

# VHBC Connections

## Spring Serve

is this Sunday at VHBC! Start your morning with Bible study and worship and continue with service to the church & your community!

April 16, 2024





# This Sunday

April 21st, VHBC invites you to join us for this annual worship & service day for VHBC families.

# Spring Serve Sunday



What can you expect for this Service day? Church as usual? **YES!** Wear what you'll feel comfortable in for Bible study and worship and if you are participating in lunch and this serve day, bring some extra clothes! VHBC T-shirts are available for sale this Wednesday and Sunday morning for those interested! Ann Franklin will be serving boxed lunches for all participants (kids boxes available!). There will be **on AND off-site** locations with all kinds of projects for any ages! Childcare will be available to families until 2 pm - if needed, please register!

## Service Sites

- AT VHBC
  - Landscaping & Amelia Garden with Mindy Bodenhamer
  - Cleaning the CDC with Nancy Akins
  - Detailing the church van with Mike McBrayer
  - Baking cookies & making teacher bags for Dolly Ridge Elementary teachers with Kathryn Stewart
  - Window cleaning in the sanctuary with Charles Evans
- Off-site
  - Landscaping & Clean-Up at Bethany Home with Caroline Nordlund & Betsy Stockdale
  - Homebound house work with Dick Bodenhamer & Elise Alexander
  - Gardening at Urban Ministries with Barton Duffy
  - Leading groups at Lovelady Ministries with Carolyn Slappey
  - Sanctuary Choir to Tuscaloosa with Marty Watts



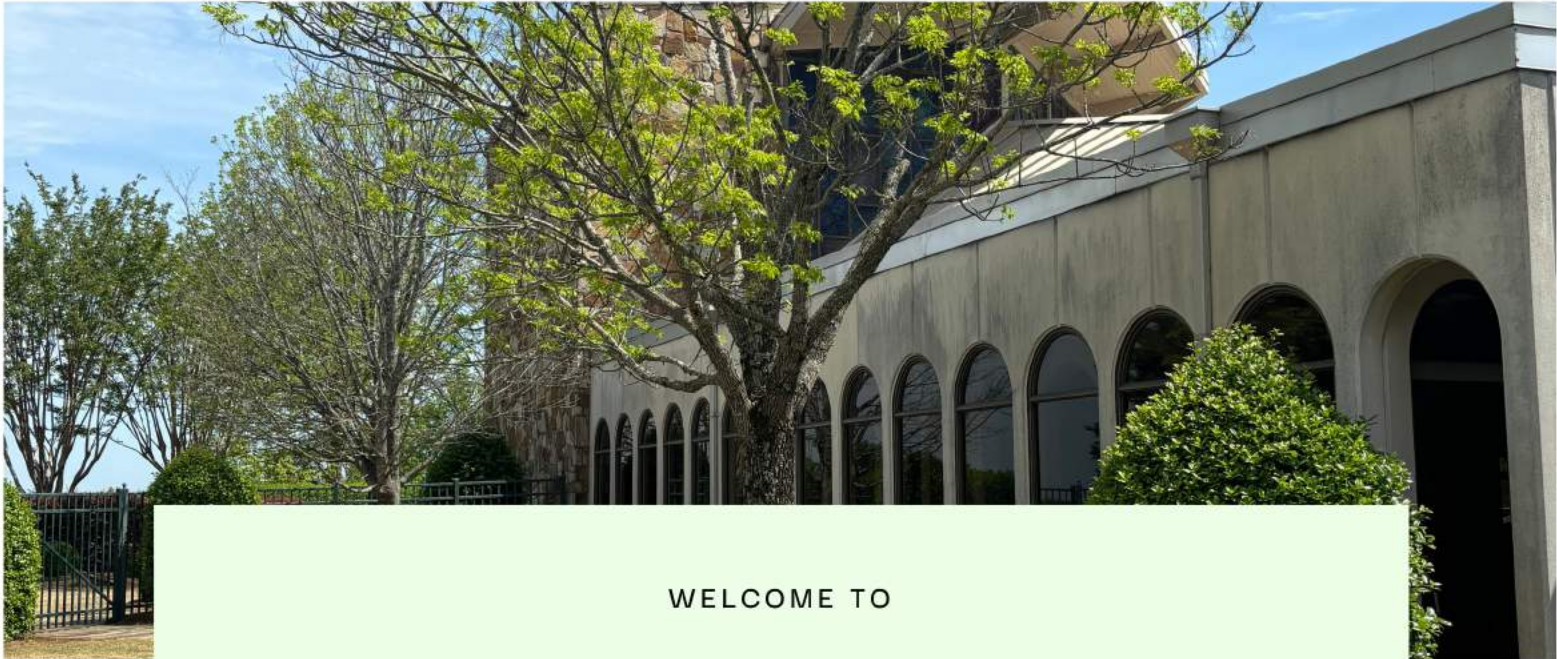
There are plenty of spaces available for all of these service opportunities this weekend! Please register before Sunday for a couple of reasons:

