

AUGUSTA ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH // NOVEMBER 2017 // ISSUE 11

THE *VOICE*

1823 AUGUSTA STREET, GREENVILLE, SC 29605 • 864-232-2712

WWW.ARBC.COM



DISCERNING GOD'S

Vision

FOR ARBC

NOVEMBER 12
4:00-5:30 PM

JANUARY 21
4:00-5:30 PM

FEBRUARY 25
4:00-5:30 PM

November Calendar

3 FRIDAY

-Youth Beach Retreat

4 SATURDAY

-Youth Beach Retreat

5 SUNDAY

-Youth Beach Retreat

-Coffee and Donuts
(9:30 am)

-Japanese Congregation
(3:00 pm)

9 THURSDAY

-Finance Committee
Meeting (5:00 pm)

10 FRIDAY

-Crescent Garden
Club (10:30 am)

12 SUNDAY

-Deacons Meeting
(9:15 am)

-Coordinating Council
Meeting (12:15 pm)

-Youth Group (3:00 pm)

-Vision Conversation
(4:00 pm)

16 THURSDAY

-Administrative Team
Meeting (5:30 pm)

19 SUNDAY

-ARBC Thanksgiving Meal
(12:30 pm)

22 WEDNESDAY

-No Wednesday Activities

23 THURSDAY

-Happy Thanksgiving!



What will it take to ensure that our church thrives? What does thriving look like at Augusta Road Baptist Church, and how will we know that we are reaching our full potential as we serve as one unique part of the Body of Christ? These are questions that we must prayerfully consider as a congregation. The specific details may not be clear at this moment, but I believe that the answers are tied to the vision that God has for the future of our church. I also believe that God has called us all together at this specific time to discern that vision together.

I would like to invite you to participate in three congregational conversations that will enable us to discern the future into which God is leading us. These conversations will help us understand the times and circumstances that ARBC has been its very best. We will learn how we came to be who we are today, and what makes our community of faith unique. We will examine our current congregation and the context in which we live and serve Christ together, so that we can understand the needs of our community and how we are uniquely suited to serve them. We will dream God-sized dreams together that will shape the future of our church.

Our congregational conversations will be led by our ministerial staff and our Vision Team. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall to share openly, honestly, and respectfully with one another. Throughout the process we will ask God's guidance and Spirit to shine in all that we do.

Here are the dates and times of each conversation:

- **Sunday, November 12, from 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.**
- **Sunday, January 21, from 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.**
- **Sunday, February 25, from 4:00 p.m.-5:30 p.m.**

I hope that you will plan to participate in these conversations. This will be the most important work we will do as a congregation this church year, as we discern and clarify the mission and vision to which God is calling us. If you are unable to be with us, we still want you to participate and offer your input. We want to hear from you!

Included with a separate letter I sent to the congregation is the set of questions that we will be using to guide our first conversation together. Take time to prayerfully reflect on those questions, and bring your answers with you on November 12. If you are unable to join us in person, please answer these questions and return the questionnaire to the church office. We will also be sending these to you in a digital format, in the event that you would prefer to respond by email. Members of the Vision Team will be happy to follow up with you for further discussion at a time that works for you.

Please pray for our congregation as we move through this process. This is an exciting time to be part of the family of faith at ARBC. Join us as we discern God's future for our church together!

Peace,

Rev. W. Mattison King

Psalm 118:1: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

As we enter into the month of November, it is a natural time for us all to take a pause. The school year has begun, October festivities have drawn to a close and we've yet to enter into the exciting time of Advent. During this pause, what a wonderful opportunity we have as families to practice gratitude. According to Health Central, "being grateful can reduce stress. Studies have shown that practicing gratitude on a daily basis can make you happier, lower stress, protect you from depression, help you sleep better, boost your immune system and improve your relationships."

For many years, my family has participated in a Gratitude Tree during the entire month of November. Each day, we add prayers of thanksgiving to God for the people or things for which we are grateful. It has been a joy for me to keep these notes and to look upon them throughout the years. There are several ways to participate in this activity. You could make a tree and leaves out of construction paper for each person. These leaves can be added daily with notes or pictures of thanksgiving.

Another way to do this would be to gather branches to make a tree and then to add paper "ornaments" of thanks each day. This is very similar to something that our church as a whole will be participating in our worship services throughout the month of November. What a great way for us all to engage in the practice of gratitude by participating in it so fully this month.

