

# THE HOME PAGE

Volume No. 50

June 16, 2022

Issue No. 22



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

June 26 - June 30

5:30 pm — 7:30 pm

Completed K3 - 5th graders

**CLICK HERE TO REGISTER TODAY!**

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## JUNE XYZ SENIOR ADULT EVENT

Sponsored by the XYZ Team

Tuesday, June 21

11:00 am in the Sanctuary

**Deadline to Sign Up: This Sunday, June 19**

Everyone is welcome to join us as we enjoy musical selections from our organist, Randal Blackburn. Following the concert, there will be a lunch in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch is \$10 and includes a Chick-Fil-A Sandwich, chips, cookie, and a drink.

If you would like to come for the concert, but cannot stay for lunch, please do! If you would like to have lunch, please contact the church office so that we may have an accurate count for lunch.

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## CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION DINNER

Saturday, August 20 at 6:00 pm

**Banquet Tickets On Sale Now!**

On Saturday, August 20, we will have a celebration dinner and program at 6:00 pm at the Embassy Suites Greenville Golf Resort and Conference Center on Verdae Boulevard. Our new history book, *A Home to All Who Would Enter*, will be debuted along with the official release of the Earle Street Baptist Church Centennial documentary video. This is a ticketed event and tickets are limited so get yours early! You may purchase tickets by clicking here.

## AN UPDATE ON OUR PASTOR

Dear ESBC Family,

It is with a joyful heart that we share wonderful news with you. As you know, Stephen had a follow-up appointment with his cardiologist on Wednesday, June 15th. At this appointment, the doctor told him that he no longer must wear the life vest AND he does not have to have a defibrillator implanted! While his heart damage is permanent and will likely not get better, it appears that his body is getting stronger and is compensating for his weak heart. Because Stephen is not showing any signs of heart failure or congestive heart failure, the cardiologist thinks it is safe for him to live his life without the vest or the defibrillator.

Stephen will continue to participate in cardiac rehab through the summer to continue to strengthen his body. The doctors also plan to adjust his medications that they believe will increase his energy level.

While Stephen's journey to recovery is not complete and will still take time, this report is truly an answer to so many prayers and a very much needed piece of good news - not only for Stephen and Sylvia but for our church family.

Please join us in giving thanks to God!

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## 2022 DEACON ELECTION

Sunday, June 26

Next Sunday, our church will vote to elect 7 deacons – six to serve a three-year term and one to serve a vacant one-year term. A sample ballot is included in this week's newsletter. We encourage you to use this sample ballot as you pray and ask God to help you discern how to vote.

Absentee ballots are now available for members who will not be present in worship on June 26. Absentee ballots may be picked up in the church office and should be returned to Denise Plumblee before June 26.

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## MIRACLE HILL MISSION PROJECT

The Miracle Hill Overcomers Center is in need of hygiene products. Items needed are: shampoo, deodorant, shower shoes and body soap. There will be a box located in the Welcome Center. Thank you for donating and supporting this community missions partner.

## JOIN US IN WORSHIP

**Sunday, June 19**  
**10:30 am in the Sanctuary**

*Second Sunday after Pentecost*

*Father's Day*

**Offertory:** Betsy Fee, violin

**Anthem:** *This Is My Father's World*  
by the Sanctuary Choir

**Scripture:** Psalm 127

**Sermon:** "Arrows in the Hand of a Mighty Warrior"  
by Jim Wooten

## RECENTLY HOSPITALIZED

Linda Pickel

## CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

**Stephen and Sylvia Clyborne** upon the recent death of Sylvia's father, Robert "Bob" Newton Davis.

**Bill, Meredith, Wells and Wren Smith** upon the recent death of Bill's grandfather and Wells and Wren's great-grandfather, Doug Smith.

