



VESTAVIA HILLS
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Notes

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER AND PROGRAMMING AT VESTAVIA METHODIST



MARCH 2 (ASH WEDNESDAY)
Bacon cheeseburgers, hot dogs, french fries, baked beans & salad

MARCH 9
Chicken salad or wild rice soup (kids: pizza)

MARCH 16
Meat or veggie lasagna with garlic bread and salad.

1952 2022
THE YEAR TO SERVE
70 YEARS OF SERVING OTHERS AT VHUMC

1952 2022
FEBRUARY
LOVE

SERVE OPPORTUNITY
Week 8: Write prayers and inspirational messages for PB&J bags

LUKE 10:27
You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself.

The Notes is a weekly publication highlighting the ministries of Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church. If you have information you would like to highlight, please contact Emily Forsythe at eforsythe@vhumc.org. Deadline for information is Monday at noon.



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Pancake Dinner is Back!

To kick off the Lenten Season, VHUMC Missions is bringing back the pancake dinner. Join us next Tuesday, March 1, for this fun event. We will have games, king cake, the VHHS Jazz Band, and pancakes galore. You will not want to miss it! After the dinner, the burning of the ashes will take place outside. Your \$7 contribution will feed you and another \$7 contribution will feed 20 children through our meal packing event Rise Against Hunger in April.

Ash Wednesday at Vestavia Methodist

Through the centuries, Christians have carefully prepared for Easter with spiritual practices and a recommitment to our faith. We call this forty-day season of preparation Lent - a time for growing in our faith through repentance, fellowship, prayer, fasting, and giving. It is a time to search our souls by reflecting and taking stock. Some Christians mark the Lenten season by "giving up" a specific food or something to which they have a particular attachment. Others add a new spiritual discipline or practice to their lives. In whatever way you choose to observe Lent, the season is designed to help followers of Christ understand God's redemptive act through Jesus Christ.

Ash Wednesday, March 2, is the official beginning of Lent. On this day of penitence, ashes are placed on our forehead to represent our mortality. They are placed in the sign of the cross to remind us that as Christians we die in Christ and are saved by His amazing grace. We are providing three opportunities next Wednesday for you to embrace the sacred meaning of this holy day and receive the ashes on your forehead to begin your Lenten journey.

- 6:30-9:00 am - Parking Lot Prayers and Ashes
- 7:00-8:00 am - Drop in Ashes in the Rutland Memorial Chapel
- 6:00-7:00 pm - Traditional Ash Wednesday Service

in the Sanctuary

Welcome New Members

Please welcome Bill and Sandra Dowell back to VHUMC. They were very active a few years ago, so we're delighted to welcome them back. They joined in the 9:45 worship service. Please give them a warm VHUMC welcome when you see them.

Celebrating Baptisms

We celebrate Ella Gray Mash, who was baptized on February 20, at the 9:45 service. The proud parents are Katie and Phillip Mash. Awesome siblings are Audrey Kate and Phillip Mash. Welcome to the family, Ella Gray!

Thank You

Vestavia Hills United Methodist Church is a wonderful church that is made up of wonderful men and women who seek to live out the Christ-centered life of purpose. So many people say "yes" to the call to serve the church in Committee or Team Leadership, and we are grateful for each and every one. As they share their gifts with the church they help make the Body of Christ stronger.

We want to express a word of thanks to Mike Gregg for his many years of service as our Church Lay Leader. Over the past nine years, Mike has given so much of his time and creative leadership to serving as our Lay Leader and previously as the Chair of our SPRC. His willingness to serve has allowed us to have a consistent presence at all of our committee meetings across the years - helping us navigate our way through many ministry opportunities. At the end of 2021, Mike rolled off as our Lay Leader, but will continue to serve our church as a member of the Finance Team. We are now blessed to have Harry Dinken and Kym Prewitt serving as our Co-Lay

CARELINE: 205-822-9336
WEEKEND OR AFTER-HOUR HEALTH
EMERGENCIES: 205-914-3121

VHUMC will not publish the names and/or concerns of persons known by VHUMC to be minors (18 years of age or younger) without the permission of said minor's legal guardian.

