

AUGUST
2022

Volume 47
Issue 8



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Let me begin by thanking the many who sent me cards and well wishes for my birthday (I mean even grateful for the comments about me turning 65!) Thirty-one years ago, I had no idea I would spend such a milestone here at Sandston; but I am forever grateful to be here in such a time as this.

As I write this, we are in the midst of VBS and the excitement and energy is so welcome after two years of not being able to have VBS (last year we were able to have a small Bible Study group outside). It is great to see the children laughing and singing along with our youth and adult workers. Thanks to Lynda and her crew of decorators, sound, video, teachers, cooks, security, mission leaders and more for all of the hard work and commitment.

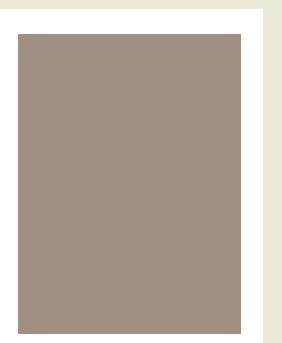
In the most recent Gallup poll, less than 40% of Americans trust churches or pastors. To better understand those numbers, 25% do not want to have anything to do with “organized religion” and more than 60% no longer trust clergy or have confidence in the church.

We know that we live in difficult times but the Gospel was birthed in a world that was far more anti-Christian than our world and yet the Gospel continues to have the same power to change lives today as it did then. In fact, the Gospel flourished to the point that Christians were referred to as “the people who have turned the world upside down”.

Today, those “outside of the church walls” have no interest in what goes on inside the walls of the church. Yet, they are impacted and are more open to the Gospel when we become their friend and when they see us caring for those in need, as Jesus did. Our challenge today is to focus more on Jesus and less on the institution.

Enjoy the rest of the summer (and if you’re like me, pray for Fall!) and begin thinking of ways to be a witness in a very natural way. Jesus said, “If I be lifted up, I will draw all men to myself”.

See you on Sunday,
Karl





NOTES FROM MARK

What do you experience when you visit a national or state park? Maybe you have gone to the mountains. Or maybe the ocean. Well, what was there for you? What did you experience?

For me, the mountains remind me how great God is and how small I am. They are a testimony to His handiwork, His creativity. At night in the mountains, the moon and the so-much-brighter stars tell me that only God could have created the universe -- its expanse, its complexity. And that the predictability of the moon's phases and the rising and setting of the sun have to be from only God's hand.

Eugene Peterson visited Assateague Island and wrote a poem about his experience. I'm not sure I have ever seen the kinds of things he describes in any of my own "adventures" (or maybe I have and didn't realize it), but his description is an encouragement to me to open myself more to seeing God's hand wherever I am.

He called his poem "Assateague Island":

All thy waves and billows
Have gone over me. Psalm 42:7

A double-crested cormorant,
Brobdignagian duck, black
On green, cushioned by six or seven
Inches of air above the killing
Billows, wings a swift passage
Through the wet wave troughs.

Beneath the bird water gathers and crests
In curved mandalas, crashes in mantra
Chants, then slides down the strand
Into the deep where ocean spray
Is recollected in the great
Salt, billow-making womb.

Effortless elegance!
Holy wildness!

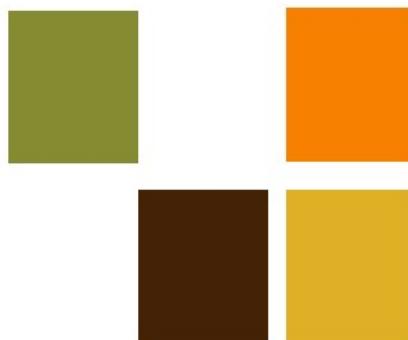
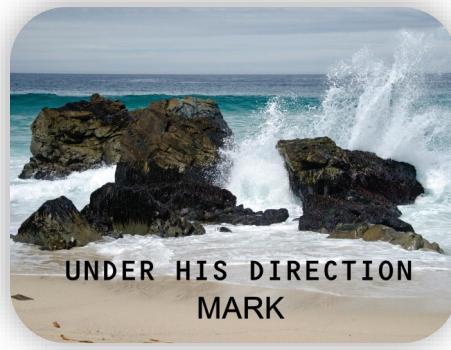
We walked nine miles of ocean beach
Yesterday and let the ocean
Rhythms – pulse-setting waves and
tide-making

Moon – get inside us. Slowed
By this ancient pacemaker
Our hearts thirsted. We drank God.

