

DECEMBER 14, 2022

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 25

# CVHBC Connections



# CONTENTS



**COME SEE THE BABY**  
DETAILS ON PAGE 6

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE HAPPENINGS AROUND VHBC!

- 03 ADVENT WORSHIP AT VHBC**  
MORE TO COME THIS ADVENT SEASON AT VHBC
- 04 PASTOR'S ARTICLE**  
WHAT'S YOUR CHRISTMAS TRADITION?
- 05 WEEKLY SCHEDULE**
- 06 YOUTH & CHILDREN**
- 07 NEWS & EVENTS**
- 08 WEDNESDAYS THIS FALL**
- 09 CONNECTED IN PRAYER**

## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT VHBC?

### TOGETHER FOR CHRISTMAS

is tonight at VHBC at 6 pm. Come early for breakfast!

### SERVICE OF CONSOLATION

is this Sunday at 4 pm in the sanctuary. Follow the [link here](#) to see Eric's invitation for this special event.



**THANKS TO CRIS SPEEGLE FOR BUILDING A NEW BENCH ON OUR WALKING TRACK!**

## VHBC GIVING

December Budget Need	\$146,768.00
December Offering	\$114,259.00
YTD Budget Needed	\$1,693,450.00
YTD Offering	\$1,568,667.00
Difference	(\$124,783.00)

## FIND VHBC ONLINE



**WATCH RECENT SERVICES**



**IN TUNE WITH VHBC PODCAST**



**CONNECT**



**GIVE ONLINE SHELBYNEXT**



**STAY UPDATED**



[WWW.VHBC.COM](http://WWW.VHBC.COM)



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# Advent Worship Events at VHBC

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27**

10:00 AM Hanging of the Green

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4**

10:00 AM Sanctuary Choir Presents  
"New Life, New Hope, New Joy!"

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11**

10:00 AM Children's Choirs  
Share in Worship

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18**

10:00 AM Handbells Lead in Worship  
4:00 PM Service of Consolation

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24**

4:30 PM Come See the Baby  
A Worship Experience for Families with Children

8:00 PM Candlelight Christmas Eve  
Service

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25**

10:00 AM Christmas Day Worship





# CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS

ERIC SPIVEY

**Like a child anxious for Christmas morning, I find myself great with anticipation for the upcoming worship celebrations at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church. Over our years of ministry, I have experienced many varied and wonderful Christmas traditions and experiences around the Southeast.**

In Gatlinburg, we experienced our first white Christmas with snow falling on Christmas Eve. Our ministry focused on the ski community so we filled the days between Christmas and New Year's Day with work, tourist engagement, and connections with employees.

In coastal Beaufort, South Carolina, we celebrated Christmas Eve in a sanctuary built in 1844 surrounded by hundreds of candles as we sang Silent Night. The year Christmas fell on Sunday, our oldest daughter surprised us by coming forward to commit her life to Jesus, the baby in the manger.

In mountainous Cornelia, Georgia I spent my first Christmas trying to decide whether we needed to cancel the next day's worship service because of snow. Snow stopped in-person worship, but we enjoyed a great time of sledding with our neighborhood friends.

In warm Gainesville, Florida the community gathered at First Baptist Church to celebrate Christmas Eve. It was one of our largest services of the year followed by warm hot chocolate and cookies as families took pictures beside the large Christmas tree before heading home.

Every church and community have their own Christmas traditions built around their history, climate, and community. This year, I look forward to leading and experiencing our Christmas Eve and Christmas Day celebrations.

On Christmas Eve, our families with young children are invited to come at 4:30 pm for our Come See the Baby interactive service in the Fellowship Hall. Our children will participate in the Christmas story as we listen to God's good news of Jesus being born. Costumes and glow sticks make this service extra special. Children, their parents, and their grandparents are all invited to join us.

At 8:00 pm on Christmas Eve we will gather in our sanctuary for a traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Service. The handbell choir will lead us as we sing carols, light the Christ candle, celebrate communion, and sing Silent Night. This service will give us the feel of a midnight Christmas Eve service while getting us home just in time for Santa.

