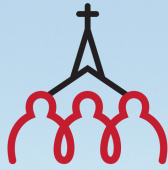


# News from the Mountain

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
GLEN ALLEN BAPTIST CHURCH



## WHY DO YOU COME TO CHURCH?

So why do you come to church?

I suppose the reasons could be varied: out of habit, connecting with friends, good vibes, etc. While those things may be part of it, I hope the primary reason you come is to grow your faith and change the way you behave in the world.

On Ash Wednesday, we examined Isaiah 58 and the kind of faith practices pleasing to God. To summarize, God was frustrated with their fasts and other "religious" behaviors because they weren't working to undo oppression and injustice or feeding the hungry. In other words, they were doing good church things, yet their everyday lives reflected a different set of values. Ouch.

This Lent, we have an opportunity to do more than fast and pray. We have an opportunity to grow our faith in deeper ways that change how we show up in the world. What happens inside our walls has to change the way we interact with the world. I encourage you to be a part of one of our small groups as we dig deeper into scripture as a community of faith. Or you can attend our open prayer study.

But at the end of these 40 days, I hope we walk away changed in some way, and I hope it changes how we behave in the world!

Seeking Faithfulness,  
Melissa Fallen

### THIS MONTH AT GABC

*3/1 Lenten Small Groups Begin*

*3/12 Daylight Saving Time Begins*

*3/17 Youth Mission Madness Trip*

*3/18 USO Benefit Pancake Breakfast*

*3/20 Ministry & Missions Team Meeting*

*3/21 Lunch Bunch*

*3/25 Easter Egg Hunt*

*3/26 Women's Sunday*

*3/28 Deacon's Meeting*

# CHURCH NEWS

## Wednesday Night Dinner Menu

**March 1** - Pork chops, potato casserole, veggie, rolls, salad bar, dessert

Kids: corn dog nuggets, fruit, chips

**March 8** - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, veggie, rolls, salad bar, dessert

Kids: Chicken nuggets, fruit, chips

**March 15** - Chicken Cordon Bleu, rice, veggie, rolls, salad bar, dessert

Kids: Chicken nuggets, fruit, chips

**March 22** - Lasagna, garlic bread, salad bar, dessert

Kids: Pizza

**March 29** - Chicken Tetrizzini, garlic bread, veggie, salad bar, dessert

Kids: chicken nuggets, fruit, chips



## Wednesday Night Bible Study & Small Groups

Beginning March 1 at 6:30pm, we will have a men's small group and a women's small group studying the last five lessons of "Seeing Through the Eyes of Jesus". See Allen Jenkins and Rusty Lee for info on the men's group and Melissa Fallen for details on the women's group. Chet Smith will lead a study on prayer in the fellowship hall. Guides for all of these studies are available on the table outside of the sanctuary.

## Mission News - USO Benefit Pancake Breakfast

On March 18, as part of Glen Allen Cares, a Benefit Pancake Breakfast will be held at GABC for the USO at RIC, to help feed the hungry soldiers coming through the Richmond Airport. The USO collects pre-packaged snacks and passes them out.

You can help!

- Come eat pancakes, sausage, bacon, juice and coffee, 8:30-9:45 a.m. Suggested donation: \$ 5.00 Adults, \$3.00 Children. Please contact the church office at 804-672-6648 if you plan to attend or contact Matt Davidson at matt@logomd.com. We want to make sure we have enough food.
- Make a donation of pre-packaged snacks, crackers, cookies, etc. Boy Scout Troop #795 members will be present to assist you in getting them into the building.
- Make a financial donation and we will buy some snacks for you. Also the USO distributes restaurant gift cards to soldiers whose families come to visit them at McGuire Veterans Hospital. McGuire is a major treatment facility for brain trauma patients.

Current Giving:

- Many thanks to the members of the Genesis class who have donated \$91
- One box from Costco with individual potato chips has been donated.

Lamb's Basket food collection continues. With the decrease in Covid related food benefits, Lamb's Basket needs your help. We usually go once a month to make our donation.

# Children's Ministry

Happy March GABC Children and Families!

I am looking forward to more fun and learning on Wednesdays and Sundays!

On Wednesdays we are continuing our Bible Study "Seeing through the Eyes of Jesus" with lessons that go along with what the adults are studying!

