

HBC TRANSITION COMMITTEE

Hillendale Baptist Church

Church Profile 1973-2021



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Hillendale Baptist Church (HBC)

A Brief History

Hillendale Baptist Church began as a mission effort of the nearby Dale City Baptist Church and the Virginia Baptists (now known as Baptist General Association of VA). Forty-eight years ago (starting in 1973) a small group of believers met in Kerrydale Elementary School in Prince William County, Virginia, and called their first pastor, John Mann Jr. Soon they arranged financing through the Potomac Baptist Association (now NorthStar Baptist Association) with a loan from the Baptist Extension Board and began the construction of their building. HBC became formally chartered and independent in October 1975. John Mann Jr. left HBC and our second pastor, Dr. Barry Losey, served from 1 February 1987, until 1990. He was followed by Dr. David T. Hottel who began service in 1990. Under his direction, the church began to grow. Soon their new building became too small and space for Sunday School classes was rented from a nearby office building. As the congregation grew, church leaders began to dream of an addition to existing building to house these classes, and construction began on the additions needed. With the additional space, we began hosting a day care for young children, a counseling service, a Korean Ministry (for 3 years), a scout troop, an AA group, and lastly, invited a Spanish speaking group to make use of our space for Christian worship services from 2005 to 29 October 2021. Dr. Hottel departed HBC in 2013 but not before seating Pastor Gareth Murray who served until May 2021.

Our Affiliations

NorthStar Baptist Association
Baptist General Association of Virginia (BGAV)
Southern Baptist Convention (SBC)
Baptist World Alliance
Cooperative Council of Ministries (Dale City)

Geographic Area

The Hillendale Baptist Church is located in Dale City, VA, in eastern Prince William County, approximately 30 miles from Washington D.C. Prince William County (PWC) was founded in 1731, situated within the Northern Virginia (NOVA) region and is located on the Potomac River in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It covers an area of 348 sq miles, and the County Seat is found in Manassas and has been there since 1894. Dale City is a residential planned community of which HBC is centrally located.

PWC is the only county in Virginia that has both coastline and mountains. The western border includes the Bond and Bull Run Mountain ranges. The geographic environment is remarkably diverse with forests, farmland, pastures, parks, large suburban cities and towns, and large navigable rivers. While congregation members are primarily residents of PWC, we also enjoy receiving residents of nearby Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudon, and Stafford Counties. There is sure to be a House of Worship for most of the World's religions nearby. The most direct route to our church is via I-95, exit at mile marker 156 (continue to Dale City), travel on Dale Boulevard through approximately 11 traffic lights and turn right onto Hillendale Drive. Continue on Hillendale Drive to nearly the end where you will find HBC on the right just before the 7-11 Convenience Store and Sheetz Gas Station.

Population in Transition

The Population of PWC is 468,011 (2018), and counting. Proximity to the nation's capital has transformed Northern Virginia and the entire Washington, D.C. metropolitan area into one of America's most dynamic, fastest-growing, economically advanced, highly educated, prosperous, and culturally diverse regions on the planet. The region has some of the top, most renowned public-school systems in the nation. The quality of education in the region's public-school systems draws numerous amounts of families to the region. Colleges and universities in PWC include the Marine Corps University, University of Northern Virginia, Strayer University and Stratford University, Woodbridge.

NOVA is one of the fastest growing, diverse communities in the United States and is on the front lines of a demographic transformation shaping the United States. There has been an extraordinary amount of population growth in Northern Virginia. The April 1st Decennial Census population of Northern Virginia was 1,466,350 in 1990, 1,815,197 in 2000, and 2,230,623 in 2010. On July 1, 2019, according to the U.S. Census Bureau Population Estimates Program, Northern Virginia had an estimated population of 2,524,874.

A big story of the region is the minority-majority transition. There will soon be a day when the majority of people will belong to a minority group (any group other than non-Hispanic White alone). Much of this is attributed to the sizable increases in the number of Hispanics and Asians in the region. Immigration has been driving many of the significant demographic trends in the region. The foreign-born population is transforming the region. Northern Virginia's population was 21.4% foreign born in 2000 and has risen to 27.7% (2014-2018 ACS 5Yr Estimate).

