AUGUSTA ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH // JULY 2017 // ISSUE 07

# THE *VOICE*

1823 AUGUSTA STREET, GREENVILLE, SC 29605 • 864-232-2712
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## *Vacation Bible School*

REV. BRIDGET KOKOLIS

Maker Fun Factory Vacation Bible School at ARBC was a blast! Over seventy elementary aged children joined us for a great week learning about how we are all made for a purpose. We studied an important Bible truth each day: God made us, God is always with us, God loves us, and God made us for a reason. Truths that we all need to hear and embrace, no matter our age.

I'd like to share with you a moment that was particularly moving. Midweek, in one of our opening celebrations where all the children were gathered, one of their favorite songs came on. Many gasped with excitement and began to sing a song about how God forgives them and fixes them with such passion that it brought tears to my eyes. It took a moment to find my voice after watching them sing and dance and praise. It was beautiful and many of us were deeply moved by this time of worship.

*(continued on page 4)*

# *From the Pastor*

## *July Calendar*

**9 SUNDAY**
-DEACONS MEETING (12:15)
-COORDINATING COUNCIL (1:15)
-YOUTH GROUP (4:00)

**13 THURSDAY**
-FINANCE MEETING (5:00)

**16 SUNDAY**
-EXPLORING MEMBERSHIP OPPORTUNITY (12:15)
-YOUTH GROUP (4:00)

**17 MONDAY**
-UNIDIVERSITY CAMP

**18 TUESDAY**
-UNIDIVERSITY CAMP

**19 WEDNESDAY**
-UNIDIVERSITY CAMP

**20 THURSDAY**
-UNIDIVERSITY CAMP
-ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM MEETING (5:30)

**21 FRIDAY**
-UNIDIVERSITY CAMP

**22 SATURDAY**
-UNIDIVERSITY CAMP

**26 WEDNESDAY**
-WEDNESDAY DINNER (6:00)
-QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING (6:30)
-ADULT CHOIR (7:15)

**30 SUNDAY**
-CHILDREN SKYZONE TRIP (1:30)
-YOUTH GROUP (4:00)

**31 MONDAY**
-MISSION WEEK

Summer is a good time for taking stock of your life and what God is doing in you and around you. I remember many a trip to the beach spent in deep reflection and in search of an understanding of God's purpose for my life. Lelia and I would be sitting on the beach, watching the sun set, listening to the waves, taking in all of the beauty that was around us, and the conversation would naturally lead to us trying to discern what God was doing with us, and what God might want to do with us next.

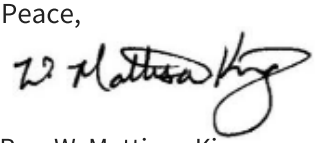
Those are the questions I am asking about our community of faith this summer. I am thinking about and praying about the things that God is doing in us and through us, and I am wondering what God might want to do with us next. The things that God is doing in our church might be easy to point out for some of us. God is continuing to foster an open and welcoming community for those who need to know the love of Christ and experience the presence of the Holy Spirit among fellow travelers through the journey of life. God is also continuing to provide us the opportunity to partner in mission work and funding in our city and around the world. God is continuing to bring hundreds of children on our campus each day, which offers a unique ministry opportunity to provide a loving and caring environment for children and their families as they grow.

The more difficult questions to answer may center on what God is doing in the community around us, and what God might want to do with us next as we live into God's mission for the world. I am pondering and praying about these this summer. I invite you to ponder and pray about them as well. While we may be conditioned to think of God moving solely through the work of the church, God has always been on the move outside our church walls, inviting the church to join in the work of God's kingdom. Open your eyes and ears this summer. Where do you experience the Holy Spirit at work in your neighborhood, in your place of work, in our city, in your travels? Reflect on that question, and then ask what God might want to do with us next as we experience the movement of the Holy Spirit in the world.

The answers to these questions will reveal the intersection of God's purpose and our action. They will reveal the places where we must focus the major initiatives, programs, and ministry efforts we should work toward in the coming church year. This type of reflection is holy work, and I invite you to join me in it. Let's reflect together this summer on what God might me leading us to do. But as you reflect, remember this: God's desire is always for the entire world, not simply Augusta Road Baptist Church. If we start by asking what God is doing in the world, what we should be doing as a church will come into sharp focus.

I look forward to hearing your reflections through the summer. Email me, call me, let's meet for coffee. It is exciting to reflect on where we have been and where we are. It is even more exciting to dream about the future.

Peace,



Rev. W. Mattison King

## *News from our Minister to Families*

It's hard to believe we are half way through the summer! As we find ourselves traveling and enjoying all the experiences that summer has to offer, often times we might feel a bit disconnected from the life of the church. Recently I began reading "Faithful Families: Creating Sacred Moments at Home" by Traci Smith. This book is filled with traditions and practices that individual families can incorporate into their lives to encourage spiritual development, no matter what age. Over the next several months, I will be sharing some of these with you. I hope that you and your family enjoy and experience God together through these activities, no matter where you are!

**Night Time Blessing**: Designed for Newborn through School Age (as long as children are still being tucked in by parents).

1. At bedtime, after the child has finished his or her usual bedtime routine say to your child, "Daddy (or Mommy) is going to say a night time blessing now!"
2. Place your hand on the child's head or shoulder and say a short blessing. Use one of these examples or write your own.
    a. (Child's name), may God bless you and keep you. May God be kind and gracious to you. May God Give you peace tonight and every night. Amen.
    b. (Child's name), may the peace of God, which is bigger than anything we understand, fill your heart and your mind, and may you know God's love always. Amen.
    c. (Child's name), may the God of hope fill you with joy and peace, not only tonight, but tomorrow and the next day and all the days of your life. Amen.
3. At the end of the blessing, say, "Amen," give your child a hug or kiss, and leave the room.