On Sundays during Children's Church we take a little more time talking about the children's sermon for the day. However, as the weather starts warming up, we will probably start taking some time to go outside and enjoy the wonderful weather that God created. If you want to plan ahead and leave a jacket on the children's hallway in case we go outside, that would be great!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 25 for our Children's Easter Egg Hunt! We will start at 11am - rain or shine! Make plans to attend and bring a friend!

Also, watch for information coming soon about Vacation Bible School!

If you are interested in serving in Children's Church, please let me know. I will have a new sign-up link for April, May and June that can be found in the bulletin and email announcements.

In Christ's Service,  
Mrs. Darie



## Save the Date!



It's never too early to plan for fun, family, and fellowship! Please save May 5 - May 6 for The Great Family Campout. Details will follow...

# **A Message from Ann Carter... Youth Ministry & Music**

## **Youth**

This week a friend asked me how things are going in my new position. I told him about the youth who have been coming on Wednesday nights and our plan to go on a mission weekend in March. He asked, "how many students do you have?" I told him that I started with 2 and that last Wednesday, 8 youth joined us. He said "Wow! That's a 400% increase. If you keep going at that rate, by December you will have 1.2 million students!!!!" We had a good laugh about that - he's a bank attorney and looks at things through a numbers lens. But I am a youth minister and look at things through a relationship lens. And while 1.2 million students would cause GABC to be the envy of churches across the nation, I don't know that I want 1.2 million students! How on earth will I get to know them and build meaningful relationships with them?

Building a sustainable student ministry is a long game. There is no magic formula that ensures 400% growth! But to start the long game, I am doing 3 things: 1) Reaching out and getting to know our students individually, listening as we talk about what matters to them and what they want in a youth group. 2) Spending time with youth Sunday School teachers and the youth team, listening and learning from these wise and experienced leaders. 3) Providing an immediate opportunity for students to strengthen their relationships with God and each other through a weekend of service. So March 17-19, I will take our youth to Newport News, VA for Mission Madness, a CBF weekend retreat focused on sending youth out to do mission work in the community. So far, 5 students and 3 adults have signed up and I have room for more! Please email me by March 3 at [ann@glenallenbaptist.org](mailto:ann@glenallenbaptist.org) if your youth would like to join us. We're gonna have fun!

## **Music**

My February True Confession: I have never been a choir director! I have sung in many choirs - big and small - from the time I was in middle school and I consider myself an accomplished chorister. But singing in choir and directing a choir are two very different things. So this part of my job has been a learning curve. The Glen Allen choir is so patient with me (I think sometimes they laugh at me - that's ok, I laugh along with them). I am getting the hang of it and we are making beautiful music together. This is a talented and experienced choir and they are teaching me probably more than I am teaching them. But we have fun together and at the same time we take very seriously the privilege and responsibility of leading our church family in worship each Sunday.

You are welcome to join us! "All God's creatures got a place in the choir;" especially as we lead worship during our Lenten journey to Holy Week and Easter.



## A Church-Wide Mission Trip Opportunity July 15-21 from Ann Carter

In 2006, my life was changed when I led a mission trip to Helena, Arkansas to partner with former FBC members Ben and Leonora Newell who were beginning their ministry there. My first team was small: 6 year old Claire, 8 year old Ellie, and a retired couple. I asked Leonora what on earth two children could do on a mission trip and she said "the ministry of friendship with the children in Helena." Helena was one of the 20 poorest counties in America and was so racially divided that white children doing camp with black children was unheard of. So I took my girls and that trip changed all our lives. Two years later, 7 families came and by 2017 we had 14 families plus college students, young adults and retired folks. The stories of how this changed my life, the lives of our team members, and the lives of people in Helena would fill up a whole book. Like Melissa said on Ash Wednesday, what we learned at church changed how each of us interacts with the world outside our church. In Helena, we learned to put hands and feet on our faith! And it didn't end in Helena, we began to do that work at home, too!

I serve on the Board of Together for Hope Arkansas and will be in Helena working for a week this summer. As my new church family, I would love for you to join me. Here are the details:

**Dates:** July 15-21 (if you choose to drive, add a day or so - it's a 13 hour drive)

**Cost:** \$125 per person for program costs for the week. There is a family rate as well.

**Transportation:** additional cost - participants can drive or fly.

**Housing:** Stay in local church for \$25 per person (air mattresses, shower trailers, full kitchens, living space). Hotels run \$75-\$90 per night.

