



MAY 2022

HBC ALIVE!

Harrisonburg Baptist Church's Newsletter

Loading Up the Tools

REV. MATT WINTERS

On the Sunday before Mission Madness, I helped load the tools into the church trailer that we'll be using on the work sites. My initial impression was that there are a lot of tools. What a difference we will be making in the community! It was so meaningful to begin to imagine how each of these tools would be used to touch hearts and lives. Excitement began to build as I thought through our story of being interwoven more deeply with our community. We will be touching individual's lives as well as community agency partners who impact families beyond the reach of the church. It's such an awesome experience and I hope you'll take the time to come explore what God is doing this week.

Come by the church on Friday evening, Saturday morning, Saturday night or Sunday morning to hear the stories. Or, if you'd rather, go by one of the sites on Saturday to see the work in action.

Perhaps the greatest reminder of the power of God is the uniqueness of each tool. Flat shovels, round shovels, angled pitchforks, flatter pitchforks, drills, power washers, paint brushes, rollers, ladders—every tool has a different use and purpose. Individually, they work fine but in

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Mission Madness 2022

Calendar of Events

FRIDAY, APRIL 29

6-7PM

Join us to welcome the youth!

SATURDAY, APRIL 30

9:30AM-3:30PM

Work projects at mission sites.
Let Pastor Matt know if you
would like to visit any of the
mission sites.

SUNDAY, MAY 1

8:45AM

Worship Service. Join us!

Spring Business Meeting

Sunday, May 15

Our spring business meeting will be held directly after the worship service on May 15. There are no business items that require a congregational vote, but several committees will be providing updates on their work.

combination with other tools and with the right hands to guide them, they work miracles. It even reminds me of the church when it operates at its best. You are all the amazing tools of God! Thanks for helping us love and serve the community!

God's Gift of Spring

NANCY SHOMO, DEACON

For behold, the winter is past; the rain is over and gone. The flowers appear on the earth, the time of singing has come, and the voice of the turtledove is heard in our land.

Song of Solomon 2:11-12

So many of us are not a fan of winter. We don't like snow. The early dark days and cold temperatures impact our moods in a negative way. The general consensus is that winter has no redeeming qualities. However, we know it's only for a season.

Slowly the earth begins to thaw and temperatures begin to rise. We come out of hibernation and step outside to enjoy this very special gift. Spring symbolizes a rebirth...a renewal. The cold and dark days slowly become a faint memory replaced with warmth and hope.

The English poet, Anne Bradstreet, wrote "If we had no winter, the spring would not be so pleasant. If we did not sometimes taste of adversity, prosperity would not be so welcome."

The last two years have been like winter. Winter of the heart, soul, mind and body. We lost joy and hope of better days. We openly wondered if



Spring would return. If the SON had disappeared.

Sometimes in order to come into a new season and “spring” forward in faith, we must let go of the old season. Isaiah 43:18 says, “Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.”

This is a process of working through past hurts, struggles and relationships. It means allowing ourselves to feel the loss, be sad for a time then move forward with hope.

As Spring stretches out its arms wide and life begins to bloom we can see God’s reminder to align our hearts to all HE has done and continues to do. To be hopeful and embrace all the “new blooms” soon to sprout in our lives. Our faith will grow as we will gain a deeper relationship with God through prayer, spending time with HIM and HIS word.

We must not fear the future. To quote Rick Warren, “Fear is False Evidence Appearing Real”. As believers we place all of our faith and confidence in a loving God who will never abandon us. We are on a journey home and while on the journey we will hold tight to our Father’s hand with complete confidence and assurance of our destination.

Father, we thank you for Spring. As a God of renewal may the sunlight remind us that you are ever present in our lives. Open our eyes to see you in every situation and awaken us to new growth in Your Precious Name. Amen.

“Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God.”
—Corrie Ten Boom

Mission Committee Update

MARY SMITH

Aid for Ukraine: With the money donated from the HBC members and the Missions Committee, we will be sending a check to BGAV for \$1,000 to support Ukraine through the European Baptist Federation. Thank you for your donations and support.

Two New Ministries: We are still collecting donations through the end of the month of April for The Pringle House and Habitat for Humanity. These are two local ministries that expand our outreach in our community.

