

Thoughts From Doug

The Beatitudes

How fortunate I have been to share the life of faith—this spiritual journey of maturity toward Christ—with so many faithful and loving saints. I recall my home church in northern Kentucky, and the family in which I was raised, and the way in which a life of humility, trust, and grace were modeled. I recall the people I met at a Baptist-affiliated college in Kentucky (Cumberland): the faithful and nurturing professors and administrators, who saw their work in higher education as a ministry; the fellow students whose primary reason for pursuing a degree was to prepare themselves to best use the gifts and opportunities God had given them. I recall the missionaries I lived and worked with in South Korea, who honestly shared their struggles with missing family in America and adapting to a different culture, yet humbly and faithfully carried out the mission to which they were called. I recall the amazingly gifted and intelligent professors at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, who carried out their ministry with grace and integrity while the very denomination which had birthed them was attacking and slandering them. I recall the faithful servants who made up the congregations I have served in Virginia, Kentucky, and Georgia.

Whenever I recall those folks who have most shaped and nurtured my own faith journey, I notice that they had this in common: they displayed lives in which they understood that the Beatitudes in Matthew 5 were indeed signs of blessing, not cursing. Jesus begins each one of those Beatitudes with "Blessed are..." (also translated, "Happy are..."). When you read those Beatitudes at first, they certainly do not sound like blessings from God. But, as you grow and understand what it means to follow Jesus, you realize that such faithfulness will eventually result in a life that experiences each of those statements.

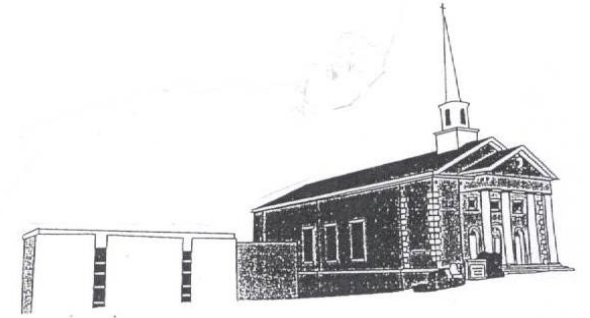
Right now, I am grateful to be sharing a life of faith with folks at Hardwick Baptist who realize that we are blessed to be experiencing the struggles of trying to follow Jesus in a community in which many see little value or attraction. People in Baldwin County who are looking for a church in which they can feel comfortable and assured that they are "correct" in their view of God and Jesus, are not going to seek out a church like Hardwick. But, thanks be to God, Jesus reminds us in his most famous sermon—the one "on the mount"—that we are called to enter into the suffering and heartache of the world. That's what the Beatitudes are about. And I believe, in ways we are not fully aware, Hardwick Baptist is *blessed* to be following Jesus where we are—and that we are being a blessing to people who need to know that, as the hymn goes, "there are blessings they have not received."

This Sunday's sermon will be about the Beatitudes. And we will share Communion around the Lord's Table together. I hope to meet you at the Table.

Love and Blessings! Doug

The **HBC Food Pantry** served 30 households, 107 individuals and had 6 new applicants Tuesday, January 28th. Thanks volunteers for all you do to provide cheerful assistance to those who come.

Hardwick Herald



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Volume XLI No. 05

January 29, 2020



Prayer List

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

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.

Scripture Readings for February 2nd Psalm 15 Micah 6:1-8 I Corinthians 1:18-31 Matthew 5:1-12

...and what does the Lord
Require of you but to
DO JUSTICE, and to
LOVE KINDNESS, and to
**WALK HUMBLY WITH
YOUR GOD?**

Micah 6:8, NRSV

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Feb 02: Gerrie Lindsay Maddox

Nursery Workers Sunday Morning, 2/02/2020 Babies Susan Taylor, Becky Adkins

Bus Ministry, 2/02/2020
Cindy English

Children's Message, 2/02/2020
Cindy English

Counting Committee, 2/02/2020
Cindy Folendore, David Lewis

Worship Coordinator, 2/02/2020
Mack Atchison

Deacon of the Week, 2/02/2020
Danny Roberts, 1/706/485/5624



Valentine Banquet Sunday, February 16th 5:00 P.m.

**\$10 Per Person-Pay At Door
By Reservation Only**

**Call the Church Office or
complete and turn in a res-
ervation form by February
10th. Reservation forms are
available in several places
throughout the church.**

**Menu: Ham, Potato Casserole,
Green Beans, Congealed Salad,
Rolls, Dessert, Tea/Coffee**

**Check out the HBC Website
www.hardwickbaptist.org**

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 2nd:

9:45 P.M.	Sunday School
11:00 A.M.	Morning Worship
Noon	Fundraiser Lunch
2:00 P.M.	Deacons' Meeting

Monday, February 3rd:

9:30 A.M.	Ladies' Prayer Group
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Wednesday, February 5th:

12:00 P.M.	Bible Study/Prayer Mtg.
5:30 P.M.	Children & Youth Groups.
7:00 P.M.	Choir Rehearsal

Soup & Sandwich Lunch Fundraiser For 2020 Children's Camp This Sunday, February 2, 2020 Following Morning Worship

We need 7 crocks of soup for the lunch. Please contact Taria Crump at [288-6362](tel:288-6362) if you can bring a crock pot of soup. If you are not bringing soup, please bring a dessert dish or 10 sandwiches (20 halves) and let Taria know what you are bringing.

Deacons will meet this Sunday, February 2nd at 2:00 P.M.

Doers of the Word will meet Thursday, February 6th at 6:00 P.M. at the home of Marilyn Skinner.

March Madness

Youth in grades 7-12 will be attending **March Madness** again this year **March 13-15**. The event will be at First Baptist, Athens, and mission sites will be throughout the city. Cost is \$50. See Doug or Cindy for details.

Annual Budget 2020.....	\$287,729.67
Needed Per Week to Meet Budget.....	\$ 5,533.27
Contributions 1/26/2020.....	\$ 1,063.10
Budget Contributions through 1/26/2020.....	*\$ 24,150.98
Total Budget Expense through 1/26/2020.....	\$ 16,679.13

*Includes transfer of \$12,729.67 (\$3,079.67 from Designated Youth House Renovation Fund and \$9,650.00 from Designated Fellowship Hall Bldg. Fund) to the General Fund, Property Maintenance line as directed at the January 19, 2020 Quarterly Conference to offset Fellowship Hall Roof replacement.