Prayer Requests

Cammie Atkins	John Taylor
Frances Hardwick	Julie Carroll
Courtenay Renneker	Ed McTyre
Ruth Bartow	Betty Thompson
Guy Harrison	Brenda Cash
Courtenay Renneker	Jean Morton
Judy Bates	Jim Thompson
Melissa Holt	Brian Cooke
Cliff Saxon	Dan Peace
Ellen Benson	John Watkins
Mary Anne Hooper	Brenda Correll
Sandra Sims	Hank Patterson
Judy Billmeier	Dot Walker
Earl Hortberg	Jamie DeMarco
Jennifer Skipper	Emily Phillips
Patti Braswell	Dan Wise
Evelyn Johnson	Larry Edwards
Reagan Smith	Marion Phillips
Lilla Brown	Steve Yates
Glenda Jones	Lane Fields
Gary Spearman	Norman Putman
Jean Burford	
Dani Lorsen	
Julia Stowe	
Sunny Campbell	
Leigh McLain	

GLOBAL PRAYER REQUEST

- All of the Health Industry Workers
- All of our First Responders
- All who are struggling in these challenging times

We also continue to offer prayers of healing and comfort for all of the families impacted with the coronavirus. *In an effort to keep the prayer request list current, names will be listed for two weeks unless we are otherwise notified. Thank you. Please let us know of your immediate family members serving in the military. Contact VHUMC (769.0109) with prayer request information.*

Resources

	Actual	Variance
Donations last week	\$225,215	+\$139,914
July 2021 - Jan. 2022		
Donations	\$2,489,680	+\$99,662
Other Income	\$81,920	-\$4,065
Total Income	\$2,571,600	+\$95,597

(+) Better or (-) worse for the church than our target
 *Includes COA, Summer Days, VDS, and Vestavia Dance

Leaders. Harry and Kym have both served God through our church in a variety of ways across the years, and we know that they will be wonderful in their new roles.

We also want to thank Roger Steur for his years of service as the Chair of Church Council. Roger allowed his time as our chair to be extended beyond its normal length to help provide stability across the pandemic. Roger kept the administrative areas of our church moving forward during an unprecedented time and helped keep us focused on ministry rather than stalling in the face of the unknown. Roger will continue serving our church as a member of our SPRC Team starting in June. We are now blessed to have William Hocutt chair our Council. William has served as the chair of our Finance Team in the past, and we know that he will give excellent leadership to the council.

Please keep all of these wonderful leaders of our Administrative Teams in your prayers, along with the leaders of our Ministry teams, and every person who makes up each team, board, and committee of our church. Pray that they will all seek God's vision for our church and will lead us to follow God's will.

A Wonderful Advent Offering

This year's Advent offering benefitted our VHUMC Car Ministry. You generously gave \$43,840. Because of this giving, we will be able to place more people in cars this year and our wait list will be gone. We appreciate your gifts and donated cars so much. If you would like to donate a car, please contact Anna Watts (awatts@vhumc.org).

Better Together

Our first Better Together fellowship lunch was so well received, that we have decided to host again on Sunday, March 13. This is an invitation to bring your joys and hardships to the table for a fellowship lunch with your church family. In addition to the fellowship hall seating, we will have tables set up in the Genesis room, which opens to the playground, to extend the table for families with young children. We will be serving a delicious lunch of breaded chicken or pork chops, scalloped potatoes, green beans, chicken fingers & tots for the kids. We are excited to offer a potluck style dessert table this month, led by some of our congregation's best bakers! Please visit our website to register and be a part of this Church-wide event.

Easter Season Save the Dates

As we begin the Lenten season together, mark your calendars for all the upcoming events in the life of our church. You can find all the details on our Easter Season webpage at vhumc.org/easter.

- Hike to the Cross | March 19 at 9:00 am
- Palm Sunday | April 10 in all services
- Easter Egg Hunt | April 10 at 3:00 pm
- Holy Week Lunches | April 11, 12 and 13 at noon
- Maundy Thursday Service | April 14 at 7:00 pm

- Good Friday Service | April 15 at 7:00 pm
- Easter Sunday | April 17 at 6:30 am, 8:30 am, 9:45 am and 11:00 am

Holy Week Lunches

Please join us for our Holy Week Worship Services and lunches on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of Holy Week, April 11, 12, and 13. We have three gifted lay speakers this year who will share a time in their life where God moved in a powerful way. The worship services will be in Tyson Hall at noon with lunch available immediately following worship in the Fellowship Hall. For those who cannot be present physically, the worship services will be live streamed. We hope you will join us as we move through this most holy week together. Please click the links to reserve your spot for lunch.