Mercy House: Mercy House is one of our four main non-profit organizations that HBC has supported for many years. We have one of the twelve apartments that we provide supplies for when new families arrive. We deliver cheese and meat from the Cheese and Beef Ministry. Mercy House has reached out to HBC to ask us to be Food Pantry partners. The Missions Committee took on this task and the third week of each month, we go shopping for supplies to replenish their food pantry. These supplies include staples such as milk, bread, flour, sugar, and oil.

Used Bibles and Bible Study Materials: Noelle and Danny Carroll are asking for Bibles and Bible study materials to support Tabernacle Baptist Church in Danville, VA. The church will be taking the materials on a mission trip to Butler, Illinois. We will continue to collect these materials into June.



Harold Bailey Piano Concert

FRIDAY, MAY 6 AT 6PM

As part of First Fridays in the Valley, our accompanist, Harold Bailey will present a piano concert in the HBC sanctuary on May 6 at 6:00pm, with a reception following.

Tuba Recital

SUNDAY, MAY 8 AT 7PM

JMU student Jake Nurney will present at recital in the HBC sanctuary on Sunday, May 8 at 7pm.



Mosaic Handbell Concert

FRIDAY, MAY 20 AT 7PM

Travel through our country's musical heritage as Mosaic Handbell Ensemble presents an engaging and diverse concert with Spiritual, Bluegrass, Patriotic, Jazz and Blues. Far from your ordinary handbell choir, Mosaic rings more bells and chimes per person than you've probably ever seen - all without a director in sight! Spend an evening with Mosaic and experience the pure joy of wonderful music skillfully presented in a friendly, personable setting. You'll be glad you did! Donations gladly accepted at the door.



Kids Alive Update

MARY SMITH

We have exciting news in Kids Alive! Due to the increase in children attending HBC, we are going to provide two classes during the Sunday school hour in Kids Alive starting May 8. Each Sunday, we will have a gathering time together for the first 15 minutes, and then break into two groups for the next forty-five minutes. We need more helpers for each class.

Each month in 2022, HBC members have been sharing their gifts with us and ways they use these gifts to help HBC and others.

In January, Mary Laughland, a co-chair of the Visitation Team, helped us make cards that we included in our "Goodie Bags" for the college students.

In February, Don Aittama, chair of the Finance Committee, shared with the children how our tithes help support our church and allow us to help others.

In March, the Youth Group with Katelyn and Chris Belcher shared lessons about Easter including a real Seder Meal.

During the month of April, Children's Intern Kate Dear as well as Kathy Ritcher and Cindy Skelley, members of the Creation Care Team, taught us about taking care of God's earth by planting flowers and recycling.

On Sunday, April 24th, the youth group helped the children create "Birthday Kits" for families in Mercy House. These kits include an aluminum cake pan, a cake mix, frosting, candles, birthday napkins and birthday plates. Carol Morrow, a member of the Blessing Box team, shared her experiences with this special ministry, and how HBC is helping our neighbors in need.

The children are learning so much from our members about God as well as what it means to live like Jesus! Won't you consider sharing your talents with us? We need teachers as well as assistants each Sunday. Contact Pastor Eli or Mary Smith if you can help.



May Youth Events

MAY 1

8:00am Mission Madness Breakfast
& Devotional Service
No Sunday School class
5:30-7:30pm Dinner & Bible Study

MAY 8

9:15am Sunday School
No evening activities in honor of
Mother's Day

MAY 11

5:45-8:15pm Clothes Closet (bring \$\$
for Kline's!)

MAY 15

9:15am Sunday School
5:30-7:30pm Dinner & Bible Study

MAY 22

9:15am Sunday School
5:30-7:30pm Dinner & Bible Study

MAY 29

9:15am Sunday School
4:30-8:30pm Pool Party at the
Belcher's

Spaghetti Lunch Fundraiser

We are so excited to report
that, thanks to your
support and generosity, we
raised \$998.00 for Passport
Youth Camp!!!

Youth Update: Cooking Class!

