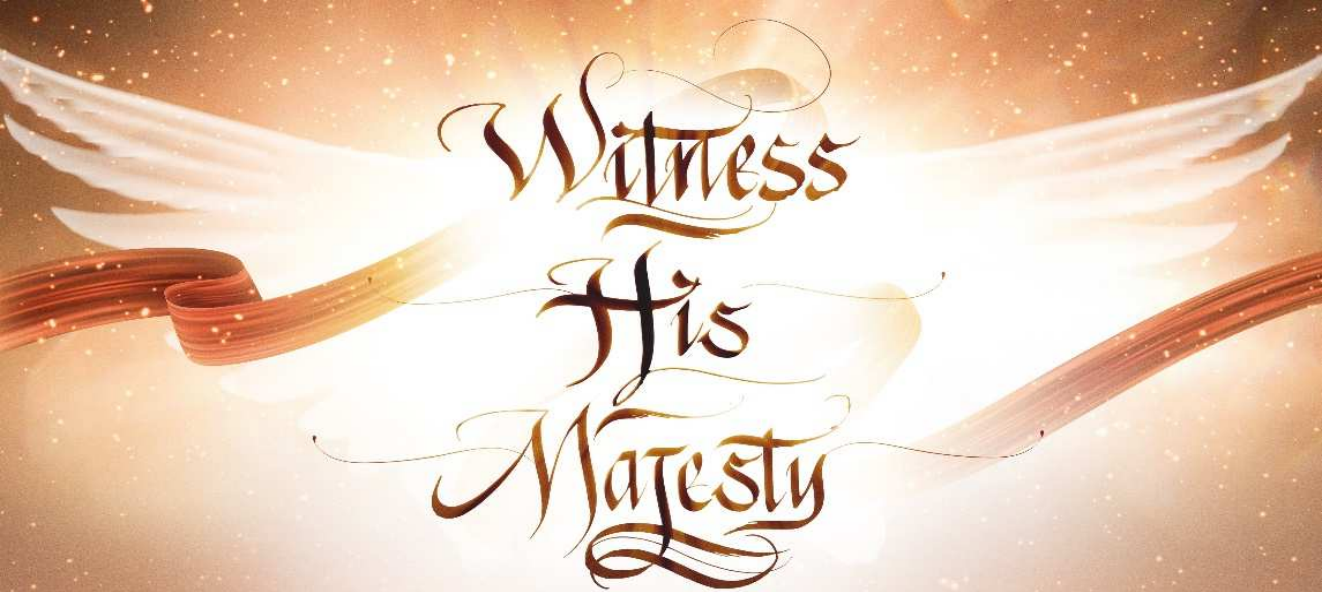


The HBC Weekly Forecast
Hilton Baptist Church. www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org
101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601



***Witness
His
Majesty***

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 last week 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? But no doubt, when Mary's mother witnessed the Christ child for herself, she was amazed at what God had done.

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 Hope”

For some people Christmas is only about Santa Claus and getting gifts. That perspective influenced two letters that children wrote Santa Claus. One said, “Dear Santa, you did not bring me anything good last year. You did not bring me anything good the year before that. This is your last chance. Signed, Alfred.”

Phillips Brooks captured the heart of Christmas with one line in the carol he wrote, *O Little Town of Bethlehem*. That line summarizes what Christmas means to us: “The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.” In the little town of Bethlehem, God met the hopes of all humanity by birth of His Son, Jesus.

There was the hope of the Gentiles who didn’t have the advantage of an Old Testament and its prophecies. The magi from Persia were eagerly looking for a Savior. Matthew described them in his Gospel.

“After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to Jerusalem and asked, ‘Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star in the east and have come to worship him’ ” (Matthew 2:1-2).

The star they saw was a sign from God designed to alert these Gentiles to an event in Bethlehem that was intended for them as well. Researchers have discovered tablets in Persia dating from Jesus’ day. Because they were Gentiles and pagans, we might not have invited them to participate in the birth of God’s Son. But God responded to their hunger for truth. He still responds to spiritual hunger. One of my favorite bumper stickers is, “Wise men still seek Him.”

