

The Hill (B.A.S.I.C. Training)
P.O. Box 13
Hardin, Ky. 42048
Phone (270) 437-4172
Website: lifeonthehill.org
Email: contact@lifeonthehill.org

WINTER 2017 NEWSLETTER

One spring Saturday, a few years back, Bob piddled around the house for a while after breakfast, and then said, "Let's just take the day." We threw on our jackets, jumped in the Suburban, and meandered along back roads, around the lakes, ending up in Trigg County at a beautiful creek where a shallow stream of water, glistening in the sunlight, snaked through a wide bed.

I always loved days like that one when we had no agenda or place to be, when we could relax away from our day to day responsibilities and relish uninterrupted time together. Our only plan was to enjoy each other and the crisp, early spring weather. We'd all been there before. We loved it.

Once there, the warm sunshine on our backs was a stark contrast to the icy cold, spring-fed creek water running through our fingers. Surrounded by the natural beauty, I noticed the stones lining the edges of the streambed. They were different from the rough, flat irregular-shaped rocks of Wades Creek, behind our house. These stones felt intentionally formed like works of art, as if they had purpose in their seemingly perfect shapes and smooth, soft edges. I couldn't help but gather a few to bring home with me.

I've tucked them away in the small flowerbeds behind my house, used them to prop open the lattice doors underneath the porch, and to hold down a note or cover up a key left for a friend. Each time I pick one up and rub my hands over its cool soft surface I go back to the creek in Trigg County, counting myself blessed to have received the gift of that day.

Stones have been part of life since the beginning of time. They mark the resting place of the dead, they serve as landmarks to acknowledge the great price paid for freedom, and they often form paths we follow to reach our destinations.

Archeologists have uncovered massive "standing stones" in Israel, which according to Bible teacher and historian Ray Vanderlaan, were erected to signify a place of great political or spiritual victory. Throughout Old Testament Scripture God often instructed the Jewish people to scour a riverbed for rocks and stones and build monuments so that for years to come, their children and others would stop and say, "What is it that God has done here?" The Israelites could answer with stories of God's deliverance from their enemies and his many provisions.

We too are stones, breathing, living reminders of who God is and what He has done. Like the standing stones unearthed from generations past, we represent a spiritual victory over death and the unfathomable price paid for all our sin. Understanding what it means to be saved by his life and that we have life because of his resurrection allows us to cease trying to keep up and do better, and to let his life reign in us and work through us. It's here where we rest and the mundane and mediocre become extraordinary and exceptional. Then, we can take our eyes off the fruit and turn to the vine. All these gifts are the abundance of life in Christ.

This revelation creates a difference in us that will catch the attention of others. Our children, future generations, and all we meet, may just look at us and ask, "What is it that has happened here?"



Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God. (1Corinthians 2:12)

Kim

Thank you for praying

Thank you for praying for our community in the aftermath of the tragic shooting at our high school. Please continue to remember the students, parents, staff and administration as they move forward after this life-changing event. We are confident in our God to work good in the midst of such heartache.

Special Folks

Through the years the Lord has used thousands of friends to keep The Hill's ministry strong. Whether it has been through financial support, volunteering as a camp counselor, praying, pouring concrete, driving nails or teaching, we appreciate you.

One such person has had a connection with The Hill almost since the beginning—Ricky Conner. Ricky and Kim Conner at one time owned the house at the front of the property just as you enter The Hill and now live only a few miles away. We are thankful they are close because not many people around know as much about the facilities here as Ricky. He is our first call when we have issues relating to HVAC, plumbing, and electrical. Since he was around during the construction of most of these buildings, he has knowledge that would take others hours of guesswork to uncover. With his help things are up and running again in no time.

Thank you, Ricky, for letting the Lord use you to bless so many!



Ricky Conner and his granddaughter, Emma, at the Christmas party.

Upcoming Events

Aside from the annual events we host at The Hill, we want to mention a couple of specific items.

