

DO YOU REMEMBER THE DAY?

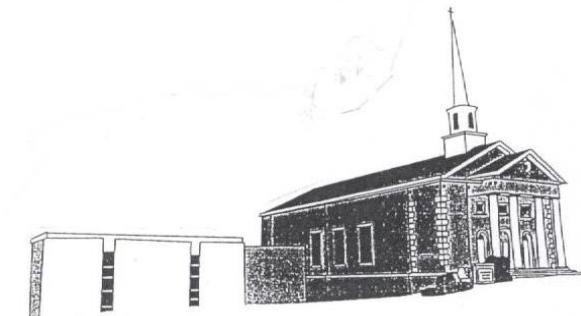
Have you ever thought about the fact that most of our "special" days are observed in remembrance of an important event? We mark the day of our birth every year with a birthday celebration. We celebrate wedding anniversaries. In our cultural calendar, we mark the "birth" of our country on Independence Day. In the Christian calendar, our most important seasons are built around the birth and resurrection of Jesus. We observe all of these days annually in order to remind us of days and events that have transformed our lives. We retell the story through these observances and celebrations so that we do not forget, and so that our children will know their heritage and might add their chapter to the book of generations.

Which leads me to ask: how much do we value our baptism? If I were to ask you, could you tell me, without hunting to find your baptism certificate, the date of your baptism? Why do we not make more of an effort to retell the story of that day—if, indeed, it represents a day of ultimate spiritual significance for us? Perhaps you have had a different experience than I; if so, I would love to hear about it. I know that some churches encourage families to devote time to celebrating the anniversary of a child's baptism—just as you celebrate the anniversary of their birth on the same date. But my experience of five-plus decades in Baptist churches has given me this conviction: we do not celebrate/remember/reaffirm our baptism enough. We would all benefit greatly by taking time each year to recall the circumstances that led us to the waters of baptism. We need to remember those saints who invested in us so long ago, and to recall those things, not only for our own sake—but so that our children and others will know the story of our coming to faith. Just as children need to hear stories of our childhood, our parents and grandparents, the joys and heartbreaks that have made our family who we are—they need to hear us tell, in our own words, what caused us to commit to following Jesus.

In the Christian calendar, this Sunday is *Baptism of Our Lord* Sunday. At Hardwick Baptist, we will take part in a time of remembering and reaffirming our baptism. If you have never attended such a service, I believe you will find it meaningful. In advance of Sunday, I encourage you to take time "remembering that day." Maybe even write down some of the memories that are fading. Let us come to worship prepared for God to "jog our memory." And let us listen for that voice that reminds us. *You are my beloved child, in whom I take great joy.*" Now, that is worth remembering!! See you Sunday.

Love and Blessings! Doug

Hardwick Herald



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Volume XLI No. 02

January 8, 2020



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

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering Our Goal: \$3,500.00

Offering Received: \$2,524.24
Lottie Moon P.O.: \$ 142.75
Total: \$2,670.99



Adult Discipleship Opportunities

Covenant Group: 6:30 P.M.
January 13 & 27



As God addressed
Jesus at His baptism,
He also calls us
His beloved. What a
blessing to live
in His love.

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.



Wednesday Night Program For Children & Youth Will resume January 15th, 2020

Scripture Readings for January 12 Psalm 29 Isaiah 42:1-9 Acts 10:34-43 Matthew 3:13-17



Annual Budget 2020.....	\$275,000.00
Needed Per Week to Meet Budget.....	\$ 5,288.46
Contributions 1/05/2020.....	\$ 1,368.50
Budget Contributions through 1/05/2020.....	\$ 1,365.50
Total Budget Expense through 1/05/2020.....	\$ 7,582.12

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Jan 18: Hope Pennington

Nursery Workers Sunday Morning, 1/12/2020 Babies Olivia Hill, Gail Brooks

Bus Ministry, 1/12/2020 Ken Turner

Children's Church, 1/12/2020 Ken Turner

Counting Committee, 1/12/2020 Mack Atchison, Miles Whipple

Worship Coordinator, 1/12/2020 Mack Atchison

Deacon of the Week, 1/12/2020 Glenn Abbey, 456-4305

Next Dinner Church Scheduled for January 25, 2020

Please pray for our next Dinner
Church gathering. If you would like
to help with this ministry, please
contact Cindy Folendore.



Every Morning lean thine
arms awhile
Upon the windowsill of
heaven
And gaze upon thy Lord.
Then, with the vision in thy heart,
turn strong to meet thy day.

-Thomas Blake-

"What a wonderful thought
it is that some
of the best days
of our lives haven't
even happened yet."
-Anne Frank-

CALENDAR

Sunday, January 12th:

9:45 P.M. Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship

Monday, January 13th:

6:30 P.M. Covenant Group

Wednesday, January 15th:

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

Wednesday Night Youth & Children's Volunteers Planning Meeting Sunday, January 12th Following Morning Worship

Church Council will meet at
4:30 P.M. January 19, 2020.

Quarterly Business Meeting will
be January 19th, 2020 at 6:00 P.M.

2019 Records of Contributions

Are now available in alphabetical
order on the table in the upstairs
hallway of the Education Building for
your convenience in picking yours
up.

Also envelopes for the new church
year that were not picked up are
now available in the church office. In
order for contributions to be re-
corded they must be placed in an
offering envelope or a plain envelope
with your name, the amount, the
check number or the word cash
written on the outside.

"We should work for a world
not simply that hates hatred,
but that loves love."
-Fr. James Martin, S.J.-

Check out the HBC Website
www.hardwickbaptist.org