The good news of Christmas is that God brought hope to all people, regardless of their background. That included Jews and Gentiles and non-believers. The angel’s announcement to the shepherds made that clear.

“But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is Christ the Lord’” (Luke 2:10-11).

Hope is a powerful force in our lives and Christmas brings hope. Christmas is also for those who have been longing for a Savior. They may have been devout in their religious observance, but still understand that their only hope is for God to come to them.

They have been waiting for God to show up. He has! This Christmas may God fill each of our hearts with hope. The angels expressed what that hope means: *“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests”* (Luke 2:14).

On the grace journey to Christmas together with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

November 30, 2021

Budget \$5650.00

Budget Designated \$923.30 Refund for Maintenance

Lottie Moon \$500.00

Chaplains Fund \$50.00

Cash in Cash out Journey Rent \$435.00

Cash in Cash out Socks for Hilton Homes \$25.00

Food Closet \$125.00

Total Deposit \$7708.30



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.

The prayer guide for the mission emphasis week starts this Sunday, December 5th and is enclosed for you to pray.

Collected to Date \$500.00



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!

Calendar

Tuesday, November 30

1:00pm—2:00pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, December 1st

7:00pm Facebook Bible Study

Thursday, December 2nd

1:00pm– 2:00pm Food Distribution

Saturday, December 4th

Walmart Bell Ringing

Sunday, December 5th

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

Sonshine Kids

Budget Vote

Salvation Army Angel Tree Gifts are due

Unwrapped

Communion

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

Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!

Happy Birthday in December

Beverly Tawney 12/3

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

12/5 Don Moore

12/12 Stan Langdon

Counter

12/6 Kathy Caskie

12/13 Sue Monfalcone



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

GM (Central Asian People) LM, RW (East Asian People) David Morse (European People) CD (Southeast Asian People) David Gaskins (CO)

Gregorio Sanchez (FL) Eric Oliver (KY) Charles Johnston (LA) Matthew Bolling (NC) Jason McKinney (OH)

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 Angel Tree

All the angels have been taken off the Angel Tree! Thank you so much to everyone who teamed up with others and took a name. The kids you have chosen will be blessed so much. Unwrapped gifts are due back to church by December 5th. If you have any questions, please contact Pam Cooke.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing

On December 4th, we have the opportunity to ring the bell for the Salvation Army at the Walmart at the corner of Mercury and Jefferson. You do not have to ring the whole day, just one hour and you can do it with a friend. See the Mission Outreach Corner for sign up.....Lots of times are still available.

What's Happening in Missions ?

A couple of our ladies wanted to give shoeboxes to Samaritan Purse. We did not do it as a church but we turned in 8 boxes to go to under privileged kids in other parts of the world. We also were able to feed 25 people at our Community Dinner this past Friday night. It was a great time. Plan on joining us this month on December 31st to help!

Upcoming Events in the Church through December 31, 2021

Saturday, December 4th– Salvation Army Bell Ringing– Walmart at the corner of Jefferson and Mercury. Time Slots are still available. See Pam Cooke

Sunday, December 5th- Budget Vote, Lottie Moon Emphasis Sunday and Communion at the end of the Morning Worship

Please remember that the gifts from the Angel Tree are due today.

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.

**An important update– The reason we are doing the covered dish is our stove, after 40 years has decided to quit working. We have ordered a new stove and it will be delivered sometime in December, just not in time for the Christmas Dinner. We will however be able to have it installed and working by the first of the year to be able to minister to the homeless of our community and for our monthly Community Dinners.

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.

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



Travel Light

I'm Guilty. Whenever I travel I tend to over pack. I try to map out each day what I think I will want to wear. Then I begin to wonder. I might want an alternative shirt, or an extra pair of jeans or khakis and, of course and extra pair of sneakers along with my dress shoes. And suddenly, I need an extra suitcase!

Am I the only one who does this? And not only when I travel, but I find the same in my day-to-day journey of life. Haven't you been known to pick up a few bags? Odds are, we both did this morning.

Somewhere between the first step on the floor and the last step out the door, you grabbed some luggage. Just like you find in the airport luggage pick-up area, you stepped over to life's baggage carousel and loaded up.

