

NOVEMBER 2021

HBC ALIVE!

Harrisonburg Baptist Church's Newsletter



Working in Cooperation

REV. MATT WINTERS

I've been elbowed a few times on the basketball court. Whether it's a hit to the face, the arm or the gut, it does not feel like heaven. In fact, in all the years of ministry, I'm not sure I've ever heard someone say, "You know, I'd really like to be an elbow." Elbows are hard and a bit painful when thrust into you. Perhaps one of their redeeming qualities is their protection of a certain "funny" bone.

The body of Christ, the local church, is described by Paul in several places to be made up of the various gifts of its members. Paul likens the church to a physical body where each of us have our gift, our way to serve and act, and this represents the human body where different organs provide unique functions to the overall body.

HBC also serves in this same way to the larger community. We have helpful connections to other entities that help our community function in amazing ways. The Augusta Baptist Association (ABA) is one of these other "organs" that we participate with to accomplish the work of the Kingdom of God. Some of our budget is shared with the ABA to promote the work of God in our greater region. The ABA is just one of our strategic partners with whom we cooperate to serve Jesus Christ. The ABA annual meeting, held each

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Planning Ahead!

CHRISTMAS BIBLE SCHOOL SATURDAY, DEC 4, NOON - 2PM

Christmas Bible School will be a Drive-Thru Event this year! Invite your family and friends (and let us know you're coming!) and we will have a Christmas Bible School goody bag for you - complete with story book, crafts, snacks and different ways you can celebrate Jesus' birthday as a family. Drive by the Liberty Street entrance between the hours of noon to 2 pm to pick up your bag. Plan to wear your most festive attire and decorate your car - we will be giving prizes for the best decorated Christmas cars!

CHRISTMAS CANTATA SUNDAY, DEC 12

On Sunday morning, December 12, the choir will present the cantata "One Silent Night" by Pepper Choplin, accompanied by a chamber orchestra. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us for this special celebration of the coming of Christ!

There is still time to join the Cantata Choir if you can come for the first 30 minutes of choir practice on Wednesday evenings at 7:15. There will be a dress rehearsal on December 11. Contact Gary Ritcher if you are interested.

October, reflects the goals and vision for the next year. Not only does the ABA look to invest in college students and Operation Inasmuch but they also want to invest in and support the work of multicultural churches. The ABA seeks to link churches to the present and changing needs of our communities. This work is vital as we respond to the lives around us.

Linking, connecting and bending to the ever-evolving needs sounds a lot like the work of an elbow. Is it now okay to be an elbow?

2021 Fall Business Meeting Agenda

- Recognition of Members Who Passed Away November 2019-October 2020
 - Betty Acker, 12/15/2020
 - Charlotte Kibler, 12/15/2020
 - Hank Bowers, 1/19/2021
 - Roger Jones, 2/26/2021
 - Jane Bowers, 5/30/2021
 - Donald Musselman, 9/10/2021
- Vote on Deacons (Jan 2022-Dec 2024)
 - Shirley Cobb
 - Phil Douglas
 - Lyn Weaver
- Financial Report
- Vote on proposed 2022 Budget
- Operations Manual Review Committee Report
- Vote on Updates to Operations Manual
- Committee Reports
- Report from the Trustees
- Report from the Leadership Team
- Ministry Highlights
- Announcement of Vote Results
- Closing Prayer



Because I Have Been Given Much

JEANNIE PETIT, DEACON

My favorite hymn is "Because I Have Been Given Much." It was my mom's favorite hymn and has always had a special place in my heart. The hymn was set to music by Phillip Landgrave in the 1970s. The lyrics are the words of the poem entitled "Because of Thy Great Bounty" by Grace Noll Crowell, who became gravely ill in 1906 after the birth of her first child. Despite receiving the best medical care available, her illness was debilitating. She became an invalid and remained so for more than ten years, during which time she spent long periods of time confined to hospitals and enduring great suffering.

Through the challenges of her illness, she was inspired. She chose to be a light to others and penned numerous poems - stating she wanted her poetry to "help others who were suffering" as she was. Her words would offer peace and comfort to others. Words about God's grace and providence. Words of hope. Words that speak of God's love and care for us.

"Because of Thy Great Bounty" reads:

Because I have been given much,
I too must give.
Because of thy great bounty, Lord,
each day I live
I shall divide my gifts from thee
With every brother that I see
Who has the need of help from me.
Because I have been sheltered,
fed by thy good care
I cannot see another's lack and I not share

My glowing fire, my loaf of bread
My roof's safe shelter overhead
That he too may be comforted.
Because love has been lavished so
upon me, Lord
A wealth I know that was not meant
for me to hoard
I shall give love to those in need
Shall show that love by word and deed
Thus shall my thanks be thanks indeed.

