A watercolor illustration of various flowers. The top half features clusters of bright red flowers with green leaves. The bottom half features two large, vibrant yellow flowers with green leaves. The entire illustration is framed by a thin red border.

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 6

VHBC *Connections*

MARCH 16, 2021

VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

STAY CONNECTED



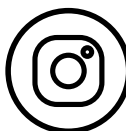
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WORSHIP & PRAY WITH US

Our services have resumed in-person with weekly limited capacity registration. You can also join us every Sunday at 10 am on YouTube, Facebook, or the VHBC.com Live Stream!

If you'd like to see the prayer list, please visit www.vhbc.com/prayer-list to view and contact us for updates.



to the
VHBC
Family

NEW MEMBERS

We would like to welcome our new members, Sara & Lowell Hamilton to the VHBC family!

If you have been a member of VHBC for some time now, the names Sara and Lowell Hamilton might be familiar to you. Not only are they parents of members, Keith and Mark Hamilton, but they are returning members themselves. During their time here, they attended the New Wine Sunday school class. Lowell served as a deacon, and Sara was in the first-ever handbell choir. Sara also plays piano, and on a few occasions, accompanied children's choirs.

When they retired approximately 20 years ago, Lowell from Baptist Health System and Sara from Vestavia City Schools, they made their home on Weiss Lake. They have now come full circle and returned to Birmingham. "After all," Sara said, "our family is here, and our doctors are here."

Sara and Lowell met in an English folk dancing group at Berea College in Berea, Kentucky. They still love to dance. They also really enjoy traveling, scuba diving, and all things associated with lake life. And while it doesn't qualify as a hobby, Sara shared that she has worked as a FEMA reservist for the last 15 years. She finds this work most interesting as it allowed her to travel around the country (pre-pandemic, of course) to teach and train a variety of FEMA employees. She has continued to work virtually for the last year - once a teacher, always a teacher.

Welcome back, Sara and Lowell.



LENT at VMBC

For Adults

Jesus's Guide for 2021 Disciples

Join LaRue Speights each Monday for a new Lenten study in the Sanctuary at 10:30 am. You may sign up to attend in person or join virtually. Sessions will be recorded and available on vhbc.com.

- **Mar 22:** Live Out Repentance (Luke 19:1-10)
- **Mar 29:** Finish Well (Luke 23:32-46)

For All

Lenten Prayer Walk

Our **FIRST EVER** Lenten Prayer Walk started on Ash Wednesday, February 17, and will continue until Holy Week. The walk begins outside to the left of the main entrance and continues through the prayer garden. **For all ages!**

Maundy Thursday service

This time of fellowship and worship will include a meal together and the celebration of communion in the amphitheater. Folks are encouraged to bring their own food along with blankets or chairs for a picnic-style dinner starting at 5:00. The worship service with a meditation from Bill Owen and communion will begin at 6:00. We'll reflect on Jesus' command or mandate to "love one another as I have loved you." The service will also be streamed online. Reservations are NOT required for this service.

Good Friday service

A quiet service of reflection will take place in the Sanctuary at noon. Bill Owen will share a meditation as we contemplate Jesus' sacrifice at the crucifixion. No meal will take place in conjunction with this gathering. The service also will be streamed online. No reservations are required for this service.



vhbc kids

SPRING 2021

Sunday School

- 9AM**
- Kindergarten with Gilda Coker and James Carr
 - 3rd Grade Class with Marie & Leigh Gwathney
 - 4th/5th Grade Class with Liz David and Jenny Henry
 - Sixers with Lucas Dorion and Mindy Bodenhamer

- 9:30AM**
- 1st/2nd Grades with Sandra Bates and Gay Caldwell

Starting April 11th, preschool and children's Sunday school classes will resume in-person! Worship care will also be available by reservation only. Stay tuned for more details about this in the coming weeks!

GA & RAs Wednesday Schedule

- 5PM**
- 1st - 2nd Grade GA

- 5:30PM**
- 3rd - 6th Grade GA

- 6PM**
- 1st - 3rd Grade RAs

- 6:30PM**
- 4th - 6th Grade RAs

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 3rd
10 am



Masks required for children, ages 4 & up and adults.



MEMBERS IN THE HOSPITAL

Jack McMurray Knee Surgery 3/16
Delores Donegan Cataract Surgery 3/15
Gaynell Pinson Brookwood Rehab 648
Jim Garland Madison Rehab

MEMBERS AT HOME

Maxine Ammons Ruford Hodges
Karen Anderson Charlotte Kyser
Dave Bamberg Al Lowery
Gerry Bragdon Samson Mathangani
Libby Brown Sarah Moreland
Zelle Buckner Leon Nix
Carolyn Cain Margaret Northrup
Mike Chandler June Ousley
Jason Cooper Faye Spear
Geri Dodson Alicia Stigler
Paul Edfeldt Hazel Turner
Esther Evans Margaret Walker
Milton Fullman Bobbye Weaver
Natalie Garland Doris Wilson
Mavis Hardy

IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Bettye Smith and family in the loss of her sister, Ida Alexander on Saturday, March 6, 2021. Arrangements are pending.

Karyn Watts and her family in the loss of her grandfather, Daniel Truett Edwards on Tuesday, March 9th.

Adam Pouncey and family in the loss of his grandmother, Claire Till of Greenville, AL on Wednesday, March 10th.

THANK YOU

Thank you VHBC for all the love our family received following the sudden loss of my mother and Lilie's grandmother. From texts, emails, phone calls, cards, food, flowers, and memorials we have felt the love of God through each of you. Thank you for loving us so much. **Dan, Rene', & Lilie VanGiessen**

Prayer List



WORSHIP @ VHBC

Online registration is available for March 21st & 28th for services at 10 am.

Easter at VHBC on April 4th we will be offering 2 services at 10 am and 11:40 am.

partners in ministry



Help carry out the ministry of VHBC by offering your gifts alongside fellow members. If you're interested in signing up, please complete your form by Wednesday, March 24th.

Easter Flowers

You're invited to help us adorn the sanctuary with beautiful hydrangea plants for Easter on April 4th. You may wish to purchase one or more, in honor/in memory of someone. The price for each is \$20. Please contact Martha Neill at martha@vhbc.com or 979-5920 by March 25th to reserve a plant. Thanks!

A watercolor illustration of a bouquet of flowers. The top part features a tall stem of yellow flowers, some in bloom and some as buds. Below this are two large, vibrant pink flowers with yellow centers. Green leaves are scattered throughout the arrangement. The entire illustration is framed by a thin red border.

VHBC ministry team

NANCY AKINS, MINISTER TO PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN
TYLER JOHNSON, MINISTER TO STUDENTS
MIKE MCBRAYER, ADMINISTRATIVE PASTOR
BILL OWEN, TRANSITIONAL PASTOR
MARTY WATTS, MINISTER OF MUSIC & WORSHIP

VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH