

WE APPEAL TO YOU NOT TO RECEIVE  
THE GRACE OF GOD IN VAIN. FOR HE  
SAYS, "IN AN ACCEPTABLE TIME I  
HEARD YOU, AND ON THE DAY OF  
SALVATION I HELPED YOU.

*1 Corinthians 6:1-2*



**VHBC**  
*connections*

MARCH 5, 2024



# Grace

*Grace will prevail  
Though the darkness is strong  
and the burden weighs heavy and long  
Grace will prevail  
For our God is the Light  
Rending the cover of night*

## The Wood Drake Sessions

*Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

**Romans 5:20-21**

## Ways to spend your time during this Lenten season

*Write letters to our homebound members. Connect with our VHBC We Care group and partner with them.*

*Donate to RIP Medical Debt to help families with overwhelming medical bills.*

*Support Lovelady Center by volunteering or donating hygiene items (read more about this in the newsletter).*

**March 5, 2024**

THE THIRD WEEK OF LENT



### Thought of the Day

*As long as we live on this earth, our lives as Christians must be marked by compassion. But we must realize that the compassionate life is not our final goal. In fact, we can live the compassionate life to the fullest only when we know that it points beyond itself.*

**Passage from *Show Me the Way* by Henri J.M. Nouwen**

# THIS WEEK - & - MORE AT VHBC



## WED. NIGHT MEALS IN MAR

6th: Country Ham, Scrambled Eggs, Hashbrowns, Biscuit, & Fresh Fruit

13th: Beef or Chicken Burritos, Chips & Salsa, Fiesta Salad, & Dessert

20th: Chicken & Spinach Lasagna, Caesar Salad, Bread, & Dessert

Reserve your plate  
online at  
[vhbc.com/dinneratvhbc](http://vhbc.com/dinneratvhbc)

Adults: \$7  
Children: \$5  
Preschoolers: Free  
College Students: Free

## MIDWEEK ADULT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays at 10 am in the Seminar Room

ALL ADULTS WELCOME

*Memento Mori: A Lenten Experience* by local author and speaker & Bible scholar, Erin H. Moon.

## LENTEN ADULT WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

Contemplative Prayer at 6 pm in the Chapel  
Facilitated by George Van Kirk

Enneagram Workshop: A 4-week study with Jess & Sara Nix at 6 pm in the Seminar Room  
February 21 & 28; March 13 & 20

### In the Fellowship Hall on Wednesday in Lent

March 6: Youth Week - ***How well do you know VHBC Youth?***

March 13: Continuing Hope in the Wilderness with Noel Forlini Burt

March 20: Hope in the Wilderness with Noel Forlini Burt

March 27: No Wednesday night activities during Holy Week

March 28: Maundy Thursday service at 6 pm

March 29: Good Friday 11 am - 1pm in the Chapel

# LET'S CELEBRATE & GIVE THANKS...

## IT'S YOUTH

## WEEK! by Lucas Dorion



By now you have surely heard that this is Youth Week at VHBC! This means that the students and their leaders will gather just about every day to have fun and participate in some community building activity. From food trucks in the parking lot, to sweet treats at a local ice cream shop, to cheering on the Birmingham Bulls hockey team, this is guaranteed to be a memorable seven days! On Wednesday and Sunday of this week, everyone at VHBC is invited to participate in Youth Week, as the students take over the leadership of both our Wednesday night fellowship time AND Sunday morning worship. You will not want to miss either of these gatherings.



Now that we know what Youth Week is, you might wonder WHY we do it...and the answer is pretty simple.

VHBC believes in the power and impact that student ministry done well can have on not only our students, but their families and our community. Some churches may view student ministry as a "service" it provides to the membership or an obligatory program option that must be made available. At VHBC, student ministry is an essential part of how we faithfully respond to God's call on us in the world. We tell the story of God's great love in how well we love and nurture the teenagers given into our care. However, it is not just a one-way street. In response to the relationships we cultivate with our students, we reap the blessings of their friendship, leadership, and generosity in our family of faith. We know this to be true all year round, but Youth Week is a special time to celebrate and give thanks for the joy and goodness these young people bring to each of our lives and to the life we share as Vestavia Hills Baptist Church!

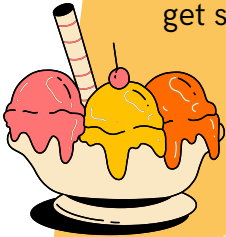
# VHBC

# YOUTH

# WEEK '24

**TUESDAY, MARCH 5TH**

Swing by Sunshine Creamery from 3:30-5 pm to get some ice cream on us!



**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6TH**

VHBC Youth is taking over Wednesday night church! We will be in the fellowship hall leading games from 6-7 pm to see how well our congregation can get into the mind of our youth!

**THURSDAY, MARCH 7TH**

A day off so our students can catch up on assignments, take a shift at work, or just take a nap all afternoon!

**FRIDAY, MARCH 8TH**

Movie night and Youth Sunday prep in the fellowship hall from 6-9 pm.

