

Hardeetown Baptist Church

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



The Pulpit and Pen

The Race for the SBC Presidency

At each annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in June the Convention elects its president. The convention president serves a one-year term and is eligible to be reelected once for an additional term.

While the SBC president does not have much direct power over the direction of the denomination, he wields an enormous amount of indirect influence. The SBC president is responsible for selecting the nominating committee (actually called the "Committee on Committees"). The president personally determines who will serve on that committee for the following year. The nominating committee then selects nominees to fill the upcoming vacancies on all SBC agencies and boards. Those nominees are then presented to the messengers for approval at the following annual meeting.

While the messengers at the annual meeting have the authority to approve or reject the various nominees, most of those nominees are unknown to the messengers. The messengers only see the nominees' names and their home states. The messengers have no choice but to trust the judgment of the nominating committee and, by inference, the judgment of the SBC president.

By personally selecting

the nominating committee (Committee on Committees), the SBC president has the power to completely change the direction of the convention over a period of time. A lot of damage can be done during a president's two-year tenure in office. If he is succeeded by a like-minded individual for another two years, virtually every trustee in the denomination can be changed to someone in alignment with the new line of thought.

That is exactly what is happening right now in the SBC. The current SBC president, J. D. Greear of North Carolina, is a liberal, woke pastor. While his theology appears conservative on the surface, he promotes Reform Theology and is a believer in Critical Race Theory. Also, because of the cancellation of the 2020 Southern Baptist Convention due to the pandemic, Greear has served three years as president. Under his leadership the North American Mission Board (NAMB) has completely eliminated its evangelism departments and has focused on planting churches, including several with female pastors.

This June there will be at least four men vying for the presidency of the convention: Al Mohler of Kentucky, Ed Litton of Alabama, Mike Stone of Georgia, and Randy Adams of Washington. Mohler and Litton are both Calvinists that want to strip

the SBC of its evangelism emphasis. Litton is also a woke theologian who wants the SBC to continue apologizing for racism and slavery. He apparently does not understand that the SBC has already done that. God's grace is sufficient for everyone except Litton. Litton wants more. Stone and Adams are both conservatives that want to turn the SBC back to its evangelistic roots. Adams is from a frontier state and understands the importance of evangelism. On the other hand, Stone is well known and has a better chance of winning.

This year's annual meeting will be in Nashville and promises to be very well attended, assuming that Covid is under control by June. Whoever wins the election will determine the course of this denomination for the near future. Because of changes that have already been made, the SBC is dangerously close to the point of no return. If Mohler or Litton win the election, the SBC that was known for its missions and evangelism will be gone. The Cooperative Program, already in decline, will no longer exist. The SBC needs men like Stone and Adams. Unfortunately, history has shown that the backbone of the SBC is the small, conservative church that rarely sends messengers to the convention.

- Our church is a prayer and ministry partner with journeyman missionary, Abbey Irwin, of Jackson, Mississippi. She will be in Tokyo for a few more months. 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.

- Attention ladies! Plan now for a bridal shower for Casey Ranalli on May 22.

- All our Bible study classes are continuing. Everyone is invited to be a part of one of our Bible study small groups. The Sunday night intensive study in Genesis is available on the website via video. Click on the link to sermons.

- Check out our website at www.hardeetownbc.com. You can also view previous services by clicking on the link to sermons. In the meantime, our services continue to be streamed on Facebook live, and you can listen to our services from the parking lot on Sunday morning by tuning to FM 92.1.

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Hardeetown Student Ministries

What a month it has been! Thank you to everyone for your prayers in the loss of my dad.

