

SEPTEMBER 15, 2020  
VOL. 27 ISS. 19

# Variations

VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH



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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.



# 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.

MTD Budget Offering: **\$51,618.29**

MTD Budget Needs: **\$66,976.00**

YTD Budget Offering: **\$1,120,227.39**

YTD Budget Needs: **\$1,239,056.00**

Thank you so very much for your faithful giving.  
We continue to be able to operate because of you!

## MIDWEEK SESSIONS CONTINUE

**SUNSET YOGA W/BETH MCGINNIS**  
**TUESDAYS @ 6:30 PM**  
**FRONT LAWN AT VHBC**

**PASTOR'S BIBLE STUDY**  
**CATECHISM AMID THE CHAOS**  
**WEDNESDAYS @ 6 PM ON OUR WEBSITE**

**A TIME TO PRAY W/LAURA & DALE TADLOCK**  
**WEDNESDAYS AT 6 PM**  
**ZOOM MEETING**

**JESUS & THE DISINHERITED BOOK STUDY**  
**W/MIKE MCBRAYER**  
**WEDNESDAYS AT 6 PM @ CDC ENTRANCE**

**NAVIGATING GRIEF W/GARY FURR**  
**WEDNESDAYS AT 6 PM**  
**VHBC PORTE COCHERE**

**SERMON ON THE MOUNT BOOK STUDY**  
**W/LARUE SPEIGHTS**  
**THURSDAYS @ 6 PM ON ZOOM**

REGISTRATION STILL OPEN AT [VHBC.COM](http://VHBC.COM)

# SHEPHERD'S ENCOURAGER

DR. GARY FURR

## **SUNDAY VESPERS BEGINS THIS WEEK AT 5 PM**

A week ago, Sunday approximately forty of us gathered safely outdoors for an evening worship time at the amphitheater. Our deacons met there together this past Sunday evening for their first meeting of the fall. In both cases, it was easy to come and go without risk to anyone. We plugged in our portable sound system and away we went! For the next six weeks, we are planning a weekly evening Vespers service. "Vespers" is not a Baptist word. When I was growing up, we called our service "Sunday night worship." It was a less formal time of worship, prayer, testimony, and singing, along with whatever energy the preacher had left to preach another sermon.

"Vespers" is a beautiful word, though, coming from the Greek and Latin words for "evening." Virtually all Christian traditions use the word. Some call it "evensong," a lovely word, and it is a time of giving thanks for the day and offering prayers before rest at night. We are fortunate to have a beautiful outdoor sanctuary in which to safely worship together. The Vespers service will not be a duplicate of Sunday morning. It will last approximately thirty minutes, with prayers, a musical offering, scripture, and a brief devotional offering by myself and other familiar speakers, and inspiration for those who attend. Think of it as an evening prayer time to prepare us for the week to come. The youth will continue to meet, and Tyler and the youth will join us for one of these to lead us and show us what they are doing together.

This will happen every week at 5 pm. In the event of rain, of course, we will cancel. You may sit on the amphitheater benches or bring your chair or blanket and enjoy seeing your church family, get a little inspiration for the week, and get home in plenty of time to get ready for the week.

## pastor's article con't...

Like all events, this will be by reservation only. You may reserve a spot by clicking a link online or calling the church office at 205-979-5920. Social distancing and masks will be required to attend.

## VHBC CONNECTIONS: A NEW NAME FOR OUR NEWSLETTER!

This is indeed a new time we are in. Our staff has decided to bring the name of our publications into unified messaging. **Stay Connected** has been the byword of this past six-plus months as we have navigated a new time together. It is reflected on our website as the most used click—where we go to worship, “attend” Wednesday evening and other study times and get vital updates.

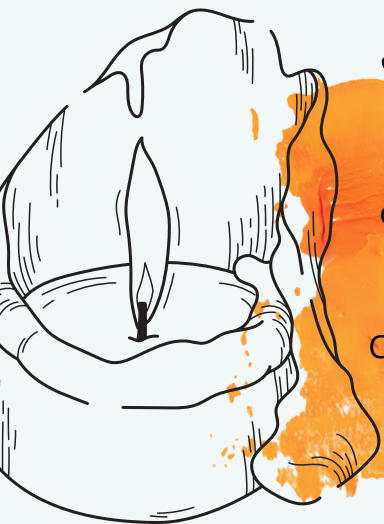
**Connection** is the word that best describes us. So from this day on, it will be the VHBC Connections. In line with that, the Wednesday Promoter will now be called, “Wednesday Connections.” Same information, same people, just a more accurate name. I asked our support team in the office, “What will you call it now instead of “the Vary?” They said, “The newsletter.” **VHBC Connections** it is!

