

The Lighthouse

June 21, 2018

SUMMER MONDAYS 2018

Swapping Wednesday and Sunday nights at church for five or six weeks in the summer is a tradition that many have enjoyed for a long time. This year will be no exception, and we have a variety of enjoyable and beneficial things planned.

Each Summer Monday Night starts at 6 p.m., but notice the different locations on campus. Here is the line-up:

7/9 – Movie Night - *I Can Only Imagine* (Student Center Gym)

If you haven't seen it, you will love it! If you have, you know you could love it again! This is the story of how the best-selling Christian single of all time came to be. It is a moving and heart-warming message of forgiveness and discipleship. Free movie; free popcorn! Other snacks will be available for purchase.

7/16 – Night of Praise - “*HymnSing!*” (Fellowship Hall)

This night will feature an entire service of praise as we sing the great hymns of our faith. It will have a down-home, acoustic feel. While we will focus on so many of the hymns that have stood the test of time, we will also learn a couple of fresh, newer hymns that all will enjoy. The night will be easily singable and unforgettable!

7/23 – Movie Night – *Woodlawn* (Student Center Gym)

Here is another movie that is a joy to watch and has an important message as well. If you love football and Jesus, you cannot help but love this film. It is the story of a history-making 1973 high school football game that attracted 42,000 fans. What God did in that place and in that time cannot be recorded on a scoreboard.

7/30 – Night of Praise – “*Behold Our God*” / *Testimonies in Song* (Worship Center)

If you like Choir Specials, Orchestra pieces, Solos and Southern Gospel Quartet music – this night is for you! This night will feature an entire service of praise led by the SABC music ministry. We believe you will be moved as you hear, worship, and sing along with these inspirational specials. This will be a great night to bring a friend!

8/6 – Family Night (Student Center Gym)

On this night we will explore how to lead effective family devotions that work for families with preschoolers, children, preteens, and/or youth. There will also be lots of high energy, interactive family games!

The Shepherd Loves the Sheep,
Bro. Mike

Discipleship | Evangelism

Most of you know Logan Kirksey and his wife Leanne, but what you may not know is that Logan is now a Marriage Ministry Specialist with Live The Life, a non-profit organization that works to strengthen marriages. Logan and Leanne have always had a passion for marriage ministry. In fact, they lead a Lifechange Group for couples that places a special emphasis on strengthening marriages. I've asked Logan to share with you a little about this ministry.

From Logan Kirksey about Marriage Ministry –

I'm so excited about the potential for marriage ministry at St. Andrew Baptist Church! Marriage ministry has the real power to transform lives, relationships, and families. As you may know, Panama City is often referred to as the divorce capital of the U.S., but we now have a great opportunity as a church to begin to put an end to marital and family dysfunction in our local community.

Our God created marriage. He designed this sacred institution back with Adam and Eve, and a healthy marriage has the power to operationalize the gospel itself. Our marriages can truly be a picture of Christ's sacrificial love for us. Implementing marriage ministry has the potential to become a highly effective evangelization and outreach opportunity for the church. It is one of the best "side doors" for unchurched couples and families. As an Acts 1:8 church, that should get us all excited!

With marriage education programs like "Adventures in Marriage," we can show people in a Christian context things like HOW to have a stronger marriage and HOW to build a healthy family. You can move beyond knowledge and information into actual execution through experiencing and developing practical, hands-on skills.

After just a couple of days with a program like "Adventures in Marriage," I see the lights come on for couples. I can see the joy they have in learning more about each other, how they can better communicate and relate to each other, and how they can resolve conflict.

I hope and pray that you can join me in this awesome, exciting ministry and I look forward to what God is going to do through our work at St. Andrew Baptist Church!

-Logan Kirksey

Not only am I excited about what this can do for marriages within our church, I'm excited about how a faith-based marriage enrichment program can change our city.

I write with such excitement about this new marriage ministry within our church for two reasons. First, because I know Logan and Leanne and I know their desire is to honor God through their marriage and through the teaching of His truth about marriage. Second, because Amanda and I had the privilege of attending an "Adventures in Marriage" weekend. We've experienced it, and it was fantastic.

We didn't attend because our marriage was failing, in fact, we would have both said our marriage was really good. But we learned the importance of investing in the most important relationship God has given us outside of our relationship with Him. Our marriage is stronger for having been a part of "Adventures in Marriage" and yours can be too. When you see us around the church, ask us about "Adventures in Marriage," we'd be happy to talk to you about it.

Stay tuned for more details about upcoming marriage ministry classes and events.

