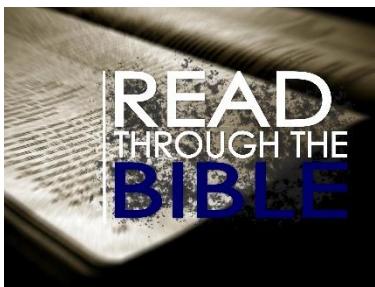


# Haymarket Herald

January 2026



## The Gospel of Mark

## Pledge to Read Your Bible in 2026!

On Sunday, January 18, I will ask each member of the Haymarket Baptist Church family to make a pledge to read all or part of your Bible in 2026. Even if you are not a formal member of our church, I would like you to carefully consider my challenge.

Reading the Bible is one of the most important ways that God uses to help us grow closer to Jesus Christ, his Son. As we read the Old Testament, we develop a deeper understanding of just how long God worked to prepare Abraham's descendants to receive the Messiah. It took more than a thousand years for the Jews to get ready!

Then, when you read the Gospel of Luke (which I am hoping ALL of you will read this year), you begin to appreciate that God not only prepared the Jewish people for Jesus, He prepared the entire Roman World for a Savior. God used Caesar's own census to get Joseph to travel back to his family's original hometown of Bethlehem, so the Messiah would be born in the same town where his ancestor David grew up.

If you choose to read Luke, part 2 (also called Acts), you will see how the Roman conquest of the entire Mediterranean world made it easier for the early Christian missionaries like Paul to travel all the way from Jerusalem to Rome, a journey of more than 1000 miles. The Christian faith spread more quickly during the first century AD than it could have a few centuries earlier.

If you read part or all of God's word, God himself will begin to speak to you and guide your spiritual development. Therefore, on January 18, we will distribute pledge cards to everyone who comes to worship and we will give you an opportunity to make that pledge during worship. You will have four possible pledges to make:

1. To read the Gospel of Luke
2. To read one book of the Bible each month of 2026
3. To read the key books of the Bible in Biblical order (reading one chapter a day for the entire year)
4. To read the entire Bible (reading four chapters a day for the entire year)

Please begin praying now so you will be ready to make a pledge on January 18.

In Christ,  
Pastor Mark



## *Musings from A Musician's Perspective*

### **Thank You**

**I**n the middle of December, our sanctuary was filled with more than music — it was filled with worship, testimony, and the unmistakable presence of God.

Our Christmas Cantata was not simply a performance; it was a proclamation. Through every note, harmony, message, and moment of silence, the story of Christ's birth came alive once again. What a joy it was to watch our choir lead us in worship with such passion, humility, and excellence.

I want to express heartfelt thanks to every choir member who gave their time, energy, and faith to prepare. Many rehearsed after long workdays, adjusted family schedules, and pushed through weariness — all so that the Gospel could be clearly heard. Your sacrifice did not go unnoticed, and it made an eternal difference.

Thank you to our Young Musicians, sound and media teams, and all who worked behind the scenes. You are often unseen, but your ministry is deeply felt. Thank you to Bethany Bogart, who devoted so much time and energy, led sectionals, and also her continued professionalism. We are so blessed to have her here at Haymarket Baptist Church.

One of the most moving moments for me was watching our congregation worship — not as spectators, but as participants in the story. Some wiped tears, some smiled, some sang along softly — and in that moment, I was reminded why we do this.

Music has the power to open hearts so the Holy Spirit can move in ways words alone cannot.

As we move forward into a new season, may the message of the Cantata remain in our hearts:

“The Light has come, and the darkness cannot overcome it.”

Thank you, church family, for allowing me the honor of serving you through music. The song may have ended, but its echo is still calling us to live for Christ every day.

Pastor John



### **DEACON'S BENCH**

**H**appy New Year to everyone! May you have a blessed new year.

As we start the New Year, I find it's the time to reflect on how we can better serve God. Put behind us the things we wanted to accomplish but didn't and focus on what we want for this coming year. We need to make every effort not to be distracted from God's plan.

I recently read a sermon by D.L Moody based on an actual shipwreck that occurred near the Cleveland harbor. The story is about a ship crashing on the

rocks because of the failure of the lower lights along the shore. Without the guiding lights, the ship floundered and landed on the rocks. As a result, many lives were lost. Moody ended his sermon, "Brethren, the Master will take care of the great lighthouse, let us keep lower lights burning."

Philip P. Bliss heard this sermon and was inspired to write the hymn:

### Let the Lower Lights Be Burning

Brightly became our Father's mercy  
From the lighthouse evermore,  
But to us He gives the keeping  
Of the lights upon the shore

Dark the night of sin has settled;  
Loud the angry billows roar;  
Eager eyes are watching  
Longing for the lights upon the shore.

Trim your feeble lamps, my brothers:  
Some poor seaman tempest lost,  
Trying now to make the harbour,  
In the darkness be lost.

