

**Hickory Valley Baptist Church
Announcements – July 5, 2026**

Church cookout

Sunday

The entire church is invited to a cookout immediately following this morning's worship service. If you forgot, or are joining us for the first time today, please stay and enjoy the cookout. There will be plenty of food for everyone. There will be no afternoon or evening activities at the church on Sunday.

Mid-week fellowship

Wednesday

Lunch will be served at 12 noon, followed by sharing of Scriptures, singing, a brief devotion, sharing prayer requests, and spending time individually in prayer.

New Women's Bible study

July 16

A new 6-week study will begin on Thursday, July 16, at 3:00 p.m. – "Living Like you Belong to God."

Concert with Westward Road

August 2

On Sunday night, August, 2 at 6:00 p.m., a trio consisting of Scott and Kelli Roberts and their son Garrett will present a concert. Free admission; a love offering will be received.

Gospel tracts and invitations to HVBC

In the lobby, there is an assortment of gospel tracts, including some written in Spanish and some designed to reach Jewish people. There are also business card-sized invitations to HVBC. Consider making it your goal to give out at least one tract and one invitation each day.

Benevolence fund

Donations to help those in need may be placed in the benevolence boxes in the lobby and the fellowship hall. A special "Thank you" to all who give to this ministry.



**Give thanks to God for the freedom and
privileges we enjoy in America.
Pray for our country and its leaders.**

Financial Report

Last week's tithes & offerings	\$3,376.91
Weekly operating budget	\$5,566.59
Year to date tithes & offerings	\$175,775.57
Year to date operating budget	\$144,731.34

sermon notes

**How To Pray for a Nation That Does Not Deserve It
based on the example of Ezra
July 5, 2026**

introduction: The attitude toward God and the Bible that was held by some of the influential founders and early leaders of our country, compared with some of the attitudes that are prevalent in our country today.

main point: _____ Godly people _____ — sometimes even if there's only one — can repent and intercede to God in prayer on behalf of an entire sinful nation (Ezra 9:1-5).

supporting Scriptures: Ezra 7:10

Numbers 14:6 — Joshua and Caleb

Exodus chapter 32 — Moses

Daniel chapter 9 — Daniel

Nehemiah chapter 1 — Nehemiah

James 5:16-18

1) Pray for God's _____ mercy _____ (Ezra 9:6-7, 9).

God's mercy involves Him _____ not _____ treating us as severely as our sins deserve.

2) Pray for God's _____ grace _____ (Ezra 9:8).

God's grace involves Him giving us _____ blessings _____ that we do not deserve.

Ezra chapter 10 records something _____ remarkable _____ that happened as he prayed for his sinful nation.

Go to FocusOnTheFamily.com/Pray4America to download an in-depth prayer guide.