March Hilltoppers Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday, March 15, at 10:30 am, in the Fellowship Hall. Jim Phillips, Alabama historian, will be joining us. For information or to make a lunch reservation (\$6.00) call Margaret Flowers (769-0112/ mflowers@vhumc.org) no later than 11:00 am on Friday, March 11. Please note the price and, if possible, have correct change or an extra dollar bill.

Vestavia Hilltoppers is a VHUMC-sponsored organization for persons of retirement age, which meets each month for lunch and a program. They also sponsor trips and other activities that are publicized at meetings. Guests and new members are welcome.

Prayers & Inspirational Messages

For this week's serve opportunity, we will write prayers, inspirational messages, and blessings on index cards to be given those served by our missions ministry. These cards will be given to our food pantry recipients and others. Once you have finished your card/blessings, please deliver them to the missions office.

Ongoing Outreach

FOOD PANTRY

Food Pantry needs breakfast items such as oatmeal, pancake mix, syrup, cereal, cereal bars, pop tarts, and fruit cups. If you would like to bring fresh fruit, you could bring it on the day before our next distribution, which is Wednesday, March 2. We distribute every other Wednesday. Thank you.

OAK MOUNTAIN MISSION

Oak Mountain Missions is still only open Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday if you would like to take

a load to them. Winter clothing, coats, blankets, and linens are needed. You may also put things in the three bins around the church. We deliver once a week.

Congregational Care

HOSPITALS, REHAB & EXTENDED CARE

Leigh Smith, Alice Spearman

SYMPATHY

To Martha Summey in the death of her sister, Susan Bradshaw of Rome, GA, on January 30th.

To Charlotte & Butch Williams in the death of his brother, Chuck Williams of Raleigh, NC, on February 4th.

To the family of Annette Veazey, long-time pianist for the Celebration Singers and Gospel Jubilee Singers, in her death on February 8th.

To Laurie & Charles Murrell, Rachel & David Gordon, Mandy & Charles Murrell in the death of Laurie's brother-in-law, Rachel & Charles' uncle, and Madison, Sarah, & Emma's great uncle, Whitney Stevens of Fayetteville, TN on February 9th.

To Melinda & Jack DiBenedetto in the death of Melinda's mother, Mary Ann Goodson, on February 16th.

To Sarah Corinne & David Glenn in the death of Sarah Corinne's father, Butch Shotts of Valdosta, GA, on February 18th.

CONGRATULATIONS

To Casey Lee Henry Porter in her Baptism, and in the Baptism of her daughter, Hazel Fay Porter, on January 28th in the Rutland-Memorial Chapel. Hazel's paternal grandparents are Claudia & Irvine Porter.

To Ashley & Jonathan Burson in their joining as members of our congregation, January 30th at the 9:45 am service.

To Margaret & Wilson Yeilding in the birth of their son, Foster Fletcher Yeilding, II, on February 2nd. Robert Murphy is the maternal grandfather, and Leigh Ann & Foster Yeilding are the paternal grandparents.

To Karen Krekelberg in the birth of her granddaughter, Amelia Mae McSwain, on February 8th. Rebecca and Alex McSwain are the proud parents.

To Wendy & Pat Henry in the birth of their grandson, Truett Joseph Helms, on February 13th. Emma & Tucker Helms are the proud parents, and Julia Henry is the maternal great-grandmother.

To Sally & Jacob Garrison in the Baptism of their daughter, Frances Lynn Garrison, on February 13th at the 11:00am Worship Service.

To Andi & Joey Marquez in their joining our VHUMC church family, and upon the Baptisms of their daughter, Ellis Riley Marquez and son, Joseph Davis Marquez, who now join as Preparatory Members, all on February 13th at the 9:45am service.