**Tom and Nancy Whitehurst** upon the death of Nancy's sister, Ann LeGrand.

## ATTENDANCE REPORT

**Week of June 12, 2022**

### Sunday School Attendance

On-Campus.....	221
Virtual .....	21
Total.....	242

### Worship Attendance

On-Campus.....	287
Virtual .....	225
Total.....	512

## BUDGET REPORT

**Report for Sunday, June 12, 2022**

Weekly Budget Requirements.....	\$25,678
Budget Gifts (this week) .....	\$19,301
Budget Requirements to Date.....	\$616,261
Budget Gifts to Date .....	\$603,896

## DEACON OF THE WEEK



Calder Standridge is a native of Greenville and graduate of The University of South Carolina. After spending twenty years in the service industry, Calder is a sales representative for Republic Nation Distributing Co. In addition to being a Deacon, Calder also leads Children's

Worship Service, coaches girls basketball, works in the Imagination Station during VBS, and serves on the Centennial Celebration and Ordinance Committees. Calder enjoys spending time with his daughter Scarlett and cheering on the Gamecocks and Atlanta Braves.

## STAFF ANNIVERSARY

**ELLEN HEYWARD**

June 10, 2013

9 years

## From the Minister Of Music and Worship

Janice Hinnant (ext. 202) – [janice@ESBCgreenville.org](mailto:janice@ESBCgreenville.org)

I want to thank Butch Blume for filling in for me on Sunday while I was out with sciatica. It's wonderful to have such gifted people who can step in at the last minute when I go down! Hopefully, I will be upright and present with you this Sunday.

**Sanctuary Choir**—Just a reminder that there is no rehearsal on Wednesday, June 22.

## FOOD TRUCK WEDNESDAYS

Wednesdays // 5:30 - 7:30 pm

June 22: Daddy's Cookout

This summer, we will begin having food trucks again! You will recognize some favorites from last summer and some new options also! Grab dinner before our Wednesday activities and then eat at our picnic tables or inside in the Fellowship Hall.

Next week we will have our friends from Daddy's Cookout. Homemade empanadas and more. Click here for their menu!

# RESPONSE TO SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION SEXUAL ABUSE INVESTIGATION

On May 22, the Washington Post reported that leaders in the Southern Baptist Convention had released a 300-page report revealing decades of sexual abuse within the denomination. The report found that SBC leaders secretly kept an internal list of sex offenders in order to avoid the possibility of being sued. The news of this report and the details it contained left us reeling with a variety of emotions – anger, sadness, disbelief, shock, fear, grief, disgust, and distrust. The report also left us to struggle with a lot of questions about how these events could have happened, what can be done to prevent them from occurring again, and what our response as a congregation should be.

## Background

At the 2021 Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting, a motion was approved by the messengers to appoint a task force (now formally known as the Sexual Abuse Task Force) to oversee a third-party review that would include an investigation into “any allegations of abuse, mishandling of abuse, mistreatment of victims, a pattern of intimidation of victims or advocates, and resistance to sexual abuse reform initiatives.” This third-party review was funded by allocations from the Cooperative Program.

On May 15, 2022, Guidepost Solutions LLC, an independent investigator, released their 288-page report entitled “The Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee’s Response to Sexual Abuse Allegations and an Audit of the Procedures and Actions of the Credentials Committee.” In the executive summary, the report states:

“For almost two decades, survivors of abuse and other concerned Southern Baptists have been contacting the Southern Baptist Convention (“SBC”) Executive Committee (“EC”) to report child molesters and other abusers who were in the pulpit or employed as church staff. They made phone calls, mailed letters, sent emails, appeared at SBC and EC meetings, held rallies, and contacted the press...only to be met, time and time again, with resistance, stonewalling, and even outright hostility from some within the EC. Our investigation revealed that, for many years, a few senior EC leaders, along with outside counsel, largely controlled the EC’s response to these reports of abuse. They closely guarded information about abuse allegations and lawsuits, which were not shared with EC Trustees, and were singularly focused on avoiding liability for the SBC to the exclusion of other considerations. In service of this goal, survivors and others who reported abuse were ignored, disbelieved, or met with the constant refrain that the SBC could take no action due to its polity regarding church autonomy – even if it meant that convicted molesters continued in ministry with no notice or warning to their current church or congregation.”

The Guidepost Solutions report contains detailed information on the methodology used by the company, as well as observations, conclusions and recommendations surrounding their investigation. On May 27, the SBC publicly released a list of former pastors and other personnel accused of sexual abuse. The list contains more than 700 entries detailing cases over the past two decades. Links to the Washington Post article as well as the Guidepost Solutions report are provided at the end of this document.