REV. KATELYN BELCHER

We held our first youth cooking class on March 27. We worked together to make a grocery list. We also worked on critical thinking skills as we organized all of the ingredients we would need, all while keeping our overall budget in mind. We shopped for all of the necessary supplies at Wal-Mart, and we even came in under budget! The youth worked hard to prepare a taco bar, complete with taco meat, choice of soft tortillas or tortilla chips, salsa, shredded lettuce, and cheese. We purchased soft drinks for the meal and Jonas and Jayden brought their mom's famous chocolate chip cookies. Afterward, the youth worked as a team to clean up the dirty dishes and wipe down countertops and tables after the meal. They did a superb job, and we are excited for our second cooking class on April 24!





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR RECENT COLLEGE GRADUATES!



Kimberly Bernales

Kimberly graduated from JMU with a Master of Arts in Teaching. She will be working at Spotswood Elementary School as a dual language teacher.



Leah Tripp

Leah graduated from JMU with a Master of Art in Communication and Advocacy. She will be working as a press assistant for the Church World Service national office - and continuing as HBC's Praise Team Worship Leader!

Katie Fuller

Katie graduated from JMU with a Bachelor of Arts in Psychology with a minors in criminal justice and family studies. She will be attending Marymount University in the fall in pursuit of a masters degree in forensic and legal psychology.





New Members

GARY & SUSAN CREASY

Gary and Susan moved to Bridgewater from Winnsboro, South Carolina. They have one daughter, Kathryn, who attended HBC in the early 2000's while a student at JMU.

Gary graduated from VA Tech with a degree in industrial engineering and worked for Mack Truck and Komatsu before retiring. Gary is a Gideon, and enjoys woodworking.

Susan also graduated from VA Tech with a degree in management, housing and family development. She retired from Winnsboro First Baptist church, where she was an administrative assistant for 19 years. Susan enjoys sewing, knitting and crocheting. She has an 18-year-old part Maine Coon cat named Fluffy.

RON & LIZ GARBER

Ron and Liz are valley natives who have lived in Rockingham County all their lives. They have two children, one grandchild and four great-grandchildren.

Liz was employed in banking for 17 years and enjoys reading and gardening. Ron graduated from UVA Graduate School of Consumer Banking. He retired after 21 years of banking and 33 years as a corporation CEO. Ron enjoys flower gardening and repairing the homes of his son and grandson.

SANDY WEAVER

Sandy moved to Bridgewater from Charlottesville. She has three children and seven grandchildren, several of whom you probably already know: her daughter, Emily Hartman, and grandchildren Olivia, Ethan and Raleigh Hartman.

Sandy graduated from Morris Harvey College with A.S. in Nursing and went on to receive her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Virginia Commonwealth University. She was employed at Martha Jefferson Hospital for 15 years and the University of Virginia Health System for 21 years. She enjoys sewing, hiking, biking and baking.

Becoming Like Jesus Study

Young people who are interested in learning about what it means to follow Jesus, make a commitment to him, and get baptized, are invited to join us for a study of *Becoming Like Jesus*. The classes will be held at Pastor Matt and Jessica's home from 6 to 7 pm beginning Sunday, May 1. Continuing classes will be held at the same time on May 15 and 22 and June 5 and 12. If you would like to register your child for this class, please sign up on a Communication Card or talk with Pastors Matt or Eli. If your child has already been baptized but would still like to come to the class, we would love to have them join us!

PRAYER CONCERNS

MEMBERS

Bryan Acker
Becky Armentrout
Barbara Betts
Faye Bland
Liz Garber
Dennis Greene
Wayne & Sally Hannah
Sue Jones
Mac & Lola McBride
Bill & Barbara Pond
Karen & Kerry Potter
Jimmy & Nancy Russell
Constance Via

EXTENDED FAMILY

Jimmy Hilldrup
(Sara Kate Moore's uncle)
Bill Darling (Ralph Darling's brother)
Winny Darling
(Ralph Darling's sister in law)
Patrick Toohey
(Katelyn Belcher's brother)
Liz (Kathy Ritcher's sister)
Denny Lyons
(Don Embrey's brother-in-law)
Sharon Cline
(Lee & Sherri Chapman's friend)
Bella (Angela Hayes' niece)
Virginia Ruth Davis & Beth Howard
(Sara Kate Moore's friends)
Tom Kuster & family
(Jackie Leonard's friend)
Becky Morris (Ellen Shomo's friend)
Dorothy Shenk
(Randy Shenk's mother)

SYMPATHY

Cindy Skelley in the death of brother.
Lyn Weaver in the death of her father,
Sidney Simmons.

