



ohbc
CONNECTIONS



october 3, 2023





Contents

Hello October!

This month is filled to the brim with activities, missions, and fellowship for all! Find out how you can take part in this week's newsletter!

Upcoming Events

Some are on Sundays, Wednesdays, or even Saturdays! Times to worship, times to fellowship, times to listen.



Volunteer Opportunities

Fall Serve is fast approaching and there are other ways to serve after October 14th as well!

A Note from the Pastor

VHBC Youth & Children

For parents & youth & children - read here! This page is for you!

hello

OCTOBER

10 &
22

Listening Sessions on Tuesday, 10/10 at 5:30 pm & Sunday, October 22 at 9 am in the Seminar Room for those who would like to have further conversation concerning the pastoral letter mailed out in August.

14

Fall Serve 9-12 pm

Look for more information at vhbc.com or keep reading the newsletter...

15

Africa Exchange

Hear from Sam Harrell, Founder & Executive Director during the Bible study hour before worship!



20

SAM Game Day

10 am - 2 pm

Puzzles, card games, and fellowship!

Bring your own lunch, but drinks and snacks will be provided!

21

Moms Brunch

9:30-11 am in the Children's Activity Room

Join us for a wonderful time of fellowship! Becky Griffith and friends will lead us in making beautiful pumpkin flower arrangements. You will be amazed at what you can do!

Register at vhbc.com!+

Midweek

at VHBC

Wednesday Morning Prayer
7 am
ZOOM

Midweek Bible Study
10 am
Seminar Room

The Book of Revelation
A 4-week study with Dale Tadlock
concluding on Oct. 4th

Fellowship
Supper
4:45 pm

9/20 Menu: Hamburger Steak,
Mashed Potatoes, Steamed
Broccoli, Cornbread Muffin

9/27 Menu: Pork Tenderloin, Mac
& Cheese, Baked Sweet Potato,
and Cookies

[order](#)
[online](#)

Adult Sessions
6 pm & after

- Sunset Vespers on the Lawn at 6:15
- Walking in Prayer at 6:10 (Meet under the Porte Cochere in your walking shoes)
- Contemplative Prayer
- Look out for mission speakers on October 18th & 25th!



SUNDAYS AT VHBC

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)



VOLUNTEERS at VHBC



● **Worship Care**

10/8: Prissy Sumners, Ashley Hattaway, Anna Claire Bailey, Taylor Davis, Mary Grace Cox, Shawn Owens, Jay McFarland

10/15: Billie Lochamy, Mindy Bodenhamer, Lisa Speegle, Merryl Cooper, Jennifer Carter, Melissa McBrayer, Dick Bodenhamer

● **Worship Tech Team**

10/8: Dan McMurray, Norfleete Day, Hal David

10/15: Lilie VanGiessen, Brent Warren, Dan McMurray

● **Welcome Team**

10/8: Sharon Hartzog, George Elliott, Carolyn Slappey, Howard Finch, Kathy Finch, Cappy Blackwelder, Lauren Hartzog, Sharon Repp, Jason Cooper

10/15: Sharon Hartzog, George Elliott, Carolyn Slappey, Joe Perez, Dan Caldwell, Cappy Blackwelder, Lauren Hartzog, Kathy Finch, Jason Cooper

● **Deacons**

10/8: Becky Griffith, Todd Jordan

10/15: Jennifer Carter, Marty Mullins

● **Flower & Decor**

10/8: Lisa Speegle, Merryl Cooper

10/15: Julia Duffy, Carol Vines

● **Transportation Team**

10/8: Julia Duffy, Barton Duffy

10/15: Mike Craddock, William Dupree

● **Counters**

10/8: Dave McPherson, Charles Evans

10/15: Steve White, Hunter Hill

fall serve

**Saturday
October 14th
9 am - Noon**



Who's ready to join a team and help serve our community in October?

Our missions committee is excited to invite everyone to sign up for a team either on-site at VHBC or off-site in the local community.

Rise Against Hunger

Bundles of Hope

Dolly Ridge Elementary

Lovelady Center

Urban Ministries

and more!

Sign up today, join a team, and make a difference in our local community!

Find the sign up at vhbc.com/events or at a table near the Fellowship Hall and register for a mission site! Childcare will be available for children in kindergarten or younger (only to those who pre-register!)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

There are more opportunities to
serve after FALL SERVE!

✓ We Care Homebound Ministry

Volunteer to visit and care for our homebound members. Our group meets every first Monday of each month to discuss the needs of our homebound members, to write cards, and more! Contact Virginia Wood (vw.wood@me.com) or Laura Tadlock (laura@vhbc) for more information!

