



Hebron Community Church

September 2025 Newsletter

September 2025 – Legacy of Faith

“We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the generous deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.” Psalm 78:4

As I write these words, I’ve just had another conversation about how fast this year has flown by. We’ve been busy with a lot going on in our life in ministry this year, and just life. The last several weeks now we’ve been preparing for a big celebration that’s coming up on the 21st of this month. We celebrate our dodransbicentennial or demisemisepcentennial anniversary, a fancy way of saying that we’re celebrating that the church has been here for 175 years (of course, I googled that!), which is an awesome testament to the legacy of faith of the people of this community.


For those who have been in worship these past several weeks, we’ve been hearing different parts of that legacy of faith, as we’ve heard folks sharing about the different aspects of the history of the church. This past Sunday, we heard about the musical legacy in this church. I’ve had experience with music in a few churches, but that was impressive. I know we’ve still got several folks with talent and I’m grateful for all those who share their gifts in ministry among us. As we heard the names and families mentioned, I could look around and see the looks of recognition and appreciation on the faces in the congregation. We’ve also heard the history of how the community got started and the different iterations of the church buildings, as well as the history of the men’s and women’s groups and their ministries over the years.

We are still here because of the legacy of faith that so many people have left behind, those who told “to the coming generation the generous deeds of the Lord, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.” These people have lived lives of faith and love and made sure that the coming generations had a place to worship and an example to follow. We serve a good God, who has worked throughout the generations through faithful followers who have helped shine the light of Christ into a dark and hurting world. Some things have changed through the years, but some things haven’t. We might not be worshipping in the same building as the first worshippers at Hebron, but we serve the same God, and we are still surrounded by a community and world of people who need to hear the gospel of Jesus, and

feel His love.

As we celebrate our history this month, let us also show our appreciation for this legacy of faith that we have been left by continuing in their example and shining the light of Christ into this community and the world, all for His glory. Praise be to God for all that He has done through Hebron and all He continues to do! God bless you!

Your servant brother in Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Pastor Dustin D. James". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Pastor Dustin D. James

Church Clean Up Day

Please mark your calendar for Saturday, September 13th to help clean, dust and reorganize areas of the church that are not included in the weekly cleaning process. Thanks to Sammy Lankford, Steve McCauley, Johnny Greeson and fellow trustee committee members for their hard work and craftsmanship to provide a new closet space in the fellowship hall in which the chairs and tables are now stored. Thanks also for the new shelves and tubs in the old storage closet in which the chairs were previously stored. Help is needed to move items from other areas of our facilities to this closet, making a more centralized location for storage. This will take some time and effort plus other areas that need attention like the sanctuary pews need polishing, and a couple of other areas that need attention as well. Your help is greatly needed to put everything into place so that we can now enjoy the blessings of having adequate storage space. Let's all make a special effort for this to be a successful workday! Please just "show up" at 9:00 am for light refreshments while receiving instructions for the day. The more help we have the sooner we will get the tasks completed. Lunch will be provided if the work lasts that long!

Methodist Women Friendship Circle

As with everyone else, Friendship Circle ladies are getting ready to put their track shoes on. The next 5 months promise to be very busy. We're ready for the church clean-up day on September 13th. Then we will have the Fall Festival and a couple of bake sales, plus Charge Conference followed by decorating for Christmas and then undecorating. We'll be planning on squeezing in Senior Recognition Sunday too. Watch for more details and feel free to help with anything you want to be involved in. TKS!

September Birthdays

2nd	Avery Marrs
4th	Montgomery Boswell
5th	Liam Holliday Ann Jessup
8th	Claire Whitescarver
10th	Zachary Marrs
11th	Cindy Sykes
13th	Betty Albright
15th	Tommy Dixon Madison Nelms
18th	Penny Reich
19th	Robin Sykes Jeff Sykes
21st	Julie Williams
23rd	Sylvia Price
25th	Jamie Allred
28th	Todd Dixon
29th	Mary Caylor Jenny Allred
30th	Christine Cates

Up Coming Events in October

- 4th Hut Reserved 12-5
 - 10th 12-10 Crafting
 - 11th 9-4 Crafting
 - 12th Church Council Meeting 3:00 pm
 - 15th Friendship Circle 7:00 pm
 - 17th Fall Festival
 - 18th Fall Festival
 - 20th Friendship Circle
 - 21st Newsletter Deadline
 - 23rd Methodist Men 6:00 pm
 - 25th 5-6:30 Trunk or Treat
- Every Tuesday night at 6 pm is Prayer meeting in the Prayer Room
- Every Wednesday night at 6 pm Bible Study
- Pastors Meeting every 1st and 3rd Tuesday at 1:00 pm.

