

Hardeetown Baptist Church

*From the Crossroads of Levy County to
the Crossroads of the Mission Field*

• The church has become a prayer partner for a new journeyman missionary, Abbey Irwin, of Jackson, Mississippi. She will be in Tokyo for two years. Please pray for her, and help the ladies send her care packages. Her parents would love to hear from you also. See the pastor for their contact information.

• VBS will be July 13-17. Also, there will be a children's day camp July 6-8. Contact Casey for details.

• The church's services are broadcast on low power on FM 92.1 for anyone desiring to attend our services but whose health prevents fellowship with the church.

• The church's services continue to be streamed on Facebook live via the church's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/Hardeetown.

• Check out the church's website at www.hardeetownbc.com. You can also view previous services by clicking on the link to sermons.

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The Pulpit and Pen



The Times, They Are A-Changin'

Over the past few years the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) has changed significantly. This year has certainly been no different, and the likelihood that more changes are coming is strong.

Normally, the SBC has its annual meeting in June of every year. However, this year the annual meeting was cancelled for the first time since 1945. The United States government banned public meetings larger than fifty people in 1945 necessitating the cancellation of that year's meeting. The messengers of the 1946 annual meeting then adopted a protocol to follow for any future cancellations.

Under the guidelines established by the 1946 protocol, all officers of the SBC continue to serve for an additional year. The next scheduled meeting of the SBC is in Nashville, Tennessee, in 2021.

The cancellation of this year's annual meeting was expected, given the demands of the government to shut down all large meetings. It was also the prudent thing to do since several thousand individuals would have been in close quarters at the Orlando convention center for two to three days, and there would have been virtually no feasible method by which to screen those who might arrive at the convention site with a coronavirus infection.

Why the SBC leadership did not postpone the convention until later in the summer is unknown. Certainly, it would have been a logistical nightmare to reschedule all the various meetings, but given that the state of Florida and Orange County have suffered serious financial setbacks as a result of the coronavirus closures, I have no doubt that the convention center management would have been quite agreeable to accommodate moving the SBC's annual meeting to a later date. I can only assume that the SBC leadership simply concluded that the logistics of rescheduling simply was not worth the effort.

However, the more serious ramifications of cancelling the annual meeting involves the continuation of the current slate of Convention officers for another year, especially the SBC president, J. D. Greear, pastor of the Summit Church in Durham, North Carolina. Greear is the first of the next generation known as Generation X to assume the presidency of the SBC. As a younger pastor, Greear has set forth on an agenda of change for the SBC.

His most controversial position to date is his alignment with the Black Lives Matter (BLM) movement. While he has denied being a part of the official BLM organization, he has expressed sympathy for the movement

and stated that the SBC should support it.

In addition, the SBC president has used the same ceremonial gavel during the annual meetings since 1872. The John Broadus Gavel was named for the SBC leader who brought the gavel from Jerusalem and donated it to the Convention for use in its annual meetings. John Broadus was one of the founding professors of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky.

Greear has made the decision to retire the Broadus Gavel in order to erase what Greear thinks is an affront to Southern Baptists of today. Broadus was a supporter of the Confederacy and erasing his legacy within the SBC is part of the overall movement by some liberals to eliminate the history of the United States. Erasing one's history does not correct the errors of the past; it dooms us to repeat them.

When asked about his political or theological beliefs, Greear has consistently refused to answer. However, previous statements made by him would indicate that he is politically liberal and theologically a Calvinist. Neither of these positions bodes well for the future of the SBC. As with all things, the SBC is ultimately in God's hands, but as the saying goes, "Times, they are a-changin'."

