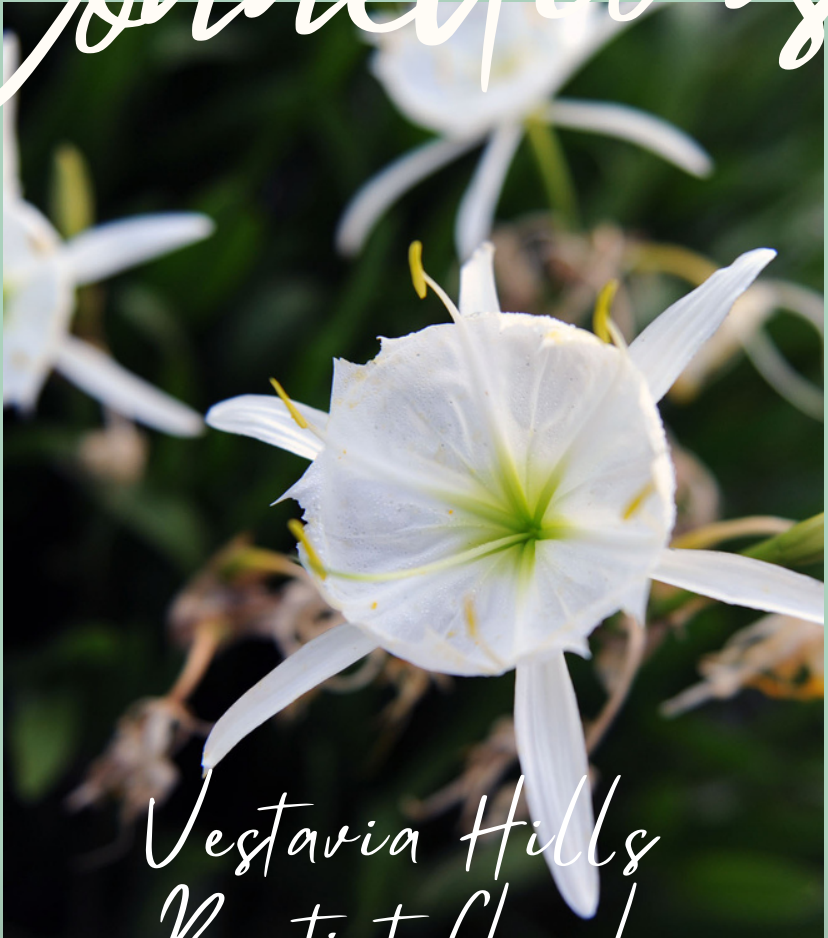


May 17, 2022 | Volume 29 Issue 10

VHBC
Connections



*Vestavia Hills
Baptist Church*

Bi-Weekly Newsletter

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*New Members & Guests
are invited*

Connections Luncheon at VHBC

Sunday, May 22, 2022 11:15 am

Please RSVP by May 18th.
Childcare available if needed.

www.vhbc.com



Ukrainian Refugee Offering

We continue to pray for the people of Ukraine, for the end of war, for the afflicted to be comforted, and for peace and justice to prevail. We give thanks to God for those who are giving hands-on support to the Ukrainian people, including the churches of Ukraine and neighboring countries.

Your gifts to date to the Ukrainian Refugee Offering of \$17,990.00 are already at work through our partners, Shane and Dianne McNary.

The McNarys are grateful to be in a position to support the work of churches in Poland and Slovakia as they respond to those fleeing the war in Ukraine. Click [HERE](#) for a video update from the McNarys.

Give Online Here

Note "Ukraine Offering" with your gifts or give through Shelby Next and designate the Ukraine Offering.



Sundays at VHBC

Sunday Morning Bible Study begins at 8:45 am!

- 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.

Sunday Morning Worship begins at 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.

COVID Response at VHBC

- With the recent decreases in transmission and test positivity rates in our community, the COVID Response Committee is shifting its guidance to **masks encouraged** for activities at the church.
- It's our hope that these trends continue as we experience this exciting time in the life of our church.

Wednesdays at VHBBC

Wednesday Night Dinners

- Meet us in the Fellowship Hall starting at 4:45 every Wednesday.
- Register online weekly at vhbc.com to reserve your meal!

Menu for May 25th

Adults/Youth: Buffalo Chicken Meatballs over Rice, Glazed Carrots, Watermelon Salad, Roll, Dessert
Kids: Chicken Fingers, Fries, Dessert

Menu for June 1st

Adults/Youth: Bacon Ranch Cheddar Chicken, Baked Potato Half, Roasted Asparagus, Roll, and Dessert
Kids: Pizza, Fries, Dessert

Wednesday Sessions for Adults

- **May 25th - Table Talk with Pastor Eric Spivey** (read more about on page 8!)
 - **June 1st - On the Road Again with Becky White**
 - **June 8th - Welcome the Spiveys**
 - **June 16th (Thursday) - VBS Family Fun Night**
- 5-7 pm



Shrimp
BOIL

May 18th

Sign up!



