

THE VOICE

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



Pastor and church leadership writer Carey Nieuwhof recently wrote a blog post entitled, "10 Things That Ain't Church." I will be the first to say that we are the church, not the building, and we take the church with us

everywhere we go as we represent Christ to the world, but his list is worth considering. Commenting on the waning worship attendance and church life participation patterns facing even the largest and most attraction-driven churches, he includes:

1. Watching Worship Online
2. Listening to a Podcast
3. Virtual Pastors (the preachers you watch online or TV)
4. That Charitable Thing You Started
5. Coffee with Friends
6. Gathering At Your House
7. A Walk in the Woods/On the Beach
8. Family Devotions
9. Church Surfing (moving from church to church whenever it suits you)
10. Anonymity

The technological advances that enable people to stream worship services online are important tools for keeping us connected with those who travel, work when worship happens, or who are homebound or caring for those who are. It will never, however, replace physically being present with the community of faith for worship.

I too am inspired by some of the greatest proclaimers of the gospel whose thoughts can be accessed through books, videos, and podcasts. That will never be a substitute for sitting across from someone to whom you can bear your soul without

fear of judgment, or who will hold your hand in times of crisis, and who will give you the time, attention, and spiritual support you need.

Acts of charity are desperately needed. We need more people entering the nonprofit sector. But if the charitable acts do not lead to disciple making and the development of a worshipping, scripture-studying community, it isn't church.

Coffee with friends is crucial to my sanity. It is different, however, than my fellow Christian pilgrims who will keep me accountable and encouraged, and who make me want to be a better disciple.

Dinner parties are great. I want to go to more of them. If it doesn't provide an avenue for worship, study, prayer, and spiritual growth, something is missing. It isn't church.

I give thanks for God's creation, and I am moved to worship by it when I am immersed in it. I cannot do faith and church alone. I have to relate to and love others.

Finally, true church requires deep commitment and vulnerability. It requires the spiritual discipline of showing up, not just for you, but for others. It requires that we open ourselves to people. We covenant with them to be who they need us to be, and they covenant with us to be who we need them to be.

Each of the things on Nieuwhof's list are great in and of themselves. They offer avenues for connection and even some spiritual advancement. They are not, however, a substitute for church. Don't think I'm simply piling on by agreeing with him. In fact, as you travel with your family this summer, I hope you will take advantage of some of these things. I hope that on your travels you will use them

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JUNE CALENDAR

2 SUNDAY

- Coffee & Donuts (9:30 am)
- Youth and Children to Big Air (1:15 pm)
- Retirement Drop-In (2:00 pm)
- Youth Group (3:15 pm)

5 WEDNESDAY

- Men's Prayer Breakfast (7:00 am)
- Noon Bible Study (12:00 pm)

9 SUNDAY

- Deacons Meeting (9:15 am)
- Youth Group (3:00 pm)

12 WEDNESDAY

- No Noon Bible Study*
- Choir Rehearsal (7:15 pm)

13 THURSDAY

- Friendly Neighbors (11:30 am)

16 SUNDAY

- Father's Day

19 WEDNESDAY

- No Noon Bible Study*

20 THURSDAY

- Administrative Meeting Team (5:30 pm)

23 SUNDAY

- Youth and Children Pool Party (12:00 pm)

24 MONDAY

- VBS (6:00 pm)

25 TUESDAY

- VBS (6:00 pm)

26 WEDNESDAY

- Noon Bible Study (12:00 pm)
- VBS (6:00 pm)

27 THURSDAY

- VBS (6:00 pm)

30 SUNDAY

- Youth Group (3:00 pm)



Vacation Bible School at ARBC is going to look a little different this summer. As we seek ways to engage with our community and to love our neighbors, we have decided to move our VBS down the street this year. ARBC's children and the children of Shemwood Crossing Apartments will be joining together to study four stories about how we can "Experience the Ride of a Lifetime with God."

VBS will be June 24-27 from 6:00-8:00 pm. We are looking for volunteers to serve in lots of different areas. If you are interested in being a part of this exciting ministry, please contact us soon! Whether you are available one or all four days, we need your help.

If you are interested in your child, grandchild, neighbor, friends attending this summer with us, please let Bridget or the church office know.



Save the date for Summer on Augusta, which is June 20-23. Events will be going on all along Augusta Road as local businesses celebrate Summer in the South with festivities, live music, block parties, BBQ, Tomato Pie Contest, kids activities, and field day games.

Great food, cool drinks, live music and much more!

We need 6 volunteers to help at our table on Thursday, June 20. Sign-up with the church office or Bridget.

KEEP US UPDATED!

If you've had any changes to your contact information (phone number, address, or email), please let the church office know.



Have you seen sand buckets around the church lately? If so, you might be wondering what this is all about. This summer, we are inviting all of our families with children at church as well as the Bears and Dinosaur classes in the Weekday program, and our After School Program to join us in a Summer Bucket List experience.

This project was curated by a group of Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Children and Family Ministers known as the Wise Guides Collective. They presented this project last year at CBF National and I couldn't wait to share it with ARBC.

Each family will be receiving a bucket filled with resources to help connect our families to one another, to God, and to our church. No matter where they are! There are ten guided activities, prayer experiences, and service opportunities included in the buckets. These can be done at home or on vacation. I'm looking forward to seeing and hearing all about how these are used this summer. If you have not already received one, drop by the church office to get yours!

