

Thoughts From Doug

At the September Deacons' meeting, we discussed our current weekly church schedule. I wanted to make sure that we have input from various people concerning our efforts to balance our desire and need to meet together as a church family with our love and care for each other regarding precautions that will safeguard people of all ages. We decided—at least for the rest of September—to continue “meeting” as we have the past couple of months. That is:

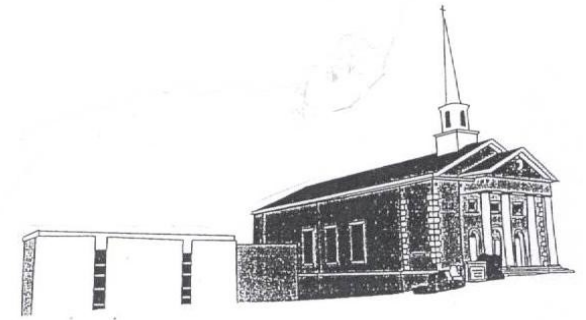
1. In-person worship Sunday mornings for all who feel it is appropriate for them to attend. At this time, a large majority of our congregation is still opting to stay home, which is understandable and wise for several of us. There is plenty of space available to physically distance in the sanctuary at this point if that factors into your decision regarding attendance.
2. Of course, we will still continue to stream morning worship on Facebook Live. We understand that, on some Sundays, we have had issues with dropping the internet connection. We are attempting to discover the cause and correct that.
3. We will continue to do Wednesday prayer meeting via Zoom and adult Sunday School via Google Meets. The Zoom link is emailed to the church email list weekly, the Google Meets information is printed in each week's *Herald* and the Sunday bulletins in the vestibule.

At both the Church Council meeting and the Deacons' meeting, discussion was devoted to our children's and youth ministry. We collectively expressed grief at the fact that circumstances still prevent us from resuming our Wednesday night and Sunday morning ministry with them. However, we did brainstorm around the question: *Is there anything we **can** do for our kids that we are not doing now?* The idea we decided to pursue is now an opportunity for you—an opportunity for **everyone** at Hardwick Baptist, whether you are confined to your home or have resumed most of your normal activities. We are going to work on compiling addresses for as many of our children as possible, which we hope to accomplish by the end of the month. Then, we are inviting our church family to commit to being a “pen pal” for one or two of our kids. This would likely involve sending a weekly note to your pal, along with an enclosed stamped envelope, encouraging your pal to write you back. You can include any kind of encouragement, Bible verses, etc., in your weekly notes. Hopefully, we can make use of unused Sunday School handouts at the church and include those in the mailings to our kids. We want to make every effort we can to remind them how much we miss them, and to encourage them to remember God's love is with them while we are apart. I am going to write a note to parents/guardians explaining all of this, and then mail it to them in a couple of weeks. After that, we will begin writing as many of our kids as possible.

I hope you will consider taking part in this ministry effort. It is one way we can still be the Body of Christ, loving our children even though we cannot see them. Watch for an email from me in the coming weeks, inviting you to serve in this simple, yet essential, way of walking in the manner of Christ.

