

**The Forecast**  
**Hilton Baptist Church. [www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org](http://www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org)**  
**101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601**



I find it alarming how easy it is for believers—myself included—to be caught up in the cares of this world and to follow the worrying, fearful pattern of unbelievers. Whether it’s a financial meltdown, a shocking wave of violence, or a contentious election cycle, God’s people ought to be able to look past today’s bad news—as well as any threats on the horizon—and take comfort in the fact that our hope is not bound to the circumstances of this world.

Jesus came that we would experience life and do so more abundantly. Yet, as a Christ follower, you will also confront another reality. In this world and in the midst of that abundance and blessing, you will have struggles and you will face challenges. You’ll deal with opposition and attacks of the enemy. And there’s a reason for that... This world is not your home.

As the old song goes:

*“This world is not my home I’m just a-passin’ through  
My treasures are laid up somewhere beyond the blue  
The angels beckon me from heaven’s open door  
And I can’t feel at home in this world anymore.”*

So answer hate with love, find joy in the midst of trials, and rely on a strength beyond yourself. You have a distinctive heritage of a spiritual lineage. As a born-again believer and follower of Christ, you have another resource You’re called and meant to be ... **“Different!”**

**Join Us This Sunday 10:00 am, as we begin this exciting new message series, “DIFFERENT” – This world is not your home, you have an eternal destiny. Invite a friend... You won’t want to miss one Sunday!**



## ***This World Is Not Our Home!***

It is easy for Christians to lose focus in these unsettled times. Just think about it. Do you know anyone who is not worried about the future? Maybe they're afraid of contracting the Covid virus, or cancer, or any of the other diseases dominating headlines these days. Perhaps they're bracing for another global financial crisis, or the next terrorist attack. Or maybe they're just caught up in concerns over runaway inflation and what it means for the future.

No matter where you look, there is reason to be concerned about the state of the world today, and what tomorrow holds. But should those concerns dominate in the hearts of believers? Should God's people be worried about the ills of this world and how to fix them? Or do our affections and energies belong elsewhere?

I find it alarming how easy it is for believers—myself included—to be caught up in the cares of this world and to follow the worrying, fearful pattern of unbelievers. Whether it's a financial meltdown, a shocking wave of violence, or a contentious election cycle, God's people ought to be able to look past today's bad news—as well as any threats on the horizon—and take comfort in the fact that our hope is not bound to the circumstances of this world.

In short, we need to remember that this world is not our home. Rather than setting our affections on things above, we tend to become attached to the things of this earth. It's all too easy to become absorbed in temporal matters and neglect what is eternally important. Sadly, having lost sight of the “sweet by and by,” too many Christians busy themselves with the harried here and now, and they themselves become consumed by consumable things.

In other words, society as a whole cannot be delivered from moral bankruptcy unless individual lives are redeemed and transformed by the power of Christ. If that conviction does not frame the priorities of the people of God and drive the activities of the church on earth, asking God to bless America is a waste of time.

Because many in the church don't really have heaven on their mind, Christians tend to be self-indulgent, self-centered, weak, and materialistic. Our present comforts consume too much of our thoughts, and if we're not careful, we end up entertaining wrong fantasies about heaven—or thinking very little of heaven at all.

Focusing on Jesus and cultivating a Christian perspective—one that rightly appraises both the cares of this world and its pleasures—starts with fixing our eyes on heaven and that's what we aim to do!

*On the grace journey together with you, Pastor Lynwood*

# The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

July 26, 2022

*Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!*

Budget	\$3465.00
Food Pantry	\$175.00
Pure Water/Pure Love	\$25.00
Total Deposit	\$3665.00

**Come and join us for Vacation Bible School**

**August 8th– 12th**

**6:00pm–8:30pm**

**Hilton Baptist Church 101 Main Street Newport News, Hilton Village**

**Ages 4-12 Years old**

Snacks, Crafts, Games, Music and a lot about Jesus!

