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# FAITH FIRST

**'Fantastic Adventure In Trusting Him'**

"Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know." Jeremiah 33:3 NKJV

Vol. No. 20

August 2016

Edition No. 8

**Derek Hicks - Pastor**  
**Cole Clark - Assoc. Youth & Rec**  
**Matthew Moody - Assoc. Music/Ed**  
**Melissa Farris - Secretary**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**BACK SCHOOL 2 BASH**

**GAMES Friday August 19**

**4pm - 7:30pm**

**FLC**

**WORSHIP BAND**

**FOOD**

**Kidz PraiZe & Awana**

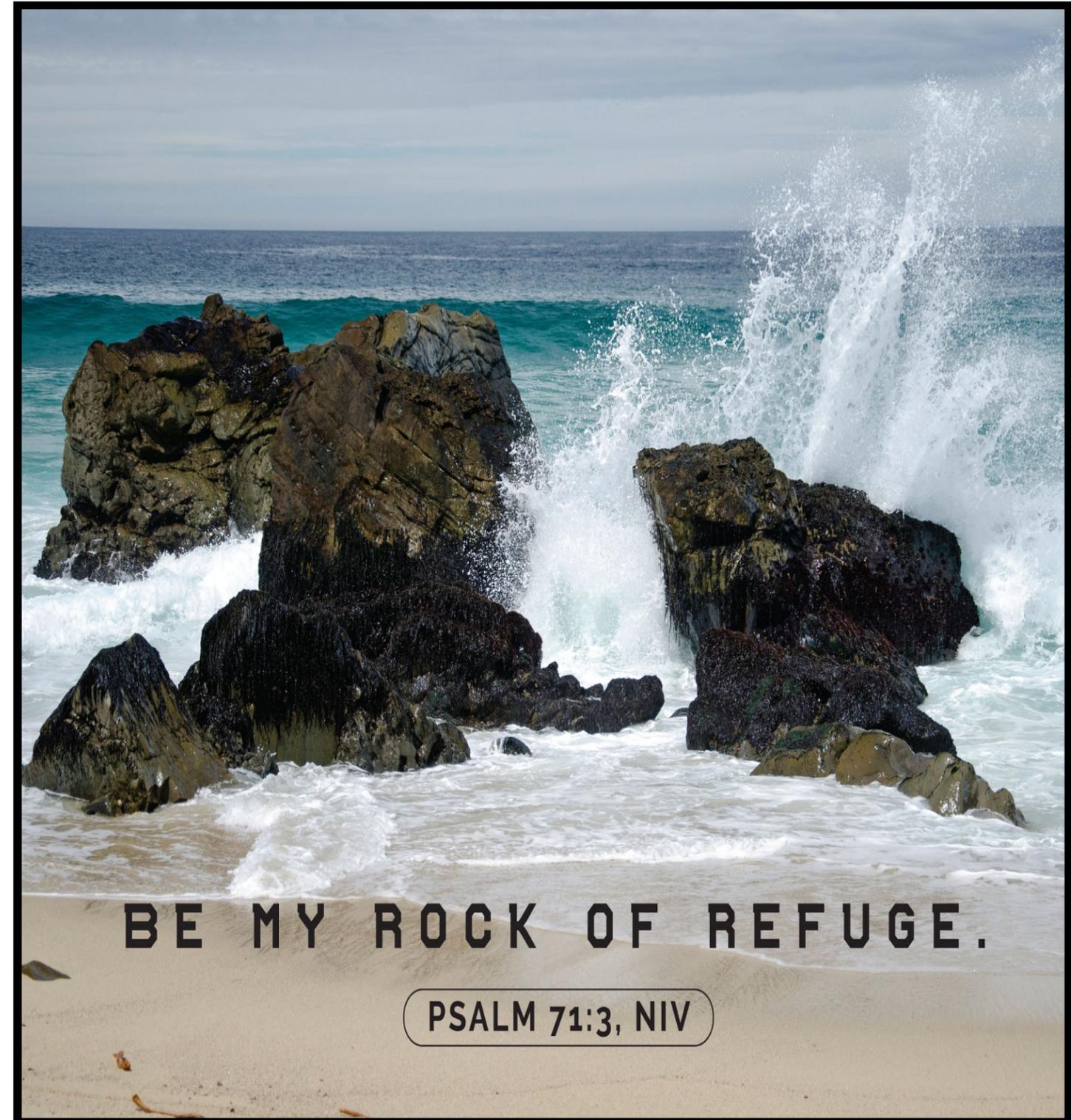
**BEGIN in August**

**Awana**  
Because Kids Matter to God

Kidz Praize is a kids choir for all kids in grades K - 6th. They meet on Sundays, at 8pm, starting August 28. Kidz Praize will begin working on Christmas music!

**AWANA** (derived from the first letters of Approved Workmen Are Not Ashamed as taken from 2 Timothy 2:15) is a Scripture based program with the mission of helping parents and churches raise children to know, love and serve God. AWANA is for kids ages 3 - 6th grade and meets each Wednesday, at 6pm, starting August 24.

**We invite your kids to join both Kidz Praize and AWANA!!!**



**BE MY ROCK OF REFUGE.**

**PSALM 71:3, NIV**

# FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings,

July has been a great month for our church. We have had the blessings of baptizing almost every Sunday of the month! I am praying that we get to baptize many more between now and the end of the year!

We had a good group of men who attended the Men's Retreat at ETBE. The fellowship of men singing praises to God and learning His word is always one of my favorite times of the year. If you didn't get the chance to be at the retreat this year, please make plans to attend next year.

I had a great time on my mission trip! It started with a hot five hour bus ride from Prague, Czech Republic to Wroclaw, Poland. While in Poland, I had the opportunity to spend time with two IMB missionaries discussing what they do on a daily basis. As we discussed their daily activity they gave us the city tour where we took in the many historical places to see there. I got to see a monument dedicated to Dietrich