

THE VOICE

1823 AUGUSTA STREET, GREENVILLE, SC 29605 • 864-232-2712
WWW.ARBC.COM



On Sunday, August 25, we celebrated the Blessing of the Bags. It is one of my favorite moments in worship each year. The first reason I love it is simply that it brings the entire congregation together. Each week

when we gather for worship our preschool children and worship care volunteers are unable to join us. As is so often the case, when they are out of our sight, they are out of our mind, and that is a shame. This is a vital part of our congregation. They are not simply our future. They are our present. They come with so much innocence, energy, and love. These are things with which we all need to be infected.

The brief time they are in worship for this annual blessing obviously creates some challenges. Their somewhat squirmy presence in worship makes it a challenge for their parents to concentrate. When they are with us, however, we are reminded of just what is at stake as we work together to bear witness to Christ in the world. We are reminded of Christ's instruction to let the little children come to him because the kingdom of God belongs to those who are like them. We need the reminder of what it is like to have the faith and joy of a child.

Thanks be to God for the example these children set for us, and the reminder they give us that every decision we make needs to be made with them in mind. We are raising them to be the future leaders of the church. Some of these children who have become youth can be part of leading us now. We know that the church we are becoming will be more for them than it is for the rest of us, and I find that prospect exhilarating. God is using them to push us into a bright future together.

Our ministry together is having an impact. Our children love their church. They love it because they

know there is a place that cares for them and wants to show them how much Jesus loves them, and they are learning this in so many ways. There were two weeks out of the last month that I was overcome with joy as I heard two of our children so clearly and enthusiastically join in the weekly saying of the Lord's Prayer. They said every word. They followed right along with the congregation. Perfectly, they were just a beat behind as many of us rushed through it. Their voices served as an echo and a reminder of how important it is that we teach these children to come to faith in Christ.

During the months of September, October, and November our sermons will focus on following The Way of Christ. While most of us think of the outside influences that we feel are threatening the viability of the universal church, what we often fail to consider is that one of the greatest threats is a lack of enthusiasm from within the church. Christ called all of his followers to count the cost of discipleship, and to live a way of life that was so compelling that it would change the world. We will look at what it takes to live that kind of life, the challenges it brings along with the joys. It is an important discussion to have, because we need to teach our children to live in a beautifully compelling way. We need to show that way of living and following Christ to the world as well.

I pray we will continue to grow in our faith together, and that we might live a compelling life rooted in The Way of Christ, so that the generations that come after us will be drawn into that life as well.

Peace,

Rev. W. Mattison King

SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

1 SUNDAY

-Coffee & Donuts (9:30 am)

2 MONDAY

Labor Day - Offices Closed

4 WEDNESDAY

-Wednesday Night Dinner and Activities (5:30 pm)

8 SUNDAY

-Deacons Meeting (9:15 am)
-Church-wide Lunch (12:00 pm)
-Youth Connections (1:00 pm)

11 WEDNESDAY

-Noon Bible Study (12:00 pm)
-Wednesday Night Dinner and Activities (5:30 pm)
-Choir Rehearsal (7:15 pm)

12 THURSDAY

-Friendly Neighbors (11:30 am)
-Finance Meeting (5:00 pm)

15 SUNDAY

-Family Ministries Volunteer Meeting (12:00 pm)

17 TUESDAY

-Triple P Workshop (6:00 pm)

18 WEDNESDAY

-Noon Bible Study (12:00 pm)
-Wednesday Night Dinner and Activities (5:30 pm)
-Choir Rehearsal (7:15 pm)

19 THURSDAY

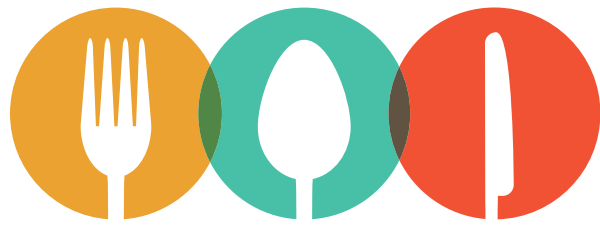
-Administrative Team Meeting (5:30 pm)

