



AUGUST 2022

HBC ALIVE!

Harrisonburg Baptist Church's Newsletter

Doubts

JEANNIE PETIT, CHAIR OF LEADERSHIP TEAM

At some point in our walk with Christ doubts will come into play. I read an article recently that put it this way: "Let me start off by saying, it is completely normal to have doubts. We are rational experiential beings. Our entire life revolves around what we can comprehend. Then, we accept Jesus Christ into our life. Our limited minds have taken in that which is unlimited. The finite has become infinite."

Certain Bible verses and sayings are reminders of God's presence and love that give me strength. I have these posted in different places in my house - on cabinets, mirrors, and the fridge. Sometimes I look for them, but most of the time my eyes just gaze across them and they fix themselves in my mind. They remind me of how amazing and deep God's love is. In these words I find strength.

I often say the doubters prayer out loud when I am having doubts: "Lord I believe... help my unbelief." "Please forgive me for allowing my doubts and fears to undermine my faith. I trust you knowing that my faith in you is never futile."

Some of my favorite Bible verses are:

Psalm 56:3 "When I am afraid I put my trust in you."

Psalm 46:10 "Be still and know that I am God."

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When I am uncertain....

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18 “Be joyful always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God’s will for you in Jesus Christ.”

Proverbs 3:5-6 “Trust in the lord with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him and he will direct your path.”

When I am sad, worried or need reassurance...

Romans 8:38-39 “And I am convinced that nothing can separate us from God’s love; neither death nor life; neither angels or demons; neither our fears for today nor our worries about tomorrow - not even the powers of hell can separate us from God’s love. No power in the sky above or in the earth below – indeed, nothing in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is revealed in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

Philippines 4:6 “Grant us peace that surpasses all understanding.”

And then there are reminders:

“Love completely, even without complete understanding.”

“When we suffer, it makes us more sensitive to the suffering of others.”

“What we believe divides us; in whom we believe unites us.”

And one of my favorites:

“Always pray to have eyes that see the best in people, a heart that forgives the worst, a mind that forgets the bad and a soul that never loses faith in God.”

I read in an *Open Windows* devotional a long time ago, “Neither the pleasures nor pains of earth will last forever. Meditating on eternity can help keep both our good and bad days in perspective. Wise believers submit to Christ now – in the midst of both blessings and trials – asking him to rule and reign in our lives both now and forever.”

Father, help me to keep the perspective of eternity on my mind and in my heart.

One last thought - my mom died 32 years ago this month. She kept a card in her Bible that reads, “I expect to pass through this world but once. Any good therefore I can do, or any kindness that I can show to any fellow creature, let me do it now... for I shall not pass this way again.”

The Vinery

As a part of the process with The Vinery, our church has been partnered with New Beginning Church in Wilmington, North Carolina. Their lead team will be visiting our church August 12-14 to have an opportunity to learn more about our church, our community and James Madison University. Together, we will explore ways we can strengthen our college ministries and learn from one another as we continue the process of The Vinery experience. We look forward to introducing you to our new friends and trust that you will make the New Beginning folks welcome!



River Baptisms & Church Picnic

WHEN: Sunday, August 14, 4pm

WHERE: Dr. Kent and Karen Folsom's river property
Contact the church office for written directions.

A river baptism is such a wonderful time for the church. To be able to share such an important day with those who are publicly announcing to everyone they are following Jesus. I am sure it is a blessing to the individuals and their families to have the church family there to celebrate this special day. So put it on your calendar and maybe set up some carpooling and come to the RIVER.

Following the baptism we will fellowship with a picnic. The church will provide the meat, the drinks, and all the paper goods. **We ask you to bring a side dish or two** (we Baptists do enjoy our pot lucks 😊😊).

Hope to see you there, pray for good weather, good attendance, and for those who will be baptized.

Backpack Blessing

SUNDAY, AUGUST 14

Our yearly backpack blessing will take place during the worship service on Sunday, August 14. Please remind your kiddos to bring their backpacks to the service and we will have a special blessing for our students and teachers as they begin a brand-new school year.

Family Retreat

NOVEMBER 4-6, 2022

All church families with children are invited to attend a family retreat at Camp Crossroads in Lowesville, Virginia the first weekend in November. More information will be coming but mark your calendars and plan on joining us for this beautiful weekend away from regular life. It promises to be a spirit filling time away with God and our church family.

