

NONPROFIT
PERMIT NO.
250
Longview, TX

WOODLAND HILLS
BAPTIST CHURCH
preparing people for the coming Lord
2105 East Loop 281
Longview, Texas 75605
903.757.3110

Monthly Newsletter of
Woodland Hills Baptist Church
| March 2017

the connection



weekly schedule

SUNDAY

8:45am Coffee & Donuts
9:15am Sunday School
10:30am Worship
6:00pm Children's Choir
6:00pm Worship & The Word

MONDAY

5:30pm Meal
6:15pm Celebration Place
6:30pm Celebrate Recovery

WEDNESDAY

5:15pm Fellowship Meal
6:00pm AWANA
6:00pm HillsPraise Choir Practice
6:00pm Youth
6:15pm Adult Bible Study

whbchurch.com

Daylight Savings Time
Begins March 12.
Don't forget to set your clocks
forward before you go to bed.



Every Wednesday, 6:15pm
Main Worship Center
Old Fashioned Camp Meeting
Service for everyone!

MARCH 17 & 18, 2017
THE
STRENGTH
OF A
CHAMPION
MEN'S CONFERENCE

\$25 PER PERSON
TICKETS AVAILABLE
ONLINE AT
WWW.WHBCHURCH.COM

JIMMY HOUSTON **JOHNNY HUNT** **JONATHAN EVANS**

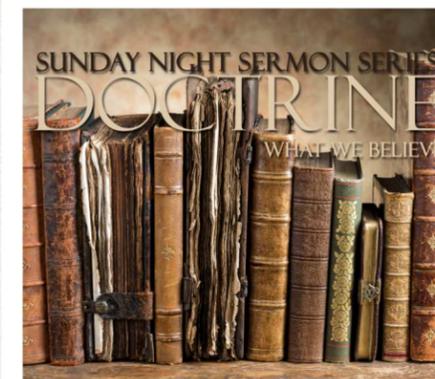
Cruise with us April 22-29, 2017

Adventure awaits while you are whisked off aboard the Carnival Freedom to Montego Bay, Grand Cayman, and Cozumel. Call Church Office for Details.

Building for Eternity

you can be a part.

Building for Eternity
March 26-May 14, 2017
Woodland Hills voted in our last Business Meeting to begin raising funds to build a new Preschool and Children's Building. Details will be coming soon. Begin praying now about what God would have you do to make this a reality!





from my heart
Bro. Charles Hunt

importance of the second coming of Christ but not only that but that they fully understand their responsibility as the people of God in light of the second coming of Christ.

So what do we do until Jesus comes again? I believe we are to continue to love Christ, live for Christ, and look for Christ. And the primary way we can do that in 2012 is by being involved in the local New Testament Church... aka Woodland Hills Baptist Church.

Why is the church important? Because the Bible says that is what it means to continue in Christ. We know our body, as a body we function together not apart from one another but with one another. We are dependent upon one another. We are the body of Christ. That is what the church is. So we owe our church:

1) Our prayers. The Bible says we are to pray for one another. Samuel said, "God forbid that I should sin against the Lord by ceasing to pray for you."

2) We owe the church our person. That is our life belongs to the church, our gifts belong to the church. The gifts that God has given me to preach and teach the word of God and to

exhort and to encourage and to challenge came from the Lord but they don't belong to me, they belong to the Lord and the church. They belong to you, the body of Christ. My gifts are for your benefit and your gifts are for my benefit. The gifts that God has given you to uniquely serve Him and to build up the body.

3) We owe the church our participation. To participate means to exercise your gifts in the body of Christ.

4) You owe the church your pocket book or your tithe. The Bible says, "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse" and Paul picked up that idea and he said, "Upon the first day of the week, let every one of you lay by him in store as God has prospered him." The latest statistic this week that was revealed is that less than 3% of Christians tithe.

May God continue to bless His ministry and work as we labor together!

