

AUGUST 2022

RAFTING CREEK BAPTIST CHURCH NEWSLETTER

GROWING AS A CHURCH WITH A REDEMPTIVE PURPOSE

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A collage of smiling children and a woman, with a large graphic reading "Back to School" overlaid. The graphic features the word "Back" in blue, "to" in a yellow box with a red background, and "School" in red and yellow. The background shows a group of diverse children and a woman, all smiling, suggesting a school or church setting.

Back to School

PRAYER FOR OUR SCHOOLCHILDREN

Lord, we pray that our schoolchildren--elementary through college--develop an eternal perspective and purpose. Help them to see life--and every challenge--through Your eyes. Help them to be eager and unafraid to share with others the good news of Jesus wherever they go.

Have them, without hesitation, use what they learned about Your Word from our Sunday School, Sunday Devotions, Vacation Bible School, Scriptural Presentations, and Revival. Let Your Word guide how they interact with and treat classmates, teachers, and other school staff.

We pray that they will set their minds on things above, not just what's going on here, and that they will be rooted and grounded in Your love.

May they will come to understand the extent of Your love for them--a love that surpasses all understanding. And Lord, we pray for Your shield of protection around each and every student and school employee.

In Jesus's name, we pray. *Amen.*

back to school

HEALTHY SCHOOLS.
HEALTHY CHILDREN.

Helping Children Flourish and Succeed

overview

Generally, for a child to flourish and achieve in school they need to feel that they belong and are a valued part of the school community."

Parents, teachers, school administrators, PTAs, communities, and legislatures all have key roles to ensure that schoolchildren flourish academically, as well as socially, physically, and mentally.

<https://www.mentallyhealthyschools.org.uk/risks-and-protective-factors/school-based-risk-factors/relationships-and-belonging/>





HEALTHY SCHOOLS.
HEALTHY CHILDREN.

Helping Children Flourish and Succeed

back to school by the numbers

1/3

the fraction of total students who start school between August 12 and August 16.

\$696.70

the average amount spent on back-to-school shopping in 2019.

2019

the year when half of all back-to-school shopping was done online.

50.8

MILLION

the number of students enrolled in Fall 2019, the highest ever.





HEALTHY SCHOOLS.
HEALTHY CHILDREN.

Helping Children Flourish and Succeed

back to school by the numbers

**49.4
MILLION**

the number of public school students enrolled in prekindergarten through grade 12 in fall 2020.

\$12,000

the average spending by U.S. public schools per student.

\$700

the average families spend on school supplies every year — which means the school supply industry makes approximately \$80 billion annually from these sales.

Source: website of the [nationaltoday.com/back-to-school-month](https://www.nationaltoday.com/back-to-school-month).



back to school

HEALTHY SCHOOLS.
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resources

Chen, Grace. May 20, 2022. *10 ways to help your student start the school year on the right foot.* Accessed July 4, 2022.

<https://www.publicschoolreview.com/blog/10-ways-to-help-your-student-start-the-school-year-on-the-right-foot>

Hoffses, Kathryn PhD (Reviewer). *10 ways to help your child succeed in elementary school.* Accessed July 4, 2022. KidHealth.org

Kerslake, Risa (Contributor). January 10, 2022. *What parents need to know about social-emotional development.* Accessed July 5, 2022.

<https://www.usnews.com/education/k12/articles/what-parents-need-to-know-about-social-emotional-development>



back to school

HEALTHY SCHOOLS.
HEALTHY CHILDREN.
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resources

Mayo Clinic. June 3, 2022. *Safety tips for attending school during CO VID-19*. Accessed July 5, 2022..
<https://www.mayoclinic.org/diseases-conditions/coronavirus/in-depth/returning-safely-to-school-covid-19/art-20490441>.

Scholastic. *10 things your child's teacher needs to know* [ages 5-7]. Accessed July 5, 2022.
<https://www.scholastic.com/parents/school-success/school-involvement/10-things-your-childs-teacher-needs-to-know.html>



back to school

HEALTHY SCHOOLS. HEALTHY CHILDREN.

Helping Children
Flourish and Succeed

resources

Twin Cities Kids Club. January 30, 2022. *How to help your kids have a well-balanced school life.* Accessed July 5, 2022.

<https://twincitieskidsclub.com/how-to-help-your-kids-have-a-well-balanced-school-life/>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. Prevention: *Learn how to identify bullying and stand up to it safely.*

Accessed July 5, 2022. [This resource includes information on what schools and children can do, as well as cyberbullying.]. <https://www.stopbullying.gov/>



VBS 2022: GET ON BOARD

Cruising With God's Family

A grand total of 98 "passengers" boarded the *VBS Cruise Ship* on July 18 and July 19 at Rafting Creek Baptist Church. Each night, the *VBS Cruise Ship* set sail at 6:00 PM and returned to its home port at 7:30 PM. Our staterooms consisted of the sanctuary, fellowship hall, and "Dining Room A." Some cruisers enjoyed activities on the cruise line's private beach (our lovely church grounds). We ensured each passenger received a snack, which was prepared in our beautiful galley.

