

# VHBC CONNECTIONS

**67 YEARS OF  
VESTAVIA HILLS  
BAPTIST CHURCH**

APRIL  
30,  
2024

SUNSET VESPERS/SAM SPRING LUNCHEON/SHRIMP BOIL/  
SPRING PRODUCE MARKET/SUMMER HAPPENINGS AT VHBC

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**SAM SPRING LUNCHEON**  
& an article about storytelling from  
Laura Tadlock



**SHRIMP BOIL**

Get your tickets now!

**SUNSET VESPERS**

& more plans for Wednesdays at VHBC



**VBS AT VHBC**

Coming in June - find out what you  
need to know and how you can help!



# CONTENTS

ON THE COVER: VHBC IN ITS EARLY DAYS - JOIN US THIS SUNDAY, MAY 5TH  
FOR AN AFTER WORSHIP RECEPTION IN THE FOYER!

# Sharing Our Stories

On Friday May 10th, our Senior Adult Ministry will be hosting our Spring Luncheon with special guest Dolores Hydock, renowned storyteller. In anticipation of her visit with us, I have been thinking a lot about storytelling. How our stories are unique and yet can be bound together in a larger story of family, community or faith. At VHBC our faith stories are quilted together in a tapestry that will be celebrated this 67th Anniversary Sunday. The stories of our founders and the stories of our continued work and faith in this place enlighten members and visitors alike of the faithfulness of God on this mountain and among God's people in seasons of distress and seasons of flourish. Our stories are important.

Once while working on a paper detailing my family systems, I peppered my dad with questions of his childhood and what summer looked like for him as a kid. He shared stories of working on the farm, playing with his siblings and keeping out of the way of the adults on much too hot days listening to the game on the radio on the sunporch. As he spoke of his grandparents, he shared a funny tidbit about my great grandfather "Da". To my recollection, Da was a 6'4", bear of a man who smelled like cigars and used few words. My dad told me Da would get one of the deputies to rush him home for lunch and make sure he made it in time for his "stories" on the television at noontime. Even my larger than life great grandfather had a hankering for a good story.



*Laura Tadlock*  
SENIOR ADULT & ADULT  
MINISTRIES COORDINATOR



As an English Literature major in college, I was indoctrinated that stories are the marrow of the human experience. Our stories tell of us individual plights of sorrow and joy, but also about the world, culture and community that we know and those that are a mystery to us. Stories illuminate truth and secrets and laughter and tears. Good stories have the power to change us, incite us, censure us and call us to more than we could imagine.

*continue on  
next page*





God's story is THE story that embodies all of these traits. God's story reveals, invites, challenges and rebukes. God's story reminds us who God is and what He desires for each of us. I was asked recently why do we continue to teach the stories of the Old Testament; our culture, community and frame of reference are so drastically different than that of Noah, Moses, Abraham and Jacob. But upon review maybe not so different at all. God is still trying to get our attention and provide pathways of care and support, while we follow our own plan and listen to our own thoughts. We tell these stories again and again to remember who God is and who we are as His children. We tell these stories to remember we serve the same God that created the world, remained faithful and present through hardship and harvest and had a purpose and plan for us. We share the stories of Jesus most Sundays- his words, his parables. And with every repeated chapter we are reminded of God's providence and plan to know and love His children and be known in return.



**I** love teaching God's story. To put ourselves in a time and setting not of our own and sit with the differences, experience the discomfort or perhaps find solace and

companionship in the familiarity of the characters thoughts, feelings, or circumstances. God's story provides both of these opportunities to know our own thin and thick stories through the lens of God's Story.

**So here is my challenge to you -**

*Engage in God's story* The hard to read, easily misunderstood and questioning parts along with the flowing prose of purpose and prayer and joy.

*Engage in your neighbor's story* How can we love our neighbor fully if we do not know their stories? Reach out and listen.

*Engage in your own story* Write it down. Share it with those you love. Listen to it and see where it might direct you to serve and love others.

