



SIMPSONVILLE

BAPTIST CHURCH

July 2021

Volume 32 Issue 7



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

July 12-16

9am-12pm

For 3 years (potty-trained) through 5th grade.

VBS 2021 is headed to present-day Israel where discovery awaits at Destination Dig. Kids will unearth more than dirt as they dig up exciting evidence that proves biblical events were not just stories. As junior archaeologists, kids will explore real-life archaeological finds that have helped to uncover the truth about Jesus! Along the way, they'll discover the truth of Jeremiah 29:13, that God reveals Himself to us when we seek and search for Him with all our hearts.

Volunteers Are Needed!

3rd-4th grade teacher

3-4yrs preschool teacher

4-5yrs preschool teacher

Preschool missions on Monday and Thursday, teaching Bible Story and rotating with the group.

Please contact Jill Sowder at jill@simpsonvillebaptist.com.

Register online at simpsonvillebaptist.com or thru the church Facebook page.



Recalibrate

If there was ever a time when the Church had to recalibrate, it's now. After 16 months of Covid-19, the current commitment to church attendance, programs, and service seems to be challenging. Time will tell whether the remnant of the Church is stronger, weaker, or somewhat apathetic.

A mid to large church would typically see a turnover in attendance every 5-10 years pre-pandemic. However, our middle size church and others have seen an attendance turnover of 20-30% in 16 months. This is quite an adjustment of less participation in church worship, leadership, programs, service, and giving.

Simpsonville Baptist worship attendance (215-250) is currently running 60-65% of the average attendance of what we were before Covid. Our adult Sunday School retention and attendance is at about 80% of pre-pandemic, showing that if you are consistently in a small group, then you likely remained committed to both Sunday School and worship. Our student and children's attendance and participation has been trending downward during the 16 months. We will finish a personal demographic census by August 15 to see who we are and what gifts and resources are available.

Following are a few discussion points that ministry teams, leadership, and the church will need to review and process moving forward:

- 1) Reorganize our ministry teams due to limited servant leaders. (Ministry Involvement Team)
- 2) Restructure our ministry staff to meet different discipleship and ministry needs. (Personnel)
- 3) Develop a better enlistment process for leadership. (MIT, Staff)
- 4) Offer and expect training for leadership. (Staff & Personnel)
- 5) Review biblical and church expectations for leaders. (Staff, deacons, MIT)
- 6) Develop a stronger discipleship model or process. (Staff)
- 7) Develop a new missions vision and process. (Staff, Mission team)

I am happy to remind you of good opportunities and ministry the church is doing.

- Deacon selection, the student minister search, and the children's minister search will afford opportunities for strong leadership in the church and community.
- Local ministry continues this summer through Vacation Bible School and the Apartment ministry.
- Student ministry is continuing through a group of incredible parent and lay volunteers.
- The church has embraced the vision to fund the building of an orphanage in Kenya. To date, you have met our goal of giving over \$50,500 in just two months!
- The on-line virtual worship has allowed us the opportunity to reach some 300-400 viewers per week.
- We were able to distribute \$200,000 to fund church ministries.

Please be praying for our church and your ministry through SBC. Through your service, we will do well through a period of interim children and student ministries. We thank both Jon and Kevin and their families for their service at SBC and pray for their continued ministry.

Steve Boyd

SBC STUDENTS



Personnel Team Report on Interim and FT Student Search

The Personnel Team has been meeting regularly to review and update the procedures for the student ministry. The team will be meeting very soon to discuss an interim student director and the search for a full-time student pastor.

Student Ministry Calendar

- Sunday School Begins at The Warehouse - June 27
- Mission Emphasis in S.S: Liz Encinia (Kentucky Changers) - June 27
- Mission Emphasis in S.S: Angie Sanford (Kenya Orphanage) - July 11
- Student/Parent Cookout at The Warehouse - July 11
- Girls Night in the Fellowship Hall - July 18
- Guys Game Night at The Warehouse - July 25
- Mission Emphasis in S.S: Rick & Dixie Taylor (Apartment Min.) 7/25
- Fusion 56: Great Wolf Lodge Trip - July 28-30

The student ministry hasn't had a permanent meeting place for 3 1/2 years. The church approved of renting and renovating "The Warehouse" for one year for a total cost of \$30,000. The students will meet for Sunday School at The Warehouse beginning June 27. We will take them to The Warehouse on the bus and the van. Parents will pick up their students after the second Sunday School hour.



