

# Hardeetown Baptist Church

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

- Share with your friends and contacts that the church's services are available online via the church's website and YouTube page. They can go to our church website, [www.hardeetownbc.com](http://www.hardeetownbc.com), and click on the link to sermons.
- If you are new to the church, we offer Bible study classes for all ages. Regular Bible study is an essential part of Christian discipleship, and we encourage you to participate each Sunday at 9:30.
- If you are ill but still want to participate in worship, our services continue to be broadcast from the parking lot on Sunday morning by tuning to FM 92.1.
- Our annual Go Outdoors! Kids' Camp will be July 11-15 from 9:00 to 3:00 daily. While preregistration is not required, it would help us to know how many children to plan for. Please call the office at 352-493-4523 to register your child.

INSIDE THIS NEWSLETTER

Pulpit and Pen	1
Student Ministry	2
Champions for Christ Ministry	2
HBC Women's Ministries	2
Birthdays	3
Announcements	3
Church Calendar	3
Trivia & Memory verse	3



## The Pulpit and Pen

### What Is a Pastor?

This past month the Southern Baptist Convention hosted its annual meeting in Anaheim, California. This was the first time in forty-one years that the convention met in California, the last time being in Los Angeles in 1981. It should not be surprising that the planning committee arranged to have the convention meet within walking distance of Disneyland.

Probably the most notable item of business that occurred was an effort to disfellowship Rick Warren's Saddleback Valley Community Church from the Convention. Due to some tricky maneuvering by the president, the action never came to a vote.

A messenger at last year's convention in Nashville moved to have the credentials committee investigate Warren's church for possible activity that would constitute non-cooperation. That committee was supposed to report its findings in Anaheim and recommend a course of action.

Rick Warren ordained three women to the pastorate last year. Those three women are serving on Saddleback's pastoral staff. In addition, Warren announced his retirement as pastor of Saddleback Church and declared that a husband-wife pastoral team would replace him.

It was this ordination of

three women that prompted the action against Warren and Saddleback Church at last year's convention. The credentials committee was supposed to report back to this year's convention with a recommendation regarding whether Saddleback should be left alone or disfellowshipped from the SBC.

However, what happened was absolutely nothing. The credentials committee first recommended that an additional study group be commissioned to determine what the definition of *pastor* is. In other words, since those three women were not serving as the senior or lead pastor of the church, the convention should first determine if they met the biblical definition of a pastor. That elicited an enormous amount of debate. At one point, the president of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Kentucky, stepped up to the microphone and stated that Baptists already knew what a pastor was and that we should get on with it.

Finally, the committee withdrew its recommendation entirely and announced that it would spend another year studying the issue. The president of the convention, over the objections of several messengers, then simply declared the issue closed. No vote was taken.

I have never been to a

convention at which the presiding officer was so overbearing and condescending. This past year's SBC president ran the meeting according to his own personal agenda. It was ungodly and sinful.

Unfortunately, the most devastating issue for the average SBC church was the Convention's refusal to take a stand on the ordination of women and women serving as pastors. To the overwhelming majority of messengers present, it was obvious that Saddleback needed to be disfellowshipped.

However, Saddleback Church is the largest SBC church in the world, although their relatively small Cooperative Program donations do not reflect that. Apparently, Warren's political clout is more important to the SBC leadership than doctrinal integrity. I can think of no other reason why the convention president shut down all debate and votes on the issue.

It is unfortunate that the SBC seems unable or unwilling to decide what a pastor is. The scripture is clear on the issue, and previous conventions have issued statements of agreement with the Baptist Faith and Message, which states that scripture restricts the office of pastor to men. Apparently, Warren and now the Southern Baptist Convention itself has taken one more giant step toward the world and away from God.



During June we have been challenged as we have looked at how a relationship with Christ should affect our daily lives. We have had some lively discussions about the cost of following Christ and making Him your Lord rather than just accepting Him as your Savior.

On June 11 a group of us had a great outing to Bell High School to see some of our children and youth perform in their dance recital. It was fun to watch their hard work pay off as they all participated in many dance numbers. We really enjoyed ourselves!



In July some of our youth will be performing in a play at the Chief Theater. J.J. and Selena de la Cruz and Cristian Gonzalez are in Cast A of the production of "Beauty Is a Beast."

We will see them perform at the end of July. If you are interested in coming along, please contact Connie.

We also have come to the realization that going to camp is not going to work. (We could not find a date that worked with everyone's schedule.) Instead, we will be doing some daytime activities. One day we will head to Gainesville to Skate Station Funworks. Our youth are being a great help during VBS as I write this. We have some amazing leaders in our group and look forward to watching them continue to grow in their faith and their walks with Christ!



## Champions for Christ Kids

This year's vacation Bible school is now over. After several months of preparation and painting, the church successfully conducted our biggest outreach event of the year and will now be getting back to normal. The auditorium and fellowship hall took on the appearance of a farm during June, but this will be disappearing. Several of our church members taught the classes. Others helped in the kitchen with food preparation. Still others helped with crafts and recreation. Many of our church members have worked for weeks setting up. Please express your gratitude to those who participated. Also, please let Casey Johnson, our former children's minister, know how much her work was appreciated. Casey took a week off from work and home to travel to Chiefland just to help out. Her work was invaluable!