1. We will have a better idea of how many to serve for lunch.
2. We will know who to expect for each project and plan accordingly.

Thank you again for your willingness to serve this Sunday at VHBC!



[www.vhbc.com/springserve](http://www.vhbc.com/springserve)



WELCOME TO

## this week's newsletter!



Spring is here!



### Coming tomorrow!

- **New** Midweek Bible study with Pastor Eric Spivey at 10 am
- Another delicious meal from Ann Franklin from 4:45-6 pm
- Quarterly Business Meeting in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm

### Coming soon!

- **Spring Serve** on Sunday at VHBC
- New Wednesday sessions around the church, both **INDOOR & OUTDOOR**
- **Vestavia Wing Ding** on Saturday, April 27th at VH City Hall from 4-7 pm



In today's newsletter you will find:

Upcoming events, \*new\* news, thank yous and more!



## Gather with friends for lunch **AT THIS MONTH'S CONNECTIONS LUNCHEON ON SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH**

If you are brand new, a regular visitor, a new member of VHBC, you are welcome to join us for lunch the last Sunday of this month for lunch. Meet with our ministry staff, deacons, and our new member committee and find out more about the church, take a tour, and sample some delicious food from our favorite cook/chef/food magician, Ann Franklin. Contact Eric Spivey or Sarah Frey in our church office to add your name to the list! We'd love to have you!



## Starting this Wednesday

### **MORNING AT 10 AM**

Join Pastor Eric Spivey for his new series of Bible orientation classes designed to build adult Biblical confidence, invite individuals to discover God's Word, and initiate a life of Biblical study. This spring, Eric will be focusing on the Bible as Scripture. The first session will ask "**Why can we trust what the Bible has to say?**"



## SAM Spring Luncheon **ON FRIDAY, MAY 10TH**

Make plans to attend and enjoy Footprint on the Sky: Voices from Chandler Mountain with storyteller, Dolores Hydock and a delicious lunch from Ann. Lunch is \$10 at the door. Sign up at [vhbc.com/events](http://vhbc.com/events) to register!

# The View from my Hickory Perch

BY MIKE MCBRAYER

As a kid, I loved to climb trees and looking back I was far better at it than my parents appreciated. I grew up on Ridgecrest Drive. To me, it was just a name, and I really didn't think about it, until I climbed that hickory tree. It grew near the edge of our deck, and it was one of those trees that begged to be climbed. Its sturdy well-spaced limbs reached high into the sky stretching well beyond the other trees. I could reach the lowest limb from our back deck so up I went, hand over hand, carefully ascending, settling in high above the rooftops of my neighborhood. I took my focus off the trunk of the tree and looked out. Ahh, Ridgecrest. From that perch I could see for miles. For my twelve-year-old self, it was a grand view. And it was a new view, from off the ground, where I could see my neighborhood, my world, as I hadn't seen it before.



I don't climb trees much anymore. I do, though, still have the need to see the world in a new way. I suspect we all get used to our own eyes and the way we see things. It's not easy to gain a fresh perspective and our eyes behold so much more than we can process. Given that we are presented with a close-up view of wars across the globe, what celebrities are having for breakfast, satellite images into deep space, access to lessons on most any conceivable subject, and so much more, it can be a great challenge just deciding where to direct our attention.