Preparing People For The Coming Lord,
Bro. Charles

MAKE the connection
 Bro. Kason Kuykendall

Were you to ever venture just north of San Francisco into Muir Woods, you would find an incredible forest of Sequoia trees. Sequoias are sometimes referred to as the largest living things on earth, reaching almost 250 feet in the air and standing for as many as fifteen hundred years.

You would probably assume that deep roots would be the fundamental reasons the sequoias could date back a few decades from the collapse of the Roman Empire. That is not the case at all, because each tree's roots grow only about four feet deep in the ground, while going deeper helps many trees remain upright, the Sequoia has not overcome the difficulties of life because of its depth.

If you looked around, you would notice that Sequoia trees grow only in groves. While their roots go only about four feet deep into the ground, their roots intermingle with the other Sequoias next to them. One tree has other trees surrounding it, supporting it and keeping it strong. Each tree stands strong through the centuries because each tree depends on others.

No believer is transformed alone. Life-Groups are so important, because it is during this time that we gain a sense of community, friendship, accountability, and comfort.

Does it really matter if you are involved in a small group or not?

Take a moment and look at the results of a recent study that found the practical life differences between someone who just attends worship and someone who is involved in a small group:

Question	Did not attend a group?	Attended a group 4+ times a month
I intentionally spend time with other believers in order to help them grow in their faith.	22%	63%
I have developed significant relationships with people at my church.	57%	89%
I am intentionally putting my spiritual gift(s) to use serving God and others.	42%	73%
Throughout the day I find myself thinking about Biblical truths.	45%	74%

Spiritual Discipline	Did not attend a group	Attended a group 4+ times a month.
Read the Bible	27%	67%
Pray for my church and/or church leaders	30%	64%
Pray for fellow Christians I know	54%	82%
Pray for the spiritual status of people I know who are not professing Christians	35%	60%
Confess my sins and wrongdoings to God and ask for forgiveness.	54%	79%

Behavior that is characteristic of a growing disciple	Did not attend a group	Attended a group 4+ times a month.
About what percentage of your total annual income (before taxes) do you contribute to your local church?	6.07%	10.34%
Are you currently involved in ministries or projects that serve people in the community that are not affiliated with your church?	26%	47%
Do you currently have regular responsibilities at your church (for example: greeter, teacher, musician, etc.)?	25%	63%

I shared this information several years ago, but the reality is still true. If you want to grow spiritually please consider joining a LifeGroup. Maybe you have been putting it off, maybe you are new to WHBC and have not felt comfortable yet, but I want to challenge you to commit today to giving a small group a shot. I am confident that you will be glad that you did!

WOODLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

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What a tremendous month February was at Woodland Hills! I truly believe we have become a closer, more loving, and more unified church than ever before. Thanks for participating in the "I LOVE MY CHURCH" emphasis.

1 John was written to the early church and there is much in it of encouragement, of comfort but there is also much in it about challenge. One of the things John was concerned with was that the believers not lose sight of the

CARMAN LIVE - A CINEMASONIC EXPERIENCE
 IT'S A CONCERT. A MOVIE. A PLAY. A CRUSADE. A MUST SEE EVENT!

Thursday, April 20, 2017
Doors 6pm/Concert 7pm
Tickets Available through the church office
General Admission \$12 & VIP \$102

Join men from all over the East Texas region and let's become the men God wants us to be

MAR 27

MAN CHURCH

[6 PM] Food Served
[7 PM] Word Served

Speaker:
Dr. Rick Scarborough

Woodland Hills Baptist Church
 2105 East Loop 281, Longview, Texas 75605



WOODLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

Hilltoppers

SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

SAVE THE *Dates*

THURSDAY, March 16 at 11:00am

Due to Bro. Jason being at Mission Arlington HillToppers will be moved to Thursday, March 16. Mark your calendars!

Tuesday, March 28 at 11:00am

We will have a special guest speaker, Sergeant Lair from the Longview Police Department. He will talk about how we as HillToppers can protect ourselves as well as what is happening in Longview.



