

*The Forecast*  
*Hilton Baptist Church*  
101 Main Street, Newport News, VA 23601  
757-595-3300 / [www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org](http://www.HiltonBaptistChurch.org)



Long before you face a problem, God already has a plan...

Long before rain flooded earth,  
God planned for Noah be on a boat.

Before Jonah thrown overboard,  
God planned and sent a fish to rescue him.

Before the Israelites were cornered by Egypt's army.  
There was a plan to part the Red Sea.

Before you heard bad news about your health,  
Lost your job, your girlfriend broke your heart;

God already had a plan!

***Come and hear this Sunday about the miraculous protection of God as  
Pastor Lynwood continues our exciting message  
series... "When Pigs Fly!"***



## ***God's Shield of Protection***

*“When you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned.” — Isaiah 43:2*

God knows the struggles of his people. Through Isaiah, God assured Israel as they were oppressed in exile. God reminded them of his power in the past, and God pointed to his sure presence for the future. The Red Sea had not swept over them as they left Egypt (Exodus 14), and in Babylon a fiery furnace would not burn Daniel's friends (Daniel 3). God promised, “You are mine,” and “I will be with you.”

The comfort in this passage—that God never lets go as we face all kinds of dangers and struggles—is for God's people both as a group and as individuals. Nothing can destroy the people whom God has called, so we need not be afraid.

You see, we have all faced those desparate situations where we cried out from the depths of our beings, “Where is our God now? Those times when we became so discouraged that we just wanted to give up, crawl into a corner and die. For a while it felt as though the waves of grief and flames of fear were too big to handle. But God did not allow us to be swept away or burned.

Although we could not see it at the the time, God's powerful hand was still holding back the full onslaught of the enemy. The almighty God was quietly fulfilling His promise to be our shield of protection while we felt we were alone in dodging and navigating the fiery darts of the evil one.

Even when the time comes for us to face life's final transition, we do so with the song of a shepherd boy named David whispered in our ears. Our souls will recall those familiar words of comfort strengthening us in our journey, *“Yes, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. Your rod and your staff, they comfort me.” Psalm 23*

And only having walked that dark and lonely road can we fully begin to appreciate the glorious light and power of the resurrection that awaits us. We see the open arms of our Savior and feel the warmth of His powerful embrace as we hear him proclaim to us, *“Because I live, shall you live also!”*

John 14:26.

*“Oh Lord, help me to trust you when life feels overwhelming and I am pummeled with problems. Thank you that I am precious to you and that you are my Protector and your love is eternal. Amen.*

*On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood*

# Hilton Baptist Church

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

July 25, 2023

*Serving our Community with the Love of Jesus!*

7-20-2023

Budget \$2650.00

Cash in Cash out– COP Rent \$900.00

Cash in Cash out– Coffee \$8.00

Cash in Cash out– Carenet \$17.25

Food Pantry \$100.00

Pure Water Pure Love \$100.00

Total Deposit \$3775.25



**Honor the Lord by giving him the first part of all your income.**  
Proverbs 3:9+

7-24-2023

Budget \$1265.00

Cash in Cash out– Kids Ministry \$30.00

Cash in Cash out– Craft Show \$40.00

Cash in Cash out– Coffee Fund \$4.50

Cash in Cash out– RR Doors from Quilters \$100.00

Food Pantry– In Memory of Jim Upole \$25.00

PORT In memory of Jim Upole \$25.00

Pure Water Pure Love \$75.00

Total Deposit \$1564.50



*With Sympathy & Love*

*We express our sincere sympathy to Margaret Upole and her family on the passing of her husband, Jim. He will be missed by all.*

*Please keep this family in your prayers during this difficult time*



**Vacation Bible School**

**Monday, August 7th– 11th**

There are fliers in the Connection Center to take and give out.

Its gonna be a “roaring” good time!

We are in need of a couple of people to come on Friday Night at 8:30pm to help us get the sanctuary in order for Sunday am. If you can, please let me know. Dreama



**Happy Birthday in July**

7/23 Sue Monfalcone

7/27 Wayne Tawney

7/28 Herb Turner

7/31 Cindy Gibson

7/31 Lisa York



MY  
**GRACE**  
IS SUFFICIENT  
FOR YOU,  
FOR MY  
**POWER**  
IS MADE  
PERFECT IN WEAKNESS

## Calendar

### Tuesday, July 25th

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

### Wednesday, July 26th

7:00pm Wednesday Night Bible Study at HBC and Facebook Live

### Thursday, July 27th

1pm– 2pm Food Distribution

6:00pm Sisters Fellowship

### Friday, July 28th

5:30-6:30pm Community Dinner

### Sunday, July 30th

9:00am Discipleship Class

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

10am Sonshine Kids Church

### Tuesday, August 1st

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

### Wednesday, August 2nd

7pm In house Bible Study and Facebook Live Bible Study

### Thursday, August 3rd

1pm– 2pm Food Distribution

### Sunday, August 6th

9:00 Discipleship Class

10am Live Worship at HBC

Virtual Worship Online

10am Sonshine Kids Church

### Red Cross Blood Drive

We will be having a Red Cross Blood Drive on Monday, September 11th here at HBC. I will need volunteers to sign people in from 1pm–6pm. If you can work an hour or two, please let me know. I need to get volunteers in place for that day. Thanks for your help!