Free! Free ! Free! To register Call Dreama 757-532-1896, 757-595-3300

Walk-ins welcome also



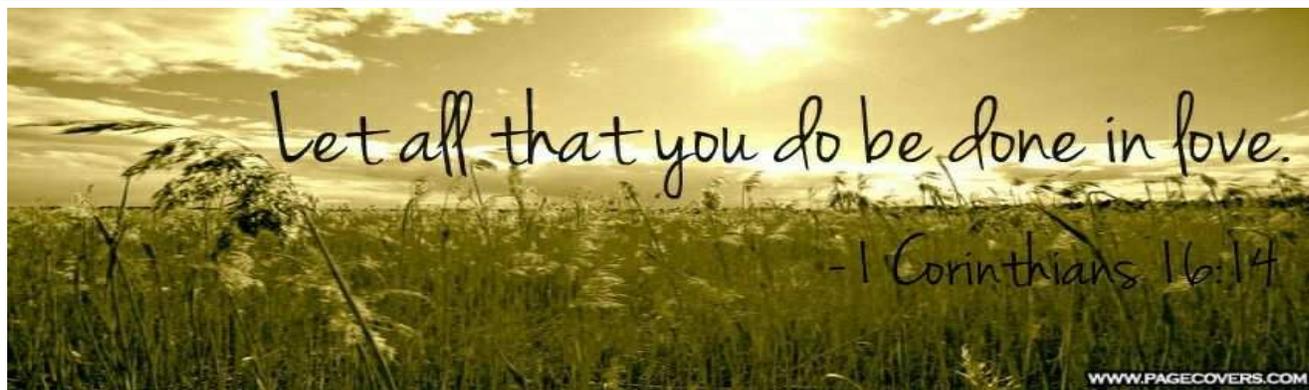
**Bazaar– September 24th 9am-3pm**

Vendor applications are still available

Quilt Tickets on sale– See Tracy Venable or the church office.

HELP IS NEEDED! Sign up in the Connection Center!

See Tim Humphreys if you have any problems.



## **Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226**

### **WMU August Focus Project**

Our July Focus for WMU is Pure Water Pure Love. PWPL has a three fold mission: to supply missionaries with water filters, to provide the people they serve with wells that offer clean water and to supply mission teams with water filters for use on short term mission trips.

### **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. We have given out a lot of food recently so any donations would be appreciated.

July 31st is our next food collection day!

### **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!

### **Pray for our Missionaries**

Melissa Conner (American People) CM, ES (Central Asian People) Brandy Gainor, Elisa Stamps (European People) Jake Goss (Sub-Saharan African People) Anders Chun, Chris Grant, James Westbrook (CA) Curtis Haynes (FL) Jorge Rodriguez (IL) Isaac Surh (OH)

### **Community Dinner**

Make sure you come out to our next community dinner on Friday, July 29th. We will be having a nice meal and then enjoy the Higher Ground Jazz Band. We need people to help us! Please See Pam if you can help out that night!

### **Plan Ahead...Higher Ground Big Band Jazz Concert**

At our community dinner on July 29, 2022 we will be having the Higher Ground Big Band Jazz Concert. This group is a community outreach group that seeks to uplift and inspire with swing, Latin and Jazz standards as well as modern big band arrangements.

Come out and join us for a great dinner, fellowship with our community and a great time of music. The music will begin at 7pm. Plan now to come and be with us!

**Calendar**

**Tuesday, July 26th**

1pm– 2pm Food Distribution  
6:30pm Vision Team Meeting

**Wednesday, July 27th**

7pm Facebook Bible Study

**Thursday, June 28th**

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

**Friday, June 29th**

5:30-6:30 Community Dinner  
With Higher Ground Band

**Sunday, July 31st**

10am Live Worship at HBC  
Virtual Worship Online  
10am Sonshine Kids

**Tuesday, August 2nd**

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

**Wednesday, August 3rd**

7pm Facebook Bible Study

**Thursday, August 4th**

1pm– 2pm Food Distribution

**Sunday, August 7th**

10am Live Worship at HBC  
Virtual Worship Online  
10am Sonshine Kids

**Happy Birthday in July**

7/27 Wayne Tawney  
7/28 Herb Turner  
7/31 Cindy Gibson

**Happy Birthday in August**

8/6 Myrna Powell  
8/10 Moses Sabb  
8/12 Patsy Hardman  
8/19 Barry Surber  
8/30 Janice Harvey  
8/31 Pat Schell



**Lock up/ Hall Monitor**

7/31 Joe Wircenske  
8/7 Pam Cooke

**Counter**

8/1 Margaret Upole  
8/8 Kathy Caskie

**Kids Church Helper**

7/31 Youth  
8/7 Kathy Caskie





## ***Pilgrims***

*“We are aliens and pilgrims before You, as were all our fathers; our days on earth are as a shadow, and without hope.” 1 Chronicles 29:15*

When he was 31, John Bunyan was arrested for preaching the Gospel. Refusing to compromise, he spent 12 years in prison. But these years weren't wasted. There he wrote several of history's most important books, including *Pilgrim's Progress*.