There are lots of ongoing activities. We have eight students going on the mission trip this summer. Please pray for them as they raise the money to go on this mission trip. (For most it will be their first.) If you would like to sponsor a student, please let Brian know. CRASH continues to grow on Sunday nights. Adults are needed on both Sunday nights and Wednesday nights to chaperone students. The girls' overnight Bible studies continue to go great. Thanks to Connie and Casey for coming out and helping Kendra with these important Bible studies. I was asked why I don't do one for the guys. It's simple; the students hear me all the time. Kendra came to me and wanted to do this for the girls of the church. The same would be true for anyone wanting to start a new ministry. If there is someone that would like to do an overnight guys' Bible study the same time as the girls, please contact me so we can coordinate the two studies. During spring break students will pick up their brushes and do some painting in the youth room. I am currently working on a winter missions and ski trip during the Christmas break. Please keep me in your prayers as the details are worked out.

The first Wednesday night of each month will be a prayer time with Earl Cairns. Prayer cards for the students are available in the youth room. After prayer time, we will pick up with the current Bible study. The Bible study for the month of March will be *Different* by Jonathan Evans. Evans is the son of noted pastor and author, Tony Evans, and is the brother of Priscilla Shirer. He is also the chaplain for the Dallas Cowboys. If you are not able to attend, you can keep up-to-date through RightNow Media.



Don't forget that all students who plan to go on any of our mission trips must have a signed permission slip and medical release. Permission and medical release forms for all events are located on the wall in the youth room. All students must have a signed and notarized permission form. Medical release forms are good for one year.

Champions for Christ Kids

Hey friends! Happy March! It's hard to believe that we are three months into a new year. I wanted to give a preview to some of the topics the kids and I have really been focusing on during Wednesday nights. A new trend has started for the kids after the pizza has been devoured and the cookies are well picked over. I push play on a Skit Guys video. (If you have never heard of them, I highly encourage you to go watch.) The Skit Guys are a great resource as they take biblical topics and characters and reenact them for us modern-day folk. The kids and I love watching and discussing them. Recently we watched one that asked the question, What can separate you from the Love of God? The answer comes directly from Romans 8:38-39, and that answer is "nothing." While watching this light-hearted skit, the kids and I were challenged to really think about what that question means. What a powerful reality that *nothing* separates us from the love of God. It has been remarkable to experience this with the kids upstairs. This video has become a weekly request. It is rare not to hear, "Ms. Casey, can we watch the *Nothing* video?" I am so thankful for the spiritual growth that has been evident in the last few months, despite living in the middle of a pandemic. It goes to show that God honors those who are obedient to Him. Please join me in praying for continued growth among the kids as many of them have been asking lots of deep questions regarding Jesus and following Him. So if you have time this week I challenge you to crack open Gods word to Romans 8:38-39 and really think through what that means and how we can incorporate that with our walk with God! Have a great March! With Love, Casey!



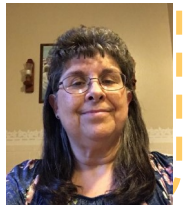
HBC Women's Ministries

As I began writing this article and reflecting on the various ministries we accomplish as a church, I was struck with a feeling of gratitude. While we each have our own calling and gifts, it amazes me to see how God blends us all together to accomplish the mission He has for us at Hardeetown. We are blessed with a group of very gifted individuals who come together in the name of Christ, sharing Christ's love in so many ways. Sometimes it's to meet a physical need; sometimes it's to help someone through an emotional situation; and sometimes it's to provide a meal. There are so many more ways, I could never actually list them! Thank you to all who have stepped up and followed God's direction to touch the lives of others in His name!

C4C has been very busy, meeting each Thursday. I'm excited to announce that we now have contacts with multiple divisions at Shands. On the first Friday of March we will be taking items to three different departments at Shands: neonatal intensive care, pediatric oncology, and adult oncology. We are also preparing items for hospice patients. We pray the people who receive these items will be blessed by them.

We will be changing things up a little with our Women's Ministries and will not be meeting every month. We will skip meeting in the month of March. We will be announcing upcoming opportunities as we get them in place. Please note that Crafts for a Cause will continue to meet weekly on Thursdays.