Don't remember doing so? That's probably because you did it without thinking.

Don't remember seeing that particular baggage terminal? That's because the carousel is not the one in the airport; it's the one in the mind. And the bags we grab are not made of leather; they're most often made of burdens that weigh us down emotionally.

There's the suitcase of guilt. A sack of discontent. You drape a duffel bag of weariness on one shoulder and a hanging bag of grief on the other. Add on a backpack of doubt, an overnight bag of loneliness, and a trunk of fear. You even have a suit bag to keep neat that special past broken relationship you are still carrying around.

Pretty soon, you're pulling more stuff than a skycap. No wonder you're so tired at the end of the day. Lugging luggage around everywhere can be pretty exhausting.

What about your soul? When your heart is hungry, when your dreams are thirsty, when your spirit has run dry. Where do you turn? I'd like to urge you to turn to your Shepherd.

If you let Him, your Shepherd will refresh your spirit by lightening your load—by releasing you from the burdens you were never intended to bear: burdens of worry, guilt, hopelessness, fear, shame, doubt, loneliness....the burdens of life.

God is saying to you, 'Set that stuff down! You're carrying burdens you don't need to bear. Come to me, 'He invites, *'all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest' (Matthew 11:28).*

If we let Him, God will lighten our loads.

Waiting On The Goodness Of God

The psalmist had just said, *“I had fainted, unless I had believed to see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living”*. If it had not been for his faith in God, his heart had fainted. But in the confident assurance in God which faith gives, he urges himself and us to remember one thing above all - to wait upon God.



One of the chief needs in our waiting upon God, one of the deepest secrets of its blessing, is a quiet, confidence that it is not in vain; courage to believe that God will hear and help; we are waiting on a God who never could disappoint His people.

“Be strong and of good courage.” These words are often found in connection with some great and difficult effort, in prospect of the combat with the power of strong enemies, and the utter insufficiency of human strength. Is waiting on God a work so difficult, that such words are needed, *“Be strong, and let your heart take courage”*? Yes, indeed.

The deliverance for which we often have to wait is from enemies, in presence of whom we are impotent. The blessings for which we plead are spiritual and all unseen; things impossible with men; supernatural and divine realities. Our heart may well faint and fail. Our souls are so little in the habit of holding fellowship with God; the God on whom we wait so often appears to hide Himself. We who have to wait are often tempted to fear that our faith is too weak, that our desire is not as in line with God’s will or as earnest as it should be, that our surrender is not complete.

Amid all these causes of fear or doubt, how blessed to hear the voice of God, *“Wait on the Lord! Be strong, and let your heart take courage! YES, WAIT ON THE LORD!”*

The one lesson our text teaches us is this, that when we set ourselves to wait on God we ought beforehand to resolve that it shall be with the most confident expectation of God’s meeting and blessing us. We ought to make up our minds to this, that nothing was ever so sure, as that waiting on God will bring us untold and unexpected blessing.

The whole duty and blessedness of waiting on God has its root in this, that only in waiting will you discover His true nature – that He is such a blessed Being, full, to overflowing, of goodness and power and life and joy, that we, however wretched, cannot for any time come into contact with Him, without that life and power secretly, silently beginning to enter into him and blessing him. God is Love! Learn to be expectant, assured and confident in your faith that....

“Something Good Is Going To Happen To You!”



Get Serious About Living a Godly Life

Charles Spurgeon said that if we are not seeking the Lord, the Devil is seeking us. And he gets us when we lower our guard and become complacent. If you're serious about living a godly life, read on.

Live according to your new life in the Holy Spirit. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves. The old sinful nature loves to do evil, which is just the opposite of what the Holy Spirit wants. And the Spirit gives us desires that are the opposite of what the sinful nature desires.

These two forces are constantly fighting each other, and your choices are never free from this conflict. When you follow the desires of your sinful nature, your lives will produce these evil results: sexual immorality, impure thoughts, eagerness for lustful pleasure, idolatry, participation in demonic activities, hostility, quarrelling, jealousy, outbursts of anger, selfish ambition, divisions, the feeling that everyone is wrong except those in your own little group. Envy, drunkenness, wild parties, and other kinds of sin.

