

AUGUST 2023

RAFTING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

GROWING AS A CHURCH WITH A REDEMPTIVE PURPOSE

**The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the work of his
hands.**





August

CONTENT

SPIRITUAL IMPACT

Prayer	1
Annual Revival 2023	2

MINISTRY IMPACT

Adult Sunday School Lessons	5
Scenes of VBS 2023	6
Summer Sunday School Institute	12

HEALTH IMPACT

National Immunization Awareness Month	13
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CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

Happy Birthday!	14
2023-2024 Back-to-School Message	15

SCRIPTURAL IMPACT

A PRAYER

The Way, The Truth, and the Light

Oh, Lord our God, we are in the need of prayer. Please walk, lead, teach, protect and guide us from day to day. Lord, please keep us in your care, no matter the circumstances.

Lord, please allow our hearts and minds to stay on you. When we are sick, please heal our bodies. When we fall down, Lord, please pick us up. Allow us to have faith the size of a mustard seed; so, we will be able to say to the mountain, "Get thee behind me." You are my light and my salvation. Whom shall I fear? Allow us to always walk by faith and not by sight. You are the lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

In the precious name of Jesus we glorify your name. You are worthy to be praised. You are Alpha and Omega, the Prince of Peace, the Lamb of God. You are the True Vine, and we are the branches. Help us to live in a way that is pleasing in your sight. You are the way, the truth, and the light.

We love you, Lord. We ask for the forgiveness of our sins, the ones that are known and unknown. We ask that on the day when you call us home to be with you that we will have a home in your kingdom where we can give you praises forever and ever. Amen.

The Reverend Carol Sanders

SPIRITUAL IMPACT

ANNUAL REVIVAL 2023

The Reverend Marshal Morton

Little Mt. Zion Baptist Church
Lakeview, South Carolina

Wednesday Night



Scriptures: Matthew 9:20-21; Psalm 8

"There Is No Substitute for Jesus--The Real Thing"

There is no substitute for Jesus: the real thing. Reverend Morton told us that a substitute is a person or thing, action, or serving in the place of another. Substitutes can be negative or positive; nobody can duplicate our Jesus, for He is the real thing. Rev. Morton told us about the woman with the blood issues for 12 years but, by her faith, she was healed. He told us about many things that are not real. Parents should not be asking their children today whether they feel like going to church, but they should be taking them to church. We were told that (1) our foreparents had less, but they praised Jesus more; (2) God can use us when we hit rock bottom; (3) There is no substitute for Jesus; He is the real thing. There is the song "Jesus is real." He is real. He is real to me.

Thursday Night



Scripture: Luke 10:33-34

"Giving or Needing Roadside Service"

Reverend Morton said this man on the side of the road showed that sin will break you down. He also said that when we shut ourselves in these four walls, we feel that we have done the service. But the service does not begin and end in these four walls. It begins when we go out into the world to minister and invite others to come to Christ by sharing our testimony. When we come to church, it's to worship; when we leave, it's to serve. We must remember that Jesus said that He didn't come to be served but to be a servant. We should be meeting the needs of people. Our neighbors are people in need. The Samaritan is Jesus Christ.

SPIRITUAL IMPACT

ANNUAL REVIVAL 2023. CONTINUED

Friday Night



Scriptures: Luke 6:46-49; Matthew 7: 21-28

"What Kind of House Are You Building?"

Reverend Morton said that to obey God is like building a house on a solid foundation. In your life, you will be tested. We have to put our trust in God. The focal scripture teaches about two men who built their houses: One built his house on the sand. When the storm came, the house was washed away. The other man built his house on a solid foundation. Jesus must be the center of your house--a house of family prayer and Bible study.

What kind of material are you using? Is it the material of life--cheating, stealing, jealousy, gossiping, or grief? Or is it joy, love, and prayer? Jesus is more concerned with our walk, not with our talk. We must remember that our house represents our life. In closing, Rev. Morton said that we should first clean our house. He used the following illustration:

Joy dishwashing liquid--which represents the joy that Christ brings to our lives.

Awesome cleaner--Jesus is awesome.

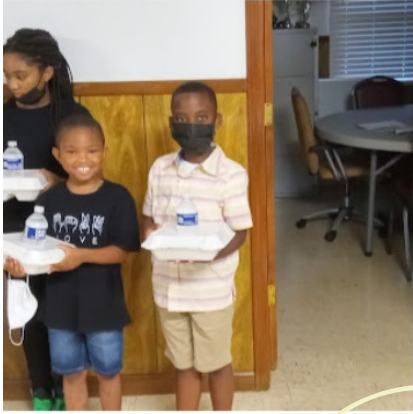
Fantastic spray--God is fantastic.

Shout--We can shout praises to God.

Gain detergent--We gain His love.

Submitted by Ms. Bonnett Nash

SPIRITUAL IMPACT



MINISTRY IMPACT

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS

The Righteous Reign of God

June-August 2023

Church-Home Theme: God's Unfailing Love

Unit 3: God's Eternal Reign

Aug 06	Inheriting the Kingdom
Aug 13	The Nature of the Kingdom
Aug 20	Judgment in the Kingdom
Aug 27	God's Kingdom Will Be All in All

SCRIPTURES:

Galatians 5:13-26; Roman's 14:10-23;

1 Corinthians 4:1-6, 17-21; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

Join us for Sunday School at 9AM in the sanctuary.

MINISTRY IMPACT

SCENES OF VBS 2023

**Twists & Turns:
Following Jesus Changes the Game**

Presentation of Summaries



away
TWISTS

MINISTRY IMPACT

SCENES OF VBS 2023

Twists & Turns: Following Jesus Changes the Game

Presentation of Summaries



& TURNS™
5:4

MINISTRY IMPACT

SCENES OF VBS 2023



MINISTRY IMPACT

SCENES OF VBS 2023



Lifeway
TWISTS & TURNS™

MINISTRY IMPACT

SCENES OF VBS 2023



The biblical lessons in “Twists & Turns” flow from the motto “Following Jesus Changes the Game” and the theme verse Psalm 25:4: “Make your ways known to me, LORD; teach me your paths.”

MINISTRY IMPACT

SCENES OF VBS 2023



MINISTRY IMPACT



June-August

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL INSTITUTE

"Living a Redeemed Life"

Each Sunday morning, June through August, at
Rafting Creek Baptist Church.

HEALTH IMPACT

NATIONAL IMMUNIZATION AWARENESS MONTH

National Immunization Awareness Month (NIAM) is an annual observance held in August to highlight the importance of routine vaccination for people of all ages.



Happy Birthday!

BOBBY FULLARD

ZAHIR HOLMES

HAMPTON WRIGHT, JR.

CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

2023-2024

Back-to-School Message

I was talking to my FRIEND about you the other day, my FRIEND JESUS. The discussion was about going back to school, and what a discussion!!! I asked Jesus to cover you, to help you to make good choices, and to guide you through the path of learning. I asked my FRIEND, who is your FRIEND too, to simply be a fence around you and to bless you in every way. And I also asked our FRIEND to watch over your parents and to bless them as they prepare you for the upcoming school year. This conversation with Jesus is my prayer for you to receive God's blessings and His amazing grace this 2023/2024 school year!

Inspirational and Motivational Tips:

#1 ATTITUDE & ALTITUDE

Attitude is the way you act and behave. Altitude is how high you can go in life. You get to choose your attitude; to be happy or sad; to be good or bad; to act civilized or uncivilized; to choose whether you are going to succeed or fail. Oh, but FAILURE IS NOT AN OPTION for you; therefore, you must succeed! Your attitude will determine your altitude! Maintain a calm and positive attitude.

CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

Inspirational and Motivational Tips, continued

#2 YOU HAVE TO MAKE SACRIFICES

This means that you have to give up something to get something. You have to give up fun time and hanging out all day and night so that you can study, do homework, and then get to bed to get the quality rest you indeed need. This will get you good grades. Your parents and loved ones often make sacrifices for you so that you can have and do certain things. For example, parents put off buying something for themselves so that they can pay for you to get you those tennis shoes or that piece of clothing you feel that you have to have.