✓ Kitchen Ministry Team

Would you like to serve meals on Wednesday evenings at VHBC? Help at the meal registration table? We need you! Please contact Julia Duffy (jduffy@lowego.com) to learn how to sign up for a weekly spot in the kitchen!

✓ Firehouse Shelter Ministry

Every month a group from our church - RAs, youth, Bible study classes, etc. meet at Firehouse Shelter to serve meals to our homeless neighbors in Birmingham. Would you like to serve? If so, please contact Scott McGinnis (205-422-9777). If you'd like to make a dessert for these meals, please contact Merryl Cooper (205-602-9984).



SHARING OF A LIFE

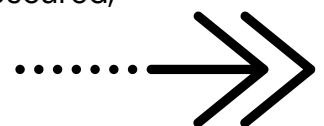
At our recent SAM (Senior Adult Ministry) sponsored Speakers Luncheon last Friday, Rev. Chuck Poole described his book *The Path to Depth* like this, "The book tells my story of swimming deeper towards Jesus and then floating outward to the world." That sentence reminded me of the 1968 book by Elizabeth O'Connor, *Journey Inward, Journey Outward* in which she described the innovative congregation The Church of the Savior in Washington, DC. In my 2010 D.Min thesis, I described this same idea with the less poetic words, *Missional Formation*.

Each of these phrases describes the transformative work of God's Spirit growing in our lives. The more we move towards Jesus, the more Jesus sends us out into the world. Spiritual growth is the daily process of moving inward towards Jesus so Jesus can send us outwards towards others. Daily...Hourly...Growth. Chuck Poole says in his acknowledgements in his book, "new light on old truth com[es] to us slowly, eventually, while walking in the Spirit of God with the people of God."



This is another aspect of *Growing Together*. Each of us walks an individual path as we follow Jesus. Yet, while the path is ours, we are not alone. The Spirit of God accompanies us as the people of God surround us.

Thomas Kelly, a mid-20th century Quaker writer on spirituality, has shaped me in my swims towards the depths of Jesus. His most famous book is *A Testament of Devotion*. In describing the early church's sharing of physical goods, Kelly writes, "[this] is only an outcropping of the profoundly deeper sharing of a Life, the base and center of which is obscured,



to those who are still oriented about self, rather than about God." He continues, "every period of profound rediscovery of God's joyous immediacy is a period of emergence of this amazing group inter-knittedness of God-enthralled men and women who know one another *in Him*."

Growing as individual Christians in our Christlikeness comes through the connection of other God-enthralled men and women. We need one another as we grow as Christians, spouses, parents, friends, co-workers, and servants. We walk this path together.

I am grateful to walk beside each of you as we all walk the path to depth – inward towards Jesus and outwards toward the world.

I'll see you on Sunday.

