

Hebron Happenings

A Note from Jason,

We have been making our way through some of the major parts of Philippians on Sunday mornings. One of the major themes that runs throughout the letter is that of joy and rejoicing. The most memorable phrases comes in Philippians 4:4: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again, I say Rejoice!" It is an exuberant exclamation and exhortation from the Apostle Paul to the congregation. I can only imagine the Philippians response but perhaps it was one of wonder and maybe even a little confusion.

You see, things were not easy for the early church. There were sporadic persecutions and often those who became Christians were shunned by family and neighbors. In fact earlier in the letter Paul addresses the fact that they are experiencing some difficult times and sharing similar struggles he has faced. Not only are the Philippians dealing with some difficult times but Paul is writing this letter from prison! How on earth can he then encourage the congregation to "Rejoice in the Lord always" from prison?

This is a reasonable question and one that should be taken seriously. Does rejoicing always mean we don't admit when things are difficult or try to suppress our true emotions when going through difficult times? Any good Psychologist will tell you that simply trying to repress your anxiety and sadness to put on a 'happy face' will not work. In the end those emotions will come out in other more harmful ways. So how is it possible for us to rejoice in the Lord always?

I think the key that makes it possible for us to 'rejoice in the Lord always' is the phrase 'in the Lord.' In other words, it isn't that we are to rejoice 'in our circumstances' always or in the

terrible things that are going on in the world but 'in the Lord.' Why, because we believe that the Lord will not leave or forsake us no matter what our current circumstances are – whether good or bad – and in that fact we can rejoice. This is why Paul can rejoice 'in the Lord' while in prison because he knows, no matter what, God the father in Christ and through the Spirit is with him.

So, friends as we move through the book of Philippians in this season let us echo the words of the Apostle Paul and 'rejoice **in the Lord** always.' "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus." (Philippians 4:7)

God Bless,
Jason



Jason experiencing Joy driving a tractor for the first time!



You are invited to watch the Steelers game on Sunday, October 8, at 1:00 on the new 85-inch 8K television with a very good surround sound system in Fellowship Hall. Soft drinks and sloppy joes will be provided. Feel free to bring your favorite snack to share. We can celebrate or commiserate together depending on how they play. Invite your family, friends, etc. All are welcome.

Hospitality

You can sign up to bring snacks for hospitality. Please also take any leftovers home with you!

Kitchen Clean Up

The Deacons are coordinating kitchen cleaning on October 7th and 14th from 9a.m.- 1p.m. Sign-up sheets to volunteer are at the back of the sanctuary. We will also make a registry of items needed in the church kitchen so that they can be donated by those who wish to give a gift.



Kitchen Shower

A luncheon and shower to gift items needed in the church kitchen will be held after church service. You are invited to join us for soup, salad, and cake!

October Hebron Book Club News

We will announce the next date for Book Club at Hebron. We had to postpone the last meeting, so haven't picked a book or a date for the next time. It's a fun group and a good discussion. It's a place to get to know people better!!



Homecoming Sunday

November 5th will be a special Sunday at Hebron. We are inviting people who were a part of the Hebron family in the past to come back for a Sunday to worship with us and to enjoy a fellowship meal after the service. The deacons are arranging for a light lunch and are asking us to make cookies for this special occasion.



We don't know how many will respond, but we hope to see more people in the pews that Sunday. We will be asking everyone to wear nametags. There will be a sign-up for you to indicate that you plan to be there, so we can anticipate how many tables to set up and how much food will be needed.

Those outside those of us currently attending worship are asked to RSVP to Sami Blattner at the church office, to let her know how many will be joining us and the best way to contact them. They can call and leave a message at 724-899-2276 or send an e-mail to hebronchurch1767@gmail.com

Mission Campaign to Raise \$750

Small gifts. Big impact.

The "Garden Well" campaign is off to a good start with \$350 raised towards the goal of \$750. The Mission committee is matching the \$750 in order to reach the grand total of \$1,500 for the cost of a well and hand pump to help a community in a developing country have fresh water. This campaign is in partnership with the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. A well and hand pump provide a reliable and convenient source of clean water for drinking, bathing, washing and irrigation. Access to clean water, close to home, can transform a life — improving health, hygiene and daily living. Please consider donating. Special "Garden Well" envelopes are located in the pew racks or mail your donation to the church. Include "Garden Well" in the memo line of your check.

Give. Act. Pray. The Hebron Responds to the Wildfires. The Hebron Mission Committee has recently sent \$500 through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to support emergency and long term relief efforts for those affected by these catastrophic wildfires on the island of Maui.

October Fellowship Events at Hebron

Game Night:

Game Night in October will be on October 21st at 6:30 pm. We have all ages!! You can bring your favorite game and a snack to share....or just bring yourself.

Bonfire Night

There will be a bonfire at the pavilion on October 28th at 6pm. Please bring a chair. We hope to see you there!



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