22 SUNDAY

-Youth On Mission (12:30 pm)

25 WEDNESDAY

-Noon Bible Study (12:00 pm)
-Wednesday Night Dinner and Activities (5:30 pm)
-Choir Rehearsal (7:15 pm)



CHURCH-WIDE *welcome back* LUNCHEON

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

We hope you'll join us at our church-wide luncheon on Sunday, September 8 immediately following worship. The menu will include fried chicken, mashed potatoes, green beans, slaw, dessert, tea and coffee.

Cost: Adults \$8, Children \$4, Family Max \$25

Everyone is welcome!

RSVP with the church office.

midweek

STUDY + ACTIVITIES

Join us for our Wednesday night programming at Augusta Road! We kick-off on Wednesday, September 4 with dinner beginning at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Visit our website for more information and a full schedule of activities for the upcoming months: arbc.com/midweek-at-arbc/

Menu for September 4:

Adults: assorted pizzas, salad, brownies, tea and coffee. (Gluten free and vegetarian options available.) Children: cheese pizza, fruit and cookie.

Reservations are requested.

Cost: \$6 adults, \$3 children, \$20 family max.

With the beginning of the school year comes lots of exciting new things at ARBC. I hope you will be able to join us on Wednesday, September 4th at 5:30 PM to learn all about the upcoming events and activities geared towards our Family Ministry. Don't forget that this year all children three and up will be able to participate in Children's Choir beginning on Wednesday, September 11th, followed by Bible Study and recreation. We would love to have your child join us!

Recently, while looking through one of my favorite books, I came across a spiritual practice that I would like to share with you all. I'm a big fan of Body Prayers with all ages, as it can allow for new ways to talk to God and experience God's presence with us. Body prayers for children are a great way to harness their extra energy and wiggles into a sacred moment.

This practice excerpted from the book *Faithful Families: Simple Practices for Daily Family Life* by Traci Smith. Published by Chalice Press, 2017. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Designed for ages 2-8 *(can be adapted for older children)*

Time investment: 5 minutes

How To

1. Tell children, "Sometimes when we pray, we are quiet with our heads bowed and our fingers clasped, but, sometimes we can pray while we move around. We can reach to the sky or curl in a tiny ball or kneel or lay flat on the ground."
2. Say, "Let's practice it! Who has a prayer?"
3. Ask children for a short (one sentence) prayer. (Example: I pray grandma is better or Thank you, God, for this day.)
4. Take the suggestions and practice praying in a variety of postures: first traditionally, then reaching up to the sky, then curled in a tiny ball, then lying flat on the ground.
5. Ask, "Which did you like the best?" and, "Which did you like the least?"
6. Repeat with each person's prayers.

Notes

- Allow children to laugh and smile and be silly during these moving prayers. God loves and accepts them for who they are as children, and prayer isn't always a solemn occasion.
- Be prepared with a few prayer suggestions in case a child doesn't have one.

Variations

- Instead of going through all of the postures for each prayer, pick one of the postures and try everyone's prayer in that way, changing the posture each day. (For example, use the traditional way on Monday, reaching to the sky on Tuesday, etc.)
- Allow children to invent prayer postures for a familiar prayer such as the Lord's Prayer.

I hope you all will enjoy incorporating these body prayer into your nighttime routines or whenever you pray as a family!

Grace and Peace,
Bridget

We had a great time at our Back to School Pool Party last Sunday! It was a fun afternoon of swimming and spending time together before getting back in the routine of school. Thank you so much to the Durhams for hosting us!



We're excited to host our second Triple P Parent Workshop on Tuesday, September 17 from 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm here at ARBC.