Meadow Ridge Blessings Box

The Blessings Box at Meadow Ridge is used every day of the week.

Donation requests: cereal, oatmeal, cereal bars and PopTarts, canned meats, spaghetti and spaghetti sauce, dried black beans, soup mixes, white rice, sugar, corn meal, toilet paper, paper towels, dish liquid, tuna helper-type products, vegetable oil, canned fruit and vegetables, bags of apples/potatoes.

Cereal and canned fruit are high priority items.

Donations of food can be dropped off at the church office or placed directly in the box. Monetary donations can be taken to the church office.



Apartment Ministry-We had a great first day back for the summer!

Oh my, what a blessing today! 20 children altogether. We began with Linda Otterback giving a lively bible story of the 23rd Psalm complete with sheep and a shepherd. And songs galore! Then we made special cards for Father's Day or any special person in our life (some made cards for papa, mama, grandma, a friend or one of our volunteers, even a thank you card to God). We played games and then had McDonald's chicken nuggets, chips, grapes and brownies. Lorna Robinson, Hope Hawes, Shirley Foster and her teen granddaughter Kara, Mike and Debbie Willman and Linda Otterback were amazing! This week we have the Simpsonville Fire Department coming out for a kid's tour of the trucks and we are planning a trip to the Salato Center in July!

Dixie Taylor

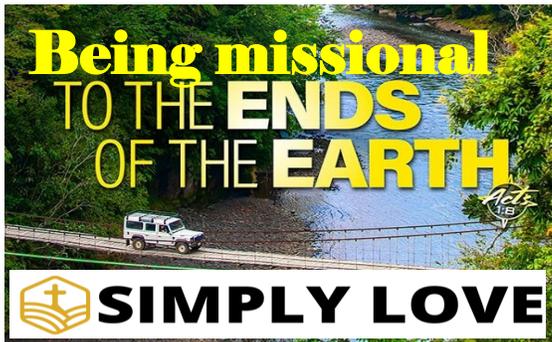


Mike & Debbie Willman have been working steadily to prepare the vegetable beds at Meadow Ridge. They have help from the kids who are learning where their food actually comes from. They have already harvested squash, cucumbers and radishes! How wonderful to be able to put fresh veggies in the blessings box!!



The church has been blessed give more funding to the following ministries from surplus budget funds from 2020:

- Community Ministry Fund - \$10,000
- Christmas Store - \$5,000
- Missions (Acts 1:8) - \$5,000
- Feed My Sheep Food Ministry - \$3,000.



Ultimate Wings Orphanage Mijomboni Africa

SBC is partnering with Ultimate Wings to build an orphanage at the projected cost of \$10,000.

The building will house 30 boys and girls.

To stock the facility with furnishings, clothing, kitchen and administrative supplies, the projected cost is \$19,000.

To provide food and personnel costs for the year, the projected cost is \$24,819.

This is indeed a God-sized task but one which will literally save and change lives.



We have some wonderful updates for you regarding the Mijomboni Rescue Center.

We are very excited to announce that the construction foreman hired local women to help with the beginning stages of construction. Each day they gathered and carried dirt for the foundation. They had an increase in pay from the usual 400 KES per day to 600KES per day! One woman of ten children showed up every day at 5am. We have been able to bless the community even before the building is finished!!



Rather than rely on the government water, it was decided to dig a well. After seven days they reached the water table at 120 feet.

Nathan worked with the local orphan registration authorities which provided a building plan for the rescue center. The change in configuration allows for an additional 20 children to be cared for! It includes rooms for caretakers and an administrator and a room for visiting guests. Study rooms will be used to teach Bible classes. A large area will be used as a community room to teach life skills, rehabilitation and offer counseling. A dining and family room is also included.



Just as in the United States, the cost of building supplies as skyrocketed. We have had to pay additional costs for supplies. We are sending installments regularly to cover all expenses.