Dreama



**American  
Red Cross**

**Lock up/ Hall Monitor** 7/30 Charles Vassar 8/6 Robbie Ayscue

**Counter** 7/31 Joe Wircenske 8/7 Margaret Upole

**Kids Church Helper** 7/30 Robert Overman 8/6 Kathy Caskie

**Grass Cutting for** weekend July 29– Don Moore

**Grass Cutting for** weekend August 11th—Stephen Swiney

**[Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226](#)**

**[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 . Can were turned in last week and \$30.00 was collected for Pure Water Pure Love!

**[Pray for our Missionaries](#)**

Christian Castellano, Paul Tinley (American People) MH, EL (Asian Pacific Rim People) Don Lynch, Sharon Pinkston (European People) JL (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) JB, AG (South Asian People) Jack Smith (AL) Jeffrey Jones (Alberta) Bradly Bennett (FL) Mon Niswa (OH) Nathan Law (TX)

**[WMU Project for July](#)**

Pure Water Pure Love

**[School Supplies for Sedgefield Kindergarten](#)**

The effects of the pandemic are still felt throughout the school community and the kindergarten classes of Sedgefield need our help. Any donation you can make will help the students and families of the school and will be greatly appreciated.

We are collected the following.

Packs of Construction Paper

Colored pencil

Black and white speckled composition notebooks

Water color paints with brushes

Crayola Crayons

Pack of washable markers

Normal size Playdoh

#2 Pencils

Large Pink erasers

Dry erase markers

Glue sticks

Zip locks bags (gallon and sandwich)



## ***Committed To A Good Work***

*“I am carrying on a great project and cannot go down. Why should the work stop while I leave it and go down to you?”* Nehemiah 6:3



His former enemies appear to want to become Nehemiah's friends and invite him to a conference down on the plain of Ono. But Nehemiah senses danger: they were scheming to harm me he says (Nehemiah 6:2). Some commentators suggest that they were trying to trick him into leaving Jerusalem, where he had armed support, to come to a conference where they could set upon him and perhaps kill him. Nehemiah evidently senses this. He firmly declines, saying, I am carrying on a great project, and I cannot go down.

That is a great answer. Note the reasons he gives. On the surface it seems a surly response to their invitation to meet together. It sounds brusque and blunt. But Nehemiah sees through their scheme and refuses to go along, even though they pressure him four different times.

But Nehemiah persists in his refusal. Here is his reason: I am doing a great work, he says. I have a great calling. God has committed a tremendous project to me, and if I leave, it will be threatened.

One of the most helpful things that we can do to resist temptation and keep ourselves from becoming distracted, is to remember that God has called us to a great task. This is true of every believer in Christ. I do not care how young or how old you are in the Lord, you are called to a tremendous work today. That is the great work that God has called us to. We ought never to give allegiance to anything less.

I read years ago of a missionary in China, a capable young man who did a great job as a linguist and diplomat in his work for the Lord. His abilities were so outstanding that one of the American companies in China tried to hire him. They offered him an attractive job with a salary to match, but he turned them down. He told them that God had sent him to China as a missionary and that was what he was going to do.

He thought that would end the matter, but instead they came back with a better offer and an increase in salary. He turned that down too, but again they came back, doubling the salary that had originally been proposed. Finally he said, It's not your salary that is too little. It's the job that's too small!

This is what Nehemiah is saying here. He has a great work, and he is not going to forsake it for anything less. He is confronted with an offer that seems to promise peace and support and yet is filled with danger, which he successfully avoids by refusing to leave his calling.



## ***The God of the Valley...***

*"The man of God came up and told the king of Israel, "This is what the Lord says: 'Because the Arameans think the Lord is a god of the hills and not a god of the valleys, I will deliver this vast army into your hands, and you will know that I am the Lord'." 1 Kings 20:28*

Whenever we stand on the mountain, we are able to see clearly. It is the best vantage point to see what lies ahead. Wouldn't it be great to live on the mountain all the time in order to anticipate what is ahead? God allows us to experience the mountaintop at times.

Joseph's first mountaintop experience was as a young man. He had the favor of his father, Jacob. He was given a fine coat and even had a dream about his future. As a young man, Joseph had a sense of destiny about his life.

