

AUGUST 23, 2022

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 17

VHBC
Connections

**THE YEAR
OF ANEW**

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FIND VHBC ONLINE



WATCH RECENT SERVICES



CONNECT



STAY UPDATED



IN TUNE WITH VHBC PODCAST



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2600 VESTAVIA DR.
VESTAVIA HILLS, AL 35216
205.979.5920
BRITTNI@VHBC.COM



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STAY CONNECTED WITH THE HAPPENINGS AROUND VHBC!

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11 CONNECTED IN PRAYER

Stay updated with the prayer needs of our membership and missionary partners.



FEATURED ARTICLE

ANEW

JOINING GOD'S TRANSFORMATIONAL STORY

A YEAR OF ANEW!

By Eric Spivey

OVER THE COMING YEAR, LET ME INVITE YOU TO JOIN ME ON A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY OF DISCOVERY AND TRANSFORMATION. DURING THIS YEAR, WE WILL FOCUS THE ATTENTION AND MINISTRIES OF VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH AROUND ONE CORE THEME - **ANEW: JOINING GOD'S TRANSFORMATIONAL STORY**. THIS THEME WILL PULL US TOGETHER AS WE FOCUS ON GOD'S SPIRIT ALIVE IN US MAKING ALL THINGS NEW.

Last June, our pastoral staff came together for a time of listening prayer. Committed to discovering a theme to unite all ministries and give the entire church a common language, we labored for hours to find the path leading to God's future for our church. We found **ANEW**.

Throughout scripture we find the Lord continuously creating something anew. In Genesis, God creates life out of nothing, creating humanity in the image of God. In Isaiah the Lord is "doing a new thing!" among the people in Exile (Isaiah 43:19). In Jeremiah, the Lord promises to make a "new covenant" (Jer. 31). In John, Jesus invites Nicodemus to experience new birth (John 3). And then in Revelation 21 as the New Heaven and New Earth appear, Jesus, sitting on the throne says, "Behold, I am making all things new."

At Vestavia Hills Baptist Church the Lord is doing something new among us. The adaptive transitions of Covid and the interim have prepared us to follow the Spirit's guidance towards the new things God has in store for our church, our families, and our lives. This will be a great moment for each of us to reconnect to God's spirit working in us, to try something new, and to engage in the life and ministry of our church.

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A YEAR OF ANEW

Our year of ANEW will follow the liturgical calendar as we focus on the purposes of the church. Each season will offer various programs giving us opportunities to grow, engage, and serve.

ANEW SEASON OF DISCIPLESHIP

Ordinary Time (September - October)

During this season, our worship services and my sermon series will focus on our ANEW theme. Look for opportunities to engage in Wednesday Sessions, participate in a small group, invite your friends to Sunset Vespers overlooking Shades Valley, and practice generosity in our stewardship emphasis.

ANEW SEASON OF WORSHIP

Advent (November - December)

During this season, we will experience a variety of powerful worship experiences: All Saints Day, Hanging of the Green, and our Christmas Eve services to name a few. Look for opportunities to re-engage in corporate and personal worship as you make worship a priority for yourself and your family.

ANEW SEASON OF FELLOWSHIP

Epiphany (January - February)

During this season, as we celebrate the appearance of Jesus in the world, we will offer a variety of opportunities for you to grow in fellowship with your church family. Our Churchwide Retreat will be held on January 28-29, 2023. There will be other intergenerational fellowship opportunities and a new storytelling event

ANEW SEASON OF MISSION

Lent (February - April)

During the Lenten season, we will be invited to discover where God is at work in the world and encouraged to join God's mission. We will hear from mission partners, experience mission service, and be challenged to live differently in God's Kingdom.

ANEW SEASON OF GOOD NEWS

Easter (April - May)

In the Easter season, we will be invited to join the first disciples as they proclaimed the Good News of the resurrection of Jesus to the world. We will discover what Gospel proclamation means today as we challenge ourselves to speak God's Good News.

continued on next page



A YEAR OF ANEW

A buzz has returned to Vestavia Hills Baptist Church. Listen for it on Sundays and Wednesdays. We are energized for God's future. I can feel it. Come join us. Get connected. Start something new in your life.