Our next children's ministry project is the Go Outdoors! Adventure Camp, which will be July 11-15. Every day from 9:00 to 3:00, your children are invited to participate in Bible study, outdoors activities, and even a petting zoo. There is no cost, but a love offering will be taken to offset the cost for the group that is coming to lead the camp. Please pre-register your child as soon as possible. Call the church office at 352.493.4523 for more information.

## HBC Women's Ministries



As is our custom, we have pretty much taken the summer off from our women's ministries activities. That being said, our Crafts for a Cause group has been in full swing. We generally meet weekly to prepare items for the neonatal ICU at Shands, cancer patients, and Operation Christmas Child, but June found our team in full swing with vacation Bible school preparations. God truly blessed as people stepped up to help with the preparation of the many props and painted items we needed to decorate the church. In addition to all the VBS painting, we were blessed with a permanent mural being added to our preschool area. Special thanks to Merrill Wright for sharing his art skills!



It's also time to mark your calendar for our annual fund raiser for Operation Christmas Child! Try a new fancy recipe or make one of your specialties! We will gather in the fellowship hall for an evening of fun and fellowship (and maybe some friendly competition) on August 28, 2022, at 5:00 p.m. All funds raised at our silent auction will help cover postage for our OCC boxes. Our goal this year is to send out 240 boxes to share Christ with children around the world. The shipping costs have increased so we will need to send \$10 per box. There will be two sign-up sheets posted in August for those who want to attend and for those who want to donate baked items. Watch for more details in the near future.

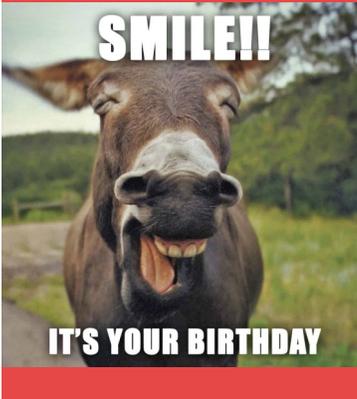




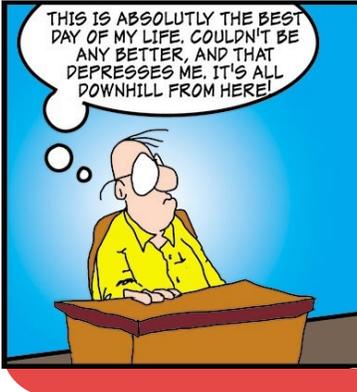
July birthdays:

- Pam Sheffield 07/03
- Lacie Hart 07/10
- Desmond Knight 07/13
- Anne Knight 07/14
- Miriam Walker 07/16
- Beth Cloues 07/21
- Matthew Dillard 07/21
- Charlotte Land 07/22
- Mike Sheffield 07/25
- Bruce Goss 07/27
- Bernice Quincey 07/29
- Barbara Caldwell 07/30
- Susan Short 07/31

Happy Birthday to All!



CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



**Bible Trivia**

Are there any female angels?  
 Last month's answer: Levi (Matthew 9:9, Mark 2:14, & Luke 5:27)



**July Memory Verse**

2 Chronicles 7:14

If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land. (KJV)

**Announcements**

information becomes available.

Crafts for a Cause meets every Thursday morning at 9:00 in the fellowship hall. Everyone is invited to be a part of this important evangelism outreach ministry.

The church council will meet in the fellowship hall on Sunday, July 10, at 5:00. If you are the leader of any of our church's ministries, please make every effort to attend.

Our church bylaws committee normally meets every first Monday. However, due to the Independence Day holiday, we will meet July 11 at 6:30.

The annual Operation Christmas Child silent auction will be Sunday, August 28, at 5:00. Plan now to attend or donate. We will need baked goods including cakes, cookies, and confections. All proceeds will be used to pay for the shipping for our OCC Christmas boxes.

Go Outdoors! Adventure Camp will be July 11-15 for children ages 6-12. Please preregister your child as soon as possible so we know how many children will be attending. All children associated with our church family are invited.

There are no men's ministry breakfasts scheduled for the summer.

**July Calendar**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
					VBS Church-wide picnic 6:00	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Independence Day	Men's Fellowship Dinner, Bett's 6:00		Crafts for a Cause 9:00		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Church council 5:00 Business mtg 6:00	Go Outdoors! Kid's camp 9:00-3:00	Go Outdoors! Kid's camp 9:00-3:00	Go Outdoors! Kid's camp 9:00-3:00	Go Outdoors! Kid's camp 9:00-3:00	Go Outdoors! Kid's camp 9:00-3:00	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
				Crafts for a Cause 9:00		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
				Sr adult luncheon, Blue Gator Rest., Dunnellon, 11:00 (10:00 departure)		



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.**

Hardeetown Baptist Church  
1716 NW 14th ST  
Chiefland, FL 32626