Tuesdays Together Bible Study

Tuesdays Together will resume weekly sessions at 11:00am on Tuesday, August 2. The five weeks in August will be an overview of the five chapters of the Letter of James.



August Youth Events

AUGUST 7

9:15am Sunday School

No evening youth group

AUGUST 14

9:15am Sunday School

4pm River Baptisms & Church Picnic

AUGUST 21

9:15am Sunday School

4:30-8:30pm Summer Bible Study

AUGUST 24

5:45pm - 8:15pm Clothes Closet

AUGUST 28

9:15am Sunday School

4:30-8:30pm Summer Bible Study

Youth Update

REV. KATELYN BELCHER

Out of all of our fun summer events planned for youth group, Passport Camp continues to be the highlight of our summer. A group of thirteen students and four chaperones traveled to Berea, KY for a week of Passport Youth Camp. The camp theme was "BIG" and the theme verse for the week came from Isaiah 43:18-19, which says, "The Lord says, 'Forget what happened before, and do not think about the past. Look at the new thing I am going to do. It is already happening. Don't you see it?'" We spent the week learning about our BIG God, BIG Faith, BIG Community, and BIG Impact. Each day our students spent time





learning about our God and strengthening their faith through devotions, Bible Study, and worship.

Additionally, our youth encountered Christ through afternoon rotations. On the first day, they spent the afternoon helping to plan worship for that night by painting a mural that highlighted the daily theme, learning a dance for worship, writing prayers and a litany, and reading scripture. On the second day, they spent time at Mission Education, which was used to educate the youth about how difficult it can be to be a refugee or immigrant coming to America and trying to get assistance to get back on their feet. The experience was meant to frustrate the youth enough so that they would begin to cultivate compassion toward others in need. On the third and fourth days, we worked with a local ministry that helps keep seniors in their homes by helping them with any outside work they might need done. Collectively, we trimmed and pulled a lot of weeds, organized trash piles, cleaned gutters, windows, washed, detailed a car, and painted a front porch railing.

We also had so many fun activities planned during the week. Our students really enjoyed morning celebration because they could participate in energizers, group games, and win prizes. We also had a blast at the Rec Party, Decade Dance, Pizza Party and Movie Night, and the Variety Show on the last night. And the most meaningful experience during the week was our last church group devotion. We went around in a circle and each person shared their high and low of the day, their God moment of the day, and they shared something encouraging about the person to their left. Our group grew so close during that unforgettable week, and we shared a lot of group hugs by the end of the week. Thank you so much HBC for your continued encouragement and support of our youth group so that our students can continue to encounter Christ through experiences like Passport Camp!







Children's Mission Project

While Betsy Fly was cleaning out her toys this summer, she had a great idea to give her gently used toys to homeless children at Mercy House. (I believe Betsy thought of Mercy House because of the Birthday Kits we made for their families several months ago.) In Kids Alive on Sunday, Betsy shared her idea with the other children, and they all wanted to help with this mission project. The children will be collecting toys and books until August 7.

Chaplain Nan at Mercy House was very excited to have the toys for their families. If we end up with a large amount of toys and books, we can share them with Spotswood Elementary. They will be able to use them in their Knight's Bucks Store this fall.

We're proud of you, Betsy, for having such a great idea and caring for those in need! In Kids Alive, we talked about how God can use one person and their idea to make a difference in the lives of others. I am so proud of all of the children, our youngest HBC members, who are learning what it means to love your neighbors, care for those in need, and share their abundance.

Questions? Call Mary Smith (540-222-5873).



Feeding Our Neighbors

HBC is involved in several ministries that help to feed our neighbors in need:

1. Blessing Box
2. Meals for Salvation Army Residents
3. Meals for Open Doors
4. Mercy House Food Pantry
5. Saturday Bag Lunch

To name all of the people involved in these ministries would take a page or more. Our neighboring churches, St. Stephens and Emanuel Episcopal, help us with Saturday Bag Lunch and meals for Open Doors. Most of the cost of the food and meals are paid for by these volunteers. The teams who cover the Blessing Box weekly have reported that they are spending between \$100-\$150 weekly. We have money set aside in the Missions Budget for these expenses, but the costs go way beyond what we have budgeted for these ministries.

Thanks to the volunteers for stepping up and making sure these ministries continue to help our neighbors in need.



New Members

FRED GAINES

Fred grew up in Georgia (along with his sister, Alice Hughey) and recently moved to the Shenandoah Valley. He graduated from Kennesaw State University and Georgia State University with degrees in Aviation Administration, Business Administration and Public Administration.