This year Christmas falls on Sunday. On Sunday, December 25, we will gather for a casual time of worship at 10 am. Children are invited to wear their pajamas. We will sing carols, hear Christmas stories, and celebrate the birth of Jesus together. I hope you will make time after breakfast on Christmas Day to come worship with your family.

Most of all, this Christmas I am excited to be with you as your pastor. While everything feels new, I am thankful to experience our traditions and celebrate Jesus together. I'll see you this Sunday. You are loved.

-- ERIC --



# 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](http://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



# December Dates to Remember

Don't come to YOSE on these dates: 12/18, 12/25, 1/1/23

Come to WNL on these dates: 12/14 (Together for Christmas)

Don't come to WNL on these dates: 12/21 & 12/28

Twas the Night Before  
Christmas Lock-In: 6 pm on 12/16 until 8 am 12/17



# VHBC *children's ministry* UPCOMING EVENTS



**Sixers at the  
Alabama  
Theater**

**Monday, Dec 19  
2 pm**

**Elf with  
Ms. Nancy!**

## Come See the Baby



Gather in the Fellowship Hall this Christmas Eve for a worship experience designed for families with small children. Hear the Christmas story told as our children actively participate as shepherds and angels. Invite your friends and neighbors to share in this unique service.

# NEWS & EVENTS

## VOLUNTEERS AROUND THE CHURCH

### CHILDREN'S RECEPTION DESK

**DEC 18**

Jay McFarland

**DEC 25**

Virginia Wood

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

**DEC 18**

Babies & Ones: Laura Tadlock, Billie Lochamy  
Twos-K: Jennifer & Adie Carter

**DEC 25**

No Worship Care on Christmas Day - Parents are encouraged to bring their children in pajamas to the 10 am service!

### WELCOME TEAM

**DEC 18/25**

Sharon Hartzog  
Howard Finch  
Brandi Brownell  
Larry Brownell  
Dan Caldwell  
Lauren Hartzog  
Cappy Blackwelder  
Joe Perez  
Fred Olive

### TRANSPORTATION TEAM

**DEC 18** Mike Craddock  
William Dupree

**DEC 25** Julia Vines  
Barton Duffy

## NEEDS AROUND THE CHURCH



### DONATIONS NEEDED

Looking to clean out those closets? We would love to have your old board games! Missing pieces or broken boxes are perfect. Drop off in the children's foyer.



### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Worship Care is in need of more volunteers for 2023! Are classes are growing and with that comes need for more teachers and helpers! Are you available to help? If so, please contact Nancy Akins [nancy@vhbc.com](mailto:nancy@vhbc.com) or let us know in the church office 205-979-5920. We'd love to add you to the list!

## OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR COMMUNITY



### MISSION PARTNERSHIP WITH CBF FIELD PERSONNEL - DIANNE & SHANE MCNARY

We are headed to the US for vacation in December and will be returning to Slovakia with empty bags. What a better way to help the various communities we serve than to provide books in English. Over the years we have provided enough books to various schools to establish respectable English language sections for their libraries. Providing what is requested by teachers ensures the usefulness of these gifts. [Click the link here to donate English books to Slovakia.](#)

## December COLLECTION



**Coats and socks for our neighbors at Firehouse Shelter.**

**A tree will be in the Children's Building for the socks and bins will be placed around the building for men's coats.**





# WEDNESDAYS AT VHBC



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.

## END OF YEAR MENU

**14th:** Breakfast Casserole, Bacon, Sausage, Biscuits, Grits, Dessert



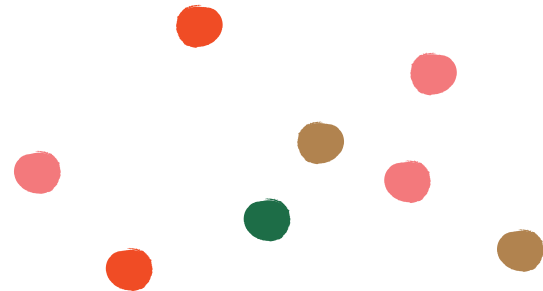
# TOGETHER FOR CHRISTMAS



Wednesday, December 14th

Children, youth, and adults are invited to join together in the fellowship hall for a fun-filled night of fellowship led by our ministry staff.

Arrive early for breakfast for dinner & stay for stories, games, crafts, and loads of togetherness!