Let the lower lights be burning! Send a gleam across  
the wave!

Some poor fainting, struggling seaman you may  
rescue, you may save.

As Christians we are entrusted by our Savior with the responsibilities as well. People are depending on us; we are a shining light to those who are lost.

Acts 13:45 "For so the Lord has commanded us saying, I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth".

Psalm 36:9 "For with you is the fountain of life; in  
your light do we see light."

May our light shine this New Year.

Linda Hankey  
Deacon of the Month



## JOIN US FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Sunday's at 9:30am

#### Adult Classes

J.O.Y. – Room 14 (downstairs)  
Formations – Room 45 (upstairs)

#### Children/Youth Classes

Children (age 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade – Room 49  
(upstairs)  
Youth (6<sup>th</sup> grade through high school) – Youth  
Room (upstairs)

### Sunday's at 9:45am

#### Deaf Ministry Class

Praising Hands – Fellowship Hall

We hope you will join us on Sunday mornings as  
we grow together in faith and fellowship!



## CHURCH DIRECTORY

Is your church directory outdated or are you new to the church? If you would like a digital copy or paper copy of the church directory, please email Laura in the church office at [laura@my-hbc.org](mailto:laura@my-hbc.org) and she will provide you with the latest version.

# Welcome New Members

“Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God” Romans 15:7



**The Dillard family – Ryan, Lisa, Jackson and Hadley** joined our church on Sunday, November 20<sup>th</sup>. Ryan and Lisa have previously accepted Christ as Lord. Jackson and Hadley have accepted Christ as Lord and will be immersed later this year.

**Manuella Tatchim** joined our church on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Manuella has accepted Christ as Lord and was immersed on Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>.



**Liam Montoro** joined our church on Sunday, December 7<sup>th</sup>. Liam has accepted Christ as Lord and was immersed on Sunday, December 28<sup>th</sup>.



## NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN'S COMMITTEE

It has been a busy time for the Children's Committee. In November, we hosted our Family Movie Night. It was a sweet time of fellowship as families enjoyed the classic movie "The Fox and the Hound" while sharing pizza and drinks. It was a relaxed and enjoyable evening of togetherness, and we're thankful for everyone who joined us.

What a wonderful time our children had at Parents' Night Out in December! The evening was filled with laughter and joy as the children played games, made crafts and gifts, sang together, and enjoyed a movie about the Three Wise Men and the birth of our Savior. It was a blessing to see both the children and volunteers having such a great time. A special shout-out and heartfelt thank-you to all our adult and youth volunteers who helped make this event a success!

It was also a joy to see so many children and families at the Living Nativity where we shared the Christmas story together. This evening was truly a blessing for all who attended.

We're excited to keep the fun going in the new year. As we begin 2026, the Children's Committee is planning and preparing more events and activities to help our children grow in faith while building friendships.

Our first event of the year is **Family Game Night on Friday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5:30–7:30pm**. Join us for an evening filled with fun and laughter for all ages! Enjoy dinner, snacks, and a variety of games as we come together for a night of fellowship and connection with our church family. Feel free to bring your favorite game to share. **Be sure to mark your**

**calendars—you won't want to miss it!**

Additionally, we invite your children to participate in the following weekly church activities –

### Sundays at 9:30am

Children's Sunday School

### Sundays at 11:15am

Children's Worship

(following the children's sermon during the 11:00am service)

### Wednesdays at 6:00pm (resuming January 14)

Children's Choir

We can't wait to welcome you and your children in the weeks and months ahead!



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

|            |                              |
|------------|------------------------------|
| January 5  | Tom Kennedy<br>Krista Kish   |
| January 11 | Dinah Thompson               |
| January 13 | Olivia Wendel                |
| January 14 | David Cain<br>Henry Terrant  |
| January 16 | Anna Duckett                 |
| January 21 | Stan Clem<br>Thomas Hatfield |
| January 22 | Joan Duckett<br>Sheila Major |
| January 24 | Daniel Grippando             |
| January 25 | Bettye Lee Montgomery        |
| January 26 | Cecilia Jones                |
| January 28 | Jonathan Wendel              |
| January 29 | Tanya Woodward               |
| January 30 | Kaylee Duckett               |



## PRESCHOOL AND KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Dear Church Family,

Happy New Year! We enjoyed 7 fabulous Christmas programs and celebrating the reason for the season, with many of our students enjoying the Live Nativity this year, too!

This month brings us to the halfway point of the year, so it will include report cards, parent teacher conferences and registration for next school year...can that be already!

Our kindergarten students did a beautiful job singing at the town Holiday Bazaar, and now they are wrapping up their social studies for the year (after studying maps, Virginia and 12 countries) and will celebrate with an International Luncheon towards the end of January. They are currently learning the 10 commandments, and the big buzz is their excitement about Forest Frank, a contemporary Christian recording artist – they are humming and singing his songs non-stop!

