Variations

1 Corinthians 12:4-6

a biweekly publication of ***Vestavia Hills Baptist Church*** ***Volume 25, No. 12 June 5, 2018***

Vacation Bible School begins June 11

Vacation Bible School at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church meets on Monday-Thursday, June 11-14, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon.

Please note that this year we will not have lunch.

Offering

We hope everyone will purchase Chick-fil-A, McDonalds, and/or Walmart gift cards to donate to the Alabama Baptist Children's Home Group Homes.

Please write the amount on the cards and bring your cards to VBS!

Plan to join us on Thursday, June 14 at 11:45 a.m. for our VBS Family Celebration in the sanctuary where our children will share music from the week.

Registration link is on vhbc.com.

"God is with me wherever I go."

The Shepherd's e-Ncourager — Dr. Gary A. Furr

Important News for Our Members

A Baptist church operates congregationally. That means the well-being of the church is the responsibility of all the members working together to carry out its ministries. This requires many different qualities, but first is a personal commitment to Christ and to our common life together. A small part of that is to stay informed about your church family and what is happening among us.

This summer in our church, the pace of change is great. Several significant changes are taking place simultaneously. Therefore, to help you, I have listed several important notices here for you. Please read them carefully and be a part of our busy summer together**! I believe an exciting year is up ahead and everyone is needed to help it work!**

1. **We welcome Marty Watts as our Minister of Music and Worship!** Marty began his first day on Monday, and he, Karyn and Duncan will be with us as he begins to plan and lead our worship weekly. As you see the Watts family, give them your usual loving VHBC welcome and introduce yourself to them. To help them in knowing us, let's wear name tags for the month of June! It will help us remember that name we forgot of one another, too!
2. Important Called **Business Meeting in the Sanctuary, Sunday, June 17 at 9:00 a.m.!** The Personnel Committee will bring a recommendation in the form of a motion regarding the position of Administrative Pastor following Dennis Anderson's retirement next year. The Committee has spent many hours studying, talking with staff and looking at options for Dr. Anderson's successor. They will bring a motion to the church for a vote on that Sunday.

continued inside

Pastor's article, continued from page 1

3. Your Giving Now Is Really Needed! Faithfulness is behavior most of all. To keep a steady ministry going in times of change, your generosity is crucial. As always, in the summer, cash flow is often low and expenses high with youth activities, children's programs, mission trips and more. ***This is a wonderful time to give ahead if you are able. We need your help now!*** Please consider catching up or giving ahead on your pledge for this year.

4. Minister to Students Search Committee Listening Times. The Search Committee has begun its work. They will offer a voluntary listening session during the Sunday School hour on June 24 in the Sanctuary. Anyone interested is welcome to attend and offer their input.

5. Fellowship Hall Renovation is Underway! As the routes to classes and around the church have temporarily changed, I want to thank you all for your patience. We have signs around the church to help you get where you need to be. Don't hesitate to help visitors find their way around!

6. Concert on June 24, 5:00 p.m. Jim Hurst and Roberto Dalla Vecchia

Two of the world's finest guitarists will be with us in 10:00 worship and for a 5:00 p.m. concert on Sunday, June 24. ***You don't want to miss this!***

Use the website and your newsletter to stay in touch with what is going on. I will be sending updates and information as relevant and to help us communicate during this time. Most of all, we have ministries carrying on as always, so pray for one another and give faithfully!

Gary

Called Business Meeting Sunday morning, June 17. Agenda: Report and Recommendation from Personnel Committee regarding Administrative Pastor position

At 9:00 a.m. Sunday morning, June 17, our adult and youth classes will not meet in their regular Bible study classrooms. Instead, you are encouraged to attend a Called Business Meeting in the Sanctuary to hear a report and recommendation from the Personnel Committee regarding the Administrative Pastor position. Children and preschool classes will meet at their usual time and location.

June 24 Listening Session with Minister to Students Search Committee

The Search Committee for Minister to Students will meet in the Sanctuary on Sunday morning, June 24, at 8:45 a.m. with any who have not had an opportunity to participate in a listening session with the committee. If you have interest in an update on the committee process or would like to express your opinion, you are invited to attend.

