

The AP Corner

Real People. Real Grace. Real Impact.

Over the last few months, the pastors and deacons of RSBC have been meeting periodically to pray about, discuss, decide, and express the identity, vision, values, and mission of our church. You might say, quite rightly, "Well, Dean, I think that is all pretty well summed up in the New Testament, isn't it?" Be that as it may, there is still something very helpful about seeking the Lord about the specifics of our church family - who we are uniquely in this time and place and context, why the Lord has placed us here, what He wants us to be about, what He might want to accomplish through us, and even how He wants to do it.

We have come to what I believe are some very exciting and compelling conclusions, and I'd like to begin to show these things to you in this space in the LINK, beginning this month with a church motto we have settled on. In the coming weeks I plan to unpack our vision and values and our mission statement, all of which are kind of encapsulated in this motto: "Real People. Real Grace. Real Impact."

In discussing this, I want to start with a word about mottos in general, and then break down this one specifically and why we have chosen it for our church in this season. A motto serves as kind of a rallying cry for a church. It expresses the identity that the church is seeking to display to the world around it. It needs to be short, punchy, memorable, and easily repeated. It captures the vibe or core value of the church in just a few words. It is appropriate for t-shirts, bumper stickers, church signs, bulletins, mugs, stationery, etc. - in short, almost anywhere a logo shows up. It can be incorporated into a logo or presented alongside it. Here is why we chose this one:

Real People. This communicates that we are not hyper-religious, judgmental, holier-than-thou people who have somehow "arrived" and are therefore here to help others be like us. We are real human beings with the pain, the problems, and yes, the shortcomings that come with being human. We are trying with the Lords help to fight the hypocrisy within us, not projecting ourselves to be something we are not (like "perfect"). We do not wish to be, nor ask others to be, different people on Sunday than we are through the week. We want to communicate to those who come our way that we are just fellow travelers/strugglers who have been found and rescued by an incredible, awesome, life changing God.

Real Grace. The Gospel itself is based on grace, the unmerited favor of God. This means we did not and cannot do anything to earn God's favor, His forgiveness, or a relationship with Him. We seek to be a fellowship that consistently communicates this truth about God and that demonstrates it in our dealings with one another and everyone else. While we believe that God wants to work a rebirth and life change in everyone who is apart from Him, we don't require people to "clean up" their lives, their conduct, their belief system, or their appearance before they come to Him or to our church.

Real Impact. This represents the idea that we are here not just for self-perpetuation, nor for our own needs and enjoyment, but like every New Testament church, we are here to help change the world. We do this through prayer, evangelism, discipleship, service to our community, modeling Christ's love to our world in our treatment of each other and everyone else. By incorporating this into our motto, we are inviting others to come and be a part of something bigger than themselves, something of eternal consequence. Come back next month as I discuss the core values we have identified to guide us in the season ahead.

Dear RSBC Family,

I am so humbled and blessed to be serving back at RSBC! As I have not led music in almost a year due to pursuing National Boards, my heart has truly missed leading the RSBC congregation in music each week. Thank you for your prayers, kind words, calls, and texts during my time away. As we step back into this chapter together, it is my prayer that our music will be a reflection of God's faithfulness, mercy, and love. The scriptures remind us, **"He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God" (Psalm 40:3)**. Whether you sing in the choir, play an instrument, or lift up your voice through congregational singing each Sunday, you are an essential part of that song. I can't wait to see what God has in store as we worship together in this new season!

Joyfully in Christ,

Leah

Back to School Bash Brings Fun, Fellowship, and Plenty of Splashes

What a wonderful time we had at our church Back to School Bash! It was an afternoon filled with laughter, fellowship, and plenty of ways to cool off in the summer heat.

The kids had a blast with water balloons, two baby pools, and the splash pad. But the **big hit of the day was definitely the slip-and-slide!** There were smiles, laughter, and plenty of wet, happy faces as everyone enjoyed the fun.

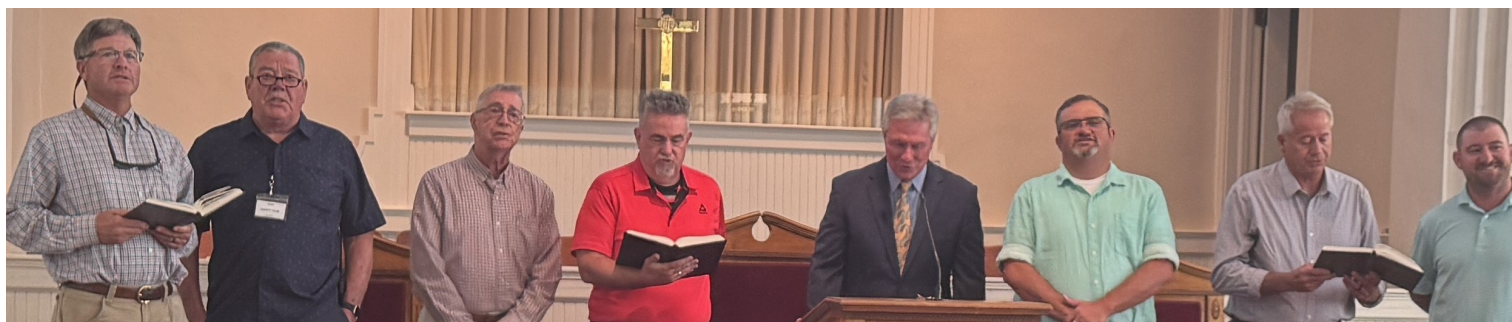
Of course, no church gathering would be complete without good food and fellowship. We enjoyed delicious pizza, refreshing watermelon, a variety of salads, and an assortment of desserts—including everyone's favorite summer treat, ice cream!