*Gary*

## *Sunday Vespers at the Amphitheater*

Starting September 20th, we will be offering Sunday Vespers at 5 pm for the next 6 weeks.

Click the link **here** to visit our website and sign up for the available dates listed on our latest article.





# 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

- 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



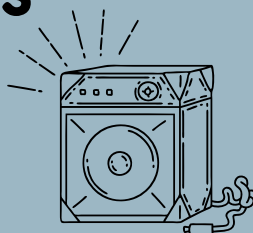
# YOUTH HAPPENINGS

## SUNDAYS

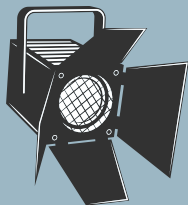
### YOSE AMPd

6:00-7:00 pm

Lessons in Joshua & Judges



## WEDNESDAYS



### Wednesday Night Live

6:00-7:00 pm

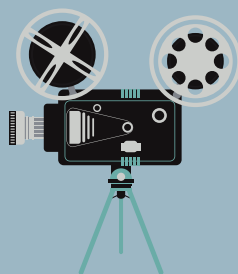
## SPECIAL EVENTS

### Movie Monday

September 21st

7:00-9:00 pm

Amphitheater



## Wednesday Night Takeout continues on September 23rd!

Visit [VHBC.com](http://VHBC.com) to sign up for our curbside dinner: **Baked chicken, creamed potatoes, broccoli, and roll.** 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

We cannot express enough gratitude for the love and comfort expressed in the numerous cards sent to us from our church members. We are progressing well on our health issues, but we anticipate that full recovery will require a few more weeks.

Our goal over the next few months will be to relocate to a new home in the Athens or Huntsville, Alabama areas to be located next to our daughter and grandchildren.

--- Natalie & Jim Garland



# Prayer List

## MEMBERS IN THE HOSPITAL

Don Baker	Procedure on 9/18 at STVHS
Ron Smith	Procedure on 9/16 at Emory
Curtis Gwathney	UAB
John Paul Moore	UAB
Eddi Riley	Surgery on 9/18

## MEMBERS AT HOME

Don & Maxine Ammons	Charlotte Kyser
Sam & Libby Brown	Leon Nix
Zelle Buckner	Margaret Northrup
Bob Bush	Nora Ousley
Carolyn Cain	Jerri Pare'
Louise Cunningham	Billie Pigford
Shirley Daviston	Gaynell Pinson
Geri Dodson	George Ritchey
DeLoris Donegan	Hazel Turner
Esther Evans	Rachel Turner
Milton Fullman	Stan & Sue Virciglio
Jim & Natalie Garland	Betty Wallis
Mavis Hardy	Nancy Welch
Ruford Hodges	Bobbye Weaver
Mina Jeffers	Doris Wilson
Barbara Kimbrel	

## MEMBER NEWS

Wanda & Greg Pruitt are proud to announce the birth of granddaughter, Wendy Dot McGarity born Sunday, September 13th. Wendy is the first child of their daughter, Mary and husband, Will.

Condolences for Liz Wells and family as they grieve the loss of Mike Wells on September 3rd.

Condolences for Faye Spear and family as they grieve the loss of her son, Eric Bush.

# Missions Update!



As the economic impact of COVID-19 continues to increase food insecurity amongst our community, we have most recently outreached financially to the Community Food Bank of Central Alabama. The Community Food Bank has seen a 30-40% increase in the need for food support in the 12 counties they serve since the pandemic began.

They have responded to the crisis with implementing a new program called the Farmers to Families Food Box Program, in which families in need are able to pick up preassembled food boxes from partner sites, in a safe social distancing manner. We are currently working on ways to physically serve with the Food Bank as a church family, be on the lookout!

## STAY CONNECTED

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

### WATCH VHBC ONLINE

