

VHBC

OCTOBER 31, 2023

CONNECTIONS



CBF

FALL GATHERING

Celebrating 30 years of Alabama CBF
at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church this
Thursday!

THANKSGIVING

TO-GO AT VHBC

Let our kitchen take the stress
off your plate this holiday season!



VHBC MOMS BRUNCH

Saturday, October 21

THANK YOU

Dear VHBC Family,

Throughout our decades together, you've celebrated our joys with us, and now you have comforted us in these days surrounding the sudden death of our dear son-in-law, Will Borland. Will is the husband of our daughter, Jennie, and father to our six-year-old grandchildren, Franklin and Stella. Kind words, promises of prayer, memorial gifts, cards, texts, phone calls --- all are reminders that you care about our family's loss. We are grateful for all the ways you continue to care for us. Here is a verse that we continue to claim:

The Lord is near to the brokenhearted, and saves the crushed in spirit."

Psalm 34:18

WITH LOVE & GRATITUDE
Mindy & Dick Bodenhamer

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Community Partner &
SAM Upcoming Events



KIDS NIGHT OUT

This Friday from 6-8 pm our VHBC kids (babies through 6th grade) are invited for fun and games, pizza and ice cream, and more! Register at vhbc.com/events!

CBF

FALL GATHERING

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2

Celebrating 30 Years of Alabama CBF
Vestavia Hills Baptist Church



SCHEDULE

- 12 pm Leadership Lunch -
Sacred Courageous
Conversations
Brian Forman, Coordinator
of Congregational Life, CBF
Global
- 1:15 pm Break
- 1:30 pm Workshop 1: Practicing
Sacred Courageous
Conversations
- 2:30 pm Break & Exhibit Time
- 3:00 pm Workshop 2: Bringing Honor
to the God of Liberation;
Daniel Schwartz, Executive
Director, Faith in Action AL
- 4:00 pm Break & Exhibit Time
- 4:30 pm Annual Alabama CBF
Business Meeting
- 5:30 pm 30th Anniversary Dinner
- 7:00 pm Fellowship Worship Service

The 2023 Fall
Gathering will have
something for
everyone! We hope
you will make plans
to participate and
invite others to come
with you!

This Thursday, November 2nd, Vestavia Hills Baptist Church will host the Alabama Cooperative Baptist Fellowship 2023 Fall Gathering. The day will conclude with a beautiful worship service at 7 pm in our sanctuary. Colleen Burroughs and her daughter, Milligan Burroughs Hall will be the featured proclaimers. Singers from across the state will combine with our choir to lead worship. Let me highly encourage you to attend. You will enjoy the fellowship, worship, and message.

By now many of us know the origin story of our Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF). Born out of a theological narrowing of the Southern Baptist Convention in 1991, CBF established itself as a fellowship, a big tent, of individuals and churches who desired to work together for kingdom ministry. CBF sends out field personnel around the world; commissions chaplains in hospitals, businesses, and the US military; plants churches; and nurtures the faith of many individuals and congregations.

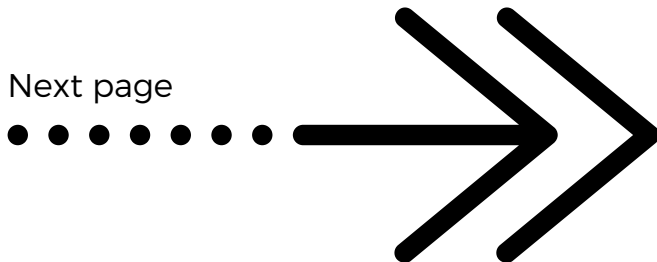
TODAY, CBF DEFINES ITSELF THIS WAY,

The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship is a Christian network comprised of individuals and churches that work together to spread the hope of Christ. For 30 years, CBF has been driven by its mission to serve Christians and churches as they discover and fulfill their God-given mission and to live into our vision to be a national and global community bearing witness to the Gospel in partnership with Christians across the nation and around the world.

Two years later, Alabama CBF began a fellowship of churches in Alabama. While the global and state organizations are unique, they work together in ministry.

I attended my first Global CBF Assembly in Fort Worth, Texas in 1995. I was in seminary at the time. While I was not associated with CBF at the time, I discovered a kinship among the Baptists I met. I realized quickly; these are my people.

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Rev. Lucas Dorion to Preach

Lucas Dorion, AL CBF Coordinator, VHBC sacred partner, and extraordinary Baptist leader, will preach for our November 12th worship service. Through his ministry at AL CBF, Lucas guides fellowship congregations across the state as we work together for God's Kingdom work in Alabama and beyond. We are grateful at VHBC Lucas also invests his time and experience into our students and student ministry as a regular volunteer. This summer he led our 2th-9th grade beach retreat. Lucas is also an energetic preacher. We are excited to welcome him back to preach while Eric and Marcia enjoy a Fall getaway to the mountains.



