



## Faith

Two important verses:

*So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.*

*(Romans 10:17 ESV)*

*° Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ° and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith -- (Philippians 3:8-9 ESV)*

Faith means trusting, believing, confidence in, reliance upon. In our context we are talking about faith in Jesus Christ.

How do we get this faith?

The first verse tells us. Faith comes from hearing the word of Christ. To have faith I must read or listen to the words spoken by Jesus. Those are more than just the words written in red. They are the words of the Bible. Specifically, the words of the New Testament. True faith is our believing what Jesus has actually said. Not our own thoughts, opinions nor traditions.

What is the reward of this faith?

The second verse tells us. The reward is the righteousness that comes to us through faith in Jesus Christ. Through believing in Jesus, God grants us forgiveness of sins and declares us to be holy and acceptable in his sight. We are declared righteous in God's sight as a result of our faith in Jesus.

-Dewayne

## Upcoming Events:

### Adventure Club/Pre-Teen

- **Back to School Bash:** Sunday, August 6, 5:00 p.m. in the back parking lot.

### Teens

- **Teen Supper & Back to School Service Project:** Wednesday, August 2, 5:45 p.m. Meet in the teen room. Please bring \$10.00 for school supplies.

### Involvement

- **New Member Lunch:** Sunday, August 20, after late service in the Reception Room.




# Big House 2023



This Sunday night is Back to School Bash. We will be meeting in the parking lot outside the West Foyer instead of the Family Life Center. **Bring chairs for your family!** At 5:00 p.m. we will begin serving pizza, and after dinner we will have a family worship service, and then the kids can play on the inflatables. Invite your friends! Remember, this is not a water activity; we will have regular inflatables and bounce houses.



**TEEN SUPPER**  
**& BACK TO SCHOOL SERVICE PROJECT**



**AUGUST 2ND @ 5:45PM**

food will be provided in the teen room and we will go shopping after

**Please bring a \$10 donation for the school supplies**

## Balloons Belong in Church

I would like to share with you an excerpt from a poem written by Ann Weems. The beginning of it describes a four-year-old child that brought with her a balloon to church one Sunday. When her Sunday school teacher saw the balloon, she mockingly said to the girl, "We don't bring balloons to church." The poem ends this way:

*Where did we get the idea that balloons don't belong in the church? Where did we get the idea that God loves gray and sh-h-h and drab and anything will do? I think it's wrong not to appreciate the joy in God's world. I think it's wrong not to bring our joy into His church.*

*What beautiful gift cannot be offered unto the Lord? Whether it's a balloon or a song or some joy that sits within you waiting to have the lid taken off? The Scriptures say there's a time to laugh and a time to weep. It's not hard to see the reasons for crying in a world where hatred is so manifest.*

*So celebrate! Bring your balloons and your butterflies, your bouquets of flowers...Bring the torches and hold them high! Pint your feelings, sing your songs, whistle, laugh. Life is a celebration, an affirmation of God's love. Life is distributing more balloons. For God so loved the world... Surely that's a cause for Joy. Surely we celebrate it! Good news! That he should love us that much.*

*Where did we ever get the idea that balloons don't belong in the church?*

- Josh

**GYM FOYER**  
CURRENTLY  
**UNDER**  
**CONSTRUCTION**

Doors will be locked until further notice .

**Welcome to the Family**  
Welcome to **Greg, Jana and Savanna Hughes** (FTG #4) who recently placed membership. Their address is 382 Strathaven Drive, Pelham, Alabama 35124. Greg's phone number is 205-229-6145 and Jana's is 205-566-1486.

**Congratulations**  
We rejoice with **Mason Holland** who was baptized on Monday night. Mason, a graduate, is the son of Jay and Stacey Holland. His address is 3529 Highway 49, Columbiana, Alabama 35051.

