

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, and click on the link to sermons.

- We are streaming our services again! Go to the church's YouTube page and click on video. We begin every Sunday morning at 10:40.

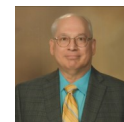
- If you are new to the church, we offer Bible study classes for all ages. Regular Bible study is an essential part of Christian discipleship, and we encourage you to participate each Sunday at 9:30. We have classes for all ages, including children and youth.

- 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.

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The Pulpit and Pen



Real Revival

Our church has a revival scheduled for this month. Fall revivals have been a part of Baptist life for generations. Many churches within the Baptist association used to coordinate the timing of their revivals so each church could support the others. Church members would take turns attending the other churches' revivals.

The format that a revival would take has changed over the years. Several decades ago a church revival would often last for two weeks. If people in the community were coming to Christ, the church might continue its revival indefinitely, often lasting for several weeks. After several years, churches tended to reduce the length of their revivals to only one week, beginning on Sunday and ending Friday. Most churches now have reduced the length of their revivals to four days—Sunday through Wednesday. Most people just do not have the time in their busy schedules for a lengthy revival.

Another form that revivals used to take was the downtown tent revival. Pentecostal and Fundamentalist churches still conduct the occasional tent revival, but for most churches, tent revivals are a thing of the past. Potential participants are no longer willing to endure hot, humid evenings in a tent with-

out air conditioning or comfortable seating.

Regardless of the format of the revival, the goal of most church revivals has been twofold: enjoying a few extra worship services with someone else preaching and inviting friends from other churches to attend. Unfortunately, neither of these goals is found in scripture. There is certainly nothing sinful about enjoying the worship of Almighty God or inviting one's friends to worship with you. However, neither of these activities tends to result in genuine spiritual revival. The traditional fall revival long ago fell into the rut of simply being a thing to do. It joined the list of church programs that have lost real spiritual direction and effectiveness.

Occasionally, churches focused on evangelism through their revivals. Church members would invite friends and acquaintances that did not know Jesus. The goal was to get those who were not saved into the service so the preacher could share the gospel from the pulpit. The preacher was expected to focus on evangelistic sermons. Frequently, those in the audience who were not saved would respond. Certainly, that was a valid, scriptural objective of the revival.

However, evangelism, while a valid objective, is not revival. Evangelistic sermons

result in neither spiritual growth nor revival for the existing church member.

If a church is to experience genuine revival, the church members need to draw closer to Christ. Revival involves those that already have a relationship with Christ repenting and becoming more committed to Him. People need to get serious about serving God. That is real revival.

Evangelism is a necessary part of fulfilling the Great Commission, but revival should be focused on those that have already been saved. If God's people get on fire for Jesus, the church would not need to have a revival in order to reach more people for Christ. Evangelism is a natural result of being committed to Christ. If the church is on fire for Jesus, the church will share Jesus out of love.

A sign of a church in need of revival is a church that neglects outreach and evangelism. When the church is more concerned with internal relationships and fellowship than with sharing Jesus, revival is overdue.

The challenge this month is to get on fire for Jesus. Dr. Jerry Nash will be preaching for us Sunday, October 23, through Wednesday, October 26. Invite your friends if you like, but the focus is on our own members revitalizing our relationship with Jesus. How about you?



Our recent Bible study, "One at a Time," is almost complete. We have focused on seeing people through Jesus' eyes, asking Jesus to work *in* and then *through* us. We reach people that are in our proximity, and watch for the *intersections* God places us in so we can share Christ with others. We will continue this study and then move on to the next one. One of our goals is to help everyone become equipped to share their faith in Christ with others. Your prayers are greatly appreciated as we work with these great kids. We have had a few additions to our group recently, and we are super excited to have them!



One thing the youth really enjoy is when we have cooking time! At the beginning of September we had "Sushi Night!" Barbara shared her expertise with the kids and helped each of them make their own sushi masterpieces. For those of us less adventurous souls, we also made McMuffins. We all enjoyed the evening and finished off the night with some games. These kids really are great, and Barbara, Beth and I really enjoy working with them!



Champions for Christ Kids

This month we conduct our annual fall festival. This is one of our annual community outreach events. We invite anyone from the community to attend. We offer games, a bounce-house (weather permitting), plenty of food, and a lot of fellowship with the church. The games are obviously designed for the children, but the adults often enjoy the activities as much as the kids. The goal is to invite people from the community to come back to church, experience worship and Bible study, and meet Jesus.

