

NOVEMBER 15, 2022

VOLUME 29 ISSUE 23

# WHSU Connections



**YOUTH FALL RETREAT  
HIGHLIGHTS**

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**YOUTH & CHILDREN  
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## WHAT'S HAPPENING AT VHBC?

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### QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

Wednesday, November 16 at 6 pm

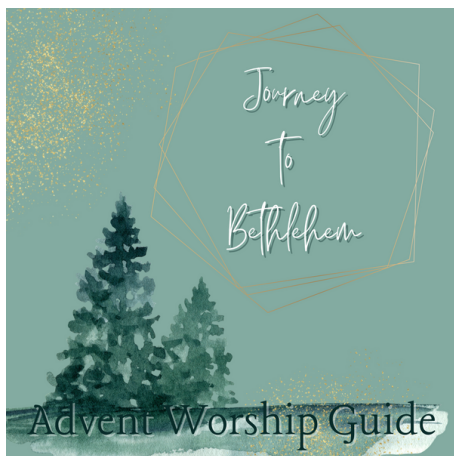
### KIDS NIGHT OUT

Friday, November 18 at 6 pm

### OFFICES CLOSED FOR HOLIDAY

The church offices will be closed Wednesday, November 23 - Friday, November 25 for the Thanksgiving holiday

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Advent Worship Guide

**PICK UP YOUR  
COPY OF OUR  
NEW ADVENT  
WORSHIP GUIDE  
THIS SUNDAY,  
NOVEMBER  
20TH!**

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE HAPPENINGS AROUND VHBC!

- 03 RETREAT ANEW**  
DEADLINE TO REGISTER IS FRIDAY!
- 04 FEATURED ARTICLE**  
DO YOU KNOW THE WORD ORIGIN OF DENIM?
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## FIND VHBC ONLINE



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RECENT  
SERVICES**



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WITH VHBC  
PODCAST**



**CONNECT**



**GIVE ONLINE  
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UPDATED**



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VESTAVIA HILLS, AL 35216  
205.979.5920  
BRITTNI@VHBC.COM

**CHURCHWIDE**

# A Retreat Anew

**AT SHOCCO SPRINGS**

**SATURDAY & SUNDAY**

**JANUARY 28-29, 2023**

**PRICING  
FOR ADULTS**

**DOUBLE OCCUPANCY  
SINGLE OCCUPANCY  
DAY PARTICIPANT  
COLLEGE STUDENT**

**\$100  
\$140  
\$25  
\$30**

**PRICING FOR  
CHILDREN & YOUTH**

**Ages 3-8: \$20  
Ages 9-12: \$25  
Youth: \$110 (2-nights)**

**REGISTER ONLINE  
[WWW.VHBC.COM/2023WINTERRETREAT](http://WWW.VHBC.COM/2023WINTERRETREAT)**

**Deadline: Friday, November 18th**



# AN IMPORTANT WORD

**BY MARTY WATTS**

I've always been interested in etymologies, word origins. Did you know the word "muscle" is derived from the Latin word for "little mouse" because muscle movement like in the bicep was thought to resemble a tiny rodent? "Denim" comes from "de Nîmes," which the town in France where the fabric originated. The name of P.T. Barnum's six-ton circus elephant gives us the word "jumbo."

An important word we consider in this season of our Anew emphasis is "worship." This word comes from Old English "worth" + "ship" meaning "condition of being worthy." The holiday season is nearly upon us and we'll have tremendous opportunities to decide what is worthy of our time, attention, and financial resources. Our participation in Thanksgiving gatherings, Christmas parties, and gift exchanges all reflect some of the implicit value, or worth-ship, we place on them.

Opportunities for corporate worship at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church abound during this season, too. On the last Sunday of the liturgical year, Reign of Christ, which also happens to be the Sunday before Thanksgiving, we'll gather around the Lord's table for communion or eucharist (from the Greek for "thanksgiving"). Then we move into the Advent season - four weeks of preparation and anticipation. Hanging of the Green, the Sanctuary Choir's "New Life, New Hope, New Joy" presentation, Children's Choir, and the Handbell Choir make the season so special.

