

# 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.
- If you are sick and in need of prayer, our church stands ready to pray with you and anoint you in accordance with James 5:14. Just let the pastor know of your need.

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## The Pulpit and Pen

### Discipleship: Art or Science?

Any mature Christian would agree that discipleship is an integral part of being a Christian. Nowhere in the Bible are we commanded to evangelize. The Great Commission commands us to make disciples. While evangelism is an integral part of that, it is not enough merely to lead someone to Christ. God expects us to disciple everyone we lead to faith in Jesus.

However, the question remains whether discipleship is a hit-or-miss endeavor. Is leading someone into a closer relationship with Christ an art that some are just better at doing, or is discipleship a science that can be learned? The answer is both.

To the degree that teaching and discipleship is an art, the apostle Paul listed teaching as a spiritual gift (Romans 12:7). The Holy Spirit gifts and calls some as teachers to equip and disciple the church (1 Corinthians 12:28 and Ephesians 4:11-12). We have no control over whom the Holy Spirit calls to a teaching ministry. That is entirely God's decision.

However, for those who have been called to that ministry, there is also a science to the process. We can learn to be better teachers. If God has called us to that ministry, we have a moral obligation to improve our ability to utilize the gift that

God has given us.

There are three basic methods by which a person learns, and there are three levels of learning. (I do not believe it is a mere coincidence that God created us to learn this way. It would appear that even our minds are designed to reflect the Trinity.) The three ways we learn are by hearing, seeing, and doing. The three levels of learning are mental, emotional, and functional.

Educators refer to the three methods of learning as *auditory* (hearing), *visual* (seeing), and *kinesthetic* (functional). Some people learn better utilizing one of these methods over the others. Some learn via a combination of two or all three methods. For example, some people can memorize a passage of scripture simply by hearing it. Others need to see it and read it. Yet others may need to practice it.

Jesus was a master teacher and used all three methods with His disciples. He would preach to them and teach them. He would show them by example. Then He would send them out to practice and get experience. Our Creator understands how we learn because He designed us.

There are also three levels of learning with which God created us. We can remember mere facts (mental). We can develop an

appreciation or love for an idea (emotional). We can replicate a fact or idea in our lives so that we incorporate the concept into the things that we do (functional).

These three levels of learning are called *cognitive* (mental), *affective* (emotional), and *psychomotor* (functional). Cognitive learning is the ability to remember or understand things. Affective learning goes beyond understanding and includes an appreciation or love for something. Psychomotor learning is incorporating something into our daily functional lives.

The goal of discipleship is to become so much like Jesus that our love for Him goes beyond cognitive knowledge. The Bible commands us to love God with all our hearts (Matthew 22:37), which is affective/emotional. Knowing about God is not enough; we are to love Him.

In addition, James 1:22 commands us to be doers of the word. God expects us to put our love for Him into action, which is psychomotor/functional learning. Jesus even said that if we love Him, we will do what He commands (John 14:15).

I find it amusing that the world has only recently discovered these principles with which God created us and that Jesus understood and used. Let us not be content to just know Jesus. We need to love and obey Him.



Connie Blosch / Beth Cloues / Barbara Edmonds

*Meet your youth leaders:* It truly takes a team to make a difference in the lives of our young people today. It is my privilege to have had these two ladies helping me for the past six months. It is such a blessing to have them with me! They are so dedicated to serving the Lord and have stepped up to support our young people. Thank you, Beth Cloues and Barbara Edmonds!

*Youth camp:* We are still trying to lock down a date to go to Camp Anderson Anchored. The students will be responsible for paying their own cost of \$265. If anyone feels led to help out those who aren't able to pay for camp, checks can be made payable directly to Hardeetown Baptist Church, but be sure to mark your gift as designated for the youth camp.



Gerardo de la Cruz

*Our graduate:* It is with great pride that we highlight Gerardo de la Cruz this month. Gerardo has been an important part of our youth group for six years, and he will be graduating on May 20 from Chiefland High School.

Gerardo has been very active during his high school career. He lettered in football, track & field, and weight lifting, and he was the recipient of the C. Doyle McCall football award. He is a member of the Interact Club, serving as vice president, and he was also involved with the student government. Gerardo will be attending Santa Fe College in the fall, studying criminal justice. We pray for great success for Gerardo as he begins this next chapter of his life. Congratulations, Gerardo! You will be greatly missed.



