



**DRIVE-IN CHURCH – 10:00 A.M.
EVERY SUNDAY**

The Beacon

September 2020

What's inside.....

- 1** A Word from Our Pastor
Atrium Update
- 2** New Sanctuary
Merry Christmas
Backpack Ministry
- 3** Encouragers' Class
Constitution & By-Laws
Periodicals
- 4** Email Updates
September Birthdays
Financial Results

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

Perhaps you recall the old hymn, *Take Time to be Holy*. Not long ago I read the verses of this hymn and decided that verses two and three were my favorites. Verse two says,

Take time to be holy
The world rushes on
Spend much time in secret
With Jesus alone
By looking to Jesus
Like Him thou shalt be
Thy friends in thy conduct
His likeness shall see

This verse says to me that as fast paced as things are each day, we need time alone with Christ. After all, it's in this fast paced world in which we live that we bear witness to Jesus through word and deed. And if we don't spend time with Christ through prayer and meditation, how can we ever focus on Him or remove distractions so that He can speak to us? Again, I believe this verse to be a strong verse, a verse to remind us of what's essential to ready ourselves as witnesses for Christ. The third verse says,

Take time to be holy
Let Him be thy Guide
And run not before Him
Whatever betide
In joy or in sorrow
Still follow the Lord
And, looking to Jesus
Still trust in His word

Well, who is Lord? Of course, Jesus is Lord. And we are his disciples.

Let us allow Jesus to lead us even if we experience joy or sorrow.

Both verses are verses of exhortation. Exhortation is useful in many ways one of which is to bring us back around to our main focus. In this case, as Christians our main focus is on Jesus our Lord. And the following result is true: focus on Jesus gives us an anchor for when the waves of life are rough and freedom when life is beautiful and joyous.

In our current milieu there is no better exhortation to be heard than the words from verses two and three from that old hymn *Take Time to be Holy*.

Grace and Peace,
Clarke

FROM THE DEACONS – ATRIUM PROJECT

Hello Everyone!

The Deacon Body and I hope that everyone is enjoying your summer in these crazy times. It's hard to believe that Labor Day is right around the corner marking the unofficial end to summer. Although it is sad to see summer go, the cool mornings and less humid days tend to revitalize the soul. As we march toward fall and this personal revitalization, Hillcrest Baptist Church also marches with us. As you know, the church will be building a new sanctuary and this process is well under way with many of the pre-

construction activities already complete or in process. To help set the stage for the new sanctuary coming in 2021, the Deacon body, with support of the Church Council, has evaluated the current layout of the atrium to identify additional opportunities to serve our potential new guests and current members.

This in-depth evaluation yielded numerous items that express and share the vision, passion, love, mission, youth, future, and excitement of Hillcrest Baptist Church. The updated space will offer a fantastic first impression to guests when they open the door for the first time and to members.

On Sunday, August 9, the Deacons met after the church service to begin implementing these ideas and developing further action plans. Areas that were completed or are in process include a new relocated welcome center stocked with information about Hillcrest, deacon welcome area, pre-church kids crafts and youth promotion center, updated coffee and pastry bar, area for guest and member visitation and relaxing, mission promotion area, church event calendar/bulletin board, TV showing pictures and videos of events that have recently taken place, Christian music being played (contemporary/traditional), and more.

The Deacons and I are expecting to have the majority of this project complete by Labor Day and will develop additional action plans if needed as the project progresses.

We are all very excited about the changes that have already been made and are looking forward to

the church doors reopening soon to share it with everyone.

The Deacons and I will be happy to answer any questions you have about this project or any other project currently underway at Hillcrest.

Please let us know how we can serve you as a member or guest of Hillcrest.

Respectfully,
Jason Lipinski
Deacon Chair

NEW SANCTUARY UPDATE

As we look forward to the groundbreaking for our new sanctuary, progress is continuing and excitement is building as steps are completed. The water drainage system currently in place on our property has been approved. Ground soil samples have been taken and approved. Our architect, Huff Morris Associates, has communicated that the cost of the new sanctuary is in line with our budget. The Conditional Use Permit (CUP) application has been submitted to the Hanover County Planning Department and has been approved. The next step in the CUP process is approval by the Planning Commission. We expect to break ground in the fall and have the foundation completed before winter. Continue to pray as decisions are made in this exciting time for our church family.

Trish Hawkins, Co-Chair
Jason Lipinski, Co-Chair
New Sanctuary Building
Committee

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

I know, I know it's just September! But the planning has begun to start getting ready to help families in our area experience the meaning of Christmas by putting our faith in action and helping families in need. Hillcrest, in partnership with several area churches working together, will again provide essential products to about 25 families. Essentials are things like canned goods, personal hygiene products, household items such as laundry detergent, dish detergent, cleaning products, various food items including a half ham and many other items. Volunteers are needed to help purchase, secure and organize these gifts. Financial gifts are needed to purchase the items. We encourage everyone to donate financially by clearly marking the outside of the offering envelope "Christmas Box Ministry" and mailing it to the church marked Attention Jerry Edwards. Please consider volunteering your time as well by emailing Jerry Edwards at jedw917821@aol.com. This is one of our biggest community ministries of the year. We will also need a few volunteers to deliver the gifts to the families. Please pray about your participation in this year's efforts.