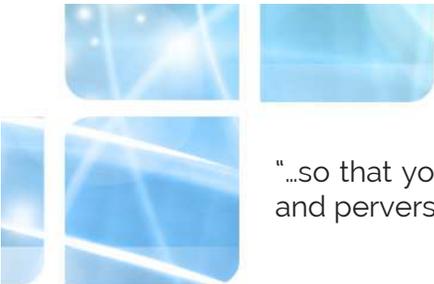
HillToppers Road Trip to David Beard's on Tuesday, February 28.



The rain may have come but what a great "I LOVE MY HILLTOPPERS" Banquet. Tremendous food, fellowship and music featuring the Tipps Trio!

HillToppers Connection List

If you would like to be added to the HillToppers Connection List please sign up at the connection center.



God Is Giving Christians a Unique Opportunity

By Joe McKeever

"...so that you may be blameless and pure, children of God who are faultless in a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine like stars in the world" (Philippians 2:15).



For most of the decades of my life—I arrived in 1940—Christians were in a majority in this country, and it was pretty much agreed that ours was a Christian nation. If anyone countered that, we never heard it. We sang hymns in school and decorated for Christmas and even dismissed classes so those who wished could attend a local church service or see a religious film. As a young pastor, I was invited to preach Christian messages to student bodies of public high schools. No one mentioned a limitation of any kind. Those days are over. The nation has changed.

Blame it on whatever forces you choose—immigration, the influx of other religions, the influence of the devil, the encroachment of the world, sin—it has happened and it is here. This country is never going to be what it was. It's

never going to be the way it was.

The Lord's people living in these United States have been handed a choice. We can bellyache and blame and lose our religion. We spend our time and energies blaming Obama and the Clintons and liberalism and Communism and materialism. We can accuse Osama bin Ladin and ISIS and Hussein and radical Islam. We can credit illegal aliens and the Internet and pornography. We can fight with one another and argue over what steps we should have taken to reverse this decline and whose fault it was we didn't.

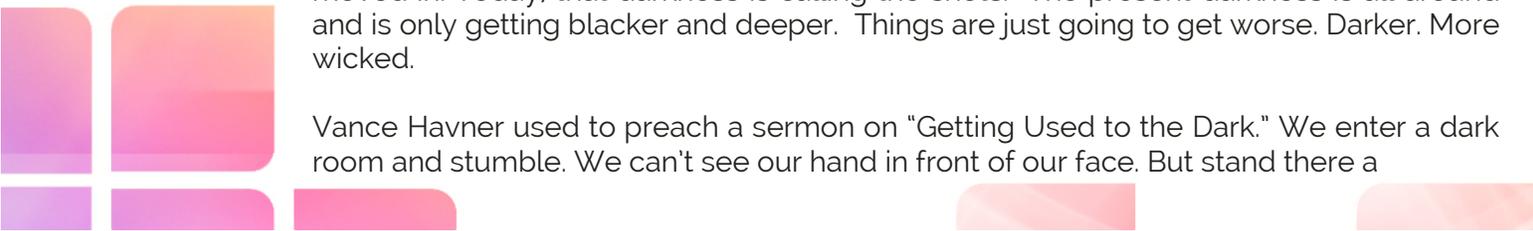
Or we can man up and seize this opportunity. We can forget about blaming and accept that it is what it is, and the only question now is what would God have me to do...Shine. God would have us to shine. Finally, we get a chance to shine in darkness.

The world has always been dark. Christ came into a dark world. "The light shineth in darkness and the darkness apprehended it not." There was no light time in world history, no era of enlightenment when most people acknowledged God and worshiped Christ and believed the Bible. If you think otherwise, you're fooling only yourself.

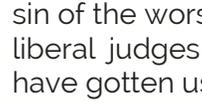
However, the superficial veneer of religion that our country lived with for generations masked a deeper problem of sin. The country may have given lip service to the pre-eminence of Christ and its debt to the Judeo-Christian tradition and its need for godly citizens, but much of that was so much talk. In World War II, both FDR and Winston Churchill spoke of the battle of Christendom against the forces of darkness. Everyone, it seemed, sang "Onward Christian Soldiers" as kind of a national rallying song. But those who truly knew the Lord were not fooled.