**Congratulations**  
We rejoice with **Hayden Gurganus** who was baptized last week at Big House. Hayden, a 10th grader, is the daughter of Ryan and Robin Vincent. Her grandparents are Bobby and Cathy Hayes. Her address is 113 C Saint Charles Drive, Helena, Alabama 35080.

**Por Los Niños Coin Banks**  
It is that time of the year again, let us give our coins to help support the children of Por Los Niños. You can pick up or return your cans in the hallway by the Front Foyer.  
Your participation during these next three months helps make a tremendous difference in the lives of many orphaned children in Honduras. If you haven't participated in the past, please consider doing so. You do not have to sign a can out just pick one up and fill it or make a check to Family Life Missions.

**Baby Shower**  
We will have a baby shower for **Logan and Briley Black**, Sunday, August 6, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Reception Room. They are registered at [www.babylist.com](http://www.babylist.com).

**For the Record**  
Sunday, July 30, 2023

|                      |             |
|----------------------|-------------|
| Bible Study          | 283         |
| Early Worship        | 165         |
| Late Worship         | 277         |
| Total Sunday Morning | 442         |
| Sunday Night         | 199         |
| Contribution         | \$35,743.09 |
| YTD Average          | \$39,054.28 |
| Budget               | \$38,500.00 |

**LIVEWIRES! AND FAMILY GAME NIGHT**  
Friday, August 11  
5:30 p.m.  
In the Reception Room  
Please bring your favorite finger food.

**Collection of Baby Items for At-Risk Moms**  
Riverchase is honored to once again host a Baby Shower for up to 10 special Sav-A-Life expectant moms. We need your help to provide love, support, prayers and of course, lots of gifts to start these babies blessed lives!  
Want to help? Look for a sign up sheet on the Ladies' Ministry board to help with decorating, snacks, drinks and gift wrapping. A limited number of hostesses are needed also.  
Please consider purchasing some of the following items for the moms, label them and deliver to the gift room. Please do not wrap.  
\* Bath items: Infant bathtub, baby wash, shampoo, lotion, wash cloth/hooded towel  
\* Blankets, bibs and burp clothes  
\* Story Bibles and books for young children  
\* Donations to purchase high chairs and a stroller .  
See Robin Harper, Luann Spivey or Donya Sanford.

- Upcoming Events**
- **Gym Foyer CLOSED:** Until further notice.
  - **Teen Supper and Back to School Shopping:** Wednesday, August 2, 5:45 p.m.
  - **Baby Shower for Logan and Briley Black:** Sunday, August 6, 1:30 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. in the Reception Room. They are registered at [www.babylist.com](http://www.babylist.com). It is a GIRL!!
  - **KidMin Back to School Bash:** Sunday, August 6, 5:00 p.m. in the back parking lot.
  - **Sav-A-Life Baby Shower:** Tuesday, August 8, in the Reception Room.
  - **LiveWires! And Family Game Night:** Friday, August 11, 5:30 p.m. in the Reception Room.
  - **Volleyball:** Friday, August 11, 6:00 p.m. in the gym.
  - **Men's Prayer Breakfast:** Saturday, August 12, 8:00 a.m. in the Family Life Center.