Next time you visit a state or national park (or are in less-developed areas of our country), I encourage you to look at what's in front of you with eyes and heart like those of Eugene Peterson.

Maybe you, too, will be able to say, "We drank God."

Holy Luck, Eugene Peterson, p. 57.



EASTERN HENRICO COUNTY FISH

During the month of August, we will collect laundry detergent for FISH.



BROTHERHOOD NEWS

Seeking men of all ages to come and join your brothers in Christ for fellowship and service. We have several ongoing ministry's which we support and are seeking you to help support and receive the blessings from doing so. Contacts Greg Martin at 804-687-6121 or Harold Colwell at 804-916-0457

ATTENTION: We will not have a monthly meeting in August to allow our brothers to enjoy the summer with family and friends. We will continue to support our ongoing ministries and will resume our meetings on September 8th. See you all then.

OREGON HILL BAPTIST HOMELESS MINISTRY: Our next scheduled breakfast meal prep & delivery date is in August.

FISH & COMMUNITY SUPPORT MINISTRIES: Deliveries are ongoing . Thanks for the donations to these ministries.

SITTER & BARFOOT VETERANS CARE CENTER: We are now delivering donuts monthly.

PRISON MINISTRY resumed in July at the combined Beaumont prison location. Be in prayer for this as it will be new for us and the men as they adapt to their new environment. Contact Charles Hankins if you have interest in this ministry.

LIBERATION HOMELESS VETERANS HOME: Next scheduled dinner delivery will be August.

MISC. MINISTRY: We still have electric wheel chairs for loan or possible gift. We also have a new hospital bed. See Mike Edwards on this.





FROM OUR CHILDREN'S MINISTER

Lynda Holloway

CHILDREN

What a summer we have had so far! It was amazing having VBS back in the church again this year! A huge thank you to everyone who helped decorate, taught a class, led a rotation, prepared dinner, helped with registration or security, volunteered, and prayed! Continue to pray for those who visited our church during the week of Vacation Bible School. Pray that they will accept the gospel they heard and that their families will feel welcome at Sandston Baptist Church.

SWAG JR will continue to meet in August from 6:30-8:00 pm on Wednesday nights. The August schedule is:

August 3 – Popsicles & Water Play – Be sure to wear your bathing suit & bring a towel.

August 10 – No Children's Activities

August 17 – SWAG JR

August 24 – SWAG JR – Be sure to bring your Bucket List (Bible Story Reading Log) with you if you completed it over the summer!

August 31 – No Children's Activities

THE WORKS OF HIS HANDS



----- ARE -----
FAITHFUL
and JUST.
PSALM 111:7

EASTERN CHURCH BOWLING LEAGUE

The Eastern Church Bowling League starts on Monday, September 12 at 6:30 PM at Bowlero on Bell Creek Road in Mechanicsville. Neither age nor experience is required as it is an unsanctioned, handicap league. Just come out & have fun, either as an individual to be placed on a team or bring your own 4-person team. There will be an organizational meeting on Monday, August 29 @ 6:30 PM at Bowlero and if you attend the meeting you can stay & bowl 3 free games after the meeting. Please contact Alan Watts or Ken Weaver for more information.



Updates and reminders about activities are sent through email and posted on our Facebook Group (SBC Kids Connect). If you have a child and are not receiving the updates please email me and I will add you.



EXTENDED SESSION

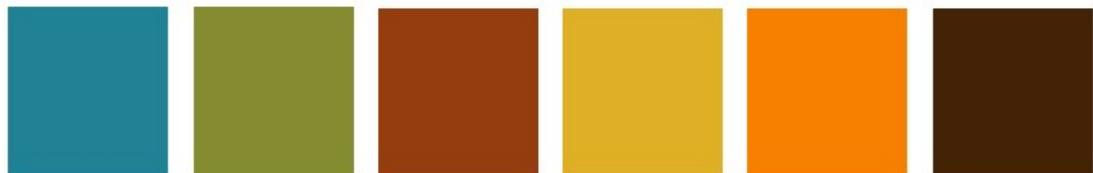
It is a blessing for families with young children to have childcare provided for their little ones during the worship services. Your help is needed to provide this ministry. Volunteers are needed for the 8:30 am and 10:30 am services. A sign-up sheet is in the hallway behind the church sanctuary. You can sign-up to help once a month. This schedule will start in September and run through August 2023. If you haven't already had a background check, go ahead and sign up, and we will start the process.

