

VHBC

connections

August 22, 2023



IN
THIS
ISSUE

Discipleship Appreciation

Wednesday Sessions

Mission Collection

Vestavia Hills Baptist Church

ON THE COVER

Welcoming our new 7th graders
to the VHBC Youth!

*VHBC Giving*

August Budget Needed: \$148,531.00

August Offering to date: \$72,813.00

YTD Budget Needed: \$1,165,384.00

YTD Offering to date: \$1,036,535.00

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at VHBC.

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DISCIPLESHIP
APPRECIATION
LUNCHEON

Calling all teachers!!

We want to invite all of our teachers of our preschoolers, children, youth, and adults for a celebratory lunch honoring your commitment and ministry among us. Lunch will be served in our fellowship hall followed by our guest speaker, April Robinson, who will share a brief message of inspiration and encouragement.

SUNDAY,
AUGUST 27TH

SCAN
ME



CBF ASSEMBLE!

BY: MARTY WATTS

In June, our family had the wonderful opportunity to attend the General Assembly of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

I've just begun a three-year rotation on the CBF Nominating Committee, so my time there started with an orientation for folks new to the governance body and the first meeting of the Nominating Committee itself. I'm honored to have been asked by David Hull, former pastor at First Baptist Huntsville, and current CBF moderator, serve our Fellowship this way.



We also heard from Paul Baxley, Coordinator of CBF, and he remembers fondly worshipping at VHBC in February. Once the General Assembly got underway, there was a beautiful energy as friends and ministry colleagues re-connected. The lobby of the Hyatt Regency in Atlanta was the hub for laughter, hugs, and selfies. (Also meeting in the same conference hotel were hundreds of high schoolers for a national FBLA convention, so that added a lot of energy too!) There were opportunities to hear about the ministries of CBF, learn from leaders in other churches, visit vendors' booths, worship together, and commission new chaplains, pastoral counselors, and Global Service Corps personnel, and CBF Field Personnel (missionaries).

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Our church member Chuck Poole spoke at the twentieth anniversary celebration of Together for Hope. We got to experience part of a very timely new resource jointly produced by CBF and Baptist Women in Ministry “Equally Called.” Church member and Alabama CBF Coordinator Lucas Dorion hosted a dinner for us Alabama folks, thirteen of whom were from VHBC!

Our son Duncan participated in Children’s Assembly. There was time for playing, making crafts, hearing in-person from CBF Field Personnel, and even taking a trip to the Georgia Aquarium. I have no doubt that the friends he made then will be his CBF companions at future General Assemblies.

I thank God for the ministry of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and I’m grateful for our church’s partnership with CBF Global and Alabama CBF.

--Marty



VHBC Deacon Ministry Begins Again

September 1st marks the beginning of a new year of Deacon Ministry at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church. Deacons serve our church in three significant ways:

- Through leadership, serving in various roles throughout the congregation and worship.
- Through pastoral ministry to VHBC Families, serving as a personal connection to our church and providing pastoral care.
- Through administration and outreach, working diligently to carry out the work of our deacons and caring for those new to our congregation.

Our 2023-2024 Deacon Officers are:

- Becky Griffith, Chair
- Todd Jordan, Vice-Chair
- Dick Bodenhamer, Secretary

Please take time to welcome our incoming deacons serving the next three years (23-26).

- Sheryl Buckner
- Betsy Stockdale
- Elise Pittman Alexander
- Julia Duffy
- Kathryn Stewart
- George Ritchey
- George Van Kirk
- Joe Perez

Also, take time to thank our outgoing deacons who served the last three years, through a pandemic, a pastoral interim, and a new pastor.

- Dennis Anderson
- Liz David
- Norfleete Day
- Jan Dulin
- Brad Farley
- Howard Finch
- Ann Knight
- Carolyn Slappey
- Logan Taylor

Supper time at VHBC!

We have had a wonderful response to our new Food Service Director, Ann Franklin and her delicious meals!

Sign up here

to pre-order your meals each week and check out the menu for tonight and next week.

8/23: Poppysseed Chicken, Watermelon or Cucumber/Tomato Salad, & Vanilla Cake

8/30: BBQ Chicken, Baked Beans, Deviled Eggs, Corn on the Cob, & Banana Pudding



AUGUST SESSIONS

23rd

Fellowship Hall

Join Eric as he outlines our new theme & ministry focus {GROWING TOGETHER} for the coming year at VHBC. You don't want to miss it!

Chapel

Contemplative Prayer is back in person for the fall! Join them at 6 pm each week.

30th

Fellowship Hall

The new executive director of Firehouse Ministries, Nicole Boomhover and her team will participate in a panel discussion and Q&A.

Chapel

Contemplative Prayer is back in person for the fall! Join them at 6 pm each week.



MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY

Few people spend time reading the book of Revelation. In the past, many have been confused, discouraged, and intimidated by complex and convoluted predictions and interpretations of the controversial book. There is a lot to “unlearn” about this portion of Scripture. However, with a sensible and revealing approach to studying apocalyptic literature, the book of Revelation can prepare us to better evaluate the extreme claims that are often based upon these writings. Could it be that instead of fear and confusion, the book of Revelation can bring us hope, encouragement, and a vision for how to live out our faith each day? (Spoiler Alert: The answer is YES!)

Join Dale Tadlock in the Seminar Room on Wednesdays at 10 am in September and dive into Revelation together.