**God bless,
Jeremy Johnson**

From Rick's Desk

Time travel? Well, I'm not sure about that but I do know that I can hear the tinny sound of an ice-cream truck and instantly be transported back to my childhood. I can remember being so tuned in to the sound that I could tell you how many streets over the truck was and how long it might take to get to the house. That was important because the sound told me how much time I had to ask Mom for some ice cream money. Maybe you have a sound that does the same for you. A sound so distinct that you would know it anywhere and a sound that makes you remember a fond time. There are some other things that engender that same reaction in me and one of those is small group Bible Study.

I was reminded of that the other day as I spoke with a friend who was excited about what was happening in small group. I remember the first time I was excited about a small group. We had just moved to Lafayette, Louisiana and were expecting our first child. It was a crazy time with a new job, a new church and new friends. We were meeting in a skating rink! Can you believe that? Looking back, the lighting was poor, the A/C was marginal, the sound was horrible, but the fellowship was great! What

made it great? We were a group learning to live our faith out with each other. We worshiped together and we lived life together throughout the week. I've experienced that same kind of fellowship in other churches at other times because we chose to make our small group and worship a priority. We were intentional in our attendance and it has made a difference in our lives and in the lives of our children.

Which reminds me to tell you that there is another sound that I love to hear! I love to hear my grandson shout, "Pops!" and come running to give me a high five at VBS! I love that my children are making small group and worship a priority with their children like we did with ours. That's what a 4 Generation church looks like. One generation leading the next to put an emphasis on small group Bible Study and Worship. What a blessing it would be to see my great grands following in the steps of their parents putting an emphasis on small groups and being intentional about worship each week. I long for that! I pray for that! I must model that now! How about you?

ON MISSION

Many of you may not know that last week men and women from all over the country met together for our annual Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Dallas, TX. This is a time for us to come together as a convention and talk about the state of our churches, as well as make plans for how we will address issues in our day. We elect officers and send missionaries. Ultimately, this is a time for our churches to encourage one another and hear from the Lord as to where He is leading us in the coming year.

This was a big year. We elected a new President, J.D. Greear of Summit Church in Durham, NC. We passed resolutions affirming the dignity of women in Complementarianism as well as denouncing abuse both in

the church and in the culture at large. Plans were made to make resources to churches available regarding abuse and reporting. We were introduced to, and then spent time praying for and celebrating the 47 new missionary families added to our international mission force this summer as well as heard reports about the great work in church planting going on right here in North America. That's just to name a few things.

All in all, this was a great 2-day meeting to see what all God is doing in and through the Southern Baptist Convention. Often, we get so focused on what is right in front of us, that we fail to see what all God is doing around us. I believe the saying goes "We don't want to miss the forest for the trees."

Let me report to you church family that the forest God is growing around us in the SBC is one that should cause us to give Him great praise! While I cannot give you all the details in a single, short article, I would encourage you to get online and check out all of the stories written about this great time of celebration, prayer, and business last week!

Grace and Peace,
Thomas

THE HEART OF WORSHIP

COMING IN JULY ~ you have TWO EXCITING NIGHTS of PRAISE
to be a part of and invite your friends!

First, Monday Night * July 16th is what we are calling “HYMNSING!” (Fellowship Hall)

The goal of this special night is to lift the Lord high thru singing His praise exclusively using hymns. The “HymnSing!” will take place in the Fellowship Hall with a unique “concert in the round” format. (Instrumentalists/Worship leaders in the center with church members of all ages gathered around.) There will be hymns of praise, hymns about God’s grace, the name of Jesus and much more. Along with these favorites, we will add a couple of new hymns too! This Night of Praise will be easily singable around the familiar original melodies and a great experience for young and old alike! HymnSing! - You won’t want to miss it!

Then on Monday Night * July 30th – is “BEHOLD OUR GOD!” / TESTIMONIES IN SONG (Worship Center)

The St. Andrew Baptist Church Celebration Choir & Orchestra combine to bring you “BEHOLD OUR GOD!” ~ Testimonies in Song. Featured with the Celebration Choir specials, will also be moving songs by the Orchestra, selections by several of our key soloists and even a Southern Gospel quartet number! We are sure this Night of Praise will lift your heart to heaven as we make HIS praise glorious! - Doug



Why Preschool Ministry?

Because EVERY generation is important!