Jerry Edwards

BACKPACK MINISTRY UPDATE

We are in the busy season of restocking our shelves for the upcoming school year. The first week we would usually begin delivering would have been the last Friday in September but due to the current environment it will

most likely be the first Friday in October.

We have been in communication with the school counselors and it appears our food deliveries will be directly to the homes of the kids instead of to the schools. This will continue at least until the end of the first semester. If kids come back to school for the second semester, then hopefully, we will be back to delivering to schools directly for the second half of the year.

As always, we ask you for your donations of paper grocery bags with handles and financial support. We are ordering cases of food items directly from the Walmart Neighborhood Market on Sliding Hill Road. Lastly, final plans are being made for teams to pack and deliver on a weekly schedule. We are grateful for all our volunteers and all other support you can provide. Thanks again to everyone who has supported the Backpack Ministry in any capacity. We continue to serve in the name of Jesus.

Jerry Edwards

UPDATED DIRECTIONS **ENCOURAGERS' SS CLASS**

NEW!!! Dial-in phone options are offered for Wednesday programs

The Encouragers' Class invites you to join us for Wednesday night Bible Study from 7:15-7:55 p.m. using the Zoom App or telephone dial-in (see instructions below).

Telephone Instructions

Dial in from either your home phone or cell phone. We would love to hear your voice on the line!

1. **Dial:** 646 558 8656 (*you will hear a recording "Welcome to Zoom" and ask for the meeting ID*)
2. **Meeting ID:** 668 418 8655 #
3. *You will hear a recording asking if you have a personal ID. Simply press # to skip this*
4. When asked for a password, **press 218 2717**

You will be asked to wait for the meeting host to admit you. You will then be welcomed and introduced to all of the others on the call. It is a good idea to call in about 10 minutes early if possible. Those of us on the call can chat amongst ourselves and join in discussion during the Bible Study.

See additional details below about what we will be discussing in September.

9/2	Protection from Death Exodus 12:1-14
9/9	Deliverance from Bondage Exodus 14:19-31
9/16	Bread from Heaven Exodus 16:2-8, 11-15
9/23	Water from the Rock Exodus 17:1-7
9/30	The Lord's Expectations Isaiah 5:1-7

Zoom Instructions

To join by Zoom App, you will first need to download and install the Zoom App on your smartphone or tablet or computer. Download from your App or Play store and follow the easy steps to install and open. Look for Zoom Cloud Meetings on your phone or Zoom.us on your computer.

Select "Join with Video" so that we can see each other and "Join with Computer Audio" so we can hear each other.

Join the Zoom Meeting with this link and credentials:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/6684188655?pwd=dS9VREdHckNZejhEaW5WclgybEpHdz09>

Zoom Meeting ID: 668 418 8655
Zoom Password: 2182717

UPDATING CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

The Constitution and Bylaws (C & B) Committee is in the process of reviewing and updating the C & B of our church. The last revision was in 2015 and many activities have changed since then. We want the C & B to reflect our current goals and to provide guidance to all committees and/or organizations to accomplish these goals.

To that end, we are requesting all committee chairmen, as well as organization leaders review the stated purpose of your committee/organization and provide any insight/suggestions you might have to make sure the stated purpose and the actual organization corresponds. We would also ask that all members of our congregation take this opportunity to re-familiarize yourself with the framework under which we operate. Again, we would welcome any suggestions as to changes that should be made.

Copies of the C & B are located in the church office. You are welcome to pick up a copy for your personal reference.

Should you have any questions and/or recommendations, please feel free to contact any member of the C & B Committee.

Sharon Duling, Chair
Jacque Althizer
Todd Collier
Kathy Johnson
Jason Lipinski

JULY GENERAL FUND RESULTS

Balance as of July 1	\$ 22,795.21
Receipts	\$ 14,265.07
Expenditures	\$ 9,747.52
Balance as of August 1	\$ 27,312.76

PERIODICALS AVAILABLE

The Open Windows, Mature Living, Journey and Stand Firm magazines are available for you in the atrium. Feel free to stop by the church and pick up the latest copies while they last.

EMAIL UPDATES

To receive important email updates from Hillcrest, send an email to the church office and you will be added to the churchwide distribution list.

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mathew Creasy (9-4)
Mason Tucker (9-6)
Jason Simmons (9-7)
Joanne Payne (9-11)
Celia Wood (9-13)
Tabatha Regensburg (9-15)
Joyce Michael (9-15)
Linda Griffith (9-17)
Catherine Payne (9-18)
Sara Fisher (9-21)
Terry Senghas (9-22)
Jordan Carter (9-25)
Nicki Childress (9-26)
David Petersen (9-27)
Lois Tate (9-28)
Darrell Davis (9-29)
Thomas Dills (9-30)