

# West Hill Baptist Church Newsletter

Issue Dates: January- March 2025

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## Words from Our Leader

### Pastor's Desk

1 Peter 4:8 offers a powerful word of encouragement for any congregation: *"Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins."*

This verse reminds the church to prioritize love in all things. In times of challenge or difficulty, love remains the greatest force for unity and healing. As a congregation, embracing this deep, unconditional love for one another helps build strong, compassionate relationships, fostering an atmosphere of grace and forgiveness. It encourages believers to go beyond surface-level interactions and truly care for each other, covering over faults and imperfections with grace. This love becomes a witness to the world of God's transformative power within His people.

## Youth Corner

Our youth has been on fire for the Lord these past months. They are not only taking an active role in the community, but they are supporting the growth of this church. We are very thankful to see them taking leadership roles in the Usher, Choir, and Sunday School Ministries.



## Men & Boy's Ministry



The Bluestone-Harmony Baptist Association & Ministries held its 30th Annual Men & Boys Banquet on March 15th at 4:00 P.M. The theme was “Do More Than Dream,” "But Watch Out For the Dream Killers!"

Deacon Jessie Craig served as the worship leader for this program. Our young men, Cir'Amaude Reavis, DaMarcus Lee, and DaMontaye Lee accompanied by Deacon Walter Craig represented well. We are proud of their dedication and determination to hold firm to the scripture that says, “Behold how good and pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity.”

## A/B Honor Roll

Daylen Craig

Destiny Hymon

Makiya Lee

Jayden Craig

DaMarcus Lee

Mariah Lee.

## Youth's Sport Activities



DaMarcus played basketball for the Lunenburg Youth Basketball Association. DaMarcus played for the Legends. They were undefeated and they were season champions. The team also won the overall championship.



DaMontaye played basketball for the Lunenburg Youth Basketball Association. DaMontaye played for the Stormtroopers. They lost all but one game during the regular season, but ended up winning the overall championship defeating the first place team.

# News Events

## What's New?

- Congratulations to Deacon Jessie Craig! A date has been set for him to preach his initial sermon on June 29, 2025 at 2 P.M. Let's support him in his calling to the preaching ministry.
- Congratulations to Sister Stacy Craig on her QPR (Question Persuasion and Referral) Gatekeeper Certification. The certification provides her training to, have encouraging conversations, look for signs and refer people struggling with suicidal tendencies and substance abuse to seek professional help. She plans to continue her training in Mental Health First Aid.
- Moving forward, the Communication and Media Ministry will only print out hardcopies of the newsletter upon request. The newsletters can still be viewed through the church website [WHBC Newsletters](#).
- New community resources are available on the church website. There is information for scholarship opportunities as well as mental health services for Southside Virginia Residents.

# Educational Events

## Bible Study

Our Church has had a blessed time studying the Word of God. We learned about the different kinds of lies and how they impact the lives of Christians. We discussed ways to recognize a healthy church. We looked at the conning ways Satan will slide into our DM (Daily Ministry) to make us believe he is the soul purpose for our existence.

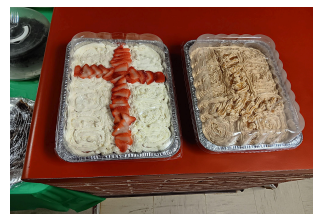
We took this magnificent journey exploring some of the sixty-six books of the Bible. Our own Pastor Melissa Hymon taught for several weeks. She then passed the teaching torch to Sister Stacy Craig, Deaconess Thelma Craig, Deacon Jessie Craig, and Deacon Walter Craig.

Each online class welcomed members as well as guests from New Grove, Tussekiah, Bethany, Flat Rock, and Concord.

## A Moment In Black History



West Hill is a church who knows the importance of learning, sharing, and keeping our heritage alive. We realize teaching about the great achievements of our past will inspire greater accomplishments in the future. Each Sunday, during the month of February, positive figures or events were highlighted during the Sunday School Hour. Brief points were discussed, and pictures were shown regarding the topics. Some of the historical lessons were about Henry Box Brown, Booker T. Washington, the Middle Passage, and Douglas Wilder. We then finished off the month with a soul food luncheon. This luncheon gave everyone an opportunity to enjoy many fabulous dishes of our heritage. We encourage our members to continue educating themselves and others about Black History through research and conversations. It is another way to learn how God has truly blessed us as a people.