As I read these verses, I am reminded of Jesus words that instruct us to "do unto others as you would have them do unto you," his words about "loving our neighbors as ourselves," and his words about caring for "the least of these." He calls us to reach out to those in need as He reached out to us. We have indeed been given much.

In these times of fear and worry about illness, shutdowns, isolation, social unrest, and political turmoil, let us not forget the magnitude and depth of God's greatest gift - LIFE, which translates in to being alive in Christ and being vessels of Faith, Hope, and Love to those around us.

Don Musselman Memorials

Don Musselman gave many years of service to HBC including working with the children in Kids Alive. On September 30, his co-workers at the City of Harrisonburg planted a Service Berry Tree on the south point of HBC property. Donations in memory of Don will support the playground renovation fund.



November Youth Events

NOV 7

9:15am Sunday School

4pm Youth Committee Meeting

5:30-7:30pm Dinner & Bible Study

NOV 10

6-8pm Clothes Closet

NOV 13

9-11am Community Bag Lunch

NOV 14

9:15am Sunday School

5:30-7:30pm Dinner & Bible Study

NOV 21

9:15am Sunday School

5:30-7:30pm Dinner & Bible Study

NOV 28

9:15am Sunday School

5:30-8pm Dinner & Jump Park

Youth Lock-In

REV. KATELYN BELCHER

The youth group hosted a lock-in on October 15 - the first one since 2019! With 18 students and three chaperones in tow, we headed to Valley Lanes to enjoy cosmic bowling for two hours. Bowling with teens was an illuminating experience to say the least - we determined who the best bowlers were, as well as the most competitive. After bowling, we arrived back to the church to be locked in for the remainder of the night. Andree Griffin treated the youth group to the BEST pancake bar nearing midnight. All of those carbs gave us the fuel we needed to play games for the next six hours. A few of the favorite games were Sardines, Body-Body, Capture the Flag, and Dodgeball. The Lock-In was exhausting, but so much fun!





The Vinery

REV. ELI WITHERS

You may have heard bits and pieces about a new opportunity for us at HBC - we have been accepted into a brand-new program called The Vinery, an initiative to nurture church ministries with local university students and staff. This is an opportunity for us to explore new ways to awaken the faith of both college students and the many other folks that work on college campuses. We will walk alongside a variety of other churches and traditions to experiment in innovative ways of reaching out, making connections, and building relationships in our own communities through conversation and building community.

The Vinery is sponsored by Mere Christianity Forum based in Greenville, SC. Part of the goal of The Vinery is also foundational to the forum—the desire to “cultivate congregational thriving in ministry with their university neighbors and broader communities.”

Your specific representatives on this cohort team are Pastor Eli, Shirley Cobb, and Heidi Ruiz. We are excited to get started in January and look forward to sharing the entire process with you all!

Missions Committee Updates

MARY SMITH

Thank You for your generosity and support. The missions committee realizes that without you, HBC would not be making a difference in the lives of people in our community, in our region and in the world. As we approach the Christmas season, let us work together and continue to show God's love to others.

Operation Christmas Child - You can pick up OCC boxes in the foyer. There are handouts that provide information on what can be put in the boxes. Remember to put a label on the box and include \$9 for shipping costs. Checks can be made to Samaritan's Purse. You can discover the destination country of your shoebox gift by making your \$9 per shoebox suggested donation online. Activate your shoebox tracking label at samaritanspurse.org/activate or print your own label by donating on the Labels Landing Page. **Return shoeboxes to HBC by Sunday, November 14th.** We will be delivering the boxes to our local collection site, Church of the Nazarene, 1871 Boyers Rd, Harrisonburg.

Prison Ministry - Robby Burke has requested study Bibles, specifically NLT or NIV Life Application Study Bibles and NIV Quest Study Bibles for inmates at the Augusta Correctional Center. He prefers new ones but will gladly accept used ones too. Robbie is a Chaplain for GraceInside, a state prison ministry. **Bibles will be collected in**



the church foyer until Sunday, November 28.

