

THE SALTSHAKER

SEPTEMBER 2024 | VOLUME 283

Evangelism Workshop

October 4 | 6:00 - 9:00 PM

Many of us enjoyed the television broadcasts of the recent Summer Olympics in Paris, France. The ecstasy of victory and the agony of defeat were experienced not only by the athletes but by millions of fans supporting them from their respective countries. If you are a sports fan, do you find yourself excited by the excellence and beauty of the performances? Do you find yourself engaging your family, friends, and work mates the next day in conversation about what you witnessed?

Why do you think this happens? CS Lewis suggests it is "worship". As humans, we are made to worship (to value and ascribe worth to something). We can't help it. If we experience something great, like seeing a world-record athletic performance, we want to share it with others. As Christians, however, the ultimate object of our worship is our Creator and Savior, Jesus Christ. If we value Him most, if we know that He loves us and has saved us, shouldn't we be excited to talk to our friends and acquaintances about Him? Shouldn't we be more knowledgeable about how to tell others the "Good News" and encourage each other in doing so?

For each of us at AVPC, there may be different barriers that hinder our effectiveness. We each have different natural skills and abilities, but we all benefit from encouragement and practice! That is why the Outreach Team is sponsoring an Evangelism Workshop on Friday, October 4, from 6:00 - 9:00 PM. Stephen Merwin, a gifted communicator and Director of RUF International at UAB, will lead us in this endeavor. Boxed dinners will be provided for those who come straight from work. Please consider joining! You can sign up on the church website or you can use the QR code below.



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Women To Women Fall Bible Study

Exodus: God's People Redeemed

The book of Exodus reveals God as our Deliverer; He is a God who is both willing and able to redeem His people from the harsh reign of oppression. In this study of Exodus, you'll witness the stunning movement of God in the redemption of His people. As you study, you will come to recognize how your spiritual journey reflects the Israelites' physical journey. As God moves mightily on behalf of the Israelites to free them from the power of their enemy, you'll gain insight into the faithfulness and strength of God to redeem you from the power of your enemy as well.

Mondays

Starting September 9
2:30 - 3:30 PM
AVPC Conference Room
Childcare not provided

Wednesdays

Starting September 11
9:00 - 11:00 AM
AVPC Church Parlor
Childcare provided

Wednesdays

Starting September 11
6:00 - 7:30 PM
At the home of Lea Anne Parker:
4725 Old Looney Mill Road
Childcare not provided

Fridays

Starting September 6
1:00 - 2:30 PM
At the home of Judy Bates:
5349 Meadow Garden Lane
Childcare not provided

Study guides available in the Church Parlor for a cost of \$14.00

*Questions? Contact Amy MacCaughelty at 205-706-6016
or the AVPC Church Office at 205-967-0680*

WOMEN'S MINISTRY CONTINUED

WOMEN'S FALL LUNCHEON

Sunday, September 22
immediately following
the late service.

All ladies of AVPC are
invited and encouraged
to attend. No cost and no
reservations necessary.

Come enjoy a delicious lunch
and fellowship!

Childcare is not provided.

PLEASE HELP US THROW A

BABY SHOWER

in honor of

NINA OGDEN

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9

7:00-8:30 PM

AT THE HOME OF VICKI BARBER
430 HEATHERWOOD FORREST CIRCLE
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35244

JOIN US AS WE LOVE, ENCOURAGE,
AND PRAY FOR NINA OGDEN AS WELL AS PRESENT A
GIFT FROM THEIR SISTERS IN CHRIST.



YOU MAY GIVE CASH, MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO
AVPC, WITH "BABY SHOWER" ON THE MEMO LINE, OR
SCAN THE QR CODE ABOVE

PLEASE GIVE BY SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S RETREAT OCTOBER 11-12



LOCATION:

SHOCCO SPRINGS RETREAT CENTER

QUESTIONS? CONTACT

BLAKE HARRIS AT BLAKE@AVPC.ORG

Men's Fall Events

FIRST MONDAYS, 6:30 - 7:30 AM

Men's Prayer – Fellowship Hall

Men of all ages, join us once a month this
fall to pray for the men of our church.
We'll meet for breakfast and prayer in
Fellowship Hall from 6:30-7:30 AM on the
following dates: Sept. 9, Oct. 7, Nov. 4,
Dec. 2.

THURSDAYS, 9:00 - 10:00 AM

Men's Coffee – Conference Room

Join us for coffee, donuts, and a time of
hearing devotionals and life stories from
men in our congregation.

AVPC NEWS

OUR CONDOLENCES

We want to express our deepest sympathies to the following:

- Brooke DeRieuz for the recent death of her father, Glenn Bicknell.
- Jim Baird for the recent death of his mother, Jane McMillian Baird.
- Denise Davidson for the recent death of her sister, Celia Fanning.
- John McCary for the recent death of his nephew and sister.
- Shea Turner for the recent death of her father, Robert Kelley.

You are all in our thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

MISSION OPPORTUNITY

Please join AVPC supported MTW Missionaries Santo and Mary Ellen Garofalo November 23-December 1 in the city of Palermo, Sicily, Italy. Santo and Mary Ellen would like six to eight individuals to assist a church plant in Palermo by putting together a traditional Thanksgiving feast. You will spend time in schools and other contexts sharing the Thanksgiving story and conversing in English with both the youth and old. For more information scan the QR to the right or contact Santo directly at pastorsanto@gmail.com



LABOR DAY - OFFICES CLOSED

Church offices will be closed on Monday, September 2, in observance of Labor Day.

DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE

The 2024 pictorial directories are now available in the Parlor and the Welcome Center!

minutes

SESSION MEETING • JULY 16, 2024

- Approved Ben and Jacklyn McGlothlin for membership.
- Approved full time monthly support at \$500/month for Pete and Ruth Mitchell serving with MTW in France.
- Called a congregational meeting to vote on the sale of .07 acre to Jefferson County for replacement of the bridge on Caldwell Mill Road over Acton Creek.
- Approved allowing the Facilities budget to be overspent by up to \$30,000 for maintenance needs.
- Approved Matt Jackson to serve as chair and Clint Cvacho as vice-chair of the GHK Board through the end of 2024.

DIACONATE MEETING • AUGUST 13, 2024

- The Finance Team welcomed two new members, Wendi Drace and Lynn Wheeler.
- The Protection Leadership Team is scheduled to offer an information table at the 9/29 Fellowship Dinner.
- Update from Tech Team on installation of security camera at Altadena Park.
- The GHK Board has nominated Matt Jackson to serve as chair and Clint Cvacho as vice-chair.

CANADIDATE WEEKEND: SEPTEMBER 7 & 8

We will be having a candidate weekend on September 7 and 8. There will be a couple of opportunities for you to meet Kyle and his wife, Gretchen. We encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities listed below.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

Kyle and Gretchen will be in the Fellowship Hall to meet with members of our Sunday School Communities throughout the day. They will also take some time to meet with our youth and children. If you are unavailable to attend at the time for your Community, feel free to attend any of the other Community meetings.

- 8:00 AM – 9:30 AM – Fellowship Hall Community (Fellowship Hall)
- 9:45 AM – 10:15 AM – Youth (Youth House)
- 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM – Conference Room Community (Fellowship Hall)
- 1:30 PM – 3:00 PM – Acton Hall Community (Fellowship Hall)
- 3:15 PM – 3:45 PM – Preteens (Fireplace Room)
- 4:00 PM – 5:30 PM – Mezzanine Community (Fellowship Hall)



More information on Kyle and Gretchen can be found with this QR Code

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

Kyle will preach during both worship services on Sunday morning. During the Sunday School hour, all members are invited to a joint Sunday School in the Fellowship Hall to hear from Kyle. On Sunday evening at 6:00 PM, the Session has called a congregational meeting in the sanctuary to vote on whether to call Kyle Parker as our next Senior Pastor.

Thank you for your prayers throughout this past year! We would not be at this point without them. Continue to pray for this candidate weekend, and for Kyle and Gretchen. We look forward to you meeting them!

GOD'S HOUSE KINDERGARTEN



We're excited for another year at God's House Kindergarten!
-Lydia Moore, *GHK Administrative Assistant*

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

YOUNG ADULT FIRST SUNDAY LUNCH

Join us for lunch after church on Sunday, September 8, 12:30-2:00pm at the home of Michael and Amy MacCaugherty!



YOUTH HAPPENINGS

As I engage in student ministry and as I live in a household with one student left, my year does not revolve around the 12-month calendar, but around the 10-month school year. Thus, I am currently kicking off a “new year.” As such, I have spent time recently praying over what my theme would be in student ministry as well as my personal life this school year, and the Lord kept bringing me back to the word “trust”. We are all in a season of transition here at church as we await a new pastor, and I find myself in a season of uncertainty and transition as we sent our daughter off to college (our first) and are now trying to get used to not having her in the house as well as trying to figure out how we are going to pay for it all! What about you, what are you tempted to fear right now? Is it a new year at school full of new classes and teachers (with new expectations)? Is it a new job? Is it changes at your current job? Is it a looming home repair? Is it a looming medical test or the fallout from a medical test that has just been performed? Is the anxiety caused by the simple act of grocery shopping right now as you try to reconcile the few things in your cart with the exorbitant amount the cashier just quoted you? Is it the prospect of Harris winning in November? Is it the prospect of Trump winning in November? Is it the prospect that either has to win?