Many times we equate preschool ministry with babysitting. While preschool ministry is definitely caring for children in a safe, loving environment it goes waaaay beyond just “watching kids!” St. Andrew Baptist Preschool Ministry is NOT a stand alone institution. It is a part of our church body

that seeks to encourage and support preschoolers and their families to know and grow in their love and knowledge of our Lord through the Word of God. We come alongside parents as a child’s spiritual foundation is being prepared and laid for future growth and training. Research suggests that most of our values and beliefs are formed by the age of 7 or 8 so the “why” of laying this spiritual foundation becomes even more crucial to not only parents but other parts of the body of Christ. When the preschool portion of our church body is healthy and functioning well, it has a ripple effect that impacts throughout the church. The reverse is also true and impacts in a negative way. Why? Because we are ONE body that operates under the headship of Christ. So why preschool ministry? Because every generation is important and each is a part of the Church—the body of our living

Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! How can all generations be a part? Pray for this part of our church body regularly! Consider how you can encourage/mentor young parents! Participate in laying spiritual foundations for preschoolers and children by volunteering in any of the variety of opportunities offered at St. Andrew for preschoolers and children! “Now YOU are the body of Christ, and EACH one of you is a part of it.” (1 Cor. 12: 27, emphasis mine) Prayerfully consider how to “connect” with this part of the body of Christ!

-Christie

KidZone

i ♥ my church



As you know, by the time you receive this we will have just finished VBS! And oh, what an amazing week it was!

There were too many times to count that I observed our church family living out the love described in 1 Corinthians 13! I can honestly say that everyone gave of themselves as they poured into families from our community this week. I love it when a teacher says, "I think we are going to need some extra help tomorrow night..." not because this is hard and we can't do it, but because we have a student that really needs someone with them to help them

have a good experience at Bible School.

One night a teacher said, "please call this child's mom tomorrow..." not because we cannot put up with this, but because maybe the mom could share some things with us that they know to help us be more successful with her child. We want to help! So, when I called the mom to say "We are so glad your child is coming to VBS, we just want to get you involved in helping us know how to work best with her." The mom said "Thank you so much, I knew when I read the information about your VBS that it was the

right one for our children. We so appreciate all your leaders are doing with each of them." Wow! Love works!

As I write this we still have another night of VBS ahead. But last night we had 39 pray to receive Christ in three different classes and the gospel will be shared again tonight.

This is why we have VBS!
This is why all the VBS leaders served with love!
This is why I love my church!

Thank you so much for serving in VBS! Love you all! - Karen

YOUTH CAMP PRAYER

As you are reading this our youth are getting ready to head to youth camp next week. We have a great group of students going this year and I'm excited to be taking them!

Every kid has a name and every name has a story and every story matters to God. I know and have seen God do great things in the lives of youth during camp. So when I pray for our students, I pray big prayer requests knowing God can do so much more! So join me as we pray for the hand of God to move in the lives of youth at camp!

Youth Camp provides the best opportunity to deepen the spiritual walk of "all students." Teens are so distracted today with so many things tugging at their busy schedule...camp is the best shot at getting their

undivided attention for at least a week! It helps us focus students both on their commitment to Christ AND on our purpose as a youth group...to glorify Christ by reaching our unsaved friends at school. So, lets pray together for God to do only what He can do!



PostingBoard

News & Information

Coming for Membership

By Baptism: Chris Lipps
By Statement: Michael Smith,
Rodney Harcus

Sympathy Is Extended To

Frances Little, family, and friends, in the passing of her stepson, Danny Little, on May 23rd, in Bessemer, AL.

Family and friends of Mary Etta Sullivan, who passed away on May 27th, in Minneapolis, MN.

Steve Gullede, family, and friends, in the passing of his stepmother, Carolyn Gullede, on May 29th, in Southside, AL.

Jorie Crutchfield, family, and friends, in the passing of her father, Ed Hedbawny, on June 7th, in Panama City.

Mike Womack, family, and friends, in the passing of his wife, Betty, on June 8th, in Panama City.

Family and friends of Margaret Phillips, who passed away on June 9th, in Atlanta, GA.

Martha Lloyd Media Center

These books have been added to the Media Center for your summer reading fun: PURSUED by Lisa Harris, THE ROAD HOME by Beverly Lewis, SEA ROSE LANE by Irene Hannon, and LOVE STORY by Karen Kingsbury.

Budget Information

As of June 17th:
YTD Budget Goal: \$902,634.95
YTD Received: \$896,078.53

Global Outreach Budget:
YTD Budget Goal: \$128,976.96
YTD Received: \$134,277.29



Announcements

Congratulations to Dannon and Patty Glover on the birth of their son, Theophilus Lamar, on May 27th. Theophilus weighed 7lbs, 12.5 oz and was 20.5 inches long. He is welcomed home by siblings, Lyndon, Shelley, and Dannon. Proud Grandmothers are Mary Covington and Martha Hickman.

Did you know that you can have this newsletter emailed to you? To sign up, please send an email to Jennifer Strickland at jenniferstrickland@sabc.org.

The Lighthouse

Volume 132, Issue 6

St. Andrew Baptist Church glorifies God as we worship, equip, minister, fellowship, and share Christ at home and around the world.

The Lighthouse is published every month by St. Andrew Baptist Church to keep members informed on news and events of the church.

The deadline to submit information for the next issue is Monday, July 16, 2018.

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