For those hosting the games and activities, we must always remember that our goal is to reach the community for Jesus. While fellowship and fun are an important part of the Christian life, if we forget to share Jesus with those we encounter, we fail in our primary goal, which is to share the love of Christ. While it may often be difficult to share the gospel with each individual or family that comes through our area, we can give them gospel tracts and information about the church. You can obtain plenty of free gospel tracts in the church office. Please stock up on these and give them out generously during the festival. Sharing the gospel is not an additional activity if we have time. It is the primary reason for the entire event! Let us not lose sight of our goal.

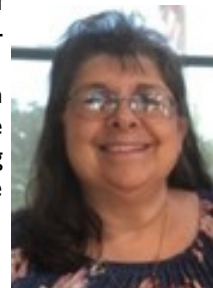
Also, for those that you invite, please share with them that this is *not* a Halloween festival. Please do not encourage those attending to wear inappropriate costumes that are incompatible with Christianity such as witch or ghost costumes. Let us glorify Christ in everything that we do.

HBC Women's Ministries

Our ladies' study, "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World," is off to a great start! We meet Tuesday in the fellowship hall. We appreciate Celeste Green facilitating the group! We have a few copies of the book left if anyone still wants to read it. Contact Connie or Mary'O to get a copy.

Flexibility is often required in ministry, so our women's fellowship dinner has temporarily been moved to Mondays to accommodate the Bible Study. We will meet Monday, October 3, and Monday, November 7, at Beef O'Brady's Restaurant at 5:30. Please reserve your seat on the sign-up sheet out in the foyer for our October dinner or text Connie at 229-977-8764. We hope to see as many of you as possible.

As drop-off time quickly approaches, we will have our first Operation Christmas Child packing session on Thursday, October 6, during our Crafts for a Cause time. Anyone wishing to assist, please join us in the fellowship hall at 9:00 a.m. We knock out the packing fairly quickly. We will announce any future packing times as soon as we set a firm date. We will also continue to accept gift donations at any time during the year. Thanks to all who have assisted with donations for this worthwhile ministry.





October birthdays:

- Susan Muth 10/03
- Vivian Harris 10/04
- Mary'O Henderson 10/08
- Kamala Reidy 10/14
- Sammy Cason 10/18
- Jennie Sharp 10/21
- Dorann Lam 10/27
- Robert Allen 10/31

Happy Birthday to All!



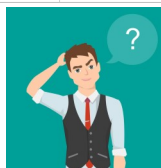
CHURCH OF THE COVERED DISH by Thom Tapp



"Judas sold Jesus out for 30 pieces of silver. All it takes these days is a ball game on TV!"

Bible Trivia

Who supervised the stoning of Stephen?
Last month's answer: Ehud (Judges 3:21)



Announcements

Monday, October 3, at 5:30. All ladies are invited.

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, October 2, 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 will meet Monday, October 3, at 6:30.

The men's breakfast will be November 6 at 8:00. All men of any age are invited.

Sign language class meets every Monday at 6:00 in the fellowship hall. Anyone may attend, and you do not need to have had previous instruction.

The church fall festival will be Sunday, October 16, at 5:00. All are welcome and encouraged to invite people from the community. Hotdogs and hamburgers will be served, and games will be provided for the children.

The next movie night will be Sunday, October 30, at 5:00. (movie TBD) Please invite your unchurched friends as the movies shown will be evangelistic and family-friendly.

October Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Men's breakfast 8:00 Church council 5:00 Business mtg 6:00	Women's ministry dinner @ Beef's, 5:30 Bylaws meeting 6:30	Ladies' Bible study, 5:30 Men's Fellowship Dinner, Bett's 6:00		Crafts for a Cause 9:00		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Sign Language, 6:00	Ladies' Bible study, 5:30		Crafts for a Cause 9:00		
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Fall festival 5:00	Sign Language, 6:00	Ladies' Bible study, 5:30		Crafts for a Cause 9:00		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Revival 10:45 & 6:00 Dr. Jerry Nash	Revival 7:00 Dr. Jerry Nash	Ladies' Bible study, 5:30 Revival 7:00 Dr. Jerry Nash	Revival 7:00 Dr. Jerry Nash	Sr adult luncheon, Cedar Key island tour; Steamers Grill (9:00)		
30	31					
Movie night, 5:00	Sign Language, 6:00					

October Memory Verse

Psalm 46:10

Be still, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!

(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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