# CONNECTED IN PRAYER

## WE CARE HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Juanita Blackburn	Dot Lowe
Libby Brown	Al Lowery
Ann Bush	Mary Lysaught
Carolyn Cain	Samson Mathangani
Mary Creech	Rudy McMurray
Jane Deagon	Kitty Newell
Franciska Dyck	Leon Nix
Esther Evans	Margaret Northrup
Milton Fullman	Gaynell Pinson
Al & Shirley Furr	Jerry & Lorelle Singleton
Pat Gillespie	Jean Spivey
Sandy Gillis	Alicia Stigler
Bob & Mavis Hardy	Hazel Turner
Ruford Hodges	Betty Vanstrum
Peggy Jones	Doris Wilson
Charlotte Kyser	

## CONGRATULATIONS TO

Mary Grace Cox & Shawn Owens in the birth of their daughter, Elsie Lane Perkins on Saturday, December 3rd. Proud grandparents are Jennifer & Danny Cox.

Jennifer & Danny Cox also welcomed a grandson on Friday, December 2nd - Joseph Daniel Cox to proud parents, Daniel & Meagan Cox.

## IN RECOVERY & ONGOING TREATMENTS

Karen Anderson	Rudy McMurray
Linda Anderson	Sarah Moreland
John Bell	Gaynell Pinson
Libby Brown	Emma Jean Sleeman
Joan Crye	Gay Thomas
Mona Fisher	Kay Worley
Jim Hall	

## 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 TO

The family of Leon Nix upon his passing on December 11, 2022. Visitation will be held on Thursday, December 15th from 10 am until noon at Ridout Funeral Home at 1800 Oxmoor Road, Homewood, AL 35209. A graveside service will be held afterwards at Oak Cemetery, Talledega, AL 35160 at 2 pm.

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

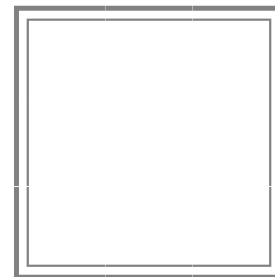


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### **VHBC MINISTRY STAFF**

**NANCY AKINS, MINISTER TO PRESCHOOL/CHILDREN**

**TYLER JOHNSON, MINISTER TO STUDENTS**

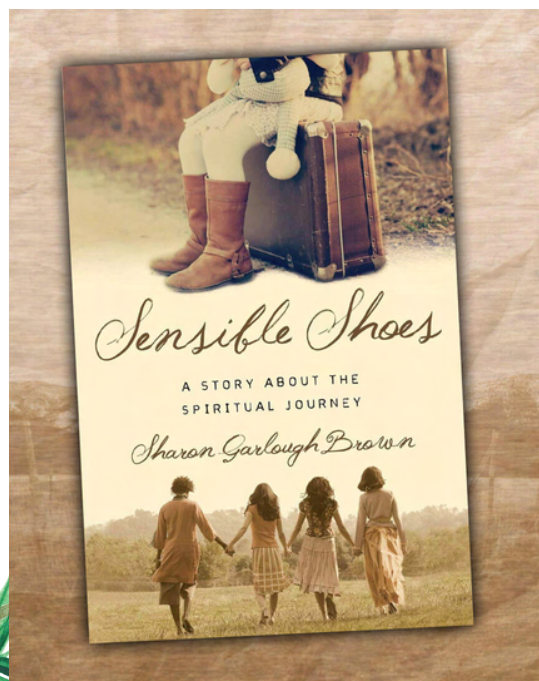
**MIKE MCBRAYER, ADMINISTRATIVE PASTOR**

**DR. ERIC SPIVEY, SENIOR PASTOR**

**LAURA TADLOCK, MINISTRY ASSISTANT**

**MARTY WATTS, MINISTER OF MUSIC & WORSHIP**

Red Poinsettias are still available for purchase through the church office. They are \$20 each and the honor/memory list will be featured in this Sunday's worship guide.



coming in  
*January*

### **Women's Discipleship Small Group**

*Sensible Shoes* by Sharon Brown; 7 weeks beginning on Wednesday, January 11th from 5:30-7 pm

Register at [vhbc.com](http://vhbc.com) and read testimonials and invitation by fellow members