



Hope Valley

BAPTIST CHURCH

Loving, Serving and Reaching out in Christ's name.

Illuminator

VOLUME 48 NO. 19

SEPTEMBER 29, 2023

UPCOMING SUNDAYS:

October 1

World Communion Sunday

Scripture: Matthew 20:1-16

Title: *An Unfair Gospel*

October 8

Scripture: Matthew 21:23-32

Title: *Who's in Line?*

October 15

Guest Speaker:

Rev. Bradley Chestnut
Duke Divinity School

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Benjamin J. Wines
Senior Pastor
ben@hvbc.org

Kathryn Bunch
Director of Music Ministries

Barbara Rowley
Organist

Robin Wimberley
Administrative Assistant

Jan Mangum
Church Custodian

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Uncomfortable Faith

Brothers and sisters,

This coming Sunday, October 1, we will be starting a new sermon series entitled, "Uncomfortable Faith." The basic premise of this entire series is that there are some teachings of Jesus that can make us feel a little, you know, uncomfortable. There are some teachings that we think, "Did Jesus really say that?" Or, there are things he said, particularly parables, that we may think, "You know, I remember that being in there, but I forgot just how *intense* that passage was." Those are the types of passages we will be looking at over the next two months.

Here's the thing. In the midst of these intense passages, these words of Jesus that may make us feel a little uncomfortable, there are beautiful messages of faith and love and grace. In the midst of these intense passages, I am fully confident that God will walk with us. And I would argue that if we are not willing to challenge ourselves, to examine the sometimes difficult teachings of our faith, to consider that we may not have all the answers, then we are doing ourselves a disservice. Faith is a journey. It is a quest to draw closer to God in all that we do. Sometimes that means wrestling with ideas we hadn't thought of before. Sometimes it means wrestling with passages that make us uncomfortable. But, again, God walks alongside us and guides us in all of this—if we will humble ourselves and listen for the Holy Spirit's guidance.

Now, for this series we will mostly be looking at passages from the Gospel of Matthew, but we will have two detours. I will be on vacation on October 15th, so a student from Duke Divinity School will be preaching for me. I've told him to prepare a standalone sermon, rather than ask him to preach on an uncomfortable passage. And on November 19th, we will hop over to 2 Corinthians and have a more Thanksgiving-themed worship service. But I am looking forward to preaching this series. I'm looking forward to the questions we'll get to ask and the conversations I hope this series will start.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Ben

PRAYER CONCERNS
(new additions/updates in bold)

Sympathy is extended to Carl Atkins & family in the death of his wife, Carol Atkins. Carol was a charter member of Hope Valley Baptist Church having joined the church on March 15, 1959.

Sympathy is extended to Toby Bowen & family in the death of his uncle, Tony Bowen.

Church family with Health Concerns:

Carl Atkins

Barbara Barbee

Shirley Barbee

Sam Beasley - recovery from hip replacement

Peggy Bidy - swelling in left eye

Joan Burke - severe back pain

Marie Bush - broken arm, recovery from surgery

Rachel Dossett

LaVerne Ellis - leg & back problems

Carol Franklin - health issues

Heidi Hall - recovery from spinal fusion surgery (daughter of Sandra & Rick Hall)

Tom Hall - health issues

Julie Hayes - blood pressure issues

Brenda Morton - recovery from fall

Steven Myers - Crohn's flareup

Personnel Committee - continuing search to fill position

Barbara Sanders - family members

Chris Summerlin - surgery

Carolyn Tippett - leukemia

Emmett Ward - severe back pain, starting physical therapy

Senior Living Centers:

Durham Regent: Marcella Jerdon

Emerald Pond: Lee Schevill, Sam & Pat Beasley

Expected Family:

Hannah & Chase Thompson – due March 2024 (daughter & son-in-law of Dave & Julie Stoops)

HVBC friends and family:

Pamella Anderson - dementia (sister of Joan Burke)

Candy Arnold - brain tumor, chemo (niece of Carol Atkins)

Britt Bentley - dialysis; needs kidney transplant (son of Susan Bentley)

Mindy Bentley - possible kidney transplant donor (daughter-in-law of Susan Bentley)