# Prayer Workshop



Rev. Melissa Hymon and Deacon Jessie Craig tag-teamed to lead a powerful workshop entitled, “How To Pray.” The purpose of the workshop was to help our youth learn and deepen in the art of prayer.

Rev. Hymon first posed the 5 W’s.

**Who** do we pray to?

**What** do we pray for?

**When** do we pray?

**Where** do we pray?

**Why** do we pray?

Rev. Hymon also used the **A.C.T.S.** Prayer Model to help us learn how to pray.

**A - Adoration** - Acknowledge the great things that God is doing.

**1 Chronicles 29:11** - “Thine, O Lord is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O Lord, and thou art exalted as head above all.”

**C - Confession** - When you confess, you repent.

**Proverbs 28:13** - Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.

**T - Thanksgiving** - When we pray, we have to show God what he has done. We have to be thankful.

**Psalms 95:2**- Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, And make a joyful noise unto him with psalms.

**S - Supplication** - Present your request to God.

**Ephesians 6:18** Praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, and watching thereunto with all perseverance and supplication for all saints;

We also learned that being disconnected from God, saying the same prayer, not believing in what we're praying for, distractions, and confusion are things that hurt our prayer life.

Each attendee was presented a prayer journal. Rev. Hyman also provided scriptures and attendees got to interact by finding that scripture in the Bible and telling who prayed and what happened. She concluded with review questions and prizes.

Deacon Jessie Craig let us know that there are different types of prayers (like the congregational prayer, offertory prayer, closing prayer, etc.) should be simple, direct, brief, and to the point. We must believe in what we are praying for and believe that when we ask, God will answer.

The adults enjoyed the workshop just as much as the youth. We want to thank Rev. Hyman, Deacon Jessie Craig, and all who attended.

Prayer is wonderful, encouraging, holy, life changing, and peaceful. It is our responsibility to make sure that our prayer life is hearty, healthy, and fruitful.

## Gone but Not Forgotten



Brother Roger T. Jackson was called home to be with the Lord on February 7, 2025. He was a former member and pianist at West Hill for many years. Roger was gifted and anointed in ministering the word of God through song. His powerful voice and unique spirit will be missed. We know he is enjoying himself singing in the heavenly choir with his parents and siblings that have gone on before him. West Hill extends their condolences to the Jackson and Callahan Family. Remember that Roger's departure from this world is not goodbye but see you later.



# Activities Page



Bible Pathway  
Adventures

WORKSHEET

## Books of the New Testament Word Scramble

1. NIHTIOARCNS: \_\_\_\_\_
2. IAAGNLTAS: \_\_\_\_\_
3. HIPPNLIPIAS: \_\_\_\_\_
4. BREEHWS: \_\_\_\_\_
5. STIUT: \_\_\_\_\_
6. THAMETW: \_\_\_\_\_
7. IHTTMOY: \_\_\_\_\_
8. KULE: \_\_\_\_\_
9. MESJA: \_\_\_\_\_
10. MRONAS: \_\_\_\_\_
11. EVIRTLOEAN: \_\_\_\_\_
12. OLACISNOSS: \_\_\_\_\_
13. DEJU: \_\_\_\_\_
14. SELNHASAINOTOS: \_\_\_\_\_
15. PHAEISNES: \_\_\_\_\_
16. KMRA: \_\_\_\_\_



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# Upcoming Events

Dates	Events	Time
6/22	Communion Service	12 noon
6/29	Union (Bethany Baptist)	10:00 A.M.
6/29	Deacon Jessie Craig Initial Sermon	2:00 P.M.
7/13	Homecoming & Rally Service	12:00 noon

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[West Hill Baptist Church](#)

**Pastor**

Rev. Melissa Hymon

**Diaconate Chair**

Deacon Jessie Craig

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**Communication & Media Ministry**

Sister Stacy L. Craig  
Deaconess Thelma Craig