We've got an exciting summer ahead! Make sure to check out information about VBS, Camp Prism for 3rd-5th grades, Unidiversity Youth Camp, and our Appalachian Mission Trip.

Congratulations on making it through a school year and may your summer be full of family time, love, and moments of rest.

Grace and Peace,
Bridget

SAVE THE DATE! **Children and Youth**

Sunday, June 23

Pool Party

12:00 pm

YOUTH

Youth Group Dates

June:

June 2, June 9, June 23, June 30

July:

No Youth

We meet at 3:00 pm on Sunday afternoons

UNIVERSITY

July 22-27

**Open to those who've finished
6th-12th grade**

Maryville College in Knoxville, TN



July 16-19

**Open to those who've finished
3rd, 4th, and 5th grade**

**Bonclarken Conference Center
in Flat Rock, NC**

Weekly Contributions

MAY 5	\$14,092.00
MAY 12	\$4,473.20
MAY 19	\$8,804.51
MAY 26	\$5,389.55

AVG. WEEKLY GIVING: \$8,189.82

WEEKLY NEED: \$7,731.89

MONTHLY NEED: \$30,927.56



June Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1 Kaylyn Guthrie | 13 Lynn Johnston |
| 1 Walt Harrison | 13 JoAnn Watkins |
| 3 Teddie Gault | 18 Floride Carter |
| 3 Carroll Kirby | 19 Lyn Lewis |
| 6 Cynthia Webster | 22 Whitney Parker |
| 8 David Sutherland | 29 Brittany Free |

THANK YOU!

Good morning,

Pendleton Place would like to express our gratitude to everyone who showed up to volunteer with us for Hands on Greenville Day!

With your help, all 90 yards of mulch were spread across our grounds, and our campus looks amazing! Our staff appreciates the work you put in, and we know that our clients will feel welcome coming into the space you worked so diligently to beautify for them. We truly could not have accomplished this tremendous task without your hard work.

-Staff of Pendleton Place

JUNE MISSION COLLECTION:

PENDLETON PLACE YOUTH CENTER

We are collecting items in June for the Youth Drop-in Center at Pendleton Place.

Items Needed: 100 white bath towels, 200 white wash cloths, Laundry Detergent, Bleach, Dryer Sheets

Items may be dropped off in the church office.

SAVE THE DATE:

July:

- 7/4 Fourth of July (Office Closed)
- 7/11 Friendly Neighbors
- 7/14 Quarterly Business Meeting
- 7/16-19 Camp Prism (Children)
- 7/22-27 UniDiversity Camp (Youth)

For a full listing of upcoming ARBC events, visit our website at www.arbc.com or download our church app.

Congratulations to our 2019 graduates!



Patrick McCarter, graduate of Wade Hampton High School. Patrick plans to attend Clemson University.

Jake Dill, grandson of Barbara Dill, graduated from The Citadel on May 4. Jake received his degree in Business Administration.

From the Pastor (continued)

to find Sabbath rest, enjoyment, and laughter. I hope they may expand your mind and open your horizons. I hope that through our app, videos, Facebook posts, and newsletters you are able to stay connected with us while you are away. I just believe in the power of being part of a true church in fully living into our walk with Christ, and that there is no substitute for it.

So if you are in town this summer, I pray you will do everything you can to be part of our church. Know that if you aren't with us, we miss you. We don't miss you because it means that we have one less person to count in worship, or because we have to find a substitute for worship care with the children, or serving as a host at the doors on Sunday morning. We don't just miss having another mouth to feed at our fellowship meals, or that it would make the next mission project so much easier if one more person showed up. We just miss YOU.

We miss ALL of you. We miss your joys and sorrows, your laughter and tears, your beautiful (or not so beautiful) singing voice, your prayers of praise and lament, your acts of service and your ideas for making things more missional.

Without all of what you offer as an act of faith in Christ and offering to God our church is not quite complete. We want to be true church for you, and we want you to be true church for us.

As Jacob and Laban parted ways in Genesis, they built a pillar and made a covenant with each other. In parting Laban said, "The Lord watch between you and me, when we are absent one from the other." That is my prayer this summer, that the Lord will watch between us, care for us all, and bring us back together. I pray that God will use all of the tools at our disposal to maintain connection between us, but that God will bring us back together to be true church for and with one another as soon as possible.

May you and your family be blessed this summer. Remember that the invitation to be church with us is always open, and that there are plenty of opportunities to be church with us this summer as well.

Peace,



Rev. W. Mattison King



On Sunday, May 19 we celebrated the dedication of Porter Grace and Palmer Ann Anderson, and their parents Mike and Mandy.



Michael Kokolis, Jr. was baptized on Sunday, May 12 by his mom, Rev. Bridget Kokolis and his grandfather, Rev. Dr. Rick Wilson.



We also welcomed Sandra Walters as the newest member of ARBC on Sunday, April 7.

AUGUSTA ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH

1823 AUGUSTA STREET

GREENVILLE, SC 29605

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864-232-2712

HAPPENING THIS MONTH:

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST
Wednesday, June 5



FRIENDLY NEIGHBORS
Thursday, June 13

**SUMMER ON AUGUSTA
BLOCK PARTY**
Thursday, June 20



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
June 24-27

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

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

AUGUSTA ROAD
BAPTIST CHURCH