My ministry career spans the life of CBF (I graduated from Samford in 1991). We grew up together. During these years, my first impression has been my lasting one. These are still my people. Like all Baptists, we are never completely in unison on everything, yet CBF continues to be faithful to the Gospel of Jesus Christ as it nurtures its network of churches and Christians.

Vestavia Hills Baptist Church represents the best of the CBF. We seek to be faithful to Jesus, hold tight to God's Word, push ourselves to be God's light in a dark world, and give grace as we work out our salvation in fear and trembling with one another. I am thankful for our faithful and generous CBF support.

At this week's AI CBF Gathering we will celebrate 30 years of CBF Ministry in the state. If you have never been to a CBF meeting, I hope you will take time on Thursday to join us in worship in our sanctuary. If you have been to other gatherings, come back and get reconnected. While experiencing inspiring worship, we will discover more of our people from around the state. I'll see you there.

You are loved.

Eric

BIBLE GEOGRAPHY 101

continues Wednesdays on
November 1st and 8th

10 am
Seminar Room

Join Eric as he continues this 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 covered will include an overview of the land, Galilee, the wilderness, Bethlehem, and Jerusalem.





Vhbc Youth Updates

November dates to remember:

Wednesday Night Live on 1st, 8th, 15th, & 29th
428 on 6th
Firehouse Shelter on 8th
Fall Retreat 10th-12th
YOSE on 5th, 19th, 26th
VHBC Youth Thanksgiving on 27th

High School Mission Trip Revealed:

Middlesboro, KY
at Lend-a-Hand Center

Search Committee Message

The Student Minister Search Committee is making progress! We have been meeting since August on a regular basis, collecting congregational feedback from different groups and planning for the upcoming interview process. To provide access to greater resources and networks, the committee engaged Dr. Bill Owen, former VHBC interim pastor, with the Center for Healthy Churches to assist our efforts.

The committee is composed of Grace Baker, Jennifer Carter, Jason Cooper, Brandon Hughey, Caroline Nordlund, Howard Finch (Chair), and Mike McBrayer (Staff). To date, interviews have been conducted to seek feedback with the active participants in our student ministries, their parents, the Youth Ministry team, and each individual member of the church's pastoral staff. Working alongside the personnel committee, a formal job description with required qualifications was developed, and the position has been posted with the national Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the Alabama Cooperative Baptist and other state CBFs, several seminaries, the Baptist Women in Ministry national network and other informal networks.

We are currently developing an updated Congregational Profile, a series of interview questions, and an internal evaluation scorecard to help evaluate candidates. We hope to begin the formal interview process soon. Please pray for the Holy Spirit to lead the committee to the next Student Minister who will come alongside our pastoral staff and deepen the faith of our students!

COMING IN NOVEMBER

WEDNESDAY SESSIONS

- Baking with Jess Nix
- Holiday Crafting with Sara McFarland (\$10 per session)
- Gospel Snapshots with Ronnie Brewer
- Contemplative Prayer with George VanKirk

FELLOWSHIP SUPPER

- **November 1st:** Italian Wedding Soup, Caprese Crostini, & Dessert
- **November 8th:** Turkey & Dressing, Sweet Potato Casserole, Green Beans, Cranberry Relish, & Rolls
- **November 15th:** White Chicken Chili, Cheese Toast, & Dessert
- **November 29th:** Potato Soup, BLT Sliders, & Dessert



PREPARING FOR THE HOLIDAYS

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP
STARTING THIS FRIDAY, NOV 3RD
10 AM IN THE SEMINAR ROOM**

Anyone who has experienced loss is welcome to come and find fellowship, support, and comfort. We will learn from one another by sharing our stories and find solace in the words of authors that guide us on this journey of grief and healing. Please reach out to Laura Tadlock with any questions. Call the church office or sign up online to register.

THANKSGIVING TO-GO

**ORDER YOUR THANKSGIVING SIDES &
DESSERT BY NOVEMBER 13TH!**

Let our kitchen take some of the stress off of your holiday plate this year! Go to vhbc.com, click the link for Thanksgiving To-Go and choose from sides like sweet potato casserole, mashed potatoes, cranberry relish, and more! Each container can feed 4-6 people!