In Pre-K, our students have started reading groups, and will have a readiness screening this month to see how ready they are for kindergarten. They are soaking up the learning rapidly at this point, and it is so wonderful to be a part of their learning and growth.

Our little ones in the 2's and 3's are growing and learning too, looking forward to celebrating Mitten

Day by wearing their mittens all day with many fun experiences.

We have an open house on Saturday, January 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00am – there will be tours, and class visits in preparation for the new year with new families. Registration for current students is Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00am, and for church members and alumni it is 7:30am. New families can register on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00am. This registration takes place on our website, [www.hbcpk.com](http://www.hbcpk.com) and the registration fee is due just prior to registration (\$175.00). Please let us know if you need details or information about registration this year!

Our little Jamaica school is receiving our first shipment this week! We are so happy that they will finally get this food, medicine and hygiene supplies! They still do not have water or power up on Cornwall Mountain! We are so grateful to the church mission board and the generous December offering slated for Jamaica Link Ministries – your kind contributions to this worthy cause will be well spent as they try to get churches reopened and roofs on them! We look forward to all our ongoing mission projects together – serving Jesus, and the kingdom – near and far!

Praying for God's most abundant blessings in the year ahead for this church and this school!

With love,  
Laurie Frasz,  
HBCPK Director



You're invited!

# Family Game Night

Fun for  
All Ages!

....

01/23/2026  
5:30 - 7:30pm

Haymarket Baptist Church

....

Card Games  
Board Games  
Dinner



RSVP HERE

Bring a favorite game to share!

Interested in volunteering?  
Talk to Jed Atkinson







SERVING THE LORD THROUGH THE CHURCH IN JANUARY 2026

| DATE   | SECURITY OFFICERS | CHURCH GREETERS  | USHERS   | CHILDREN/YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS  | CHILDREN'S WORSHIP TEACHERS   | NURSERY WORKERS                   | FLOWER COMMITTEE |
|--------|-------------------|--|--|--|---|-----------------------------------|------------------|
| Jan 4  | TBA               | 9:15am<br>Wanda Leap<br>10:15am<br>Bernice Pearson<br>Ernestine Meyer                        | Brad Young<br>(captain)<br>Dan Valentine<br>Wayne Pitcher<br>Chris Shaltis | <u>Children</u><br>Lucy Parkes<br>Karen King<br>Youth<br>Vicki Bayol<br>Drew Blincoe     | <u>Bible Adventurers</u><br>Sarah Atkinson<br>Ernestine Meyer<br>JAM<br>Jed Atkinson<br>Susan Kaczmarek | Heather Bayol<br>Diane Weaver     | Vicki Cristiani  |
| Jan 11 | TBA               | 9:15am<br>Manuella Tatchim<br>10:15am<br>Susan Kaczmarek<br>Madelyn Allen<br>Kendall Frazier | John Burke<br>(captain)<br>Johno Cain<br>Susan Kaczmarek                   | <u>Children</u><br>Lucy Parkes<br>Leslie Pitcher<br>Youth<br>Vicki Bayol<br>Johno Cain   | <u>Bible Adventurers</u><br>Joannie Duckett<br>Amber Terrant<br>JAM<br>Christy Wisor<br>Kristin Olson   | Heather Bayol<br>Wanda Leap       | Bernice Pearson  |
| Jan 18 | TBA               | 9:15am<br>Sheila Major<br>10:15am<br>Linda Hankey<br>Shannon Barham                          | Keenan Bayol<br>(captain)<br>Bob Coffey<br>Jed Atkinson                    | <u>Children</u><br>Lucy Parkes<br>Sarah Atkinson<br>Youth<br>Vicki Bayol<br>Drew Blincoe | <u>Bible Adventurers</u><br>Missy Baker<br>Aranka Montoro<br>JAM<br>Karen King<br>Dinah Thompson        | Heather Bayol<br>Bery Rabindran   | Joannie Duckett  |
| Jan 25 | TBA               | 9:15am<br>Linda Olson<br>10:15am<br>Sarah Atkinson<br>Jed Atkinson                           | Jason Hudson<br>(captain)<br>Paul Sellers<br>Karen King<br>Keith Bishトン    | <u>Children</u><br>Lucy Parkes<br>Linda Hankey<br>Youth<br>Vicki Bayol<br>Kathy Kennedy  | <u>Bible Adventurers</u><br>Johnno Cain<br>Kathy Kennedy<br>JAM<br>Karen King<br>Manuella Tatchim       | Heather Bayol<br>Ernestine Meyers | Cheryl Cox       |

DEACON OF THE MONTH FOR JANUARY: Linda Hankey (804) 840-0089  
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 )Web: [my-hbc.org](http://my-hbc.org) ~ 14800 Washington Street, Haymarket, VA 20169

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