Next steps are to get the roof finished and begin working on the inside, purchasing supplies such as bedding, kitchen equipment and food. Once the orphanage is finished we will seek support of \$25 monthly for each child. If you have an interest in adopting a child, please contact Angie at angie@simpsonvillebaptist.com.

Nathan has shared that the work is hard with the crew (and himself) beginning at 4am and working until 7pm! BUT that the construction site is enjoyable! People are sharing their stories and respect for the women working has improved! AND we have a standing invitation to visit and see God has accomplished through your generosity.

GIVING TO DATE: \$50,605.98

Ways to give

- Your kids can participate by dropping their change in the Change For Change giving box located in the foyer.
- Easytithes - accessed through the church website: simpsonvillebaptist.com.
- Check or cash - please write "orphanage" in the memo box.



WOMEN'S BUNCO THURSDAY, JULY 1 6:30PM

TO RESERVE YOUR SEATING, PLEASE
SIGN UP IN THE FOYER OF THE FLC
OR CONTACT JENNY HUFF AT
502.550.1554.



Classic Worship

Thursday, July 1 at 10am

Special Guest:

Bill Taylor,

Pastor Mount Pleasant Baptist Church

Come at 9:30am for snacks and
fellowship.

Good Time Travelers Adult Day Trip

On Thursday, July 8, GTT

will be traveling to Nicholasville KY to tour

Camp Nelson and the National Cemetery.

We will visit the museum and visitor center, tour the Oliver Perry House and reconstructed army barracks, as well as visit the National Cemetery. Plan to leave SBC at 9am, tour from 10-11:30am with lunch to follow at the Copper River Grill. **Please sign up in the Welcome Center by Sunday, July 4th.**



Established as a supply depot and hospital during the Civil War for the U.S. Army, Camp Nelson became a large recruitment and training center for African American soldiers (USCTs), and a refugee camp for their wives and children. Thousands of enslaved people escaped to this site with the hope of securing freedom and ultimately controlling their futures by aiding in the destruction of slavery.

Then get your dancing shoes on for Wednesday, August 11, when we will be going to Derby Dinner Playhouse to enjoy the production of **GREASE!** We have 5 tickets left for the matinee performance and your deposit of \$34 is due by Sunday, July 11. Call Dixie at 216-8713.



SMART

Our SMART (Security Medical and Response Team) periodically requests that we reprint our active-shooter protocols. It is critical that all members know what to do in a crisis of the this type.

- ◇ If an active shooter enters the church during worship, or is already seated, the shooter will probably start shooting before any warning can be given.
 - ◇ When this happens all individuals should lean forward, get as low as possible, and try not to bump the chair in front of you.
 - ◇ Security personnel are placed strategically throughout the congregation and will respond immediately to eliminate the threat.
 - ◇ Any member who is carrying a weapon will also bend forward. **DO NOT USE YOUR WEAPON** because it will interfere with our trained security team and you could be mistaken for a shooter.
 - ◇ If the shooter is already in the chair aisles and starts shooting, then it is your call if you are next to him and can tackle or restrain him while the security team acts. This is your call and only if you feel comfortable doing so.
- 
-  ◇ **DO NOT CALL 911. We have it covered.**
-  ◇ **DO NOT JUMP UP AND RUN TO YOUR CHILDREN OR TO THE DOORS. We have a plan in place. Please stay seated.**

Statistically, the active shooter will be an individual who knows a member of the church. It may be a domestic issue involving an argument, violence, divorce, child custody, or a relationship gone bad. Revenge may be the factor. If this is the case and you feel it is possible that someone may do bodily harm to you, then please notify one of the pastors or the security team leader, Mike Waterman. Security will watch for the individual and only the pastors and security team leader will know the specifics of the case.

PLEASE FOLLOW THE ABOVE REQUESTS TO SAFELY PROTECT GOD'S PEOPLE AND PROPERTY.

We would like to introduce you to the leaders of our Security Medical and Response Team.

Director, Mike Waterman has led this team since it's inception.



