

Hepzibah

Baptist Church

Meeting you at the Crossroads



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Church Office Hours
Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

We have started mandatory New Member's classes and are taking the 9 adults who have come forward to join our fellowship in the last few weeks through the classes. The youth and children who have been baptized recently were given age appropriate materials also.

One might ask why we need to have New Member's classes? The sad reality is many churches are struggling with new member retention. The average church, if there is such a thing, will average keeping only 25%-50% of its new members. That is two years after they have joined 50%-75% of those new members will no longer be actively attending that church.

One of the solutions for closing the back door is New Member's classes. Studies show that mandatory New Member's Classes are more effective in membership retention. In fact, Thom S. Rainer in his book, *Surprising Insights from the Unchurched and Proven Ways to Reach Them*, shows mandatory New Member's classes are almost 40% more effective in retention than if a church simply has a New Members class but it is neither expected nor required.

Some of the many reasons for the higher retention is the classes themselves help people understand the church and church structure, helps guard the purity of the church by making sure the people know Jesus as Lord and Savior prior to becoming a member, helps them find their place to serve in the church, helps guard the unity in the church, helps the people build relationships with the Pastor of the church and much more.

For me as Senior Pastor, I value the work and church that God has assigned to me as Under Sheppard (1 Peter 5:2-4) too much to simply see new members come for a season and stop or fail to see them effectively partner with us in the Gospel (Phil 1:5) as part of our church family. Our mission is simply too important as it is God's mission!

In Christ,
Pastor Justin Milliken



Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Dedication Sunday, November 11th Our goal this year is 150 boxes

GIFT SUGGESTIONS:

"WOW" Item: Outfit, Shoes, Musical Instrument, Soccer Ball with Pump, Stuffed Animal, Doll
Toys: Toy Cars, Jump Ropes, Yo-yos, Toys that light up and make noise (with extra batteries)

Accessories: Socks, Hats, Sunglasses, Hair Clips, Jewelry and Watches, Flashlights (with extra batteries), etc.

Non-Liquid Hygiene Items: Toothbrushes, Bar Soap, combs, washcloths

School Supplies: Pens, Pencils and Sharpeners, Crayons, Markers, Notebooks, Paper, Solar Calculators, Coloring and Picture Books

A Personal Note: You may enclose a note to the child and a photo of yourself, your family or group. If you include your name and address, the child may be able to write back.

Do Not Include: Candy, Toothpaste, Used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures; chocolate or food; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

Student Ministry

On October 6th, the youth went on a kayaking trip to Talladega Creek and enjoyed the great outdoors. They also participated in Baker's Farm on October 13th. They also will be attending Revelation Walk at Eden Westside Baptist Church on October 20th. The youth will also be participating in the Fall Festival on October 24th and we encourage all to come and join us for this event. October 27th is our youth pancake breakfast at the church from 7am to 9am. This event will help raise money for sending Hepzibah's youth to Xtreme Winter and allow them to experience God through worship. October 30th some of our youth will serve in the Square Outreach event in Talladega.

Children's Ministry

October 13th was a family day at Baker's Farm. We had a total of 17 people who traveled with us for a beautiful Saturday morning. On October 14th we had a lunch event in support of Operation Christmas Child. This event helped raised money for shoeboxes along with raising money to send those shoeboxes to children. On October 24th, we will host our annual Fall Festival at Hepzibah Baptist Church from 5:30pm to 8:30pm featuring our live version of Clue. We will also be having a silent cake auction to help support sending shoeboxes through Operation Christmas Child. This event welcomes our entire community to come join us for fun, food, and excitement. October 30th we will be having Square Outreach in Talladega from 5pm to 7pm.



THANKSGIVING SERVICE Community Thanksgiving Celebration Sunday, November 18th @ 5:00 PM

Music entertainment will be provided by The Renfroe Mountain Medicine Show. Please bring your favorite finger foods and join us for this night of community worship. A love offering will be taken for the Renfroe Volunteer Fire Department.

Nursery Workers for November

November 4 - Luke & Alana Ford
November 11 - Ann West & Susie Davis
November 18 - Leigh Ann Sims & Paulette Vick
November 25 - Sandra Hart & Troy Ann Challender

THIS MONTH USHERS

Larry Penington
Ronnie Ray
Bill Shoemaker
Ricky Vick

Upcoming Events

Men on Mission - Sunday, November 4th, 7:00 a.m.

Faith Outreach - Sunday, November 4th, 3:45 p.m.

Deacons Meeting - Monday, November 5th, 6:00 p.m.

Children's Committee Meeting - Wednesday,

November 7th, 5:00 p.m.

Parlor Reserved - Saturday, November 10th, Rachel Crowe

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Dedication - Sunday,
November 11th, 10:30 a.m.

Faith Outreach - Sunday, November 11th, 3:45 p.m.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Collection Week -

Monday, November 12th - Monday, November 19th

Business Meeting - Wednesday, November 14th, 6:00 p.m.

Young-at-Heart - Thursday, November 15th, 10:30 a.m. We will

watch a DVD of Christian Comedian, Aaron Wilburn,

Community Thanksgiving Service - Sunday, November 18th,
5:00 p.m. The Renfroe Mountain Medicine Show will be our special
guests. A Love Offering for the Renfroe Volunteer Fire Department
will be taken.

Thanksgiving Church Office Closed - Thursday, November 22nd &
Friday, November 23rd

Church Council Meeting - Tuesday, November 27th, 10:00 a.m.

Samaritan House - Wednesday, November 28th, James & Brenda
Lawson & Linda Wallace