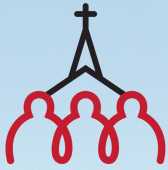


News from the Mountain

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
GLEN ALLEN BAPTIST CHURCH



WELCOME BACK!

I love summer and I love the change of pace it brings to everyday life. I love kayaking and paddle boarding. I love grilling with friends. I love going on vacation.

But I also miss you all in the summer! With so many folks traveling and away at various destinations each week, I miss seeing everyone on a consistent basis throughout the summer.

And that's why I love fall! I love getting to see church family back together gathered around Wednesday dinner tables, joining together in worship, studying together in Sunday School and small groups, and serving together in missions.

I am excited for all this fall brings. Our Missions & Ministry Team has planned a full slate of opportunities to grow our faith. Our children & youth ministries have new learning and serving opportunities. We are launching a new Sunday School class to meet a critical need. Our school partnerships are launching. Glen Allen Day is just around the corner.

We have a lot to look forward to as we get back to a regular church routine. I hope you will designate intentional space on your calendar to be a part of God's work at GABC. Welcome back!

Learning Together,
Melissa Fallen

THIS MONTH AT GABC

9/6 *Small Groups Begin*

9/19 *Lunch Bunches*

9/26 *Deacon's Meeting*

CHURCH NEWS

Welcome

We welcome Rick Henshaw to our church family!

Wednesday Night Dinner

September 6 - Italian sausages with onions and peppers, potato casserole, veggie, rolls, dessert, salad bar

Kids: chicken nuggets

September 13 - Fried chicken, mac and cheese, veggie, biscuits, dessert, salad bar

Kids: same

September 20 - Ranch baked chicken, garlic potatoes, veggie, rolls, dessert, salad bar

Kids: chicken nuggets

September 27 - Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, veggie, rolls, dessert, salad bar

Kids: chicken nuggets



Wednesday Night Small Groups Begin

We have four great small groups beginning September 6.

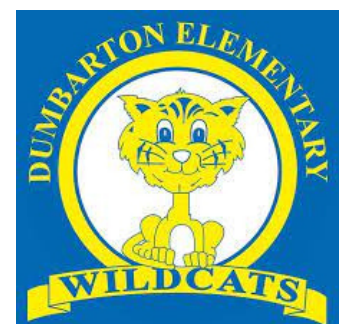
- *Reckless Love* facilitated by Eric Mawyer
- *Prayers from the Desert* facilitated by Dawn Lee
- The Sermon Beyond the Pulpit facilitated by Rusty Lee
- Single Again Support Group facilitated by Susan Taylor and Janet Melton

Groups require a sign up so we can have materials available. Please contact the church office to sign up.

We will also have the chapel and fellowship hall open for prayer and fellowship.

School Partnerships - How will you serve?

You have been praying all summer and now it's time to get started with our school partnerships! Stay tuned for opportunities to help serve dinner to a sports team at Hermitage. We also have a number of ongoing opportunities. Please complete an interest sheet so we can connect you with the right match.



Ministry & Missions 2023-24 Planner

Don't forget to pick up your Ministry & Missions Planner for the coming year. We have lots of opportunities for everyone to engage in learning, serving, and building community together.

Lamb's Basket Donations

13 pounds of produce and 138 pounds of donated food were delivered to Lambs Basket last week. We thank you for your generosity and encourage you to continue to give towards our Lambs Basket food collection. Food items can be placed in the armoire in the first floor hallway.



Thank You, Linda Davidson!

Linda Davidson has faithfully served as our Sunday School director and recently concluded her time in that role. We give thanks for her tireless work in making sure we had all the items needed to keep our Sunday School running smoothly, particularly during the COVID years. Thanks Linda, for your faithful service!

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.



Children's Ministry

I am so excited to see everyone back in Sunday School after our summer break!

On Sunday mornings, children (and their donuts) can arrive in the Children's Gathering Space at 9:15. We will move them to their Sunday School rooms at 9:30. Parents can pick their children up at 10:15 in their Sunday School rooms. Parents are invited to participate in The New Sunday School Class while your children are in their class.

Did you know...

Parents are the most influential people in their child's spiritual formation.

Worshipping together as a family is one way parents can teach their children by example. This is the reason we keep children in worship until the sermon, so they can participate as much as possible in the full worship service. During children's church, we are having our own worship time that includes songs, crafts, bible story and a lesson depending on the theme for the week. At the close of the main worship service, we are going to try something new – bringing the children back into worship so they can participate in the closing elements of worship. We will try to be as quiet as possible and may enter through either the front or the rear of the sanctuary. Parents, please plan to meet your children in the sanctuary following worship, rather than the Children's Gathering Space.

Children's Music/Choir – We are so excited to have our children's choir meeting on Wednesday nights this fall. They will be working on music to sing during Sunday worship as well as at Christmas. We look forward to seeing all of our children on Wednesdays!

What is The Children's Gathering Space? Over the summer, we did a little rearranging. The former 'nursery room' is now the Children's Gathering Space. This multipurpose space will be our central meeting space for children's activities.





September Youth NEWS



A NEW CHURCH YEAR!

After a summer of building friendships, we are ready to jump into a year of youth ministry! Part of that work is creating a space where the youth are welcome and comfortable. It is still a work in progress, and our youth will be helping with that work.

