

VHBC *Connections*



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**Have you listened to our new
podcast yet?**

"In Tune with VHBC" is a weekly podcast about music and worship at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church. Episodes will explore hymns we sing in worship and feature interviews with participants in Music Ministry ensembles.



**IN
TUNE**
with VHBC

Listen on
 Apple Podcasts

 Spotify

 STITCHER

Thank you

for your faithful service to VABC!



After 49 years of faithful service to Vestavia Hills Baptist Church, **Sadra Dudley** announces her retirement. There is no adequate way to express all that Sadra has meant to us. She retires having invested the most years of any staff member in our fellowship and one who has poured her very self into ministry among us. Since 1972, Sadra has been a pillar of consistency as our church has navigated changes in pastoral leadership, reconstruction, expansion of facilities, natural disasters, and the evolution of congregational ministry.

We are so grateful and altogether better people for having been blessed and cared for by Sadra. Her patience, dedication, and passion for serving the church are an enduring legacy and encouragement to all who have known her ministry.

Dora Samuel concludes over 20 years of service alongside Sadra as an exceptional partner in ministry and a delightful presence on our staff. She has been a reliable and invaluable contributor who we could always count on to assist where needed. Her steadfast care for things behind the scenes has enabled countless ministries to succeed. Throughout the years, she has brought a spirit of encouragement, lightheartedness, and generosity to our team.



Sadra Dudley and Dora Samuel have faithfully offered their talents in service of Christ's church and to the members of Vestavia Hills Baptist Church. We give thanks to God for the privilege of sharing in service with them.

A Drive-Up reception will be held for Sadra and Dora on Sunday, **November 15 from 3:00-4:00 pm**. There will also be a time of recognition for them in the online worship service that same day. Special gifts may be made through the church finance office.

VHBC GIVING

Many options are available to give to VHBC. Please visit VHBC.com/stay-connected to find the links to our Online Giving page and tutorials on how to use our ShelbyNext giving portal on the app and desktop. Thank you so much for your faithful giving!

MTD Budget Offering: **\$122,970.20**

MTD Budget Needs: **\$133,952.00**

YTD Budget Offering: **\$1,338,640.65**

YTD Budget Needs: **\$1,439,984.00**

The 3rd - 6th Grade GAs are proud to sponsor this fall's

Food Drive



This October Food Drive will benefit the **Firehouse Shelter**. Look for the bright containers in the VHBC foyer through Wednesday, November 4th!

Please donate

- **Beef Jerky**
- **Granola Bars**



Fall Gathering

Alabama CBF

The 2020 Fall Gathering celebrates a 20-year partnership with Sowing Seeds of Hope in Perry County! You will see a film highlighting the colleagues and friends from Sowing Seeds of Hope and the good work that you have helped dream into reality for the past two decades. Click the link [**HERE**](#) to view the pre-recorded gathering from AL CBF!

SHEPHERD'S ENCOURAGER

DR. GARY FURR

CHILDREN'S SABBATH & FALL FEST MADE FOR A WONDERFUL SUNDAY!

On Sunday we came “home.” I mean that we returned to in-person worship. We were able to do it safely, following health guidelines and masking, and it was very meaningful. I saw more than a few tears. “Reopening” our society carries tremendous health risks and not only to the elderly. As time goes on, I hear more and more within my circles of sickness and death among families and acquaintances. But we also have learned how to safely navigate it together. Since one thing I learned how to do in graduate work was to read and evaluate research, I have spent as much time as I can to understand the best notions of what can keep our people safe. The truth is, safe distancing and masks **DO** work. They are not perfect, but they are vastly more effective than any other behavior we have available. If both people in a space have masks on while being together, the odds are tremendously decreased. So we know the best things we can do.

We will continue to offer worship, Bible study on Wednesday evenings, and, if necessary, funerals. We will continue to follow the guidelines and to exceed them. It's not giving in to fear. It is intelligent and responsible to care for our flock in this way.



