

# Hardeetown Baptist Church

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

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. Her parents would love to hear from you also. See the pastor for their contact information.

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](http://www.facebook.com/Hardeetown). Unfortunately, our Internet server has become unstable and has crashed several times over the past few weeks. We are looking for a new server so we can continue providing this service. Please be patient. If you lose the steam on Sunday morning, a recording will be available via the website on Monday.

Check out our website at [www.hardeetownbc.com](http://www.hardeetownbc.com). You can also view previous services by clicking on the link to sermons.

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## The Pulpit and Pen



### Defend Your Faith

Physicists have long assumed that the speed of light was constant at about 186,282 miles per second. There is no way to verify that assumption since it has only been about four decades since the speed of light could be measured accurately. Some have theorized that the speed of light is actually slowing down.

It is quite possible that the speed of light has been gradually slowing down and has only leveled off at its current speed for the past few years. At the time of creation, which was probably about six thousand years ago, the speed of light would have been almost infinite.

Utilizing today's telescopes, we can see galaxies and stars billions of light-years away from Earth. That we can now see them has convinced many that the universe must be billions of years old, based on the current speed of light. How else would we be able to see things so far away? However, if the light from those distant galaxies was traveling at almost infinite speed, it would have reached Earth within minutes or even sooner. Light would then have begun to slow down in the centuries following creation.

So why is this even important? First Peter 3:15 says that we should be ready at all times to give an answer for

why we believe what we do. Many Christians believe simply because that is what they have been taught. Obviously, no one can know everything about every subject. Only God can do that.

However, we need to know more than we do about creation. The debate between creation and evolution is at the heart of what separates our faith from the world's disbelief. How can we offer a defense of our faith when we do not know the basics of apologetics and defending that faith?

The people of Florida just finished a primary election a few days ago, and in about two months the entire nation will elect the next president, several federal politicians, and even more state and local officials. Among those local officials being elected are our Levy County school officials.

Prior to the August primary election, I corresponded with all except two of the candidates running for school office. I asked each candidate to elaborate on that individual's philosophy of education. Philosophy of education for most people is a completely different question than what it is for a professional educator. Professional educators see philosophy of education in terms of various educational theorists and philosophical approaches to teaching. I was stunned to

learn that only one of the candidates even understood the question.

The problem here is that many of the school boards across our state, including Levy County, are run by untrained individuals that have no idea what is actually being taught in the classroom. A more serious issue is that our local educational leaders do not understand why certain curriculum and educational choices are being made.

The overwhelming majority of educational theories being espoused in American classrooms today are based on atheism. The most prominent educational theorist of the twentieth century was an atheist. Many of our educators are taught his theories in college and may not even be aware of the impact of such approaches to education.

The result should be obvious to any well-read Christian. Education is currently based on a humanistic worldview in which God does not exist. Our children are being indoctrinated rather than taught.

If you want to know why our country is in the shape it is, look no farther than our public schools and colleges. Teach your children the truth, and teach them about Jesus. Demand that our school board adopt curricula and teaching methods that acknowledge God, creation, and biblical truth.

# Hardeetown Student Ministries

A big part of working with students is planning and coordinating events, activities, and Bible studies. Usually by this time I have all of the next year planned out. Then there was this year. Welcome to Covid. The funny thing is people are waiting until after January to commit to events. I am not sure why. I guess the belief is that after the election and the turn of the year, the media will go back to just reporting the news instead of trying to make it, and a vaccine will be found, all within the next four months. I guess everyone is getting tired and just want to go back to normal, whatever that is. In all this, keep these students in your prayers. I never thought I would have to remind my child, "Don't forget your lunch, book bag, clothes for cheer practice, homework from last night, and your mask."



The first Wednesday night of every month will be a prayer time with Dr. Earl Cairns. After that we will continue with the current Bible study, which for the month of September will continue through the book of Ruth. If you are not able to attend, you can keep up to date through RightNow Media. Email Brian at studentz@hardeetownbc.com to get started. You can also log on by texting RightNow HARDEE to 41411.

Thank you to all the girls that came out for the first girls' overnight Bible study. We are still working on the fall calendar, so be on the look-out for when the next Bible study will be.



## Champions for Christ Kids

Goodbye August, and hello September! Is anyone else ready for the cooler weather, or is it just me? Speaking of cool things, the kids and I have jumped into a new curriculum on Wednesday nights. It has been really exciting seeing all the cool experiments that go along with some of the lessons. For example, this past Wednesday night we focused on the theme "Juuust right," which emphasized that God's purpose for our lives and His plan are just right. What a blessing it is that we do not have to have everything figured out. All we have to do is put our trust in the One who created everything!

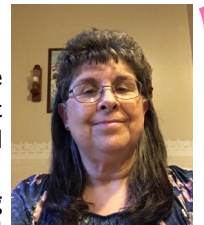


In other news, there are a few events that the kids and I are looking forward to. Those would be the fall festival coming up in October and the traveling Christmas caroling on December 15. I also wanted to share about one of the activities the kids did a few weeks ago. We made cards for Abbey Irwin and purchased some of the items that will go into the box. How awesome is it that a church over here in the United States gets to be a part of things happening on the other side of the world in Japan! Praise God! He is so good!

