

Thoughts From Doug

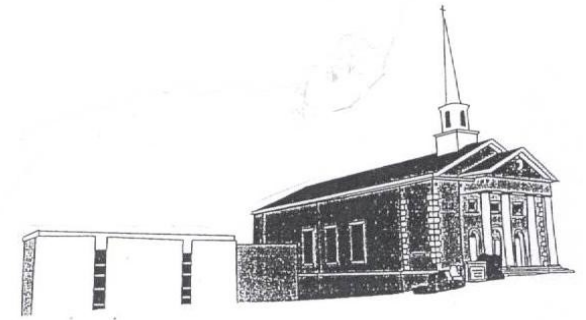
I am grateful for the faithfulness our church family has continued to show in gathering around computers to worship through our Facebook page. I am grateful for the way in which people have contributed to our services through video testimonies, scripture readings, songs, and prayers. I am grateful for the way in which we have “checked up” on each other through phone calls or texts during this time of physical separation. And I am grateful for the faithfulness shown in continuing to send in our financial contributions during this time. On Tuesday of this week, our Food Pantry crew showed their continued love and faithfulness to our neighbors who are food insecure by distributing groceries—albeit with extra caution and no contact— in our church parking lot.

All of these signs of faithfulness are beautiful reminders—reminders that the family of Hardwick Baptist Church understands what it means to be the Body of Christ, what it means to **be the Church** as opposed to just attending church. We show that we are followers of Christ when we love the way Christ loved; when we serve the way Christ served, and when we value all people the way Christ valued all people. These are not just admirable humanitarian acts of which I speak; these are spiritual acts. As we mature in our journey with Christ, and allow the Holy Spirit to form us in Christ’s image, we find that we have a heart that cares for the things Christ cared for. Our natural inclination is not determined by human nature, but by the nature of the Spirit—so that we just naturally desire to do the kind of things we see the people of Hardwick Baptist doing during this pandemic: continued faithfulness in worship and prayer, continued love of our brothers and sisters in faith, and continued service of all in the love of Christ. I am so grateful for the spiritual maturity that is being displayed during this time. If we are faithful to tend to our discipleship and spiritual formation, year-in and year-out, we find that we are able to live off the fruit of the Spirit during times of challenge and discouragement.

I look forward to celebrating ways that we have grown during this time—whenever we can resume face-to-face meetings. In the meantime, I continue to pray for us and our faithfulness, as well as the witness of Christ’s church in this opportunity for deepened faithfulness. I encourage you to spend time reading the Acts passage for this week in preparation for the May 3 worship (Acts 2:42-47). As we are reminded about the life and relationships of the early church, let us consider how their example should guide us in this time.

Blessings from a distance—Doug




Hardwick Herald



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April 29, 2020

If you confess with your
 **MOUTH**
"Jesus is Lord"
and believe in your
HEART 
that God raised him
from the dead, you will be
SAVED! 

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 Baddy	Nell Maddox
John Cooper	Jeff McMullen
Josephine Davis	Marcus McMullen
Eugenia English	Marlene Peavy
Sandra English	Bonnie Stafford
	Ben/Jackie Watson

In Military Service: Rudy Webb
All Healthcare Workers



Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study

Doug is hosting a Zoom meeting Bible Discussion each Wednesday at 7:00 P.M. The *Resource for Daily Prayer and Scripture Meditation* which was distributed at church the last Sunday of February will come in handy.

**Scripture Readings for
May 3rd
Psalm 23
Acts 2:42-47
I Peter 2:19-25
John 20:1-10**

In A Nutshell

A Sunday School teacher gave her 2nd graders a month to learn Psalm 23. One little boy was excited about the task, but just couldn't remember the whole chapter. When the day came for the children to recite Psalm 23 before the congregation, the nervous boy stepped up to the microphone and said, "The Lord is my Shepherd and that's all I need to know!"

*"Faith is the gateway
of communion with God;
love is the gateway
of ministry to people."*

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

May 06: Derek Bloodworth
 May 07: Lynette Bloodworth
 May 08: Jill Webb Davis
 May 09: Taria Crump

Deacon of the Week, 5/03/2020

Cindy Folendore, 719-4059

Graduation Time...

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic schools will remain closed until the beginning of the next school year. It has been an unfortunate conclusion for the academic careers of this year's graduates. The Hardwick Baptist family continues to pray for those who have not had the ending they envisioned. Those who are graduating from high school, college or graduate school are waiting to hear if or when they will have traditional commencement events. We would like to honor those of you who are graduating from any of the above. We extend congratulations to the following graduates:

Lydia Adkins, GCSU
 Will Cooper, GCSU
 Patrick Lewis, Univ., of Florida
 Ashley Ellington Parham,
 Oxford Univ., England

Please call the church secretary at 456-7129 if you know of other college, graduate school or high school graduates.

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

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 3rd:

11:00 A.M.

Morning Worship

See Video on HBC Facebook Page

Wednesday, May 6th:

7:00 P.M.

Bible Study on Zoom

Watch Your Herald

Be sure to follow your weekly "Herald" for schedule changes and cancellations in these uncertain times. We will try to keep you updated as changes occur. In case of emergency or need, please call the Church Secretary at 456-7129 for assistance.

Keep praying...it works.



Thank You!

Many of you continue to give through on-line giving! We thank you for your faithfulness and pray that we can all worship together before long. Take care, stay in, be safe Baldwin County is a "Hot Spot" in this pandemic right now. Pray for those who are sick, those whose source of income has been cut off and those healthcare workers who are on the frontlines battling to save lives. Pray...God is listening! God bless you all!

*"What distinguishes Christians
is not the ills they suffer,
but the way
they suffer their ills."
St. Augustine*

Wednesday Night Program For Children & Youth

We continue to monitor all updates on the Covid-19 pandemic and pray for the safety and well-being of all the children and youth we minister to. Their safety and well-being must be our main concern during this time of uncertainty. We look forward to the time we can resume this important ministry.

HBC Food Pantry

Thanks to our faithful volunteers who served 12 households, 26 individuals 3 new applicants, and gave out 7 protective masks from the church parking lot, Tuesday, April 28th. This ministry is even more important now in the midst of this time of insecurity when many are unable to provide food for their families.

Annual Budget 2020.....	\$287,729.67
Needed Per Week to Meet Budget.....	\$ 5,533.27
Contributions since 4/26//2020.....	\$ 857.00
Total Budget Contributions through April 26, 2020.....	\$ 66,883.53
Total Budget Expenses through April 26, 2020.....	\$ 65,185.53