June 2023

# HERITAGE NEWS

Monthly Newsletter

Reaching People in the Name of Christ - Discipling People in the Way of Christ - Empowering People in the Service of Christ



## **Dear Heritage Church Family,**

A little more than 12 years ago, you invited me to be your pastor and share the journey of faith together. Little did I know how rich a journey it would be, nor what dear travel companions you would become. When Vicki and I arrived here in January of 2011, we quickly felt at home. You graciously welcomed us; you became our extended family. And with the Apostle Paul I can truly say, "Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God" (Philippians 1:3, NLT).

The last dozen years have brought a wealth of ministry experiences

that I will cherish for the rest of my life. I have worked with creative colleagues who have been both friends and partners in ministry. We've had fun together even when doing serious work.

Many of you have allowed me to share your deepest joys and sorrows. I have witnessed the birth of your children and carried them in my arms as I introduced them to their family of faith. We have stood together in the baptismal waters that began the journey of faith. We have shared joy of graduations and "senior sermons" and celebrations

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NEW MAILING ADDRESS: PO BOX 38 CARTERSVILLE, GA 30121







**Rusty Gunter**, Associate Pastor for Worship & Music/Tech 770.377.8716

**Robyn Rhodes**, Associate Pastor for Children/Families and Outreach 770.547.9677



marriage. We have labored alongside one another in hard places and discovered the joy serving those need. We have

joined hands and offered prayers for those in crisis and those in hospitals. We have broken bread together at dining room tables and knelt together at the rail on Christmas Eve in front of the Lord's Table. We have wept together when death claimed those we loved. And we have gathered in hope on Easter mornings to proclaim that love is stronger than death.

Together, we have fed hungry children with backpacks of food and nurtured their minds through Reading Buddies. We have provided care for the homeless and built homes on mission fields. We have supported orphans in Liberia and watched as the seeds of development blossomed in several clusters of villages through the work of Jessy Togbadoya and the ministry of

Sustainable Liberia. We have partnered with Missy and Francis Angalla to bring hope to refugees in Uganda while these past several weeks we have welcomed refugee children in Bible school and tutoring here in our own building. We have offered a lifeline of love to a fellowship in Cuba that has given them hope and support during difficult times there. When Jesus sent out His disciples, He told them to proclaim: "The Kingdom of God is near." Indeed, it's been within our very reach every day.

I conclude my 35 years of ministry with a heart full of joy that has been enriched by my friendship with you. It has been my privilege to serve as your pastor. For that I will be forever grateful.

I am confident in the health of this church. We are a vibrant community of faith. Any potential pastor would consider it a privilege to serve among you. In the meantime, Rusty and Robyn, who have been close friends as well as co-workers in ministry,

will use their tremendous gifts for ministry to lead you well. And the goals laid out in the Dreamcatchers' strategic plan further confirms that Heritage will continue to chart a good course for responding to the needs of our community and the world.



These ministry initiatives provide clear direction for you to follow God's call. No doubt these plans will result in fruitful ministries upon which your next pastor can build. With the Apostle Paul,

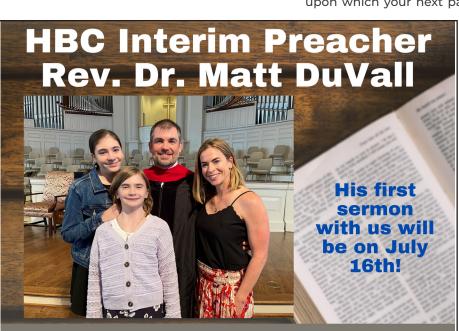
I too would say with confidence that the One "who began a good work in you will see it to completion."

In the Apostle Paul's letters to churches, he began all his letters with an affectionate greeting: "Grace and peace." He always wanted these words and all they stood for to shape the lives of those he loved. Early in my ministry, I adopted those words as the way I would conclude anything I would send to the people I loved. I wanted those words – and all they mean – to be the last thing the people I loved heard from me.

So, to you, my dear friends, with love I offer you a final blessing –

Grace and peace,

Mle



Theology. Matt recently received his Doctor of Ministry degree from Mercer's McAfee School of Theology in 2023. Matt has served the local church through a variety of capacities including youth and missions and interim pastoral ministry. He has also pastored congregations in Rome, Georgia and Middlesboro, Kentucky. As the director of development, Matt works to raise support for the School of Theology. Matt is married to Caroline and they have two daughters who are finishing the 5th and 7th grades. He loves travel and the outdoors, and knows his way around a kitchen.

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## **PASSPORT Youth Camp - Converse University**

Photos By: Robyn Rhodes



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# HERITAGE monthly giving

monthly

## **Let's Get Together**

**July 1 - July 31** 

### July

- 4 Office CLOSED in observance of Independence Day
- 11 Camp Learn-A-Lot resumes 10-12
- 12 HBC Kids Fun & Fruitful 10-12 Youth Night @ 6:00 pm
- 16 1st Sunday with our interim preacher Rev. Dr. Matt DuVall

HBC Kids leave for PassportKids Camp

- 19 HBC Kids return from camp
- 29 NW Georgia Singers Concert 7:00 pm in the HBC Sanctuary



General Budget Receipts June 4 & 11 = \$ 25,858.16

YTD Receipts: \$177,338.36 YTD Expenses: \$198,865.76

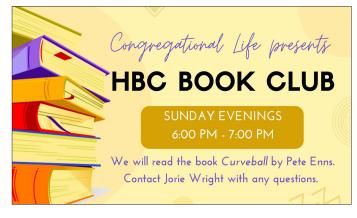
Debt Retirement Receipts June 4 & 11 = \$ 1913.73

YTD Receipts: \$18,782.60 YTD Expenses: \$18,581.40

Other Receipts June 4 & 11 = \$ 155.00







#### **VBS - ROAR**



Thank you to all the volunteers for your upbeat spirit and devotion to making this VBS one of the best ones yet! Attendance averaged 25 kids a day - this is something to celebrate!

## **Reflections & Blessings**



Such a lovely send off for our pastor, Michael Tutterow. The gifts and expressions of love meant so much to both Michael & Vicki as they leave HBC & begin to enjoy Michael's retirement.

### **Tranquility & Teens**



The youth enjoyed a night out at El Charro with the Teen Advocates form Tranquility House. Throughout dinner we discussed red flags & green flags for dating.