



Hope Valley
BAPTIST CHURCH

Loving, Serving and Reaching out in Christ's name.

Illuminator

VOLUME 48 NO. 10

MAY 19, 2023

UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

May 21

Ascension Sunday

Scripture: John 17:1-11

Title: *No Longer in the World*

May 28

Pentecost Sunday

WEAR RED

Scripture: 1 Corinthians 12:3-13

Title: *Real, Holy Words*

June 4

Trinity Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 28:16-20

Title: *Words of Challenge
and Hope*

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Benjamin J. Wines
Senior Pastor
ben@hvbc.org

Kathryn Bunch
Director of Music Ministries

Barbara Rowley
Organist

Robin Wimberley
Administrative Assistant

Jan Mangum
Church Custodian

Church Phone: 919-493-1809
Website: www.hvbc.org
Email: robin@hvbc.org

The Legend of Zelda and Loneliness

Brothers and sisters,

As many of you know, last week a new video game that I've been looking forward to for a long time came out—*The Legend of Zelda: Tears of the Kingdom*. Now, since it came out last Friday, I've spent a good chunk of my free time playing it and have thoroughly enjoyed it and I'm pretty sure I haven't even gotten to the best parts yet! I haven't beaten the game, so I don't know the full story or what all the major themes of the game will be, but there is one theme that has already been explored and I want to talk about it.

Before I do that, though, I want to give you a little context about *Tears of the Kingdom*. See, it is a sequel to a previous *Zelda* game, which is a rarity in the *Zelda* franchise. Typically, each game is a stand-alone game with a new version of Hyrule (the fictional world you play in), a new version of Link (the character you play as), and a new version of Princess Zelda (who the series is named after). But since *Tears of the Kingdom* is a sequel, you play as the same version of Link from the previous game, called *Breath of the Wild*. And there's an important change that has happened in Link's life between the two games.

In *Breath of the Wild* (the first game), Link is alone. The brief version of the story is that Link has woken up to a Hyrule that has been devastated by a great evil. One hundred years ago, Link had fought against that great evil and lost, nearly dying in the process. The only reason he survived was because of fast thinking from Princess Zelda. In *Breath of the Wild*, Hyrule has been broken. Link's memories of his friends have been erased. And the few people Link meets tend to blame him for the fall of Hyrule. He is able to make some friends along the way, but it is a game about grief, burden, loss, and redemption. And while it is an undeniably beautiful game and story, Link undeniably feels alone.

In *Tears of the Kingdom*, that has changed. Link and Zelda had managed to save Hyrule at the end of the first game and the citizens have begun to rebuild. And now, Link has friends. There are people who care about him and support him. When the game begins, Link has been missing for several months after being attacked by a new great evil threatening Hyrule. But when he makes it back to civilization, everyone he meets starts each conversation by saying they're so glad Link's back! They're worried about the injuries he's sustained. They caution him not to push himself too hard—they don't want to lose their friend again. And it's touching to see that so many of the people who care about Link in *Tears of the Kingdom* were friends he made in *Breath of the Wild*.

(continued on page 3)

PRAYER CONCERNS
(new additions/updates in bold)

Church family with Health Concerns:

Carl & Carol Atkins
Shirley Barbee - recovery from surgery
Linda Brown
Joan Burke - severe back pain
Marie Collins - recovery from fall
Rachel Dossett
LaVerne Ellis - leg & back problems
Carol Franklin - health issues
Heidi Hall - spinal muscular atrophy (daughter of Sandra & Rick Hall)
Woody Harton
Julie Hayes - blood pressure issues
Linda Marshall
Kendra Merritt
Brenda Morton - recovery from fall
Stephen Myers - Crohn's disease
Personnel Committee - continuing search to fill position
Scott Rose - recovery from surgery
Barbara Rowley - recovery from knee surgery
Barbara Sanders - family members
Chris Summerlin - surgery
Carolyn Tippet - leukemia
Emmett Ward - health issues
Linda Ward - heart issues

Senior Living Centers:

Durham Regent: Marcella Jerdon
Emerald Pond: Lee Schevill, Sam & Pat Beasley

HVBC friends and family:

Pamella Anderson - dementia (sister of Joan Burke)
Candy Arnold - brain tumor, chemo (niece of Carol Atkins)
Phil Atkins (friend of Carl & Carol Atkins)
Britt Bentley - upcoming procedure (son of Susan Bentley)
Claudine Bernard - dementia (sister of Joan Burke)
Rebecca Biddy - health issues (daughter-in-law of Peggy Biddy)
Jimmy Bolick - stroke (uncle of Amy Herring)
Hayley Brady - blood clots in lungs (sister of Ginger Rose)
Bobbie Campanaro - heart issues (friend of Scott Rose)
Pam Carroll - cancer (friend of Linda & Emmett Ward)
Joan Cozart - brain tumor (friend of Joan Burke)
Betty Ann Dickerson - feet & leg problems (friend of Carol Atkins)
Walter Dunn - 4-year-old with seizures (friend of the Herrings)
JaQuavion Ervin - young boy in foster care with no family (from Scott Rose)
Paul Fain - stomach cancer (friend of Steve & Karen Bolton)
Sharon Foster - cancer treatments (former member)
Linda Greeson - kidney problems (aunt of Julie Stoops)
Lisa Hall - grieving mother's death (sister of Rachel Dossett)
Jackie Harris - dementia (aunt of Julie Stoops, sister of Tommie Calhoun)
David Hayes - pacemaker (brother of Julie Hayes)
Alphus Herndon - cancer & death of wife, Sherry (cousin of Brenda Morton)
Bryant Herring - multiple myeloma, treatments (father of Jonathan Herring)
Olive Hudson - home, in rehab (sister of Jacquie Allen)
Patricia Jacques - Alzheimer's (sister of Joan Burke)
Jerry (friend of Susan Bentley)
Barbara Layne - diabetic, leg surgeries & rehab (extended family of the Dossetts)
Junior Martin - cancer (friend of Joan Burke)
David & Emily Myers (placement of foster child)
Eddie Netzlof - cancer (friend of Scott Rose)
Juliet Atieno Otieno - 15-year-old with Lupus (friend of Scott Rose)
Dana Page - health issues (friend of Scott Rose)
Pam & Diane - both having knee replacement surgery (family of Rhonda Welfare)
Phil Ponder - cancer (friend of Carl & Carol Atkins)
Sheri Rasberry - cancer (sister-in-law of Michelle Hunt)
Weston Rasberry - health issues (nephew of Michelle Hunt)
Ashley Robbins - cancer (granddaughter of Brenda Morton)
Bill Roberson (friend of Scott Rose)

PRAYER CONCERNS (continued)

Franci Rokoske - fractured spine (friend of Amy Herring)
Joe Rollins - recovery from fall (cousin of Carol Atkins)
Robbie Sanders - health concerns (son of Barbara Sanders)
Mary Shuford - under hospice care (mother of Jeff Shuford)
Susan Smileowicz - stroke (friend of Steve & Karen Bolton)
Vicki Smith - breast cancer (extended family of the Dossetts)
Adam Stoops - Hodgkins Lymphoma (nephew of Dave Stoops)
Matthew Taylor - salvation & direction (request by the Dossetts)
Derrick Toomer - health issues (friend of Barbara Sanders)
Heath Tuttle - 13-year-old with cancer (friend of Linda Ward)
Gregg Wallace - recovery from heart surgery (brother of Cheryl Wallace)
Kimberly Walter - cancer treatments (friend of Scott Rose)
Jeff Ward - cancer, chemo (son of Emmett & Linda Ward)
Jeff Webb - brain tumor (friend of Scott Rose)
Dee White - bone cancer, starting chemotherapy (cousin of Barbara Rowley)
John & Crawford Williams - John has aphasia, Crawford has heart issues & diabetes (brother & sister-in-law of Lucy Woodell)
Steve Wilson - prostate cancer (friend of Rachel Dossett)
Nora Wilson - kidney surgery (friend of Rachel Dossett)

Military Service Personnel:

Chris Buchanan (nephew of Barbara Rowley)
Clayton Davis (grandson of Linda Marshall)
Travis Hayes (nephew of Ginger Hayes)
Blake Smith (son-in-law of John & Mary Myers)

Around Our World:

Leena Lavanya - missionary with ServeTrust working in India;
Pastor Koteswarao & Chowtu Palem Church (our partner church in India)



HVBC Reads will alternate between face-to-face and Zoom meetings for the next few months. This will make it easier for everyone to attend at least every other month, including those who have trouble with Zoom because of technology issues and those who can't make a daytime face-to-face meeting.

Here is the schedule through August:

- May 25—7:00 pm via Zoom—Orphan Train
- June 29—12:30 pm—Modern Disciples classroom—A Man Called Ove
- July 27—7:00 pm via Zoom—The Violin Conspiracy
- August 31—12:30 pm—Modern Disciples Classroom—Murder on the Nile

Book Club Kits are available for the books for May, June, and July. The August book is available at local libraries and online and brick-and-mortar new & used bookstores.

Contact Rhonda Welfare at 919-599-7367 for more information.