In the afternoon, Nancy, Tyler, and our staff put on an hour and a half of pure fun! The turnout was great, including many of the families from our Child Development Center and some nearby neighbors. Many paused as they drove by where Vickie and I (with help from Eva Kate) waved to folks who came. They thanked me and the church for doing this. Children had fun, families laughed, our deacons presided over the stations, and we had giant cheese puffs, pumpkins, candy, and games—all safe, but there was something else. We forgot about the grimness of this moment for a little while.

Our Child Development Center has done an exceptional job of protecting the little ones in our care. And Nancy and all the leaders in the preschool and children's areas of our church have been outstanding in loving, teaching, and protecting our little ones as they share the story of Jesus and the happiness of having a church family with them.

We can do this. **We ARE doing this.** Now, as we have an election next week and head into the more risky fall and winter when we'll be inside more, it is a time not to grow weary with the strain. I know it is tiring, and we want it to be over, but let's keep up our discipline, move-in coordination with the best information out there, and take care of one another.

I am proud of you, church family. Your spirit and love are evident. This will not go on forever, but it will go on for a while yet. So encourage one another and keep up the good work!

Gary



SIGN UP NOW



**Wednesday
Prayer Service &
Bible Study**

October 28th at
6 pm





vhbc kids

THIS FALL

VHBC Kids' Sunday school meetings will continue on Zoom and Wednesdays, GA & RAs will meet. Check out the times & leaders for each group below!

sunday school

9AM

- Kindergarten with Gilda Coker and James Carr
- 3rd Grade Class with Leigh Gwathney and Marie Gwathney
- 4th/5th Grade Class with Liz David and Jenny Henry

9:30AM

- 1st/2nd Grades with Sandra Bates and Gay Caldwell

11:00AM

- Sixers with Lucas Dorion and Mindy Bodenhamer

wednesday nights

5PM

- 1st & 2nd GA with Sara McFarland and Ashley Bates

5:30PM

- 3rd - 5th GA with Kristy Carr, Lisa Speegle, and Nancy Akins

6:30PM

- 1st - 3rd RAs with Matt Hutcheson, Brandi Brownell, and Larry Brownell
 - 4th - 6th RAs with Jan Deagon, David Philpot, and Dave McPherson
- 



SUNDAY

YOSE 5-6 PM

is moving INDOORS for the remainder of the year!
Let's meet in the sanctuary & and then split into small
groups throughout the church.

Dinner provided!

WEDNESDAYS



Wednesday Night Live

6:00-7:00 pm

SPECIAL EVENT

Movie Monday on

November 23rd

6:00-8:00 pm

 **No youth activities on** 
November 25th & 29th.

**BE ON THE LOOKOUT FOR
PASSPORT SIGN UPS!**





Wednesday Night Takeout continues on October 28th!

If you pre-ordered a meal for this week, make sure to pick it up between 5-5:30 in the back parking lot. The next curbside Wednesday will be **November 4th - Turkey & Dressing, Green Beans, Cranberry Salad, and Rolls!**



Fall Check-up

Wednesday, October 28
Seminar on ZOOM
6:30-7:30 pm

The fall is underway, and the holidays are approaching! Join us as Gail Cliff, mental health pediatric nurse practitioner leads us in a discussion on ways to care for our family.

Visit VHBC.com for the Zoom link!

SENIOR ADULT TRIP MAY 3-7, 2021

Save the date! We have rescheduled our 2020 trip to Savannah, Jekyll Island, & Beaufort, SC. Please call or email Martha at the church office to make a reservation. Double-occupancy price is \$549/each and single-occupancy is \$728. For more information, please contact John Bell at 205-822-6983.



