

Heartland

Baptist Church



Alex Melton, Senior Pastor

"He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?" Micah 6:8

Midweek at Heartland is restarting this fall, and we are inviting every adult and teenager in our congregation to join us for a timely ten-week series titled *Kingdom Citizens in the Prairie State*. Beginning Wednesday, August 26 at 6:00 pm, we will gather to examine what it means to confess "Jesus is Lord" while living as exiles in Illinois.

This series is not designed to make us more partisan. It is designed to make us more faithful. As citizens of the Kingdom of God, we have a responsibility and privilege to engage with our earthly citizenship as well. Over ten weeks we will move from the clear foundation of Christ's absolute kingship and the biblical boundaries of authority (family, church, and civil government) into the concrete battlegrounds facing our state: the sanctity of life, the divine design of sex and gender, the formation of the next generation, religious liberty, and economic justice. We will conclude by forging these truths into a practical "Rule of Life" that shapes our prayers, our votes, our mercy ministries, and our daily witness.

Each Wednesday evening, we will spend time singing together, hearing biblical teaching on the issues facing our state and nation, discussing it around the tables, and then spend time praying for one another, our state, and the nation. Childcare will be provided for young children so that parents can fully engage.

Illinois needs Christians who are neither retreatists nor culture warriors, but Kingdom citizens—men and women who seek the shalom of our cities, refuse to bow to earthly idols, and remain quick to repent, generous to the vulnerable, and bold in truth. This series is meant to equip us for exactly that calling.

We urge you to make Midweek a priority. Bring your Bible, your family, and your willingness to be shaped by Scripture rather than by the noise of the moment. Midweek at Heartland begins again on August 26 at 6:00 pm. Come ready to offer your life as a living sacrifice to King Jesus.

Our elders are praying that these ten weeks will deepen our love for Christ, sharpen our witness, and produce lasting fruit for His glory in the Prairie State.

Wes Hahn, Pastor of Worship & Families

We are confronted every day with many questions that we need to answer. But, how many of them are of the utmost importance and demand our immediate attention? Most honestly, probably way fewer than we think or make many of them out to be.

But, may I suggest one question that is, perhaps, the single most important question that I, you, and literally everyone needs to consider and answer? It is found in Matthew 16:13-20. This is where Jesus asks His disciples about who the people said who "the Son of Man" was. The disciples answered saying some said John the Baptist, others Elijah, Jeremiah, or one of the other Old Testament prophets. I have always found it interesting that Jesus did not react nor concern Himself with those wrong answers, but rather, turned to His disciples and said, "But who do you yourselves say that I am?" Hmmm...

Here's why I think He did that. It is the most important question that confronts everyone and must be answered. One's eternity hangs in the balance in one's answer. How one will live their life will be shaped and molded by their answer. It really does not matter what others think or say about who Jesus is. They are responsible for themselves. But, who you and I believe and say Jesus is, makes an eternal difference for you and I.

Peter is the disciple that answers. He says, "You are the Christ, The Son of the Living God." In his confession he is stating his belief that Jesus is the promised Messiah (anointed one) sent from God and was God Himself (Son of the Living God and the Son of Man, which is a messianic and divine name, too). When anyone truly confesses and believes that Jesus is the Messiah and the Lord God Himself, it will be life changing for them here and now and forever.

If Jesus were to ask you today, that most important question, "Who do you say I am?", what would you say?

Volunteer Schedule

- Greeters**
August 2:
Connectors: Sam Ollenbittle, Karen Harris
Door Greeters: Jen Haycraft, Glennita Seal
- August 9:**
Connectors: David Ollenbittle, Susie Kreitner
Door Greeters: Pat Farley, Jo Joyce
- August 16:**
Connectors: David Ollenbittle, Miranda Rendleman
Door Greeters: David & Karen Hickerson
- August 23:**
Connectors: David Ollenbittle, Robin Shawback
Door Greeters: Brandon & Miranda Rendleman
- August 30:**
Connectors: David Ollenbittle, Jen Haycraft
Door Greeters: Pat Farley, Jo Joyce

Nursery & Kid's Church

- August 2:**
Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Susie Kreitner
Nursery 10:30am: **ONE VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
Miranda Rendleman, Megan Hart, Karen Hickerson, Bekah Melton
Kid's Church: Please see Jackie Parish
- August 9:**
Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Marsha Anderson
Nursery 10:30am: **ONE VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
Karen Harris, Kim Collins, Hannah Cline, Lexi Hart
Kid's Church: Please see Jackie Parish
- August 16:**
Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Anna Drury
Nursery 10:30am: Sam Ollenbittle, LuEllen Job, LeAnn Parish, Carole Fredrick, Evelyn Vatole
Kid's Church: Please see Jackie Parish
- August 23:**
Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Kelli Melton
Nursery 10:30am: Nate Hart, Ronda Jolly, Lisa Pedersen, Hannah Pedersen, Rylee Hart
Kid's Church: Please see Jackie Parish
- August 30:**
Nursery 9:15am: Hannah Barnes, Candace Stutz
Nursery 10:30am: **ONE VOLUNTEER NEEDED**
Nate Hart, Chad Stutz, Ben Huggins, Rylee Hart
Kid's Church: Please see Jackie Parish
- For more information or if you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office or:**
Greeters: Church Office
Nursery: LeAnn Parish
Kid's Church: Jackie Parish at 618-789-2974

Deacon Ministry

If you have a need or know of someone who needs assistance, has become ill, hospitalized, or is in need of a ride to church please contact the church office at 618-462-1276 or Ted Burleson at 618-462-3032.