(Continued from page 1)

So, why bring up these two games? Because I appreciate the change they highlight. In *Breath of the Wild*, Link is made to feel like he is alone. In *Tears of the Kingdom*, it's revealed that he isn't. He has friends and allies who care about him. And I think that's a good message for everyone to hear right now. You are not alone. If you are getting this newsletter, it's because you are a member of Hope Valley Baptist Church, which means you have a whole host of brothers and sisters in Christ you can reach out to. You have a pastor whose phone is always on. If you ever need help, please reach out.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Ben

P. S. Once I beat *Tears of the Kingdom*, y'all can expect another nerdy Illuminator article!



Super Saturday Adventures

For children ages 3 – 12

The fun starts at 10:00 am on June 17 followed by a cookout for participants and their families from noon – 1:00 pm.

The Adventure dates are: **June 17, July 15, August 19; 10:00 am to Noon**

All events are FREE but advance registration is required. Learn more at www.hvbc.org.
Volunteers are needed.

Chrismon Workshop

Saturday, June 24

10:00 am

Modern Disciples Classroom

Please bring lunch if you would like to.

Quarterly Church Family Meeting

Following morning worship

on May 21.



Teacher Appreciation

To continue our support of one of our local schools, Parkwood Elementary, we would like to provide 85 appreciation bags to teachers and staff on May 31.

**Please drop off items by
Sunday, May 28.**

Financial Report Month Ending April 2023

Accounts	Month	Year to Date
Income	\$13,931.79	\$ 85,558.83
Expenses		
Missions	2,668.25	7,474.50
Personnel	11,512.32	46,049.28
Training & Education	1,021.12	2,842.19
Worship & Music	173.68	938.87
Operating Expenses	2,580.09	5,535.17
Property/Maintenance	1,810.13	14,253.60
Service Contracts	1,652.81	6,715.48
Total Expenses	<u>\$21,418.40</u>	<u>\$ 83,809.09</u>
Net Income	<u>\$ (7,486.61)</u>	<u>\$ 1,749.74</u>
Bank Balance		\$213,003.95
Less Designated Fund Balance		<u>(118,898.37)</u>
Operating Fund Balance		<u>\$ 94,105.58</u>
Designated Fund Beginning Balance		\$111,655.34
Revenue		10,294.00
Expenses		<u>(3,050.97)</u>
Designated Fund Ending Balance		<u>\$118,898.37</u>
Goodwin Fund		<u>\$39,523.81</u>
Total Designated & Goodwin Funds		<u>\$158,422.18</u>
Capital Campaign FUND Balance		\$27,876.33

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

5/21—Johnny Bush & Mike Dossett

5/28—Cameron Packer & Mike Dossett

6/5—Lucy Woodell & Mike Bunch

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP LAUNCHES

The Widows' Ministry's first meeting May 2 was a success, but the women who attended decided the group should expand to include all women in the church.

The group has been renamed Women's Fellowship to align with its expanded mission. The next meeting will be held on **Tuesday, July 11** and all women are invited -- widowed, divorced, married, single, part of Hope Valley, members of other churches, or not currently part of a church.

The Women's Fellowship will meet every other month. Each meeting of the group will include a brief devotion and lunch, alternating between lunch in the Family Life Center and going out to a restaurant together. The focus of the group will be to provide fellowship and support for women both in Hope Valley and in the community.

Reservations are not required, but it would be helpful if women who plan to attend would notify the church office by the Sunday prior to each meeting.

For more information, contact Susan Bentley.



June Birthdays

Anne Pokorny
Hansel Ngeve
Barbara Barbee
Linda Hall
LaVerne Ellis
Herb Finch
Michelle Hunt
Carl Atkins
Steve Bolton
Barbara Sanders
Heidi Hall
Linda Ward
Amy Herring



On **Thursday, June 1 at 10:30** am we will meet in the fellowship hall. Please bring a snack to share. Drinks will be provided. Also bring your hobby to share with the group. Hope to see you!

We are rescheduling the trip to the Billy Graham Library and home in Charlotte NC. We will be going on **Friday, July 7**. We will rent a van if we have 7-15 people going. Call or email Robin in the church office before **July 1** if you would like to go. Call Susan Bentley if you have any questions.

Summer Mid-Week Services

This summer, we will be holding our weekly mid-week services in person on Wednesday nights. We're hoping this will be a wonderful time of prayer, learning, and fellowship as we come back together for weekly gatherings! Our first Wednesday, June 7 will be a special kick-off event (see main article). Schedules are below:

Big Band and Cool Summer Salads
Wednesday, June 7 in the Fellowship Hall
6:00 Cool Summer Salads Potluck begins
6:30 Big Band and Prayer Meeting begins

Summer Mid-Week Service
Each Wednesday night, starting June 14
6:00 Bring-Your-Own-Supper
6:30 Prayer Meeting