We'll also gather for a Service on Consolation - an opportunity to grieve and be offered hope, not only around death, but also job loss, illness, divorce, loneliness, strained relationships, etc. Christmastide brings worship gatherings on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day as well as the celebration of Epiphany.

This year, we'll also be offering a special personal Advent worship guide: **Journey to Bethlehem**. Each week will feature written reflections from church members on the Advent themes of hope, peace, joy, and love as well as for Christmas Eve/Day. There are also worship prompts for each day that offer accessible opportunities for prayer, meditation, listening to Christmas carols, and putting Advent themes into action. Accompanying the written material will be a weekly audio podcast with the authors reading their own reflections.

Consider anew this season what is worthy of your time, attention, and financial resources. Participate in corporate and personal worth-ship with Vestavia Hills Baptist Church. Open yourself to new opportunities to be made more like Christ each day.

**TURN THE PAGE TO SEE A  
PREVIEW OF WHAT'S TO COME  
THIS ADVENT SEASON!**



# 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



# VHBC YOUTH NOVEMBER

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- 11/16** WNL 6-7pm
- 11/20** YOSE 5-7 pm
- 11/23** No Youth Activities
- 11/27** NO YOSE
- 11/30** WNL 6-7pm



## FALL RETREAT HIGHLIGHTS

**November 11-13**  
**WorldSong**  
 Retreat Speaker:  
 Milligan Burroughs



# VHBC

*children's ministry*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Bethlehem Morning

Sunday,  
 December 4th  
 8:45 am

### GA/RA Caroling

Sunday,  
 December 4th  
 6:15 pm

Sixers at the  
 Alabama  
 Theater

Monday, Dec 19  
 2 pm

Elf with  
 Ms. Nancy!



## KIDS NIGHT OUT

Friday, November 18th  
 6 pm  
 Children's Activity  
 Building

Pizza & Snacks & Fun!

Deadline to sign up at  
[vhbc.com](http://vhbc.com) is this  
 Thursday!



# WEEKLY SCHEDULE AT VHBC



## 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



# NEWS & EVENTS

## VOLUNTEERS AROUND THE CHURCH

### CHILDREN'S RECEPTION DESK

**NOV 20**

Jerri Pare'

**NOV 27**

LaRue Speights

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

**NOV 20**

Babies & Ones: Alexis Johnson, Billie Lochamy  
Twos-K: Brenda Ammons, Jan Deagon

**NOV 27**

Babies & Ones: Jan Dulin, Stacey Sapp  
Twos-K: Dianne Horn, Laura Griffio

### WELCOME TEAM

**NOV 20**

Sharon Hartzog  
Howard Finch  
Brandi Brownell  
Larry Brownell  
Dan Caldwell  
Lauren Hartzog  
Kathy Finch  
Sharon Repp  
Lisa Speegle

**NOV 27**

Sharon Hartzog  
Carolyn Slappey  
Brandi Brownell  
Larry Brownell  
Dan Caldwell  
Lauren Hartzog  
Cappy Blackwelder  
Joe Perez  
Fred Olive

### TRANSPORTATION TEAM

**NOV 20**

Cris Speegle  
William Dupree

**NOV 27**

Tommy Cherry  
Ken Farley



## 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.*



## NEEDS AROUND THE CHURCH



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.

### DONATIONS NEEDED

While you're dropping off games, gather some nice greenery for the Children's Activity Room to drop off on Wednesday, Nov 30 or Thursday, Dec 1. (No branches, please.)



## OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR COMMUNITY

### NOURISH OUR NEIGHBORS AT FIREHOUSE

Remember church lunches where we'd have tables of and tables of different desserts from which to choose? Well, we'd like to give a similar experience to the men at the Firehouse Shelter. Interested?