Hardeetown Student Ministries

Pray for the students! That's the best help, advice, and encouragement I can give right now. With this pandemic going on, school is not going to look or be the same. Pray for the teachers and administrators as they try to educate the students and keep everyone safe. No one is certain what this is going to look like in a month. As a former football coach, I am trying to comprehend blocking someone from six feet away. Not sure what that looks like! I know football practice has already started. Pray for the students as they practice. Also, cheerleading camp is coming up; pray they stay safe. With all the negativity on TV and Internet, just pray. Pray for the ones in labs that are searching for the vaccine so this will end soon. JUST PRAY! Also, the first Wednesday night of every month will be a prayer time with Earl Cairns. Then we will pick up with the Gospel Journey Maui Study.

Marriage Night Simulcast Event: Healthy marriages don't happen by accident. They require work and dedication, but with the busyness of life and the pressures of culture, it's easy to lose focus. What is marriage supposed to look like when those initial bursts of excitement give way to everyday troubles and routines? On SEPTEMBER 12, 2020, join thousands of people from around the world for a one-night simulcast event. Laugh and learn with your spouse as you hear from marriage experts, and discover how to honor God in your marriage. This event will take place in the fellowship hall 6:00-10:30 p.m. Meal and childcare provided. Cost is \$15 per person. Go to www.marriagenight.org to register.

Child Evangelism Fellowship training will take place Saturday, August 22, 8:30-5:00 in the fellowship hall. Anyone interested in helping children come to know Christ in the public school should attend this training.

Youth Girls Overnight Bible Study will take place Friday, August 7, 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. at Kendra's house. Bring a friend.

ALL students MUST have a signed and notarized permission form. Medical release forms are good for one year.



Champions for Christ Kids



Hey friends! It is hard to believe just how fast 2020 is flying by. What a wild time to be alive. Recently the kids and I have been focusing on some of the promises God's word teaches us. For instance, this past Sunday we focused on how God can help us to be strong in the midst of unknown times. What a comfort it is that during this unknown time we can cling to God for strength! It has been a blessing to experience these promises with the kids on Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings! There are a lot of exciting things we have been looking forward to! July 6-8 is Hello Summer Mini Camp from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and then the following week is Vacation Bible School from 5:30-8:30! These are both great opportunities that we as a church have to love on kids for the glory of God! Please contact me if you have any questions or would like more information.

HBC Women's Ministries

I have been truly amazed as people stepped up to do various things during the past few months. In spite of each of us having our own situations to deal with because of COVID-19, we have still joined together to minister both here and abroad to glorify our Lord! Thank you all for your support as we minister in the name of Jesus. In the meantime, if any of you need a place to get "plugged in" to ministry please give me a call!

WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH VBS! Ladies (and men!), we are in need of multiple volunteers for VBS. Our dates are July 13-17. Our theme is Mystery Island. Construction and painting of props has begun. If you wish to teach, help with construction, volunteer as a backup teacher, or volunteer in the kitchen, please contact Casey at (352) 614-2953. The sign-up sheets are in the church foyer.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD: The collection of items for our OCC boxes is in full swing. So far individuals have provided all the tooth brushes, soap, and wash clothes needed. Items may be donated anytime; either drop off in the box in the foyer or drop at the church during office hours. Our July collection item is school composition books. If you want to help, please contact Connie or Mary Gore, and we will get you hooked up with a task.

BIBLE STUDIES: We currently have two groups participating in the "Discerning the Voice of God" Bible study. Stay tuned for information on our next study. We will announce our fall Bible study soon.

OPERATION COVER! We have about wrapped up our production of masks for the time being. If there is another wave or our sweet nurses tell us there is a need at their facilities, we will gear up as needed. As of this writing, over 3,000 masks have been sent out from our church. I want to thank each and every person who helped, be it through sewing, ironing, distributing, financially assisting, or through your prayer support.

OUR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONARY: Don't forget to send our adopted missionary a card this month. Her address is: Irwin, Abbey

180-0021
Tokyo-To, Musashino-Shi,
Sakura Zutsumi 1-2-19
Sun Varie 401 JAPAN



JULY OCC ITEM:
COMPOSITION
BOOKS



July birthdays:

- Madalyn McCormick 7/03**
- Pam Sheffield 7/03**
- Chris Hardee 7/06**
- Marianne Dillard 7/07**
- Geneva Cason 7/09**
- Gaylia Webster 7/10**
- Desmond Knight 7/13**
- Anne Knight 7/14**
- Miriam Walker 7/16**
- Daniel Barrand 7/20**
- Charlotte Land 7/22**
- Mike Sheffield 7/25**
- Bruce Goss 7/27**
- Bernice Quincey 7/29**
- Susan Short 7/31**
- Happy Birthday to All!**



Church of the Covered Dish by Thom Tapp



When the sign said "If you park here, you preach today!" I thought it was a joke...

Church council will meet at 5:00, July 12, followed by the business meeting at 6:00.

We have resumed worship services and Bible study classes, but we will continue to stream our services on Facebook and broadcast our services in the parking lot on FM 92.1. In addition, you may continue submitting your tithes/offerings online at www.hardeetownbc.com/give.

Our church will have a solemn assembly for prayer on July 5 at 6:00 p.m. All church members are urged to attend. We will have a dessert fellowship immediately afterward in the fellowship hall.

Our next senior adult lunch-

Announcements

eon is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, at 10:00. We will be eating at the Blackwater Restaurant in Yankeetown followed by a shopping trip to Heritage Village in Crystal River.

The monthly HBC Women's Ministries breakfast will be July 26 at 8:00. The ladies' breakfast meetings will continue all summer.

VBS is July 13-17, 5:30 to 8:30 each night. We need more volunteers.

Hello Summer! children's mini summer camp will be July 6-8, 10:00 to 2:00. Lunch will be provided. Please see Casey for details or to volunteer.

The Camp Pinehill youth trip is July 26-31. The deadline to sign up is July 13. Please see Brian Timney for details.

There is no men's breakfast in July. The next men's breakfast is August 2 at 8:00.

The church needs more willing volunteers to help in the sound booth or with music. If you are willing to learn how to operate the video camera, sound board, or computer, please see Mac MacFeggan or the pastor. We can work you into the schedule as often as you are able. It is not necessary to commit to every worship service.

July Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			01	02	03	04
			Staff Meeting 5:00-5:30PM			
05	06	07	08	09	10	11
Solemn assembly for prayer 6 pm Dessert fellowship 7 pm	Kids mini-camp for K-5 10:00 - 2:00	Kids mini-camp 10:00 - 2:00	Kids mini-camp 10:00 - 2:00			
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Council mtg 5 pm Bus mtg 6 pm	VBS 5:30	VBS 5:30	VBS 5:30	VBS 5:30	VBS 5:30	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
No Youth Comm mtg for the summer				Sr adult lunch Blackwater Rest Yankeetown & Heritage Village Tour 10:00		
26	27	28	29	30	31	
HBC WOM breakfast 8:00 Youth Camp Pinehill	Youth Camp Pinehill	Youth Camp Pinehill	Youth Camp Pinehill	Youth Camp Pinehill	Youth Camp Pinehill	

July Memory Verse

Ephesians 2:8-9

For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.

(NKJV)

Bible Trivia

What prophet was kidnapped and taken to Egypt?
Last month's answer: Shamgar (Judges 3:31).





1716 NW 14th ST
Chiefland, FL 32626

A cooperating Baptist church affiliated with the Harmony Baptist Association, Florida Baptist State Convention, and Southern Baptist Convention.

Hardeetown Baptist Church exists for the purpose of bringing glory to God by worshipping Christ, making disciples, fellowshiping with believers, and ministering to those in need. Our goal is to reach Chiefland and the northwestern Levy County community for Christ by evangelizing the lost and producing growing disciples of Christ through relationship-building and intentional evangelism. We are an autonomous body of believers that voluntarily cooperates with the Southern Baptist Convention and Florida Baptist Convention in order to support local, regional, national, and international missions through the Cooperative Program and with the Harmony Baptist Association for the support of local and area missions.

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