This session will focus on "Six Building Blocks to Raise Confident, Competent Children". The workshop is free and childcare will be provided, but reservations are required.

Family Ministries Volunteer Meeting:

Sunday, September 15 at 12:00 pm

This meeting is for anyone who works with our children or youth (worship care, Sunday School, etc.)

Fall 2019 at ARBC:

October:

- 10/2 No Noon Bible Study
- 10/5 ARCUM Pumpkin Patch Unloading
- 10/6 Serve at Project Host
- 10/9 Blood Drive with Blood Connection
- 10/10 Friendly Neighbors
- 10/13 Connections (5th-7th grade)
- 10/16 ARBC On Mission
- 10/23 Trunk or Treat
- 10/27 Youth On Mission
- 10/30 No Noon Bible Study
- 10/30 ARBC On Mission

November:

- 11/3 All Saints Worship
- 11/5 Election in Fellowship Hall
- 11/6 No Noon Bible Study
- 11/14 Friendly Neighbors
- 11/17 ARBC 95th Anniversary Celebration
- 11/19 Triple P Workshop
- 11/20 ARBC On Mission
- 11/24 Youth On Mission
- 11/27 No Wednesday Activities

December:

- 12/1 Adventure Lunch
- 12/4 No Noon Bible Study
- 12/8 Caroling to Homebound
- 12/12 Friendly Neighbors
- 12/13 Live Nativity
- 12/18 ARBC Christmas Party
- 12/21 Youth Progressive Dinner
- 12/24 Christmas Eve Service
- 12/25 No Wednesday Activities

Weekly Contributions

AUGUST 4	\$11,492.19
AUGUST 11	\$7,506.20
AUGUST 18	\$4,108.80
AUGUST 25	\$7,363.59

AVG. WEEKLY GIVING: \$7,617.70
 WEEKLY NEED: \$7,731.89
 MONTHLY NEED: \$30,927.56

Friendly Neighbors

Friendly Neighbors will meet on Thursday, September 12 at Silver Bay in Simpsonville (916 NE Main Street) at 11:30 am. For those that would like to ride the church bus, please meet in the parking lot at 11:00 am.



ARBC
ON MISSION

Join us for ARBC On Mission on Wednesday, September 6 at 6:15 pm. (Dinner will begin at 5:30 pm)

We will be putting together care packages for our Weekday Preschool teachers.

We need at least 23 of the following items:

- small candles
- lotions
- lip balms
- \$10 gift cards (Target, Wal-Mart)
- gum
- Kind bars

Don't forget to order your ARBC t-shirt!

We have designed a shirt that is tied to the four aspects of our Vision Process:
 Radical Hospitality
 Transformative Relationships
 Engaging Worship
 Faithful Service

These will be great to wear for ARBC events, mission opportunities, and help us have a more visible presence within our community.



To place an order, call the church office or visit our website:
arbc.com/arbc-tshirts-adult

The cost of each shirt is \$15.



September Birthdays

8 Scott Dill	26 Claire Sang
8 Mildred West	27 Mark Young
9 Harper Collins	28 Kathy Sudduth
12 Cameron Giordano	29 Ned Page
16 Ellen League	30 Dana Miller
20 Gerald Duchinski	30 David Sudduth
24 Jim McCarter	

AUGUSTA ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

1823 AUGUSTA STREET

GREENVILLE, SC 29605

WWW.ARBC.COM

864-232-2712

HAPPENING THIS MONTH:

COFFEE AND DONUTS
Sunday, September 1



WEDNESDAY NIGHT KICK-OFF
ARBC ON MISSION

Wednesday, September 4



CHURCH-WIDE LUNCH
Sunday, September 8

FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS
Thursday, September 12



Church Staff

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

WCEP Staff

Mandy Anderson, *Director*
Preschool Education Program
Mary Dell Fletcher, *Director*
After School Program

AUGUSTA ROAD
BAPTIST CHURCH