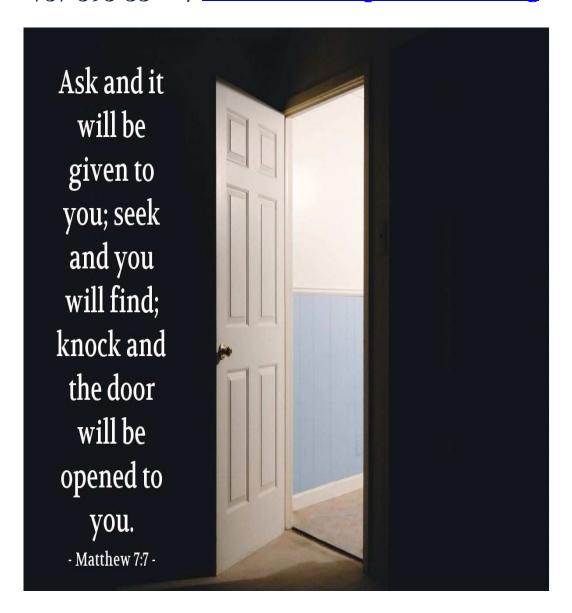
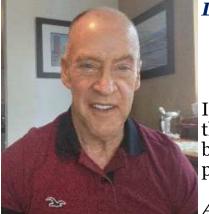
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In Matthew 7:7, Jesus urges his followers to seek, knock, and ask persistently, assuring them that they will receive, find, and have doors opened to them. This verse encapsulates the essence of faith and persistence in prayer. It invites believers to approach God with confidence, knowing that He listens and responds.

Just as a child persistently seeks the attention of a loving parent, we are called to persistently seek God's presence and provision, trusting in His faithfulness and love.

"Easter: Let it Change You" is a message series built to encourage you in the power of the resurrection. Plan to be at HBC this Sunday and invite someone to join you!



Let Easter Change You Through Prayer!

"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Matthew 7:7

In these verses, Jesus offers a profound lesson on prayer and the character of God. He invites us into a relationship marked by trust, persistence, and expectancy. Three simple yet profound verbs guide us in prayer: ask, seek, and knock.

Ask: The invitation to ask reflects the openness of God's heart towards His children. Just as a loving parent delights in

meeting the needs of their child, our Heavenly Father eagerly desires to hear our requests. He welcomes our prayers, whether they are petitions for provision, guidance, healing, or simply communion with Him. Asking is an act of humility and dependency, acknowledging our need for God's intervention in our lives.

Seek: Beyond merely asking, Jesus urges us to actively seek God's presence and will. Seeking requires diligence, attentiveness, and a willingness to invest our time and energy in pursuing Him. It involves a deepening of our relationship with God, delving into His Word, and aligning our hearts with His purposes. In seeking God, we discover the richness of His presence and the fulfillment of His promises.

Knock: Knocking signifies persistence and faith. It implies a determination to pursue God even when faced with closed doors or apparent silence. Just as a persistent visitor does not give up until the door is opened, we are called to persevere in prayer, trusting that God hears us and will respond in His perfect timing. Our knocking reflects our confidence in God's faithfulness and His willingness to answer our prayers according to His wisdom and goodness.

Jesus reinforces His teaching with a powerful illustration of parental love. He assures us that if earthly parents, flawed as they are, know how to give good gifts to their children, how much more will our Heavenly Father lavish His blessings upon us when we approach Him in prayer. God's nature is one of boundless love and generosity, and He delights in blessing His children with good gifts that surpass our expectations.

As we meditate on these verses, let us be encouraged to approach God with boldness, persistence, and trust. Let us cultivate a lifestyle of prayer characterized by asking, seeking, and knocking, confident in the assurance that our Heavenly Father hears us and delights in answering our prayers. May we rest in the promise that He is a good Father who longs to bless us abundantly and lead us into the fullness of life in Him.

On the grace journey together with you, Lynwood

The Hilton Baptist Church Record

Lynwood Wells, Pastor April 9, 2024

Budget \$ 7185.00

Annie Armstrong \$250.00

Cash in Cashout- Mark Kroos \$20.00

Cash in Cash out-Sonshine Kids \$25.00

Food Pantry \$25.00

Total Deposit \$7505.00

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

Amount Collected to date

\$1850.00

<u>Yearly Kids Training– Sunday, April 21st after morning workshop</u>

We will be having our yearly training session for all individuals that work with Kids. This is very important so please make eve-

<u>ry effort to attend.</u> 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. (If your spouse would like to stay with you., that is fine, just please let Dreama know)

Upcoming Events for the Kids

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

<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!

Happy Birthday in April

4/13 Tara Borton

4/20 Nicholas Gibson 4/17 Pat Painter

4/22 Dorothy Cook 4/26 Lillian Clopton



Lock up/ Hall Monitor 4/14 Robbie Ayscue 4/21 Joe Caskie

Counter 4/15 Margaret Upole 4/22 Kathy Caskie

Kids Church 4/14 Lisa York 4/21 Tracy Venable

Missions Outreach—Pam Cooke 660-4226

Aluminum Cans

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

Pray for our Missionaries

Tabitha Tucker (European People) EH (Global Strategic Advance) BS, TZ (Northern African and Middle Eastern People) DD (South Asian People) Pamela Walker (LA)

Serve the City

There are many opportunities to serve. See www.stcpeninsula.com or Pam Cooke and she will send you in the right direction. <u>BIG SERVE WEEK June 25–29th</u>

Save the Date- More information will be available on the website soon. There are many ways you can serve!

