



## GOOD NEWS



### STOCKS EXCHANGE

I was reading an article written by Ben Simpson recently and it addressed some of the issues that churches should be aware of during a time of transition/interim. It was so good I wanted to paraphrase some of his thoughts for you as a word of encouragement.

1. **God will be with Victoria Baptist Church at all times!** You are not forsaken. God is with you and makes an awesome promise to you... “I will never leave your or forsake you,” (Heb 13:5). Pastors will come and go, and we should be reminded of the reality that every Pastor is an interim of sorts. God knew VBC would be in this transition long before it became reality and so you should remember that God will never leave you! And the presence of God is the vitality and foundation of the church.
2. **God is in control.** God “works all things according to the counsel of His will”

(Eph. 1:11). This pastoral transition is not happening outside of the will of God. God is working in this season of transition according to the counsel of his will. So, the question is not, "Who is in control?" God is in control! The question is, "Will you rest in him by trusting him?"

**3. God plans good out of this transition.** Jeremiah 29:11 reminds us: "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." This time of transition might not feel the best, but God has promised that He works all things together for the good of his people (Rom 8:28). This transition is included in "all things"! Therefore, you can rest assured that good will come from it. That's how awesome God is: even those things that don't feel good are used for good. It might not be the good you have in mind, but it is good. Therefore, walk forward in faith.

**4. Ministry must go on.** Notice what the Great Commission does not say, "Go therefore and make disciples . . . if you have a pastor." The Great Commission doesn't include any conditionals. In the interim, I am thrilled that you and the lay leadership of the church have made sure ministry continues. God will honor this in ways you may not see until down the road! We are to BE the church whether in or out of the building!

**5. The church must not scatter.** I have been thrilled to watch the church grow and remain excited while remaining committed to the mission and vision of VBC. The season of an interim can easily become a time of folks scattering... but you have remained vigilant in attending and gathering together for support and encouragement of one another.

**VBC...you are a blessing! Lean into it and prepare for greater things to come as God is preparing YOU and your next Pastor for His desired future! And one more thing..."God is Good! All the Time!"**

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## THE CHRISTIAN KITCHEN

Summer is here. Take this delicious salad to your next barbeque. It will be a hit!

### Watermelon and Feta Salad

#### Dressing

2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil  
3 tablespoons fresh lime juice  
½ garlic clove, minced



¼ teaspoon sea salt

**Salad:**

5 cups cubed watermelon

1 cup diced English cucumber

¼ cup thinly sliced red onion

⅓ cup crumbled feta cheese

⅓ cup torn basil leaves

½ jalapeño or serrano pepper, thinly sliced, optional

Sea salt and coarse pepper to taste

**Directions:**

Make the dressing: In a small bowl, whisk together the olive oil, lime juice, garlic and salt.

Combine watermelon, cucumber, red onion, feta cheese, basil, and jalapeño pepper in a bowl. Drizzle with dressing and toss well. Season to taste with sea salt and coarse pepper and serve. Store in air tight container in refrigerator for up to one day.



**Quiet Reflections**

Each one of us can make a difference. *I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.* Philippians 4:13

**The Starfish Story**

**Adapted from The Star Thrower by Loren Eiseley**

A young man is walking along the ocean and sees a beach on which thousands and thousands of starfish have washed ashore. Further along

he sees an old man, walking slowly and stooping often, picking up one starfish after another and tossing each one gently into the ocean.

“Why are you throwing starfish into the ocean?,” he asks.

“Because the sun is up and the tide is going out and if I don’t throw them further in they will die.”

“But, old man, don’t you realize there are miles and miles of beach and starfish all along it!

You can't possibly save them all, you can't even save one-tenth of them. In fact, even if you work all day, your efforts won't make any difference at all."

The old man listened calmly and then bent down to pick up another starfish and threw it into the sea. "It made a difference to that one."

## VBC PRESCHOOL

The Victoria Baptist Church Nursery School has had a very successful year. Our students are ready for their next academic adventure and, more importantly, they know how much God loves them. Thank you for all of your support throughout the year!



## GOOD NEWS CLUB

Victoria Elementary School Good News Club monthly update for EOY

The month of April became a challenge for the team as Barbara went to New



Mexico to help with family situations. Everyone worked together to provide the same great experience for the children for one last meeting. Unfortunately, circumstances with different team members' health lead to an early end to the second semester club meetings. Overall, it was a blessed year with more than 25 children receiving Jesus as their Savior and continuing to grow in their faith through the songs, memory verses, and Bible accounts learned in the Good News Club.

There will be new training opportunities through the summer, including the end-of-summer Kick Off. More information will be included in the church newsletters.



