

News from the Mountain

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
GLEN ALLEN BAPTIST CHURCH



JUDGES - WHAT A MESS!

Corruption. Fear. Failed leadership. Idol worship. Sexual violence. Abuse of power. Sound familiar? All of these could be used to describe various parts of our world today. And yet, I'm not talking about 21st century America, but rather the book of Judges.

Every summer, I invite us to walk through a lesser known book of the Old Testament. My goal is to increase biblical literacy and help us make sense of some of the more complex texts of the Bible.

This summer, we are working our way through Judges. We will accompany our study with the hymn, "Ancient Words." Here is the chorus:

Ancient words ever true
Changing me, and changing you.
We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart.

I hope as we struggle our way through the ancient text of Judges, we open ourselves to being changed by what we learn. May we ask ourselves what this complicated story teaches us about our own discipleship, our propensity for violence and power, and how we can remain faithful to God in the midst of a complex world.

"In this world, where e'er we roam, Ancient words will guide us Home."

Learning Together,
Melissa Fallen

THIS MONTH AT GABC

8/7 Youth to Bowling

8/8 Popsicles on the Playground

8/14 Pastor Fallen out of the Office through the 27th

8/15 Lunch Bunches

8/18 Youth to Camp RVA

8/22 Deacon's Meeting

8/27 Summer Book Club

8/30 Wednesday Night Dinner

CHURCH NEWS

Thank You

Thank you to everyone for their texts and calls. Also, my Sunday School class has been terrific bringing meals. I really feel God's love!!!

Laura Ford

Welcome Floyd Myers!

We welcome Floyd Myers to our church family!

House & Grounds

The House, Grounds and Properties Committee would like to make all church members aware that our church owns a Cemetery located at the intersection of Cemetery Rd and Peace Rd off of Old Washington Hwy. Currently the cost of purchasing a 5' x 10' burial plot in the cemetery is \$600 to church members. Due to the rising cost of cemetery maintenance, the purchase price for a 5' x 10' burial plot will increase to \$1000 effective 9/1/2023. The purchase price for the same size burial plot will increase to \$1500 effective 1/1/2024. The income generated from these cemetery plot sales goes toward the annual maintenance of the cemetery. Only church members may purchase burial plots. A 5' x 10' burial plot can be used for one vault containing a casket or three urns, if cremation is desired. If you are interested in purchasing or if you have any questions, please contact the Chair of the House, Grounds and Properties Committee, Buddy Anderson (804-908-1442).

School Partnership Prayer Guide

As we prepare for our school partnerships with Dumbarton, Brookland, and Hermitage, we have a prayer guide available for you to pick up in the Welcome Center. Here are the topics for the month of August:

Week of August 1: Extracurricular activities

Week of August 6: ACE Center at Hermitage

Week of August 13: Teacher and Staff Preparation

Week of August 20: The beginning of the school year



School Partnerships - It's time to get started!

You have been praying all summer and now it's time to get started with our school partnerships! Throughout the month of August, we are collecting the requested items below to help our schools get started. Please bring all items to the bins by the armoire by August 27.

Pencils

Colored construction paper

Dry Erase Markers

Dry Erasers

Handheld Staplers

Highlighters

Sticky notes

Clear tape

Composition Notebooks

Protein bars like granola bars

Cereal bars like Nutrigrain or Belvita

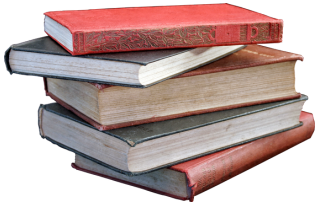
Lamb's Basket Donations

Another record was broken on July 18th thanks to our VBS! 165 pounds of produce and 579 pounds of donated food were delivered to Lambs Basket! Summer is a critical time for food needs in our area as students are out of school. We encourage you to give generously towards our Lambs Basket food collection. Food items can be placed in the armoire in the first floor hallway.