AWANA

The Awana program is coming to Sandston Baptist this fall! I am super excited about this opportunity! Awana is designed to bring the gospel to children and their families. Each week children will hear and read the Bible, memorize scripture, and play games! We already have leaders for our Cubbies (ages 3-5), Sparks (Kindergarten – 2nd grade), and T&T (3rd – 5th grade). We do need listeners. A listener helps a child learn how to find scripture in their Bible, reads and explains scripture to them (the curriculum also explains the scripture), helps them memorize a Bible verse, and then listens to the child recite the verse once they have learned it. You would only work with 1 or 2 children each night and there is NO prep work! All you have to do is show up and be ready to bond with the children. You become a mentor to that child and will have a relationship that will last for years! I still talk to my "Awana girls" that I had 7 years ago! I promise you will love this ministry and fall in love with the kids! If you have any questions please call/text/email me. A sign-up sheet is in the hallway behind the church sanctuary.



Lynda
lholloway@sandstonbaptist.org
804-304-3241



Birthday Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p>1 Susan Hamp Junie Loving Stacey Murray Tommy Snead Jr</p>	<p>2 Sylvia Hughes Herb Melson</p>	<p>3 Dawn Butler Ed Canada Carroll Hart Erika Leake Jackie Leake Taylor Loving Denise Powell</p>	<p>4 Andrew Bottari Cindy Bruce Emily Burke William Lanham Mary Lund</p>	<p>5 Bobby Gorman</p>	<p>6 Michele Dew David Jones Doug Watson Ryan Watson Seth Westerman</p>	
<p>7 Alma Ballard Jean Jones John Kirby</p>	<p>8 Diane Lewter Molly Milby Matthew Nolte Jan Pennington Andrew Welenteychik</p>	<p>9 Megan Andrews</p>	<p>10 Adam Dawes Wythe Hammill Michael Harper Calvin Robinson Kathy Sullivan Chuck Wade</p>	<p>11 Charles Byron Christopher Jaquez Kaleigh Redman</p>	<p>12 Frances Patterson</p>	<p>13 Joe Douglas Gayle Meador Scott Watson</p>
<p>14 Edith Powell Ashley Robertson Linda Royal William Stevens Mildred Trimyer</p>	<p>15 Teri Brown Meredith Morris Gregg Tomes Cole Walden</p>	<p>16 Chloe Childress Kristie Easterday Raquel Leake Kent McLaughlin</p>	<p>17 Madeline Bottari Benjamin DeProfio Alana Lewis</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Nick Neighbors Haley Paige Gussie Pomfrey Michael Wheelhouse</p>	<p>20 Phillip Christopher Lindsey Mitchell Brittaney Wash</p>
<p>21 Lesley Crittenden Sarah Davies Jeannie Davis Kristen Norman Diane Sox Brittany Stone</p>	<p>22 Larry Fields Arden Gray Brenda Wagner</p>	<p>23 John Cassity Hunter Orton Bryce Paige Theron Staub</p>	<p>24 Peggy Edwards Crystal Sprouse Andrew Stevens Anna Wachsmuth</p>	<p>25 Brandon Fields Cecelia Jaquez Jennifer McCoy Tom Palmore Angie Parsons</p>	<p>26 Ben Robins Mike Walden</p>	<p>27 Justin Blunt Morgan Burnett</p>
<p>28 Sarah Blunt Terri May Amy O'Neil Sherry Smith</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 Joni Crenshaw</p>	<p>31 David Galbraith Ralph Sibley Cindy Wright</p>			

Activity Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 10:30 Lowder Group 11:00 Williamson Group 4:00 Men's Golf 6:30 Men's Basketball	2 2:00 VanLear Group	3 6:30 SWAG and SWAG Jr. Adult Choir HIS Group Bible Study	4 6:00 Singles Group	5	6
7 8:30 Worship 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	8 4:00 Men's Golf 6:30 Men's Basketball	9	10 6:30 SWAG HIS Group Bible Study	11 7:00 Deacons' Meeting	12	13
						Camping Trip for Kids August 12 - 14
14 8:30 Worship 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship Children's Mission Group	15 4:00 Men's Golf 6:30 Men's Basketball	16	17 6:30 SWAG and SWAG Jr HIS Group Bible Study Adult Choir	18 11:30 Friendly Club	19	20
21 8:30 Worship 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	22 4:00 Men's Golf 6:30 Men's Basketball	23	24 6:30 SWAG and SWAG Jr HIS Group Bible Study	25 10:00 Quilters	26	27
28 8:30 Worship 9:30 Bible Study 10:30 Worship	29 4:00 Men's Golf 6:30 Men's Basketball	30	31 6:30 HIS Group Bible Study			 <p>August</p>

