

By Gail Josey, WMU Director

WMU members that have been faithful for years have been joined by newer ladies and all have truly bloomed this spring here at HPBC by baking with a smile for the Bake Sale, by enthusiastically sewing Mother's Day gifts, and by supplying food and serving for the Mother/Daughter Tea. Thanks to all for your contributions to the WMU projects for the month of May.

We thank and give the glory to God,  
Gail Josey



WMU members Gail Josey, Janice Beasley, Ruth Handy, Becky Surratt, Belinda Utt and Wanda Dobbins served at the Mother/Daughter Tea on May 14<sup>th</sup>. Food was provided by all WMU members.



WMU members Elaine Shelton, Becky Surratt, Ruth Handy and Gail Josey attended the SBA Annual Meeting at Calvary Baptist Church on May 5th. Thanks to Becky for the beautiful table decorations!



## LIVE IN THE POSITIVE

By Dr. Darrell Tate, Senior Pastor

*"Abide in Me and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me." Jn. 15:4*

Perhaps you are familiar with the story of an American Indian who found an eagle's egg and put it into the nest of a prairie chicken. The eaglet hatched with the brood of chicks and grew up with them. All its life, the eagle thought it was a prairie chicken. It did what the prairie chickens did. It scratched in the dirt for seeds and insects to eat. It clucked and cackled, and flew in a brief thrashing of wings and flurry of feathers no more than a few feet off the ground. After all, that's how prairie chickens were supposed to fly. Years passed, and the changeling eagle grew very old. One day, it saw a magnificent bird far above in the cloudless sky, hanging with graceful majesty on the powerful wind currents, and it soared with scarcely a beat of its strong golden wings. "What a beautiful bird!" said the changeling eagle to its neighbor. "What is it?" "That's an eagle - the chief of the birds," the neighbor clucked. "But don't give it a second thought. You could never be like him." So, the changeling eagle never gave it a second thought. Throughout its entire life, the changeling eagle prided itself as being a prairie chicken, and it died thinking it was a prairie chicken.

God's people are to soar like eagles, but the Devil is extremely effective in convincing them that they are chickens. Someone once said that attitude determines altitude. When difficult times arrive, it is tough to maintain a positive outlook. When people disappoint you, trials overwhelm you and burdens of life weigh you down, it is easy to become cynical and negative. I just can't picture Jesus as cynical and negative! Jesus raised the bar on positive attitude.

Dr. Victor Frankl, a Nazi Holocaust camp survivor, said: "If a prisoner felt that he could no longer endure the realities of camp life, he found a way out in his mental life - an invaluable opportunity to dwell in the spiritual domain, the one that the SS was unable to destroy. Spiritual life strengthened the prisoner, helped him to adapt, and thereby improved his chances of survival." There is no substitute for a positive mental attitude. Remember the following three reminders to help reinforce a positive mental attitude:



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**1) A Christian always believes the best about others.**

No one is perfect, including you. Although some people believe the worst about others, a Christian sees the best in others. Look for good qualities and positive characteristics in other people. Look for the best, see the best and believe the best.

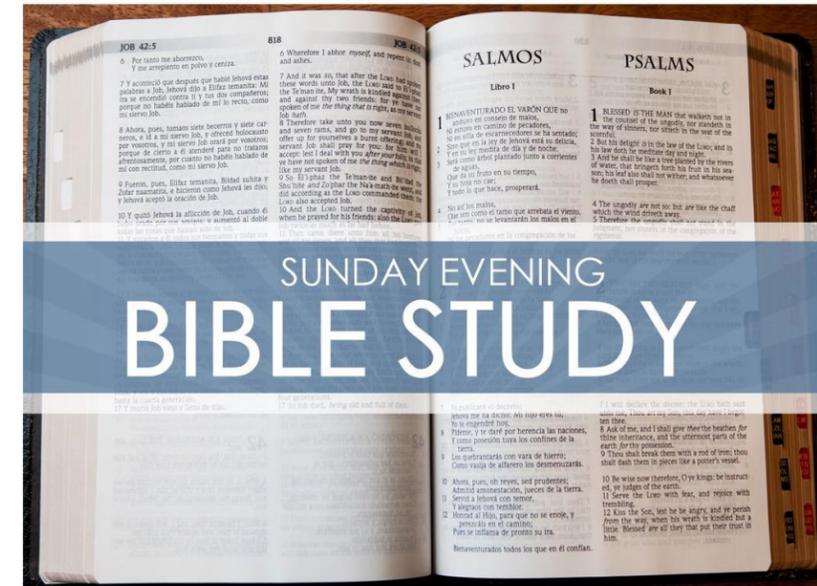
**2) A Christian is Self-aware.**

Remember the words Jesus spoke to the religious leaders of his day. “First remove the plank from your own eye, and then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye” (Mat. 5:7). Mark Twain once said, “If it’s your job to eat a frog its best to eat it first thing in the morning. And if it’s your job to eat two frogs it’s best to eat the biggest one first.” Working on self is as unpleasant as eating a frog! Therefore, it’s much easier to find fault with others than it is to look at self.