## **CELEBRATION SHOUT OUT**

Please submit any birthdays, anniversaries, or memorials for **July** by **June 27th** to: [office@victoriabaptistchurch.com](mailto:office@victoriabaptistchurch.com).

### **BIRTHDAYS**

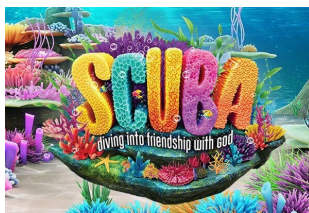
**June 22nd**

Helen Coffee

### **ANNIVERSARIES**

**June 4th**

Gill and Kelly Coffee

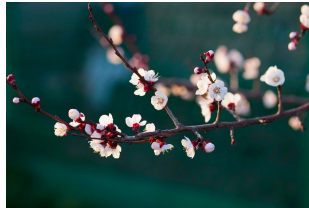


**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2024**  
**SCUBA VBS**

**DIVING INTO FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD**

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Mark your calendars for VBS, **Sunday July28th-Thursday August 1st**. Join us under the sea as we dive into friendship with God. The church will provide dinner for the workers and children at 5:30 pm and VBS will begin at 6:00 pm until 8:00 pm. We need volunteers. **If you would like to help, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board downstairs or contact Gill Coffee.**



### TITHES AND OFFERINGS

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As we strive to maintain the ministry of our church, we hope and pray you will continue to tithe during this time.

For online bill pay or mail in offerings (please no cash), send to:

P.O. Box 911  
Victoria, VA 23974

We have added online giving and text giving for your convenience:

Online Giving:  
[Click here to give](#)

Text GiveVBC to 73256

We appreciate your faithful support to Victoria Baptist Church as we weather these difficult days.

### OUR GIFTS TO GOD FOR MAY

REGULAR MONTHLY OFFERING GOAL \$12,463.27

REGULAR MONTHLY OFFERING RECEIVED \$10,827.11



## **PRAYER LIST AND SHUT-INS**

You can help our shut-ins by writing a letter, sending a card or giving a call! Phone calls are an especially good way for them to hear your voice and be comforted. Please respect the rules of the nursing home and care facilities when planning visits.

**PRAYER CONCERNS June 2, 2024**

**Members Who Need Prayer**

Jane Woolard  
 Jean Overton  
 Jessie Otey  
 Scott Lindsey  
 Ronnie Smith  
 Mark Coming  
 Terry Dalton  
 Janie Chapman  
 Mitty Crymes  
 Kendra Winn  
 Barbara Wilson  
 Russ Mattox  
 Peppi Dayton  
 Taylor King  
 Gwendolyn King  
 Will Carter

Mary Carter  
 Beth Bagley

**In Our Community - Keep In Your Prayers**

Kris Earwood	Priscilla Craig	<b>Lori Robertson</b>
Nancy Long	Jean Pinchback	
Jack Dalton	Boo Caudle	
Georgia Coming	Patrick Kite	
Bradley Owen	Lucy Brame	
Spencer Moore	Steve Reynolds	
Logan Reese	Donna Rel	
Gabe Puleo	Tanya Bruce	
Carrie Wilson	Rawdin	
Sheila Williams-	Gary Dayton	
Hungerford	Anthony Long	
Elizabeth Perez	Debbie Miscorski	
Nancy Martin	Jennifer Scott	
Ada Slayton	<b>Sarah Chamber-</b>	
Moochie Johnson	<b>layne</b>	
Rick McCoy	<b>Agnes Eastwood</b>	
Dennis Nichols	<b>Annette Haywood</b>	
Carol Lewis	<b>Brenda Hagaman</b>	

**PRAYER LIST UPDATES** - If you have a family member or loved one on our prayer list, please contact the Church Office with an update. *If the Lord has answered prayers and all is well, please ask us to remove their name from our list. We want to include everyone who needs our prayers, so please keep us informed. Thank you.*

**AWAY FROM HOME PRAYER CONCERNS**

Jackie Clement (Room 126) ( Oct 20) Anne Hudson (Room 203) Heritage Hall 900 S. Main Street Blackstone, VA 23824	Curtis Jones Wayne Pennell Chase City Nursing and Rehab 5539 Highway 49 Chase City, VA 23924
Betty Schumaker (Nov 20) Amelia Nursing and Rehabilitation Center 8830 Virginia Street Amelia, VA 23002	Holly Crenshaw (Aug. 22) Clarksville Health and Rehab Finch Lane #607 184 Buffalo Road Clarksville, VA 23927
Shirley Overton Hickory Hill 900 Cary Shop Rd Burkeville, VA 23922	

**SHUT-INS**

Jean Overton, 2003 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Victoria, VA 23974 (Sept 16)  
 Betty Lindsey, 1505 Tidewater Avenue, Victoria, VA 23974





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