

Prelude	HOLY MANNA	arr. Callahan		
Welcome		Angela Blizzard		
Music for MeditationAncient WordsVineville Sanctuary ChoirAll are encouraged to use this time as intentional preparation for the worship of God.				
Invocation		Melissa Kremer		
*Hymn 425 Childro	How Firm A Foundation en are gathered at the front as we sing the f	FOUNDATION inal stanza.		
Children's Sermon		Russell Honeycutt		
The Lord's Prayer				
Ministry of Music	He Will Hold Me Fast	Angela Blizzard		
Pastoral Prayer		Richard Kremer		
Responsive Reading Hy	mm 30 God, the Revealer	led by Angela Blizzard		
*Hymn 31	Ancient Words	ANCIENT WORDS		
Offertory Prayer		Angela Blizzard		
Offertory	Lord, Jesus Christ, Be Present No	w Walther		
Scripture Reading	1 Corinthians 14:34-36 1 Corinthians 11:3-5	Richard Kremer		
Ministry of Music	Find Us Faithful	arr. Fettke		
Sermon	"How Should We Use Our Bible?"	Richard Kremer		
*Hymn of Response 57	0 'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus	TRUST IN JESUS		
*Celebrations and Concerns		Richard Kremer		
*Benediction		Richard Kremer		
*Postlude	If You Will Only Let God Guide Yo	Bach		

## STRIVING TO BE A SERVANT CHURCH

One ambition your pastoral search committee expressed to me when we first started talking was the desire to become more of a servant church. The committee keenly desired for Vineville's congregation to become a more visible participant in ministry to local communities of need, particularly in neighborhoods near our congregation. I promised them that I would do all that I could to help them reach that worthy goal.

One means of accomplishing that end, in my opinion, was providing recreational opportunities for the young people of Macon. I was shocked to learn that there was no church basketball program in the city for young people once they hit middle school or high school. And since Macon has no YMCA, there really has been no organization willing to provide a place for adolescents to play basketball in Macon unless they were talented enough to make a school team. So, I reasoned, here is one small niche of ministry that we can fill.

Last year was the first year of our program, and we had an amazing response from the community when we put out word that a basketball league for middle schoolers and high schoolers would be available. But last year we also had quite a number of teams sponsored by institutions like the Mentor's Project, Hephzibah Children's Homes, Georgia Industrial Children's Home and Campus Club. This year, owing in part to cuts in staffing, only Campus Club of those groups is sponsoring teams. The remaining teams have been formed by neighborhood teams or by cooperating churches.

We will have a six-game regular schedule, which started this Saturday, January 13th, and will continue through February 18. Then, once the consignment sale is completed and the men's tournament has concluded, we will have a March Madness tournament for the young people.

We continue to need volunteers to make this servant effort possible. We are trying to run this operation on a small budget, knowing that many of the participants come from financially disadvantaged backgrounds. That means the league depends upon volunteers to fill the role of referees, concession workers, scorekeepers and timekeepers. Games start at 10 am and conclude about 4 pm. If you have time on a Saturday that you can be of help, please let Melissa or me know soon. Being a servant church is hard work – but it precisely the work that Christ calls us to do.

I want to say a word of appreciation to our Grief Committee that has been working overtime of late. I know that families in bereavement have appreciated the ministries that this committee, aided by generous Sunday School classes, has provided. And I hope the committee will not stay quite so busy as they have been in these first few weeks of 2018.

Socrates remarked that the unexamined life is not worth living. I think it also true that an unexamined faith is not worth living. I am using January to challenge us to think about issues that relate to how we practice our faith and relate it to the living of life. Last week we looked at how Christians should regard the reality of destructive forces in the natural order, an issue all the more pertinent as fire-stricken California now wrestles with life-threatening floods. Today we deal with the issue of how we approach our Bible. We ponder the question, 'What should be our criteria for weighing the value of different verses of Scripture?' Next Sunday we wrestle with the question, 'Is every aspect of our life scripted? Can everything that happens to us and our world directly be attributed to God's decree? And if that is true, how can we say with integrity that God is good?' Finally, on the fourth Sunday of January we consider the question, 'Can we be good without God?' You know the answer to that one. But do you know why?

A word from your pastor, Dr. Richard Kremer

#### Sympathy

We extend Christian sympathy to the following families: Jackie White and her family in the death of her husband, Bob. Kelly and Edith Graves and their family in the death of Edith's brother, Robert Bugg. Chip and Paula Sparrow in the death of Chip's mother, Grace Sparrow.

#### IN MEMORIUM

Bob White July 1, 1924 - January 6, 2018

Ida Powell May 3, 1929 - December 28, 2017 Otho Pirkle October 1, 1922 - December 24, 2017

Mildred Andrews April 10, 1935 - December 30, 2017

Russell Findley March 14, 1928 - January 2, 2018

Bill Jones January 31, 1921 - January 4, 2018

### FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary are given in loving memory of Mary Anne Edge by her husband, John, and son, Gary Clinton.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS**

Congratulations to LaTonya Allen for her 30 years of service at Vineville Baptist Church. LaTonya was recognized for her service on Wednesday, January 10. We are grateful for the many ways she has served our church.