Bonhoeffer because Wroclaw, Poland is the city where he was born. Once we made the five hour trek back to Prague, I had the great opportunity to help teach/preach to 130ish missionary students. These students were in the city because their parents who are missionaries within the IMB had their Annual General Meeting. We led them through Richard Foster's Celebration of Discipline. We wanted the students to grow closer and connect to God through the disciplines. I had a great time there, but I am even more excited to be back home with my wife, kids, and church family!

I am looking forward to getting back in the swing of things and getting ready for the new school year. It is coming soon! We will have the prayer walk again, and I am hoping you will plan to be there with us!

Peace be the journey,  
Bro. Derek

Worship With US		SERVICE SCHEDULE	
		<b>SUNDAY</b>	
		MidLake Mission	8:15 am
		Bible Study	9:00 am
		Morning Worship	10:15 am
		Youth Discipleship	6:00 pm
		<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	
		Bible Study	12:00 pm
		Choir Practice	6:00 pm
		Youth (7th-12th)	6:15 pm



## August Birthdays



If your birthday shown below is not correct, please inform the church office so we can keep our records correct and up to date.

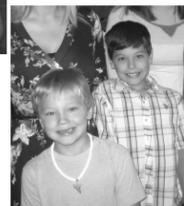
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1 - Frank Coday<br>Tellina Wright                                    | 15 - Kyle Bolyard<br>Susan Conn                             |
| 2 - Geana Russell  | Jim McDonald  |
| 3 - John Henson  | 20 - Bonnie Gutel   |
| 4 - Betty Hamilton<br>Roy Pond<br>Gordon Steele<br>Kaitlyn Westbrook | 21 - Southwind Kane<br>22- Chassidy Simmons<br>Marie Steele |
| 5 - Sabrina Hernandez  | 24 - Dixie Hargis   |
| 8 - Ginger Reynolds  | 25 - Lloyd Goodson  |
| 9 - Mick Leach<br>Jim Nethery  | Krissy LeBlanc<br>Joan McGee<br>Judy Reeves                 |
| 11 - Neil Beall<br>Kristen Burns                                     | 26 - Shirley Majors   |
| 12 - Nathan Booth  | 28 - Erik King<br>Henry Reeves                              |
| 13 - Denise Cordray<br>Rebecca Duncan                                | Celeste Waller<br>29 - Amanda Ferrell<br>Brandi Miller      |