Prayer List

MEMBERS IN THE HOSPITAL

Louise Cunningham Grandview 626

Kay Worley Surgery 10/29 Kirklin

Lottie St. John Surgery 11/19 Grandview

MEMBERS AT HOME

Don & Maxine Ammons

Charlotte Kyser

Mindy Bodenhamer

Samson Mathangani

Sam & Libby Brown

Leon Nix

Zelle Buckner

Margaret Northrup

Carolyn Cain

June Ousley

Louise Cunningham

Nora Ousley

Geri Dodson

Elizabeth Painter

Mike Dulin

Gaynell Pinson

Esther Evans

Bettye Smith

Milton Fullman

Alicia Stigler

Jim & Natalie Garland

Prissy Sumners

Elene Griffith

Hazel Turner

Jim Hall

Stan & Sue Virciglio

Mavis Hardy

Margaret Walker

Lauren Hartzog

Betty Wallis

Dan & Sharon Hartzog

Bobbye Weaver

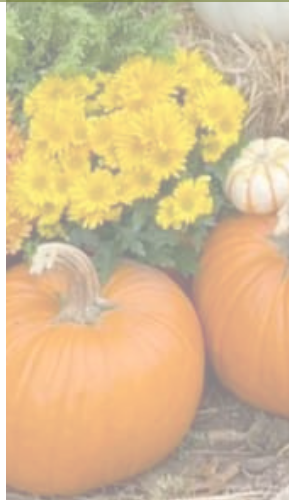
Ruford Hodges

Doris Wilson

IN CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

The family of Billie Pigford in her passing on October 20th. Visitation will be held at Southern Heritage Funeral Home Hoover, AL Tuesday, October 27 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. followed by a graveside service.

Ann Bush and family as they grieve the loss of Bob Bush on October 25th. His funeral service will be held in the sanctuary at the church on Friday, October 30 at 11 a.m. There will be no visitation. Safe distancing will be observed and masks required for attendance. There will be a private graveside for family only after.





In the past year, we've welcomed several members to our VHBC church family. Our welcome wagon continues with

Graham Driskell!

Graham hails from Mobile, AL and is currently a student at Samford University at the McWhorter School of Pharmacy, where he was recently white-coated for the Class of 2024!



Graham enjoys travel, especially his experiences to Germany, Austria, and Italy. Austria is his favorite country and he'd love to go back soon. Multi-talented, Graham enjoys tap-dancing, playing piano, bass, cello, and guitar. He also participated in musical theatre in high school and loves to watch shows.

He first came to VHBC after Marty Watts contacted Samford School of Music to inquire after a tenor for the Sanctuary Choir during Graham's first year at Samford. Marty selected Graham for the Betty Sue Shepherd Scholarship and the rest is history! His favorite parts of VHBC are his Sunday School and the Sanctuary Choir.

Thank you, Graham, for being such a vital part of VHBC! Welcome!





Thank you so much for all the prayers, cards, and phone calls during my hospital stay. Your expressions of concern mean so much to me. I look forward to us all being back together.



VHBC Church Family

Curtis Gwathney

Your many ways of reaching out during my recent cataract surgeries have been deeply appreciated. Every call, card, meal, flower, etc. All gestures of Christian love and fellowship so meaningful to Riley and me! Through you all we feel the embrace of the Father, and we are humbled greatly.



thank
you 

Eddi Riley

VHBC Church Family

We want to thank you for your many expressions of Christian sympathy for the loss of our dad. Gary offered a virtual memorial service. We have viewed this service many times and have found such comfort in the words, prayers, and music. Our family and friends have also expressed how meaningful it was to them, especially since we could not meet at this time. Our dad was a special man, and we miss him dearly.



We also want to thank you for your prayers, calls, cards, and texts during our family's illness. God is our strength and remains with us during these difficult times.

VHBC Church Family

Elene & Jim Griffith
Sharon & Dan Hartzog



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

AT VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAYS AT 10 AM

Registration for our in-person worship services is open every Monday-Saturday prior to the worship date. Spaces are limited, so visit VHBC.com and click **REGISTER FOR IN-PERSON WORSHIP** to sign up today!

STAY CONNECTED



Visit vhbc.com and click the stay connected button to find updates for our [prayer list](#), online worship schedule, our new **podcast**, ShelbyNext giving, family resources, and more! Click the underlined words to follow each link.

WATCH VHBC ONLINE