For comprehensive demographic data related to PWC (geographic, people, history, economy, etc.) click on the following link:

<https://datausa.io/profile/geo/prince-william-county-va/#:~:text=Prince%20William%20County%2C%20VA%20is%20home%20to%20a,County%2C%20VA%20than%20any%20other%20race%20or%20ethnicity>

Culture and Style

Our Culture

- We trust in God in all things.
- As a Church, we choose to love first and lead second, but both should be accomplished with love.
- No matter how hard we work, family responsibility is first.
- We seek to help all and share GOD's love.

Our Style:

- As in the case of Israel, the assembly of people is essential
- We have a mix of contemporary and traditional worship.
- Our worship draws on the Bible, liturgical and historical resources, along with some contemporary items.

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- We intentionally make it diverse: classical choir, contemporary praise, and various musical genres.

What We Believe

What follows is neither a creedal statement nor an exhaustive treatise of Christian doctrine. It simply expresses the major emphases of faith and life that define Hillendale Baptist Church as seeking to be within the great biblical and orthodox traditions of the Christian faith. We echo what has often been said throughout church history: "in essentials, unity; in non-essentials, liberty; in all things, charity."

About God - We believe that there is one true, holy God, eternally existing in three persons – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – each of whom possesses equally all the attributes of deity and characteristics of personality. In the beginning God created out of nothing the world and everything in it, and from that beginning God has been relentlessly desiring and pursuing a personal, intimate, and eternal relationship with us.

(Genesis 1; Deuteronomy 6:4; Ephesians 1:11-12)

About Humanity - We believe that all humanity is made in the spiritual image of God – i.e. to be like God in character and action. Humankind is the supreme object of God's creation and love. We are relational beings and have been made from love, for love.

(Genesis 1:27; Psalms 8:3-6; Ephesians 1:4-6)

About Sin - Although we have tremendous potential for good, we are marred by an attitude of disobedience towards God called "sin." This attitude prohibits our full participation in the kingdom of God until the relationship is restored through personally entrusting our lives to Jesus Christ.

(Isaiah 53:6; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59: 1-2; Genesis 3; Romans 1-3)

About Jesus - Jesus reveals God to us. When we want to know what God is like, we look at Jesus. In him, we discover a God who is merciful, kind, other-seeking, and – most profoundly – loving. Jesus provides the story through which we make sense of our lives. In him, we discover our purpose, significance, and ultimate vision of the good life.

On the cross, the powers of death, loneliness, greed, and self-interest had their final say and have been defeated. Through the resurrection, God's beautiful world of love, joy, peace, kindness, goodness, and justice breaks into our world of brokenness.

We believe that our longings to be reunited with God found their fulfillment in Jesus, who is mysteriously God in the flesh – fully God and fully human. Jesus came to preach good news to the poor, to heal the broken-hearted and set captives free. He lived a sinless life, proclaiming the arrival of God's Kingdom. He was rejected by many, crucified, buried, and rose from the dead. His death and resurrection bring hope to all creation. For all who personally entrust their lives to Jesus and receive his sacrifice and resurrection he gives eternal life, forgiveness of sin, and reconciliation with God, which leads to one's full participation in God's eternal kingdom. (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John; Romans 5:1-11, 8:1-39; Hebrews 4:14-16, 7:24-25)

About The Holy Spirit - We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who is active in regeneration, sanctification, and discipleship and who empowers the people of God to use their gifts to bring

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honor and glory to God through Jesus Christ. We believe the Holy Spirit lives within every believer in Jesus and that the Spirit is our abiding helper, teacher, and guide.
(John 14 & 16; Acts 2; Romans 8; I Corinthians 12 - 14)

About The Bible - We believe the Bible to be the voices of many who have come before us, inspired by God to continue to speak to us today. We believe that the Bible contains the distinctive and authoritative testimony for all Christian belief and practice, and that Jesus Christ is the interpretive principle of the Scriptures. God calls us to immerse ourselves in the Scriptures and to continue to faithfully live out its story today as we are led by the Spirit.
(2 Timothy 3:16,17; 2 Peter 1:19-21; Hebrews 1:1-3; Luke 24:44-47; Romans 7:6, 8:1-4)

About The Church - As followers of Jesus, we are called into a new community called the Church which puts God on display to the world. In our life together, each of us is called to share our gifts in service, and through the power of the Spirit our life together leads to the renewal and healing of our lives, our neighborhood, and our world.