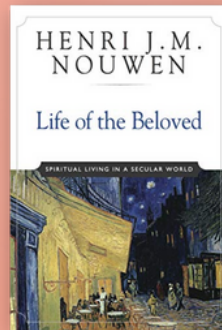


THE SON OF MAN WITH A SWORD AMONG THE SEVEN LAMPSTANDS, FROM THE BAMBERG APOCALYPSE

UPCOMING

Wednesday Sessions in September

- The Life of Abraham with Dr. Jeff Leonard
- Contemplative Prayer
- Book study of Henri Nouwen's *Life of the Beloved* with Suzanne Reece.



Wednesday Sessions in October

- Sunset Vespers
- Baking with Jess Nix
- Holiday Crafts
- Walking in Prayer
- and more!



Senior Adult Ministry

Our SAM team will be meeting soon to plan their fall schedule of events. Be on the look out for some great things this season!



EVENTS

Meet the Maroneys

Annette Maroney was born near Nashville and lived most of her life in Tennessee. She went to college at MTSU, Cumberland, and Liberty and holds a master's degree in Christian ministry. Ross was born in Selma, AL. The son of a preacher, his family moved a great deal; however, he spent most of his high school years in Birmingham. Ross went to UAB and studied music education. Ross married young and has a daughter, Mandi, who will be 40 next month.

After a divorce, Ross moved to Nashville. Ross met Annette, who was also divorced, at LaVergne First Baptist Church where he served as the music minister and Annette sang in the choir. Annette first thought Ross was arrogant, and because Annette was so quiet, Ross thought she was slow. Obviously, those opinions changed, and they married in 2001.



Annette was working as a substitute teacher in 2007 when Ross had a stroke. No longer able to hold his job due to issues related to memory

and his nervous system, Annette knew she needed to move to full time work. She worked in several different fields from customer service to publishing, but nothing felt like the right fit. That changed during the pandemic when she felt God calling her to chaplaincy. As soon as she shared this news with Ross, he put their house on the market.

It sold before they even knew where they were going. The week before closing, she found out she had a job at Princeton where she is currently enrolled in the Ingalls Center of Pastoral Ministries.

The Maroneys visited several churches in town before coming to VHBC on the recommendation of a friend from Annette's work. From the first visit, they said they felt welcomed and like they belonged. Ross' favorite thing about our church is the organ and Annette's is the discussion-style teaching in the Wild Goose Sunday school class they attend.

Annette and Ross love Tortugas' pizza. They also enjoy bowling and crafts like flower arranging and cake decorating. They even made the cake for their own wedding!



Meet the Carmichaels

Daniel and Sarah Carmichael recently joined VHBC after frequent visits

following the end of the pandemic. Their daughter, Campbell is three years old, and their son, Warren just turned two.

Daniel and Sarah both grew up in Enterprise, Alabama. For college, he went to Alabama and she went to UAB. They have lived in various parts of Birmingham since 2009 (Sarah) and 2012 (Daniel). Sarah has a Masters in Social Work, but at this time her children are her full time job. Daniel is a freight broker at Fetch Freight.

They enjoy kids' activities and being outdoors as much as possible. They appreciate the warm welcome they have received at VHBC, and they have invited friends to visit as well. Be sure to introduce yourself to the Carmichaels and let them know how excited we are to have them in our fellowship!



VOLUNTEERS

at VHBC

● Worship Care

8/27: Lisa Speegle, Brandi Brownell, Cathy Donze, Abbey Donze, Adam Pouncey, Melissa Pouncey, Virginia Wood

9/3: Kristie Chandler, Amy Hamilton, Libby Pittman, Marcia Spivey, Jo Davis, Carolyn Slappey, Judy Schlegel

● Worship Tech Team

8/27: Norfleete Day, Hal David, Brent Warren

9/3: Lilie VanGiessen, Hal David, Brent Warren

● Welcome Team

8/27: Sharon Hartzog, George Elliott, Howard Finch, Dan Caldwell, Lauren Hartzog, Cappy Blackwelder, Lisa Speegle, Jason Cooper

9/3: Joe Perez, Sharon Hartzog, Larry & Brandi Brownell, LaRue Gillespie, Kathy Finch, Sharon Repp

● Deacons

8/27: Caroline Nordlund, Millburn Price

9/3: Carolyn Slappey

SUNDAYS AT VHIBC

Sunday Morning Bible Study 8:45 am

Find our Welcome Team in the main foyer if you need assistance looking for a class for you and your family.

Children's Sunday School meets in the Children's Building. Please sign your child in at the front reception desk.

Worship in the Sanctuary 10 am

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.

Youth on Sunday Evening 5 pm

All youth meet in the Student Building to play games, listen to a devotion, and prepare for the upcoming week.
(During the Fall/Spring)



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a bi-weekly newsletter for Vestavia Hills
Baptist Church

2600 Vestavia Drive
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Ministry Staff

Nancy Akins Minister to Preschool & Children
Sara Binet Interim Student Coordinator
Mike McBrayer Administrative Pastor
Dr. Eric Spivey Senior Pastor
Laura Tadlock Ministry Assistant
Marty Watts Minister of Music & Worship



UPCOMING MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Throughout September and October, there will be bins around the church ready to be filled with diapers & wipes.

We would love to send a truckload of supplies to our mission partners at Bundles of Hope!



Each Bible study class, preschool/child music & missions group, youth group, and others are invited to collect as many as you can!