pepper Savoy @ 757-236-3027

Hail the Incarnate Deity!

On that still winter's night, something was up... Something extraordinary...something supernatural.

The shepherds raced to the City of David and found their Savior, just as the angel had said... swaddled and lying in a feeding trough. This was the Promised

One, the Messiah! God had finally come to dwell with His people, but in such an unexpected way.



Just who was this holy Child the shepherds gazed upon? Make no mistake: He was incarnate deity. The newborn Jesus existed in eternity past as God the Son. He was coequal, coeternal, and coexistent with God the Father and God the Holy Spirit.

However, Jesus relinquished the privileges and the pleasures of His existence in heaven when He took upon Himself the limitations of humanity (Philippians 2:6-7). In emptying Himself, Jesus voluntarily set aside the prerogatives and prerequisites of life as He had known it, an existence He had enjoyed; He released His right to that kind of life, saying to the Father, "I will go."

Go where? To Bethlehem. He took "the form of a bond-servant, and [was] made in the likeness of men." Allow yourself to picture what the shepherds saw. There He is, the baby. Do you see His ten fingers and ten toes? His button nose? Can you hear the cries? There's humanity. In this holy infant is the beginning of an earthly life. Look deep into His eyes and see the beginning of life itself.

Later, this divine man, completely unique in His nature and in the perfect life that He lived, "humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross." Isn't that amazing? Of all ways to die, He died on a cross—the most humiliating and painful kind of death.

God the Son lowered Himself. He took on the flesh of an infant. He died a humiliating death. As a result, God the Father "highly exalted Him." One day, all will bow in worship of the risen Lord, "to the glory of God the Father."

It's all about His glory. What a plan. What an execution. What a perfect, awesome wrapping! The God-man. Jesus is undiminished deity and true humanity, two distinct natures in one person, forever. That's the baby in the manger!



The Joy of Worship At Christmas

“Happy are those who hear the joyful call to worship, for they will walk in the light of your presence, LORD.” - Psalm 89:15

Joy echoes through every stage of the story of the birth of Jesus, beginning with the magi. After following the star for weeks, they were “filled with joy” when it stopped over Bethlehem (Matthew 2:10). That star meant fulfillment: They would be brought into the presence of the great King.

An angel told Zacharias that his wife, Elizabeth, would give birth to a son (John the Baptist), saying, “You will have great joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth” (Luke 1:14). While Elizabeth was still pregnant, her baby “jumped for joy” as Mary approached them, she being pregnant with the baby Jesus (Luke 1:44).

As an angel told the shepherds about Jesus’ birth, he said, “I bring you good news that will bring great joy to all people” (Luke 2:10).

People in the world react to the birth of Jesus in many ways—with generosity and benevolence, gifts and parties. But for Believers this is a celebration of joy.

It is a joy that comes from worship, from a heart overwhelmed by the presence of God. This joy only can be experienced through complete surrender to His plan and will—through the kind of commitment that could drive the magi to follow a star for thousands of miles. This is the kind of joy that could fill Mary and Elizabeth, who knew that Jesus’ birth was a supernatural event. This kind of joy was experienced by the shepherds as they were overwhelmed by the glory of God and a choir of angels.

During this Christmas season, remember the importance of worship. Worship can bring you into the presence of God. More than just a ritual or tradition, worship can transform your life. Worship can fill you with joy as you walk in the light of God’s presence!

ALL BOW DOWN
A PRAISE & WORSHIP CHRISTMAS

- **December 18th**
- **7:00pm Christmas Musical**
- **6:00pm Potluck Dinner**
- **Dinner Is Free / Reservations Requested**



Welcome to Online Giving

"The Benefits To You & HBC!"

Online donations to HBC may be made at any time from the comfort of your own home or any place with internet access. Online donations are credited to your tax statement for the end of the year (except when made anonymously), and each user can change his or her preferences or desired donation amounts at any time. You can make a one-time gift or a recurring donation.