## HBC Women's Ministry

As we move into September, HBC women's ministry is working on multiple projects, and we would love for more people to participate in these rewarding ministries. Each of us probably has a different idea what "ministry" and "missions" mean, but basically they are intertwined. Both involve helping people in need and sharing the love of Christ. Some of our ministries are local but are expanding to an international level.

Opportunities to help vary from praying for these ministries, physically assisting with them, encouraging our own church members, and financially supporting the ministries. Unfortunately, quite often only a small number of folks step up to help. This means we cannot accomplish as much, and the faithful few end up getting worn out. Below are some opportunities and needs we could use more help with.



\*Operation Christmas Child (OCC): We are currently making some items that we use in the boxes we pack to share Jesus with kids around the world. You can help by praying for those putting the boxes together to send from our church, as well as those who will receive each shoe box. You can also do cut-out projects, sewing, buying items to donate, or donate money to help pay postage.

\*Beau's Blankets: We are continuing our ministry to families with premature newborns. We sew blankets and flannel hearts for the NICU at Shands. You can help by praying for the families at the NICU (Johnathan and Casie Hart's little boy, Tucker, is a recent graduate from the NICU.), sewing blankets and hearts, or providing financial support to purchase fabric and supplies.

\*Abbey Irwin: Our adopted missionary, Abbey, who is serving in Tokyo, has completed her first year on the mission field. We ask you to continue praying for her as she shares the gospel in a foreign country. You can help by praying for her as she shares Jesus with those she encounters in Japan or donating money. (Mark your envelope "Abbey.") We will be sending money to her for extras to help her with outreach. We will be mailing that and a box of items around September 18. Also, don't forget to send Abbey a card this month. Her address is: Irwin, Abbey; 180-0021; Tokyo-To, Musashino-Shi, Sakura Zutsumi 1-2-19; Sun Varie 401 JAPAN.

\*Ministering to our church members with special needs: We have folks in our church who need a special touch. As a church family, it would be wonderful if we could encourage our shut-ins and those going through various situations. You can help by praying for them, sending cards, making phone calls, cooking and delivering meals, and visiting. As always, if you would like more information, feel free to contact me at 229-977-8764.

September OCC item: combs & brushes



**September birthdays:**

- Sonya Fisher 09/03
- Megan Snyder 09/05
- Eddie Barron 09/06
- Benjamin Ivey 09/10
- Betty Salisbury 09/15
- John Mooney 09/16
- Connie Bloch 09/18
- C.J. Mooney 09/18
- Michael Edmonds 09/19
- Mary Gore 09/19
- Raymond Ward 09/19
- Prieston Jones 09/20
- Treva Milburn 09/20
- Patrick Reidy 09/27
- Warren Muth 09/28
- Earlene Crews 09/29
- Joseph Gore 09/29



This month's church council will meet at 5:00, September 13, followed by the business meeting at 6:00. Due to the Labor Day weekend, there will be no evening worship service September 6.

The worship service is streamed on Facebook and broadcast in the parking lot on FM 92.1. In addition, you may submit your tithes online at [hardeetownbc.com/give](http://hardeetownbc.com/give).

Our church will host the Chiefland High School football breakfast on October 16 at 7:00. Please contact the office or Brian Timney if you would like to help.

Our next senior adult luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, September 24, at 10:00.

## Announcements

We will be traveling to Crystal River for lunch and then enjoying the mermaid show at Weeki Wachee Springs.

The monthly HBC Women's Ministries breakfast will be September 27 at 8:00. Please join us as we plan future activities for our ladies' ministry.

Due to circumstances beyond our control, the marriage enrichment webinar scheduled for September 12 has been cancelled.

Plan now for the church's fall festival on October 25 at 5:00. Help us get the word out to our unchurched neighbors. Our fall festival is a great out-

reach opportunity for the church.

The student Disciple-Now (DNow) weekend is October 23-25. See Brian for details.

The next men's breakfast meetings are September 6 and October 4, both at 8:00. All men are invited.

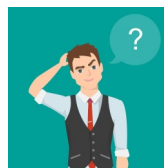
The church needs more willing volunteers to help in the sound booth or with music. If you are willing to learn how to operate the video camera, sound board, or computer, please see Mac MacFeggan or the pastor. It is not necessary to commit to every worship service.

## September Calendar

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01	02	03	04	05
06	07	08	09	10	11	12
Men's Breakfast 8AM Lord's supper	Labor Day Office Closed					
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Counc. Mtg 5PM Bus Mtg 6PM						
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Youth Comm Mtg 4:30			See you at the Pole Prayer before school	Sr adult lunch Pecks Old Cove Rest. and Weeki Wachee Springs 10:00		
27	28	29	30			
HBC Wom Breakfast 8AM						

**Bible Trivia**

How many of Jesus' bones were broken during the crucifixion?  
Last month's answer: Jeconiah (also called Coniah and Jehoiachin (Jeremiah 22:30).



**September Memory Verse**

Psalm 84:10

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere; I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

(NIV)



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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