Writing in allegorical terms, Bunyan illustrated the challenges faced by all believers. He described how a young man (“Christian”) journeyed toward his ultimate home in the “Celestial City.” This journey brought him to places with vivid names, such as Vanity Fair, the Slough of Despond, the Hill of Difficulty, Lucre Hill, Doubting Castle, and Mount Caution.

Along the way, he was distracted and deceived by people such as Obstinate, Mistrust, Talkative, Envy, and Little-faith. But Christian was encouraged and helped by characters like Evangelist, Faithful, Good Will, Hopeful, Knowledge, Experience, Watchful, and Sincere. The names and characteristics of these people were reminders of Biblical principles that can help us on our journey.

Yet Christian struggled, forced to decide between compromise and faithfulness. He continually wondered how to react to people and situations. In the end, he persevered.

*Pilgrim's Progress*, first published on this day in 1678, has been widely read, and is a source of great encouragement. Next to the Bible, it was the most read book during early American history. Countless thousands have been impacted by Bunyan's imagery of the struggles faced by Christian and the way to walk in victory.

Each of us is reminded that we all are pilgrims on a journey through life. We face real temptations, opposition, and dangers, and we can't make it on our own. We need the help of other believers. Most of all, we need to depend on God, drawing on His Spirit, standing on His Word.

As you journey, keep looking forward to your destiny and do not focus on your past. Whatever successes you have had, give glory to God for His goodness. Whatever disappointments or failures you have experienced, thank God they are covered by the blood of Jesus. And always live your life with gratitude for His amazing grace and lead as an example for others to follow and do the same!

*“Father, help me to stay faithful to You on my journey through life. Thank You that You are present with me. Give me discernment and strength.  
In Jesus' name. Amen!”*



## ***Do People Recognize That “You Have Been With Jesus?”***

So here we are, trying to figure out this thing called church. You may have your own understanding of what church means and it might look and sound a lot like what many people understand it to be, Sunday after Sunday, attending a worship service. But it truly is so much more!

As I was reading through Acts once again, I discovered a profound nugget of truth in Act 4:13. *“Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John, and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were marveling, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus.”*

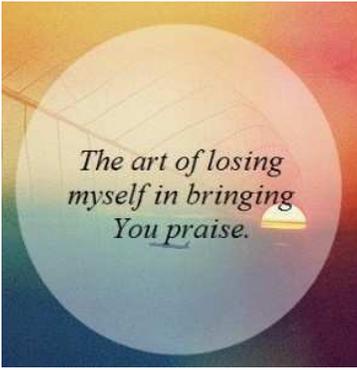
Notice the focus of this passage. This has everything to do with Christ and nothing to do with us. A life yielded to Christ is one that is recognized only by spending time with Christ. So, the notion that Peter and John did anything apart from that has no merit.

Imagine these disciples, these uneducated men derived their being and everything they had as witnesses of the gospel of Christ from Christ Himself, through the gift of His indwelling Spirit. The truth they spoke was not a truth of their own imaginations but rather truth as shared with them first by Christ Himself and then, after Pentecost, by the gift of the Holy Spirit (John 14:25-26).

We too, by spending time with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, in His Word, in fellow-shipping with other believers of His church and by prayer, become the witnesses recognized by those of the world as having spent time with Jesus. Spending time with Jesus is the only way that leads to being in a position to be the kinds of witness this world needs, as in the case with Peter and John. It can't be done any other way. If you don't spend time with Jesus, you can't know Him, and if you don't know Him, how can you testify of Him?