But when the Holy Spirit controls our lives, He will produce this kind of fruit in us – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self control. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have nailed the passions and desires of their sinful nature to His cross and crucified them there. If we are living now by the Holy Spirit, let us follow the Holy Spirit's leading in every part of our lives. (Galatians 5:16–25 NLT) When you get serious about living a godly life, God will help you.

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The Last Impression

One day during cooking class, the teacher, Mrs. Jones, was extolling her secrets for preparing perfect sauces. When she ordered us to the stoves to prepare our assignments, she said, "Don't forget to use wooden spoons."

As I stirred my sauce, I contemplated the physics behind the mystery of the wooden spoon and decided it must have something to do with heat conduction. I approached Mrs. Jones to test my theory. "Why wooden spoons?" I asked.

"Because," she replied, "if I have to sit here listening to all your metal spoons banging against metal pots, I'd go nuts."





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!



One Solitary Life

He was born in an obscure village, the child of a peasant woman.

He grew up in another obscure village where he worked in a carpenter shop until he was thirty.

He never wrote a book. He never held an office. He never went to college. He never visited a big city. He never traveled more than two hundred miles from the place where he was born.

He did none of the things usually associated with greatness. He had no credentials but himself. He was only thirty-three. His friends ran away . One of them denied him. He was turned over to his enemies and went through the mockery of a trial.

He was nailed to a cross between two thieves. While dying, his executioners gambled for his clothing the only property he had on earth. When he was dead, He was laid in a borrowed grave through the pity of a friend.

Nineteen centuries have come and gone, and today Jesus is the central figure of the human race and the leader of mankind's progress.

All the armies that have ever marched, all the navies that have ever sailed, all the parliaments that have ever sat, all the kings that ever reigned put together, have not affected the life of mankind on earth as powerfully as that *one solitary life*.....

One Solitary Life was adapted from a sermon by Dr James Allan Francis in
"The Real Jesus and Other Sermons"

© 1926 by the Judson Press of Philadelphia

**HBC CHRISTMAS EVENING OF
DINNER & MUSIC**

SATURDAY, DEC. 18th

DINNER 6:00 **MUSICAL 7:00 PM**

**Delicious Old Fashioned
Covered Dish Supper!**

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 our second 100 years. It is time now to look forward and to 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!"

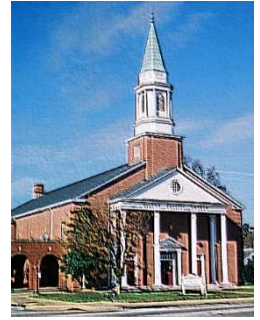
Much Love to you, this Christmas and always, Lynwood

An advertisement for a Christmas Eve service. The background is dark with three lit white candles on the left. The text is in white and gold. The main title is 'Christmas Eve' in a large, elegant script font. Below it, 'CANDLE LIGHT SERVICE' is written in a smaller, all-caps serif font. The date 'DECEMBER 24TH' is in a large, all-caps serif font. Below that, '5:00 P.M.' is in a smaller, all-caps serif font. At the bottom, a quote in a script font reads: "The Most Beautiful & Inspiring 55 Minute Service Of The Entire Year!"

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

Is Hilton Baptist Church on Your Christmas Gift List?

As we come to the end of a challenging year, we want to finish strong for 2021. To accomplish this, we need to receive a generous outpouring of offerings before December 31st.



Christmas is a time when we remember how God poured His very best into the poverty of our humanity. And because He gave the very best gift He could give, we celebrate our salvation with joy today. In the gift of His Son Jesus, we received the hope of all mankind.

How will you respond to the gift of His amazing grace in your life? What do you believe God have you do to honor Him as 2021 comes to an end?

The faith we as a church are willing to demonstrate in wrapping up December will help set the goals we can aim for in 2022 when we look forward with fresh vision to the future 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 for the close of 2021 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!

***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!***

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



IT'S FROM MY SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS, THANKING ME FOR NOT BEING IN THEIR CHRISTMAS PROGRAM...
WHAT DOES YOURS SAY?