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



Some of you know it already. What became the practice during the pandemic has become your habit in the days since. Church attendance has become "optional." We attend on those special occasions or "when we feel like it..." There seems to be no sense of commitment or accountability.

The problem really isn't a new one. In Malachi 3:7 we read:

"Ever since the time of your ancestors you have turned away from my decrees and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you," says the Lord Almighty.

This verse from the Book of Malachi underscores the call to repentance and returning to God. It highlights how the people had strayed from God's decrees and invites them to turn back to Him. It also emphasizes the promise that if they return to God, He will return to them, indicating God's willingness to reconcile with those who repent and seek Him.

It's time to come home...

Join us live at HBC, 10:00 am this Sunday for an exciting word from the Lord... – Or tune into Facebook Live at and encourage others to join in with you!



Return Unto Me Says The Lord

Reflecting on the spiritual act of returning to God through our giving of tithes and offerings, we find a powerful expression of faith, gratitude, and trust.

The principle of tithing—giving a portion of one's income to the church or to those in need—is found in several places within the Bible. One of the most compelling references is in Malachi 3:10, where God invites His people to test Him by bringing the whole tithe into the storehouse, promising that He will open

the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it. This verse not only underscores the importance of giving back to God but also highlights the blessings that come with obedience and trust in His provision.

The act of giving, in the form of tithes and offerings, is a tangible way to return to God a portion of what He has generously given us. It's an acknowledgment that everything we have comes from Him and is ultimately His. This practice helps cultivate a heart of gratitude and a spirit of generosity, reminding us that we are stewards, not owners, of the resources entrusted to us.

Moreover, returning to God in our giving is an act of faith. It requires trusting God with our finances, believing that He will provide for our needs. It challenges us to prioritize our spiritual commitments over worldly desires, encouraging a lifestyle that values eternal treasures over temporary pleasures.

This devotional act also fosters a deeper connection with the community and the work of God's Kingdom. By faithfully contributing to the church and supporting its missions, we participate in a collective effort to spread the Gospel, care for the needy, and make a tangible difference in the world. It's a reminder that our giving has a purpose beyond ourselves, serving as a tool through which God's love and provision can be manifested to others.

In returning to God through our tithes and offerings, we are invited to reflect on the generosity of God, who gave His only Son for our redemption (John 3:16). Just as God has generously given to us, we are called to generously give in return, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver (2 Corinthians 9:7).

Let this practice of giving be a spiritual discipline that draws you closer to God, deepening your trust, strengthening your faith, and expanding your capacity to love and serve others. Remember, it's not the amount we give, but the heart behind our giving that truly matters to God. In this act of worship and devotion, may you experience the joy and blessing that comes from living a life of generosity and faithfulness to Him.

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor

February 27, 2024

Budget \$5489.00

Budget \$25.00 In Memory of Wayne and Judy Owens

Cash in Cash out-Sonshine Kids \$25.00

Food Pantry \$25.00

Total Deposit \$5589.00

<u>Calendar</u>

Tuesday, February 27th

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, February 28th

7pm Bible Study

Thursday, February 29th

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

Sunday, March 3rd

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Live Worship at HBC

10:00am Sonshine Kids

Annie Armstrong Emphasis

Sunday

Monday, March 4th

Church office will open around 1pm

Tuesday, March 5th

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

Wednesday, March 6th

7pm Bible Study

Thursday, March 7th

1pm-2pm Food Distribution

Saturday, March 9th

Set your clocks up one hour-

Spring Forward

Sunday, March 10th

9:00am Discipleship Class

10:00am Live Worship at HBC

10:00am Sonshine Kids

Its that time again!

The grass is going to need to be cut very soon. We will be making a grass cutting schedule. If you can help with that, please contact the church office. We would like to have it cut and cleaned up in time for Easter, March 31st.

Happy Birthday In March

3/2 Bob Caffacus

3/3 Donald Beard

3/6 Patrick Nicholson

3/8 Christine Douglas

3/10 Scott Schaubach

3/11 Betty Howell

3/17 Christy Kuhlne

3/18 Judy France

3/25 Lana Ntumngia

3/25 William Surber

3/31 Kirk Crippen



Please mark your calendars for our Easter Services

Good Friday Service, March 29th at 7pm

Easter Worship Service-Sunday, March 31st



Invite your friends to come and be a part! Jesus is Alive! Let's Celebrate!



PLEASE DO NOT FORGET!

We will need to have the cards for Christine Douglas's Birthday to the church by Sunday, March 3rd.

Thanks for everyone that have brought and sent in their cards.