Cost: \$10 per person

Time: 5 pm

Place: VHBC Lawn



- Kids Eat Free!
- Yard Games for all ages!
- Music by String Theory featuring our own Caroline and Samuel Nordlund

Fresh Eyes

Pastor Eric Spivey

**I only get to be your *new* pastor once.
Soon, I will simply be your pastor.**

Being new is a gift. It allows us to see things differently – with fresh eyes. Over the next year, these fresh eyes will disappear. I will no longer need a GPS to find your home or try the wrong front door to the church on Sunday mornings. Here are a few things I have noticed with my fresh eyes over my first month.

First, our church location is beautiful. It continues to take my breath away when I walk up the stairs from the Hardy House and see our church building set against the green backdrop of Red Mountain and Shades Valley. Much thought and work has gone into the landscape design and architecture of our buildings on this mountain. When was the last time you allowed God to take your breath away as you walked into church?

Second, our church location is a community asset. Throughout each day our community gathers in our parking lot to use our grounds. In the morning, walkers and joggers park to being their exercise for the day along the crest of Shades Mountain. In the afternoon, co-workers bring their lunches to sit in their cars overlooking the valley for a quiet moment of down time. In the evening, friends and couples, small groups and families bring their blankets and chairs to say goodbye to the day as the sun sets over Red Mountain. I know the challenges this use brings to our church. Let us also recognize the connection it makes every day with our community. When was the last time you noticed the community just outside our windows?

Third, our church has outstanding leaders. Just name an area of the church – staff, committees, deacons, worship leaders, Bible teachers – God has gifted our church with generous spiritual leadership. When we are surrounded by abundance, we tend to overlook the gifts it represents. With fresh eyes, let me remind us, this kind of leadership is unusual. God has raised up leaders who make our church stronger for today and tomorrow. When was the last time you thanked on of the leaders of our church? (con't on the next page)



Fresh Eyes cont from previous page

Fresh eyes give us a perspective allowing us to see things we might overlook with familiarity. Our church has many gifts. Let us notice them as we give thanks for God's abundance.

Gratefully, after a week off with COVID, I will see you on Sunday - with fresh eyes and strong heart.

You are loved.

Pastor Eric

Join Dr. Spivey on Wednesday, May 25th
6 pm in the Fellowship Hall

Table Talk: 5 Active Dynamics in Churches



After 2 years of pandemic life, volatility continues to shape our culture and world. Our lives, jobs, and families are all impacted...and so is church life. Join our new pastor, Eric Spivey as he leads us through a conversation around the fellowship hall tables centered on the five active dynamics presently occurring in churches.

Let's welcome our newest members to VHB/C!

May 1st : Dave & Trish Balius
Barton Duffy

May 15th: George & Patsy Van Kirk

Check out the next edition of Connections for our Welcome Wagon introduction for each new member!

VHBC KIDS

Spring
'22



Sunday Worship Care Schedule

5/22

Babies & Ones: Jan Dulin, Mindy Bodenhamer
Twos - K: Dianne Horn, Jan Deagon
Reception Desk: Barbara Kimbrell

5/29

Babies & Ones: Amy Gillis, Caroline Nordlund
Twos - K: David & Cathy Compher
Reception Desk: LaRue Speights

WEDNESDAYS

Fun with Friends
beginning May 25th
through June!

5:45 - 7pm

Preschoolers Rm. 216
Grades 1-6 Activity Room



June 13-16, 2022

Help us stock the snack room for VBS!

Drop off in the seminar room during
VBS week! These yummy snacks will be for
our wonderful volunteers!



As for me and my house,
we will serve the LORD.

Joshua 24:15B

VHBC YOUTH

What's going on with
our youth in the
coming weeks?

May 18

Shrimp Boil 5 pm

May 22

8:45 am Sunday Morning Bible Study

5 pm YOSE (Youth on Sunday Evening)

May 23

4:00 pm 428 at the Student Building

May 25

6:00 pm Wednesday Night Live

May 29

8:45 am Sunday Morning Bible Study

NO YOSE this Sunday

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church



**June 13-16, 9 am - Noon,
Free lunch at noon!**



REGISTER

**Rising 1st Graders through
Rising 6th Graders
today at vhbc.com!**

**Invite your friends each day AND on Thursday
night for our Food Truck Family Fun Night
from 5-7 pm!**

Thank You

To all who came out to serve our mission partners for Spring Serve! Adults and youth volunteered their time and talents in service to projects at the Firehouse Shelter, Bethany Home, Lovelady Thrift Store, and VHBC's own CDC! Make plans to be a part of our Fall Mission Serve Saturday!