Our boarding passes ensured an evening of activities--welcomes, introductions, instructional and inspirational lessons, and refreshments.

VBS classes were designed for all age groups--from toddlers to elementary, middle and high school, and adults. The instructors provided opportunities for us to learn what it means to be adopted into God's family, to share His grace and kingdom values, and to leave a legacy of love for future generations.

VBS 2022 PHOTO ALBUM: A FLIPBOOK



**To view the flipbook
of Vacation Bible
School photographs,
use this link:**

<https://heyzine.com/flip-book/459fe3aa8b.html>

**The flipbook will be
available throughout
August.**

REVIVAL 2022

Rafting Creek Baptist Church's revival was held Wednesday through Friday, July 27-29, 2022. The revival preacher was the Reverend Marshall Morton, pastor of Little Mt. Zion Baptist Church located in Lake View, South Carolina.

A CANNED-GOOD CHRISTIAN SHOULD ALWAYS CHECK THEIR SEAL

On Wednesday, the scriptural reading was Ephesians 4:15-30, and the scriptural text was Ephesians 4:29-30; the theme was *A Canned-Good Christian Should Always Check Their Seal*. The message outlined three ways to do that. In Ephesians, Paul directed church members to lead and live a new life in Christ Jesus. He admonishes Christians to put off, put on, and put away.



"Put Off" (vs. 22): We must put off our "grave clothes." We must take off what causes the Holy Spirit to grieve.



"Put On" (vs. 24): We must put on a "new man." We must put on the whole armor of God.



"Put Away" (vs. 25): Church people must put away negative behaviors. As shown also in 1 Corinthians 13:11, When we were children, we spoke, understood, and thought as children. But when we become Christians, we must put away childish things.

REVIVAL 2022

CONTINUED

STAY ON BASE

On Thursday night, the scriptural reading was Psalm 46:1-10. From Psalm 46:1, the scriptural text, Reverend Morton focused on "Stay on Base," the sermonic theme. The take-away message was that God is our refuge and strength--an ever-present help in times of trouble. We must stand still because God will always fix it--He will show up. We must rest assured; because He is the "batter in the dugout" who **always** hits a home run. "God is our base" (Psalm 46:10).

PRESENT. PROTECTION. POWER.

Ps that Christians can depend on:



God is always Present.



God is our Protection.



God is our Power.



REVIVAL 2022

CONTINUED

GOD WILL ALWAYS PROVIDE

On the 29th, the final night of the revival, the scriptural reading was Genesis 22:1-14; the scriptural text, Genesis 22:8. Reverend Morton expounded on "God Will Always Provide." He confirmed for us that the purpose of our being tested is to strengthen our faith in God. Five key acts composed the takeaway points.

AVAILABLE

We must be AVAILABLE to God and to our church and ministry.

OBEDIENT

We must be OBEDIENT to God.

EXERCISE

We must EXERCISE our faith in God.

LISTEN

We must LISTEN to God

TRUST

We have to TRUST God.

H A P P Y
Birthday!

Bobby Fullard
Cameron Dennis

Ellen Crim
Hampton Wright Jr.

Keisha Pringle-Joe
Sandra D.C. Williams

Taquishia Sanders
Zashir Holmes



GROWING AS A CHURCH

WITH A REDEEMPTIVE PURPOSE

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Meetings and Rehearsals

Meetings and rehearsals are held via Zoom or Conference Call until further notice.

Deacon Ministry

Thursday, Before 1st Sunday, 6pm

Brotherhood

2nd Saturday, 9am

Children/Youth

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

Inspirational Choir

Thursdays, Weekly, 6am

Male Choir

1st & 3rd Saturdays, 10am

Minister & Deacon Spouses Ministry

3rd Saturday, 12pm

Pastor's Aide Ministry

2nd Saturday, 11am

Senior Missionary Ministry

2nd Saturday, 12pm

Thursday Night Bible Study

Weekly, 7pm

Young Women's Auxiliary

1st Saturday, 10am

Trustees

2nd Wednesday, 6pm

Winter Months, 4th Sunday, After Church

Sumter United Ministries

Sumter United Ministries is a countywide nonprofit that provides relief to struggling families and helps them get back on their feet. Services include home repair, financial assistance, medical care, emergency shelter, and education assistance.

36 Artillery Drive, Sumter, SC 29151

Hours of Operation: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

<https://sumterunitedministries.org>

info@sumterunitedministries.org

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