Lock up/Hall Monitor 3/3 Joe Caskie 3/10 Roger Cooke

Counter 3/4 Sue Monfalcone 3/11 Joe Wircenske

Kids Church 3/3 Kathy Caskie 3/10 Lisa York

Me Kids Easter Celebration and Egg Hunt Saturday, March 23rd 11-2pm.

If you can help with this fun time, see Dreama. Invite kids to come and be a part. We are collecting Easter Candy to stuff the eggs, you can place that in the front office or in the Mission Outreach Corner. Chocolate is fine!

<u>I am looking for a white bench to use for the egg hunt for pictures with the Easter Bunny.</u> If you have one that I can use the week of March 18th, please let me know and I will arrange to pick it up.

<u>Projects with a Purpose–Stuffing Easter Eggs</u>

Wednesday March 20th 1:00pm

Come out for a fun time of stuffing Easter Eggs for the kids egg hunt. We will be meeting in Prior Hall. Please enter at the Handicap Door. Light refreshments will be served

Yearly Kids Training-Sunday, April 21st after morning workshop

We will be having our yearly training session for all individuals that work with Kids. This is very important so please make every effort to attend. Lunch will be served. If you are attending, please sign up in the mission outreach corner. This way we will know how to prepare for the meal.

Upcoming Events for the Kids

Sunday, March 3rd – Wear your favorite T-Shirt to church

Sunday, April 7th – Mis Match Sunday. Come to church all Mis Matched!

Saturday, April 13th - Kids Day at HBC, 11am - 1pm Lunch, and fund

Sunday, April 21st- The kids will be presenting a musical drama in morning worship.

<u>Friday, April 29th</u>- The Kids are in charge of the Community Dinner, they will be serving and having a great time. 5:30pm Parents are invited to come and eat dinner with us!



Are You Spring Cleaning Soon?

While spring cleaning, don't forget the PORT clothes closet. We really need men's clothes. We have plenty of women's clothes. We will take donations anytime. There is a place in the gym marked to put your donations. Thanks.

<u> Hilton Area Blood Drive</u>

There will be a Blood Drive on March 14th at Hilton Presbyterian Church. You can schedule on line or just go to the fellowship hall between 1pm-6pm. There is an urgent need for blood at this time. March 14th!

One City Marathon

The One City Marathon is Sunday March 3rd. Please remember traffic around the church will be affected. Please make sure you plan accordingly.



Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226

<u>Aluminum Cans-</u> Recycle your cans at HBC and help Support missions! Bring them to HBC and <u>place them in the gym</u> or the church office. All money collected goes to missions.

<u>Pray for our Missionaries</u> -Regina White (American People) MC, DL, RS, Jiyeon Song (Asian Pacific Rim People) MW (Central Asian People) Seth Graves, Jared Long (European People) JS (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) MM (South Asian People) Adony Daout (FL) Bradley McOwen (IN) George Chinn (KY) Temi Akinsanya (MD) Heather Murray (MO) Belton Rivera (Ontario)

<u>Serve the City</u>-There are many opportunities to serve. See www.stcpeninsula.com Or Pam Cooke and she will send you in the right direction.

BIG SERVE WEEK June 25-29th

Save the Date- More information will be available on the website soon.

There are many ways you can serve!

<u>WMU February Mission Project</u>—The WMU Mission Project for February is Faith Recovery (formerly Youth Challenge) Items to donate: ground coffee, creamer, sugar, bottled water, dish soap, laundry detergent, milk, sliced and shredded cheese and any meats that can be frozen.

A Faith Recovery leader will be at our church this Wednesday, March 6th at 12:00pm to share more about their program and they will be picking up the items then. Everyone is invited to come to the meeting to learn more. Light refreshments will be served.

Food Pantry Ministry The food pantry can use your donations of non-perishable food. If you want you can make a monetary donation and if will be used to purchase food. We have been feeding a lot of people as of recent, the need is very high.

<u>Community Dinner- February 29th</u> We could use your help with the community dinner. If you would like to prepare this meal or one of the future meals for the community, please see Pam Cooke.

Salvation Army Easter Basket Donation for Low Income

Seniors and Veterans

Items to donate: Toilet paper, paper towels, dish soap, laundry detergent, hand soap, body soap, deodorant, toothbrushes and toothpaste, mouthwash, dental floss, shampoo, conditioner, shaving cream, razors, puzzles, socks, candy and gift cards. All items need to be at the church by Wednesday, March 13th.

