

Hardeetown Baptist Church

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



The Pulpit and Pen

Fear Not

For the past three months the biggest item on the news has been the coronavirus pandemic. The president and various health officials have been giving daily news briefings about the health of our nation. State and local officials have established unprecedented rules which they claim will keep us safe if we obey. In the meantime, there have been protests, business closures, civil unrest, and economic chaos.

Then, only a week ago, a Minneapolis policeman murdered a man in his custody while at least three of his fellow police officers stood by and watched. Protests have since broken out in numerous cities across the nation. Many of those protests quickly became riots, and there have been even more murders. There is strong evidence indicating that much of the violence has been intentional by individuals that had nothing to do with the initial protest.

With the onset of so much violence in the country, the media has turned its focus on the rioting and murders. Suddenly, the pandemic is no longer news. Several media outlets have said nothing about the pandemic for days. It's as if the pandemic has simply disappeared.

This is not the first time this has happened. The media has become a tool to direct

public sentiment. Usually the intent is to keep the masses stirred up so as to destroy any semblance of order and normalcy. In 2008 Rahm Emanuel, President Obama's former chief-of-staff and later mayor of Chicago, stated, "You never let a serious crisis go to waste." (Some have tried to attribute this quote to Winston Churchill, but no reputable source can be found to support that.) Numerous political authorities have taken Emanuel's advice to heart, and the media has certainly done its part to support that idea.

Vladimir Lenin advanced the Communist Revolution and took control of the newly formed U.S.S.R. by controlling the media. He eliminated all opposing voicing. Adolf Hitler did the same thing when he came to power in Germany. We are seeing the same thing happening here in the United States today, and that process is being duplicated in several other countries.

Lenin and Hitler controlled the media as part of their greater plans to seize control of their respective countries. There is a similar diabolical scheme at work in this present age. The goal is to take control of not just one nation but the entire world. We do not yet know who this satanic world leader will be, but we can be assured that Satan himself is directing the process. The Bible gives

us several examples of national leaders who were controlled behind the scenes by the devil (e.g. the king of Tyre, Ezekiel 28:11-19). That Satan desires to control the world should be no surprise as God's word told us that these things would happen.

One of the favorite tools that the devil uses to take control is fear. The devil has been using the media to instill fear in the hearts of people including God's elect. Fear has become the rule of the day, but Christ has commanded us not to live in a spirit of fear (2 Timothy 1:7). We can have confidence in the power of God. God has everything under control, and we are His.

In the meantime, when you see the next crisis in the news, be careful what you accept as true. Jesus warned us that deception would be the rule of the day (Matthew 24:24). The devil will do everything in his power to establish his control over the world, and the time when that will be fulfilled is rapidly approaching. While the anti-christ will not be revealed until the church has been raptured, the conditions in the world that will facilitate the rise of the antichrist are falling into place. There will be more pandemics; there will be more rioting and violence. Nevertheless, do not live in fear because Jesus is still on His throne!

- 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.
- Hardeetown VBS is re-scheduled for July 13-17. Also, there will be a children's day camp July 6-8. Contact Casey Ranalli 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 new website at www.hardeetownbc.com. You can also view previous services by clicking on the link to sermons.

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

Hardeetown Student Ministries

PAGE 2

I was on a Zoom conference with Billy Young from the Florida Baptist Convention and other youth ministers from the upper part of the state last week, and we were going over current and future obstacles that have come with the coronavirus. Someone said that churches may have a 30%-40% decrease in attendance. Please pray that we never devalue the importance of REAL time together.

Youth Bible study will be going through Colossians. If you are not able to attend, you can keep up to date through RightNow Media. Email Brian at timnez96@gmail.com to get started. You can also log on by texting RightNow HARDEE to 41411.

What is laminin? I have a gift for any youth that tells me what it is, where it is, and what it looks like. Please let me know on Sunday or Wednesday nights. This is part of our Bible study curriculum.

Students still have the opportunity to go to camp July 26-31. Cost is \$90. Deadline to sign up is July 13, and space is limited. For more information go to www.camppinehill.org. The camp leadership has taken precautions for students by putting many guidelines into place including limiting the number of campers, redoing how meals are served, and splitting cabins up for worship and games. Kendra and I have been taking children and youth to Camp Pinehill for nearly 20 years. The camp is run by the Pee Dee Baptist Association, and the camp director, Donald Foreman, has been there for over 20 years. Mahala has been going since she was a baby and is going as a youth this year. We trust them with our child and would not go if we did not trust them.



Champions for Christ Kids

Hello, friends! Can you believe that it is June already? I don't know who is more excited for the start of summer—the Champions for Christ kids or me! There are a couple different reasons for my newfound source of excitement. The first reason is school is out. My next reason relates solely to the opportunities that the summer months hold. During the summer on Sundays and Wednesdays we will be digging deeper into who God is through exploring different parts of creation. That is right; you read that correctly. We will be learning more about God through bugs, animals and plants! Starting Sunday May 31, our first look at creation and God begins with the giant desert centipede. How cool is it that through nature God's glory is revealed? One of my favorite things about God is that through creation His personality really comes to life. God has made so many great and wonderful things, including you! I know that this will be a great study that will also help get the kids even more excited for the vacation Bible school that will prayerfully happen July 13-17 from 5:30-8:30. More information to come. Contact me at 352-614-2953 if you have any questions.