This Month at Heartland

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE: Join us for our Coffee/Donut Fellowship at 8:45am followed by Small Groups at 9:15am and our Worship Gathering at 10:30am. Sermons are available online at <https://vimeo.com/hbcalton>. Our Worship Gathering is livestreamed on our Facebook page.

IMPACT GROUPS: Impact Groups will resume on Sunday, August 16 from 5:30-7pm. We have groups for all ages. Our Men meet in Room 39, and our Women meet in Room 48. Heartland Students (6th-12th grade) meet in Room 31, and Kids (PreK-5th grade) meet in the Children's Wing. Childcare is available in our Children's Wing for babies (age 0-2). Please enter the church through Door "A" (the office door) on Sunday nights.

LUNCH & PRAYER WITH THE PASTORS: Wednesdays at 11:30am. Bring a lunch and spend some time with our pastors as we eat, pray, and share from the Word. **Lunch & Prayer with the Pastors will not meet on August 5.**

VBS 2026: We are excited for your child to join us for VBS this summer! August 2-6 from 6-8pm, kids will be challenged to answer Jesus' important question to His disciples, "Who do you say that I am?" As they explore all the ways light brightens, illuminates, reflects, and reveals, kids will discover that Jesus is the light who brings hope to a dark world. They will do all of this through an engaging time in Bible study, singing and dancing in music, fun games in recreation, and using their own creativity in crafts. VBS is open all kids 4 years old (must turn 4 by 9/1/26) through completed 5th grade. Please pre-register at hbcalton.com/vbs. Bring a friend and we will see you in August for VBS as we explore "Illumination Station"!

YOUTH VBS DAYS: August 3-6—Four Days of Food, Fun, and Faith! Join us for an unforgettable Youth VBS experience, designed just for students! Each day from Noon–3pm, we will kick things off with great food, dive into truth from God’s Word, and then head into a fun-filled activity you won’t want to miss— from bowling and swimming to board games and an epic slip and slide!

POOLS FOR SCHOOLS: Pools for Schools runs through August 9. We are collecting **dry erase markers, #2 wood-cased pencils, and Kleenex** for North Elementary and Alton High School. Please place your school supplies in the kiddie pools, which can be found in the church lobby.

FAMILY NIGHT AT GLAZEBROOK PARK BALL FIELDS: Summer is winding down. School starts soon. As we get ready to close the book on Summer Break, join us at Glazebrook Park Ball Fields from 4-6pm on August 9 for a night of fun as a church family. We will play kickball, Spikeball, and other games. If games are not your thing, enjoy a treat and while hanging out with the Heartland family.

WOMEN’S MISSIONARY UNION (WMU): WMU meets on Wednesday, August 12 at 6:30pm. All ladies interested in national/international missionaries, studying God’s word, and doing various outreach projects are welcome to join us. **The following events have been canceled: Loads of Love (8/27, 9/8 & 9/17) and Letters to Persecuted Prisoners (9/19).**

WOMEN’S MINISTRY EVENT: Saturday August 15 from 9:30-11:30am at Wood Acres Farm & Flowers. This event has been rescheduled from June 27. Please see Holly Huggins if you have any questions.

WOMEN’S MINISTRY MEETING: Sunday August 16 at Noon.

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: The September newsletter deadline is Monday, August 17. Please email your announcements to office@hbcalton.com.

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS (AHG) - NEW PARENT INFORMATIONAL MEETING: Monday, August 24 from 6-7pm in the Fellowship Hall. AHG is a Biblical character and leadership development program for girls ages 5-17. The girls hear the gospel, earn badges, serve the community, have leadership opportunities and have tons of fun. If you have any questions about the program or how to support the program, please see Miranda Rendleman.

MIDWEEK AT HEARTLAND: All adults and teenagers are invited to join us for a ten-week series titled *Kingdom Citizens in the Prairie State*. Beginning on August 26 at 6pm, we will gather to examine what it means to confess “Jesus is Lord” while living as exiles in Illinois. We will spend time singing together, hearing biblical teaching on the issues facing our state and nation, discussing it around the tables, and then spend time praying for one another, our state, and the nation. Childcare will be provided for young children.

5th SUNDAY HBC MISSIONS OFFERING: On Sunday, August 30 we will do a special offering for the HBC Missions Fund. The HBC Missions Fund is used to help Heartland members go to the nations and do work consistent with the Core Missionary Task. On 5th Sundays, we will pass the offering plates. Everything put in the plates will go to the Missions Fund. Tithes and regular offerings will continue to be placed in the black offering boxes.

DEACONS’ MEETING: Sunday, August 30 at 2pm.



CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS: If you have not signed up to receive church announcements via text you are encouraged to do so. Scan the QR code or text "Heartland" to 618-268-7020 to receive church announcements via text.

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: Monday—Thursday: 8:30am—3:30pm.



2	Paulette Hydrick	16	Barb Laslie
2	Tom Hydrick	16	Janet Moore
3	Jeanie Gansz	17	Savannah Cline
5	Henry Ollenbittle	22	Harold Wallace
5	Avery Pedersen	23	Michael Harris
5	Evie Pedersen	23	Roux Stutz
5	Peter Pedersen	27	Sheila Hahn
9	Linda Moore	27	JJ King
10	Rick Boren	29	Bruce Anderson
12	Ella Tanksley	29	Mitchell Manns
14	Amy Vatole		

COMING UP IN SEPTEMBER

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE BED BUILD
September 12 at 9am

CULTIVATE – WOMEN’S MINISTRY
Saturday, September 26 from 10:31am – 1pm



Church Staff

Alex Melton, Senior Pastor
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Wes Hahn, Pastor of Worship & Families
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Sarah Neuhaus, Office Coordinator
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