Fred was in the US Air Force for 33 years, where his career field was personnel, training and systems (IT) administration. Some of his military assignments include Dobbins AFB in Marietta, Georgia; Carswell AFB in Fort Worth, Texas; and Seymour Johnson AFB in Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Fred was also employed at Kennesaw State University, Georgia, for 10 and 1/2 years.

Some of Fred's interests include continuing his life-long education, Kiwanis Civic Club, Air Force Sergeants Association, community events, hymns, church and family.

ALICE HUGHEY

Alice and her husband, Terry, moved to the Harrisonburg area from Georgia in 2020 to be near their daughter, Christine, who is a professor of chemistry at James Madison University. Her brother, Fred Gaines, also lives in the Harrisonburg area.

Alice graduated from Kennesaw State University with a degree in Business

Administration. She worked in office administration and professional organizing, and volunteered in children's ministry at her church. She enjoys gardening, organizing, reading, and spending time with her grandson, Zachary, who is 8 years old.

A SPECIAL

Thank You!

to HBC's

Visitation Team

We would like to extend a special thank you to the members of our visitation team. These folks spend so much time reaching out and ministering to the folks that can't always make it here on Sunday mornings. We are especially grateful for the leadership of Mary Laughland and Rosemary Lonberger who co-lead this team—and do a tremendous job! Thanks to all of you for making all of our folks feel welcome and letting them know they are an important part of HBC!

Visitation Team Members:

Mary Laughland, Rosemary Lonberger, Joyce Deavers, Pat Dickens, Deb Douglas, Marie Graham, Holly Pederson, Ellen Shomo, Mary Smith, Sharon Wampler, Eli Withers, Dale Wright



Beginner's Handbell Workshop



Jump Into Ringing!!

Sat. Aug. 27, 2022 10-1

Mosaic will be offering a beginners ringing workshop on August 27th from 10am-1pm at Harrisonburg Baptist Church. It will be taught by three Mosaic ringers covering basic music notation and ringing skills. This workshop can benefit new ringers as well as returning ringers who want a jump on the new year.

\$25/Ringer (\$20 early bird). All equipment provided. Registration deadline August 20.

Registration form can be found at [Mosaicbells.com](https://mosaicbells.com).

Thank You!

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your continued support of The Salvation Army. Your generous contribution of \$200.00 will help us provide assistance for less fortunate families in our community throughout the year. We could not do this without your support. It is greatly appreciated by us and those we serve at The Salvation Army.

Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,
Captain Duane Burleigh
Corps Officer

THANK YOU for all you have done to make so many lives know God's word.

Bev Ramsey
from the Tabernacle of Danville, Va

Dear Rev. Matt,

Our sincere thanks to you, Kim, Heidi and the entire congregation of Harrisonburg Baptist Church for your hospitality toward Dayton American Legion Saturday, July 2.

We are grateful for your caring.

Thanks again,
Ben Ridder
Dayton American Legion



PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS

Becky Armentrout
Dennis Greene
Wayne Hannah
Sue Jones
Mac & Lola McBride
Sharon Miller
Bill & Barbara Pond
Karen & Kerry Potter
Jimmy & Nancy Russell
Neil Showalter
Constance Via

EXTENDED FAMILY

Aaron Hannah
(Wayne Jr. & Mel Hannah's son)
Carolyn McDaniel
(Alice Hughey's mother-in-law)
Bob Withers (Pastor Eli's father)
Becky Morris (Ellen Shomo's friend)
Dorothy Shenk
(Randy Shenk's mother)

SYMPATHY

We grieve with Wayne Hannah, Sr.
and Wayne Jr. & Mel Hannah the
death of Sally Hannah.

June Stewardship Snapshot

Budget needs to date \$ 286,702.00
Budget receipts to date \$ 275,761.91

Non-Budget/Designated Funds

- Annie Armstrong Easter Offering \$100.00
- Love Fund \$155.00
- Saturday Bag Lunch \$35.00
- Cheese Ministry \$50.00
- Sanctuary Lighting \$300.00

"Bring the whole tithe into the storehouse,
that there may be food in my house. Test
me in this," says the Lord Almighty, "and see
if I will not throw open the floodgates of
heaven and pour out so much blessing that
there will not be room enough to store it."

Malachi 3:10 (NIV)

Budget Planning on the Horizon

Committee chairpersons should have received
2023 budget planning materials. If you have not
received materials, please contact Susan at the
church office and she will get them to you.

