

The Link

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Varina's ♪♪♪♪♪

Music Camp was wonderful! We were blessed and excited to welcome 58 children! We drummed on our "drums", played our ukuleles, had a Rhythm Instrument Parade, made our crafts, and played lots of fun games. We also had delicious snacks and enjoyed sharing lunch, after our Thursday Music Camp Celebration, with the children's families. Most importantly, the children heard God's Word through our daily devotion and scripture. It was a great time to rejoice in the Lord through music!

Thank you to all the volunteers, Pastor Charlie, Jo Anne, Pastor Jake, the Set-Up/Decorating Team, the Kitchen Crew, and those of you who baked cookies, made donations, and prayed. We could not have done Music Camp without your love,



"Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music." (Psalm 98:4)

Sports Camp

Sports camp was a tremendous success this year! We were able to minister to 90+ kids combined throughout the week at Dance Camp and Basketball Camp. Kailee from Silver Lining's Dance Academy was a tremendous hit with our dancers, teaching them some of the fundamentals of motion/dance, and interweaving the week with the Ephesians 6 passage about the full armor of God. During the final day, the dancers shared with us their main dance which recounts each piece of the 'armor.'

Coach Ken led a great week of training for the basketball players, teaching them the fundamentals of handling, dribbling, shooting, and more! There was a large focus placed on good sportsmanship both on the court, and in our lives. Throughout the week Pastor Jake was able to share devotionals with the kids focusing on how God expects us to treat others, on running the race of faith, and the message of salvation. Throughout both camps, there were many awesome moments where we saw God work, from children asking for a Bible of their own, to kids requesting prayer, to asking questions about the faith, and showing Christ-like love and concern for each other.

Thank you to all the wonderful coaches, volunteers, and registration workers that made this week possible; and to those who donated to cover the cost of t-shirts for the students, allowing us to provide this camp as a free ministry to our community.



Dancers performing *Put on the Armor of God*



Students working on their dribbling and handling



**SANDCASTLE
CONTEST /
BEACH NIGHT**

JULY 27TH, 5-7:30PM

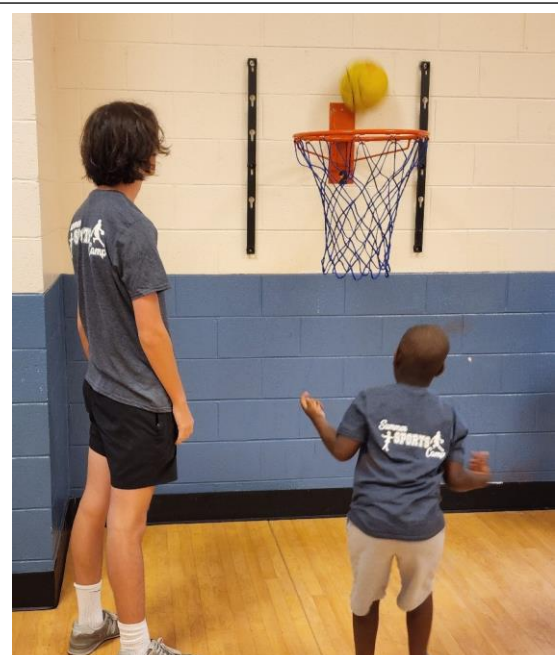
MEET AT THE CHURCH

**SUMMER'S
END POOL
PARTY**

AUGUST 3RD, 5-7:30PM

PICK-UP/DROP OFF

@TISH/JAMES' HOUSE



He shoots, he scores!



VBS 2022

Church family, Vacation Bible School is just about a month out! This year's theme is Treasured, where the kids will learn that to God, they are a treasure worth far more than any gold, jewels, or diamonds. VBS takes months of planning by many dedicated parties, and we are incredibly thankful for each and every one of them! VBS is one of our biggest community outreach ministries where we get a whole week with nearly 100 community children. We have a chance to invest in their lives, teach them about their need for Jesus, and introduce them to God's Word.

Would you join us in praying for this coming event? Pray for the volunteers and workers who are putting the final touches on the event, pray for the teachers who will be speaking the truth of God's Word to these children, pray for the kids who will attend and that their hearts will be open to receiving their Savior, pray for the kids who are already Christians that it will be a week where their faith deepens. Let's bathe this event in prayer together!

Thank you as well for all the other ways you have already supported this event by buying/providing the needed supplies to put on VBS. We look forward to seeing how God is going to work during this week!