First is the "Rooted & Grounded" College Conference—May 17-19, 2018. Hosting an extended conference for college-age adults who are focused and intentional about their walk with Jesus has been a long time vision. This intensive three-day discipleship conference will be led by men and women who have their hearts set on training this generation. They are teachers, trainers, mentors, and disciplers first, but some are also called pastor, doctor, lawyer or professor. Each will bring an unique perspective to what a believer in this generation should know to face our current culture. Speakers for this event include: Brian Crall, Martin Severns, Elliott Tenpenny, Greg Northcutt, Jim Morgan, Rick Underhill, Ellen Couch, Jonathan Poe, and Dave Gibson. To read more about the presenters, visit our website at www.lifeonthehill.org.

Second, Dave Steele's mission team—May 20-26, 2018. Last year an awesome team of volunteers rolled into Hardin from northern Indiana led by Dave Steele. They hammered, sawed, painted, caulked, cleaned, and scrubbed until things were whipped into shape. And they are coming back again! If you would like to

participate in the fun, please let us know and we'll get you connected with Dave. They have been an incredible blessing to us and we look forward to their return.

Other events:

Men's Retreat—April 27-29, 2018. Two old friends of the ministry, Neb Hayden and Preston Gillham, will be teaching at the upcoming Men's Retreat. Pres is a regular around here. He brings fresh insights straight from time spent with Jesus, and while his dry wit also comes from Jesus, it probably gets filtered through Texas. Neb has not been to Western Kentucky in a while, but is a familiar name around here. He holds the honor of making Bob Warren laugh harder than anyone has ever seen.

Summer Youth Leadership Camp—June 3-9 & July 8-14, 2018. Our annual leadership camps for teens ages 13-18 are limited to 100 attendees, so interested teens shouldn't delay sending in their application (available at lifeonthehill.org). Our theme for summer camp this year is "Takin' Care of Business" and will be from a totally different perspective than the 70's Randy Bachman (BTO) tune of the same name.

Romans Retreat—August 17-19, 2018. Patrick Johnson and Rick Underhill will lead our study through the first eight chapters of Romans this year. After years of racing through Romans to get done by Saturday afternoon, we've decided to slow the pace down a bit and enjoy the journey. We will begin at 7:00 pm Friday night and end around 10:00 am Sunday morning with a discussion of the materials covered. Actual coverage of Romans 1-8 will likely be completed on Saturday night. Whether you are new to the book of Romans or just need a review of the life-changing principles within, you are sure to enjoy Rick and Patrick's insight and knowledge of the Scriptures.

If you'd like more information about any of these events or would like to help in some way, give us a call or shoot us an email. We would love for you to join us for any or all of them.

Quiet Cabin

Our Quiet Cabin, a place of refuge for rest, prayer, or quiet reflection is open for weekend getaways or a midweek break. Nestled into the edge of a pine forest, it is available for one or up to eight people for quiet solitude or a fun family weekend. Give us a call if you would like to make that your destination.



Kathryn Hereford, Olivia Ellis, Katie Miller, and Hannah Gibson—some of the girls involved in a Bible study led by Kelly Tyner at The Hill.

Our Mission

The original purpose of B.A.S.I.C. Training remains— to help the church equip and mature its members. Through discipleship, biblical teaching, and worship, the goal is to encourage individuals to express their unique gifts to the church body and enjoy an intimate relationship with Jesus Christ.

We believe every person should have the opportunity to

hear the gospel of Jesus Christ and every believer should have the opportunity to hear about who they are in Christ; that they are made holy, blameless, perfect, forgiven, and complete. Every believer should have the opportunity to discover that they are eternally secure in Christ—nothing they did was great enough to get them into Christ and nothing they can do is so great that it could remove them from Him. Without that understanding it is impossible to fully trust and rest, or fully explore and enjoy a relationship with Jesus.

If you would like to know more, please contact us.



College students at The Hill Christmas party.

Coming Soon: Romanos, Las Verdades Fundamentales de Romanos 1-8

The Romans course that brings freedom to so many will soon be available in Spanish. The translator, Sarah Cunningham, who has poured her heart and soul into this project for months, expects the first draft to be complete in early April.

We would like to host a group of Spanish speakers to test it before its release. Sarah will guide the group through the course while fielding language input to help ensure accuracy. If the Lord leads you to participate or you have questions, please contact Sarah via her email, preguntas@lifeonthehill.org. First priority will go to those who are already familiar with the course, but others are certainly welcome to participate.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all. (2Thessalonians 3:18)