It seems to me that we are left to challenge ourselves and encourage one another to take a second look or a seventy seventh look; to see the world as God has created it, to see people as God made them, to see our lives as the gift that they are. All the time knowing that our view is incomplete, imperfect, only in part. We pray that like Balaam we have others to point out what we are missing. We pray that like Zacchaeus we would take to a tree to see past our immediate surroundings.

As we pray, we can proceed with confidence and trust in the One who sees in full. For God continues to work in and around us, reconciling the world to himself.



Mike, Administrative Pastor and former tree climber.



## Wednesday evenings at *VHBC*

We've got something for everyone on Wednesday nights in April and May!

## Dinners in April

17th: Chef's Vegetable soup, ham & cheese sliders, oyster crackers, & dessert;

**kids menu: ham & cheese slider, chips, & dessert**

24th: Stuffed spud (sweet or russet) with pulled pork, roasted broccoli, crostini

toast, & dessert; **kids menu: turkey meatball poboy, veggie straws, & dessert**

## Sessions starting next week

### April 24th

Sunset Vespers on the Front Lawn with Eric & Marty at 6:15

Secret's in the Sauce with Adam Casey at 6 pm in the Children's Kitchen

Butterfly Gardening with Mindy Bodenhamer at 6 pm

Registration required for sessions with Adam Casey & Mindy Bodenhamer. Register at [vhbc.com/events](http://vhbc.com/events)



## Coming in May!

We've got a team gathering now who are planning another great Shrimp Boil for Wednesday, May 15th! Tickets going on sale soon!



## Volunteers in April

### Flower Committee

4/21: Jerrie Elliott & Gay Caldwell  
4/28: Becky Griffith & Millie Ehrett

### Deacons of the Week

4/21: Kathryn Stewart & George Ritchey  
4/28: Betsy Stockdale & George Van Kirk

### Transportation Team

4/21: Tommy Cherry & Craig Youngblood  
4/28: Scott Phillips & Brent Warren

### Worship Care

4/21: Billie Lochamy, Mindy Bodenhamer, Jennifer Binet, Jennifer Carter, Melissa McBrayer, Dick Bodenhamer  
4/28: Lisa Speegle, Merryl Cooper, Laura Casey, Adam Casey, Adam Pouncey, Melissa Pouncey, Virginia Wood

### Welcome Team

4/21: Joe Perez, George Elliott, Cappy Blackwelder, Dan Caldwell, Lisa Speegle, Kathy Finch, Jason Cooper  
4/28: Joe Perez, George Elliott, Cappy Blackwelder, Dan Caldwell, Lisa Speegle, Sharon Repp, Jason Cooper

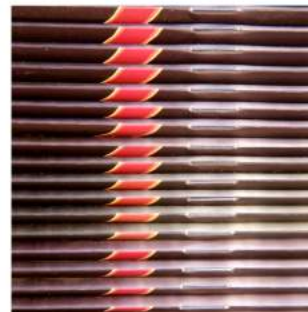
### Counting Team

4/21: Kristie Chandler & Steve White  
4/28: Rachel Jordan & Dick Bodenhamer



## Curriculum Collection

When you are finished with your study guides & teaching guides at the end of the quarter, please SAVE THEM and place them in the baskets in the Fellowship Hall foyer or Laura Tadlock's office. We will be sending them to an organization called Love Packages that shares used curriculum with other churches and organizations.



# VHBC Connections



## Ministry Staff

Nancy Akins  
Sara Binet  
Mike McBrayer  
Dr. Eric Spivey  
Laura Tadlock  
Marty Watts

Minister to Preschool & Children  
Interim Student Coordinator  
Administrative Pastor  
Senior Pastor  
Senior Adult & Adult Ministries Coordinator  
Minister of Music & Worship

# Thank you!

Thank you to Emily Davis & Becky White for sharing your artistic talent with your church family! The painted tree in the foyer has been a beautiful focal point for our Lenten and Easter seasons.

