

Thoughts From Doug

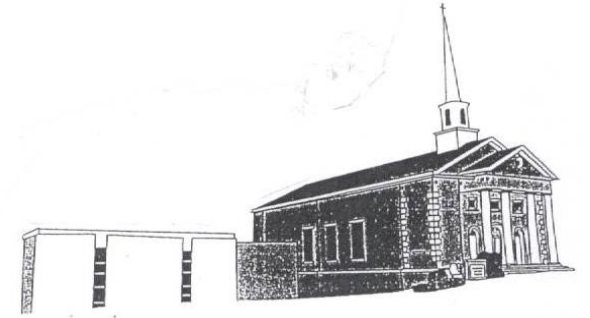
Let's all continue to pray for discernment concerning ways God would have us to be faithful during this continued time of somewhat distancing. We have tried to use sound wisdom and judgment throughout the summer. The food pantry ministry has continued to serve folks two Tuesdays each month. We resumed in-person worship on July 12, though we understand about 95% of the congregation feels it is best to watch from home as of now. I am thankful for the technology of Facebook in the meantime, but several of our members are not on Facebook. We also continue with the Zoom Wednesday prayer meeting and the Google Meet Sunday School class taught by Marilyn Skinner. Of course, we miss the weekly connection with our neighborhood kids, and Dinner Church that was just getting in the groove before COVID arrived like a tsunami.

All of these things we are doing are what we felt were our best option during this time, and we will continue to be faithful to offering these as circumstances and prudence dictate. But I would ask you to pray for discernment about anything else we could be doing that would be both safe and needed. Particularly, I am speaking of outreach opportunities. Is there anything we could be doing, anything at the church or in the community, that would be a safe and needed means of being Christ's presence during this sheltered time? Is there a connection we could make with a school, a nonprofit, another local ministry that would be both meeting a need and helping people to know about the love and grace shared among the family of faith at Hardwick Baptist Church? Is there something we could offer—some service we could provide, some space we could let others use? Anything that would be a means of loving our neighbors, and helping others be reminded of God's love for them?

Will you pray with me about these matters? When the deacons and church council meet via Zoom this Sunday, I want to discuss possible ideas with them. In the meantime, if something comes to mind—or a particular individual whom we could help comes to mind—please write it down. Email me or call either me or Cindy Folendore and pass it along to one of us. You never know what God's Spirit may plant in your heart, and how it might take root and produce fruit if we are faithful to act. We just need each other's help in making sure we are using sound judgment of caution and care during these precarious times. We need to take care of each other as we seek to care for those who are not part of our faith family.