Also, don't forget to send our adopted missionary, Abbey Irwin, a card this month. Her address is: Irwin, Abbey; 180-0021; Tokyo-To, Musashino-Shi, Sakura Zutsumi 1-2-19; Sun Varie 401 JAPAN.



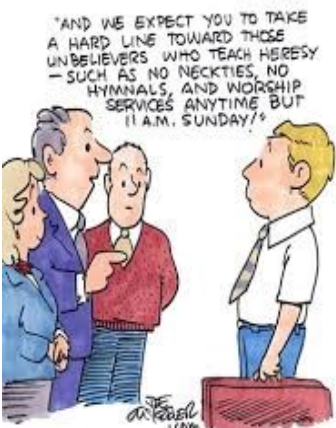


March birthdays:

- Lawrence Allen 03/06
- Charles Brock 03/09
- Gerald Ward 03/10
- Oma Harrison 03/11
- Patricia Hunt 03/11
- Margaret Mims 03/14
- Maplene Sharp 03/14
- Donnie Short 03/16
- Emerie Woodall 03/17
- Curtis Gore 03/19
- Lori Griffin 03/19
- Tamara Bradshaw 03/23
- Garrett Woodall 03/25
- Melanie Allen 03/28
- Gene Rowe 03/29

Happy Birthday to All!

THE NEW PASTOR RECEIVES HIS INSTRUCTIONS



This month's church council will meet at 5:00, March 7, followed by the business meeting at 6:00. Anyone wanting to help plan church activities is invited to attend, and all church members are welcome.

The church is in need of additional volunteers to serve in children's church. Please see Casey Ranalli if you are willing to be placed in the rotation for one of the children's church age groups. You can serve as often or as little as the Holy Spirit leads.

All ordained men are invited to a monthly deacons' dinner at 6:00 on the first Tuesday night of each month at Bett's Big T Restaurant. There is no agenda except fellowship

Announcements

together. Next month's dinner will be April 6.

Our next senior adult outing is scheduled for Thursday, March 25. We will be eating lunch at the Taste of Dixie Diner in Newberry. The van will leave the church at 10:30.

The next women's ministry breakfast will be Sunday, March 28 at 8:00.

Crafts for a Cause meets every Thursday morning at 9:00 in the fellowship hall. If you can sew, cut material, stuff envelopes, or help package projects, your help is needed. Come be a part of this important evangelism outreach ministry.

The next men's breakfast is May 2 at 8:00. All men are invited. Bring your sons, grandsons, and neighbors, too.

Easter Sunday is April 4. The church will have an Easter sunrise service at 7:30 on the west side of the church lot. In case of rain, it will be inside the fellowship hall. Breakfast will be served at 8:30, and everyone is invited. Also, there will be no evening worship service on Easter Sunday.

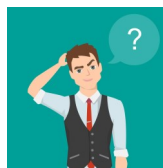
The children will be having a kids' and parents' family night Wednesday, March 10 at 6:00. There will be a trip to Taco Bell for the kids on March 24.

March Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		Deacons dinner 6:00		Crafts for a Cause 9:00		
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Men's bfast 8:00; Lord's Supper; Church council/ business mtg, 5:00/6:00			Children's ministry family night 6:00	Crafts for a Cause 9:00		
	14	15	16	17	18	20
				Crafts for a Cause 9:00		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Levy Spring Break	Levy Spring Break	Levy Spring Break	Children's ministry Taco Bell outing 6:00 Levy Spring Break	Crafts for a Cause 9:00 Sr adult luncheon 11:00 Taste of Dixie Diner Cross City	Levy Spring Break	Levy Spring Break
28	29	30	31			
Women's breakfast 8:00						

Bible Trivia

Why did Mary and the rest of the family try to take Jesus away?
Last month's answer: King Belshazzar (Daniel 5:5)



March Memory Verse

Philippians 4:13

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.



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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