God often gives us a picture of our future so that we will remember this picture when we are being tested to trust Him in the valley. This picture usually does not reveal how God intends to bring about the visions for our life.

However, none of us really derive the character qualities God desires for our lives while we are on the mountain. It is in the valley where the fruit is planted and harvested. It cannot grow on the mountain; it must grow in the valley.

God is a God of the mountain, but he is even more a God of the valley. In the valley, it is more difficult to see ahead; the clouds often cover the valley and limit our sight. Joseph was thrust into a deep valley that left him wondering if the God of his father had forsaken him. Jesus hoped that He might be able to avoid the valley that caused Him to sweat blood.

There is a valley that each of us must enter, usually unwillingly, in order to experience the God of the valley-and to experience His faithfulness in the valley. Once we have spent time in this valley, we come out with something we would have never gained if we had not entered it. The valley brings much fruit into our lives so that we might plant seeds into the lives of others.

God does not waste valley experiences. If we are faithful in the valley, we will enter a new dimension with God that we never thought possible. There is a harvest of wisdom and virtue that can only be grown in the valley.

Has God brought you into the valley? Know that the valley is a place of fruitfulness; it is a place of testing. It is where God brings what you know in your head into your heart. The only value of knowledge is when it becomes part of your heart. Look for God in the valley today.





**Pastor Steve Kennedy  
Returns & Brings The Word,  
Sunday 10:00 am, August 20th**

**In One Great Combined Service at Hilton  
Baptist & Journey Churches**

How blessed we were when Pastor Steve Kennedy preached for us several months ago! Circumstances arose that are bringing him back from Australia for several weeks in August, and Pastor Lynwood invited him back to preach again at HBC!

Pastor Steve is the founding Pastor of “Champions’ Church,” one of Australia’s largest and most influential churches. Recently, the Lord has led him from pastoring to mentoring other pastors and churches to reaching their next level of success.

***Plan to attend and bring family and friends!***

***Are You Ready For Bigger Things?***

*“You... enlarged me when I was in distress.” – Psalms 4:1  
(Amplified Bible)*

Did you know that the hermit crab looks for a shell that fits him, and then lives in it until he outgrows it? At that point he has to scurry along the ocean floor and find a bigger one; it’s a process that repeats itself throughout his entire life.



Are you clinging to something that no longer fits you, just because it’s easy and familiar? David said, “You... freed me when I was hemmed in and enlarged me when I was in distress.” To develop and grow spiritually you must be willing to move out of your comfort zone and deal with a little ‘distress.’ What worked for you yesterday may not work today.

Maybe it’s a job you’ve outgrown, a relationship you need to re-examine or a behavior you need to change. Regardless of what it is, never become so ‘settled’ that you can’t let go and move on when you need to. Patience and persistence are admirable, but they won’t work in situations you’ve outgrown.

Instead of hanging in and trying harder, at certain points you have to stop and ask yourself, “Is this situation good for me?” When God says it’s time to move on, it’s because there’s another shell out there that will fit you even better. But you can’t take occupancy until you vacate the old one. So how about it - are you ready for bigger things?

## ***What Real Freedom Means***

When Jesus comes into your life He changes you.

Maybe you have a problem with drugs or alcohol. Maybe you struggle with lust, fear, doubt, or self-pity. Maybe you're a slave to public opinion or perfectionism.

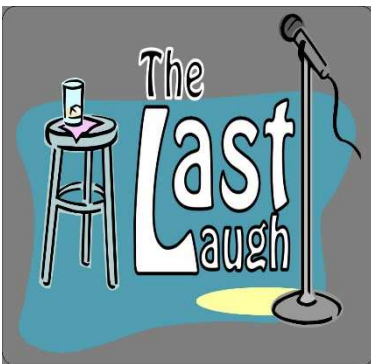


But, I want to tell you that the Jesus Christ who set me free is the Jesus Christ who will set you free!

However, our freedom in Jesus Christ isn't the privilege to do what we want. Instead, it is the glorious, abundant, supernatural power to do what we ought.

It is saving grace that sets us free. It is sustaining grace that keeps us free. Romans 6:22 says, *"that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves to God, the benefit you reap leads to holiness, and the result is eternal life."*

It is completely a gift and power of God's great grace. Bow before the Lord and thank Him for the freedom you've been given through the great love He showed at Calvary!



### ***Did You Hear The Story...***

I heard the other day about a man who was a stranger wandering in an upscale neighborhood.

The man approaches one of the houses and knocks on the door and when the owner of the house answers, the man explains that he is homeless and asks him for a meal.

The owner replies that he would be happy to feed the man in exchange for some honest labor. He tells the homeless man to go into the garage, get a can of paint from the shelf, and put a fresh coat of it on his porch.

