

## NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Rev. Brian Rice, Pastor
Rev. Henry Hazard, Pastor Emeritus

Contact Us

Phone - 850-785-9897 Fax - 850-785-0708

Pastor - brian@heritagebiblechurch.net
Secretary - secretary@heritagebiblechurch.net

heritagebiblechurch.net

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Heritage Bible Church - Panama City

Weekly Services

Sunday School - 9:15 AM

Worship Service - 10:30 AM

Sunday Night Service - 6:00 PM
The Pursuit of God Book Study
Kids Missions Program
Youth

**Wednesday Night Community Group:** 

Meal - 6:15 PM Study - 6:30 PM



Sunday nights through November 17th at 6 PM



Sunday nights through November 17th at 6 PM All kids through 6th grade are invited to join us as we finish up with studying Taiwan.

### **Anna Holmes Ministry Sharing**

Anna Holmes will be sharing about her time in Atlanta on Sunday, November 24 at 6:00 PM.

# FROM THE PASTOR

On the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus gave many instructions and theological corrections to those who were following after Him and listening to Him. One such instruction was on fasting, "when you fast..." Jesus considered this to be an expected, righteous action along with giving to the needy and praying. I would like to encourage you from the bottom of my heart to add fasting to your "regular" spiritual disciples or acts of righteousness. Not simply because Jesus has they expectation that you and I will be fasting, though obedience to Him can never be a bad reason. But because of the spiritual benefits that we derive from fasting.

What is fasting? Well, we are created for a relationship with God and dependence upon God. Sin places a wedge in our relationship with God (not salvific but interpersonal relationship), and sin also places a wedge in our dependence on God. So, what fasting from meals does is it removes that source of energy, fulfillment, etc. from our lives and we replace that time with more communion with God (prayer, reading His word, meditating, practicing His presence, etc.). The point is in denying this one area, we rely more fully on God for His provision and draw closer to Him, intentionally relying on Him more.

As I shared on Sunday morning, I have never had a fasting experience in which I earnestly sought-after God and He did not reveal something wonderful about Himself to me. I was recently convicted that while fasting from food there were many digital things in my life that I relied on WAAAYYYY too much for satisfaction (distraction), and were getting in the way of my relationship with God. With these digital items, I was too often keeping my mind busy and distracted, making it far less likely that I would hear God's still small voice. What a wonderful truth for God to reveal; an obstacle between He and me.

I also found myself getting irritated too quickly. Snickers has the slogan "You're not you, when you're hungry." Is that true, or is that Brian's flesh that I have suppressed/medicated with food instead of the Holy Spirit's filling in me? Another wonderful revelation from God for me to continue to pursue Him deeper, that God and only God helps us to overcome our sin stained flesh.

If you are unable medically to fast from food, what else is something of importance in your life that you can replace with God for a day or two or a week or two? What about fasting Facebook, TV, Internet, YouTube, Games, Netflix, Books, etc.? If you have never fasted or it's been a while, pick a day this month and just do it. If fasting is part of your spiritual life, what about increasing the frequency? How wonderful will Heritage Bible Church be as we corporately seek a deeper life with Christ.



Join us for our last work days of the year: Nov 2 & 23, and Dec 7



All men 13 and older are invited to join us for our men's ministry. Come as we intentionally pursue God, Biblical community, and the mission that God has called every man to through dinner, fellowship, study of His Word, and prayer for one another.

Join us for the rest of our meetings this year: Nov 5 & 19, and Dec 3



Alliance Women will be packing the OCC boxes
November 16th from 10am until all the boxes are
complete. Please bring a snack or brunch item to
share and come fellowship with one another. We
will also be kicking off our Secret Sister that day so
grab a packet off the foyer table if you are
interested in participating. See Rachel Rice for
more information.



Wednesday, November 20 6:00 PM



Friday, December 6 7:00 PM Triple J Steakhouse



Saturday, December 7 11 AM - 1 PM



Sunday, December 15 5:00 PM

## D•Conference 2020 DISCIPLE-MAKING TOGETHER

"The D•Conference is for ministry leaders who want to BE a disciple-maker, BUILD a healthy disciple-making ministry and develop practical skills to BEGIN a disciple-making movement. Awaken a renewed passion to follow Jesus' model and make disciples as He did."

Join Pastor Brian January 14-16 in Orlando for this FANTASIC conference to help equip us as a church to make disciples as Jesus did. We have 3 pre-paid tickets available, first-come first served. See Pastor Brian to register as a group with the free ticket, or for more details.

To learn more or register on your own, go to www.sonlife.com/disciple-making-conference/.

# FACTS & FIGURES

### Finances for Oct For Oct 1 to Oct 31

General Operating Fund (GOF) Monthly Budget: \$18,200.00 GOF Tithes and Offerings Received (4 Sundays): \$18,239.77 General Operating Fund Weekly Budget: \$4,200.00 GOF Avg. Weekly Tithes and Offerings (4 Sundays): \$4,559.95

#### For Year to Date 2019 (based on 10 months and 43 Sundays):

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GOF Year to Date (YTD) Tithes and Offerings Budget (monthly basis):	\$ 182,000.00
GOF (YTD) Tithes and Offerings Budget (weekly basis):	\$ 180,600.00
GOF YTD Tithes and Offerings Receipts-	\$ 164,302.19
GOF YTD Other Receipts:	\$ 3,461.00
GOF Year to Date <b>Disbursements and Transfers</b> to Other Funds:	\$(171,897.36)
GOF Receipts vs GOF Disbursements and Transfers to Other Funds:	\$ (4,134.17)
GOF Balance as of Oct 31 (242% of monthly budget):	\$ 43,889.41
Average Weekly Tithes and Offerings Received (43 Sundays):	\$ 3,820.99
YTD Avg Weekly GOF Disbursements & Transfers:	\$ (3,997.62)
Missions YTD Income: Receipts (\$9,262) + 24% of Tithes & Offerings (\$39,432.54):	\$ 48,694.54
Missions YTD Disbursements and \$600 transfer to Missions Peru Trip	\$ (49,780.69)
Missions Fund Balance:	\$ 5,362.26
Missions Peru Trip Balance:	\$ 3,016.67
Building Fund YTD Receipts: (Including \$1,550 In Memory of Gifts)	\$ 2,967.22
Building Fund Disbursements: (Replacement Shed):	\$ (1,205.85)
Building Fund Balance:	\$ 18,516.68
Bridge Fund Balance:	\$ 6,685.00
Hurricane Relief Fund Balance: Disbursements: (15,741.41)	\$ 2,568.25