Please call your committees together to pray
and plan for the financial needs of your ministry
for next year. Your budget requests are due on
August 28.

2023 BUDGET PLANNING CALENDAR

- August 28 – Budget requests due
- October 9 – Joint Meeting of Finance
and Personnel Committees
and Leadership Team
- October 23 – Budget presentation to
congregation
- November 13 – Budget vote at Fall Business
Meeting



AUGUST 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Staff Out of Office Chris - Aug 6-13 Katelyn - Aug 6-13 Susan - Aug 22-24	1 3pm Missions Committee Mtg (Parlor)	2 6:00 Finance Committee Mtg (B4)	3 2pm Brookdale 5:45pm Youth Clothes Closet	4 4pm River Baptisms & Church Picnic	5 August Newsletter Articles Due	6 10am-1pm Handbell Workshop JMU Block Party
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Pat Byrd
- 1 Nancy Shomo
- 3 William Pond
- 4 Dana Mozingo
- 5 Fred Gaines
- 8 Meg Helbert
- 8 Tracy McCray
- 13 Harold Bailey
- 15 Karen Burke
- 17 Bill Sanger
- 24 Sharon Nguimbi
- 26 Nico Nguimbi
- 27 Ethan Hartman
- 27 Raleigh Hartman
- 28 Matt Lohr
- 30 Kathy Beery
- 31 Ashlyn Beery

WEEKLY REOCCURING EVENTS

SUNDAY

- 9:15am Sunday School
- 10:30am Community Worship

MONDAY

- 6:30am Men's Prayer Breakfast
- 1:00pm Staff Meeting (Parlor)
- 6:30pm Scouts

TUESDAY

- 10:00am Skyline Literacy (Rm 201 & 203)
- 11:00am Tuesdays Together (B4)
- 6:00pm Jubellation Practice

WEDNESDAY

- 10:00am Ladies Prayer Group (B4)
- 6:00pm Choir Practice

THURSDAY

- 10:00am Skyline Literacy (Rm 201 & 203)

SATURDAY

- 10:30am Community Lunch

DEACON OF THE WEEK

- Aug 7 — Karen Burke
- Aug 14 — Jeannie Petit
- Aug 21 — Dennis Simmons
- Aug 28 — Shirley Cobb

COMMUNITY LUNCH

- Aug 6 — Emmanuel Episcopal
- Aug 13 — B'water-Dayton Youth
- Aug 20 — Heidi Ruiz
- Aug 27 — Jeannie Petit

HARRISONBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

501 South Main Street
Harrisonburg, VA 22801

HBC ALIVE!

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HARRISONBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

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STAFF

Rev. 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

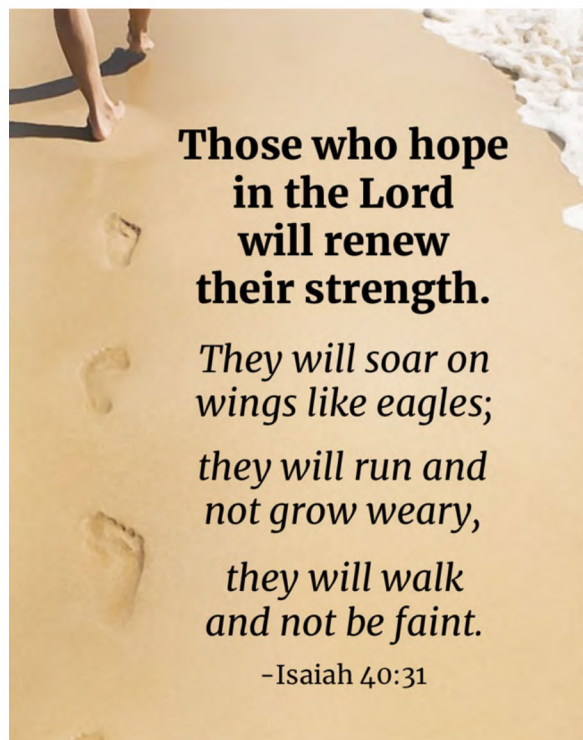
Chris Belcher, Facilities Manager

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

AUGUST 19, 2022

Please submit articles to

Kim Brubaker at kim@hbcalive.org



**Those who hope
in the Lord
will renew
their strength.**

*They will soar on
wings like eagles;
they will run and
not grow weary,
they will walk
and not be faint.*

-Isaiah 40:31