Eric



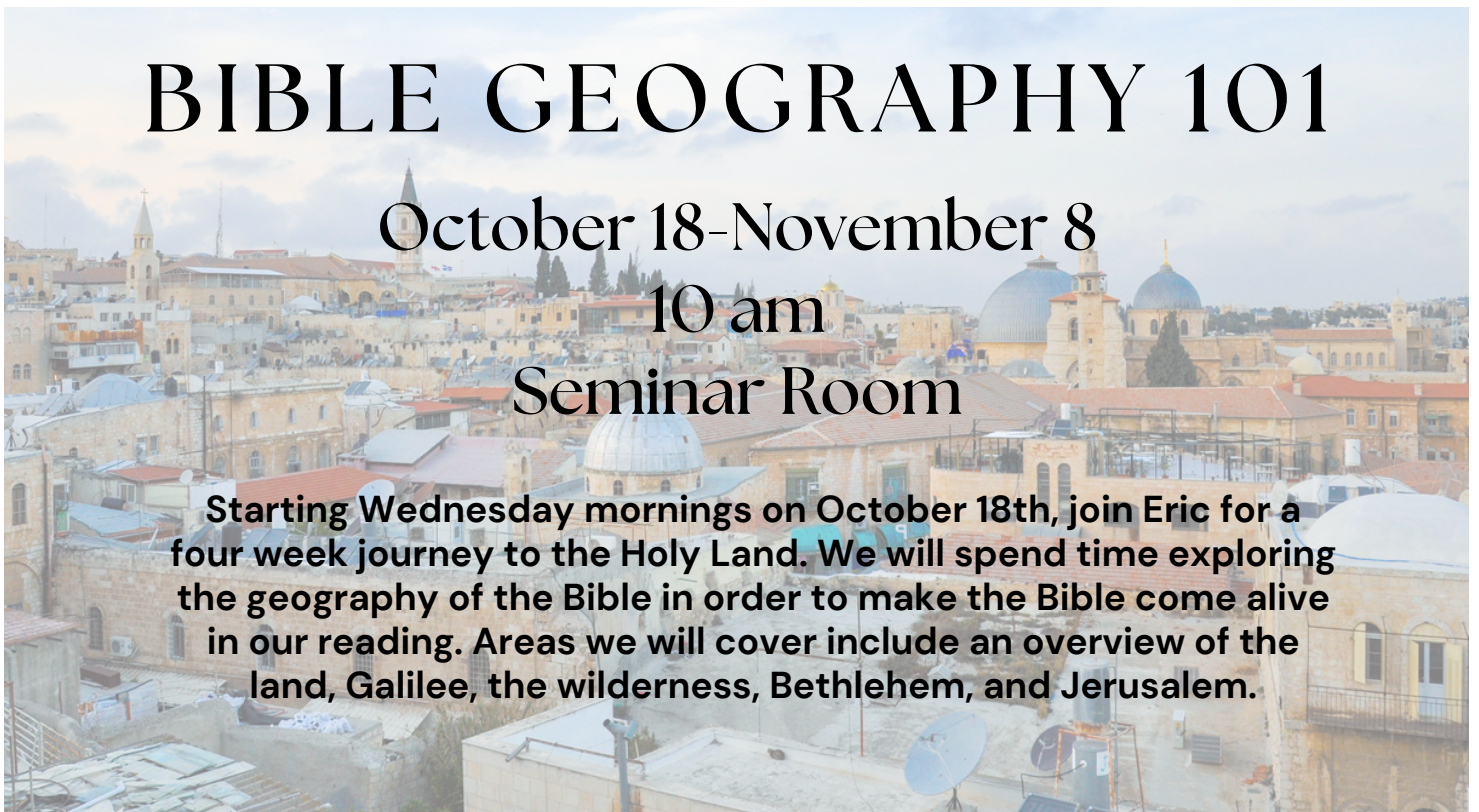
BIBLE GEOGRAPHY 101

October 18-November 8

10 am

Seminar Room

Starting Wednesday mornings on October 18th, join Eric for a four week journey to the Holy Land. We will spend time exploring the geography of the Bible in order to make the Bible come alive in our reading. Areas we will cover include an overview of the land, Galilee, the wilderness, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem.



VHBC YOUTH & CHILDREN



Youth comings & goings

if you haven't already, be sure to sign up for Fall Serve next Saturday, 9-12 pm! Sara promises to buy lunch afterwards for students who volunteer and will leave the lounge open until 3 pm for them to play games and hang out!

Also, please don't forget to sign up for FALL RETREAT this November at WorldSong in Cook Springs, AL! The deadline to sign up is Sunday, October 15th.

Kids at VHBC

Hey, Sixers! Ms. Nancy invites you to join her after church this Sunday, October 8th for lunch and bowling! Meet her in the children's foyer right after worship and then you'll head to Tecate for lunch and Vestavia Bowl for a great time of bowling fun! Bring money for lunch and \$10 towards bowling! Please let Ms. Nancy know if you can go! (nancy@vhbc.com or 20-907-6446)



Parents of 3rd-6th graders:

Do you plan for your child to attend PassportKids Camp in July? Our kids will be heading back to Rock Eagle in Eatonton, GA. Email Nancy and she'll send you a link to register!

CHILDREN'S SABBATH

fallfest

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29

4-6 PM

We will join faith communities around our nation to observe Children's Sabbath on Sunday morning, October 29th. Our children will serve as worship leaders and our children's choir will lead us in song! Families are also encouraged to bring diapers and wipes to support our Bundles of Hope collection!

TRUNK OR TREAT
FACE PAINTING
MUSIC
ITALIAN ICE

COSTUMES WELCOME!

vhbc
CONNECTIONS

A Bi-weekly Newsletter for
Vestavia Hills Baptist Church



2600 Vestavia Drive
Vestavia Hills, Alabama 35216
www.vhbc.com

Ministry Staff

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



GROWING
together
by giving **together**

The 2024 Budget Planning Committee invites you to join us in Growing Together by Giving Together over the coming week of the Season of Pledging. There are so many ways to pledge this season!

- **Return the 2024 Pledge Card to the church office**
- **Send your pledge by email to jamie@vhbc.com**
- **Call the church's financial office at (205)979-5920**
- **Visit vhbc.com and click the pledge link**

Let's prayerfully consider what our role will be in supporting the missions and ministries as we are Growing Together in 2024 at VHBC.

1 Thessalonians 5:11