YOUTH NEWS FROM JUSTIN BLUNT

Youth and Parents,

Thank you for your prayers and support for our mission trip to Danville, VA with Impact VA again this year! We are so thankful that we had the opportunity to go and share our experience during the July 24th worship services. If you didn't get a chance to hear from our youth and adults, I encourage you to check out the service on Facebook or YouTube links sent out! Our SBC youth, young adults, and adults worked hard helping on six different projects, replacing a roof, building ramps, painting a homeless shelter, replacing windows, and making a home handicap accessible. Our SBC group that went were amazing throughout the week, showing an amazing heart for God and work ethic. Leading their crews to get the job done, leading devotional time on their crews, and more importantly Connecting with God as we learned with our theme for this year Created to Connect (1 Corinthians 12:27). Thank you again to Margaret Bryant, Fred Meredith, Kassie Hayes, and Doug Milby for volunteering your week to go with our youth group as chaperones!

Our July in Youth saw the return of SWAG (Summer Wednesday Activities w/ God) with Messy Games, Ice Cream Sundaes and Devotional, and a visit to Dorey Park! Stay tuned for updates for activities in August (posted to Facebook SBC Fusion page and emailed through sbcyouth.info@gmail.com) for what we will be doing each week, which will include Water Games and a visit to Antioch Pool!

Thanks also to all youth and others that helped with VBS at the end of July! It was great having the program back and having our youth involved in helping out! As always, stay connected with Facebook and our youth email sbcyouth.info@gmail.com for any updates!



CAMPING TRIP

The RA camping trip is now open to all children who have been participating in the Children's Mission group meeting (formerly RA's and GA's). It will take place August 12 - 14. Please note, it is preferred that a parent or other adult attend with their child. Please sign-up ASAP as the trip is coming up soon. The sign-up sheet and other information is in the hallway behind the sanctuary.



SAVE THE DATE

The WMU at Antioch Baptist has extended an invitation to our ladies to join them for a "Tea" on Sunday afternoon, August 21st at 2 PM. These ladies know how to put on a Tea on the order of the Jefferson! In addition to delicious food and beverage, a program is planned that is sure to please everyone. Please RSVP to Jean Jones no later than August 14th, by email jonezee51@gmail.com or by phone (804)737-2233.





2023 Church Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee will begin meeting August 1st to secure positions for church officers, committees, and teams for the upcoming year beginning January 2023. Perhaps you have had some thoughts, or maybe a little nudge from the Holy Spirit, that there may be a place that you would like to serve and be a part of here at Sandston Baptist. Be in prayer that God will lead you to where He wants you to be. We would love to hear from you. If you don't have a copy of our Church Officers, Committees, and Teams, I am sure Mary Vayo will be glad to make one available to you. Below is a list of Nominating Committee members. Feel free to contact any one of them to talk about where you would be interested in serving.

Matt Bailey
804-370-8783

Brenda Crostic
804-737-4032

Carl Downey
804-512-3683

Sandi Farmer
804-617-2863

Jean Meredith
804-328-0813

Amy Milby
804-387-4062

Sue Rainey
804-356-2894

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

"FOOD FOR THOUGHT"

With our OCC Shoebox Boutique opening on Sunday, August 7, you might be wondering what exactly is the OCC Boutique OR you might be wondering what Operation Christmas Child (OCC) is.

Just knowing the basics can get you headed in the right direction!

What is Operation Christmas Child (OCC): Operation Christmas Child delivers great joy and the Good News of Jesus Christ to children in need around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes. Each box packed full of quality toys, school supplies, and personal care items becomes a tangible expression of God's immense love for the child. For many, it is their first gift ever! Delivered by local church partners, shoebox gifts provide an opportunity to present the Gospel to boys and girls in a clear, child-friendly way.

What is the OCC Boutique: The OCC Boutique is a shopping experience like no other. Stocked with many appropriate items suggested for filling an OCC Shoebox, you can do all of your shopping in one place. Some items are hand-crafted and many have been purchased. Shopping all year allows us to provide items at the lowest prices.