He has formed an excellent team of volunteers which have law enforcement and military training. This team has been trained to handle any type of security or medical issue. Mike's law enforcement experience includes being an officer with the Indiana State Police. He was a trooper trainer and worked on assignments with the Secret Service protecting high-ranking government officials. He left the state police as detective and went on to become a private investigator. Mike's wife is Anne.

Gene Witt is our Security Team Leader.

Gene comes to us with six years of military service and 21 years in law enforcement as the Chief Deputy Sheriff of Shelby County. Gene's wife is Bonnie.



Mike Jacobs is our Active Response Leader.

I'm a retired LPD/LMPD Sergeant and a current Platoon Sergeant with the Jeffersontown police. I'm E.M.T certified and have a police "tactical" background. I have a heart for service within my Church community as well as a passion for service for the residents, visitors and workers in J-town.



The last 18 months have been a challenge for police nationwide and specifically Jefferson county. The epidemic and "civil unrest" has tasked our officers to assist LMPD and other departments in Louisville as well as specific details within our own city. But **GOD IS FAITHFUL!** He has kept us safe as first responders! My heart goes out to all the moms and fathers who continue to loose their sons to senseless West End violence, a community I served for almost a decade. Please keep the ministries and churches down there in your prayers so that they can continue to Impact these kids while they are young and before it's to late.

My greatest accomplishment in life is my marriage of 26 years to Rayann and my four kids. Never take your marriage for granted and constantly work on your relationship! Never try to be your kids best friend and be a parent. It's ok to be an unpopular parent! Your kids will thank you when they grow up.

After several active-duty training sessions within our church, an outside security expert stated that SBC has one of the most highly trained church security teams in the state!

BIG Ministry Need We need a couple of men to take our bus and van to be certified and to get annual maintenance. Please call the church office at 502.722.5246 if you can help.

SBC Marriage Minute



How can couples stay happily married? Part 2

The most happily married couples are startlingly and scientifically not the ones sheltered from hardship, financial strain, loss. It's not even the ones that fight the least. They're the marriages who've learned to choose us in ways microscopic and monumental. But what's that look like in the nitty-gritty? Here's a simple, 10-step assessment to help steer you in a happily married direction.

6. Do we practice kindness and generosity—even when we're ticked? Repeatedly in research, kindness acts as a key predictor of a marriage's capacity to fulfill and endure. But it's not just little acts of snagging your spouse's favorite drink for them at the coffee shop or lobbing your jeans into the hamper. We're talking kindness baked into the culture of your marriage, even amidst irritation. As a rule, happily married couples don't let conflict turn them contemptuous. They tackle the problem rather than the person. For marriages stuck on negativity, check out social researcher Shaunti Feldhahn's 30-Day Kindness Challenge.

7. How committed are we to each other? Someone once told me of their return at a natural-foods store. "Oh, no problem!" the clerk responded. "If this doesn't fit your narrative in any way, we'll gladly take it back." In marriage, it can be a little too easy to think, You don't really fit my narrative. Do you happen to have a generous return policy? God assigns every one of our conflicts. They're opportunities to love each other more. To become more like Him. To live breathtaking lives not because they were custom-ordered, but because they do the hard work of loving, of fire-escape-free commitment.

8. How thankful are we for each other? Author Eric Barker writes, "People tend to experience higher gratitude on days when their partner does something thoughtful for them, and such gratitude predicts elevated relationship quality the next day ... In the long run, people who experience elevated levels of gratitude also experience stronger relationship commitment and are less likely to break up." Perhaps it isn't surprising that gratitude = happily married. Gratitude swivels us toward what's going right; toward our spouse's strengths and contributions. Better yet, it swings us away from an entitled, "What do you add to my life?"—and toward humility. That gratitude bleeds into thanking a God who orchestrates our lives, generously giving lavish gifts.

9. Are we living for something beyond ourselves? Yes, there are the usual suspects in this conversation. Many studies indicate happier marriage, lower domestic violence, and better sex lives when both spouses attend church, have regular religious involvement, even pray together. But think higher than an institution. Author Skye Jethani writes in *With, God* established a garden in Eden where he placed the man and woman and where he walked with them. God welcomed humanity into the eternal communion he had known since before time. We were created in his image so that we might live in relationship with him. Eden was designed to be a collaborative environment where Creator and creatures worked together for a common goal. We're most happily married when working with God, for purposes superseding our own relationship.