Love and Blessings from a Distance, Doug

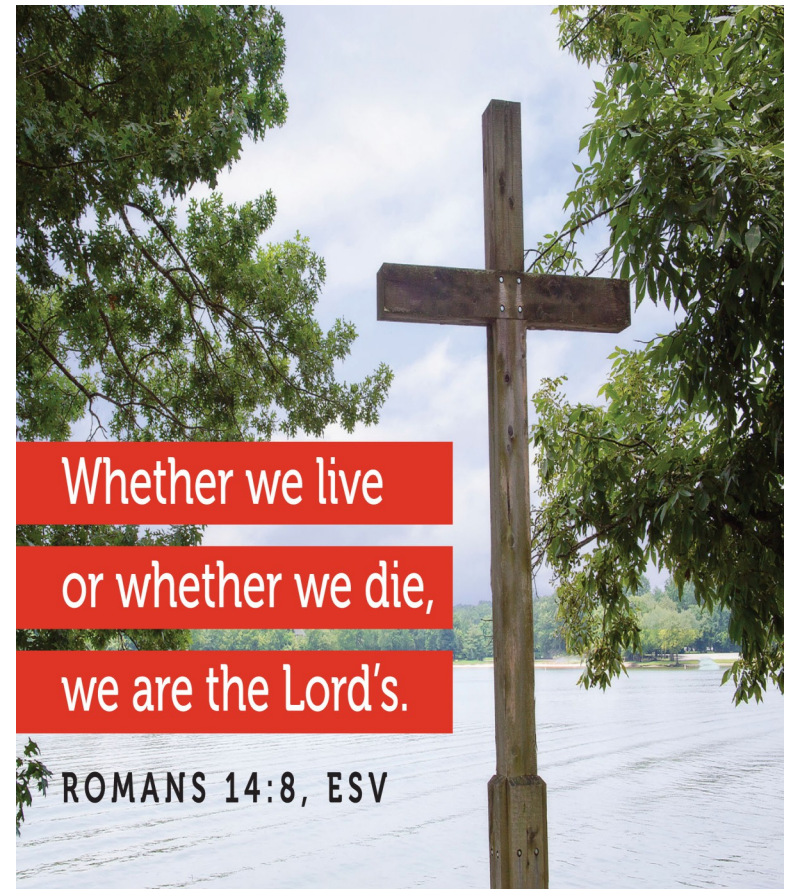
Hardwick Herald



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Volume XLI No. 37

September 9, 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 |
| Javarous Dennis | Danny Roberts |
| Eugenia English | Bonnie Safford |
| Sandra English | Brenda Tollison |
| Sharon Ezell | Ben/Jackie Watson |
| Marguerite Folendore | |

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.

"The truth is not what we feel, but the fact that God loves us whatever we feel. And God's energies are always tending toward our health and well-being."

-Weatherhead"

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

| | |
|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------|
| Annual Budget 2020..... | \$ 287,729.67 |
| Needed Per Week to Meet Budget..... | \$ 5,533.27 |
| Contributions Sept. 6, 2020..... | \$ 4,964.78 |
| Total Budget Contributions through Sept. 6, 2020..... | \$ 131,697.54 |
| Total Budget Expenses through Sept 6, 2020..... | \$ 145,536.83 |
| Payroll Protection Program Loan May 1, 2020..... | \$ 18,685.00 |



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 16th: Exodus 16:2-15.

Scripture Reading for September 13

Psalms 102:1-13
Genesis 50:15-21
Romans 14: 1-12
Matthew 18:21-25

Deacons' Meeting 13
2:00 P.M.
Via Zoom

Church Council Meeting
Sunday, September 13
4:00 P.M.

Fall Quarter Literature Now Available

Home Life, Mature Living, and Open Windows are available now in the church vestibule if you are attending in-person worship. Sunday School Literature is available as well. If you are still sheltering in but would like to receive any of these, you may call the church office and schedule a time to come to the Church parking lot...we will bring them out to you.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Sep 16: Carlton Ellington
Sep 17: Sharon Lord

Deacon of the Week
September 13, 2020
Cindy Folendore, 719-4059

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 9/13/2020
Proverbs 14:8-15

Questions:

- Tell about a time when you failed to follow a recipe and ended up with a kitchen disaster.
- When you think about a sensible Christian, who comes to mind? How does that person's example help you to be prudent?
- How often are you perplexed over people who appear to get away with sinful behavior? How do these verses address your perplexity?
- What if someone asked you about the joy that is abiding in your heart? How would you describe it?
- How does your life so far demonstrate that you seek and follow the Lord's wisdom? What can you do to more consistently follow His wisdom?

The **HBC Food Pantry** served 23 households, 50 individuals and 5 new applicants from the church parking lot, September 8th. Thank you faithful volunteers who cheerfully serve those who come for assistance.

Calendar

Sunday, September 13th

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).
2:00 P.M. Zoom Deacons Mtg.
4:00 P.M. Zoom Church Council Mtg.

Wednesday, September 9th:

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 are working so hard to save lives, for teachers, administrators, school support staff and students as local schools attempt to safely navigate the new school year.

"If you find it in your heart to care for somebody else, you will have succeeded."

-Maya Angelou-

"Persons who follow Christ can live freely, responsibly and expectantly because all time is in God's hands. He wills nothing of enduring harm or injury for any in the family."

-Fisher-