Please bring a homemade dessert with a minimum of 12 servings to the church's main lobby by 5:15 pm on the second Wednesday of each month. Sign up [HERE!](#)



*Please place your donations in the colorful bins around the church!*

## November COLLECTION





# 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.

## NOVEMBER MENU

**16th:** Lemon Pepper Chicken, Baby Baker Potatoes, Squash Casserole, Rolls, Dessert; Kids: Chicken Fingers & Fries

**23rd:** No Dinner This Week (Thanksgiving Break)

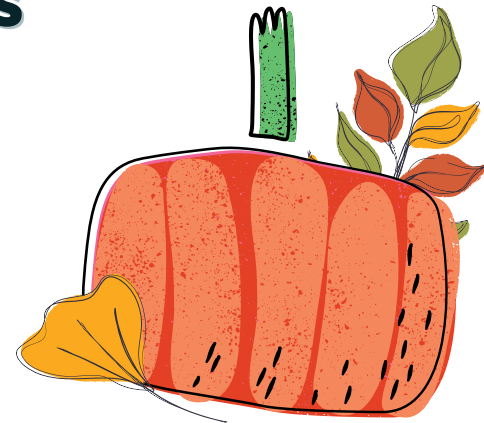
**30th:** Chicken Spaghetti, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Dessert; Kids: Pizza & Fries



## UPCOMING WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

**November 16th : Quarterly Business Meeting**

**November 23rd: No Sessions/Meetings**



**November 30 & December 7th**

### Advent Study

with April Robinson  
in the Fellowship Hall

### Christmas Crafts

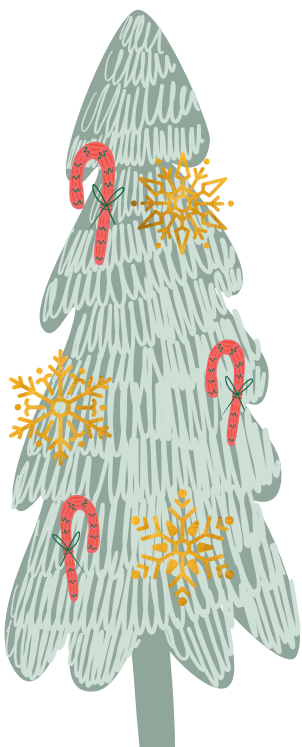
with Prissy Sumners  
in the Seminar Room

**A project each week!**

Velvet Trees & Angel Paintings

Register online at [vhbc.com](http://vhbc.com)

**\$20**





Thank you so much for your thoughts and prayers for the Andersons over the past week and a half.

After five nights in ICU and two nights in the step-down unit, Karen is home. These first days home have been full of getting ourselves organized for a lengthy recovery and with rediscovering the simple joys and comfort of the familiarity and routine of home.

Karen's recovery process will be slow and will give us many opportunities to learn patience.

The blood clots that went from her leg, through her heart, and into both lungs are being addressed with medication over the next several months. The blood thinners she was given the first few days to dissolve the clots did damage to the knee that had surgery 2 1/2 weeks ago. The healing and recovery of the knee will take weeks or months, not days.

But, we are blessed. We have been humbled and overwhelmed by the out-pouring of love from our church family and friends - prayers, food, cards, texts, phone calls. It will be a while before Karen will be back at church. But, we look forward to being together again with our family at VHBC and our friends in the community. We feel loved and we love you all.

**DENNIS AND KAREN ANDERSON**



*Please join the Women's Bible study group as we meet 4 weeks around Advent to discuss Tsh Oxenreider's book "Shadow & Light: A Journey into Advent!"*

*"Advent is not meant to be a season of doing more or having more. Instead, accept the gift of a slow and meaningful season to rest in God's nearness-and ready yourself for the miracle that Christmas brings, year after year."* **We will meet on Tuesdays at 9:30 am & 6:30 pm; Nov. 29, Dec 6, & 13.**

There is no homework or group videos with this study; simply daily devotions which will take us through the Advent season, so our meetings will be discussion based. **Please sign up at [vhbc.com](http://vhbc.com).** Books are **\$5** and can be paid for through the form or in the church office.