## What Now?

It would be an understatement to say that this report sent shock waves throughout the Southern Baptist Convention and associated churches. Many Southern Baptist churches and their congregations are struggling to understand how these cases of sexual abuse could occur and even worse, how they could have been covered up for so long by the leadership of the denomination.

Messengers from Southern Baptist churches gathered for their 2022 annual convention in California this week, June 12 – 15. The Sexual Abuse Task Force released their formal requests and recommendations for action, based on the information contained in the third-party report, on Tuesday, June 1. The Task Force released an updated document on June 8. This updated document was presented to the messengers at the SBC Convention for their review and adoption. The actions taken by the messengers at the Southern Baptist Convention will be watched closely by church leaders and congregations as they contemplate what actions their individual Baptist church might take with regards to continued SBC membership and their own safety measures and protocols. A link to the formal requests and recommendations presented at the convention is provided at the end of this document.

## Here at ESBC

We grieve deeply for what has been revealed in the Guidepost Solutions report. We mourn for the survivors, vulnerable individuals who were not protected and cared for as they deserved. We are disappointed, disgusted and disillusioned by the actions of leaders in the SBC denomination - leaders who were sexual abusers themselves, leaders who dismissed sexual misconduct and leaders who covered up this abuse for the sake of protecting the SBC from liability.

In an effort to prevent situations like this from happening at ESBC, we have established and maintained a variety of child protection policies and procedures. Our first child protection policies were established in 2009 and have been updated as recently as 2019. The current Child Protection Policy contains detailed information on our policies and procedures and a copy of this policy is available upon request. Additionally, our staff has participated in various training sessions designed to educate us on how to prevent, respond to and report potential sexual abuse. We also realize that we need to be constantly reviewing our policies and procedures as well as seeking and participating in a variety of educational opportunities. This report and these events are a stark reminder of how we must remain diligent in guarding and protecting our congregants – children and adults.

Lastly, as a church which has been aligned with the Southern Baptist Convention (as well as other religious entities and partners) in fulfilling the unique mission and calling of our congregation, we will also be watching closely to see the actions taken at the SBC Convention. The actions of SBC leadership have already eroded confidence and raised serious questions within various churches (including our own), and the actions of messengers at this week’s SBC Convention will almost certainly have implications for our state convention, local churches and members of our congregation.

Earle Street Baptist Church Deacons and Staff

Washington Post Article

Guidepost Solutions  
Independent Investigation

Sexual Abuse Task Force  
Recommendations and Motion

# THIS IS A SAMPLE BALLOT - NOT AN OFFICIAL BALLOT

Deacon Election - Sunday, June 26, 2022

The following is a list of resident church members who are eligible for election. Those currently serving full terms as deacons and those who have asked not to be considered are not listed. Staff member and their immediate family (parents, children, spouses, and siblings) are not eligible. You will be voting for 7 individuals - six to fill three year terms and one to fill a vacant one year term.