Let us Join God's Transformational Story together and see where the Lord takes us. "See," Jesus tells us, "I am making all things new." Thanks be to God.

I'll see you on Sunday. You are loved.

ERIC

WORSHIP IN SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

DEACON ORDINATION

Join Vestavia Hills Baptist Church as we ordain Caroline Nordlund and Sara McFarland to deacon ministry during our 10 am worship service.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

Join us for worship for the Baptism of Nash Dorion and Eric's sermon "All Things New" from Revelation 21:1-6; Psalm 148.

Deacon Orientation

11:15 am -1:30 pm

Fellowship Hall

Our new 2022-23 deacon body will gather for lunch, the September deacons' meeting, and deacon orientation.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2022

Our Youth pastor, Tyler will be preaching, "Orderly Chaos," and Leah Jones, former Shepherd Scholar will be leading in worship.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2022

Join us for worship for the Baptism of Reese Jordan and Eric's sermon, "Saying Goodbye," from Isaiah 43:14-21; Psalm 126. Our VHBC children will be singing "Come, Thou Fount" and we'll also be recognizing Lucas Dorion as the new Coordinator of Alabama Cooperative Fellowship.



YOUTH august 2022

DATES TO REMEMBER

- 8/24** WNL
- 8/28** Youth & Parent Meeting, 5-7 pm
- 8/31** WNL
- 9/4** No YOSE
- 9/7** WNL

YOUTH & PARENTS MEETING

Sunday, August 28th
5:00-7:00 pm

Fall Retreat Registration opens on August 28th as well!



KEEP UP WITH ALL THE THINGS ON GROUPE!



VHBC

children's ministry

UPCOMING EVENTS

MOMS' NIGHT OUT

Tuesday, September 13 at 6:30 pm @ El Zun Zun
Join us for a fun night of good food and great conversation! [RSVP HERE!](#)



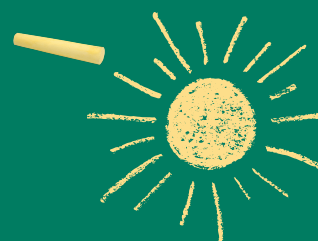
READERS WORKSHOP

Sunday, September 18th for 5th-6th graders interested in reading scripture in worship. Lunch provided. Meet in the Activity Room.



CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

Sunday, September 25 during worship
Our VHBC children will be singing "Come, Thou Fount."



WEEKLY SCHEDULE AT VHBC



SUNDAYS

- 8:45 AM SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY**
- Children's Sunday School meets in the Children's Building. Please sign your child in at the front reception desk.
 - Find our Welcome Team in the main foyer if you need assistance looking for a class for you and your family.

- 10:00 AM WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY**
- Worship guides and hymn sheets are available at the sanctuary entrances.
 - If you are unable to worship in person with us, please join us online or over the radio at 91.1 FM.
 - Worship Care for babies through Kindergarten begins at 9:45 am.

- 5:00 PM YOUTH ON SUNDAY EVENING**
- All youth meet in the Student Building to play games, listen to a devotion, and prepare for the upcoming week.

- 4:45 PM FELLOWSHIP SUPPER**
- Meet us in the Fellowship Hall starting at 4:45 every Wednesday.
 - Register online weekly at vhbc.com to reserve your meal!
 - Adults/Youth \$6 per person
 - Kids (K-6th) \$4 per person
 - Preschoolers & College Students eat free!

- 4:45 PM HANDBELLS**

- 5:30 PM CHILDREN'S CHOIRS**

- 6:00 PM YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

- 6:00 PM ADULT SESSIONS**

- 6:15 PM CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES**

- 7:00 PM SANCTUARY CHOIR**



WEDNESDAYS (no Wednesday activities in July)

NEWS & EVENTS

AROUND THE CHURCH

SPECIAL MUSIC GUEST IN WORSHIP ON AUGUST 28TH!