1. No need to hassle with checks or cash
 2. Totally secure encrypted 24/7 web-based access
 3. Easily schedule recurring donations to fit your pay periods
 4. Debit / Credit card option allows you to take advantage of rewards such as air miles or cash bonuses. Visa, Mastercard, Discover and American Express are accepted
 5. No need to share bank account information as you enter it directly into the Online Giving 100 % secure site
 6. Allows you to give even if you are unable to attend services
 7. Contribution amount is easily adjusted as desired or needed
- Option to remain anonymous

Try it today at www.HiltonBaptistChurch.com!

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

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

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT GCI, INC.



Thanks to John Michael Sullivan (See Luke 2:1-16) 12-23-2005

AT LEAST WE CAN SAY THAT HE WAS BROUGHT UP IN A STABLE HOME

Gifts of Gold, Frankincense & Myrrh

What do you give a young king? The magi, after traveling more than five hundred miles away to see the child Jesus, brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh with them.

Why those gifts? What did the gifts mean in relation to Jesus? And what did they mean for the men who gave them?



Gold. The magi, even before they arrived at Jesus's home, knew they were searching for a king. As men who acknowledged Jesus as sovereign ruler, they brought a gift befitting someone of rank and authority. Gold has long been used as a medium of exchange—whether as coins or as the basis of the value of a coin. In gold, the magi brought a gift of great value, a symbol of sacrifice on their part as worshipers. Gold represented their willingness to give everything to God, because He alone is worthy.

Frankincense. Worshipers in the Old Testament inserted the dried gum of frankincense into candles to make offerings in the temple. The frankincense candles released a fragrant scent that filled the room with an exquisite aroma. That the magi brought frankincense to Jesus demonstrates that they acknowledged the Child not simply as King but also as Priest who would intercede for humanity before God. In this way, the frankincense was a symbol of the magi's humility before the Child, recognizing their dependence on a holy and just God.

Myrrh. The ancients used myrrh when embalming the dead, making the gift especially appropriate for Jesus, whose death would change history. While the magi likely had no concept of the death Jesus would die, the gift signified the importance of Jesus's death. In fact, when Joseph of Arimathea and Nicodemus took Jesus from the cross and prepared His body for the tomb, they used a mixture of aloe and myrrh. The gummy consistency of that mixture would help hold together the cloth wrappings that surrounded the body.

The King received the gold. Our Intercessor took the frankincense. And the One who died on the cross had myrrh wrapped about His body by His friends. The magi's gifts to Jesus pointed to the utterly unique, glorious, and sacrificial ministry of the Lord Jesus.

This Christmas let us reflect on the uniqueness of the gifts brought to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. May our focus and worship continue to reflect their significance. Let us value our relationship with God as gold.

Let us be aware that our prayers and worship rise as the aroma of frankincense upon which God smiles. And may the value of myrrh always remind us both of death and the glory of the resurrection to follow!

5 Miracles Too Easy to Overlook

Amid broken relationships, marital difficulties, financial crises or simple question marks, is God still listening? Why doesn't He respond? The prayer requests vary, but they are alike in one way. They all represent needs. And most require miracles.



But the more I listen, especially at Christmas, to our desire and need for the miraculous, the more I realize we may overlook or forget some of the most obvious miracles. I love C. S. Lewis's quote from *God in the Dock*: "Miracles are a retelling in small letters of the very same story which is written across the whole world in letters too large for some of us to see."

5 Such miracles we may tend to overlook in our search for more:

1. The Miracle of Life - Hearing a baby's first cry, the inhaling of its first breath. That's a miracle. And waking up morning after morning, just able to breathe, to inhale the fragrance of life, is not a treasure to ignore.

2. The Miracle of Laughter - The music of children's giggles, the power of laughter to hasten healing and even prevent disease: "*A merry heart does good, like medicine*" (*Proverbs 17:22*). A daily dose of laughter might even alter the doctor's prognosis and shrink medical bills. Studies have shown that this happy habit sends out needed endorphins, the body's natural chemicals, and helps release stress. Scrooge has no place here.

3. The Miracle of Learning - God gave us amazing brains. Once you stop learning you start leaving. So grab a teachable spirit now, while you can still learn something new every day. Make it a goal, and you'll experience creating new brain paths and the sheer joy of learning.