I recently read a story about a man who had the chance to meet Mother Teresa and asked her to pray for him. His prayer request was that the Lord would give him direction. She responded by saying she would not pray for direction but, rather, that the Lord would give him greater trust. “Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.” (Proverbs 3:5) This is such a well known verse, but one that is so hard to live out. As I engage with life and all the reasons for fear listed above, my own understanding is what I most naturally lean on, in spite of the fact that the end result is usually failure and/or fear. This school year, I want to let go of fear and I want to rest in the Lord, I want to trust God, to fully trust Him with my life, my resources, and my choices. Join me in this journey of trust and feel free to encourage me by sharing ways you find yourself trusting in the Lord with all your heart and not leaning on your understanding. I would love to be on this journey with you!

Peace,

Clint Cvacho
Youth Director

LOOKING AHEAD...

SEPTEMBER 4 | Small Groups Resumes

SEPTEMBER 15 | Youth Group Resumes

OCTOBER 13 | Youth Service Night (Bridge Night)

OCTOBER 20 | 6th Annual AVPC Hippie Games

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

As many of us are settling into the new school routines, our AVPC Kids team is jumping for joy over the return of regular ministry events. God has richly blessed us with teachers and volunteers who are eagerly anticipating this upcoming year with your children! Our desire is to partner with you as we root our AVPC children in God's grand story for their future flourishing. Take notice of our fall ministry initiatives as some do have slight changes.

WORSHIP CENTER: Children ages four through first grade are invited to attend Worship Center after the Pastoral Prayer in early and late services. During this time, we discover and explore the foundations of corporate worship. ***NEW*** On communion weeks, children will rejoin the congregation immediately following the sermon.

HYMN SING: From 9:45-10:00 AM each Sunday, children ages toddler through 5th grade are invited to worship as we hear the stories behind our great hymns of faith and anchor their words in our hearts. Children ages toddler through 5K meet in room E-15 of the God's House building. Those in first through fifth grades will meet in the Adult Choir Room.

SUNDAY SCHOOL DISCIPLESHIP: From 10:00-10:45 AM each Sunday, children are divided into discipleship groups where they dive into the wonders of God's word and character. Our leaders for these groups have prayerfully committed to nine months with your children. What an amazing gift!

BRIDGE NIGHTS: From 5:00-6:30 PM, AVPC Kids goes crazy fun! (Think VBS for one night – on a weekly basis) Each week we jump into the wonder of God's redemptive story and plan for His people through games, crafts, silly snacks and music. This is an excellent time to invite friends and neighbors!

"From everlasting to everlasting the Lord's love is with those who fear Him, and His righteousness with their children's children."
- Psalms 103:17

For Christ's Crown and Covenant,

Catie Lumpkin
Director of
Children's Ministries



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

9/1	Alex Beverly	9/15	Howard English	9/23	Patti Waldrip
9/1	Hunter Boggs	9/15	Irwin McCallister	9/25	John Franklin
9/1	Elle Campbell	9/15	Shirley Wilson	9/25	Griffin Klose
9/3	Christy Bingham	9/16	Lauren Hall	9/26	Daniel Lumpkin
9/3	Patrice Bonner	9/17	Matt Jackson	9/26	Jan Morris
9/4	Judah Tate	9/19	Molly Kate Tate	9/27	Alex Foster
9/6	Jill Nelson	9/21	Brad Allison	9/28	Greg Waldrip
9/7	Debbie Anderson	9/21	Emily Boggs	9/28	Lisa Williams
9/10	Rosemarie Putman	9/21	Dennis Self	9/29	Jim Deason
9/11	Nicole Collier	9/22	Bob Bratton	9/29	Rise Marxer
9/12	Marjorie McClenny	9/22	Lynn Brogan	9/30	Lynn Carter
9/13	Danny Wachs	9/22	Nancy Klose	9/30	Heather Prettyman
9/14	Lynn Beckett	9/22	Zadyn Labreche		
9/15	Vicki Barber	9/22	Jennifer Weldon		

MISSIONS NEWS

If you missed the Summer Missions Report Dinner on August 18, you missed a real treat. The sharing was a true blessing for everyone. Congratulations to Finneas Ireland, the winner of the children's "Read a Missionary Biography Initiative". He read six Biographies since last February's conference! Finneas shared that he was amazed by what hardships missionaries go through to spread the gospel so that everyone may hear. Amen!

MISSIONS CONFERENCE 2025

Please be in prayer as the Missions Team begins revving up the engines in preparation for the Missions conference in February 2025. This conference promises to be exceptional as we have heard from several of our missionaries from across the globe who say they will be available to come this year. Please pray with us that the plans and decisions made will be to God's glory. Thank you for always holding us up in your prayers. We truly appreciate it.

Our theme this year is: "Behold Our God: Saving the Nations" based on Psalm 67:1-2: "May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known on earth, your saving power among the nations".

JULY FINANCIAL REPORT

	BEGINNING BALANCE	INCOME	EXPENSES	TRANSFER	ENDING BALANCE
GENERAL FUND	\$105,923	\$124,614	\$146,304	(\$6,669)	\$77,564
MISSIONS	\$17,619	\$12,975	\$40,732	\$6,669	(\$3,469)
TOTAL	\$123,542	\$137,589	\$187,036	\$0	\$74,095