**3) A Christian is a Model of Christ.**

When tempted to get even, to judge someone’s motives or to become impatient, remind yourself that your temptation is an opportunity to model a Christ-like attitude for the Kingdom of God. Perhaps you are thinking, “Pastor, you don’t know what this person said, or did, or didn’t do...” That’s right! I don’t know what happened. But refuse to allow yourself to be a passenger. Take back the wheel, get into the driver’s seat of your life and set your GPS for a positive attitude! When Paul was writing to the church of Philippi, he said, “Finally, brethren whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is of good report, if there is any excellence and if anything worthy of praise, dwell on these things” (Phil. 4:8).

Blessings,  
Pastor Darrell



There is something powerful about the preaching of God’s Word! At Highland Park, we are blessed each week when Pastor Darrell stands behind the pulpit and shares with us a message that God has given him from scripture. Regularly, we are encouraged when weighted down by the world; convicted when we’ve become to be compromised; and challenged when we’re comfortable where we are. This is a great blessing that we should never take for granted!

Often upon hearing the Word of God, we are left hungry to dig deeper and to know more. We have questions we want to ask and insights we’re excited to share. It’s for that reason that I’m excited about a new study we’ve been doing every Sunday evening at the church. Each week, we get together to further explore the message God has shared with us through Pastor Darrell’s sermon earlier that day.

If you would like to enjoy some great fellowship, ask questions, share insights and simply dive deeper in our study and application of the Sunday sermon, we invite you to join us every Sunday evening at 6:00 pm in room EB105.

In Christ,  
Pastor Jim



**JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

- 2 **Mary Jo Blash**
- 2 **Pat Boyd**
- 3 **Gail Josey**
- 3 **Ronald Montgomery**
- 3 **Linda Rice**
- 3 **Jennifer Simmons**
- 4 **Leslie Simpson**
- 5 **Macy Sutphin**
- 5 **Layden Wilson**
- 7 **Frank Minor**
- 7 **Rhonda Parker**
- 7 **Dallas Weddle**
- 8 **Rebecca George Hall**
- 9 **Gabriel Jensen**
- 11 **Salem Cassell**
- 11 **Josh Davis**
- 14 **Jackie Arrington**
- 14 **Susan Beamer**
- 14 **Suzanne Bumgardner**
- 14 **Bobby Morrison**
- 14 **Lukas Spencer**
- 15 **Vicky Brindle**
- 15 **Lucille Inman**
- 16 **Chris Handy**
- 16 **Chelse Watson**
- 17 **Emma Boland**
- 17 **Jody Jarrell**
- 17 **Liza Surratt**
- 17 **Anthony Utt**
- 18 **Robin Richardson**
- 18 **David Holder**
- 18 **Calissa Watson**
- 19 **Jeff Irwin**
- 20 **Karen Cox**
- 20 **Nicholas Montgomery**
- 23 **Travis Dehart**
- 23 **Hanna Lynch**
- 24 **Hailey Beasley**
- 24 **Todd Edwards**
- 25 **Carol Hardy**
- 25 **Debbie Nixon**
- 25 **Jacob Surratt**
- 25 **Tyler Wilson**
- 26 **Bella Boland**
- 26 **Eloise Branch**
- 27 **Judy Cook**
- 27 **David Hall**
- 27 **Rosalee Sexton (Busby)**
- 28 **Justin Bowers**
- 30 **Shelby Anthony**
- 30 **Christy O’Neal**
- 30 **Michael Turcotte**

**Children’s Ministry News**

By Kelsey Mathis, Children’s Director



**Highland Park Vacation Bible School**

**When:** June 5th-9th 6:00 PM - 8:20 PM

**Where:** Highland Park Baptist Church Family Life Center

**What:** Classes for ALL ages! Join us for a fun week as we experience Lifeway’s Sparks Studio!

We are selling Highland Park T-shirts as a fundraiser for our Children’s Department to help pay for summer camp. Color options are gray or blue in sizes from XS –3X. T-shirts are \$20 each and will be available in the hallway of the educational building after church services for the next few weeks. You may also email Kelsey Mathis at [kelsey.mathis@gmail.com](mailto:kelsey.mathis@gmail.com) to reserve your shirts as well.



**Sunday School News**

By Dean Combs,  
Sunday School Director

Adult Vacation Bible School is the week of June 5th—9th. Please invite someone and come out and attend our VBS! The speakers for each night are:

- 6/5 Bob Josey
- 6/6 Brandon Spurlin
- 6/7 Rocky Oakes
- 6/8 Terry Hardy
- 6/9 Jacob Surratt

Our attendance for the month of April was 1016, which is the highest four-week total we have had since we began having Sunday School again after the Covid pandemic:

- 4/03 249
- 4/10 281
- 4/17 245
- 4/24 241

For the month of May, our attendance so far is 772:

- 5/01 253
- 5/08 261
- 5/15 258

As you can see by these numbers, the Lord has truly blessed our Sunday School attendance! Please continue to invite people to attend our worship services and the Sunday School hour to hear God’s Word!

God Bless You!  
Dean