Today, those whose nostalgia convinces them the nation was godlier and more righteous "when I was young" are probably fooling themselves. In some respects the veneer of righteousness and religiosity made it harder for true disciples of Jesus. We were respected and Christ was honored and then we were ignored. Corrupt politicians and dishonest merchants and other immoral, unethical citizens gave lip-service to God and the church. In those days people said to me, "I don't know anyone who is not a Christian." Those enrolled in soul winning classes I taught didn't know anyone to witness to.

But no longer. The darkness—always lurking in the corners and looking for a way to advance—gradually moved in. Today, that darkness is calling the shots. The present darkness is all around and is only getting blacker and deeper. Things are just going to get worse. Darker. More wicked.



Vance Havner used to preach a sermon on "Getting Used to the Dark." We enter a dark room and stumble. We can't see our hand in front of our face. But stand there a



moment and your eyes dilate and adjust and you begin to see more. Eventually, you adjust and walk on. We do this with morality. What is accepted today was once acknowledged as sin of the worst order. But through the influence of movies and the decisions of liberal judges and the like, those old standards now seem archaic. And we have gotten used to it and accept it as the norm.

Millions of Christians in this country now defend Roe v. Wade and accept that aborting unborn babies is not immoral. On the other hand, many of those same people will scream to high heaven when a dog or cat is mistreated or a baby

seal is slaughtered. We have become used to the dark. And it's not a pretty thing.

The deeper the darkness, the greater the need for God's people to let their light shine. "You are the light of the world," said our Lord. And He said, "Let your light so shine that men may see your good works and glorify your Father who is in Heaven." We have mouthed those words for generations without feeling the urgency of obeying them. No longer.

The time for shining our light is now; the place is here. God's people must be willing to stand apart from the majority, to not participate in the pagan celebrations and rituals, and yet to be Christlike while doing it. They must speak love and show love at all times, remembering that to love one's enemy, according to our Savior in Luke 6:27-38, means doing good to those who hate us, blessing those who curse us, praying for those who threaten us and giving to those who would take from us what is not theirs. The light is love. Love is something we do. Loving others means doing good, blessing, praying, giving. This darkness is our opportunity.

We must be willing to be scoffed at and persecuted for holding to the truths of Scripture, if we are to be true to Him. Let us be faithful and consistent in our devotion to Christ. Above our loyalty and patriotism is our devotion to Jesus Christ. There will be times when we will have to disobey a bad law. We may find ourselves saying, "We must obey God and not man." And when that happens, we must be willing to pay the consequence. And when we are jailed or persecuted or put on trial for faithfulness, we must not plan what to say when asked why we did what we did. It will be given us in that hour what we are to say, for it will not be us speaking, but the Holy Spirit (Matthew 10:16ff).

More and more, this is what the immediate future for the USA looks like. How it will appear in the long run no one knows yet. But one thing we know: Our hope is in the Lord Jesus Christ and not in any government or nation or political entity.

Let us determine: We will be faithful.

-We will do everything without grumbling and arguing (Philippians 2:14).

-We will strive to be blameless and pure (Philippians 2:15).

-We will hold firmly the message of life (Philippians 2:16).

When we do these simple but increasingly difficult things, we will gradually see several things: the culture around us puzzled as to how to treat us, some Christians attacking us for not being more active in opposing the wrong-doers, and one by one, people in the darkness recognizing that the way of darkness holds nothing but misery and there must be a better way. Then, one by one, as we are faithful some will turn to us and come to Christ.

Let us be faithful. And let us diligently teach our children and prepare them for life in a hostile environment. Many of God's best have wondered how they would do in a foreign culture, one that was opposed to everything we stand for. Now, we are beginning to find out. Let us be faithful.



"Those who are wise will shine like the bright expanse of the heavens, and those who lead many to righteousness like the stars forever and ever" (Daniel 12:3).