There is something comforting and beautiful about a personal blessing. I hope that this is a tradition that will enrich your bedtime routine for years to come.

Grace and Peace,
Bridget

## *Vacation Bible School* *(continued from cover page)*

We are so thankful for our ARBC volunteers that helped us to create a fun and exciting set, for those who donated supplies, and those that volunteered during the week. Our hospitality team hosted a delicious dinner on Thursday evening where over thirty children came and sang the songs with all their heart. Our Fellowship Hall was full of visiting families who were thankful and shared stories about how their children enjoyed the week. We are especially thankful to the ARBC Summer Camp staff for working with the children and treating the kids to a bounce house and snow cones from Nomadic Few. The children loved these special treats. Finally, thank you to those who prayed over VBS, we felt it. It was a powerful week.

## *Memorials & Honorariums*

In Memory Tom Holliday:
Billie Clark.....Capital Campaign
Ed and Susan Zeigler.....Capital Campaign
Marion and Wilma Hare.....Capital Campaign
Phyllis and Gerald Duchinski.....Capital Campaign
Anita Collins.....Capital Campaign
Bobbie Branyon.....Capital Campaign
Janet Holliday.....Capital Campaign
Joyce Wright.....Capital Campaign
Carol Ann Elmore.....Capital Campaign
Nurturing SS Class.....Capital Campaign
Craig and Lou Nell Eady.....Capital Campaign
Gene and Sara Massey.....Capital Campaign
Charles and Catherine Fayssoux.....Capital Campaign
Mark and Jane Young.....Capital Campaign
Stan and Harriette Tollman.....Capital Campaign

In Honor of Hattie King:
Bobbie Branyon.....Capital Campaign

In Memory of Phyllis Dawson:
Dale Rogers.....Capital Campaign

In Memory of Wendell Watkins:
JoAnn Watkins.....Capital Campaign

In Memory of Henly Jameson (Harriette's father):
Stan and Harriette Tollman.....Capital Campaign

In Memory of Charles Lawton (Eleanor Bean's brother):
Dale Rogers.....Capital Campaign

In Memory of Jason Lister:
Dale Rogers.....Capital Campaign

In Memory of Elizabeth Barrett (John Geib's sister):
Dale Rogers.....Capital Campaign



*Future Memorials & Honorariums will be printed on a quarterly basis*

# Thank You Notes

To the congregation at Augusta Road Baptist Church:
I wish you could have known my brother Charles H. Lawton. He shared generously, prayer fervently, and lived a life guided by the Hand of Christ Jesus. Wes and I thank you for every prayer uttered on his behalf. He stands in Heaven healed! Thanks be to God!
- Col. and Mrs. Wesley W. Bean, Jr.

ARBC Friends,
I would like to express my sincere appreciation for the many acts of kindness that were shown to me during the long illness and death of my son, Jason. Thank you so much for all the cards and prayers, your love was truly heartfelt.
Love,
Linda Lister

## *Please Remember in Prayer*

*Janet Holliday and the entire family of Tom Holliday. Tom passed away on Saturday, June 17.*
*Bill Estes and his family. Bill's daughter, Jane Elizabeth Batson, passed away on Friday, June 10.*
*Aaron Beasley and his family. Aaron's grandfather, Don Kendrick, passes away on June 11 in Burnet, TX.*

*Mildred West has a lower back fracture and is still at home, but has a lot of pain.*
*Carroll Clark, sister of Mary McGee and Johnny Ashmore, has been diagnosed with cancer.*
*Melodye Putman is now at her friend's house in Simpsonville and is getting outpatient physical therapy at Roger Peace.*
*Hank Johnson (Floride Carter's son-in-law) fell and broke his hip.*
*Bobbie Johnson had a pacemaker put in on June 29.*
*Joyce Wright- health issues*

*Clyde Ellison, Elsie Brown, John Brown (Jean Page's nephew), Florence Brady (Kelby Beezer's mother), Rachel Jackson (Jordon Beasley's grandmother), Katie Farmer (niece of John Brady), Eidth Stephens (Jean Page's sister), Gary Romanstine's son-in-law's father (Darrell Cummings)*

July

10 Jimmy Johnson
10 Billie Pearson
11 Chip Howard
12 Brooks Brady
12 Al Smith
13 William LaCroix
15 Jake Dill
17 Evan LaCroix
19 Dean Kaufman
22 Will Webster
26 Shirley Wheeler
31 Erin Eady

## *Weekly Contributions*

| | |
|---|---|
| JUNE 4 | $12,049.71 |
| JUNE 11 | $7,233.00 |
| JUNE 18 | $12,784.69 |
| JUNE 25 | $5,349.00 |

AVG. WEEKLY GIVING:
$9,354.10

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## *Church Staff*

Rev. W. Mattison King, *Senior Pastor*
Dr. Barry L. Combs, *Minister of Music*
Rev. Bridget Kokolis, *Minister to Families*
Brenda Arrowood, *Office Administrator*
Laura Koone, *Communications Assistant*
Jane Harrison, *Church Pianist*
Rev. Clinton Flowers, *Organist*
Cordell Golden, *Custodian*
Dr. Marion Hare, *Pastor Emeritus*

## *WCEP Staff*

Phyllis Duchinski, Director
*Preschool Education Program*

Mary Dell Fletcher, Director
*Afterschool Program*

## Office Hours

Monday - Thursday
9 am - 5 pm
Friday
9 am- 12 pm