



# VHBC *Connections*

SEPTEMBER 29, 2020  
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**IN  
TUNE**  
with VHBC

**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.

 Listen on  
**Apple Podcasts**

 **Spotify**



# VHBC FALL drive thru FEST

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2020  
3:30 - 5:00 PM

Grab a costume, decorate your vehicle, & meet us in the VHBC main parking lot for a special drive-thru fall fest!

*candy*

*pumpkins*

*games & prizes*

*photos*





## To the Child Development Center Staff

On behalf of Vestavia Hills Baptist Church, the Child Development Center Advisory Committee would like to extend our heartfelt appreciation and admiration for the work you, the teachers and staff, have done to ensure the health and safety of the children and their families at the Child Development Center during this pandemic.

Science has validated what childcare professionals have known for years, that the earliest years are crucial for learning and development. As a result of this pandemic, it has become more evident to everyone that the role childcare professionals fulfill caring for the needs of young children and their families is vital to our society.

You have made great sacrifices, both personally and professionally. Your commitment to the Center and the families it serves is unmatched. Even while furloughed, you kept in touch with families ensuring that the children had consistency during a very unpredictable time. You returned to service, without hesitation, during uncertain times and put yourself at risk to educate and serve the children.

Therefore, we would like to thank you for your tireless and constant care for the children and families served at Vestavia Hills Baptist Church Child Development Center before, during, and after the COVID crisis. We are deeply grateful!

Sincerely,  
Kristie Chandler, Outgoing Chair VHBC CDC Committee  
Laura Tadlock, Incoming Chair VHBC CDC Committee  
Brad Farley, CDC Committee member  
Barbara Vandergriff, CDC Committee member  
Nancy Akins, CDC Committee ex officio



# VHBC GIVING

Many options are available to give to VHBC. Please visit [VHBC.com/stay-connected](http://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: **\$139,868.85**

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

YTD Budget Offering: **\$1,208,477.95**

YTD Budget Needs: **\$1,306,032.00**

## *Special Services for World Communion Day*



Sign up today for special vespers services for World Communion Day being held on Wednesday, September 30th at 5:30 pm (tomorrow!) and Sunday, October 4th at 10 am and 5 pm. Communion elements pick-up will be open on Saturday from 10-12 pm for those partaking on Sunday morning. Sign up [HERE](#).

## *Evening Vespers continuing Oct 11th & 18th*



There are still plenty of spaces to reserve for our evening vespers services at the Amphitheater. Click here to register for October 11th & October 18th services. Sign up [HERE](#).

# SHEPHERD'S ENCOURAGER

DR. GARY FURR

## RESTARTING

A mulligan. That's what you call it in golf, and actually, you are penalized for doing so, if you follow the rules.

Rebuilding is another word. As in what entire cities will have to do on the West Coast, for those who have the heart to try again, as well as people on the Gulf Coast, battered by storms. Starting over is what people have to do throughout life. A crisis levels everything you had carefully put in place, and suddenly you must renegotiate with yourself.

Institutions, including religious ones, are no exception. The Bible is story after story of people picking up the pieces and moving on, or finding their world shifting in surprising (and occasionally extraordinary and positive) ways. But even miracles and resurrection cause us to shift out of the old and into the unknown. A church is constantly restarting and changing. Our church history is a great read, and it is also a chronicle of ongoing change and adaptation.

So, we look ahead after about nine months of disruption. It's not over, not by a long shot, but already we have made changes, choices, resized and compensated our families, jobs, and lives. I mention all of this to say that we are about to "restart" gathering for worship this week in earnest with World Communion Sunday. We have actually never stopped gathering for worship, as the loyalty to our online worship has been very encouraging, but in all of our hearts, we know that being present, being with one another is the essence of Christian fellowship.

Our initial gatherings in the amphitheater in recent weeks have been meaningful times. We have figured out how to keep each other safe, pray, hear scripture read, and listen to beautiful music. This week we take another step by offering two worship opportunities for communion. This has been a special service each year for us, as we join Christian congregations throughout the world to reenact the Lord's supper.

Because of the pandemic, we will do it this way this year.

1. You have two opportunities in which to participate live at the amphitheater. The first is this Wednesday evening at 5:30 pm. We will sit at safe distances and use prepackaged individual communion packets. This service will be repeated on Sunday evening at 5:00 pm, so you have two options to come. You will need to reserve a spot online or call the office to tell Martha or Brittini that you would like to attend. This will help us with our preparations.
2. If you are more comfortable doing this at home, I will conduct a service in the online worship Sunday morning as well. There will be an opportunity to pick up the prepackaged kit to use on Saturday from 10 am-12 pm, as we did last time.
3. This way, there are three occasions on which you will relive the Lord's gathering with the disciples and with Christians everywhere. Make plans to be part of these services with me!

