

## Thoughts From Doug

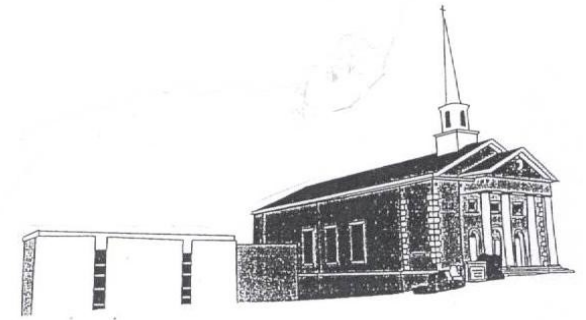
As we travel further in the Season of Advent, we remember that it is a time of preparation. We make preparations in our lives—both spiritually and physically--so that we are in a space where we can be most receptive, most attentive, to the wonder and mystery of the Christmas story. We prepare by reading daily Advent devotionals that help us listen to the Story in a new way this year. We prepare by arranging calendars and schedules so that we can celebrate with people who are most dear to us. We prepare by reflecting on meaningful Christmas memories of the past, especially recalling those who will not be with us physically this Christmas. We prepare by attending Advent worship services at church. And we prepare by praying. All of these preparations--done with our intentionality--are noticed by God, and are honored by the Holy Spirit, who are faithful to speak to us anew this year, bringing us "tidings of great joy" that we did not understand last year. We have lived another year of life, have grown wiser, have endured loss (some of us great loss), have received new blessings--and all of these things have made us a different person than we were last Christmas. We are in a different place spiritually, emotionally, mentally—and we are ready for the Christmas story to touch us deeper than a year ago. Now it is time for us to listen, to be open, to "not fear" but trust God's goodness. We have realized, more than ever before, that we are called to join the Christmas story. We are called to follow the baby Jesus by going to the people on the margins of life and faith--just as he did when he became a man. We are called to say "yes" just as Mary did. And then we are called to watch in wonder as God uses us to be made flesh in the world. I hope you are making your own preparations this Advent.

And speaking of preparations: please remember our **first Dinner Church gathering will be Saturday, December 14, 5:00 P.M.** People have been doing a lot of preparations to organize this outreach ministry. You can play a part by coming and serving in whatever way needed for that first meal. Please make an effort to come to our "preparation" meeting: **Dinner Church Volunteer Orientation this Sunday, December 8, 5:00 P.M.** in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a time of explanation and preparation so that all aspects of a Dinner Church meal and service will be covered. Our Community Ministry Team will be facilitating this time of orientation.

Love and Blessings!  
Doug

Offering envelopes for the new Church Year are now available in the upstairs hallway of the Education building. Please pick yours up as soon as possible.

# Hardwick Herald



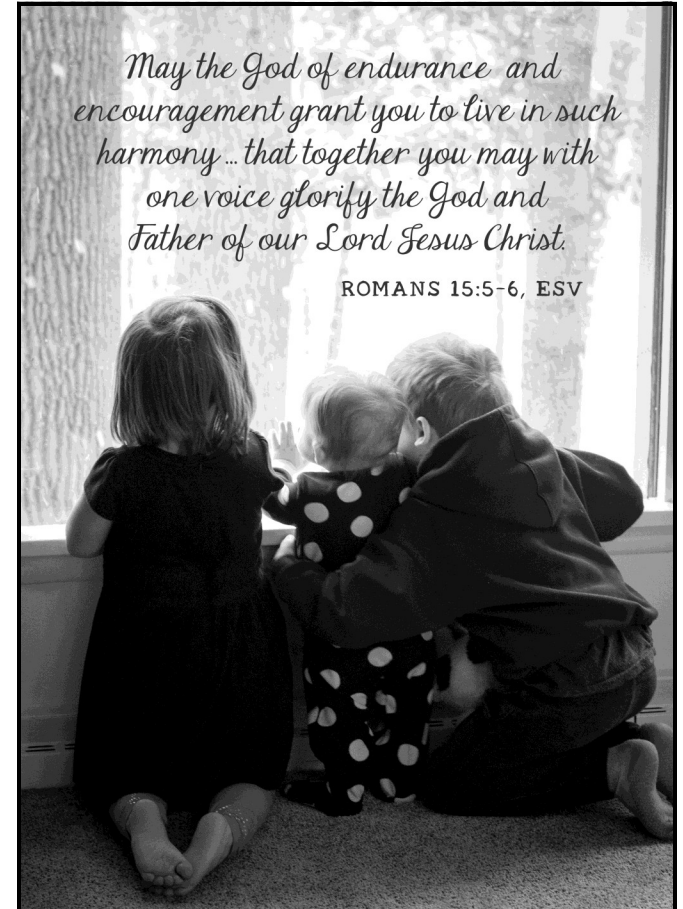
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December 5, 2019