Where is the OCC Boutique located: The hallway behind the sanctuary will be filled with tables full of items. If you are not sure where it is, just ask!

When can I shop at the OCC Boutique: The boutique is open on Sunday mornings, Wednesday evenings during our dinners starting in September, and any time the church office is open (usually Monday-Wednesday from 8 a.m.-2 p.m.)

How do I pay for the OCC Boutique items: Money boxes are provided on the tables for your payment. **CASH** is preferred. However, if a check is necessary for making a payment, it must be made payable to: DENISE HARCUM and placed in the money box.

How do I get started: OCC shoeboxes are provided by Sandston Baptist and are located in the foyer of the sanctuary as well as in the hallway behind the sanctuary with the Boutique. For suggestions for each age/gender check out the bulletin board next to the large restrooms for information or look for the OCC bulletin insert on Sunday, August 7 when the Boutique opens. All items in the Boutique are approved by Samaritan's Purse. Fill a box with quality items. Include a personal note and picture if possible. Pray over your box. A label and brochure are provided in your shoebox. The label needs to be filled out and taped on the top of the box in the marked location. \$10 per box is the suggested donation that covers the cost of Gospel materials to be included with the boxes as well as shipping expenses. Please secure your box with one heavy duty rubber band which is provided with your shoebox. **DO NOT TAPE BOXES CLOSED.**

More information on what the \$10 donation covers and how you can pay the donation along with collection dates for shoeboxes will be in the September newsletter. Contact Brenda Crain at 804-229-3587 or Denise Harcum at 804-737-2172 for more information.

GOOD NEWS! GREAT JOY!



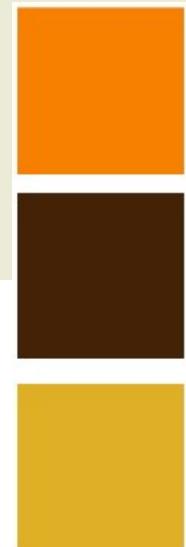
The Friendly Club will meet on Thursday, August 18 at 11:30 a.m. at Mexico Restaurant on Williamsburg Road.



The Singles Group will meet on Thursday, August 4 at 6 p.m. at Applebee's in Mechanicsville.



From Our Sunday School Director



Sunday Morning Life Groups Bible Study is a wonderful time to study God's Word, to learn about God's nature, and to apply this to your life as you develop in your faith. It is also an opportunity to get to know other Christians of similar walks and diverse walks of life and enrich relationships with others.

Please take a moment to reflect on your participation and role in Bible Study. For those teaching consider the blessing you are to others and your Church family. For those participating consider your preparation, engagement, contribution, and witness. Share your experience with another and extend an invitation to join you. For those enrolled and not attending consider your why and if this may be a good time to engage. If not ready for in person please consider a virtual experience.

During the month of August we will be gearing up for the new Sunday Morning Life Groups Bible Study session. I ask all current leaders to prayerfully consider continuing their gift of teaching and facilitating and others with interest to send an email to lambertwatts@comcast.net. At this time we are not aware of openings for leaders but want to consider all requests.

Thank you to all who keep this vital ministry alive and well at SBC. You truly are a gift and a blessing.

E'Beth Watts

Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God

Some time ago, while doing some research for a Sunday school lesson, I stumbled across a website called GotQuestions.org. I found some interesting answers to some questions I had about that particular lesson topic.

We all have questions from time to time, especially about our relationship and service to God. Here are a few that you might relate to:

- What is *God's will for my life?*
- How do I pursue a *relationship with God?*
- How do I *adjust my life to God?*
- What is *God's will for the Church?*
- How do I know when *God is speaking to me?*
- What does it mean to be a "*kingdom people*"?

I don't have a website for you to go to for answers to these questions, but there is a life changing Bible Study that will help you answer them. **Experiencing God** is a 13-session study that includes group discussion, video teaching by Henry Blackaby, and personal Bible study with a workbook to guide you (I know, that's a nice way of saying homework,) and a time for fellowship.

You will find a sign-up sheet in the hallway beginning Sunday, July 31. The study will be held on Sunday evenings from 5 to 7:30 beginning September 18th. We will take a short break during the study time for snacks and fellowship. (Remember back when we all came back to church on Sunday night?)

"This study is a way of living everyday where you open your eyes to see what God is doing all around you." (from **Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God**)

Bonnie Abernathy