Update from the Minister to Students Search Committee

The search committee began its work with a kickoff meeting on May 16. Since that time, we have conducted a listening session with youth parents and posted a ministry position announcement in various Baptist outlets. We are currently receiving resumes from interested candidates. Other activities planned for the month of June include:

- Sunday, June 10, 6:00 p.m. - Listening Session with 7th-12th grade students and prayer fellowship for youth parents followed by a combined ice cream social
- Sunday, June 10, 7:00 p.m. – Search Committee Meeting
- Sunday, June 24, 8:45-9:45 a.m. – Listening Session for any interested church member
- Directed outreach to parents of 5th and 6th grade students
- Directed outreach to college students
- Thursday, June 28, 6:00 p.m. – Search Committee Meeting

Beginning in July, the committee will meet weekly on Monday nights.

A Student Ministry Prayer calendar is posted on the church's website. We encourage all church members to use the calendar to guide your prayers for our students and the search committee during the summer months.

Our Church Family: Prayer Concerns and more

Members in the Hospital

*Geri Dodson, Lakeshore, Rm.206A
*Peggy Jones, Brookdale Rehab., Rm.131
*Leon Nix, Brookdale Rehab., Rm.102
*William Poe, St. Vincent's, Rm. 473W

Members at Home

Sam & Libby Brown
Zelle Buckner
Ann Dean
Agnes Fuchs
Milton Fullman
Charlotte Kyser
Al Lowery
Buddy McGohon
Wes Nastiuk
Margaret Northrup
Grace Oliver
Nora Ousley
Gaynell Pinson
Jo Powell
June Ritchey
Ellen Smith
Alicia Stigler
Tommy Tarvin
Margaret Walker
Bobbye Weaver

*added this *Variations*

Christian Sympathy to:

Suzanne Walters and family in the death of her mother, Betty Hauser, on May 24.

Deacons Meeting: Location Change

Deacons Meeting is Sunday, June 10, at 5:00 p.m. in the Choir Room.

Wednesday Summer Schedule

Wednesdays June 20 and 27: Prayer Breakfast at 6:30 a.m. *(For details including location, contact the church office. Prayer breakfast will not meet on June 13 during VBS week.*

June 6, 13, 27: No Evening Activities

June 20: Bring your family and meet one of the ministers at a local restaurant for a time of fellowship. Each minister will go to a different restaurant: Dennis will be in the U.S. 280/Brook Highland area at 6:00 p.m.; Marty will be in the Vestavia City Center area at 5:30 p.m. (so you can follow him from there to Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal!); Mike will be in the Homewood area. We will provide full information by church-wide email and in the Sunday bulletin closer to June 20.

July: No activities.

Welcome, Marty!

Sunday, June 10, will be the first Worship Service with our new Minister of Music and Worship, Marty Watts. The church will provide a welcome reception for Marty and his family in the foyer immediately following the worship service.

Karyn, Duncan, and I are grateful for all of the ways that we've been welcomed into the Vestavia Hills Baptist Church family. Staff colleagues, Music Ministry participants, and so many others have not only helped us to get oriented to church life, but have also reached out in personal ways as we begin to build meaningful relationships.

I look forward to learning about the worship rhythms at VHBC and finding ways to foster continued excellence, vibrancy, and warmth. I'm also eager to join in church-wide ministries and missions efforts.

We're excited about what the future holds! —Marty

Fellowship Supper

There is no Wednesday night fellowship supper now through the end of July. Please watch later publications for the status of building renovation and the startup of regular activities in August.

Please be mindful of kitchen equipment & supplies temporarily located in other areas of the building, and observe all access limitations posted for your safety during the renovation project.

Hunger Offering Hours:

702

Ministry Budget Offering

Budget Needs This Year	$749,005
Budget Given This Year	$625,527

Permanent Endowment Fund

Given To Date	$318,410

Hunger Offering Hours

Toward goal of 2,018	702

On The Church Calendar

Week of June 7-13

Saturday, June 9
- High School Mission Trip returns

Sunday, June 10
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 5:00 Deacons Meeting
- 6:00 Search Committee Listening Session and parent meeting in Student Building *(see article on page 2)*

Monday, June 11
- 9:00 Vacation Bible School
- 10:00 Lovelady Center Ministry

Tuesday, June 12
- 9:00 Vacation Bible School

Wednesday, June 13
- 9:00 Vacation Bible School
- 6:00 RAs (4th-6th) to Firehouse Shelter
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Week of June 14-20