Love and Blessings from a Distance, Doug

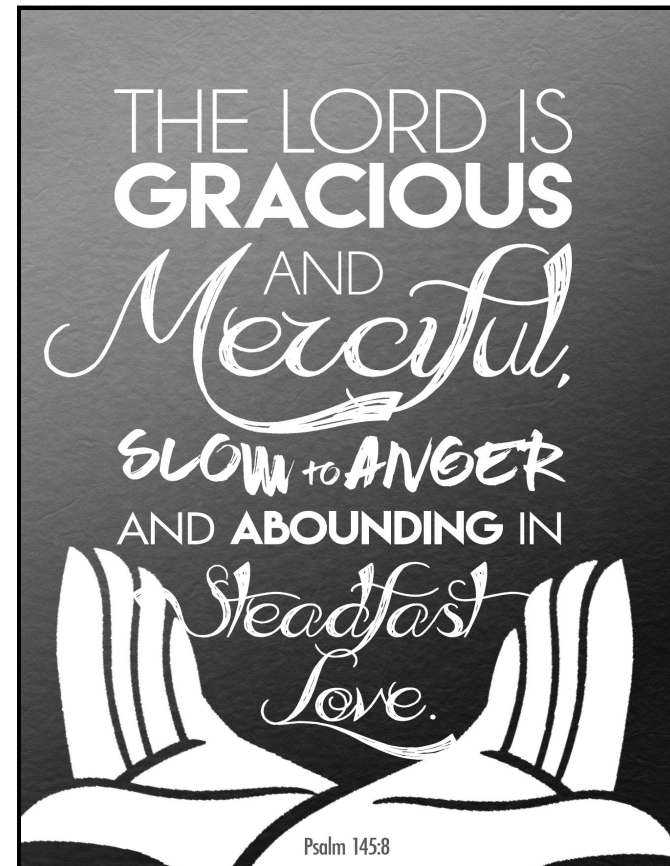
Hardwick Herald



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September 16, 2020



Prayer List

Henry/Vivian Andrews	Lamar Guy
James Armstrong	Rider Hill
Mack Atchison	Kenny Huff
Kenneth Babb	Martha Huff
Anne Bayne	Jim Jennings
Joyce Blizzard	Michael/Sharon Lord
Scott Blizzard	Nell Maddox
Harriett & Henry Braddy	Jeff McMullen
John Cooper	Marcus McMullen
Josephine Davis	Marlene Peavy
Eugenia English	Danny Roberts
Sandra English	Bonnie Safford
Sharon Ezell	Brenda Tollison
Marguerite Folendore	Ben/Jackie Watson

In Military Service: Rudy Webb

All Healthcare Workers, Teachers, school support staff and students.

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. We look forward to the time we can resume this important ministry.

**Scripture Reading for
September 20
Psalm 145:1-8
Jonah 3:10-4:11
Philippians 1:21-30
Matthew 20:1-16**

"Start by doing what's necessary; then do what's possible, and suddenly you're doing the impossible." -copied-

Annual Budget 2020.....	\$ 287,729.67
Needed Per Week to Meet Budget.....	\$ 5,533.27
Contributions Sept. 13, 2020.....	\$ 3,205.00
Total Budget Contributions through Sept.13, 2020.....	///\$ 134,902.54
Total Budget Expenses through Sept 13, 2020.....	\$ 149,655.07
Payroll Protection Program Loan May 1, 2020.....	\$ 18,685.00

Mission GA Offering Received to Date: \$50.00



Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study

Doug will continue to conduct a Zoom meeting Bible Discussion each Wednesday at 7:00 P.M. Bible passage for September 23rd: Exodus 17:1-7- "Water From the Rock".



Mission Georgia is an initiative of the GA Baptist Mission Board to address critical needs in our state. The COVID 19 pandemic has turned everything upside down and shut down much of the active ministries of churches. Challenges taking place in GA that call for a response from GA Baptists have not stopped however. Foster Care and Adoption, Human Trafficking, Childhood Literacy, Pre and Post Natal Care and Refugees and Internationals are just a few of the critical needs that call for a response. Mission GA gives us an opportunity to join with God in His redemptive work. Our emphasis this year is limited, but the needs are still there.

You may give to Mission GA in the same way you are supporting HBC now by giving online (marked Mission GA), by mail and by placing your Mission Offering in the offering plates as you enter or depart in-person worship.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- Sep 20: Christopher Townsend, Mark Atchison
- Sep 22: Brenda Davis
- Sep 24: Lily Braddy, Kim Hornsby, Caitlin Settle
- Sep 25: Bobby Skinner

Deacon of the Week

September 20, 2020
Sharon Lord, 452-7742

Virtual Sunday School Access

- **Online:** (<https://meet.google.com>). Click *Enter* or link and enter code for class.
- **Smartphone app:** Go to the App store and download the *Google Meet App* Follow instruction for set up. Open and click *enter code* (same as above).

**Bible passage for 9/20/2020
Proverbs 15:33-16:11**

Questions:

- When you were a child, how did you try to please the people that you loved? What difference did it make to you?
- How do you view the connection between walking with Him and being enriched? What effect does your view have on your commitment?
- What can you do to let everyone in your life know that they will be accountable to the Lord?
- What actions can you take to ensure that your actions please the Lord?
- Which blessings have you experienced lately? What difference do they make in your walk with the Lord?

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

Calendar

Sunday, September 20th

9:00 A.M Virtual Sunday School
11:00 A.M. Morning Worship
In-person worship in Sanctuary
(Live streamed for those who don't feel comfortable in a crowd setting yet).

Wednesday, September 23rd

7:00 P.M. Bible Study via Zoom



Your faithfulness in giving during these uncertain times is so important as you continue to support HBC by giving online, by mail and by placing your offerings in the offering plates as you enter or depart in-person worship.

CDC precautions must continue as we come to worship together. Please remember to wear your mask and enter by the front doors, bring your personal hand sanitizer, and continue *physical distancing*. The building is cleaned thoroughly following each service and all touch points disinfected.

Stay safe and continue to pray for those who are sick, for the healthcare workers who continue to work so hard to save lives, for our church as we attempt to find safe ways to worship and minister together, and for our schools and community.

From the Properties Committee

We are pleased to announce that repairs to Fellowship Hall are complete and it is now available for use for groups of 25 or less by calling the church office to schedule a time. Proper physical distancing and other CDC precautions must be practiced, of course, and Fellowship Hall policies followed as always.