

News from the Mountain

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
GLEN ALLEN BAPTIST CHURCH



NEHEMIAH - COMING BACK BETTER TOGETHER

Does the Bible offer a roadmap for how to come back together after a pandemic? Well, not exactly. In the same way the Bible did not offer a roadmap for weathering a pandemic, there is no "how-to" manual on how to emerge. Fortunately, there are many clues on how to rebuild after a time of upheaval.

The people of Israel knew that well. In Nehemiah's day, many of the Israelites had been in exile following the Babylonian destruction. After the Babylonians were defeated by the Persians, the Israelites were allowed back in to Jerusalem to rebuild. But how?

The books of Ezra and Nehemiah talk about what it was like to rebuild the temple and the city walls. They tell us how the people came back together and the challenges they faced when rebuilding. Sound familiar to today?

I can think of no better time in church life than right now to explore these passages of Scripture in our summer Old Testament series. We will ponder what tools and skills are needed to rebuild. We will examine what to do in the face of opposition and set backs. We will explore the place of holy Scripture and practices of faith in preparing us for the work. And we will figure out how we do all of this together for the glory of God.

In the coming weeks as we prepare for Project Reboot, I encourage you to make worship on Sundays a priority in setting the stage for how we will come back better together this fall!

Rebooting Together,
Melissa Fallen

THIS MONTH AT GABC

Aug. 3 - Children's Summer Study and Fun

Aug. 7, 10 am - 4 pm - Community Scanning Day

Aug. 17, 1 pm - Lunch Bunch at Franco's

Aug. 24 - Project Reboot Signup begins

Aug. 24, 7 pm - Deacon's Meeting

Aug. 31, 10 am - Blood Drive

CHURCH NEWS

Welcome New Member

We are excited to welcome Warren Lacy on transfer of his membership from Chamberlayne Baptist Church. You can find his contact information in the online church directory. Welcome Warren!



Project Reboot Sign Up Begins

In the coming weeks, you will receive a letter, email, Facebook posts, Sunday announcements and more inviting you to be a part of a Project Reboot small group. Our hope is to involve every part of our GABC family in this reboot following an unusual year. Dates and times along with the corresponding small group hosts will be posted in the next few weeks. Sign up will begin on August 24.

Your group will have 8 weeks to complete 4 study sessions together, 1 fun activity together, and 1 community engagement activity together. Oh and don't forget we are giving you \$500 to accomplish it all!

This is an opportunity to do something we have never done before to reengage our fellowship in a deeper way and build God's kingdom together. We hope you will make it a priority now to grow, learn, and serve with your church family!

Blood Drive

It's time to roll up your sleeves again! GABC is hosting a blood drive on August 31, 2021. Long on to redcrossblood.org and select "GABC" as your location. We also need volunteers who would be willing to meet our guests. Please see Pastor Melissa for details.

Mark Your Calendars

Here are several dates to make sure are on your calendar in the coming months:

August 24 - Project Reboot Sign Up Begins

September 12 - Deacon ordination, promotion Sunday, and Reboot kick off luncheon

September 26, 5pm - Reflections Big Band Concert and food trucks (GABC lawn)

November 3, 5:45pm - Project Rebuild Celebration Dinner

November 14 - Small Group Leader and Teacher training at GABC, led by Dr. David Cassady, President of Baptist Seminary of Kentucky.

Community Photo Project

Do you have old photographs of Glen Allen? Would you like to help preserve your community's fascinating history? Please contribute your photos to a pictorial history of Glen Allen, to be published by Arcadia Publishing. Community Scanning Day is Saturday, August 7, 2021, 10am to 4pm, at the Cultural Arts Center, 2880 Mountain Road, Glen Allen, Va 23060. Photos will be scanned and returned to you on the spot. For more info, contact Forrest Melton or Cary Holladay, holladaycary@gmail.com.

Wednesday Night Program

Our first Wednesday Night program will be an observance of the 20th anniversary of the September 11, 2001, attacks. Our speaker is Col. Kamran Afzal, Police Chief of the City of Hopewell, who was one of the first responders at The Pentagon. This is a community event and we want to invite our family members, friends and neighbors to come join us. More information will be in the September newsletter. We look forward to his presentation.

Children's Summer Play Days

Thanks to our children's families for organizing and hosting our summer learn and play days. We had a great time gathering our children back together to play and splash and be creative. The final one is on August 3 at 3pm. Please see Jaime Tonello for details. Stay tuned for an August date for Moments of Hope toiletry packing!



Lunch Bunch

The lunch bunch will meet at Franco's, Kroger Shopping Center, Staples Mill Road on August 17 at 1:00 pm. Please call Chris Rogers at 262-0485 or 339-3719 so we have a number to make reservations by Sunday before the luncheon.

Thank You

Thank you for the floral basket in sympathy and remembrance of a Christian life well lived. She would have loved them.

-Thank you, The family of Lois Faw

YOUTH NEWS

We had an amazing time last weekend at our GABC "Mission Trip." We were so blessed to have several of our former youth join us throughout the weekend and even helped lead some of our work crews. During our trip, we began a series on Counter Culture and what intricacies of Christianity are easy to defend and what issues we remain quiet on. We had the chance to grow in our own faith, which is vital to any successful mission trip.

Additionally, we had the chance to do the following service projects:

- Worked at the parsonage and completed tasks such as weeding, mulching, trimming bushes, and other tasks
- Worked in a church members yard trimming down branches, cleaning gutters, weed eating, and more
- Sanded down and re-stained the prayer garden benches.
- Cleaned all of the playground equipment for the Pre-K program
- Decorated 325 bags with scripture and uplifting words for our Moments of Hope homeless ministry.
- Cleaned up the Youth SS classroom in preparation for the return of SS in a couple of months.
- Prepared and packaged 325 meals for the homeless.

It was an extremely successful weekend and we are so thankful for the support of so many people, especially Allen Jenkins, Forrest Melton, Cheryl Ender, Matt Davidson, Eric Mawyer, Laura Mawyer, Ian Carlson, Jaime Tonello, and Trey Booker.

Many of our youth gave feedback that they really enjoyed being able to help those in need locally, especially within our own church. This was a great success and may be something we look at in the future. Our youth have come to realize, that while the service scope of our projects are wonderful, it is the relationships and the spiritual bond that they form with others that is the true testament to what we do.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for our Youth. This event was extremely important so that we could show that we can still do events like we did in the past safely and efficiently. God Bless,

-Dr. B.J. Crowder

Preaching Schedule:

- 8/1 *Nehemiah 1-2,
It's Time*
- 8/8 *Nehemiah 3-4,
What's Your Job?*
- 8/15 *Nehemiah 5-6,
A Lot of Nerve*
- 8/22 *Nehemiah 8-10,
The Water Gate Meeting*
- 8/29 *Nehemiah 11-13,
And All God's People Said...*

Sunday School Teachers:

- 8/1 *Matt Davidson*
- 8/8 *Allen Jenkins*
- 8/15 *Donna Washington*
- 8/22 *Michael Duke*
- 8/29 *Allen Jenkins*

Sunday School

In-person Sunday School for Youth and Adults begins September 12 at 9:15 a.m. We can't wait to see everyone! We hope you will join us for coffee and donuts in the Fellowship Hall at 9:00.

September 5 will be your last opportunity to participate in Adult Sunday School through Zoom.

At this time we are scheduled to have three adult classes:

- Genesis Class led by Michael Duke and Esther Thompson
- Ruth Fidelis Class led by Donna Washington
- Men's Open Door Class led by Matt Davidson

Stay tuned. Another class may be added. Look for more details in the September newsletter.

Adult Sunday School Teachers for August

August 1- Matt Davidson
 August 8 - Allen Jenkins
 August 15 - Donna Washington
 August 22 - Michael Duke
 August 29 - Allen Jenkins

The Ruth Fidelis Class will meet on August 9 and 23 in the Fellowship Hall.

Promotion Sunday activities will take place on September 12 during the worship service.

MISSIONS NEWS

The Missions Committee is excited with the continued donations to Lambs Basket. The canned goods, along with over 200 lbs of fresh vegetables has been tremendous.

The annual Children's Shoe Box program is in the forefront and boxes are being ordered.

The Coats for Kids program is right around the corner. Our committee will be working with Dumbarton school to provide coats for kids for the Winter.