WMU Monthly Mission Project

WMU April Mission Project—Peninsula Rescue Mission—Pillow cases, twin flat and fitted sheets (dark color) caffeinated coffee, creamer, sugar, paper towels, Windex, Lysol Disinfectant, Clorox and Clorox Cleaner, Bathroom Cleaner, Laundry Pods, travel size shaving cream and men's underwear.

Community Dinner-Friday, April 26th

Plan now to come and be a part of the Community Dinner. The HBC/ JC Kids will be serving that night. You will want to come and be a part, and visit with our guests. Menu: Sloppy Joes, Applesauce, chips and chocolate pudding. YUMMY! Come on out for a great night!

<u>Senior Bingo Prizes</u>

We are collecting Bingo Prizes for the residents of Berkely Village and Ashe Manor to support Serve the City. Anything is great. Dollar Tree gifts are suggested! Thank you for giving to help this important outreach to Senior Adults.

Recap of Food Distribution for March 2024

The Tuesday, Thursday Food Distribution fee 154 people, we fed 9 Homeless people, 74 families at the Community Dinner received food and 343 people received food on our Sunday Food giveaways. God has been so good to HBC.

Donations are still taken for Food Pantry. We have been able to bless so many people and lives have been changed because of this ministry. . VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for Tuesday, Thursday and Friday afternoons. Please call the office if you can help and what day you are available.



Supporting The Ministry Of HBC!

It is your generous financial support that enables HBC to fulfill its mission and ministry effectively. From maintaining the church building to funding outreach programs and supporting missionaries, financial contributions from members essential for the church to carry out its various activities.

Additionally, supporting the church financially demonstrates a commitment to God's work on earth, recognizing that material resources are necessary to advance spiritual goals.

Moreover, active involvement and participation in church activities foster a sense of belonging and community among believers. By volunteering time, talents, and energy, Christians

contribute to the vibrancy of their church family. Whether through serving in leadership roles, leading worship, teaching Sunday school, or participating in service projects, each member plays a vital role in creating a welcoming and nurturing environment where individuals can grow spiritually and emotionally.

Furthermore, supporting the church allows Christians to fulfill their biblical mandate to care for one another and to spread the message of love and compassion. Through fellowship, mutual support, and encouragement, believers strengthen their bonds with one another and build each other up in faith.

Additionally, by supporting the church's outreach efforts, Christians can share the hope and love of Christ with their communities and beyond. Why not share a special gift today?

The Prayer Interruption...

During a particularly quiet moment in church, the pastor asked for everyone to bow their heads in prayer. As the congregation closed their eyes and bowed their heads, a little boy named Tommy decided it was the perfect time to voice his thoughts.

In a loud whisper, Tommy said, "Mom, do you think heaven has Wi-Fi?" Startled, Tommy's mom tried to shush him, but Tommy persisted, "Because if it does, I bet grandpa's up there right now playing video games!"

The entire congregation couldn't help but stifle their laughter as the pastor struggled to maintain composure and continue with the prayer!

A Sympathetic Jewel

A young couple was visiting a jewelry store. They browsed through cases of magnificent diamonds with their gleaming yellow light along with many other splendid precious stones.

Among those beautiful stones, one in particular caught his wife's eye. It was completely lusterless and didn't seem to be in the right place. "That is one terrible looking stone, do you see that?" she said. The curious husband asked a clerk if they could see the stone.

The clerk opened the case, took out the stone and held it in his hand for a few minutes. When he opened it, there was a perfectly flawless stone. There was not a place on it that didn't gleam with the splendor of the rainbow. "How did you do that?" they asked in surprise.

"This is an opal", he replied. "It is what we call the sympathetic jewel. It only needs contact with the human hand to bring out its wonderful beauty." Merely a touch brings out this stone's beauty.

We live in a world where beauty is hidden under sorrow, sin and suffering. How many lives only need the warm touch of human sympathy, love and compassion to make them gleam with a radiant splendor?

Reach out and touch someone this week for His glory! Share with them the love of God. Not only will they receive a glimmer of joy, but you will gleam with His radiance too!

In Isaiah 6:8, the Lord asks, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" Isaiah replies, "Here am I; send me." Be a sympathetic jewel in someone's life today!

Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity in your giving.

May God richly bless you and I know that He will!



POOR OL' ATHEIST JOE ... ALL DRESSED UP, AND NOWHERE TO GO





At HBC, we're deeply committed to reaching out to our neighborhood and engaging with the vibrant arts community around us with an authentic expression of our Christianity. We believe in embodying the love and grace of Christ in tangible ways, whether through acts of service, fostering genuine relationships, or supporting artistic endeavors that reflect the beauty and diversity of God's creation. Our aim is not just to coexist within these spheres but to actively contribute to their flourishing, fostering a community where all feel welcomed, valued, and inspired to explore the depths of faith and creativity.