THE STRENGTH OF A CHAMPION

with Professional Bass Fisherman Jimmy Houston

EXPERIENCE A DYNAMIC WEEKEND WITHOUT TRAVELING HUNDREDS OF MILES

MARCH 17TH & 18TH, 2017
WOODLAND HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
LONGVIEW, TX

FEATURING JIMMY HOUSTON
AMERICA'S FAVORITE FISHERMAN
WITH JOHNNY HUNT & JONATHAN EVANS

Conference Theme: The Strength of a Champion (This conference is designed to help men be real champions in their relationship with God, family, friends, and their witness)

Conference Date: Friday, March 17 & Saturday, March 18

Conference Cost: \$25.00 per man (includes dinner on Friday night, breakfast on Saturday morning breakfast, conference handouts, conference program, and the chance to win great door prizes, and a great time of fellowship with hundreds of other men)

Conference Schedule:

Friday Dinner at 5:00 p.m. (Limited to 500 seats)

Friday Night Session begins at 6:45 p.m. ending about 9:30 p.m.

Saturday Breakfast at 7:30 a.m.

Saturday Morning Session at 9:00 a.m. ending about noon

Conference Speakers:

- Jimmy Houston - Known as "America's Favorite Fisherman" (Session 3 Saturday Morning)
- Johnny Hunt - Pastor, First Baptist Church, Woodstock (Session 1 & 2 Friday Night)
- Jonathan Evans - A mentor, author, speaker, former NFL fullback and son of Dr. Tony Evans (Session 4 Saturday Morning)

The Upper Room

Children's Ministry

Books of the Bible Contest Still Underway

Children have been challenged to learn the Books of the Bible in 66 days. (one a day) We began on January 1st and will finish on March 7th. On Sunday, March 12th, we will have our Books of the Bible Contest! Any child who can say them will get to choose a prize. Then we will have a race for a Toys R Us Gift Card for the Fastest 3! If any child can say them faster than Mrs. Mayfield she will have to swim in a **tub of green slime!**

Donations Needed

Our Easter EGGStravaganza will be held on April 15 beginning at 10:30. Donations for plastic Easter eggs and individual wrapped candy are needed. All donations can be dropped off in the foyer area at the church.

Kid's Praise Children's Choir

Sunday Evenings 6:00-7:00

Faith Explosion Kids Camp

Date: July 24 - 27, 2017

Children who have COMPLETED 3rd through 5th grade.

Cost \$140 (\$40 Deposit Due April 15th)

AWANA

March 1 - Testimony Night

March 8 - Camp In Night

March 15 - NO AWANA (Spring Break)

March 22 - Doubles Night

March 29 - AWANA's Got Talent

Sunday School Preview

March 5 - Ezra read the Law

March 12 - Malachi the Prophet

March 19 - From Abraham to Jesus

March 26 - Jesus at the Temple



About Mission Arlington

Core Values - Taking Church to the People



When Mission Arlington® began in August of 1986, the idea was to help people find their way back into church. We subsequently discovered that many people felt disconnected from the church in general.

It's not that churches weren't friendly or inviting, but that there seemed to be some a barrier in the minds and hearts of people, making it difficult for them to connect. We decided then that if people couldn't come to the church, for whatever reason, we would take the church to them.

Today people of all ages gather each week to hear the Bible taught in multiple languages in 349 locations in Arlington and the larger Dallas/Fort Worth region. We meet in neighborhood homes, apartment club houses, mobile home parks and in any other location where people can gather together to hear God's Word.

- www.missionarlington.org

WinterJam

March 4 from 3:00 - 11:00pm

We will be leaving the church 2pm on Saturday and should return between 10-11pm that night. Cost is \$10 plus money for one fast food meal.

Spring Break Mission Trip

March 12 - March 15

Location: Mission Arlington

We will be leaving Sunday morning after the service and heading to Arlington, Texas to work side by side with Mission Arlington. Please keep our students and sponsors in your prayers! You can find updates each night on facebook.com/illuminatestudentsofWHBC

Volunteer of the Month

Barry Cates

Barry drives one of our buses each week and we are so thankful for his faithfulness to God's Kingdom and his support of the student ministry.