**COME CELEBRATE Christmas!**

**A SENIOR ADULT HOLIDAY LUNCHEON**  
Thursday, December 1st at 11:30 am  
Fellowship Hall  
**COST: \$6 PER PERSON**

**SIGN UP AT**  
**[VHBC.COM](http://VHBC.COM)**

# WELCOME WAGON



Lil Sapp decided to make a public profession of faith after hearing the call during the final service of Passport youth camp last summer. She was then baptized on September 25. Lil is daughter to Stacey & Mathew and big sister to brothers, Anderson and Huston. The family also has a dog named Buck.

Lil is a sophomore at Vestavia Hills High School. This is her second year playing on the flag football team - a team that is currently in the state playoffs!

Lil also plays golf and has since the second grade. Obviously, she is also on the school's golf team. Her favorite school subjects are history and sports medicine. She shared that she will probably follow in her dad's footsteps and attend medical school one day. Her favorite TV show is Seinfeld and her favorite movie is Sixteen Candles.




What Lil likes best about church is the youth group. She appreciates the many opportunities to connect with kids who are both older and younger. She especially enjoys game nights when they play Two Step and compete in various challenges.

## upcoming events

**Caregiver Support Group**  
Thursday, December 1 at 11 am  
Newk's Vestavia

Are you caring for a loved one? Are you feeling disconnected from community? Come and join this group hosted by Melody Harden and enjoy support, fellowship, and conversation with other caregivers. Contact [laura@vhbc.com](mailto:laura@vhbc.com) or [melodypharden@gmail.com](mailto:melodypharden@gmail.com) for further information.



*The Alabama Civic Chorale*  
cordially invites you to

# Handel's Messiah

*Earl and Frances Clark, Founders*  
*Bebe Clark Kok, Conductor*

Members of the Alabama Symphony and Soloists  
Walt Rogers, Organist

**Sunday, November 20, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.**  
RIVERCHASE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Hoover, Alabama

*In honor of Handel's charitable spirit,  
we are collecting items to donate to children in need.  
See QR code.*

Check us out on   
[www.alabamacivicchorale.com](http://www.alabamacivicchorale.com)  
Early arrival suggested. Seating is limited.



# CONNECTED IN PRAYER

## IN THE HOSPITAL

Victoria Farley - Children's 927  
Karen Anderson - STVHS

## UPCOMING PROCEDURES

Joan Crye - UAB 11/18

## 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	

## IN RECOVERY & ONGOING TREATMENTS

Linda Anderson	Bob & Mavis Hardy
Becky Atkinson	Susan Lebold
Dave Balius	Henry Maddox
John Bell	Sarah Moreland
Jason Cooper	Leon Nix
Mona Fisher	Gaynell Pinson
Jim Hall	Gay Thomas
	Kay Worley

## 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

Sara Hamilton and family in the passing of her husband, Lowell Hamilton. The service will be at VHBC on Thursday, November 17. Visitation will be at 12:30 pm and service will follow at 2:30 pm. There is also a visitation scheduled for Wednesday evening from 5-7 pm at Valley Chapel in Homewood.

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

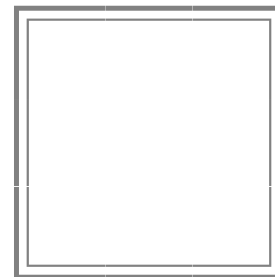


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**TYLER JOHNSON, MINISTER TO STUDENTS**

**MIKE MCBRAYER, ADMINISTRATIVE PASTOR**

**DR. ERIC SPIVEY, SENIOR PASTOR**

**LAURA TADLOCK, MINISTRY ASSISTANT**

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

Red Poinsettias will be available for purchase in honor or memory of a family member for our Advent season.

Each plant is **\$20** and the deadline is Tuesday, November 22nd.



Looking for that perfect gift? Look no further than ***Cooking Traditions***, our VHBC cookbook! Filled with a variety of recipes from church members, who are great cooks btw, *Cooking Traditions* is a favorite among those who enjoy a good cookbook.

Available for **\$10** in our church library.