**Storytelling is literally as old as time itself. So we will continue to share and teach and tell God's story over and over. Reminding us to live out our lives sharing God's story and our own stories of faith hope and love with others.**

*-Laura*

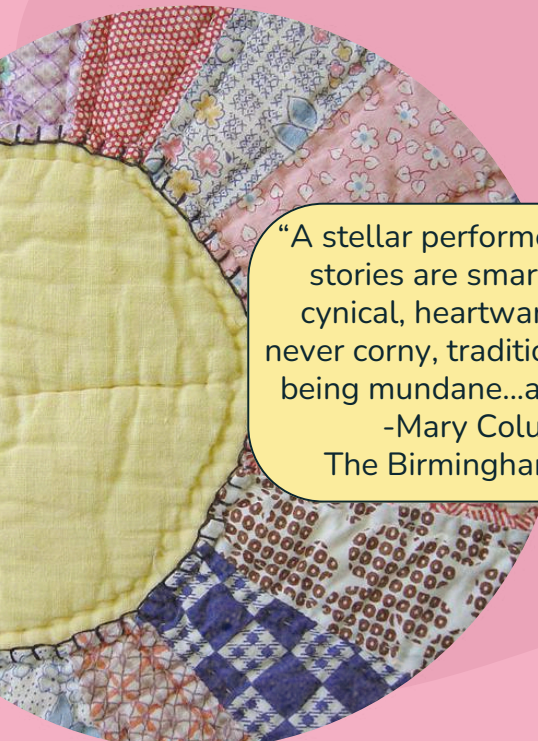
# SAM SPRING LUNCHEON

Dolores Hydock is an actress and story performer, whose work has been featured at a variety of concerts, festivals, and special events throughout the U.S. She has been a featured storyteller at the National Storytelling Festival in Jonesborough, Tennessee, a Teller-in-Residence at Jonesborough's International Storytelling Center, and her twelve CDs of original stories have all received Resources Awards from Storytelling World Magazine. Dolores lives in Birmingham, Alabama and loves to garden in her spare time.



SPEAKER: DOLORES HYDOCK

**FRIDAY,  
MAY 10TH  
11:30 AM  
\$10 AT THE  
DOOR**



"A stellar performer! Dolores' stories are smart, but not cynical, heartwarming, yet never corny, traditional without being mundane...a neat feat!"

-Mary Colurso,  
The Birmingham News

Make your reservation today for lunch and entertainment hosted by our Senior Adult Ministry (SAM) for their annual Spring Luncheon in the Fellowship Hall!

Footprint on the Sky: Voices from Chandler Mountain with storyteller, Dolores Hydock. Sign up online at [vhbc.com](http://vhbc.com), call the church office, or find us at a table on Wednesdays and Sundays before next Friday!



VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH  
INVITES YOU TO A

**SHRIMP**

*Boil*

**\$12/  
TICKET**

**MAY  
15**

**JOIN US FROM 5 PM - 7PM  
IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL & BACK  
LAWN FOR DELICIOUS FOOD,  
GREAT MUSIC, & FUN YARD GAMES!  
KIDS EAT FREE!**

2600 VESTAVIA DR. 35216  
GET TICKETS ONLINE AT  
[VHBC.COM/SHRIMP-BOIL](http://VHBC.COM/SHRIMP-BOIL)

**SCAN**



**TICKETS**



Wing Ding on Saturday, April 27th was a blast for our Holy Smokers!



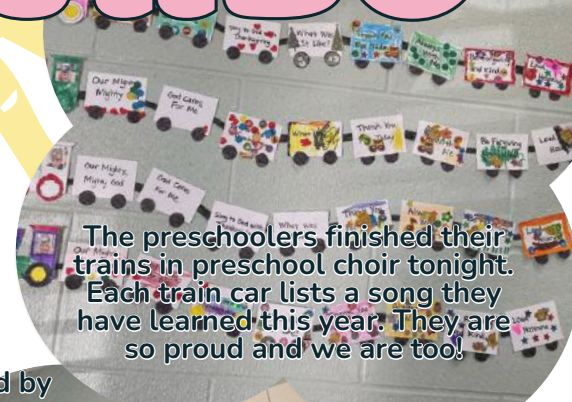
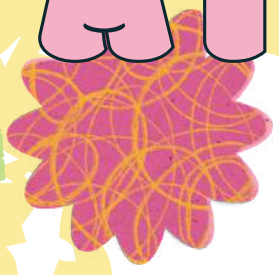
From Spring Serve to Wing Ding our VHBC members have been all over the place!



Our choir at Woodland Forrest Baptist in Tuscaloosa on Spring Serve Sunday.



# SPRING AT VHBC



The preschoolers finished their trains in preschool choir tonight. Each train car lists a song they have learned this year. They are so proud and we are too!

Our GAs were joined by Alisha Damron Seruyange, the Associate Coordinator of Alabama CBF, who shared her experiences of establishing the school in Uganda and also how a Christian school differs from a typical school in Uganda.



Some highlights of a few of our service projects on Spring Serve Sunday!





