



Jeff Smith
Admin. & Discipleship Pastor

OUR STAFF:

Jeremy Pellum
jpellum@hurstbournebc.org

Carolyn Holm
cholm@hurstbournebc.org

Jeff Smith
jsmith@hurstbournebc.org

Hannah D'Ettorre
cc@hurstbournebc.org

Vince Scarbrough
vscarbrough@hurstbournebc.org

Abby McPherson
amcpherson@hurstbournebc.org

Chase Grubb
cgrubb@hurstbournebc.org

Will Hughes
whughes@hurstbournebc.org

Trevor Coleman
tcoleman@hurstbournebc.org

Doug Williams
doug.williams@kybaptist.org

When Emily and I were newlyweds, we decided that we would study the book of Hebrews together. We bought a Hebrews study guide and worked through the commentary and questions as we read through the book of Hebrews over a number of weeks.

At about the same time, we decided to buy a pet fish. We chose a colorful betta fish and put him in a cylindrical fishbowl on an end table next to the couch in our living room. We decided to call the fish Melchizedek (“Mel” for short), after the mysterious Old Testament high priest that is featured prominently in the book of Hebrews. I have precious memories of us sitting on that couch in our tiny first apartment, discussing Hebrews together while Mel would swim around and watch us.

I am so excited that Pastor Jeremy is going to start a sermon series on Hebrews just after Easter. We’ll be diving together into this important letter of Scripture that explains how the sacrifice of Jesus both fulfills and surpasses the sacrificial system in the Old Testament. Hebrews 9:24-28 says:

“For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him.”

The animal sacrifices in the Old Testament law were a constant reminder for the people of the reality of their sin and their need for atonement for their sin. But no matter how often those sacrifices were made, those sacrifices could not actually cleanse people of their sin or change the sinful desires of their hearts. Those sacrifices pointed to a greater sacrifice: Jesus Christ. He gave the sacrifice to end all those sacrifices. His sacrifice was the only real atonement who could cleanse the sin of all believers—past, present, and future—once and for all. We celebrate this every Sunday and especially at Easter!

The book of Hebrews urges us repeatedly to place our trust completely in Jesus. He has fulfilled the old covenant and given us a better one. He is our only true salvation. He is the only one that truly changes our hearts. And we should forsake all trust in any sacrifice, ritual, tradition, or deed that dares to claim any part of the salvation that we receive from Christ alone.

For those of us who believe, he has put away our sin. As a result, we are eagerly waiting for his salvation that he will bring us when he returns. Jesus’s death assures us that our sin has been cleansed once and for all, and his resurrection assures us that our salvation is coming.

He is risen! (He is risen indeed.)
-Pastor Jeff

April Birthdays

April 1: Kendrick Barjolo, June Nicholson, Ila Swick
April 2: Trevor Coleman
April 3: Glenna Calvert, Joan Henry
April 4: Greg Brockman, Ashley Castro
April 5: Kelly Kramer
April 6: Gary Heilmann
April 7: Kim Spaulding, Atticus McDonald, Grace Dressel
April 8: Mary Pellum, Mason Salyers, Lauren Grubb
April 9: Daniela D'Ettorre, Greg Campbell
April 10: Jennifer Bippus, David McDonald, Anita Thomason
April 11: Noel Pellum, Joyce Allison
April 13: Claire Barham
April 14: Josie Belcher
April 15: Bob Campbell, Heather Leverett, Jack Wright
April 16: Holly Williams
April 17: Miriam Veltman, Johnny Ringstaff
April 18: Pickle Ray, Jack Cooper
April 20: John Nelson
April 21: Todd Calvert
April 22: Jon Robert Sprinkle
April 23: Matt Coffman, Kip Eatherly
April 26: Philip Cooper
April 27: Eason Haley
April 28: Sasha Price
April 29: Lori Sharp

May Birthdays

May 1: Peggy Davis, Walter Jones
May 2: Dave Hall, Patrick McPherson, Tom Stosberg
May 3: Cheyenne Lauder
May 6: Rebecca Whisenant, Paulette Sparks, Aileen Hawes, Paul Boyd
May 7: Jordan Snider
May 8: Laurene Tibbs
May 9: Bradley Embry
May 10: Alaina Andrecht
May 11: Patrick Wilkerson, Jason Bippus
May 12: Patrice Lux
May 13: Kim Toler, Val Logue, Abby McPherson
May 14: Matt Oliver
May 16: Evan Coffman, Marta Rowe
May 17: Linda Mayhall
May 18: Debbie Wilt, Doug Williams
May 19: Larry Smith
May 20: Linda Williams
May 21: Sarah-Katherine & Meredith Reynolds
May 22: James Tavelli
May 23: Charlie Cooper, Brayden Leverett
May 27: Marilyn Owens
May 28: Patrick Alyea, Spencer Barham
May 29: Charles Davis, Andrew Hitt
May 31: Bill Koch, Integrity Freedman

Giving Updates as of 3/25/26

Year to Date Budget: \$1,079,346

Received to Date: \$1,052,130

Annie Armstrong Offering: \$3,040