**SATURDAY,  
MARCH 9TH**

A night with the Birmingham Bulls at Pelham Civic Complex, 7 pm



**SUNDAY, MARCH 10TH**

Youth Sunday Service at 10 am

VHBC Youth Banquet 5-7 pm

Fellowship Hall

Wear your tackiest attire and get ready for basketball awards, youth week awards, and senior superlatives!



# HOLY WEEK AT VHBC

## **MARCH 24** PALM SUNDAY

Families with children (kindergarten - 6th grade) are invited to process into worship waving palm branches. If you would like your child to participate, please have them meet in the chapel at 9:45 am.

## **MARCH 28** MAUNDY THURSDAY

Please join us for a special Maundy Thursday communion service at 6 pm in the Sanctuary. Laura Tadlock will be preaching. No meal will be served, but child care will be available for preschoolers during the service.

## **MARCH 29** GOOD FRIDAY

The Chapel will be open from 11 am to 1 pm. Resources for a self-guided worship experience will be available.

## **MARCH 30** EASTER EGG HUNT

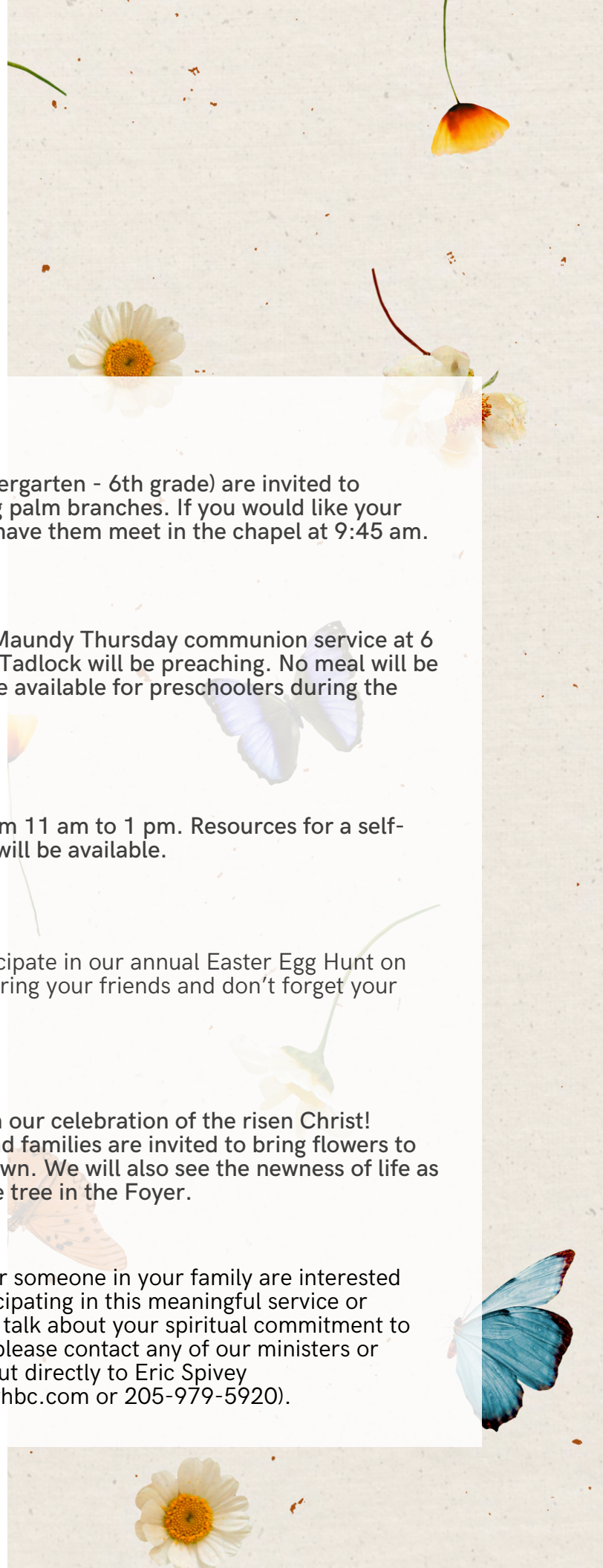
Children are invited to participate in our annual Easter Egg Hunt on the church lawn at 10 am! Bring your friends and don't forget your basket.

## **MARCH 31** EASTER SUNDAY

All are welcome to join us in our celebration of the risen Christ! Worship begins at 10 am and families are invited to bring flowers to decorate the cross on the lawn. We will also see the newness of life as we display butterflies on the tree in the Foyer.

*Baptism*  
ON EASTER SUNDAY

If you or someone in your family are interested in participating in this meaningful service or want to talk about your spiritual commitment to Jesus, please contact any of our ministers or reach out directly to Eric Spivey ([eric@vhbc.com](mailto:eric@vhbc.com) or 205-979-5920).