## Champions for Christ Kids

Hello Friends! Can you believe that it is already May. I feel like this time last year I was hunting down volunteers for VBS and counting down the days until September 4. Well look at me now, living in a different zip code with a new last name and missing my Hardeetown peeps. I figured it's been long enough for me to give an update on panhandle living. A lot has changed, and I've been clinging to the consistency of God's love and mercy. It has been both encouraging and challenging to be newly married, living in a new place.

I also feel like it's reached an appropriate point in this article that if you've stuck it out and are still reading, we do need volunteers for vacation Bible school. (See Jan and Connie for more details.) I am looking forward to coming back to spend the week of VBS serving alongside you!

All VBS jokes aside, Al and I are doing well navigating the newness of marriage. We are thankful for the people who've come alongside us and have encouraged us in this new season.

To end this article, I wanted to share a familiar passage of scripture that has been very encouraging to me during this chapter of life. Psalm 121:1-8: "I lift up my eyes to the hills. From where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth. He will not let your foot be moved; He who keeps you will not slumber. Behold, He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade on your right hand. The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life. The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time forth and forevermore." I'm thankful for a God who sees us, knows us, and keeps us. I love you guys, and I'll see you in June! With love, Casey (Ranalli) Johnson, the Barefoot Bronsonian.

## HBC Women's Ministries

We had another great dinner meeting at Beef O'Brady's with thirteen in attendance. We discussed several topics and decided we would skip our May breakfast and do a June dinner meeting due to scheduling conflicts. We will be seeking some speakers for our upcoming dinner meetings. If you know a good speaker for us, please share that with Mary'O or Connie.

We are continuing to look for a date to have a paint party. If you have been gifted with painting skills and would be willing to assist with painting sets, backdrops, and animals for our farm-themed VBS this year, please get in touch with Jan Chesser or Connie Blosch. Anyone with farm items who would be willing to loan them for our decorations, please also let us know. Once we lock in a date, we will publish that in the bulletin and also announce it during church.

If you are looking for a ministry to help with, there are many ways you can help minister to those around us. Please don't hesitate to speak with any of our ladies. We will help you find the right place where God wants you to serve!

Our Crafts for a Cause (C4C) group donated another one hundred blanket and heart sets on April 11. Special thanks to all who assist with this important ministry to the Neonatal ICU at Shands. These brightly colored items go to brighten the lives of families with premature births.





May birthdays:

- Bruce Griffin 05/01
- Casie Hart 05/04
- Max Long 05/16
- Lois Gore 05/19
- Ashton Weatherford 05/29

Happy Birthday to All!



CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



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. The next dinner will be May 3. You do not have to be currently serving as an active deacon or have been ordained at Hardeetown to participate.

Our next senior adult outing is scheduled for Thursday, May 26. We will be eating lunch at Tony's Restaurant in Cedar Key. This is the place that is famous for their clam chowder. The church van will leave at 10:30.

The next women's ministry meeting will be dinner at Beef O'Brady's Restaurant at

## Announcements

5:30 on June 20. All ladies are invited. There will be no ladies' breakfast in May.

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, June 5, 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 meets every first Monday. We will meet May 2 and June 6 at 6:30.

The next men's breakfast

will be Sunday, June 5, at 8:00. All men and boys are invited.

Mother's Day is Sunday, May 8. There will be no evening service that day.

Plan now for our VBS, June 27-July 1. We will be hosting a planning meeting in the near future. Please consider volunteering for this important ministry. You do not have to teach one of the classes to help. We also need donations or loans of small farm equipment items to use as decorations. See Connie or Jan for details.

Go Outdoors! Adventure Camp will be July 11-15 for children ages 6-12.

## May Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Men's breakfast 8:00 Church council 5:00 Business mtg 6:00	2 Bylaws meeting 6:30	3 Sign Language 5:30 Deacons' dinner 6:00	4	5 Crafts for a Cause 9:00	6	7
8 Mother's Day No evening svc	9	10 Sign Language 5:30	11	12 Crafts for a Cause 9:00	13	14
15	16	17 Sign Language 5:30	18	19 Crafts for a Cause 9:00	20	21
22	23	24 Sign Language 5:30	25	26 Sr adult luncheon, Tony's Restaurant, Cedar Key, 11:00	27	28
29 Memorial Day	30	31 Sign Language 5:30				

**Bible Trivia**

Who was the first polygamist?  
Last month's answer: John the Baptist  
(Luke 1:15)



**May 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)



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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