Thursday, June 14
- 9:00 Vacation Bible School
- 11:45 VBS Celebration—*Sanctuary*

Sunday, June 17
- 8:45 Bible Study for preschool and children
- 9:00 Called Business Meeting for adult and youth—*Sanctuary*
- 10:00 Worship Service

Monday, June 18
- 8:00 Church of the Reconciler
- 10:00 Lovelady Center Ministry

Wednesday, June 20
- 6:30 Prayer Breakfast
- 9:00 Family trip: Splash Adventure
- 6:00 Dinner out with staff *(see p.3)*
- 7:00 Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

Week of June 21-27

Sunday, June 24
- 8:45 Bible Study
- 8:45 Listening session with Search Committee *(see page 2)*
- 10:00 Worship Service
- 5:00 YOSE—Youth
- 5:00 Gary Furr and special friends in concert—Sanctuary

Monday, June 25
- 10:00 Lovelady Center Ministry

Wednesday, June 27
- 6:30 Prayer Breakfast

Week of June 27-July 4

Thursday, June 28
- 6:00 Minister to Students Search Committee

Sunday, July 1
- Youth Camp departs (returns July 6)
- 8:45 Bible Study
- 10:00 Worship Service

Monday, July 2
- 10:00 We Care
- 10:00 Lovelady Center Ministry

Wednesday, July 4

No church activities; office and CDC closed for Independence Day holiday

Please find Volunteers in Service for the next four weeks on the insert page.

Please scroll down to "extra" pages 5 & 6 for more information!

Variations is published biweekly by
VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
2600 Vestavia Drive, Birmingham, AL 35216

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YOUR MINISTRY STAFF

Gary A. Furr, Pastor
K. Dennis Anderson, Administrative Pastor
Nancy Akins, Minister to Preschool/Children
Mike McBrayer, Minister of Discipleship and Missions
Beth McGinnis, Organist
Marty Watts, Minister of Music and Worship

Inside this issue

- √ *VBS: "On the Road with Jo" June 11-14*
- √ *Search Committee listening sessions*
- √ *Called Business Meeting June 17 at 9 a.m. for Report/Recommendation from Personnel Committee*
- √ *Volunteers in service through July 1.*

The next issue of **Variations** *will be dated July 3, 2018. Please request space by Friday, June 29.*

Variations
extra

For the five Sundays in July, our adult Bible study classes are invited to meet together at 8:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Our unit of study is from Deuteronomy. Beginning with Israel's great statement of monotheism, the Shema, this unit examines ways that Israel's commitment to one God frames their identity as God's people. They destroy Canaanite religious sites in order to worship God in the place set before them. They also anoint kings to rule on their behalf, choosing people who observe the law and resist the trappings of power. Finally, they offer their first fruits to express their faith, to remember God's provision, and to enact God's vision for a just society. Just as Moses entreated God's people on the banks of the Jordan, we are called to choose life by following these commandments and by seeking God first. Teachers are Sheryl Buckner, Ryan Hankins, Scott McGinnis, Jess Nix and LaRue Speights.

VHBC Child Protection Policy

The VHBC Child Protection Policy has been recently updated and requires a background check every three years while adding a critical element, Sexual Abuse Awareness training. If you currently serve in any capacity teaching or assisting minors (up to age 18) at VHBC, you will be receiving an email soon from Betsy Lowery explaining the new process. All volunteers and employees will need to complete the entire application process. If you have any questions, please direct them to Nancy Akins. Thank you for your care to our children.

Variations goes monthly for summer

The next two issues of our church newsletter (counting this one) will be dated June 5 and July 3, respectively, and may carry expanded pages to cover more weeks of information. *Variations* will resume its normal biweekly schedule on Tuesday, July 31.

Sign Up now for Charleston Trip for Adults

Reserve your space by July 1 for our trip to Charleston, South Carolina! We depart on September 10 and return on September 13 (Monday-Thursday). The total cost for double occupancy is $513 per person; your cost for a single room is $708. You can pay in three installments: $171 due now to get your name on the list; $171 on July 1, and $171 on August 1. The cost includes the bus, room, meals and lots of fun activities. Sign up! Contact Martha Neill (martha@vhbc.com or 205.979.5920).

