

## Thoughts From Doug

I cannot believe the Season of Advent is here. In the Christian calendar, last Sunday (November 24) was the end of the year. Advent is the beginning of a new year. While the cultural calendar for everyone follows the man-made twelve months, January through December, to mark a year of life—not so for the Church, the body of Christ. We mark our time by the life of our Savior, Jesus Christ, so our new year begins with the season of Advent, when we make preparations in our lives—preparations that are like a spiritual spring cleaning of the house of our souls. Over the past centuries, Christians who follow the Christian calendar in their life as a church give testimony to the rest of the world that there is something different about us. We do not only give lip service to Jesus, we mark our time, our days, weeks, and months, around his life, ministry, death and resurrection.

Over the past centuries, the worship of the Church has developed a spirituality particularly for Christians during Advent. As the late worship expert Robert Webber wrote, the Lectionary readings during the season “are designed to guide our journey into the Advent experience of the mystery of Christ.” Our ancestors in the faith chose Scriptures that point us toward three Advents:

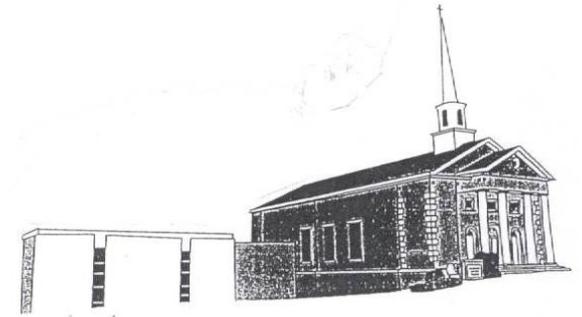
- The Advent of Christ coming into our own lives;
- The Advent of Christ’s physical birth in Bethlehem;
- And the Advent of his second coming at the end of history.

During this most sacred Season, we at Hardwick Baptist will follow in the footsteps and the wisdom of our faith ancestors, as these same Scripture readings will guide us. We begin the first week of Advent with the second coming of Christ—and we will move, as in a funnel, toward the first coming, so that, finally, we are called to our own renewed personal encounter with Christ through all the readings. If you missed worship November 24, when we distributed the Scripture reading for the Seasons of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, please be sure to pick up your copy the next time you are at church. During Advent, while the rest of the world/culture is consumed with gift-giving and one day, we are called to meditate on the birthing of Christ in our hearts. We do this for four weeks, beginning this Sunday—so that God’s Spirit can enlighten us and prepare us to truly celebrate the birth of his Son throughout the twelve days of Christmas, beginning December 24 and ending January 5. So... Happy Advent, Hardwick!!

Love and Blessings! Doug

Check out the HBC Website  
[www.hardwickbaptist.org](http://www.hardwickbaptist.org)

# Hardwick Herald



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November 26, 2019



2019  
This Thursday  
November 28th

*Let us come  
before him with  
thanksgiving.*

Psalm 95:2, NIV

**Prayer List**

Henry/Vivian Andrews	Sharon Ezell
James Armstrong	Lamar Guy
Mack Atchison	Kenny Huff
Kenneth Babb	Martha Huff
Katie Bainbridge	Jim Jennings
Anne Bayne	Michael/Sharon Lord
Joyce Blizzard	Nell Maddox
Harriett Braddy	Jeff McMullen
Josephine Davis	Marcus McMullen
Eugenia English	Marlene Peavy
Sandra English	Bonnie Stafford

**In Military Service:** Rudy Webb

**Christmas Extravaganza  
Northside Baptist Church  
Friday, December 6, 7:00 P.M.**  
*"An Evening of Christmas Music  
featuring singers from Churches  
in the Washington Association"*

 **Adult Discipleship  
Opportunities**  
Tuesday, Dec. 3, 6:30 P.M.  
Taize Prayer Service  
Monday, Dec. 9, 6:30 P.M.  
Covenant Group  
Tuesday, Dec. 17, 6:30 P.M.  
Healing Prayer Service

**The Women On Mission Day**  
Group has disbanded for now. At  
such time as it may be re-  
organized we will notify those in-  
terested. Thank you ladies for  
your dedication over the years!

Annual Budget 2019.....	\$280,579.00
Needed Per Week to Meet Budget.....	\$ 5,395.75
Contributions 11/24/19.....	\$ 2,654.00
Budget Contributions through 11/24/19.....	\$191,458.59
Total Budget Expense through 11/24/19.....	\$189,232.07

 **Prayer Meeting/  
Bible Study  
Wednesdays , 12 noon  
In Fellowship Hall**  
You are invited to bring a sack  
lunch if you like and we will study and  
eat together.

 **Choir Rehearsal  
Every Wednesday  
At 7:00 P.M.**

**Wednesday Night Program  
For Children & Youth  
5:30 P.M. —Snack Supper  
6:00 P.M.—Group Time**

**Scripture Readings for  
November 24  
Psalm 46  
Jeremiah 23:1-6  
Colossians 1:11-20  
Luke 23:33-43**

**Room for a Baby  
Christmas Concert  
December 10th, 7:00 P.M.  
Covenant Presbyterian  
Church  
Donations will benefit  
Crossroads Pregnancy Ctr.**

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Dec 03: Chappel Roberts  
Dec 04: Quintisha Hall, Lori Myers  
Dec 06: Sharon Overma

**Nursery Workers  
Sunday Morning, 12/01/19  
Babies  
Olivia Hill, Gail Brooks**

**Bus Ministry, 12/01/19  
Ken Turner**  
**Children's Church, 12/01/19  
Ken Turner**  
**Counting Committee, 12/01/19  
Miles Whipple, Mack Atchison**  
**Worship Coordinator, 12/01/19  
Mack Atchison**  
**Deacon of the Week, 12/01/19  
Marilyn Skinner, Deacon of the Week**

**HBC Family  
Christmas Caroling  
Fellowship  
Wednesday, December 18  
5:30 P.M.-  
Soup & Sandwiches  
6:00-7:00 P.M.  
Caroling to Green Acres  
& Chaplinwood  
7:00-7:30 P.M.  
Cookies & Hot Chocolate**  


**The Church Office will be  
closed Thursday, November  
28th and Friday, November  
29th for Thanksgiving.**

**CALENDAR**

**Sunday, December 1st :**  
**(1st Sunday Advent)**  
9:45 P.M. Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship  
2:00 P.M. Deacons' Meeting  
**Tuesday, December 3rd:**  
6:30 P.M. Taize Prayer Service  
**Wednesday, December 4th:**  
12:00 P.M. Bible Study/Prayer Group  
5:30 P.M. Children's & Youth Groups  
7:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

**Coming December 14, 2019  
1st HBC Dinner Church  
5:00 P.M.**  
If you would like to serve on one  
of the Dinner Church Teams,  
please contact Cindy Folendore  
at 719-4059.  
**Orientation fpr  
Dinner Church Team  
Sunday, December 8  
5:00 P.M.  
In Fellowship Hall**

 **Christmas Eve  
Candlelight  
Communion  
Service  
December 24th  
6:00 P.M.**  
*An offering will be received  
for our Dinner Church Ministry.*

**Deacons** will meet this Sunday,  
December 1st at 2:00 P.M.

**Doers of the Word** will meet  
Thursday, December 5th at 6:00  
P.M. at the home of JoEllen  
Waller.