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

**Samantha Hill** 3/30  
**Kaden Hill** 3/10  
192 Valley Dr  
Hemphill 787-4320

**Kaci Pearson** 9/13  
1686 Texas St  
Hemphill

**Sladen Fiscus** (5/26)  
**Sawyer Fiscus** (1/30)  
185 Vernon St  
Milam 625-3733



# Matt's Memo

Hello Church! I pray this letter finds all of you well. It's been a busy but blessed summer and there's still work to do. But before we talk about this month I'd like to reflect on some of what God did for us during the month of July.

I had a blast at our 4th of July celebration! The food and fellowship was great and I encourage all that are available to attend next year.

I was also very blessed to see our youth group along with Cole and his team of adult leaders share God's love by meeting the needs of the people here in our church as well as the community. I pray our youth will continue to follow God's call to serve others and that we would inspire them to do the same through our acts of love and kindness.

PreTeen Camp was a great success and I want to thank the church for all your support. The kids had a great time and God's presence was working in the hearts of our young people. Continue to be in prayer for these kids as they work through questions they may have about salvation and what it really means to be a Christian. I know God has big plans for these young people here at the church as they continue to grow.

With the arrival of August comes a new school year, which bring the return of AWANA and Kidz Praise! I'm excited about both these groups getting started again. AWANA will have its first night back on Wednesday, August 24th. AWANA leaders will have a meeting the Wednesday prior to prepare for the start of the year. Kidz Praise will meet on Sunday's at 6 starting on the 28th. They will begin work on a Christmas musical. Can you believe it's time to start preparing Christmas music? The adult choir will begin preparation on a Christmas presentation this month as well. I'm looking forward to it!

For those of you involved in the education system, I hope you enjoy the rest of your break and that your new school year starts as smoothly as possible. Everyone have a great

August! God Bless!

~Bro. Matt

# YOUTH MINISTRY

Hello everyone! Summer is drawing to a close and we are once again faced with the fact that for every summer there is a brand new school year. This year however instead of dreading the studying and test taking rejoice that you have an opportunity like no one else! You see, you as students of H.I.S.D. have the unique opportunity to be the hands and feet of Christ right where you are. This is a magnificent thought! All of the training and building up you received this summer from camps and studying Gods word can finally be put into practice! I pray that each of you had a wonderful summer. I know that I sure did!

Looking ahead we are going to be having a back to school bash on Friday, August 19. I hope that everyone will make plans to attend. **We will not have regular youth services Wednesday the 17<sup>th</sup> since we are meeting together that Friday.**



We are continuing to work our way through the Bible on Sunday mornings during our Bible study hour. I know that for me this study has given me the opportunity to study parts of scripture that I often don't turn to. I believe that if you will truly give this time a chance you will grow through it.

Our Sunday night discipleship training is still going strong! We are still looking at how to break down, interpret, and teach a passage of scripture. We will be walking our way through Hebrews 11 looking at all of the great men of the faith. I am super excited to see what God will do with this study!

Our Wednesday night program is continuing to be a growing time for all involved. If you have not had the opportunity to worship with us on a Wednesday night I would like to personally invite you to come and check us out.

I want you to continue to grow. Many of you gave your life to the Lord this summer so don't forget who your Lord is when you are faced with the trials and temptations that come from a new school year. Always remember that the Lord you met at camp or church is with you wherever you go just as He promised His disciples in Matthew 28:20 "And behold, I am with you always".

Blessing in Christ, *Cole*