We welcome Adam King to worship at VHBC on August 28. A native Alabamian, Adam studied piano and organ and earned degrees from the University of Mobile and Samford University. Adam now lives in New York City where he teaches piano, coaches vocalists, and directs musical theater productions. His piano leadership in worship coincides with his playing for "Bill Bugg and Friends" presented by Homewood Theatre.



WE NEED TO HEAR FROM YOU!

As we seek to connect our VHBC community to current and future small group offerings this fall, we need your input.

Please fill out the survey at the link below or visit vhbc.com to help us organize our fall small groups for our adults at VHBC!



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!



Our goal is to help make VHBC a warm and welcoming environment each week for members and visitors alike. Requirements: **Warm Smile & Friendly Manner!** Contact [Howard Finch](#) or [Nancy Akins](#) to volunteer!

VOLUNTEERS AROUND THE CHURCH

CHILDREN'S RECEPTION DESK

Aug 28 Virginia Wood
Sept 4 Judy Schlegel

WORSHIP CARE (9:45 am until end of worship)

Aug 28
 Babies & Ones: Lisa Speegle, Brandi Brownell
 Twos-K: Adam & Melissa Pouncey

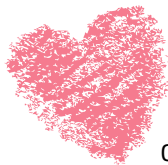
Sept 4
 Babies & Ones: Kristie Chandler, Amy Hamilton
 Twos-K: Jo Davis, Carolyn Slappey

TRANSPORTATION TEAM

Aug 28 William Dupree
Sept 4 Tommy Cherry



Do you want to be a driver? Contact Tyler Johnson (tyler@vhbc.com) for more info!



WORSHIP CARE TEACHERS NEEDED!

Our Two & Three Year Old Class is coming back on Sunday mornings at VHBC!

A worship care teacher:

- serves once a month, every other Sunday, or every fifth Sunday
- arrives in the classroom at 9:45 am to receive instructions from the 8:45 teachers
- receives a reminder at the beginning of each week

If you already serve and want to increase to once a month, I welcome your response.

Contact Nancy to sign up - nancy@vhbc.com; text/call 205-907-6446 or call 205-979-5920





WEDNESDAYS THIS FALL



Reserve meals for your family online, join our standing reservation list, or come when you can for dinner at 4:45 in the Fellowship Hall.

AUGUST MENU

24th: Chicken & Dumplings, Rosemary Carrots, Roll, Dessert
(Kids: Pizza & Fries)

31st: Sausage Summer Pasta, Fruit Salad, Roll, Dessert
(Kids: Chicken Fingers & Fries)



4-WEEK SERIES OF SESSIONS STARTING AUGUST 24TH @ 6 PM

New Creation: A Primer for Living in the Time Between the Times
with Eric in the Fellowship Hall

Contemplative Prayer with George Van Kirk in the Chapel



Fall Book Study with Laura Tadlock & Alexis Johnson in the Wild Goose Room. They will be reading Kate Bowler's *Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved*.



spotlights & welcomes



Welcome to the VHBC staff, Jennifer Tiehen!

Welcome our newest staff member Jennifer Tiehen. Jennifer will be serving as our Administrative Assistant to Pastoral and Worship Ministries. Her work will span a wide spectrum of our church ministries, contributing to worship preparations, pastoral care needs, deacon ministry, and support of various committees. Jennifer has recently moved to the Birmingham area from

Chattanooga. She and her husband have three school aged daughters and a four-legged baby, too! Take a minute to welcome Jennifer to our staff next time you are by the offices or drop her a note by email, jennifer@vhbc.com.

Welcome!

Reese Jordan



Many of us have known Reese her whole life since she has grown up at Vestavia Hills Baptist. She is the daughter of Rachel & Todd Jordan and the younger sister of Will Jordan. Reese's favorite things about church involve the youth group which she has been part of for 2 years. Specifically, she enjoys the trips they take together and the many opportunities they have "to just hang out" like at 529/428.

Reese is a 14-year-old freshman at Vestavia Hills High School. When I asked how she felt about the transition to high school, she said she isn't quite sure yet, but she knows she will have many opportunities to get involved at school. When Reese isn't at school or church, she is dancing. Reese has been a competition dancer at Jackie O'Neal School of Dance since second grade. She spends 3-4 days each week in ballet, hip hop, and jazz classes.