# Sunset Vespers

and more on  
Wednesdays in May



## Dinner at VHBC

**1st:** Asian-Roasted Chicken  
Thighs, Fried Rice, Veggie Egg  
Roll, Dessert

**8th:** Monte Cristo Sandwich,  
Potato Salad or Chips, &  
Dessert

**15th:** SHRIMP BOIL

**22nd:** Meatloaf, Coleslaw,  
Roasted Potatoes, Cornbread,  
and Dessert

**29th:** Poppyseed Chicken &  
Rice, Roasted Brussels &  
Bacon Salad, Roll, & Dessert

Order online at  
[vhbc.com/dinneratvhbc](http://vhbc.com/dinneratvhbc)



## This Wednesday at VHBC

Join Eric Spivey on the front lawn as he leads our Spring Sunset Vespers. Bring a chair or blanket and meet us on the lawn at 6:15 pm.

George Van Kirk and our Contemplative Prayer group will be meeting at 6 pm in the Chapel.

## Next Wednesday at VHBC

Everyone is invited to take part in our preschool and children's End of Year Music & Missions program in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm.

## Wednesday, May 15th

Go back to page 5. We're hosting our annual Shrimp Boil and you're not going to want to miss it!

## Wednesday, May 22nd

Join Eric in the Fellowship Hall at 6 pm for his summer sermon series preview, *A Summer of Kindness*.

George Van Kirk and our Contemplative Prayer group will be meeting at 6 pm in the chapel.

## Wednesday, May 29th

You're invited for another course of **AROUND THE TOWN**  
**WITH OUR VHBC STAFF**

*Salvatore's in Hoover*  
*Newk's in Vestavia*  
*The Standard in Vestavia*  
*Full Moon on 280*





JUNE 10-13, 2024 FROM 9 AM UNTIL NOON

VACATION



VHBC invites

children that have completed kindergarten through fifth grade  
to participate in this year's VBS!

Free lunch for all in the Fellowship Hall at noon each day!

Join us Thursday, June 13th at 5 pm for a churchwide meal together  
and get to know our children!

[Register at vhbc.com/vbs](https://vhbc.com/vbs)



*Our teachers & helpers love snacks!  
Want to help stock the snack room  
during VBS? Drop off your faves and  
ours (sausage balls!) Sunday, June 9  
through Wednesday, June 12th in the  
seminar room!*

*We will dive into friendship with God  
and his son, Jesus!  
Just as God has loved us, we should  
love one another.  
John 13:34*



## Deacons of the Week

5/5: Brent Warren and Steve White

5/12: Brandon Bates and Elise Alexander

## Flowers & Decor

5/5: Marsha Baker

5/12: Mary Cherry & Jamie Freeman

## Transportation Team

5/5: Abbey Donze & Brad Farley

5/12: Cris Speegle & Tommy Cherry

## Worship Care

5/5: Amy Hamilton, Caroline Nordlund, Libby Pittman, Vickie Furr, Gary Furr, Judy Schlegel

5/12: Cathy Donze, Abbey Donze, Faye Suggs, Maggie Doss, Jo Davis, Carolyn Slappey, Brad Farley

## Worship Tech Team

5/5: TBA

5/12: TBA

## Counting Team

5/5: Dick Bodenhamer & Bob Booth

5/12: David Compher & Danny Cox

# Volunteers & Other News at VHBC

*Midweek Bible study  
continues through  
May 8th in the seminar room  
at 10 am with Pastor Eric  
Spivey!*

*Graduation Sunday is  
May 12th!*

Graduates will be recognized and celebrated during our service on May 12th. If you are graduating from a college or graduate program, please email Sara Binet ([sara@vhbc.com](mailto:sara@vhbc.com)) with your name, contact info, and the degree you will be receiving by Sunday, May 5th.



# VHBC CONNECTIONS

VESTAVIA HILLS BAPTIST CHURCH  
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VESTAVIA HILLS, ALABAMA 35216  
WWW.VHBC.COM



Minister to Preschool & Children

**Nancy Akins**

Interim Student Coordinator

**Sara Binet**

Administrative Pastor

**Mike McBrayer**

Senior Pastor

**Dr. Eric Spivey**

Senior Adult & Adult Ministries Coordinator

**Laura Tadlock**

Minister of Music & Worship

**Marty Watts**

## Produce Market at VHBC

Tuesdays, starting on May 21st through July 30th, find Ann Franklin in the back parking lot as she hosts our first Produce Market at VHBC!

*Grab fresh, seasonal fruits and veggies, coffee, bread, and maybe a sack lunch from 10 am - 2 pm each week!*