Fifteen minutes later, the wealthy man hears a knock at his door again.

When he opens the door, he is greeted again by the homeless man who says, "Hey I'm all finished up with that paint job, but you should know that's a BMW in there, not a Porsche."

## *What Do You Do With Broken Hearts & Dreams?*

I was thinking recently that somewhere in between the terms “Childhood Dreams” and “Bucket Lists” is the experience we call Life! I remember in first grade, and the glory days of the new space age and men like John Glenn, I wanted to be an astronaut. Somehow that dream never quite got off the ground!



I believe every child has had dreams for what their lives will be when they grow up. And once in a while, we actually get to see some of our dreams come true. We plan our work and work our plan. Life seems to cooperate with us and we experience a certain measure of success. More often than not it seems, life can be brutal and harsh. Our plans unravel and our dreams die.

In the musical, *Les Misérables*, there is a young lady by the name of Fantine who knows exactly what it means to feel the anguish of broken dreams. She sings, “*I Dreamed a Dream*” for all of us who remember the dreams of our idealistic youth when we thought that life was such a great adventure. Sometimes life doesn’t turn out the way we planned.

*“I dreamed a dream in time gone by,  
When hope was high and life worth living.  
I dreamed that love would never die,  
I dreamed that God would be forgiving.  
Then I was young and unafraid,  
And dreams were made and used and wasted.  
There was no ransom to be paid, No song unsung, no wine, untasted.”*

Somewhere along the way, her life takes several tragic turns...

*“...But the tigers come at night, With their voices soft as thunder, As they tear your hope apart, And they turn your dream to shame.”*

There is a saying that goes something like, “Young people gather wood to build a stairway to the stars, but old people use their wood to build an outhouse!” In our younger days we often feel like we are invincible and that we can do anything. We have such lofty dreams! Such high hopes! Visions of sugarplums dance in our heads! But as the years pass, we are confronted with our immortality and the brutal realities of life. Even though we try to hide it, how many of us have become inwardly aware of the agonizing reality that we are not going to accomplish the things we dreamed of in younger days.

What did you gather your wood for? What big plans did you have for your life? What great things were you going to accomplish? Broken Dreams need not become shattered lives...

Jesus is the healer and mender of broken hearts and broken dreams



## ***Protected from the Big and Small***

In May 1995, a 34-year-old construction worker by the name of Randy Reid was doing some final welding on top of a nearly completed water tower in one of Chicago's suburbs. At one point, Randy unhooked his safety belt so he could reach for some pipes. But at that same moment, a metal beam slipped off a nearby crane, and bumped the scaffolding Randy was standing on.

The scaffolding tipped, and Randy lost his balance. He fell 110 feet to the ground below. In landing, he just missed a pile of rocks and construction debris on the ground. Instead he landed face down on a pile of dirt.

A fellow worker saw the whole accident and immediately called 911. When paramedics arrived, they couldn't believe their eyes. They found Randy completely conscious, moving, and complaining that he had a sore back. Even though he went through such a horrendous fall, Randy still maintained his sense of humor. As paramedics carried him on a backboard to the ambulance, Randy asked one thing. He said, "Hey guys, be careful, will you? Don't drop me." When he arrived at the hospital and was examined by the doctors, and they discovered that the only injury he suffered was a bruised lung.

Friends, I think sometimes our faith resembles Randy. God protects us from harm in a 110-foot fall, but we're still nervous about three-foot heights. By that I mean, we have faith that God will save us from hell and death, but we're afraid that He won't be able to protect us from the smaller difficulties we are going to face this coming week.

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

A church deacon sat visiting with one of the shut-in members when the woman seemed to go into cardiac arrest. The deacon rushed to the phone and called 9-1-1, asking that they send an ambulance to the house immediately.



The operator asked, "What's the address, sir?"

The deacon wasn't sure of the exact address, but he knew she lived in the last house on Eucalyptus Lane.

The operator asked, "Can you spell that for me, sir?"

After a long pause, the deacon asked, "Um, how about if I carry her over to Oak Street and you can pick her up there?"



## ***Maintain Your Covenant Of Blessing!***

In these uncertain times, as a church, God continues to bless us. During the remaining months of 2023, we need to continue sowing our seed faithfully and generously.

Making ALL things new is a reminder of the nature of our God... *“Behold I make ALL things new!”* And now is the time to lay hold of the promise of Isaiah where God says, *“Behold I do new things, and now they shall spring forth, verily you shall know them: I will make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.”* Isaiah 43:19

What do you believe God has for you do to honor Him in the remaining months of 2023?

Each day we celebrate our past, we must likewise, in faith, believe for the best in 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 we can look forward to is made possible by the seeds of our faith and financial gifts we sow now – Let’s celebrate all God has done for us by doing all we can for Him!

CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



***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!***