

# **THANKSGIVING**

As we pause this November to give thanks for all that God has done among us, the list is long! I will share a video with greater detail as we get closer to Thanksgiving, but I want to highlight the beauty of God's people I've witnessed in the last eight weeks. Sixty-five adults and a dozen or so children and youth have been engaged in study and growth together in our Reboot groups.

Here is what our deacons had to say about the experience:

- "I had a ball!"
- "It made us think outside the box."
- "Reboot recharged and excited our congregation."
- "It made us want more!"
- "I got to know new people and reconnected with others."

I have watched as our groups have played together doing things they never would have imagined before. I have watched groups experiment with service projects and begin to dream about ways we can serve our community better. I have appreciated seeing people wrestle with questions of what it means to grow spiritually and engage our community at new levels and build a structure that supports that.

**And this is just the beginning.** I am already seeing you develop new initiatives and structures from our time together, and I couldn't be more excited about what lies ahead.

This Thanksgiving, I am grateful to serve as your pastor and see the things God is doing among this community of Jesus followers!

Rebooting Together, Melissa Fallen

#### THIS MONTH AT GABC

Nov. 7 - Shoeboxes Due

Nov. 7 & 14 - Reboot Catch Up Group

Nov. 8 - Coat Drive Begins

Nov. 10 & 17 - Reboot Catch Up Group

Nov. 14 - Facilitator/Teacher Training

Nov. 28 - First Sunday of Advent

## **CHURCH NEWS**

### Thank You

"Friends.

Our Mission Development Team wanted to take a moment and offer our sincere thanks to your congregation for assisting in the current crisis surrounding our new, incoming arrivals from Afghanistan. The hygiene kits that were prepared have been delivered and are being used to help these families assimilate into their new surroundings. This simple gesture has allowed individuals fleeing conflict and insecurity to experience a sense of normalcy that they may not have encountered in quite some time.

Again, thank you for responding and we look forward to your future involvement." BGAV Virginia Baptist Disaster Response

### **Welcome New Members**

We are pleased to welcome Edward and Edith Burnett to our fellowship. If you would like to drop them a card of welcome, their address is below: 7616 Moss Side Avenue
Richmond, VA 23227

### **Wednesday Night Dinners and Programs**

Our regular Wednesday night dinners will be on break during November. We will resume with indoor meals - take out available too - on Wednesday, December 1, with our Hanging of the Greens service to follow. Masks are required when not at your tables.

# **REBOOT NEXT STEPS**

What's next? Many of you have been so energized by our Reboot groups that you are ready for next steps. Several of you said you didn't want it to end! If you did not get to be a part of a group, we are offering two "catch up" sessions. Eric Mawyer is leading one on November 7 & 14 at 9:15am and Dr. Fallen is leading one on November 10 & 17 at 6:30pm. Don't miss this opportunity as our groups are ready to go with new initiatives and we want everyone caught up on the same page. Please let Eric or Melissa know if you plan to attend.

## Facilitator/Teacher Training

Thanks to our generous Reboot grant, we are hosting Dr. David Cassady, President of Baptist Seminary of Kentucky on November 14 from 4-6pm to lead us on how to effectively facilitate a small group or Sunday School class. This session will be live or on Zoom. Please register on our website at <u>glenallenbaptist.org/training</u>. We hope to build a group of facilitators and leaders who can lead next steps of small groups to help us grow spiritually.



### Preaching Schedule:

11/7 B. J. Crowder preaching

11/14 Mark 12:38-44 Abundance

11/21 John 18:33-37 Out of This World

11/28 Advent begins

# **SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS**

Adult Sunday School continues to meet on Sunday mornings at 9:15. Currently, we have three classes:

Open Door led by Matt Davidson - Room 311

Bible Basics led by Melissa Fallen - Fellowship Hall

Ruth Fidelis led by Donna Washington - Room 312

Please join us for one of these classes.

Genesis Class led by Michael Duke and Glenn West will begin meeting Nov. 7. They will return to their former classroom (Room 311). Please wear your mask and distance yourselves in the classroom. Open Door Class will move to Room 305.

If you are not sure which class to attend, please see Linda Davidson.

Our Children's Department has suspended 9:30 Zoom Sunday School for the month of November. They are currently meeting in the pavilion at 10:30 for Children's Church. It is wonderful seeing our children back! We invite you to bring your children for Children's Church and join us for worship.

# MISSIONS NEWS

#### **Coats For Kids**

Distribution of coats starts November 8. Volunteers are needed Nov. 8-10-16-18 (4:30-6:30) and Nov. 13-20 (9-12). Please contact Gwen Steinbrecher at 804-512-0635 or gbsteinbrecher@verizon.net if you want to volunteer for any dates or times.

#### Christmas Shoeboxes

Shoeboxes are due November 7. Please return them to the Welcome Center near the armoire next to the office or benches at the front entrance of the church.

#### Cards

The missions committee is looking for sympathy, get well, and thinking of you cards. Please put them in the box on the table across from the office.