YOUR HELP IS NEEDED FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!

Command Strips (3)
Glue Dots (1)
Cases of 8oz Bottled Water (many)

Please volunteer to be a helper for Vacation Bible School. Contact the office or Terry Hawes



Groups not meeting this month

- Joy Fellowship
- WMU
- Wednesday Night Suppers
- Men's Breakfast
- Ladies Lunch Bunch

Happy Birthday July

1 – Dotty Farrell
1 – Lois Skelton
2 – Pam Lampley
5 – Steve Haire
8 – Bill Good
9 -- Kaye Huffstetler
11 – Lorrie Beri
12 – Tom McDowell
12 – Sandy Kirk
16 – Arthur Langlo, Jr.
20 – Terry Hawes
21 – Hope Brown
22 – Elsie Turner
22 – Ken Broz
23 – Sandy Shell
24 – Milton Eblen
24 – Dennis Johnson
24 – Hope Whittaker
26 – Betty Jones
27 – John Speziale
31 – Esther Holland
31 – Matthew Huffstetler

SOUTH STRAND MOBILE MEALS

August 1-5 ♦ Van 2

See Esther Holland or Phyllis Melton for more information on volunteering or using the service.

Church-wide Breakfast

Sunday morning, July 3 ♦ 8:15-9:15

Prepared & served by the Deacons

All donations go to the Deacon Relief Fund, to help fellow church members

JOURNEY TOCCOA FALLS

Youth Summer Camp

The youth will be attending Journey Camp from July 11-15th at Toccoa Falls, Georgia. This is a new camp for us, but came highly recommended by many of the local pastors. The theme of this year's camp is to be on the lookout for how God is working and moving in our lives. So often, we lose our sensitivity to God's hand in our lives. It is only when we slow down and be intentional in our relationship with him, prayer life, and reading of the Scriptures that we will see just how often He interacts with us.

Join me in praying that the youth will go into this week with open hearts and minds so that their faith will grow and their friendships with each other will deepen. We will be on the road for about five-and-a-half hours each way, so I would also appreciate prayers for travel safety as well as our safety throughout the week!

Summer Camp has long been one of the most impactful weeks of the year for student ministries. It is a time filled with worship, God's word, and prayer, all while surrounded by other young people who are like-minded. It is a time away from the distractions of life where students can refocus on their relationship with God.

Thank you for your prayers, as well as all those who have supported our fundraising efforts for camp, whether through attending the fundraiser dinner/movie night, donating towards camp, or sponsoring a youth!



GOSPEL BODY
exercise group meets on
Monday, Wednesday and
Friday at 9:00 a.m. in the
Fellowship Hall.
There's fellowship, prayer,
and a lot of walking to
music.
Go at your own pace.
Join the program at any
time.
No fees, just FUN . . . and
health benefits!

*Happy
Independence Day!*

Widow's Ministry Birthday Lunch

*July 31 - to celebrate Esther Holland's
Birthday*

Damons Restaurant

Immediately following the Worship Service

Coming July 31!

A new Sunday afternoon study

How We Got the Bible

4-6 pm for 4 weeks

Leaders: Mike Reese & Tish Walker

FROM THE MISSION FIELDS OF KENTUCKY, Eric & Sissy Rutherford, June, 2022

Our busy season is officially upon us! First, we want to thank GCBC for your financial gift for our upcoming 4th of July Parade, which has become one of the highlights of the year for our community.

We've had many opportunities to share our testimonies with visiting groups. Sissy was excited to share with a Catholic group from her home state of Wisconsin.

My first pastorate at Flat Gap Baptist Church is off to a good start; I was also able to teach at Eolia Baptist; and Sissy and I are also still active with the Celebrate Recovery program at Community Christian Center where we continue to see God restoring lives. We were thrilled to attend the recent wedding of one of those success stories. Megan was in our CR program and is one of the ladies God gave a second chance job at the Lamp House Coffee shop.



We are also excited to report that one of the coffee shop employees accepted Christ! Morgan and Luke, the couple we work with there, have done a great job of ministering to the staff and interns and are starting to see fruit.

Sissy has registered to run for city council at the urging of many community members. She has served on the city council before and the fact that the locals are supporting an "outsider" speaks volumes about how God is touching lives through her.

We continue to watch for opportunities to love others in His name. I got to spend the morning fishing with my buddy Hunter. The fish weren't biting, but we were (into some refreshing watermelon).



We appreciate all of your love, prayers, and support! - Eric & Sissy