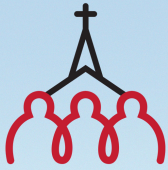


News from the Mountain

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
GLEN ALLEN BAPTIST CHURCH



IT'S BEEN A YEAR!

January 2 marks the one year work anniversary for Ann Carter and Darie Lee in their respective ministries, and what a wonderful year it's been!

Darie has worked hard to nurture and grow our vital children's ministries. She has brought important gifts and wisdom in fostering age-appropriate spiritual growth. She has helped us connect our children to the larger life of the church in valuable ways.

Ann has fostered a warm and loving space for our youth ministry to flourish. We even have a "youth pew" in worship now! Her gifts for creating authentic worship experiences, growing our choir, and expanding our music have helped us encounter God in deeper ways.

Both have been a true gift to us and helped us live out our calling as a church more faithfully. I can't wait for what is still ahead of us!

What a joy and privilege it is to serve alongside both of them. I hope you will join me in expressing your appreciation for their faithful service!

Serving Together,
Melissa Fallen

THIS MONTH AT GABC

1/15 Backpack Packing

1/16 Lunch Bunches

*1/17 Quarterly
Business
Meeting*

1/23 Deacons Meeting

*1/24 Winter Scholar Study
Begins*

1/28 Men's Day

CHURCH NEWS

Thank you

Dear Glen Allen Baptist Family,

I would like to express my appreciation to Dr. Fallen and my church family for the many expressions of love and support during my recent recovery from knee surgery!

Thank you so much,
Janet Melton

Wednesday Night Dinner

January 10 - Chicken Tetrazzini

Kids: Chicken nuggets

January 17 - Baked Ham, Baked Sweet potatoes

Kids: Corn Dog nuggets

January 24 - Meatloaf

Kids: Chicken nuggets

January 31 - Fried Chicken

Kids: same



Backpack Packing

Mark your calendars for our next backpack packing date. Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 9:30am on January 15 for an hour of fun and fellowship as we ready those packs with nourishment and love.

Lamb's Basket

Our last donation for 2023 was 102 pounds. Many thanks to everyone who contributed this time and throughout the year. Thanks to those members of the church family who gave on a regular basis.

The collection point is empty and ready for your 2024 donations. The need is great. If you haven't been donating, please consider it.



What Kind of Baptist Are We?

Jimmy Carter, Pat Robertson, Jerry Falwell, and Martin Luther King, Jr. all share one word in common: Baptist. How can the word "Baptist" capture all these people? What kind of Baptist is Glen Allen Baptist Church? On Wednesday, January 10, we will explore these questions and learn more about our own Baptist heritage and values. Dr. Fallen will lead this program beginning at 6:15pm in the fellowship hall.

January Scholar Study

Does the Old Testament really matter? Does it have anything to say in our lives today? We will explore these questions in more depth during our 3-week January Scholar Study beginning on January 24. Dr. Safwat Marzouk from Union Presbyterian Seminary will share his insight on the book of Exodus. All levels of biblical knowledge are welcome as we learn together!

Quarterly Business Meeting

Our quarterly business meeting is January 17 at 6:15pm. Please have all year-end reports to the church office by Thursday morning, January 11.

Lunch Bunch(es)

Lunch bunches continue on the third Tuesday of each month at 11:30am Ladies meet at O'Charley's on Brook Road. Guys meet at Kitchen 33. Please contact Brenda Anderson or Matt Davidson if you have any questions.





January '24 Youth NEWS



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

January 2 marks my first anniversary as your youth pastor. I love the relationships that are forming, the community we are building, and the faith we are growing. I am excited for what year 2 brings! Here is my main goal for 2024:

To create a loving and welcoming community where all students can bring their whole selves and be welcome and can, in turn, welcome the whole selves of others. This requires a lot of grace, patience, and willingness to bend and adapt. It is a long game cultivated through playing, learning, serving, and worshiping together.

We have such a good thing going - and with your help, we can continue to grow together!

SECOND SUNDAY - YOUTH FAMILY MEETING

- January 14 - Right after church from 11:30-1
- Learn about our plans for the winter and spring as well as summer camp and mission trip opportunities!

