

VOLUME 28 ISSUE 5

VHBC
Connections

MARCH 2, 2021

VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

STAY CONNECTED



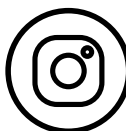
FIND US ONLINE AT VHBC.COM



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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.

LENT at VNBC

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 8:** Celebrate God's Grace to All (Luke 15:11-32)
- **Mar 15:** Find the True Treasure (Luke 18:18-30)
- **Mar 22:** Live Out Repentance (Luke 19:1-10)
- **Mar 29:** Finish Well (Luke 23:32-46)

For Families of children and youth

Journey to Easter

Journey to Easter, a special Lenten box, is available to families of preschool, children, and youth. You are welcome to pick up your family's box on Sunday mornings and during the week, starting February 7th.

Journey to Easter began on Ash Wednesday, February 17 and there are still boxes available!



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!**

Thank

• Y • O • U •



Scott McGinnis' quotation of Anne Lamott's prayer, "Thank you, thank you, thank you" is probably sufficient, but it is not enough to convey the profound and humbling feeling we have had over the past month. The celebration committee outdid themselves. Every part of the month was another infusion of delight and helped us manage the sweet grief we began to feel as we moved toward the end of our time in leadership here.

Vickie and I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mike and the entire church staff, the Personnel Committee, church leadership, and members of Vestavia Hills Baptist Church for your outpouring of love, thanks, and appreciation. We are reading through the cards you have sent, savoring each in the memories brought back of the adventures and ministry we have shared over the years.

We have been remembering weddings, mission trips, griefs, celebrations, baptisms, and simple moments when we connected in some significant way. What a privilege! We are settling into our new place, catching up on forty-one years of not enough sleep, and getting adjusted to the new pace of life. As your now-retired pastor, I can say that these twenty-seven years and seven months have formed the largest and most productive time of our lives. We will never forget the joy of being here, and especially the beautiful and abundant relationships—great staff, wonderful members, good friends.

WHAT IS BETTER IN THIS WORLD?

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Most of all, I thank God. There is never a day when I fail to see the evidence and traces of God's pervasive and loving presence in the world and in all of us. From the definite clarity of our call here to the blessings that came when I least deserved them, I am grateful to God for the privilege of my calling. That calling continues through life, and I will always be the pastor God called me to be. Even as I end this responsibility of stewardship here, I look forward to the ways yet to be that my calling will live out. I have loved Jesus and His story for as long as I can remember, and every year makes his teachings, story, and truths deeper in my soul.

FOR NOW, IT IS TIME TO REST, WATCH, AND PRAY.

As your journeys continue, please know of our love for you and appreciation for the joy of walking part of the way with you. We will continue to celebrate with you, hope for you, bless you, and for all of you in the days ahead. We genuinely love you and can never express how much. Thank you. May the Holy Spirit pour out a blessing on our church and the process ahead.



GARY & VICKIE FURR

**NEW ADDRESS: 938 CHESTNUT OAKS CIRCLE
HOOVER, AL 35244**



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

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



Journey to Easter

Extra note for families: If you haven't picked up your box yet, it's not too late to share this journey with your children. We've heard some encouraging and meaningful stories from so many of our VHBC families already!



*To the
VHBC
Family*

NEW MEMBER

We would like to welcome our new member, **Henrietta McNeel** to the VHBC family!

Mrs. McNeel is originally from Pea Ridge, Alabama, near Montevallo. She moved around some with her late husband during his career and is now settled here in Birmingham. Mrs. McNeel learned about our church through listening to the service on the radio. She had the radio on in the house one Sunday morning, and as she passed through the room, she heard the Lord's Prayer. She stopped to listen to the prayer and then heard Dr. Furr say a prayer that touched her heart. She listened to the sermon and enjoyed Dr. Furr so much that she sought to find out where Vestavia Hills Baptist Church was located. After visiting a few times and talking with Dr. Furr, she decided to make VHBC her church home. Mrs. McNeel enjoys book clubs, the Pastor's Bible studies, and the music at church.

We are very glad to have Mrs. McNeel join our church family!

NEW STAFF

This past February we welcomed **Tommy Cooper** to our VHBC staff as a facility assistant. We're thrilled to have him join the team!



MEMBERS IN THE HOSPITAL

Ruford Hodges Lakeshore

Jim Garland Madison Hospital of Huntsville

MEMBERS AT HOME

Maxine Ammons

Dave Bamberg

Gerry Bragdon

Libby Brown

Zelle Buckner

Carolyn Cain

Mike Chandler

Geri Dodson

Paul Edfeldt

Esther Evans

Milton Fullman

Natalie Garland

Mavis Hardy

Charlotte Kyser

Al Lowery

Samson Mathangani

Susan & Wayne Merrill

Sarah Moreland

Leon Nix

Margaret Northrup

June Ousley

Gaynell Pinson

Faye Spear

Alicia Stigler

Hazel Turner

Stan & Sue Virciglio

Margaret Walker

Bobbye Weaver

Doris Wilson

Allison Youngblood

IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

Rene Van Giessen and family in the loss of her mother, Harriett Wright on Monday, February 22nd.

Courtney Pittman, Rachel West, and family in the loss of their father, Steve Quinlivan on February 25th.



Prayer List

WORSHIP @ VHBC

Online registration will be posted weekly for in-person worship on vhbc.com.

Join us Sunday, March 7th with Mike McBrayer & Sunday, March 14th with Dr. Bill Owen, who will begin this time of transition with us.

partners
in ministry



Help carry out the ministry of VHBC by offering your gifts alongside fellow members. Check out vhbc.com for the online form or come by the church office for a paper copy.

Thanks so much for your service to Vestavia Hills Baptist Church!

VHBC GIVING



YTD OFFERING: \$237,149.00

YTD NEEDS: \$303,219.00



VHBC
ministry
team

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

VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH