

BRO. DAVID LEFLORE

In the last two newsletters, we're going through a blog entitled: 10 Characteristics of a Dying Church, written in 1959. The first seven characteristics are 1) Don't Come, 2) If You Do Come, Make Sure You're Late, 3) Only Show Up When the Weather is Good, 4) Find Fault with Everything (and/or Everyone), 5) Never Accept a Leadership Role or Responsibility, 6) Get Mad if You're Not Appointed to a Leadership Position, 7) Never Give Your Opinion in a Meeting...Wait Until After the Meeting. Here are three more characteristics of a dying church. Please remember, I'm not suggesting HBBC is a dying church. But if we allow these things to creep into our culture, the graveyard is right around the corner.

8. Do nothing more than absolutely necessary.

It's hard to reach "the least of these" when we're only doing the least we can do. Show up, go home, but don't be an active, engaged member of the church. The sad reality, however, is that most people who only want to do the least, love to criticize those who are doing the most! They howl about how the church is being run by a clique, when they never offered or took initiative to get any work done. They just stand on the sideline and watch the church die. At the very least, they are an accessory to the murder.

9. Hold back on your giving to the Lord.

It takes money to do ministry, especially to do mercy ministry for the underserved in our communities. Tim Keller says that "Mercy ministry is expensive." When we hold back on our giving to the Lord and His work, we are limiting the work that can be done through the local church. Additionally, since there are operational costs associated with a church or ministry, a lack of giving can lead to the church being foreclosed, laying off staff, and other adverse results. Some people say, "Well, all the church wants is money." The same can be said of Wal-Mart, yet they keep taking their money there! While I do not discount that there have been those who have abused and misused the church for financial gain, there are thousands of churches serving in their communities who are dying because of a lack of finances. When we stop giving, we are killing those churches...and the countless lives they touch each day.

10. Don't reach out to the un-churched.

The primary purpose of the Church is to introduce people to Jesus. The people in the pews must take ownership of that responsibility and become "mini-churches" that reach out to the un-churched every day of the week and bring them to the house of the Lord to be discipled. Churches need regular and consistent "transfusions". When new people are brought into the church, they bring new life and vibrancy. They ensure that the church doesn't get stuck in the old way of doing things. They bring fresh perspective, and they help to keep the church alive. Don't kill your church! Go and bring in some new people today.

According to this blog, these are 10 ways to kill a church. Can you think of any others? Do you agree or disagree with any on this list? There are, I'm sure, many other ways to "kill" a church. With that in mind, it's important for all of us to remember that we are the "body of Christ" and if each body part is not functioning properly, the whole body suffers.

Bro. David

BRO. ROBBY HARGRAVE

Donald Whitney's Spiritual Disciplines for the Christian Life reminds us that prayer is not about perfect words or religious performance—it is about relationship. Whitney gently encourages believers to see prayer as time spent with a loving Father who desires closeness with His children. In a world filled with distractions, prayer becomes a quiet place where our hearts can rest, listen, and grow.

One of the most meaningful ideas in this section is that prayer need not feel complicated. Whitney explains that many Christians struggle because their prayers become repetitive or rushed. Instead, he encourages us to let Scripture guide our conversations with God. When we pray through God's Word, our hearts stay focused, and our prayers become more personal and alive.

Whitney also reminds readers that spiritual growth happens through consistency. Even short moments of honest prayer throughout the day can deepen our faith and strengthen our dependence on God. Prayer is not simply another task on a spiritual checklist—it is an invitation into daily fellowship with the Lord.

This message is both comforting and challenging: God is always ready to hear from us, and a faithful prayer life can transform the way we live, think, and trust Him.

In Christ,

Robby

MICHAEL BEATY

A Wonderful Outing: Lake Fork Fish House

What a great time our Sr. Adults had on May 15! A group of us made our way to the Lake Fork Fish House, and the food was absolutely delicious. More than anything, though, it was just a sweet time of being together. There is something so special about this group of people, and moments like these remind me why fellowship matters so much. If you missed it, start making plans now — because you won't want to sit out the next one!

Looking Ahead: Sr. Adult VBS — July 12-14

If you haven't already marked your calendar, please do so now! Our Sr. Adult VBS is coming up July 12-14, and it is going to be a wonderful few days. Vicki Shaw and Cary Eaves will present a musical program on Sunday, July 12, and John Meador will be our speaker on July 13 and 14. We hope you'll make plans to join us!

Still Looking: Drummer for the Blended Service

Our 9:30 AM Blended Service is still searching for someone who plays drums. If you know of anyone in our church family or the surrounding area who might be interested in joining our worship team, please pass the word along. It's a wonderful opportunity to use a God-given talent for His glory.

A Personal Note

On a personal note, Lori and I are thrilled to share that we have gotten moved into our new home in Tyler! God is good!

Summer Schedule Update

As we head into the summer months, please take note of a few changes to our rehearsal schedule. **There will be no Worship Choir rehearsal on Monday nights in June or July.** The choir will still be in the choir loft each Sunday during the Blended Service to help lead worship — they just won't be singing an anthem during this season. Additionally, the Worship Band and praise teams will not rehearse on Monday nights. They will instead rehearse on **Sunday mornings before worship.** We are so grateful for everyone who serves on these teams, and we look forward to a summer full of meaningful worship together.

For drums, choir, band, or any other way to get involved, call me at 254-592-2172. I look forward to worshipping with you this Sunday.

Michael

TORI LADNER

As this newsletter is going out, we are beginning our first day of Vacation Bible School called "Illumination Station"! Please be in prayer for us through the week as we shine a light on who Jesus really is! May God use each and every volunteer to share the love of Jesus and for these kiddos to see Christ through us. Pray for any salvations that will happen this week. We are expectant to see how God is going to move in and amongst the kids and workers this week! Thank you for all those who are volunteering, praying, and for the many people who have put countless hours in to making this week a success! I can't wait to give you a wrap up once it's all said and done. Love you church!

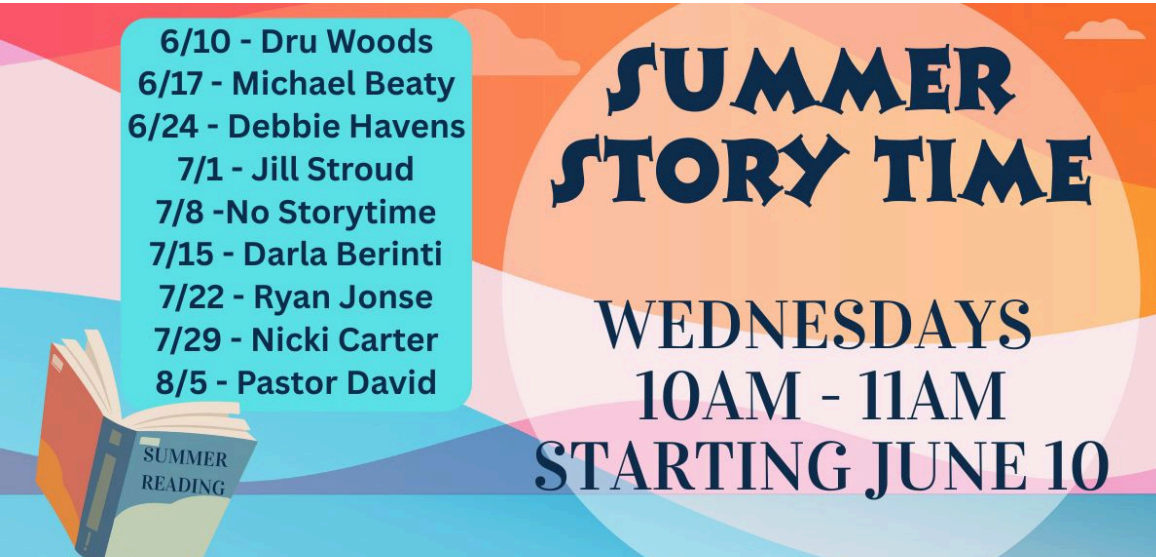
In Christ,

Tori Ladner

RYAN JONSE

Hey Church! Summer is officially in full swing! We just had our Summer Kick Off Celebration. We all had an amazing time at the Slaven's house. Thank you to all who helped make the kick off happen. AS we start the week of VBS, I want to thank all of our youth workers. I am so proud of them for helping out and stepping up. Please be in prayer for all the events that we have scheduled for this summer. Pray that our students will be transformed by the Gospel and that we will be able to make lasting connections through everything we do this summer. Lastly, I wanted to remind everyone that Wednesday night youth activities will start back up on July 8th. Thank you again for all of your support.