We believe there is one true church, universal, comprised of all those who acknowledge Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. We practice the ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper and await the return of Christ. We believe the church is called together by God's Spirit as an agent of reconciliation in the world, to engage the culture, and to put the resurrected Christ who lives in and through us on display to a broken and hurting world. We believe that God works through the church to bring God's family back together through Jesus Christ.
(Matthew 5:13-16; Matthew 16:18; Acts 1-12; Ephesians 4:1-16)

Church Mission Statement

The mission of Hillendale Baptist Church is to provide a warm, friendly environment for a multicultural group of believers to worship the triune God. As a place of fellowship, our goal is to promote God's grace and knowledge among God's people and demonstrate God's love in the community through service.

Our Church Life

Important Observances

- Communion
- Church Meeting
- Christmas Eve Service
- Church Anniversary
- Easter Service
- Women's Conference

Special Services

- Christmas Eve service
- Annual Christmas Program
- Anniversary service

Children’s education program

- Hillendale Kids (Sunday programming for different age groups)
- Kids Choir - Annual Christmas Program

Youth program Hillendale Teens

- Sunday education
- Monthly gatherings
- Music ministry (“PULSE”)

Important new programs that need support Hillendale Kids: this is a church-wide, multi-lingual ministry that requires heavy participation – in leadership and volunteering – from multiple families. Elements of the program include education, community, parent- empowerment, worship, and safety (volunteer screening, training, and compliance). The program was launched in 2017.

Worship

Average Church Membership, pre-pandemic: 33 Families

Average attendance on Sundays, pre-pandemic: Service - 56

Attendance trends: Peaks on Easter, Early Fall, and Christmas, valleys in January and the Summer. Worship services are usually no longer than one hour.

Our entire church ministry is unique in our approach to a multicultural and multilingual community. We also try to be intentional in making Hillendale a place where all cultures can feel a sense of belonging.

Discipleship

It is our intention to regather, reconstitute and provision for the following discipleship opportunities:

We provide Sunday School for pre-K through 5th grade and a Children’s Church class. Middle school and adult small classes meet before the worship service. Youth choir is growing each year and reaches out to youngsters in the community. Special music/drama programs are staged for Easter, Christmas, and Hillendale Kids choir events.

Discipleship is furthered through annual Bible History seminars given by representatives of the Leland Center, the Women’s Conferences, monthly Prayer Gatherings, monthly Teen Gatherings (First Fridays), Hillendale Teens program, Vacation Bible School, annual Child Safety training sessions, and Back-2-School Festivals.

Fellowship

The COVID-19 pandemic has severely curtailed most fellowship activities from March 2020 to the present time. We intend to revive weekly (after church coffee socials), monthly (celebrating birthdays and anniversaries) and other opportunities (picnics, holidays, etc.) to encourage fellowship at HBC as it once was.

Mission Spirit

A mission spirit has characterized the HBC from its beginning. Since the first Sunday's offering, ten per cent of all regular gifts to the church have been channeled beyond our doors to missions throughout the world.

Programs

- Women's Conference
- Back-2-School Festival
- Monthly Prayer Gatherings
- Monthly Teen Gatherings (First Fridays)
- Hillendale Kids & Hillendale Teens
- Connection Groups (small group ministry)
- Sunday School

Stewardship

- Letters given with mailed giving statements (mid-year, in July/end of year stewardship letter, in December)
- Guidance for giving on Sundays
- People give online and in-person (during normal operations)

What ministries do we need to start or strengthen over the next 5 years?

- Build up the youth program
- Community outreach
- More family activities
- Bible studies/Classes exploring spirituality / Women's ministry/clubs / Singles ministry
- Strengthen the music program

Our Next Pastor

- Knows the Bible
- Preaches the Gospel and can apply God's Word to today's issues, e.g., an expository preacher.
- Friendly / People-Person / Caring and loving personality.
- Sense of Humor / Informal/ Casual / Approachable / Transparent.
- Enthusiastic / Outgoing / Self-confident / Optimistic.
- Patient / Compassionate/ Empathetic / Thoughtful / Genuine.
- Experience with multi-racial, ethnic, and cultural congregations.
- Lead the Church to fully regather, reconstitute and provision us for service to the community.

Pastoral Search Committee

Charles Hartmann
Joyce Gammelmo
Bernard L. Bailey
David Critchfield
Linda Hartmann
Thomas Lemke