VOLUNTEERS at VHBC



● **Worship Care**

11/5: Kristie Chandler, Amy Hamilton, Libby Pittman, Marcia Spivey, Jo Davis, Carolyn Slappey, Judy Schlegel
11/12: Millie Ehrett, Sharon Hartzog, Faye Suggs, Maggie Doss, Kevin Jaquess, Isabel Jaquess, Brad Farley

● **Worship Tech Team**

11/5: Hal David, Brent Warren, Dan VanGiessen
11/12: Norfleete Day, Brent Warren, Dan McMurray

● **Welcome Team**

11/5: Dan Hartzog, Joe Perez, Howard Finch, Dan Caldwell, Kathy Finch, Lauren Hartzog, Lisa Speegle
11/12: Sharon Hartzog, Joe Perez, Howard Finch, Dan Caldwell, Kathy Finch, Lauren Hartzog, Lisa Speegle

● **Deacons**

11/5: George Ritchey and Kathryn Stewart
11/12: Betsy Stockdale and George Van Kirk

● **Flower & Decor**

11/5: Marsha Baker
11/12: Kristie Chandler

● **Transportation Team**

11/5: Brent Warren and Scott Phillips
11/12: Mike Craddock and William Dupree

● **Counting Team**

11/5: Danny Cox and Dick Bodenhamer
11/12: Lisa Speegle and Harry Harden

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

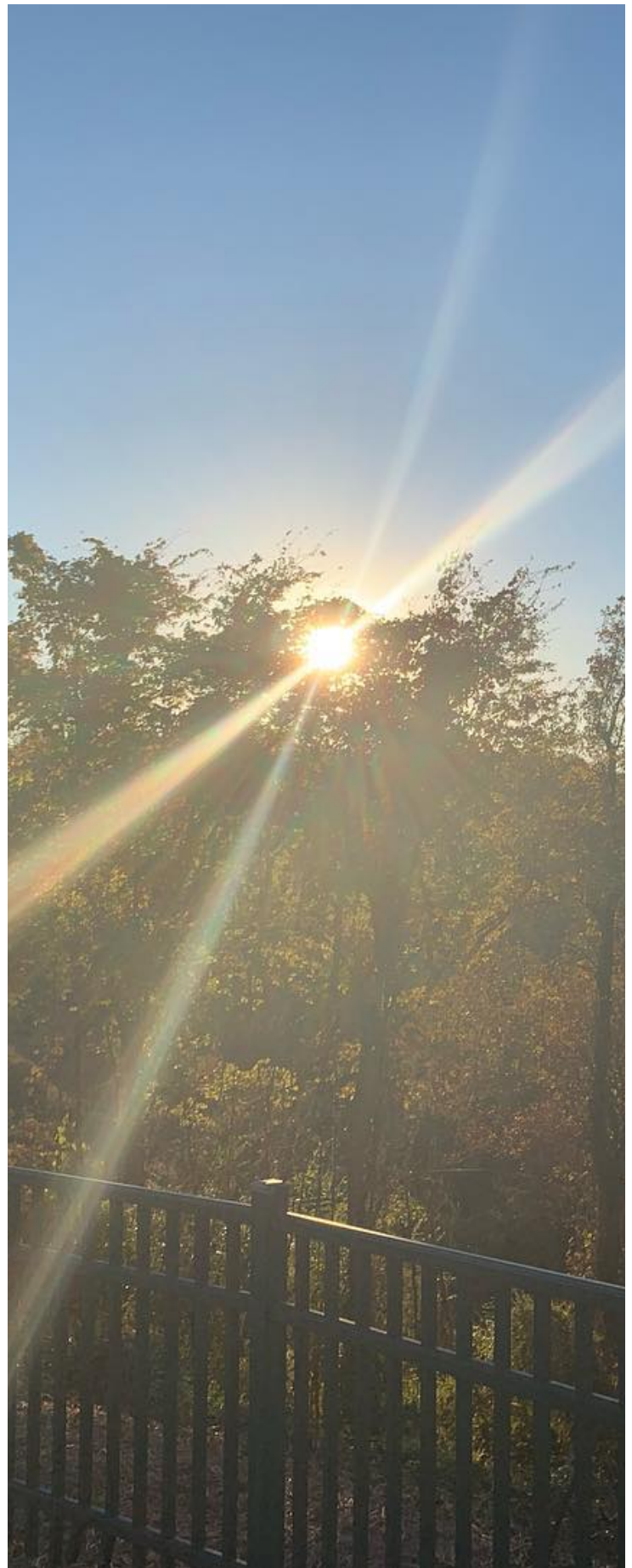
Worship guides and hymn sheets are available at the sanctuary entrances.

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)



WE LOVE DOLLY RIDGE ELEMENTARY!

OUR VESTAVIA HILLS COMMUNITY PARTNER

This past Friday, October 29th, VHBC helped provide the teachers and staff at Dolly Ridge Elementary with an appreciation lunch, complete with a delicious meal from Napoli Italian and scrumptious brownies made by our own members! Thanks to Laura Tadlock for delivering all of the goodies, including appreciation gifts made at Fall Serve!



SAM

UPCOMING EVENTS IN DECEMBER

dec 1

Christmas Luncheon
\$10/at the door

dec 16

Holiday Spectacular at
Red Mountain Theater
\$40/person

register at vhbc.com



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