When I asked Reese to share a little-known fact about herself, she said that unlike many of her friends, she prefers movies over TV shows. Her favorites are *Father of the Bride* (the original) and *Legally Blonde*. I told her I thought she would make a great Elle Woods if she is looking for an idea for a Halloween costume.

Welcome, Reese.

Who's Behind the **ON AIR** sign?

Do you ever stream our services from home? If so, our Worship Tech Team is making it happen each week! They are also making sure everything you hear during worship in the sanctuary and online sound great!



How do they make it all happen? It takes a lot of pieces and people cooperating and communicating together to make sure everything the worship schedule is organized for each Sunday morning.

A draft copy of the service is sent from Marty to our team. Then Beth sends her music selections to be added. Martha/now Jennifer sends our scripture readers line-up. Cue sheets are created for each week for house, cameras, and stream - each unique and checked by different members of the team. Graphics and announcements are created and placed in a program to be added to the online stream that will be shown on Facebook, YouTube, and vhbc.com. The audio stream is also sent to WAJH - Alabama Jazz Hall Radio. So much more goes into each week - this Sunday, make sure you give high-fives to our **Worship Tech team!**

CONNECTED IN PRAYER

IN THE HOSPITAL

Linda Whitt - UAB Rm. M724 (West Pav)
 Barbara Vandergriff - Brookwood Rehab Rm.
 508

IN RECOVERY & ONGOING TREATMENTS

John Bell Mona Fisher
 Jason Cooper Barbara Price
 LaWayne Fleming Virginia Stone

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Juanita Blackburn | Al Lowery |
| Libby Brown | Samson Mathangani |
| Ann Bush | Kitty Newell |
| Carolyn Cain | Leon Nix |
| Esther Evans | Margaret Northrup |
| Milton Fullman | Gaynell Pinson |
| Pat Gillespie | Jerry & Lorelle Singleton |
| Sandy Gillis | Alicia Stigler |
| Bob & Mavis Hardy | Hazel Turner |
| Ruford Hodges | Bobbye Weaver |
| Peggy Jones | Doris Wilson |
| Dot Lowe | |

MISSIONARIES AROUND THE WORLD

Dianne & Shane McNary - Slovakia
 Awon Shanglai - India
 Marco & Omar Vallejo - Mexico
 Richard Owiti Kogola, Paul Mbogo,
 Benson Mwangangi, & Josphat Thiori - Kenya
 Chuck Tarter - Ireland
 Candy & Paul Huynh - Cambodia

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Susan Tarvin and family in the death of her brother, Ted Ellis-Werbin on August 22nd.

Please send prayer requests or updates to Jennifer Tiehen or the church office at the contacts provided. Thank you!

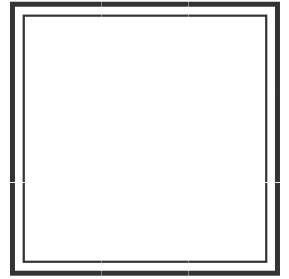


(205) 979-5920



JENNIFER@VHBC.COM

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BY VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH
2600 VESTAVIA DRIVE, BIRMINGHAM, AL 35216



VHBC MINISTRY STAFF

- NANCY AKINS, MINISTER TO PRESCHOOL/CHILDREN**
- TYLER JOHNSON, MINISTER TO STUDENTS**
- MIKE MCBRAYER, ADMINISTRATIVE PASTOR**
- DR. ERIC SPIVEY, SENIOR PASTOR**
- MARTY WATTS, MINISTER OF MUSIC & WORSHIP**

Our survey for small groups is still live. We want to hear from you!



WE LOVE FIREHOUSE SHELTER!

Each month volunteers from VHBC - adults, youth, & children - make their way to the Firehouse Shelter to partner with this vital ministry in downtown Birmingham. We serve pizza, salad, and desserts to homeless men who also shelter in the building.

We need you to help us each month (every 2nd Wednesday) with homemade desserts that will accompany each dinner these men receive. Please contact Meryll Cooper (meryll_cooper@gmail.com) to add your name to the list.