Missions and Outreach Committee – September 2025 Newsletter

Samaritan's purse has acknowledged the contribution of \$2500 to the mission of providing Bio-Sand Water Filters to refugee countries. Pray that your gifts to this project will give hope to families and in turn, the families will come to know and worship the Lord.

Team members gave out 26 backpacks in August. It was heartwarming to see the smiling faces of children who received them.

Hebron members and friends have overwhelmingly provided canned meats and other foods for S.A.F.E. We will continue this mission project through the month of September.

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Helping Hands has actively provided food and support to some of our members. This is an ongoing mission opportunity to show love to people in need.

The Sunshine Basket ministry is providing a basket of love to a member of Hebron in September.

Blessings for a healthy and happy month!

Pat

**Hebron Founder's Day
175th Celebration
September 21, 2025**

This is an extremely exciting time as we anticipate the upcoming celebration on September 21st in which we will observe the 175th anniversary of Hebron Church's establishment in 1850!

Thank you to Pastor Dustin for allowing a few moments each Sunday for a series of talks about Hebron history during a Historical Remembrance Moment segment in the church service.

These talks began on July 6th with Lois Dixon talking about the origins of the church. On July 13th Margaret Lankford spoke about the meaning of the cross, positioned beside the altar. She explained that it was used in the 1950's during a stewardship service and made note that it represents the thread of stewardship conducted by Hebron members through generations before and after that time. The cross will remain in place, and one light will be engaged at the end of each Sunday's talk. Ultimately, the cross will be fully lit on the celebration Sunday.

Talks given/to be given on the remaining Sundays:

July 20th – Lois Dixon – Hebron School

July 27th – Ellen Williams – Church Buildings and Grounds

August 3rd – Betty Boney – Church Missions and Women of the Church

August 10th – Billy Williams – spoke about the Methodist Men Group and Missions

August 17th – Ellen Williams – spoke about Music at Hebron

August 24th – Alma Privette – Hebron Veterans (John Taylor's World War II Testimony)

August 31st – Robin Sykes – Hebron's Fall Festival

September 7th – Joannie & Jay Wilson – Hebron Youth and Scouts

September 14th – Buster Albright – Hebron Memorial Association

(These talks can be viewed in the weekly church services produced on Facebook>)

Finally, on the 21st of September, the actual celebration service will be filled with a mixture of historically connected music and musical instruments and a time for sharing memories from the congregation. The services will be followed by a covered dish lunch in the fellowship hall. Please plan to be a part of this special day in the life and history of Hebron Community Church!

~SAVE THE DATE~



Hebron Founder's Day
175th Celebration
September 21, 2025

Join us for a day to celebrate the past, present, and future of our church. A covered dish lunch will follow a special service.

Please share this date with your friends and family.

HEBRON COMMUNITY CHURCH
ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025

Present:	Pastor Dustin James	Jay Wilson	Buster Albright	Robin Sykes
	Pat Snipes	Betty Boney	Ben Boney	Sandy Dixon
	Martha Graham			

Dustin opened our meeting with prayer and a scripture verse, Hebrews 11:1, "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, and the conviction of things not seen." Remember, if He said it, He will do it!

The minutes of the June meeting were previously approved by email. There was no Council meeting in the month of July.

NOMMINATIONS

Margaret Lankford and Linda Williams are on the History Committee. Lois Dixon and Robin Sykes will be added to the committee and will be listed on the 2026 church leadership list.

MISSIONS AND OUTREACH

Samaritan's Purse was sent a check, in the amount of \$2500, for bio-sand water filters. They sent a "thank you" note, in appreciation.

On July 1, volunteers from S.A.F.E. came for the food items we had collected. Contributions were so generous, the truck was filled. We are now collecting non-perishable meat items for S.A.F.E. through the current quarter. As we will be collecting for the Angel Tree gifts and the Shoebox Christmas gifts during the last quarter of the year, we will not collect again for S.A.F.E. until 2026.

The school supply giveaway was successful with all items being distributed. The few assorted items not included in backpacks will be delivered to Garrett Elementary. There weren't as many items donated this year so any monetary donations received now will go into the HCC youth programs fund. This will help offset the additional items which were purchased to fill out what was needed for the backpacks.

Buster shared that so far this year, HCC has donated \$8,000 to various mission projects! This does not consider the items which have been donated such as the school supplies and the various food items.

Robin mentioned the possibility of individuals being given the opportunity to volunteer in a "serving" capacity at different mission organizations such as S.A.F.E. or Breakthrough.

