

Hebron Happenings

A Note from Jason

Hebron Friends,

The First Sunday in August, I will be preaching on Ephesians 4:1-16. Near the end of this section, the Apostle Paul states we must no longer be children instead “Speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ.” I want to pause for a moment and think about what it means to ‘speak the truth in love’. On one hand, we might emphasize speaking the truth. Maybe you know someone who likes to say they are a person who calls it like they see it. In other words, they are willing to ‘tell the truth’ (at least how they see it) no matter how it impacts the other person or persons. The problem here is that they are forgetting that Paul admonishes us to tell the truth in love.

On the other side of things, you might know someone who wants everyone to get along and might not be willing to tell the truth if it might cause some friction. I will be honest with you and state that this would be the side I would be most likely to fall on. The problem with those of us who might fall to this side is that in our effort to get along and love others, we might forget to speak truth when needed.

Of course, the key here is that both things are needed. Love is essential and the highest virtue, but we also need to be able to speak truth during unjust or sinful situations where things are not how they should be. The problem with siding with one over the other is that when doing so, we are making truth and love out to conflict with one another. However, scripture teaches us, and specifically the Apostle Paul is teaching us here that truth and love are really bound together. The purpose of speaking truth should be out of love and a desire to build one another up. Only when truth and love are properly bound together (when our intention in speaking truth to a group or person is to build up and not tear down) can we really speak truth at all.

This is a difficult thing to learn to do, but I think one way this can be accomplished is to examine your own motives for ‘speaking truth’ into a given situation. We can ask ourselves, am I saying this to score points for myself and make myself look better than the other person or am I truly seeking what is best for the other person and not simply trying to be right. I think the shorthand way we can know when we are speaking ‘truth in love’ is when what we say serves to build up others and not simply build up our own ego.

God Bless,
Jason



Worship at the Pavilion, Church Picnic & Pavilion Dedication

Our church service at the pavilion and a picnic will be on August 15. The church service will be at 10 and there will be a short interlude after the church service while we get things together for our picnic. It is a pitch-in, but we are asking most of you to bring cold dishes. We will be getting chicken from Shop N Save, but the rest of our lunch will be prepared by you!!

There is a signup sheet at the rear of the sanctuary, so we have an idea of how many to prepare for. Please plan to join us for this annual event.

Game Night

The Congregational Life Team is planning a game night for adults. We have tentatively picked Friday, August 6 for our first Game Night at the church. We plan to meet from 6:30 to 9:30 pm. (We are planning this event for adults, since most of the kids who attended our game nights in the past are too young to be vaccinated.) Any unvaccinated adults should plan to wear a mask. If August 6 doesn't get enough participants, we may consider Friday, August 13.

Blessing Box

The Blessing Box on the far end of the church parking lot is now open to aid in helping those in the community who may need an emergency meal or basic personal care items on a 24/7 basis. Those in need may simply open the box and take what they need to meet their immediate need. No income verification or qualifications of any kind are required. We hope that through this ministry, we can show the love of Jesus to our community.

A huge thank you goes out to the Hebron Missions Team for coordinating the details and assembly to make the box available to those in need!

Mission Team Updates

Presbyterian Giving Campaign

June 6 – July 25

We celebrate the blessings from the Presbyterian Giving Campaign \$1,000 was approved for the Global Presbyterian Giving Catalog, plus individual congregational donations. To date, \$340 has been raised towards this campaign.

Pavilion Campaign

\$1,000 is designated for the continuation of the Pavilion construction needs. The Pavilion Team is seeking to raise money to complete the pavilion, specifically for electricity installation and securing the occupancy permit. If you write a check, please designate "Pavilion Fund" in the memo line so we know to apply your gift. To date, \$2375 has been raised towards this campaign.

Community Outreach

The Community Outreach Team will have a booth at the Findlay Township Fair in the Woodlands. The expenses will be covered by the Mission Team budget. We are looking for people to serve at the booth on Friday, August 20 from 6–10 PM & Saturday, August 21 from 12–10 PM at the Clinton Community Park. This is a great opportunity for you to shine your light for Christ to your community and let them know all about what God is doing at Hebron and in your life!



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