Barbara Aiken	Mark Dorsett	Kathy Huggins	Cassandra Nguyen
Jeanne Aiken	Robin Dorsett	Jane Hughes	Dwight Odom
Mike Aiken	Trish Douglass	Mickey Hughes	Lee Odom
Glenn Arrowood	Catherine Dowdy	Lee Hunter	Ashley Patterson
Dell Baker	Becky Duckett	Kim Johnson	Justin Patterson
Elaine Baker	Ben Duncan	Louise Johnson	Drew Pearce
Nancy Baker	Christy Duncan	Shanna Johnson	Jill Pearce
Tink Baker	Debbie Eastman	Tyler Johnson	Zandrea Pfeiffer
Carole Bannister	Josh Ellenburg	Heyward Johnston	Bill Pickel
Blaun Bennett	Miriam Ellenburg	Belle Jones	Linda Pickel
Amanda Bennett	Randy Ellenburg	Deb Jones	Leslie Plasters
Maudie Blackwell	Andrew Elliott	Joe Jordan	Mark Plasters
Charlotte Boehm	Mackenzie Elliott	Shirley Jordan	Jenice Pleasant
Dan Boehm	Alecia Elrod	Vicki Kennedy	Kelly Pleasant
Leslie Boehm	Bobby Elrod	Lib King	Candy Poole
Brian Boland	Bettie Fabian	Rick Knight	Joe Pyfrom
Jill Boland	Quay Farmer	Tammi Knight	Amanda Rapp
Becky Bridges	Nellie Farnsworth	Willow Larson	Harrison Rapp
David Bridges	Jeannie Flowe	Jane Leo	Julie Rau
Shanna Brooks	Hunter Freeman	Teresa Lewis	Steven Rau
Chip Broome	Pat Gantt	Teri Lewis	Rayanna Redderson
Jenn Broome	Clair Gibson	William Lewis	Grey Register
Rachel Brown	Jay Gibson	Jonnie Linder	Rebecca Register
David Buchanan	Ann Green	Elissa Livingston	Becky Riddle
Judie Buchanan	Mike Green	Dennis Long	Pat Riddle
Jim Bumgarner	Rick Green	Linda Long	Amy Rizzo
Mary Ann Bumgarner	Ron Green	Anna Kay Lord	Etta Rush
Ed Callahan	Noellen Groff	Derek Lord	Elizabeth Sarratt
Jane Callahan	Pam Hall	Margo Love	Stuart Sarratt
Judy Camp	Holly Hamby	Barbara Malone	Alton Sheffield
Flo Campbell	Jeanie Sue Hamby	Jensie Malphrus	Linda Shelnutt
Tom Campbell	A. D. Harris	James Mann	Mike Shelnutt
Michael Candee	Cathy Harrison	Ryder Martin	Brantley Shugart
Susan Candee	Barbara Hawkins	Amy Martin	Josh Shugart
Gabe Carnes	Brad Hawkins	Jack Martin	Donna Simmons
Mot Carroll	Katherine Hawkins	Dave Matthews	Earl Simmons
Doug Chapman	Harry Hayes	Tommy McAdams	Rick Sizemore
Vicki Chapman	Paula Hayes	Blair McAlister	Linda Slaton
Jackie Chapman	Terri Headley	Harriet McCarrell	Mary Wayne Slice
Fran Clark	Martha Hendrix	Joyce McCarrell	Allen Smith
Steve Clark	Billy Hendrix	Dr. Landy McCarrell	Mickey Smith
Bobbie Clayton	Butch Hendrix	Taylor McCarthy	Pat Smith
Lonnie Clayton	Janice Hendrix	Larry McDaniel	Jody Solesbee
Brittney Clow	Lauren Hendrix	Sue McDaniel	Andrew Spivey
Dana Collier	Kathy Higgins	Diane McKelvey	Susan Standridge
Neil Collier	Sarah Rebecca Hill	Monte McKinney	Jimmy Stenhouse
Rick Conte	John Hipp	Dan Merck	Lori Stenhouse
Rosemary Cureton	Lynne Hobus	Theresa Merck	Bruce Stevens
Jamie Dalhouse	Holly Holtzclaw	Sally Middleton	Karen Sunday
Debbie Davenport	Kat Holtzclaw	Will Middleton	Bud Sunday
Todd Davenport	Craig Holtzclaw	Allyson Moore	Ken Swain
Glen DeHart	Don Holtzclaw	Amy Moore	Pam Swain
Jean DeMars	Kathy Holtzclaw	Don Moore	Becky Swartzel
Brent Dill	Charles Howard	Stuart Moore	Bill Swartzel
Jean Dill	Andrea Hueble	Terri Moore	Bryan Tankersley
Donna Dorn	Bill Hueble	Paul Mussman	Christina Tankersley

Steve Taylor  
Debbie Thompson  
Kay Traynham  
Holly Traywick  
Donna Walker  
Brad Ward  
Carole Ward  
Al Wassinger  
Janie Wassinger  
Margaret Watson  
Stephen Watson  
Michael Watts  
Eric Wells  
Melanie Wells  
Eddie West  
Mary West  
Debbie White  
Brad Wilson  
Micah Wilson  
Aleta Woods  
Josh Woods  
Ashley Wooten  
Grant Wooten  
Tess Worley  
Anne Wyatt  
David Wyatt  
Dr. Jerry Youkey  
Sharon Youkey  
Kurt Young  
Bryan Zeiger  
Lucy Zeiger