As you read the passage for yourself, you will see that there is more to it than I am able to share with you here. There is a larger context of what Peter and John did on their way to the temple and their subsequent preaching as a result of the miracle the Lord worked through them. They performed their first miracle in the healing a crippled man, as if it was the most natural thing possible – *“as men who had been with Jesus.”*

Boldness is not the goal, knowing Jesus is the goal. Boldness is always a byproduct of knowing Jesus and declaring what not only what He “did” but what He “does” - that the world might recognize through our witness the one simple truth – *“That we have been with Jesus!”*



## ***Lose Yourself Though Worship***

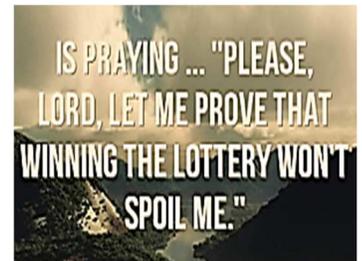
Never lose your sense of wonder, or you'll lose your motivation for worship. Unless you believe God is all-powerful, ever-present and approachable, you'll live in a state of anxiety believing that everything depends on you. You'll fail to be generous because the source of your security is in yourself. You'll avoid confronting those who need it, because without the certainty of God's acceptance you yourself will become a slave to people's opinions.

There's one thing that's guaranteed to restore your understanding of how big and wonderful God is – worship. God created us so that when we experience something awe-inspiring we need to praise it, to wrap words around it. We don't worship God because He needs it, but because we do.

Without worship our perception of Him is incomplete; we forget how great He is; we overlook our calling and become self-involved. We lose our sense of wonder and gratitude by plodding through life with blinkers on, and we become self-reliant, stubborn and proud. So, each day let us pause and say, *"Exalt the Lord our God, and worship at His footstool..." (Psalm 99:5)*

## ***The Last Impression***

A woman named Edna finds herself in dire trouble. Her business has gone bust and she's in serious financial trouble. She's so desperate that she decides to ask God for help. She begins to pray...' God, please help me. I've lost my business and if I don't get some money, I'm going to lose my house as well. Please let me win the lotto.



Lotto night comes and somebody else wins it.

Edna again prays.... 'God, please let me win the lotto! I've lost my business, my house and I'm going to lose my car as well.'

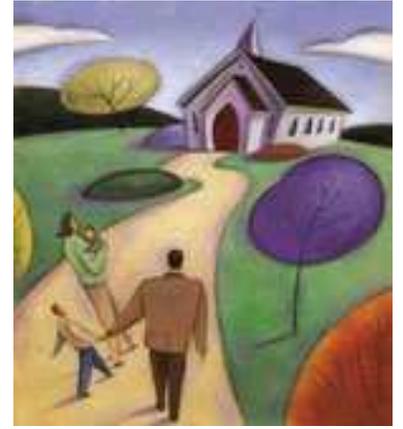
Lotto night comes and Edna still has no luck.

Once again, she prays, 'My God, why have you forsaken me?? I've lost my business, my house, and my car. My children are starving. I don't often ask you for help and I have always been a good servant to you. PLEASE, just let me win the lotto this one time so I can get my life back in order.

Suddenly there is a blinding flash of light as the heavens open and Edna is confronted by the voice of what sounds like God Himself:

“Edna, how about you meet Me halfway on this... *Buy a ticket!*”

***What If Going To Church Was Not  
So Much About “Me?”***



*"Each of you should look not only to your own interests, but also to the interests of others." - Philippians 2:4*

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***What if when we went to church...***

...Instead of going to be encouraged...

We went to encourage others...

...Instead of hoping to sing my favorite song...

We hoped to sing “their” favorite song...

...Instead of looking to be served...

We intentionally served others...

...Instead of waiting to be welcomed...

We welcomed others first...

...Instead of asking to be prayed for...

If we sought to pray for others...

...Instead of going to receive a blessing...

We went to be a blessing...

What difference would it make in our church experience?

Of course, church is ultimately not about  
either of us... it’s about Jesus!

But, church is also where people who want to make much of Jesus  
gather to grow, fellowship and worship Jesus...

So, I wonder how our church experience would be made different,  
if we approached it considering the interest of others...

I challenge you to think of and add to the list above  
What if... Instead of... When we went to church....

Just wondering...

## ***Two Inconvenient Truths Of Lukewarm Christianity***



First is the truth that your relationship with Christ is your responsibility; it is your journey.

Our Lord appointed the Holy Spirit as a helper in this journey, and He also gave some other human helpers, but you gravely misunderstand this faith if you believe it is a helper's job to spoon-feed you the depth of revelation and intimacy needed. The true element of communion is never a rose or a light airy white wine. It is always crimson and rich in color to remind us of the truth in the blood it represents.