Food Distribution

HBC has partnered with Tabernacle Baptist East End in a new program at the Peninsula Food Bank. We will be distributing food the last Friday of every month at our Community Dinner after everyone has eaten.

Our Community Dinner last week was the first time for the distribution and it was a huge success. People were every appreciative of the food that they received. Please keep in mind that we will be doing this every month (and hope to expand it to two times a month eventually.)

Many thanks to Lisa York, Sue Monfalcone, Marsha Mangun, Delores Morgan, Tara Borton and Robbie Ayscue for all the work done to get this organized.

This is just one of the many ways that HBC is reaching the community. We thank God for all the ways He is able to use us!





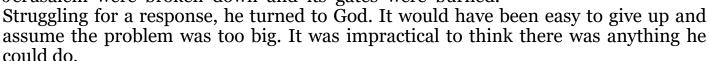




Answered Prayer

When I heard these words ... I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven.—Nehemiah 1:4

Nehemiah was devastated. He heard that the walls of Jerusalem were broken down and its gates were burned.



But Nehemiah was moved by faith and a willingness to believe. He humbled himself and spent days weeping and seeking God. He confessed the sins of his people. And he prayed without ceasing. The results were dramatic and miraculous as the king allowed him to return to Jerusalem and even covered all expenses necessary to rebuild the wall.

Nehemiah's prayer is the kind of prayer that moves mountains. Filled with faith, it is humble and yet resolved, dedicated and yet submissive. It is prayer willing to believe that nothing is impossible (Luke 1:37).

Many people approach God with superficial concerns and shallow prayers. They may be sincere but do not demonstrate determination. Praying with limited faith, they may be willing to stop praying and give up if they do not receive immediate answers. These kinds of people should not be surprised if their prayers are not answered.

If you want answers to your prayers, follow Nehemiah's example. Humble yourself before God. Commit your needs to Him. Seek Him relentlessly. Never give up. Always be sensitive to His leadership. Stand on His Word.



The Last Impression

After starting a new diet I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favorite bakery.

I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and as I approached, there in the window were a host of chocolates, donuts, and cheesecakes.

I felt this was no accident, so I prayed ... "Lord, it's up to You. If You want me to have any of those delicious goodies, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery."

And sure enough, on the eighth time around the block, there it was! God is so good!

Focus On The Task

"All of them conspired together to come to fight against Jerusalem and to cause confusion in it [...] Our enemies said, "They will not know or see until we come among them, kill them, and put a stop to the work."—Nehemiah 4:8, 11



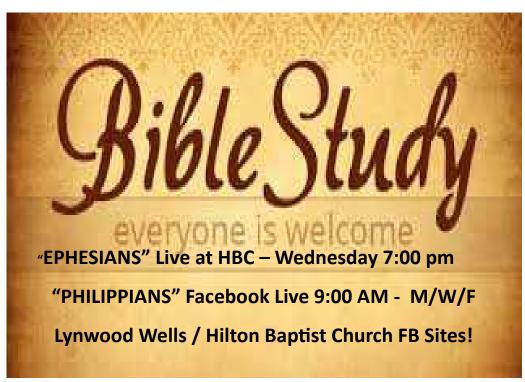
Powerful people fought to prevent the wall in Jerusalem from being rebuilt. But despite this opposition, work on the wall had begun. Yet these enemies renewed their efforts by causing "confusion." The Hebrew word suggests they wanted the Jews to engage in immoral behavior, become troubled and confused, and wander from the tasks God had given them.

Nehemiah responded by turning to prayer. This was a serious prayer! He and the people also engaged in defensive warfare, setting up a guard stationed day and night. They would not allow their enemies to disrupt their efforts.

Nehemiah would not allow a spirit of defeat and discouragement to spread. He reminded them that God is "great and awesome" (v. 14). He would fight for them. Armed with renewed faith and confidence, everyone returned to work, and the wall was rebuilt.

Don't be surprised if you face opposition, attacks, and efforts to spread fear and discouragement. People may try to force you to abandon the assignment God has given you.

Don't be distracted by opposition. Be a person of prayer, seeking God's help. Surrender your life to Him. Fill your mind with His Word and seek the power of His Spirit. Don't let your adversaries have even the smallest victory. And focus on the tasks God has given you. Trust in Him, and say to yourself, "I will not stop until the task is completed. I will build the wall!"





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
- 8. Option to remain anonymous.

Try it today at www.HiltonBaptistChurch.com!



YOU BUILT AND STAFFED AN ENTIRE FACTORY JUST SO THAT YOU COULD MAKE THE "MATCH MADE IN HEAVEN" GAG?!?

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!