SPRC

SPRC addressed an issue that occurred within our church family. Specific actions were taken to manage the situation and deter future incidents. The case remains in review and will be monitored accordingly.

TRUSTEES

The new windows, in the Hut, have been installed and the trim stained.

A camera was run down the sewer line and it was determined there is a possible break in the line. That location will be dug into, and any needed repairs will be made.

The downstairs of the educational building is being checked for damage due to the recent heavy rains.

The men are still waiting for the roof to be inspected.

Two young men have been hired to help with the yard work. (All yard work is provided by the Memorial Fund)

Dustin reported that the hallway lights, upstairs in the educational building, won't turn on and they will be checked.

A whole-house surge protector was installed in the parsonage.

WORSHIP

The church clean-up date is September 13. Some work has been completed. In addition, Robin, Markie and Lois will clean the kitchen on August 29. Seldomly used glassware will be moved to the small kitchen for storage and then the kitchen will be thoroughly cleaned.

The 5th Sunday in November will begin 5th Sunday Singing in the evening rather than in the morning and we will gather in the Hut.

The final dates for the Fall Festival are October 17th and 18th.

Trunk or Treat will be October 25, with slightly different hours. Cicero will organize the event this year.

Cliff Cates has agreed to be Santa for our church-wide Christmas dinner on December 7.

The Christmas program of lessons and carols is scheduled for December 21.

The Family Fun Day on August 16 has been cancelled.

METHODIST MEN

No Report

METHODIST WOMEN

Distribution of shoes for the children in Guatemala has begun.

Culminating in weeks of planning and work, the ladies have prepared tabletop Christmas trees to sell at Fall Festival.

PASTOR

Charge Conference is scheduled for November 16 at 4:00. It was decided to hold a Circle-wide Conference with light refreshments provided by each congregation, following the worship and business session. It was mentioned that a nursery would be helpful.

Corey has asked that we provide an updated profile for our church. Also, certified lay leaders are being sought.

Two changes being implemented are that Corey will no longer be called Presiding Elder, but Circle leader. Tom Newman will be designated Presiding Elder for the entire area. The Presiding Elder will be more of a pastoral leader than the UMC's District Superintendent position is currently.

FINANCE

While our recent expensed look like more than planned for, in July, there were several one-time items: A \$1900 for ice maker repairs and HVAC service, \$1200 to refinish the floors in the Hut and in other areas where there is tile (this was last done 2 years ago), \$968 for the new storage room to house the tables and chairs, \$617 for the heating system and \$400 for gravel.

Our next scheduled meeting date is September 14, 2025.

There being no further business, Dustin dismissed up with prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Martha Graham

September 2025 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Sunday School Worship 5 th Sunday	1 9-4 ALM	2 9-4 ALM 1 Pastors' Mtg 6 Prayer Mtg.	3 9-4 ALM 6 Bible Study	4 9-4 ALM	5	6 12-5 Hut Reserved 7 until Hut Reserved
7 Sunday School Worship Communion 1-4 Hut Reserved	8 9-4 ALM	9 9-4 ALM 6 Prayer Mtg.	10 9-4 ALM 6 Bible Study	11 9-4 ALM	12	13 9 Church Clean Up Day
14 Sunday School Worship Church Council 3 pm	15 9-4 ALM 7 Friendship Circle	16 9-4 ALM 1 Pastors' Mtg 6 Prayer Mtg.	17 9-4 ALM 6 Bible Study	18 9-4 ALM	19 12-10 Crafting	20 9-4 Crafting
21 Sunday School Worship 175 th Anniversary	22 9-4 ALM	23 9-4 ALM 6 Prayer Mtg. Newsletter Deadline	24 9-4 ALM 6 Bible Study	25 9-4 ALM 6 pm Methodist Men	26	27
28 Sunday School Worship 12-3:30 Hut Reserved	29 9-4 ALM	30 9-4 ALM 6 Prayer Mtg.	1 9-4 ALM 6 Bible Study	2 9-4 ALM	3	4

Nursery Schedule / Children's Church

Greeters

Acolytes

September 7th

Jenny Allred & Jay Wilson
Joannie Wilson & Rachel Lankford

Bob Swanson

Marleigh Lankford

September 14th

Joannie Wilson & Rachel Lankford
Chris Perera & Sylvia Price

Michael & Renee McPherson

Carlos Montejo

September 21st

Becca Bartlett & Markie Roberts
Joannie Wilson & Robin Sykes

Peyton McBride

September 28th

Robin Sykes & Betty Albright
No Children's Church

Annabelle Allred