Second is that living according to a truth-driven lifestyle is a necessity for anyone hoping to change the lukewarm temperature in their spiritual life.

Nobody can sustain intimacy with the Father, authority before man, and relevance in this age devoid of a daily choice to not be swayed off of the rock of truth. It doesn't just "simply happen," rather, it is a worthy experience which must be fought for and pursued. We must teach ourselves to believe that lifestyles and experiences outlined to us by the Bible are not polite suggestions. They are requirements of the faith.



### ***The Last Impression...***

There was once a handyman who had a dog named Mace. Mace was a great dog except he had one weird habit: he liked to eat grass - not just a little bit, but in quantities that would make a lawnmower blush. And nothing, it seemed, could cure him of it.

One day, the handyman lost his wrench in the tall grass while he was working outside. He looked and looked, but it was nowhere to be found.

As it was getting dark, he gave up for the night and decided to look the next morning. When he awoke, he went outside and saw that his dog had eaten all the grass in the area, around where he had been working, and his wrench now lay in plain sight, glinting in the sun.

Going out to get his wrench, he called the dog over to him and said...

Are you ready for this?.....

*"A grazing Mace, how sweet the hound, that saved a wrench for me."*

**CRITICAL**

**NEED**

**ALERT**

## ***HBC Air Conditioners Need Replacement!***

*Just as I was finalizing “The Forecast” today, I was informed by Dreama that our air conditioner in Prior Hall has died and is in need of a 2-unit replacement. (This is in addition to the AC in the gym and ½ of the units in the Sanctuary.)*

*Please pray for wisdom in prioritizing repairs and expenditures, and financial supply to meet this critical need! I truly believe that if we were not accomplishing great things for the Kingdom of God, we would not be facing such opposition from the enemy. Let us agree together in faith and give as God directs and we will get it done!*

## ***Bringing Every Thought Captive***

Most of the struggles that we face in life are really inner ones. The outward battles are normally a result of deep inner conflicts that have been built over a lifetime.

If we are to truly experience victory over habits and wrong patterns of actions, then we must learn to undergo a transformation of our inner thoughts and feelings.



The Apostle Paul wrote in 2 Corinthians 10:5, *“We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”*

Paul was speaking of the spiritual battle that every Christian faces. He understood that the greatest conflicts of life are spiritual ones, and that the battleground is always the mind of the believer.

Before a person comes to know Christ in a deeply personal way, the Bible says that he is a captive or slave to sin. In other words, our entire outlook and view of life is built upon attitudes and thought patterns that are contrary to God’s plan for us. We build those patterns of thoughts over months and years.

When we come to know Christ, that doesn’t mean that we no longer have to deal with wrong thought patterns. It simply means that we are no longer slaves to those patterns. But we must learn to “take every thought to make it obedient to Christ.”

God has given you weapons of spiritual warfare to overcome Satan’s stronghold on your life. Begin today to bring every thought captive unto the obedience of Christ because you can do it if you want to.



## ***“God’s House vs. Our House”***

*“Is it a time for you yourselves to be living in your paneled houses, while this house remains a ruin?” – [Haggai 1:3-4](#)*

After the Jews returned from exile in Babylon, they began to prosper. They started rebuilding the temple which had been ruined by the Babylonians. But the people of other religions who lived in the land sent letters to Babylon and complained that the Jews were preparing to revolt. For that and other reasons, the rebuilding of the temple stopped.

It seems that the Jews began with a will to rebuild the temple, but when opposition arose, they faltered and lost focus. They transferred their energy to building and beautifying their own houses. It took the searing words of Haggai to call them back to the priority of rebuilding God’s temple.

In the world today, we must not be discouraged by the struggle it takes to build Christ’s church. The forces of the devil will try to overcome it, but Jesus will prevail ([Matthew 16:18](#)). Remember what Jesus said: *“Seek first [God’s] kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well”* ([Matthew 6:33](#)).

It’s not that God necessarily wants us to live in a bleak apartment without beautiful paneling. But if that’s what it takes to build God’s kingdom, we must be willing to sacrifice. Our treasures are in heaven!

***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!***



**PLEASE TELL ME THAT YOU ARE NOT CARRYING A BIBLE FOR DUMMIES**