1868 Montgomery Hwy.  
Birmingham, AL 35244  
www.riverchasechurch.org

## **This week at Riverchase**

### **Wednesday, August 2**

- Teen Supper and Back to School Service Project

### **Sunday, August 6**

- Logan and Briley Black Baby Shower
- KidMin Back to School Bash

### **Tuesday, August 8**

- Sav-A-Life Baby Shower

### **Friday, August 11**

- *LiveWires!* And Family Game Night
- Volleyball

### **Saturday, August 12**

- Men's Prayer Breakfast

### **Please continue to remember in prayer:**

**Patricia Anderson** (former member), **Tommie Cleghorn** (Jay's mother)

### **Please pray for our active duty deployed military:**

## **RIVERCHASE FAMILY**

**Erick Boggs (#2)** recovering at home from back surgery.

**Yuton Flynn (#4)** multiple myeloma.

**Mike Fowler (#5)** advanced stage melanoma.

**Martha Johnston (#1)** cancer.

**Lisa Lillie (#7)** cancer treatments.

**Carl Watts (#7)** will have knee replacement surgery on Thursday, August 3, at Grandview.

## **CONTINUE TO REMEMBER THESE MEMBERS:**

**FTG #1:** Rejetta Balentine, Martha Johnston,

Jeanne Vise, Jim Wamack,

**FTG #2:** Glenda Arnold, Charles Bates, John Bearden, Pat Bearden, Victor Boone, Bill Crane, Meredith Hutchinson, Kay Kolb, Nina Pitchford, Lance Rushing, Bob Smith, Bob Snider, Jane Snider, Michelle Whitaker, Bob Winter

**FTG #3:** Shirley Bailey, Ruth Bath, Becky Carter, Peggy Gaines, Gaston Green, David Hare

**FTG #4:** Jeff Carroll, Susan Chaney, Vonda Cook, Bill Hester, Karen Green, Everleigh Self, Cindy Snider, Bethany Tongate, Shirley Vines

**FTG #5:** Mike Fowler, Beverly Strange

**FTG #6:** Zane Armstrong, Erick Boggs, Don & Shirley Genry, Don Green, Helen Haskew, Jane Spivey, Cindy Thompson, Sarah Wolford

**FTG #7:** Paula Davis, Don & Jan Haefner, Peggy Hendley, Lisa Lillie, Denise Newton, Jerry Sharp, Lisa Ward, Jane Windham, Katie Yaeger

## **ADD TO YOUR PRAYER LIST OUR FRIENDS AND RELATIVES:**

**Jim Akins** (friend of the Bassett's) recovering at home from burns on 40% of his body.

**Noreen Anderson** (Jina O'Clair's mother) health issues.

**Donnie Ball** (friend of the Cotton's) paralyzed from a swimming accident, in rehab at Shepherd.

**Sue Berryhill** (Melissa Leverett's grandmother) hospice.

**Lynda Cardwell** (former member) MS.

**Willie Davis** (Dee Davis father) mass on brain.

**Bobby Engstrom** (Keith Strickland's uncle) pancreatic cancer.

**Christina Glover** (Akers Daughter) health problems.

**Chris Gunnels** (Jonathan Hammett's cousin) brain tumor.

**Megan Harrel** (Hendley's daughter) seeking answers for continuing health issues.

**Jimmy Harris** (Theresa Harris husband) health issues.

**Jane Harrison** (Peggy Hendley's sister in law) heart issues.

**Cheryl Hill** (the Medley's daughter) liver cancer. 235 Odum Crest Lane, Hoover, Alabama 35226.

**Andrea Lantz** (Diana Kelley's sister) lung cancer.

**Keith Lawler** (friend of the Jacksons) multiple myeloma.

**Luke Mastroianni** (Richard and Susan's son) treatments for pancreatic cancer. 317 Poinciana Drive, Homewood, Alabama, 35209.

**Jan Morgan** (friend of the Akers) lung cancer.

**Kim Morris** (the Morris' daughter) heart issues.

**Mary Oehrlein** (friend of Cindy Snider) under hospice care.

**Cecil Parker** (Rhonda Ball's grandfather) health issues.

**Marsha Parker** (Rhonda Ball's aunt) undergoing chemo.

**McKenzie Ray** (friend of Amber Henderson) leukemia.

**DeeAnne Rogers** (Jeanne Wamack's sister in law) cancer.

**Mary Ella Sirmon** (the Sirmon's granddaughter) seizures.

**Rachel Strickland** (Keith Strickland's step-mother) cancer.

**Lorene Tidwell** (Keith Strickland's grandmother) health issues.

**Ilean Winton** (Frank Wampol's Sister) cancer.

**David & Karen Ulric** (friend's of the Wampol's) pancreatic cancer.