Prayer List for Mission Arlington Trip

Jason Hunt Caleb Purifoy Will Cantrell
Holly Fondren Alyssa Gibson Brianna Lansdale
James Owen Ryan Foulke Blake Hudson
Timothy Owen Caylee Mayfield Skylar Fondren
Brendyn Hopper Dale Dawes Dylan Summerlin
Trinity Irby Brianna Young Gage Green



March 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 Arabella Service 10:00am	2 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Kindermusik 6:00pm Jump Start 6:00pm Eden Place Meal/Service Hosted by The Mix LifeGroup 6:00pm	3 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am Adult Game Night 6:00pm	4
5 Women's Bible Study 5:00pm	6	7 Men's Breakfast 6:00pm Shamgar 8:30am Jump Start 6:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm	8 Arabella Service 10:00am	9 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Kindermusik 6:00pm Jump Start 6:00pm	10 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am	11 Kindermusik Playdate 10:00am
12 Women's Bible Study 5:00pm	13	14 Jump Start 6:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm	15 Arabella Service 10:00am	16 Hawkins Creek 10:15am HillToppers 11:00am Kindermusik 6:00pm Jump Start 6:00pm	17 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am Men's Conference	18 Men's Conference
19 Women's Bible Study 5:00pm	20	21 Shamgar 8:30am Jump Start 6:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm	22 Arabella Service 10:00am	23 Hawkins Creek 10:15am Kindermusik 6:00pm Jump Start 6:00pm Page Place II 6:30pm	24 Kindermusik 9:30 & 10:30am	25
26 Women's Bible Study 5:00pm	27 Man Church Meal 6:00pm Service 7:00pm Dr. Rick Scarborough	28 HillToppers 11:00am Jump Start 6:00pm Bible Study 6:30pm	29	30	31	1



March Birthdays & Anniversaries

1-Alex Chen	8-Chloe Burnett	16-Mike Riddick	23-Gracie Lautaret
1-Kiley Hill	8-Mikey Smith	16-Dane Sullivan	23-Kaydence Rogers
1-K insley Hill	9-Glynda Jones	17-Matt Folmar	24-Alexus Clemens
1-Stacy Pevey	9-Jaemyn Quinn	17-Milton Gibson	25-Caitlin Daugherty
2-Lane Walraven	9-Gregg Story	17-Jessie Hill	25-Guy Walker
3-Julie Canales	10-Clayton Brooks	17-Rachel Overholt	26-Trinity Irby
3-Aubrey Coleman	10-Sabrina Cross	18-Ronnie Jones	26-Tommy Williamson
3-Misty Persinger	10-Braxton McNeal	18-Ruth Overholt	27-Dan Adams
4-Camilla Childress	10-Dylan Summerlin	19-Ben Downey	27-Sabrina Jones
4-Bill Daugherty	11-Daryl Liles	19-Andi Keys	28-Charles Fanguy
4-Jonathan Pevey	11-Kristen Liles	19-Connie Merimon	29-Deanne Gibson
5-Margie Morgan	11-Traci Lovelady	19-Betty Mosley	29-Ben Nguyen
6-Major Burnett	14-Rudy Downey	20-Robert Childress	30-Bac Nguyen
6-Yudy Pruski	14-Corrinn Johnson	20-Ryan Foulke	31-Jim Hargett
6-Steve Williamson	14-Anita Nolan	20-Christine Mason	31-Maryann Thomas
7-Kathi Hunter	14-Rodney Rancour	20-Haley Rogers	31-Jody Wilkinson
7-Kelsy Nickleberry	14-Larry Symons	21-Makena Ellis	
7-Sandy Sanders	24-Christopher Layton	22-Mark Humphrey	
7-Shelly Stewart	16-Katelyn Perryman	23-Rhonda Foster	

2-Tom & Doris Moore	9-Danny & Kellie Miller	19-Vernon & Jerrie Dunn
7-Austin & Morgan Rhoades	15-Jeremy & Donisha Hudson	26-Prince & Sara Amos
8-Robert & Debbie Nichols	17-Leroy & Peggy Worsham	29-Gerald & Mary Bobo