Ryan



6/10 - Dru Woods
6/17 - Michael Beaty
6/24 - Debbie Havens
7/1 - Jill Stroud
7/8 - No Storytime
7/15 - Darla Berinti
7/22 - Ryan Jonse
7/29 - Nicki Carter
8/5 - Pastor David

**SUMMER
STORY TIME**

**WEDNESDAYS
10AM - 11AM
STARTING JUNE 10**

SUMMER
READING



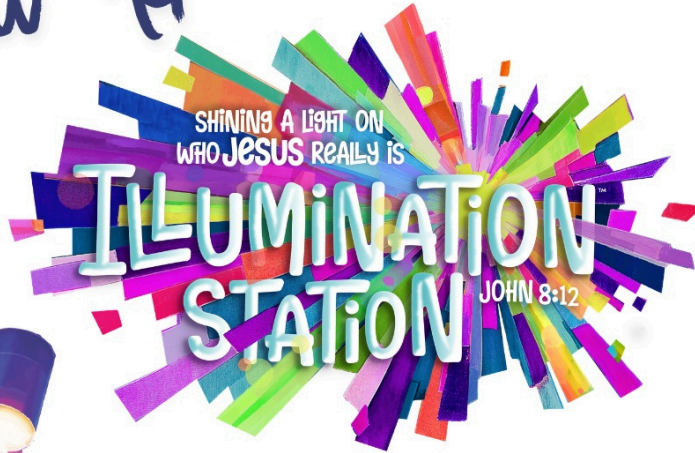
June

Obadiah Project

Play dough or slime Or something similar like putty, kinetic sand, the little colored styrofoam balls, etc

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*You're invited to
VBS at HBBC!*



Check out the details and register here!



**JUNE
1-5**

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Niko Wingard 1

Michael Poulignot 1

Ranae Knight 2

Donna Haley 4

Bruce Slaven 5

Richard Cain 5

Noah Hensley 5

Diane Hightower 6

Randy Kirk;in 8

Aliyah Williamson 8

Rhonda Weems 10

Jean Slaven 10

Jakob Higley 10

Deb Griffin 11

Wayne Quist 13

Judy Bieroth 15



CPR, AED & FIRST AID TRAINING

**JUNE 13TH
\$43 EACH**

8AM-12:30 PM
HBBC CLC

LIMITED SPACE - SIGN UP
IN THE WELCOME CENTER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BASKETBALL CAMP

AGES 7 THROUGH 12 YEARS OLD

**JULY
6TH - 8TH**

9 AM - 12 PM

\$15

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE
AT CHURCH FOR THOSE IN NEED**

**HOLLY BROOK BAPTIST
CHURCH GYM**

3219 S FM 2869, HAWKINS, TX 75765

**REGISTER AT
HBBC.LIVE**



**OR SCAN THE
QR CODE!**



JUNE

June 1st-5th
Vacation Bible School

June 2nd
Holly Stitches - 9am

June 5th
Youth- Swim Party 12pm

June 7th-10th
SBC Convention-
Orlando

June 10th
Library Storytime - 11am

June 13th
CPR Class - 8am

WEEKLY

Monday
Choir Practice - 5p

Tuesday
Men's Bible Study-8a

Wednesday
Youth Group
5:30p - Dinner
6p - Class Starts

Thursday
Men's Bible Study-
7:30a

Game Night - 5p

Friday
Pickleball - 2p

Dru Woods & her
PUPPETS



**HBBC
SUMMER
STORY TIME**

**WEDNESDAY
JUNE 10TH
10AM-11AM**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**ART
CAMPS**



**I scream, you scream
we all scream for
ICE CREAM**

Fun Summer Art Camp Filled with
all things ice cream

June 18th 10am-2pm

**Make an ice cream sunday out of clay
plus, paint and draw too!**



**Holly Brook Baptist Church
Hawkins Texas**

10:00am -2:00 pm \$55 per student
k- 5th grade

**Text or call Jennifer McCrary
903-343-8925**



ART CAMP

SOOO much fun with Color
Paint ,draw, and fun with Clay

JULY 9TH 10AM-2PM

10:00 am - 2:00 pm

**Holly Brook Baptist
Church
Hawkins, TX**

K- 5th grade \$55 per student

Text or call Jennifer McCrary

(903) 343-8925



**Baseball
& Softball
Camp**

JULY 20-22

JARVIS CHRISTIAN COLLEGE

AGES: 7 -12 | 9AM - 12PM | \$15 PER PERSON

ANCHORED



Hebrews 6:19

PRE-TEEN CAMP

Ages 9-12

July 27-30, 2026

**Camp Cost:
\$50/person**

**Contact Tori with any
questions!**