Christmas Angel Tree - We plan to participate again this year in the Salvation Army Angel Tree and Christmas gifts for children of Spotswood Elementary. This year, we have expanded our giving by including adults in our gifts to Salvation Army. Our Christmas tree with tags will be up in the foyer by October 31st. Please identify which tag number you took on the sign-up sheet. **Gifts need to be returned by Sunday, December 5th.**

Leadership Team Report

MARY SMITH, LEADERSHIP TEAM CHAIR

During the third quarter of 2021, the Leadership Team has received monthly updates from our pastors, reports from committees, and approved changes to Job descriptions and policies. Here are some of the highlights:

- On August 22nd, we had two special events: Blessing of the Backpacks and our annual River Baptism and church picnic. Kaylee Imfeld and Erin Northen were baptized that Sunday.
- In September, we filled two staff positions. Chris Belcher is our Facilities Manager, and Leah Tripp is our Praise Team Worship Leader.
- English Language Learning classes, led by Cindy & Mike Mandigo, began in September.

- Hopeful Imagination discussions and dinners were held Wednesday evenings, September 15 through October 13.
- Kids Alive Children's Sunday School classes resumed on Sunday, September 12, Promotion Sunday, with a gathering of all Sunday school classes in the sanctuary from 9:15 to 9:30am.
- On October 3, in recognition of World Communion Sunday, the Kachin Baptist Church and their leader Roi Ji Marip joined us and assist in our worship service. Pastor Magdiel, a native of Cuba who is active in ministry to Hispanics in the area, also participated in the service.
- Trek or Treat was held on Saturday, October 23.

The joint meeting of Leadership Team, Personnel Committee, and Finance Committee was held on Sunday, October 10. Don Aittama, representing the Finance Committee, presented the proposed 2022 Budget for review. We had good discussion with several members of the committees providing additional information. The LT approved the 2022 budget, and it will be presented to the congregation on October 24th. At the Fall Business Meeting on Sunday, November 14, the congregation will vote to approve the budget. The LT decided not to have a meal with the business meeting this year due to continued concerns with the Covid virus.

In October the LT approved the proposal made by the Operations Manual Review Committee to have all committee and team terms run from January through December



beginning in January 2022. This will include the Leadership Team. We also approved several recommendations that combine specific committees and teams. These proposals will be presented to the congregation at the Fall Business Meeting.

We welcomed several new members - Cindy and Mike Mandigo have moved here from Northern, Virginia. They helped to start our ELL classes. Michael Kopcinski has two children, Abigail and Connor. Mike has been helping with youth group activities and the Community Bag Lunch Celebration.

As we end one year and begin another, we are excited to see where God is at work and how we can join Him. At our last Hopeful Imagination session, Pastor Matt left us with two questions we can ask our neighbors and people in our community, "What do you need? How can we help?" Let's be open to God's leading and ways we can make a difference in the lives of others around us.

Minutes of the LT meetings are provided on request.

New Member

Michael Kopcinski joined HBC on September 26, 2021. He is from Harrisonburg, graduated from Spotswood High School, and currently works for Big K Farrier. He is father to three children - Abigail, Colton (deceased) and Connor. His interests include hunting, blacksmithing and helping veterans.

Thank You!

A very special thank you to all who performed in the Talent/Variety Show on October 1.

Those who entertained us were: Harold Bailey, Katelyn Belcher, Trace Belcher, Shirley Cobb, Joyce Deavers, Betty Ecklund, Betsy Fly, Tony Graham, Olivia Hartman, Kaylee Imfeld, Joe Laughland, Annabelle Lehenbre, Jane Messinger, Sherry Miller, Victoria Moutinho, Julia Obenschain, Michael Richardson, Gary Ritcher, Heidi Ruiz, Joan Sanger, Nancy Shomo, Cindy Skelley, Ron Smith, Tim Smith, Vickie Westlake, Ernie Wine, Leigha Winters, Matt Winters and Eli Withers.

We also want to thank our master of ceremonies, Jeff Obenschain, and the sound and props team, Philip Northern and Heidi Ruiz.

We hope everyone enjoyed the show, the fellowship and the food. We want to thank all of those who provided the desserts for us to enjoy!

Sincerely,
Recreation Committee

Address Change

Anna Lee Fega
1684 Port Hills Dr., Rm 138
Harrisonburg, VA 22801



PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS

Becky Armentrout
Barbara Betts
Diane Gray
Dennis Greene
Patti Good
Wayne & Sally Hannah
David Ingram
Judy Miller
Bill & Barbara Pond
Karen & Kerry Potter
Jimmy & Nancy Russell
Daniel Sanger
Constance Via

EXTENDED FAMILY

Peyton Embrey (Julie Aittama's friend)
Terry Sapumarish
(Ralph Darling's friend)
Dean Baker (Deb Propst's friend)
Kati Honeycutt
(Don & Julie Aittama's daughter)
Bart Trapp (Lyn Weaver's friend)
Martha Jane Burke
(Robby Burke's mother)
Tom Kuster & family
(Jackie Leonard's friend)
Becky Morris (Ellen Shomo's friend)
Dorothy Shenk
(Randy Shenk's mother)

SYMPATHY

Austin Harper and family upon the death of his father, Jeremy Harper.