#3 GET RID OF EXCUSES!

You can easily come up with many excuses as to why you can't do something: "I can't pass the class because the teacher doesn't like me." "I couldn't do my homework because I had to babysit my sibling." "I can't go to church because I don't have a suit." Get rid of all of the excuses as to why "I can't" do something. Instead, think of solutions and positive ways to accomplish tasks. Treat problems as learning experiences. Remember, get rid of excuses. In the words of my baseball coach, "Losers make excuses, winners make things happen!" Be a winner in and out of the classroom.

CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

Inspirational and Motivational Tips, continued

#4 DREAM

There were two brothers who dreamed that they could invent a machine that could fly people all over the world at very fast speeds; thus, the Wright Brothers invented the airplane. There was this man who dreamed of making a device that would benefit individuals with work, word processes, and electronic communication. Thus, Bill Gates invented the personal computer. Michael Jordan and Ja Morant both dreamed of playing in the NBA. And last but certainly not least, Martin Luther King Jr. had a dream that we would all play together, work together, go to church and school together! Set goals for yourself, and ultimately, have a dream!

#5 SELF-CONFIDENCE

There will be times when things will occur to cause you to think negative and create a lack of confidence in your thoughts and actions. But do not let these things overtake your mind and heart. Be like the “Little Engine That Could.” The smallest little engine among the crowd of engines had never been over the high mountain, but she knew that she had the ability to accomplish the task. When she set out to go over the mountain, she constantly told herself, “I think I can, I think I can...” And she did! Be prepared for the unknown. Like the “Little Engine That Could,” believe in yourself and be confident!

CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

Inspirational and Motivational Tips, continued

#6 SELF-MOTIVATION

People of accomplishment rarely sit back and let things happen to them. Instead, they go out and happen to things, or shall we say make things happen. Motivate yourself to get organized for the upcoming year; get back into your school routine. In addition, get to know your timetable and don't procrastinate! It's up to you to take initiatives and do things without being told. Like Nike, "Just do it!"

#7 HAVE FAITH

Hebrews 11:1 says, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." I've talked about the invention of the airplane by the Wright Brothers. Nowadays, in order to fly an airplane, you have to have a pilot's license. Orville and Wilbur Wright did not have pilot licenses. Instead, they had faith in each other; but more so, they had faith in God! So we say to you as you return to school for another wonderful and successful school year, have faith in yourself; have faith in your parents, other family members, friends, and your teachers. But first and most importantly, have faith in God.

Enjoy your school year & God bless,

The Education Committee

CONNECTIONAL IMPACT

Tips for Parents

DO

- Focus on the process, not the product
- Encourage children to self-advocate
- Keep a long-term perspective
- Encourage and maintain a healthful sleep schedule
- Love the child you have, not the child you wish you had

DON'T

- Overschedule
- Worship grades
- Encourage helplessness
- Compare kids to one another
- Love kids based on their performance only

Back-to-School column submitted Chief Deputy Sheriff Hampton Gardner Jr.



RAFTING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH

Growing As A Church With A Redemptive Purpose

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Meetings and Rehearsals

Meetings and rehearsals will be held by Zoom or Conference Call until notified otherwise.

Deacon Ministry

Thursday, Before 1st Sunday, 6pm

Brotherhood

2nd Saturday, 9am

Children/Youth

Saturdays, Before 2nd & 4th Sunday, 12pm

Inspirational Choir

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 11am

Male Choir

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10am

Ministers & Deacons Spouses Ministry

3rd Saturday, 12pm

Pastor's Aide Ministry

2nd Saturday, 11am

Senior Missionary Ministry

2nd Saturday, 12pm

Thursday Night Scriptural Presentations

Weekly, 6pm

Young Women's Auxiliary

1st Saturday, 10am

Trustees

2nd Wednesday, 6pm

Winter Months, 4th Sunday, After Church