### FALL BAZAAR COMMITTEE MEETING

A Fall Bazaar Committee Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 28 at 4:00 pm in Room M-106.

#### Youth

Today: No youth evening activities this afternoon.

**Wednesday:** The next two Wednesdays, youth will begin preparing Bible and faith lessons to teach to the Kingdom kids in the upcoming weeks. A curriculum is provided, but the students will be responsible for preparing and leading with their fellow youth members. We will be teaching on the Wednesdays of January 28, February 7, and February 21st!

**Next Sunday:** Youth choir will meet in the choir room at 4:00 pm, followed by dinner at 5:00 pm. We will begin our guy and girl small group Bible study this evening as well, wrapping up at 6:15 pm!

#### **MISSIONS OPPORTUNITY**

Puerto Rico Missions Opportunity: On June 2nd -8th, a mission team from Vineville will travel to Puerto Rico with Praying Pelican Missions to assist with disaster relief and with children and family ministry. Applications for this trip can be found on the table near the guest reception area. Please prayerfully consider this opportunity and return an application by January 21st if you are interested. We continue to pray for these areas still recovering from hurricane damage, and we are excited to lend a hand in the name of Jesus. Individual team members will be responsible for \$250 of the trip cost, and discounts will be applied for multiple family members from the same immediate family. If you have questions, please contact Angela Blizzard or Jim Jones. Please return the applications to them as soon as possible.

#### **OLD CITY FLOWER FESTIVAL**

Mark your calendar for the 7th annual Old City Flower Festival. Roslyn Platt will represent Vineville Baptist Church with her floral design. The festival will be held Jan. 20-22 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church on the corner of College and Forsyth streets. With a theme of "Consider the Lilies of the Field," the festival will showcase the work of flower guilds from more than 15 Macon churches. The show, to be held in the sanctuary, will be open, at no charge, on Saturday, Jan. 20 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.; Sunday, Jan. 21 from 1 to 4 p.m., and on Monday, Jan. 22 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

January 15 Men's Basketball Begins

February 21 Church Conference

#### THIS WEEK AT VINEVILLE

Sunday, January 14 8:15 am Early Service 9:15 am Media Library 9:35 am Bible Study 10:45 am Worship Monday, January 15 Office Closed - MLK Day 6:00 pm Men's Basketball **Tuesday, January 16** 10:30 am Exercise/Stretching Class Wednesday, January 17 9:00 am Media Library 5:30 pm Vineville Brass 5:30 pm Family Supper 6:00 pm Children's Choirs 6:15 pm Media Library 6:30 pm Family Worship 6:40 pm Mission Friends 6:40 pm Kingdom Kids 6:45 pm Youth Bible Study 7:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal **Thursday, January 18** 10:30 am Exercise/Stretching Class 12:00 pm XYZ Friday, January 19 No Activities Saturday, January 20 10:00 am Youth Basketball Sunday, January 21 8:15 am Early Service 9:15 am Media Library 9:35 am Bible Study 10:45 am Worship 2:30 pm Handbells 4:00 pm Youth Choir 5:00 pm SNYF

#### Sound, Lights, and Video

January 14	January 21
Morning Worship 8:30 am	Morning Worship 8:30 am
House: Gene Welch	House: Gene Welch
Broadcast: John Kuipers	Broadcast: John Kelly
Video: Kevin Clark	Video: John Kuipers
Morning Worship 10:45 am	Morning Worship 10:45 am
House: Wade Wilbourn	House: Wade Wilbourn
Broadcast: John Fry	Broadcast: John Fry
Video: Kevin Clark	Video: Eric Blizzard

## DEACON OF THE WEEK

The Deacon of the Week is Chuck Whitehead. Next week is Eddie Wood.

# **Report as of January 7**

ATTENDANCE	
Bible Study	167
8:30 Worship	32
10:45 Worship	195
STEWARDSHIP	
Budget Offering	\$14,445
Following Christ 2 (YTD)	\$97.50
<b>-</b> , , ,	
YTD Budget Contributions	\$14,445

## OUR STAFF

Richard Kremer	Pastor
Angela Blizzard	Minister of Music
Angela Blizzard	Minister to Youth
Peggy Jones	<b>Financial Administrator</b>
Jody Thornton	Administrative Assistant
Ginny Ferguson	Receptionist
Sandra Head	Music Ministry Coordinator
Tonia Boyd	Weekday Morning School
Kathy McCray &	Co-Teachers
Sherry Williams	of Higher Life

## OUR LAY LEADERSHIP

Church Council	Todd Smith	474-6333
Deacon Ministry	Mark Wood	957-7540
Grief Ministry	Nell Jones	960-6195
Homebound	Ann Purser	477-7549
Media Center	Carol Lincoln	743-9366
Men's Ministry	Todd Smith	474-6333
Missions	Jim Jones	757-8411
Preschool	Bobbie Scarbrough	254-4595
Senior Adults-XYZ	Jackie Odom	746-1716
Sunday School	Jeane Easom	719-1289
Women's Ministry	Susan Milam	714-0545