*May the God of endurance and encouragement grant you to live in such harmony...that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

ROMANS 15:5-6, ESV



**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
John Cooper	Marcus McMullen
Josephine Davis	Marlene Peavy
Eugenia English	Bonnie Stafford
Sandra English	

In Military Service: Rudy Webb

**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  
December 8:**

**Psalms 72:1-7, 18-19  
Isaiah 11:1-10  
Romans 15:4-13  
Matthew 3:1-12**

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

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**

Dec 08: Ethan Amason  
Dec 09: Colton Settle  
Dec 10: Anne Schrupp  
Dec 11: Eric Baker, Anne Etheridge,  
Many Ptak, Ted Worsham  
Dec 12: Jan Riner, Cheryl Worsham

**Nursery Workers  
Sunday Morning, 12/08/19  
Babies  
Rhonda Whipple, Kristi Blizzard**

**Bus Ministry, 12/08/19**  
Cindy English  
**Children's Sermon, 12/08/19**  
Cindy English  
**Counting Committee, 12/08/19**  
Cindy Folendore, David Lewis  
**Worship Coordinator, 12/08/19**  
Mack Atchison  
**Deacon of the Week, 12/08/19**  
Glenn Abbey, 456-4305

**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.**



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

**CALENDAR**

**Sunday, December 8th:**  
(2nd Sunday of Advent)  
9:45 P.M. Sunday School  
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship  
5:00 P.M. Dinner Church Orientation

**Monday, December 9th:**  
6:30 P.M. Covenant Group

**Wednesday, December 11th:**  
12:00 P.M. Bible Study/Prayer Group  
5:30 P.M. Children's & Youth Groups  
7:00 P.M. Choir Rehearsal

**Ladies' Prayer Group &  
Agape' Sunday School Class  
Christmas Lunch  
At home of Joyce Blizzard  
Monday, December 9th  
At 11:00 A.M.  
Lunch provided**



**Christmas Eve  
Candlelight  
Communion  
Service  
December 24th  
6:00 P.M.**

*An offering will be received  
for our Dinner Church Ministry.*

**Lottie Moon Post Office  
Is now Open**

Once again you may bring Christmas Cards to be delivered "in house" to attending members. The cost is 25 cents per card all of which goes to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions. Place your cards in the mail box provided and they will be distributed. Please be sure that cards are for members who attend regularly. Open through 12/29.

Annual Budget 2019.....	\$280,579.00
Needed Per Week to Meet Budget.....	\$ 5,395.75
Contributions 12/01/19.....	\$ 6,738.20
Budget Contributions through 12/01/19.....	\$198,390.84
Total Budget Expense through 12/01/19.....	\$192,025.35

**Week of Prayer for  
International Missions  
December 1-8**

**Lottie Moon  
Christmas Offering  
Our Goal: \$3,500.00  
Received to Date: \$1,034.00**

100% of all your gifts impact missionaries around the world.



**Adult Discipleship  
Opportunities**

Monday, Dec. 9, 6:30 P.M.  
Covenant Group

Tuesday, Dec. 17, 6:30 P.M.  
Healing Prayer Service

**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.