A very special **thank you to our Hospitality Team** for all the time, effort, and love they put into making this event such a success. We are grateful for everyone who helped, participated, and made the Back to School Bash such a memorable time for our church family.

What a blessing to enjoy good food, great fellowship, and lots of fun together! **(See pictures, page 3)**

Note of Thanks - Thank you for helping make our Back-to-School Event an amazing success! From welcoming and supporting our families, to providing school supplies, to partnering with you, our outstanding vendors, we are incredibly grateful for the support shown to Ridge Spring-Monetta Elementary School. Our community partnerships play a vital role in helping our students and families thrive, and we truly appreciate everyone who contributed their time, resources, and dedication to this special event. Thank you for investing in our school and helping us start the year strong! Jennifer Perkins, RSME Back-to-School Event Coordinator

[Hope you didn't miss the Deacons' impromptu singing on August 23rd!](#)



Intercessory Prayer List

Our military
Betty Ann Cone
Kent Perry
Kathleen Gibson
M/M Verley Metts
Susan Carvalho
Judy Adamick
Darlena Mixon
Jody Daly
Michel Rodgers
James Campbell
Bill Gibbs
Helen Greene
Dallas Cone IV
Gatlin Padgett (Justin & Jessica)

The people of Ukraine
Wendel Duncan
Pauline Berry
Rudy Stoddard
Debbie Fallaw
Karen Hendrix
Paul Metts
Yvonne Christenbury
Sarah Schwarz
Opal Lybrand
Jimmie Livingston
Dana Berry
Clark DuBose
Dale Bagwell

Back to School Bash Fun in Photos!



Upcoming Events

Wednesday Night Fellowship 6:00 pm meal,
6:30 - 7 pm Devotion w/Pastor Dean & children's activities

Sep 17: Ridge Ramblers Pot Luck lunch 12:00 pm
Sep 27: Titus 2 Bible study & craft 3:00 pm in SS wing
Oct 25: Quarterly Business Meeting

Janie Chapman Offering for State Missions

*will be collected during September. For details visit
www.janiechapmanoffering.org*

Ridge Ramblers

On August 15th, The Ramblers enjoyed an amazing time together at the SC State Museum's Planetarium in Columbia. Then we stopped by Hudson's Smokehouse for barbecue. We will meet in the fellowship hall September 17th for a potluck lunch, fellowship, games and planning. See you there!

Wedding Bells

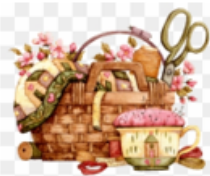
Our church family will be showering Connor Fox and Isabel McCluskey with gift cards to celebrate their October 16th wedding. A gift basket will be available in the foyer during the month of September.



WMU

TITUS 2 NEWS

BIBLE STUDY & CRAFT



At Barbara's Bread Breakers in August we learned about Winter White Wheat and what types of breads it is best for making. We also learned about the health benefits of fresh ground wheat and why it is so much better than store bought flours and breads. We also made homemade cinnamon rolls and tasted different Old Fashioned Sweet Breads such as muffins, ginger bread, and banana bread. Our guest, Iris Green, gave a wonderful devotional on "If you seek truth God will intervene." It was a wonderful time of women teaching women, learning, and fellowship for all in attendance. A big "Thank You" to Lydia Yon and the Nut House for the donation of pecans for our cinnamon rolls and to Lynda McGee for donating the honey. Our next Titus 2 event will be September 27 with guest Deirdra Troxell Come learn to make "All Things Girl", 1800's Historical Crafting in the SS wing.. See you there.

September

Birthdays & Anniversaries



	<u>Deacon of the Week</u>
September 6	Brian DuBose
September 13	Kyle Richards
September 20	Chan Corley
September 27	Will Boatwright
	<u>Nursery</u>
September 6	Shannon DuBose
September 13	Webbs
September 20	Nicole & Drake Yon
September 27	Jill & Corbin Yon
	<u>Children's Church</u>
September 6	Lynda McGee & Diedra Derrick
September 13	Lydia & Kevin Yon
September 20	Kyle & Beth Richards
September 27	Shannon & Brian DuBose
	<u>Flower Calendar</u>
September 6	M/M Cort Proctor
September 13	Dray, Becky, McKenzie & Drayton Wannamaker
September 20	M/M Phillip Mixson
September 27	M/M Trenton Cromer

2 Lakelan Rutland	18 M/M Tim Crouch
2 Cort Proctor	20 Denise Boatwright
3 M/M Larry Lange	21 Billy Rodgers
6 Beth Richards	21 Brian Derrick
7 M/M Billy Rodgers	22 Stacy Chambers
10 Virginia Yon	22 Wilson Thomas
12 Blair Derrick	25 Tracy Price
12 Morgan Derrick	26 Wayne Fulmer
14 Connor Fox	26 Lona Proctor
14 Anthony Rauton	26 M/M Phillip Mixson
14 M/M Jerry McGee	28 M/M Brian Derrick
15 Fuller Corley	29 Mary Krieg
16 Elizabeth Parrish	30 Jodie Cromer

	<u>Children's Sermon</u>
September 6	Kevin Yon
September 13	Lydia Yon
September 20	Kyle Richards
September 27	Brian Derrick
	<u>Church Greeters</u>
September 6	Ilka Hendrix
September 13	Jerry & Lynda McGee
September 20	Holly Derrick, El & Ada Yon
September 27	Brian & Diedra Derrick
	<u>Safety Team Duty</u>
September 6	Brian DuBose
September 13	Dray Wannamaker
September 20	Will Boatwright
September 27	Kyle Richards

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