**Meals:** Most meals included. Exceptions: travel, breakfasts, Sunday lunch, & Monday dinner.

*Together for Hope Arkansas has service opportunities for all ages. I have taken groups that range in age from 3-85! Here is how you can participate:*

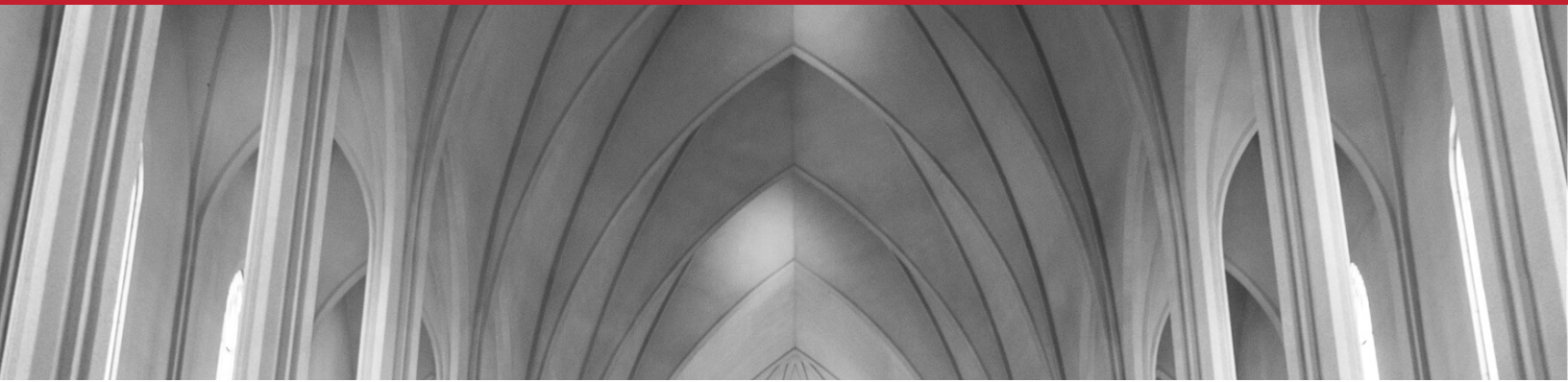
**Swim Camp (VBS with Sports:)** camper (ages 6-12), group leader, teach Bible, crafts, music, sports, or be a swim instructor.

**Preschool Camp:** group leader, music teacher, camper (ages 3-5)

**Construction:** on local homes, churches, and businesses

**Blessings Ministry:** meet needs of folks around town, visit shut-ins, bake cookies for local police and rescue personnel, etc.





### *Preaching Schedule:*

- 3/5 *Psalm 121  
Where is My Help?*
- 3/12 *Matthew 7:21-29  
From the Ground Up*
- 3/19 *1 Samuel 16:1-13  
Rejected and Chosen*
- 3/26 *Women's Sunday -  
Anne Marie Alexander*

## SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our Adult Sunday School classes continue to meet Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. Each class uses different literature.

In March, Genesis class will begin studying John 12-21. Their focus this month is John 12-14.

Ruth Fidelis Class' emphasis this month is "Lenten Potential."

Scripture will come from Genesis, Exodus, I Samuel, and Ezekiel.

All women are welcome.

Open Door Class will be studying "Following Jesus." The scripture comes from the book of Luke. All are welcome.

We have two classes for our children age 3-grade 5. They meet each Sunday at 9:15 for music and a lesson. We would love to have your children join us.

Come early for donuts and coffee in the Welcome Center!

### Scholarships

The George H. Moody Scholarship fund is now available to active members of the Glen Allen Baptist Church or descendants of an active member. Applicants must reside in Henrico, Hanover or Richmond. This scholarship is awarded in memory of George H. Moody for college or seminary students. The sum is to be divided equally among the applicants. Requests for scholarship must be made by April 1, 2022. Applicants should send a letter of introduction, including the school they plan to attend and their plan of study. All applicants need to call the church office for an application packet.