March Stewardship Snapshot

Budget needs as of 3/31/2022 \$ 143,351.00
Budget receipts as of 3/31/2022 \$ 143,000.72

Non-Budget/Designated Funds

• Annie Armstrong Easter Offering	\$ 410.00
• Love Fund	\$ 260.00
• Saturday Bag Lunch	\$ 215.00
• VA State Missions	\$ 20.00
• OIAM	\$ 120.00
• Ukraine Aid	\$ 100.00

Wedding Gift for Justin & Hayley Mofield

Justin Mofield, HBC's student intern in the summer of 2021, is getting married! If you would like to contribute to a cash wedding gift for Justin and Hayley, please bring your gift to the church office by May 31.

Notes of Thanks

I would like to say thank you to everyone for your kindest thoughts and well wishes to help me celebrate my 100th birthday. Your cards, calls and words of encouragement have touched me and been a blessing to my life. I love all of you and am so grateful to God for these days of life He has given me.

~ Neil Showalter

My family and I thank you for your prayers, words of comfort and support as we celebrated dad's life.

~ Lyn Weaver and family

MAY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 5:30pm Youth Dinner & Bible Study 6pm Baptism Class @ Pastor Matt's	2 3pm Missions Committee Mtg (Parlor)	3 4pm Jake Nurney Rehearsal 6:00 Finance Committee Mtg (B4)	4	5	6 6:00pm Harold Bailey Recital	7
8 Mother's Day 3-6pm Kachin Church 7pm Jake Nurney Recital	9 6:30 Leadership Team Mtg (FH)	10	11 5:45-8:15 pm Youth - Clothes Closet	12 WV Mission Trip	13	14
15 12pm Spring Business meeting 5:00 Creation Care Team Mtg (gazebo) 5:30pm Youth Dinner & Bible Study 6pm Baptism Class @ Pastor Matt's	16	17	18	19	20 June Newsletter Articles Due 7:00pm Mosaic Handbell Choir Concert	21
22 5:30pm Youth Dinner & Bible Study 6pm Baptism Class @ Pastor Matt's	23	24	25 2pm Brookdale	26	27	28
29 4:30pm Youth Pool Party at the Belchers	30 Memorial Day Office Closed	31		Staff Out of Office Susan: Apr 22 - May 24 Eli: May 4 & 19 Matt: May 22-26		

WEEKLY REOCCURING EVENTS

SUNDAY

9:15am Sunday School
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

TUESDAY

10:00am ELL Class (Rm 201)
11:00am Tuesdays Together (B4)
6:00pm Jubellation Practice

WEDNESDAY

10:00am Ladies Prayer Group (B4)
10:00am Skyline Literacy (Rm 201)
7:00pm Choir Practice

SATURDAY

10:00am Community Lunch

DEACON OF THE WEEK

May 1 — Bill Lee
May 8 — Nancy Shomo
May 15 — Don Aittama
May 22 — Karen Burke
May 29 — Jeannie Petit

COMMUNITY LUNCH

May 7 — Ritchie
May 14 — St. Stephen's
May 21 — Ritcher
May 28 — Skelley

MAY BIRTHDAYS

1 Austin Folsom
1 Jeannie Petit
1 Cameron Ritcher
6 Kendall Waters
8 T. W. Johnson
8 Phoebe Renfro
8 Judy Stewart
9 Holly Pederson
10 Bill Lee
11 Olivia Hartman
12 Ruth Bryant
16 Sandy Cude
19 Keith Turner
20 Wally Holthaus
21 Joyce Deavers
21 Mike Mandigo
21 Kerry Potter
21 Faye Ritchie
24 Wayne Hannah, Sr
24 Annabelle Lehembre
25 Greg Ritchie
29 Susan Kiser
31 Grant Folsom

HARRISONBURG BAPTIST CHURCH

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HBC ALIVE!

A publication of

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

JUNE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

MAY 20, 2022

Please submit articles to

Kim Brubaker at kim@hbcalive.org

As a Mother
comforts her
Child so will I
comfort You

~ Isaiah 66:13