Also, you are aware that after this week, 25 spots are available to attend the Wednesday night prayer service and Bible study in the fellowship hall. Again, reservations are required. We will wear masks and observe safe distancing (more than six feet, just for safe measure!). This will be recorded and broadcast live so that you may join in at home or at a later time.

At the end of the month of October, we will add a Sunday morning worship service. More details will be available in the weeks ahead, so stay in touch.

As we move forward, we accept that we must move deliberately and safely. The winter presents the possibility of more spread of the virus before things get better, so we will stay vigilant. Thank you for your support, patience, faithful giving, and care for one another! See you Wednesday...and Sunday morning...and Sunday evening.

*Gary*

**SIGN UP NOW**



**Wednesday  
Prayer Service &  
Bible Study** October 7th at  
6 pm



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

- 3rd Grade Class with Leigh Gwathney and Marie Gwathney
- 4th/5th Grade Class with Liz David and Jenny Henry

9:30AM

- Kindergarten with Gilda Coker and James Carr
- 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





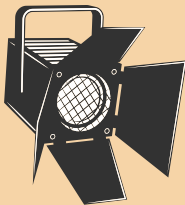
## **SUNDAY**

**10/4** Communion Vespers Service  
**5:00 - 6:00 PM**

**10/11** Youth Vespers Service  
**5:00 - 6:00 PM**

We invite families to sign up and worship together on Sunday evenings the next 2 weeks!

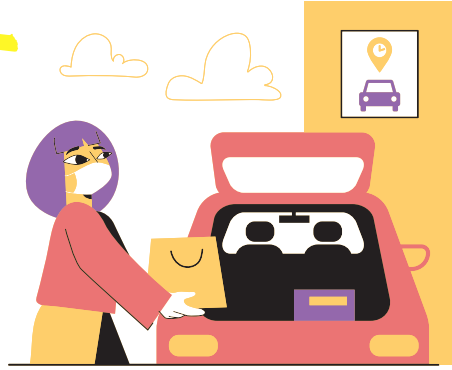
## **WEDNESDAYS**



**Wednesday Night Live**  
6:00-7:00 pm

## Wednesday Night Takeout continues on October 14th!

Visit [VHBC.com](http://VHBC.com) to sign up for our curbside dinner: **Meatloaf, mac & cheese, steamed cabbage, and cornbread.** Meals are \$6/each and pick-up will be available from 5-6 pm. **Meals must be ordered and paid for before pick-up.**



## 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.



# THANK You!

Thank you VHBC for all the support LuAnn and I received in my recent hospital stay. It is the love of God and the care of friends that make life worthwhile.

**Ron Smith**



# Prayer List

## MEMBERS IN THE HOSPITAL

Alicia Stigler	Encompass Rehab
Curtis Gwathney	Spain Rehab
Billie Lochamy	Surgery on 10/5
Brian Lebold	Surgery on 10/7

## MEMBERS AT HOME

Don & Maxine Ammons	Barrett Moran
Don Baker	Leon Nix
Sam & Libby Brown	Margaret Northrup
Zelle Buckner	Nora Ousley
Bob Bush	Jerri Pare'
Carolyn Cain	Billie Pigford
Louise Cunningham	Gaynell Pinson
Shirley Daviston	Prissy Summers
Brian Deagon	Hazel Turner
Geri Dodson	Rachel Turner
DeLoris Donegan	Stan & Sue Virciglio
Mike Dulin	Margaret Walker
Esther Evans	Betty Wallis
Milton Fullman	Nancy Welch
Jim & Natalie Garland	Bobbye Weaver
Chuck Gillespie	Doris Wilson
Mavis Hardy	
Ruford Hodges	
Barbara Kimbrel	
Charlotte Kyser	

## MEMBER NEWS

Pray for Zach Seanor & family as they mourn the loss of his grandfather, Temple Blaylock, who passed on Sunday, September 20th in Tennessee.

Pray for Valerie Paul & family as they mourn the loss of her father, Ray Keebler, who passed on Tuesday, September 29th.

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, October 28th!

Please  
donate

- **Pancake Mix (Aunt Jemima Complete, the kind that mixes with water only)**
- **Syrup**
- **Cereal**
- **Beef Jerky**
- **Granola Bars**

## STAY CONNECTED

Visit [vhbc.com](http://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**