Stay Updated

Missions Spotlight



**AFRICA
EXCHANGE**

This has been a busy month of missions education and participation! Our children celebrated a year of learning and participating with GA and RAs missions engagement!

As a church we hosted representatives from local and foreign mission organizations doing good work in the world! We were blessed to have Sam Harrell, founder of Africa Exchange and CBF Coordinator for Global Missions with us. Africa Exchange is a new mission partnership for VHBC. Through Sam's words we were inspired by the work of this ministry and the small and large ways we can come alongside and partner together. If you missed this international mission educational engagement, please follow [this link](https://www.africaexchange.org) to see the ways Africa Exchange is partnering with African communities to provide clean water, healthy initiatives, economic development and preschool education. Please be in prayer for Luke McBrayer as he engages with Africa Exchange's cross-cultural experience traveling to Kenya and witnessing the good works and good relationships being fostered by our mission partner.

www.africaexchange.org



Seed Camp 2022

July 5-8, 2022

Marion, AL

Please contact Laura Tadlock

laura@vhbc.com

with any questions or to register.



Calling all Bakers!

Desserts needed for Firehouse Shelter



Please bring a homemade dessert with a minimum of 12 servings (like a cake, or two pies, brownies or cookies) to the CHURCH'S MAIN LOBBY by 5:15pm on the second Wednesdays of May, June, or July. We hope meeting this need will nourish a sweet spirit in you as you bake! Please label your container if not disposable, and we will gladly return it to the front office.

Questions? Contact Merryl Cooper at merryl_cooper@yahoo.com or 205-602-9984.

SIGN UP

Stay Connected

FIND US ONLINE

at vhbc.com

WATCH RECENT SERVICES

and other updates on [YouTube](#)

STAY UPDATED ON

our [Facebook](#) page

CONNECT WITH US

on [Instagram](#)

LISTEN TO OUR PODCAST

In Tune with [VHBC](#)

GIVE ONLINE

on the ShelbyNext app or vhbc.com

HELP WANTED!



Golf cart drivers are needed for Sunday mornings! Please contact Tyler@vhbc.com for more information.

Prayer List

MEMBERS IN THE HOSPITAL

LaWayne Fleming - Knee Replacement at Brookwood

MEMBERS IN RECOVERY & ONGOING TREATMENTS

Linda Anderson Buddy McGohon
John Bell Bonnie Perez
Jason Cooper Linda Whitt

HOMEBOUND MEMBERS

Maxine Ammons	Bob & Mavis Hardy	Margaret Northrup
Juanita Blackburn	Ruford Hodges	Gaynell Pinson
Libby Brown	Peggy Jones	Jerry & Lorelle Singleton
Ann Bush	Dot Lowe	Alicia Stigler
Esther Evans	Al Lowery	Hazel Turner
Milton Fullman	Samson Mathangani	Bobbye Weaver
Pat Gillespie	Kitty Newell	Doris Wilson
Sandy Gillis	Leon Nix	

PLEASE SEND UPDATES TO THE CONTACTS BELOW

 205-979-5920  martha@vhbc.com

DAILY UPDATES CAN BE FOUND AT [VHBC.COM/PRAYER-LIST](https://www.vhbc.com/prayer-list)

LET'S ROOT FOR THE HOME TEAM!

Birmingham Barons

Wednesday, June 22nd
7:05 pm



VS



All VHBC families are invited
for a time of fun & fellowship
at Regions Field!

\$13 per person

Food not included.

Sign up at VHBC.com



Weekly Schedule at VHBC

Sunday

- | | |
|----------|--------------------------------|
| 8:45 am | Bible Studies for All Ages |
| 10:00 am | Worship |
| 5:00 pm | YOSE - Youth on Sunday Evening |

Wednesday

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 7:00 am | Prayer Breakfast on ZOOM |
| 4:45 pm | Fellowship Dinner until 5:45 pm |
| 5:00 pm | Handbells |
| 5:30 pm | Children's Choirs |
| 6:00 pm | Youth Activities |
| 6:15 pm | Mission Friends, Girls in Action, Royal Ambassadors |
| 7:00 pm | Sanctuary Choir |

Online Calendar at vhbc.com

VHBC Ministry Team

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

VHBC GIVING

MAY BUDGET NEEDED	\$146,768.00
MAY BUDGET OFFERING	\$77,092.00
YTD BUDGET NEEDED	\$677,380.00
YTD BUDGET OFFERING	\$655,810.00