YOUTH SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

On Sunday, January 7 we begin our 6 week journey into the story of Exodus.

Bring your Bibles, your curiosity, your enthusiasm, your sense of humor, and join us as we explore how God was at work in the ancient world and draw connections to how God is at work now!

9:15-10:15 in the Youth Room

MID-WEEK YOUTH GROUP

On January 10, Wednesday night activities resume:

Dinner 5:45

Advent Activities 6:15-7:15

As we start the new year, we will focus on what it means to be a youth group. Together, we will create a covenant that will guide how we engage with our community and treat each other and we will thoughtfully decide what kind of group we want to be.

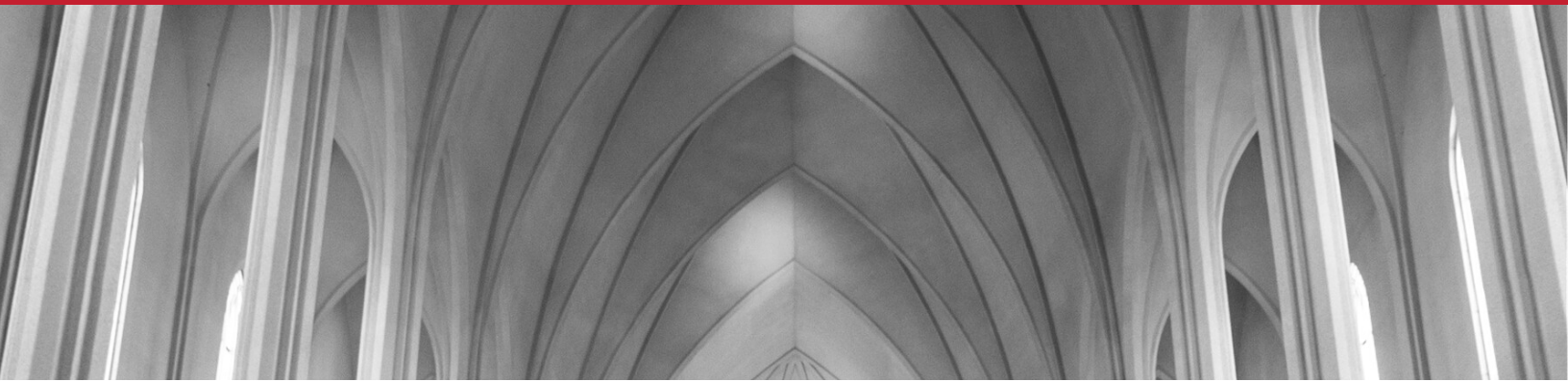
ANN@GLENALLENBAPTIST.ORG

804-874-0985

Do you like to sing? Come try us out!

I often hear people say, "I just don't know if I can commit to singing every single week" or "If I join the choir, I can never leave!" Well, let me reassure you that choir is not a life sentence! Come try us out for a few weeks - if you love it, you are welcome to stay and sing as often as you are available. If you don't like it, there is no pressure (or guilt!) to stay!

Choir rehearsals resume on January 10 from 7:30-8:45 in the choir room.
Try it! You might like it! We are, after all, the funnest choir in town!



CHILDRENS MINISTRY

Preaching Schedule:

1/7 Ann Carter preaching

*1/14 Mark 2:1-12
Relentless Pursuit*

*1/21 Mark 4:1-24
Tending the Soil*

1/28 Men's Day

Happy 2024!!!

As I reflect on the previous year of Children's Ministry at GABC, I am excited about all the many ways the GABC children have participated in the life of the congregation as a whole. Simple things like moving the children's sermon so that they can experience the majority of the elements of worship as well as lead in worship, to the excitement they share when they have opportunities to help others through packing backpacks, collecting food and tending to the garden. Our children are learning what it means to be the church! As we move into another year, I look forward to seeing our children continue to grow in their faith and understanding of God as well as their understanding of how that plays out in their daily lives.

Don't forget, as we start this new year, there is a new sign-up sheet for children's church volunteers. No planning/preparation is needed. I just need loving people who are willing to be present and help me as I lead the children in various activities following the children's sermon. The sign-up sheet is outside the sanctuary.

In Christ,
Darie