HBC Women's Ministries

Our Operation Christmas Child goal this year is 150 boxes. This is lower than last year, but we believe this is a more sensible goal. We will make 25 boxes for each age bracket in each gender. A list of items is on the bulletin board and will periodically be in the bulletin as a reminder. Items may be donated anytime, so place them in the box in the foyer or drop off at the church during office hours. If you want to help please contact Connie or Mary Gore.

Our group continues to make masks for various groups in our area. We continue to provide masks via Sonya and Shannon for the emergency room, operating room, and Haven Hospice. So far we have donated over 2,000 masks. Also, in spite of Covid19, babies continue to be born so we felt it was important to make a special drop for Mother's Day. On May 7 we were able to deliver 108 blanket sets, 12 isolette sheets, and 24 premie hats to Shands NICU! Our group meets Monday and Tuesday from 9:00 to 5:00 and Wednesday noon to 6:00. If you would like to assist, please let us know.

We are in need of multiple volunteers for vacation Bible school. Our dates are July 13–17. Our theme is Mystery Island. Construction and set-up will begin early in June. If you wish to teach, help with construction, volunteer as a backup teacher, or work in the kitchen, please contact Casey as soon as possible. There is also a sign-up sheet in the church foyer.

We currently have two groups participating in the "Discerning the Voice of God" Bible study. The morning group meets Wednesdays at 10:00, and the evening group meets on Tuesday at 5:00 at the pastor's house. We will be announcing our Fall study once we decide which book we will be using.

FROM OUR MISSIONARY, ABBEY IRWIN: These past couple of months have mainly been spent inside my apartment, only going out for essentials, such as groceries and walks outside. The state of emergency should be lifted very soon, but we're still unsure of what life will look like afterwards. We want to proceed with caution and follow the guidelines our company has set before us. The IMB has done a great job leading and directing us through this process. This time inside has mainly consisted of virtual meetings with little face-to-face interaction. Team meetings online. Church online. Small group online. Game nights online. But through this time I've had the opportunity to have great online conversations with local friends. I've sent the link to the livestream service from my church here to two of my unbelieving friends. They both watched the service and had great questions, which led to further spiritual conversations. One actually told me she wants to visit church with me when we meet in person again. Wow!! God is at work even through these crazy times. He is always at work.



June birthdays:

Skipper Henderson 6/02
Donna Brock 6/10
Heather Woodall 6/13
Shirley Jackson 6/19
Paulette Moore 6/24
Timothy Reidy 6/24
David Allen 6/27
Caleb Hardee 6/28
Raymond Allen 6/30
Happy Birthday to All!

Church council will meet at 5:00 June 7 followed immediately afterward by the business meeting at 6:00.

We have resumed normal 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 for those whose health has been compromised. In addition, you may continue submitting your tithes/offerings online at www.hardeetownbc.com/give. Please be faithful to the Lord financially as well as spiritually during these hard times.

Announcements

Please meet with us to pray for our church every Sunday morning at 9:00. Men meet in the church library, and ladies meet in the fellowship hall.

Our next senior adult luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, June 25, at 11:00. We will be eating at Treasure Camp on the Suwanee Restaurant in Fowler's Bluff.

The monthly HBC Women's Ministries breakfast will be June 28 at 8:00. The ladies' breakfast meetings will continue all summer.

VBS has been rescheduled for July 13-17, 5:30 to 8:30 each night. Sign-up sheets are in the church foyer.

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 youth will be going to Camp Pinehill in South Carolina July 26-31. The deadline to sign up is July 13. Please see Brian Timney for details.

June Calendar

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|-----------|---|---|-----------|-----------|
| | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 |
| | HBA Exec Mtg And dinner TBA 5:30PM | | Women's Bible study 10:00 | | | |
| *07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| Men's breakfast 8AM Counc mtg 5PM Bus Mtg 6PM Lord's supper | | | Women's Bible study 10:00 | | | |
| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| | | | Women's Bible study 10:00 | | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| Fathers' day No eve service | | | Women's Bible study 10:00 | Sr adult lunch Treasure Camp o/t Suwanee 11:00 | | |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | | | | |
| HBC women's breakfast 8AM | | | * 07 continued children's church and Little Moments resumes | | | |

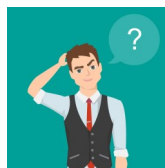


CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH



Bible Trivia

Who killed 600 Philistines?
 Last month's answer: Samson was a Nazirite (Judges 13:5).



June Memory Verse

Psalms 8:1

O LORD, our Lord; how majestic is Your name in all the earth! You have set Your glory above the heavens.

(ESV)



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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