This past Sunday, a few ladies that teach weekly at the Lovelady Center spoke about their ministry and how they lead ladies each week at the Lovelady Center. Lovelady Center is also in need of so many other volunteers throughout the week - **in the kitchen, procurement, day care, community food bank, and thrift stores in Irondale and Trussville.**

For the next several weeks, be on the lookout for bins around the church for a **Hygiene Products Drive** for Lovelady Center! The ladies at the center need **shampoo, conditioner, body wash, feminine products, deodorant, lotion, hair brushes, tweezers, etc.** Please drop these off by Friday, March 29th. Thank you!

# AROUND THE CHURCH

**VHBC CDC  
SPRING  
ART SUPPLY  
COLLECTION!**

**COLLECTING  
THROUGH  
MARCH**

**PLACE YOUR  
DONATION  
IN THE RED  
BIN**

**SAM  
MOVIE MATINEE**

This Friday, March 8th  
1 pm  
Fellowship Hall

Movie title hint:  
A tall historian steals  
an important founding  
document of the USA



# prayerful REFLECTION



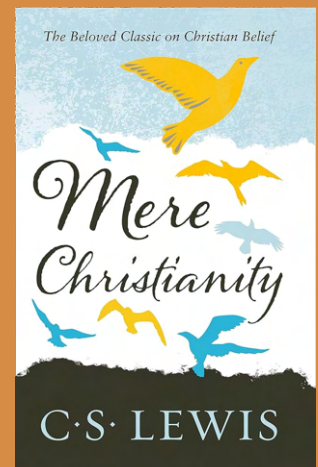
In each newsletter during this Lenten season, we will look at reflections from different authors and theologians.

Today we will read a passage from Irish-born author, scholar, and author, C.S. Lewis (1898-1963).

## Being Good

That is why the Christian is in a different position from other people who are trying to be good. They hope, by being good, to please God if there is one; or - if they think there is not - at least they hope to deserve approval from good men. But the Christian thinks any good he does comes from the Christ-life inside him. He does not think God will love us because we are good, but that God will make us good because He loves us; just as the roof of a greenhouse does not attach the sun because it is bright, but becomes bright because the sun shines on it.

from *Mere Christianity*



# VOLUNTEERS

March 10, 2024

## Worship Care

Cathy Donze, Abbey Donze, Faye Suggs,  
Maggie Doss, Brad Farley

## Transportation Team

Scott Phillips  
Brent Warren

## Worship Tech Team

VHBC Youth  
Brent Warren

## Welcome Team

Carolyn Slappey, Joe Perez, Dan  
Caldwell, Howard Finch, Kathy Finch

## Deacons of the Week

Jennifer Carter  
John Chandler

## Flowers/Decor Team

Sara Taylor  
VHBC Youth

## Counting Team

Kristie Chandler  
Dick Bodenhamer



March 17, 2024

## Worship Care

Marcia Spivey, Sara McFarland, Samuel  
Nordlund, Rachel Farley, Evelyn Hill,  
Jan Deagon, Jerri Pare'.

## Transportation Team

Abbey Donze  
Brad Farley

## Worship Tech Team

Lilie VanGiessen  
Dan VanGiessen

## Welcome Team

Carolyn Slappey, Joe Perez,  
Dan Caldwell, Howard Finch,  
Kathy Finch

## Deacons of the Week

Mary Grace Cox  
Julia Duffy

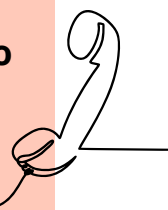
## Flowers/Decor Team

Ashley Bates  
Jennifer Jaquess

## Counting Team

Kristie Chandler  
Bob Booth

**A call for teachers! We need a few good substitutes to call up when our Adult Bible study leadership needs support. We need you! Contact [laura@vhbc.com](mailto:laura@vhbc.com) if you like to be on our SUB Teacher List. I look forward to hearing from you!**





## 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



**Becky Milstead,**  
LPC at Taproot  
Therapy

20 years of exp.  
helping teens,  
adolescents, &  
families.

## SEMINARS FOR FAMILIES COMING IN APRIL

### FEARS & ANXIETY IN CHILDHOOD WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10, 6-7 PM SEMINAR ROOM

Fear and anxious distress are normal experiences in a healthy life. Children experience fear and anxiety through development and these in themselves are not typically a cause for significant alarm. Parents who understand the role of fear and anxiety as an engine that a child needs to fuel their growth as they meet normal developmental challenges are better prepared to support and guide their child. Come join us to learn about some of the reasons for anxiety in healthy development and learn some tips to guide your child in their developmental journey.

### PROBLEMATIC ANXIETY & PARENT SKILLS TO SUPPORT HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 4:30-6 PM ACTIVITY ROOM

Fear and anxiety can become problematic when they overwhelm a child/teen and block the developmental process. There are skills that parents, children and teens can learn to manage anxiety to unblock the process. All children benefit from parenting that acknowledges the real fears that life presents to us in an age appropriate manner. Parents are a powerful model for children and teens on how to tolerate anxiety and communicate when it becomes too heavy to carry alone. Come join us to learn some tips on how to open up communication about anxiety in your family and to recognize the signs that professional help may be needed.



**PIZZA DINNER, CHILDCARE FOR BABIES-6TH  
GRADERS. PLEASE REGISTER AT VHBC.COM**