Ministry & Missions 2023-24 Planner

The Mission & Ministry Team has been working throughout the summer to plan a wide variety of spiritual growth, fellowship, and service opportunities. In the next few weeks, they will share the Ministry & Missions Planner for 2023-24 and all of the small groups and service opportunities, including some exciting opportunities with our new school partners. Join us on August 30 at 6:15pm to learn more about the opportunities for the fall.

Summer Book Club



Summer Book Club is back! We will meet again at 4pm on August 27. Our August book is *Falling Upward* by Richard Rohr. Get started reading it today so we can have a fruitful discussion.

Wednesday Night Dinner Returns!

Wednesday Night Dinners return on August 30th! The menu for this night will be Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, vegetable, rolls, salad bar, and dessert. The kids will have chicken nuggets. Join us!

Lunch Bunch(es)

Our ladies continue to meet on the third Tuesday of each month at 11:30am at O'Charley's on Brook Road. Contact Brenda Anderson if you have questions.

Our guys will also meet on August 15 at 11:30am at Kitchen 33. Please contact Matt Davidson if you have any questions.



August 2023

Children's Ministry

Sunday Mornings



Sunday School Resumes on August 20

9:30am - Children's Sunday School
10:30am - Worship/Children's
Church



Popsicles on the Playground

3:00-4:30 pm

August 8



Thank You!!!

Thank You to everyone who shared your time and talent to make VBS fun and successful for the children!

Bible Story - Leigh Anne Weinstein
Crafts - Megan Conway, Kirby Smith, Jill Cole
Recreation - Mark Parent
Guides - Debbie Gordon, Sophie Lasalata,
Sarah Collier, Rowan Lasalata, Brian Lee,
Aricka Parent, Scott and Melissa Brannan,
Travis Conway
Assembly - Rusty Lee, Eric Mawyer, Aricka
Parent
Supper - Cheryl Ender and her fabulous team!

Wednesday Night Activities Resume on August 30

Wednesdays:
5:45 - Supper
6:15-7:00 - Children's Bible Study
7:00-7:30 - Children's Play Time

Wednesday Nights

Children's Church Volunteers

If you are willing to volunteer for Children's Church, please complete the form found at the following link...

<https://tinyurl.com/GABCCchildrenschurch>



Fun Facts:

This spring, Darie began the RTR (Richmond Teacher Residency) program through VCU's School of Education. For the 2023-24 school year, Darie will be a resident teacher at Westover Hills Elementary School with the 4th grade team, while taking classes at VCU. She will work closely with her Mentor Teacher to gradually step into the role of teacher. She will graduate in May 2024 with a Graduate Certificate in Elementary Education. As a part of the RTR program, she is making a commitment to teach in underserved schools in the Richmond area for 3 years.



August Youth NEWS



BUILDING COMMUNITY

We have had so much fun this summer building friendships and growing community! From a Party at the Pavilion, to Top Golf to Lunch and a Movie to a Squirrels Game - we have had lots of fun together!

We have two more fun events coming up before school starts:

- Bowling on August 7 from 3-5 pm at Schrader Lanes. \$30.
- Back to School Bash on August 18 from 4:30-7:15 at Derbyshire Baptist Church.

SECOND SUNDAYS

Each month on the Second Sunday, the youth group will gather for lunch and a time to play and grow together in community. From 11:30-1

FAMILY MEETING

On September 10, youth and their families are invited for lunch, fun, and a youth info session to help families plan for the year! From 11:30-1.

YOUTH SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

It's been a while since we have had a Sunday morning option for youth. This fall, we will offer two studies: one for middle schoolers and one for high schoolers. We will engage our minds as we work our way through the Bible and discover the beautiful threads that run through Scripture.

On Sunday, August 20 we will have a fun kick off event before we settle into our individual classes.

Sundays, 9:15-10:15

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

This year, Wednesday nights will be focused on our hands and how we use them to work, serve, and create. We will do this in 3 or 4 week chunks and our options can include gardening, cooking, handbells, art, tech, and whatever else we can come up with that we are interested in.

We will begin our sessions on September 6.

Dinner 5:45
Youth Group 6:15-7:15

Choir News!

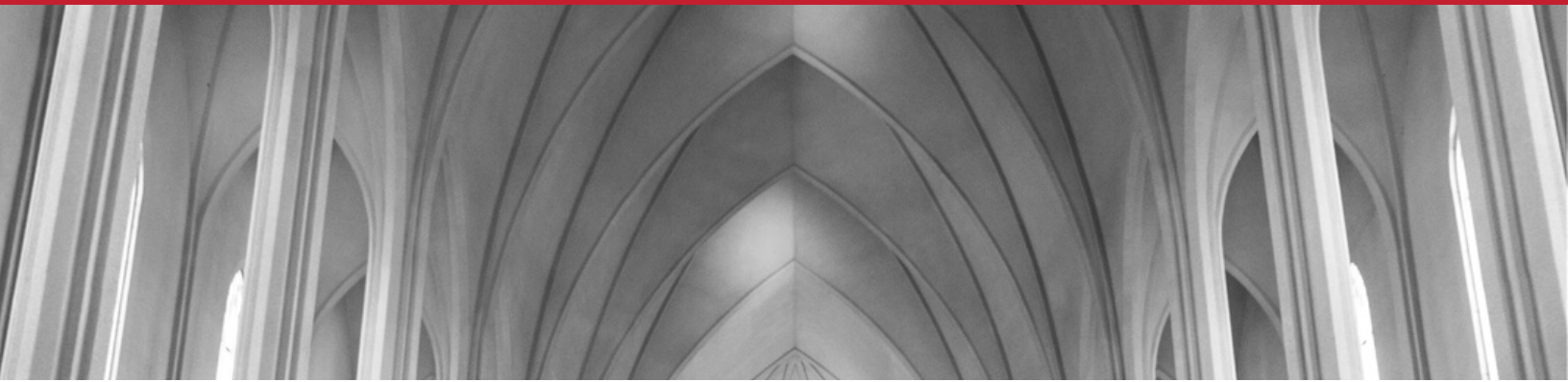
On August 30 at 7:30, we will begin our fall choir season. Come join us as we introduce new music for the fall and unveil our plans for a Christmas music special.

We would love to grow our choir and are welcoming all voice parts - especially altos. Come join the funnest choir in town!

Arkansas Mission Trip

On July 15, seven members of Glen Allen Baptist Church arrived in Helena, Arkansas for a week of partnership with All Church Challenge. Our team members did constructions, taught crafts, were group leaders in camp, taught swimming to children and adults, ran camp, and did whatever we saw that needed to be done. We sweated in heat indexes that topped 105, we danced to songs we have never heard before, we laughed, we cried, and we fell in love with the people that make up the community of Helena, Arkansas. Pictures tell the story. But so do our team members. Stay tuned for stories from our team in worship this month. Glen Allen Baptist Church is, indeed, the church that loves people!





Preaching Schedule:

8/6 *Judges 13-16*
Deadly Power

8/13 *Judges 19-21*
How Many Wrongs
Make a Right?

8/20 *Daric Lee Preaching*

8/27 *Roger Collier Preaching*

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

A new Sunday School year is beginning!

We welcome our children and youth back after a summer hiatus. We look forward to this new Sunday School year! If you have not been a part of Sunday School, this is a great time to start.

Here is information about our adult classes, which meet at 9:15 a.m.

Genesis class will conclude its study of Jeremiah and Lamentations in August. In September, the class will study the book of Mark. Personal Study Guides are available in the Genesis classroom, Room 311.

Ruth Fidelis Class's emphasis this month is "Provision." How does God care for His people? Scripture comes from Isaiah and I Kings. All women are welcome. This class meets in Room 312.

Open Door Class will be studying "Family Relationships." Scripture comes from Ruth, Genesis, Joshua, and Numbers. Open Door class meets in Room 305, and everyone is welcome.

We hope to see you! Come early for donuts and coffee or juice in the Welcome Center.

We welcome Sarah Collier as our new Sunday School co-director. I have enjoyed my time serving you in this role.