Claudine Bernard - dementia (sister of Joan Burke)

Rebecca Bidy - health issues (daughter-in-law of Peggy Bidy)

Jimmy Bolick - stroke (uncle of Amy Herring)

Hayley Brady - blood clots in lungs (sister of Ginger Rose)

J. J. Bush - recovery from hip surgery (son of Johnny & Marie Bush)

Bobbie Campanaro - heart issues (friend of Scott Rose)

Pam Carroll - cancer (friend of Linda & Emmett Ward)

Joan Cozart - brain tumor (friend of Joan Burke)

Betty Ann Dickerson - feet & leg problems (friend of Carol Atkins)

Emma Dozier - recovery from surgery (granddaughter of Mike & Kathryn Bunch)

Walter Dunn - 4-year-old with seizures (friend of the Herrings)

JaQuavion Ervin - young boy in foster care with no family (from Scott Rose)

Paul Fain - stomach cancer (friend of Steve & Karen Bolton)

Sharon Foster - cancer treatments (former member)

Gary & Victoria - homeless (friends of Michael Calloway)

Linda Greeson - kidney problems (aunt of Julie Stoops)

Patrick & Donna Hahs - sudden death of their daughter, Natalie (cousin of Julie Stoops)

Family of Sue Hannaman upon her passing (sister-in-law of Francis Smith)

Jackie Harris - dementia (aunt of Julie Stoops, sister of Tommie Calhoun)

PRAYER CONCERNS (continued)

David Hayes - pacemaker (brother of Julie Hayes)

Alphus Herndon - cancer (cousin of Brenda Morton)

Bryant Herring - multiple myeloma, treatments (father of Jonathan Herring)

Patricia Jacques - Alzheimer's (sister of Joan Burke)

Barbara Layne - diabetic, leg surgeries & rehab (extended family of the Dossetts)

David Mabe - recovery from back surgery (brother of Barbara Sanders)

Junior Martin - cancer (friend of Joan Burke)

Rohan Myers - Lyme disease (grandson of John & Mary Myers)

Derald Neusom & daughter - death of wife (coach that has used HVBC gym)

Juliet Atieno Otiemo - 15-year-old with Lupus (friend of Scott Rose)

Dana Page - throat cancer (friend of Scott Rose)

Phil Ponder - cancer (friend of Carl & Carol Atkins)

Ashley Robbins - cancer (granddaughter of Brenda Morton)

Bill Roberson (friend of Scott Rose)

Franci Rokoske - fractured spine (friend of Amy Herring)

Joe Rollins - recovery from fall (cousin of Carol Atkins)

Herbert Charles Rose, Jr. - recovery from stroke (father of Scott Rose)

Robbie Sanders - health concerns (son of Barbara Sanders)

Skylar - 4-year-old recovering from surgery (niece of Cameron Packer)

Susan Smileowicz - stroke (friend of Steve & Karen Bolton)

Vicki Smith - breast cancer (extended family of the Dossetts)

Marc Stoops - blood clot (brother of David Stoops)

Matthew Taylor - salvation & direction (request by the Dossetts)

Dan Thompson - moved to rehab (father of Leigh Bigger)

Owen Thompson - fractured tibia (grandson of Dave & Julie Stoops)

Sara Thompson - hospice, fainting (mother of Leigh Bigger)

Derrick Toomer - health issues (friend of Barbara Sanders)

Heath Tuttle - 13-year-old with cancer (friend of Linda Ward)

Gregg Wallace - recovery from heart surgery (brother of Cheryl Wallace)

Kimberly Walter - cancer treatments (friend of Scott Rose)

Jeff Webb - brain tumor (friend of Scott Rose)

Dee White - bone cancer, starting chemotherapy (cousin of Barbara Rowley)

Steve Wilson - prostate cancer (friend of Rachel Dossett)

Nora Wilson - kidney surgery (friend of Rachel Dossett)

Military Service Personnel:

Chris Buchanan (nephew of Barbara Rowley)

Clayton Davis (grandson of Linda Marshall)

Travis Hayes (nephew of Ginger Hayes)

Blake Smith (son-in-law of John & Mary Myers)

Around Our World:

Leena Lavanya - missionary with ServeTrust working in India;

Pastor Koteswarao & Chowtu Palem Church (our partner church in India).

