

West Hill Baptist Church Newsletter

Issue Dates: October- December 2025

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Church 116th Anniversary

One hundred sixteen years of being blessed to have a place to serve the Lord. This celebration was filled with joy and memories. It reminded everyone of the awesomeness of God. He allowed a small group of dedicated Christians to build a sanctuary to unite, grow, and to teach our children about His mercy and His grace.

On October 19, 2025, we held an anniversary service in remembrance of the origins of this church. Reverend Dennis King delivered the message. He was accompanied by the Rocky Mount Baptist Church Male Chorus. Everyone in attendance enjoyed gathering in the fellowship hall for a delicious dinner after the service. This was a memorable service that will be added to our rich history.



Words From Our Leader

Pastor Hymon's Desk

As we step into a new year, many of us feel a mix of hope, uncertainty, and expectation. The calendar has turned, but one thing remains unchanged: **our God is faithful.**

Scripture reminds us, “*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever*” (Hebrews 13:8). New years bring new plans, new challenges, and new opportunities, but we walk into them anchored in an unchanging Savior.

Rather than focusing only on resolutions, let us focus on renewal. Focus on renewing our commitment to prayer and our love for God’s Word. As a church family, my prayer is that this year we would ride on renewed strength. Let us move forward together, confident that God is already at work in the days ahead.

Grace and peace to you in the New Year,

Reverend Melissa Hymon

Pastor

Bible Study

West Hill’s Bible Study Classes are thriving! Instructors, members as well as guest attendees make the classes fun and informative while learning the word of God. Most classes are taught by Pastor Hymon, but there are times when other members come to teach. During the month of November, Pastor Hymon took a well needed vacation and in her absence Minister Jessie Craig, Deacon Walter Craig, and Sister Stacy L. Craig taught the lessons.

Minister Jessie Craig taught on the difference between the body, soul, and spirit. Deacon Walter Craig taught about the benefits of worship. Sister Stacy

Craig taught on how to receive and give corrections. Each class was filled with valuable information that the listeners could apply in their lives.

Spotlight



This issue's spotlight shines on Sister Willette Hazelwood. She is a beacon in the church as well as in the community. She is the youth sponsor and a dedicated usher. Whenever there is a special event in the fellowship hall, she is willing to lend her creative hands to make it look festive. She works effortlessly in helping the Hospitality Ministry prepare and serve delicious meals.

Sister Hazelwood wears many hats in the community as well. She works with the NAACP, the Senior Citizens, the Lunenburg Board of Elections all while taking care of her ill mother. Sister Hazelwood, we realize you are a diamond at West Hill, and we love to watch you shine. Please know that we recognize you and we salute you.

Youth Corner

Faith & Football

Faith, Family, Football is being promoted at our youth games. A prayer was said before and after each game. The coaches blessed each of the players with a bible to help them navigate their lives. The leaders stated, “If one child gets closer to God by reading this bible, then their job will have been done.” When it comes to our young people, we could not be more pleased.



Academics

The youth are representing God in the schools and in the community. They are learning to be bold and stand firm on the Word. Jayden Craig, DeMarcus Lee, and Daylen Craig made the honor roll for the semester. Daylen Craig has a part time job at Victory Christian Daycare Center in Midlothian, VA. Destiny Hymon, is working as a sales clerk at TJ Maxx Department Store in South Hill, VA. Destiny and Daylen are seniors in high school. They are both preparing to enter college in the fall of 2026. We will continue to support and pray for them.

Christian Education

The Bluestone Harmony Baptist Church Association held another educational class for the churches to attend. This six week study was taught by Reverend Earl Terry, pastor of the New Hope Baptist Church of Boydton, VA. The theme was, “What Does Hiscox Say!” The book title was Standard Manual for Baptist Churches by Edward Thurston Hiscox. Minister Jessie Craig, Deaconess Thelma Craig, and Deacon Walter Craig attended these classes each week. They each received a certificate of completion. They have already begun to implement some of the items they learned in the classes.



Walking for a Cause

Surviving Breast Cancer hosted a benefit walk on Saturday, November 1, 2025 in Lawrenceville Park. Pastor Melissa Hymon, Minister Jessie Craig, Deacon Walter Craig, Deaconess Thelma Craig and Sister Destiny Hymon attended. Each member walked

two miles or more for the cause. The theme was “Steps of Faith.” Donations were given to help fund the cancer research projects. We look forward to supporting this event again next year.

2025 Christmas Service

Members and guests gather to be a part of the Annual Christmas service. This year it was held directly after the regular Sunday School Session. Each of the classes gave an exciting performance. Sister Otelia Lee read a poem and added words of wisdom to represent the Beginners Class. Sister Lisa Tisdale, teacher for the Junior Class, prepared an interactive Christmas tree which shared facts related to Christmas. Two of her students, DeMarcus and DeMontaye Lee, sang an angelic version of *O Holy Night*. Deaconess Thelma Craig, the teacher for the teen class, prepared a puppet skit, titled, “What Does it Really Mean?” The teen puppeteers were Jayden Craig, Destiny Hymon, and Daylen Craig. It was very entertaining. Sister Stacy Craig, our church pianist sang a beautiful rendition of *Jesus Oh What a Wonderful Child*. Pastor Hymon and Minister Craig led the Adult Class in a selection of *Angels We Have Heard on High*. Each member also told what Christmas means to them. Sister Willette Hazelwood kept the program flowing as the worship leader. Treat bags, gifts, and cards were passed out to everyone at the end of the service.



Junior Class: DaMarcus Lee & DayMonte Lee
Teen Class: Jayden Craig, Daylen Craig, and Destiny Hymon

Watch Night Service



Goodbye 2025 and hello 2026! There is nothing like bringing in the new year with the Word of God. Watch Night Service was held on Zoom starting at 11:00 P.M. The service opened up with prayer and praise service where wonderful testimonies were shared from the youth, guests, and other members. After an uplifting prayer and praise service, Deaconess Belinda Craig gave acknowledgements to the individuals that God called home in 2025. Pastor Hymon followed up with a dynamite sermonette titled, “Look, Love, and Lean.”

A Visit to Sister Jackson

On December 28th, Pastor Hymon and other church members went to visit Sister Ozie Jackson at her home. Sister Jackson is one of the elder members at West Hill. Pastor Hymon conducted communion and the joining members sang two songs. Sister Jackson, always a lover of music, enjoyed the uplifting songs and fellowship. Sister Jackson was in great spirits and all smiles during the visit.

Sister Jackson, the West Hill family loves you.

Activities Page



Upcoming Events

Dates	Events	Time
2/8/2026	Sunday School Jeopardy	11:00 A.M.
3/15/2026	Appreciation Service for Sister Stacy L. Craig	3:00 P.M.
3/29/2026	Union	10:00 A.M.

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Communication & Media Ministry

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Deaconess Thelma Craig