Thank You to Our Volunteers

Volunteers in Service for the Week of June 10
Deacons of the Week: Jennifer Jaquess SUN., Ann Knight WED.
Counting Team: Allen Fulks, Christine Pridgen
Flower Committee: Susan Lebold
Shuttle Service: Hal David, Bill Dupree
Sound Technology: Norfleete Day, Allen Fulks

Worship Care

Babies	Becky Bradley, Jody Poe
Ones	Keith & Daphne Williams
Preschool 2	Dan & Gay Caldwell
Preschool 3-4	Melanie Medley, Kim Virciglio
Kindergarten	Brent & Lisa Warren
Preschool Desk	Laura Tadlock
Children's Desk	Mel Crowder

Volunteers in Service for the Week of June 17
Deacons of the Week: Buddy McGohon SUN., Cherri Morriss WED.
Counting Team: Alynn LeBerte, Jerry Pittman
Flower Committee: Whit Fancher
Shuttle Service: Sharon Hartzog, Pete LeBerte
Sound Technology: Hal David, Mike Wells

Worship Care

Babies	Mindy Bodenhamer, Sara McFarland
Ones	Jack & Tricia Stevens
Preschool 2	John & Virginia Wood
Preschool 3-4	Brad & Rachel Farley
Kindergarten	Craig & Allison Youngblood
Preschool Desk	Dick Bodenhamer

Volunteers in Service for the Week of June 24
Deacons of the Week: Marty Mullins SUN., Jess Nix WED.
Counting Team: Taylor Burton, Steve White
Flower Committee: Sarah Moreland & Carolyn Slappey
Shuttle Service: Scott Phillips, Bob Simpson
Sound Technology: David Philpot, Dan McMurray

Worship Care

Babies	Meredith Hankins, Nancy Scruggs
Ones	Kim Virciglio
Preschool 2	Kristy Carr, Kay Worley
Preschool 3-4	Jennifer Carter, Melissa McBrayer
Kindergarten	Elizabeth McCarty, Scott McGinnis
Preschool Desk	Bob Lochamy
Children's Desk	

Volunteers in Service for the Week of July 1
Deacons of the Week: Jerolyn Phillips SUN., Melissa Pouncey WED.
Counting Team: David McPherson, George Paré
Flower Committee: Committee
Shuttle Service: Julia Vines, John Wood
Sound Technology: Mike Wells, Norfleete Day

Worship Care

Babies	Kristie Chandler, Amy Hamilton
Ones	Jan Dulin, Nancy Scruggs
Preschool 2	Jo Davis, Carolyn Slappey
Preschool 3-4	Erin Burton, John Chandler
Kindergarten	Jan Deagon, Laura Griffo
Preschool Desk	Brenda Ammons
Children's Desk	Mel Crowder

High School Mission Trip This Week

Please remember in prayer our High School Mission Trip group currently serving in Touching Miami with Love. They return on Saturday, June 9.

Students:
Sara Binet
Camille Cooper
Asher Hamilton
Charlie Hamilton
Turner Hamilton
Alice Hattaway
Lawson Henry
Luke McBrayer
William McGinnis
Andrew Pahos
Corinne Phillips
Tyson Stewart
Elizabeth Tadlock
Lindsay Tadlock
Kendall Warren
Mary Evelyn Welch
Abigail White

Leaders:
Mary Grace Cox
Mike McBrayer
Samuel Robertson
Laura Tadlock
Ed Whatley

First report from our team, dated Sunday evening:

After an overnight stop in Orlando, we took an airboat ride in the Everglades this afternoon. It was a little warm. The alligators even took the day off. We are having dinner now and then are headed to our hotel shortly to rest before we begin tomorrow at Touching Miami with Love on Monday. We are having a great time and everyone is well.

—Mike McBrayer

A note from Miss Nancy

Worship Care is the care of preschoolers during morning worship. DID YOU KNOW IT TAKES MORE THAN 100 VOLUNTEERS TO STAFF WORSHIP CARE? Currently, we have openings at the upstairs welcome desk and in our preschool classrooms for ***every-other-month (6 times a year)***. I hope you will consider being a part of this important ministry of our church.