4. The Miracle of Leaning - "*Two are better than one,*" says Ecclesiastes 4:9. No one functions well as an island; we all need each other. Good friends are both healthy and healing to our spirits. And God often uses us to help others as conduits of His miracles: our gifts, our love, our time, and our prayers.

5. The Miracle of Love - At no time are we more aware of this true miracle than at Christmas. God sent His perfect Son into an imperfect, unloving world to give us life. Why? John 3:16, says it simply: LOVE. At Christmastime, God, the true *Miracle-Giver*, put on flesh and came to earth so you and I could know Him—intimately, miraculously—and be perfectly forgiven, perfectly loved, forever. It's both a gift, and the greatest miracle of all. Never overlook it. And never stop thanking God for it.

The Story of the Candy Cane

The candy cane was first made by a candymaker from Indiana, USA, who wanted it to be a witness to Christ.

He started with a stick of white, hard candy. White which symbolizes purity, pointed to the virgin birth and the sinless nature of Christ. The hardness or firmness of the candy symbolized the firmness God's promises. The shape of the candy, a "J," represents the name of Jesus, and also depicts the Good Shepherd's staff. The red stripes in the candy, symbolize Jesus' blood shed on the cross, and the stripes of scourging He received prior to His crucifixion.



The candymaker incorporated symbols of Jesus' birth, and His life and death.

Although today's candymakers and supermarkets look at the candy cane as another money maker at Christmas time, God continues to give us reminders of His Son's purpose here on earth.

Are you losing sight of Christ as we come closer to the celebration of His birth? What do you need to do today to give Him His rightful place at Christmas? Reflect on the purity of His character? Claim the firmness of God's promises? Proclaim the Good News of the gospel to a neighbor? Rest in your Good Shepherd's arms? Accept His death on the cross as payment for your sins? How will you live out Jesus Christ for those around you today?



The Last Impression...

After being away on business for a week before Christmas, Tom thought it would be nice to bring his wife a little gift.

"How about some perfume?" he asked the cosmetics clerk. She showed him a bottle costing \$50.

"That's a bit much," said Tom, so she returned with a smaller bottle for \$30.

"That's still quite a bit," Tom groused.

Growing disgusted, the clerk brought out a tiny \$15 bottle.

Tom grew agitated, "What I mean," he said, "is I'd like to see something real cheap."

So the clerk handed him a mirror.

***A Christmas Word from
Pastor Lynwood's heart to yours...***

As we come to the conclusion of 2021, I want to take this opportunity to say a special word of "Thanks!" to God and to each of you in the HBC Family for the privilege of serving as your pastor. It has been a wonderful 20 years for me!



With each new birth, wedding graduation and other wonderful life celebrations we have shared my heart and life have been enriched. With each departure and funeral, a part of me has been buried and taken along as well. That's the beautiful circle of life God has given us here on our earthly journey, and especially more so, in the household of faith we call our HBC church family.

Throughout 2021 we used every opportunity to remember and celebrate our past. In the upcoming year of 2022, we continue the journey of our second 100 years. It is time now to look forward and recognize both a bright future and our greatest challenges still lie ahead. We must move forward together with fresh vision and renewed commitment. Otherwise, the blessing of our tomorrows will slip through our fingers like sand and be lost to the wind.

My prayer for you and yours, and our church in 2022, is that we will continue to grow and work together in the grace, love and knowledge of the Lord Jesus Christ – so that when our journey is done, we will hear... "Well done, good and faithful servants!"

Much Love to you, this Christmas and always, Lynwood

Christmas Eve
CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE
DECEMBER 24TH
5:00 P.M.
*"The Most Beautiful & Inspiring
55 Minute Service Of The Entire Year!"*

A graphic for a Christmas Eve Candle Light Service. It features three lit white candles on the left side against a dark background. The text on the right is in a mix of white serif and script fonts, providing details about the service on December 24th at 5:00 P.M. and a quote describing it as the most beautiful and inspiring 55-minute service of the year.