September Stewardship Snapshot

Budget needs to date \$ 407,355.00
Budget receipts to date \$ 381,909.98

Non-Budget/Designated Funds

- Playground Renovations
(Don Musselman Memorials) \$100.00
- Love Fund \$65.00
- Saturday Bag Lunch \$225.00
- VA State Missions (Alma Hunt) \$140.00

*Whatever you do, do it
enthusiastically, as something done for
the Lord and not for men.*

COLOSSIANS 3:23

Contribution Envelopes - NEW Requests

Let the Financial Secretary know if you would like to receive contribution envelopes for the year 2022. Options are for weekly or monthly envelopes. Please designate your preference and make your request by November 14 by contacting Susan Kiser at susan@hbcalive.org or 433-2456. If you are currently receiving envelopes, you will continue to receive them.

Envelopes will be available for pick up on December 19.

Staff Christmas Fund

Express your appreciation to the staff at Christmas for their work throughout the year. Specially marked envelopes for your donations are located in the back of the pews for your convenience, or you can donate online at www.hbcalive.org/give (under Funds, select "Other" and put "Staff Christmas Fund" in the comments section). Make your donation by December 15.

November 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Staff Out of Office Matt - November 9-11	1	2	3 Staff Retreat	4	5	6
7 Daylight Saving Time Ends Remembrance Sunday 4pm Youth Cmte Mtg 5:30pm Youth Dinner & Bible Study	8 6:30 Missions Committee Mtg (Parlor)	9 6:00 Finance Committee Mtg (B4)	10 6-8 pm Youth - Clothes Closet	11	12	13
14 11:45am Fall Business Mtg 5:30pm Youth Dinner & Bible Study	15 6:30 Leadership Team Mtg (FH)	16	17	18 December Newsletter Articles Due	19	20 7pm Sean Breast Recital
21 5:00 Creation Care Team Mtg (gazebo) 5:30pm Youth Dinner & Bible Study	22	23	24	25 Thanksgiving Office Closed Kachin Church service	26 Office Closed	27
28 5:30pm Youth Dinner & Jump Park	29	30				

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

2 Josie Leonard
4 Alma Spitzer
6 Hayley May
6 Constance Via
8 Karen Folsom
8 Sarah Northen
9 Sally Hannah
9 Jo Ann Michael
10 Kate Dear
10 Mac McBride
11 Randy Shenk
12 Sheila Dart
12 David Lawrence
13 Donnie Shifflett
14 McKenzie Webb
15 Esmyele Elan
15 Jenevieve Leonard
22 Katie Fuller
22 Tom Smith
23 Cindy Mandigo
25 Liah Phaga
27 Phil Douglas
27 Tony Graham
30 John Childress

WEEKLY REOCCURRING EVENTS

SUNDAY

10:30am Community Worship

MONDAY

6:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast

10:00am Skyline Literacy (Rm 201)

1:00pm Staff Meeting (Parlor)

6:30pm Scouts

8:00pm College Small Group (Rm 214)

TUESDAY

10:00am ELL Class (Rm 201)

11:00am Tuesdays Together (FH)

6:00pm Jubellation Practice

WEDNESDAY

10:00am Ladies Prayer Group (B4)

10:00am Skyline Literacy (Rm 201)

7:15pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY

12:15pm College Small Group (Rm 214)

SATURDAY

10:00am Community Lunch

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Nov 7 — Mark Griffin

Nov 14 — Bill Lee

Nov 21 — Nancy Shomo

Nov 28 — Don Aittama

COMMUNITY LUNCH

Nov 6 — Petit

Nov 13 — HBC Youth

Nov 20 — Rayos de Esperanza

Nov 27 — Obenschain

HARRISONBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

501 South Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

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A publication of

HARRISONBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

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STAFF

Dr. Matthew Winters, Senior Pastor
Rev. Eli Withers, Associate Pastor
Rev. Katelyn Belcher, Minister of Youth
Dr. Gary Ritcher, Director of Music & Worship
Leah Tripp, Praise Team Leader
Rosemary Lonberger, Organist
Harold Bailey, Pianist
Susan Kiser, Financial Ministry Assistant
Kim Brubaker, Administrative Ministry Assistant
Chris Belcher, Facilities Manager

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

NOVEMBER 18, 2021

Please submit articles to
Kim Brubaker at kim@hbcalive.org