I hope that you can take this idea and make it your own for your family and that this will become a tradition that you look forward to each and every year.

Grace and Peace,
Bridget

UPCOMING EVENTS



:::Live Nativity:::

We are starting to recruit volunteers for our Live Nativity event on Friday and Saturday evening, December 15-16. Please let Bridget know if your children or youth would like to participate.



Trunk or Treat



Senior Adults



November Birthdays

3	Heath Rushing	18	Brenda Arrowood
4	Meagan Magnus	18	Janet Holliday
4	Harry Wheeler	18	Lelia King
6	Smith Webster	19	Mike Beeks
9	Patrick McCarter	19	Phyllis Duchinski
10	Carol Ann Elmore	26	John Rush
13	Carroll LeGrand	26	Katelyn Smith
16	John Geib	29	Alethea Peebles
17	Bobbie Branyon	30	Patti McCarter
17	Katie Howard		

Weekly Contributions

OCTOBER 1	\$9,091.00
OCTOBER 8	\$6,536.00
OCTOBER 15	\$3,898.00
OCTOBER 22	\$7,848.00
OCTOBER 29	\$3,732.03
AVG. WEEKLY GIVING:	\$6,221.01
WEEKLY NEED:	\$7,981

Dear Augusta Road Baptist Church Congregation, Thank you so much for thinking about our students and staff at Hollis. Back to school can be challenging for our families. You provided Hollis with beautiful book bags, as well as school supplies in need for the classroom. At Hollis, we have families moving in throughout the year; we are always using book bags, crayons, notebooks, glue sticks, pencils, pens, paper, etc. You are a blessing to us! We appreciate you thinking about us, giving us your support, and praying for us. Without your support, our classrooms would not be the same. You helped us to start a great school year by focusing on learning instead of worrying about specific school items that students need to be successful in the classroom.

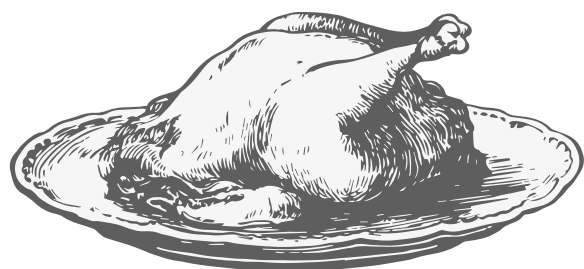
We have the opportunity to see the smiles in our students when they see a new book bag full of school supplies. Often, we hear, "I love my book bag, it is so cool!" You give us that joy. Thank you! May God continue to bless you abundantly and protect you.

*With great gratitude and appreciation,
Hollis Academy*

Please Remember In Prayer

- Megan McCarter's father, Francis Xavier Gavigan, passed away on Sunday, October 22.
 - Valerie Kahler's mom, Amy Berry, passed away on October 1.
 - Jean Page's sister, Edith Stephens, passed away on September 30.
 - Sandra Campbell - was seen in the ER for severe hip pain, but she was released.
- Jessie Wheeler, Harry and Shirley Wheeler's granddaughter - having tests done for severe headaches.
 - John DeWitt is at home and doing well at this time, but he is now under Home Hospice care.
 - Carroll Kirby is now at home and feeling a little better.
 - Gladys Thompson is recovering from knee replacement surgery.
- Harold Cox is transitioning to Pendleton Manor, located at 414 Summit Drive, Greenville, SC 29609.
 - Gene Massey - diagnosed with recurring lymphoma; no treatments scheduled at this time.
 - Bryan Meyers, Emily Meyers' father - had a major stroke and is now recovering in rehab.
 - Michael Delaney, Barbara Hawkins' brother - colon cancer.
- Carroll Clark, sister of Mary McGee and Johnny Ashmore, has been diagnosed with cancer.
- John Brown, Jean Page's nephew, has throat cancer. He has completed his radiation and chemotherapy treatments and waiting for follow-up appointment.
- Katie Farmer, niece of John Brady - ongoing health concerns in St. Louis.

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CHURCH-WIDE
Thanksgiving
LUNCHEON

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING 11 AM WORSHIP

Adults: \$8, Children/Youth: \$5, Family Max: \$25

Please RSVP with the church office if you plan to attend.

Church Staff

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

WCEP Staff

Phyllis Duchinski, *Director*
Preschool Education Program
Mary Dell Fletcher, *Director*
After School Program

Office Hours

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