The other part of the "building a youth ministry" work is providing opportunities for faith formation (Sunday Morning Bible Study, Wednesday Night Youth Group, Second Sundays). But the highlight of the fall will be our Youth Fall Retreat.

GABC 2023 YOUTH FALL RETREAT

- November 17-19 at Camp Willow Run on Lake Gaston
- \$115 per student *financial aid available
- Join with Youth from Second, River Road, and Derbyshire Baptist

YOUTH FAMILY LUNCH

- Sunday, September 10 right after church from 11:30-1
- Q Barbeque is what's for lunch!
- Learn about what's in the pipeline for the fall
- Fun and games included.

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP HELPERS

If your youth is interested in helping in Children's Worship, Darie & I are creating a rotation schedule so they can help on a monthly basis. More details coming!

YOUTH SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY

We are off to a good start in our new Sunday School class! We have started by sharing our own stories, making up crazy fun stories, and learning that God is writing an epic story that we get to be a part of. On Sunday, September 10 we will begin our Bible Study. Our first lesson will connect the creation story in Genesis 1 to John 1, Psalm 104 and Revelation 21.

Starting on 9/10 we will divide our youth into two classes - one for younger students and one for older students. I am excited to partner with you in the faith formation of your youth.

Sundays, 9:15-10:15 in the Youth Room

WEDNESDAY NIGHT YOUTH GROUP

On August 30 we kick off our Wednesday Night activities. Our goal for Wednesday Nights is to explore our gifts and talents and how they connect us to the work of our church. So our first week, we will be working in the garden with Laura Mawyer. The second and third weeks, we will be working on the youth room. Other activities will include cooking, liturgical art, music, technology, worship leadership, and more!

Dinner 5:45

Youth Group 6:15-7:15

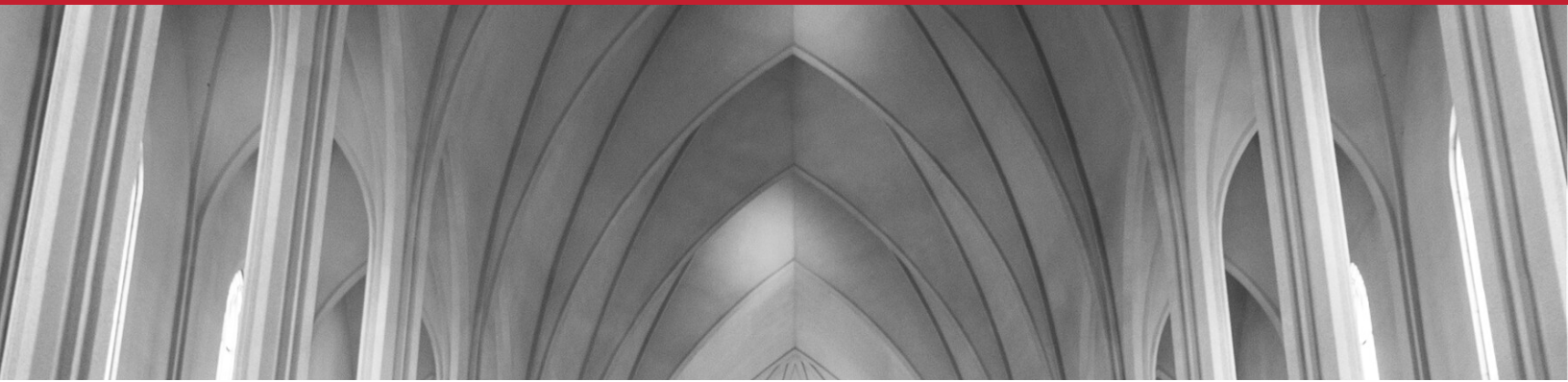
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804-874-0985

Choir News!

On August 30 at 7:30, we will begin our fall choir season. At our first rehearsal we will sing through our music for the fall. At our second rehearsal we will introduce our Christmas music! We will resume our worship leadership on Sunday, September 10.

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



Preaching Schedule:

- 9/3 *Susan Blanchard*
Preaching
John 15:1-8
Is This Love or Sheer
Madness?
- 9/10 *Matthew 18:15-20*
All In
- 9/17 *Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7*
The Sweet Sound of
Laughter
- 9/24 *Genesis 32:22-30*
Carrying God in My
Hip Pocket

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

We just kicked off our Sunday School year and it is great to have our kids, youth and families back in our classes.

We are excited to announce a new Sunday School Class, which we have creatively called "The New Sunday School Class." This Sunday School class will begin September 10th and will be facilitated by Dr. Fallen in Room 307. If you have not been a part of Sunday School, this is a great time to start. Our curriculum will be from Baptist friends at Faith Element and include a podcast Sunday School lesson option each week.

Join this new class or any of our other classes, which meet at 9:15 a.m. In September the Genesis class will study the book of Mark. Personal Study Guides are available in the Genesis classroom, Room 311.

Ruth Fidelis Class' welcomes all women. This class meets in Room 312.

Open Door class will begin meeting in the fellowship hall in September, and everyone is welcome.

Our kids classes meet in the kids hallway downstairs -- we're excited to have newly configured space for group activities. And Youth are meeting in the newly updated Youth Room on the 3rd floor.

Come early for donuts and coffee or juice in the Welcome Center at 9am. We hope to see you!