DEACONS OF THE WEEK

10/1—Rhonda Welfare & Mary Summerlin

10/8—Lucy Woodell & Mike Dossett



**Saturday, October 28
4:30 – 6:30 pm**

*If you are bringing a car for Trunk-or-Treat,
please arrive no later than 4:00 p.m.*

This year, our church will be hosting a Trunk-or-Treat plus some extras! This kind of an event is designed to give the families of our community a safe place to come and enjoy a fun evening together. We are planning to have our usual Trunk-or-Treat where kids can come and receive candy. We are also planning to set up a few game booths where kids and their parents can play some fun, festival games for prizes. We are also planning to set up a picnic area, where families can sit and have a meal together. And, as we've done in the past, we will have contests for Best Trunk and Best Carved Pumpkin!

As this event continues to take shape, we will let folks know more about our specific needs regarding volunteers before, during, and after the event. But please be sure to mark Saturday, October 28th on your calendars!

If you are either unable to attend on that day or you want to go on and start helping us collect needed items for the festivities, here are some of our needs:

- Store-bought wrapped candy or snack items (i.e. mini-pretzel bags, etc.) or non-food treats (i.e. party favors, etc.).
- Decorating supplies like haybales, pumpkins, other fall-related outdoor items (nothing spooky/scary).
- Money to help with the costs of candy, decorations, signage, etc.



On **Tuesday, October 10** we will be heading to historical Edenton NC. Please let Robin in the office know if you will be able to attend. We will meet at the church at 9:00 am.



Pickleball Social

**Saturday, October 21
4:30—6:30 pm**

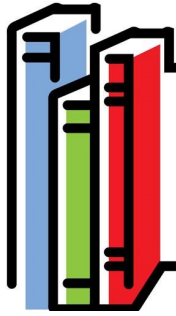
Everyone had such a good time at the first Pickleball Social that we are going to continue playing!

This is an introduction to Pickleball.

Please contact Nick Galvez at ngalvez1234@gmail.com if you have any questions. Come try it out!



**This Sunday,
October 1**



HVBC Reads

People's schedules have changed and HVBC READS is looking for a new meeting time. Please contact Rhonda Welfare (rhondawelfare1@gmail.com) if you want to provide input. At this time, evening meeting times are not available on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays or Thursdays. We will compile a list of suggestions and then take a poll to see what works for the most people.

HVBC READS is a great way to get to know people in the church who enjoy reading. The group reads different kinds of books — popular fiction and non-fiction, memoir, historical fiction, autobiography, mystery, fantasy, Christian fiction and non-fiction, and more — and somehow finds something to discuss about each one. Books are selected based on group input. Check it out if you like to read and are willing to try something new.

Coming attractions:

October (date and time TBD) - Unbroken,
Laura Hillenbrand

Book Club Kit copies of this book are available NOW. Contact Rhonda if you need a copy.

November (date and time TBD) Manhattan
Beach, Jennifer Egan

Due to the Christmas holiday, HVBC READS will not meet in December.

Please contact Rhonda Welfare with questions.



Food Pantry Needs

October through December are the months that Hope Valley is assigned to provide food for the Triangle West Baptist Network (formerly Yates Baptist Association) Food Pantry. Everyone is encouraged to pick up a few grocery items for this needed ministry.

There are lists of needs on the bulletin boards and in the most recent newsletter. We have brown bins in the vestibule & children's hallway for you to place your donations in. You can also bring them by the church office. Thanks for your support!

Items Needed:

Peanut Butter
Juices
Rice
Instant Potatoes
Mac/Cheese
Soup
Mustard
Canned Vegetables

Jelly
Cereal
Oatmeal
Grits
Canned Meats
Canned Fruits
Mayonnaise

Sunday Social

The next "Lemonade on the Lawn", now "Sunday Social" as we are indoors - will be on Sunday, October 8. Be sure to join us after the worship service in the choir room for snacks and fellowship.