10. How willing are we to forgive each other? Forgiveness says, You and our love are bigger than the ways you fail. Your value to me goes beyond your ability to perform. I'm here for the long haul—not just while you keep meeting status quo. Ligon Duncan wrote, "People don't fall out of love. They fall out of repentance and forgiveness." (Forgiveness, however, doesn't excuse or further sin. See "Are you in an Abusive Relationship?") More than that, forgiveness offers Jesus to your spouse. It speaks the Gospel to both of you: that while you were both His enemies, He went so far as to give His life. Part of our ability to forgive, to offer undeserved kindness? We realize how much we've been forgiven. And it's hard not to be happily married when someone sees you completely as you are, yet loves you completely. This means it's worth it to take the next step on the areas of this relationship assessment that could use some fine-tuning ... even an overhaul. The hard work to love each other more wholly and steadily means you step closer and closer to the marriage of your dreams.



SIMPSONVILLE
BAPTIST CHURCH

MEN'S MINISTRY

MEN'S THURSDAY GOLF LEAGUE

WEISSINGER HILLS IN SHELBYVILLE

COST: \$20 PER PERSON
TEE TIMES BEGINNING AT 5:30PM

JULY 8 & 22

You must schedule your tee time at
whgc1234@gmail.com.

Please contact Lowell Ashby at:
502-777-2540 or
lowellashby9@gmail.com with
questions.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

CRACKER BARREL IN SHELBYVILLE
July 10 at 7:30am



Contact Mike Willman at 210-2542 or mike.willman.sr@gmail.com.

Men's Discipleship Living in Accord with the Holy Spirit

This 4-week study will be held on Wednesdays from 6:15-7:30pm beginning July 7.
Led by George Lambert.



Read Through The Bible

JULY

1. 1 Chronicles 25-26
2. 1 Chronicles 27-28
3. 1 Chronicles 29
4. 2 Chronicles 1-2
5. 2 Chronicles 3-4
6. 2 Chronicles 5-6
7. 2 Chronicles 7-8
8. 2 Chronicles 9-10
9. 2 Chronicles 11-12
10. 2 Chronicles 13-14
11. 2 Chronicles 15-16
12. 2 Chronicles 17-18
13. 2 Chronicles 19-20
14. 2 Chronicles 21-22
15. 2 Chronicles 23-24
16. 2 Chronicles 25-26
17. 2 Chronicles 27-28
18. 2 Chronicles 29-30
19. 2 Chronicles 31-32
20. 2 Chronicles 33-34
21. 2 Chronicles 35-36
22. Ezra 1-2
23. Ezra 3-4
24. Ezra 5-6
25. Ezra 7-8
26. Ezra 9-10
27. Nehemiah 1-2
28. Nehemiah 3-4
29. Nehemiah 5-6
30. Nehemiah 7-8
31. Nehemiah 9-10



- 1 Peyton Puleo, Amy Tucker
- 2 Kaden Dugle
- 3 Ronnie Sowder
- 5 Amber Moore, Barb Scheckells
- 8 Jack Molidor, Michelle Vogel
- 10 Valerie Hebdige, Tammy Wallace
- 11 Sharon Kramer
- 12 Lori Cheppo, Lisa Davis, Mike Jacobs
- 13 Christy Branstetter, Heather Garland
- 16 Nathan Sangster, Hope Thompson
- 17 Jillian McEldowney, Christy Riner
- 18 Selena Valentine
- 19 Linda Ashby, Tina Ball, Kyle Parks
- 20 Gwyn Trumbo
- 21 Julie Renfro
- 22 Bonnie Pruitt
- 27 Jonathan James, Allison Jacobs
- 28 Hudson Brown
- 29 Jenny Huff, Chuck Rhoads
- 30 Steve Cheppo
- 31 Levi Wyatt

GUEST SPEAKERS

We are excited to announce some Guest Worship Speakers for this month.



July 11

Yves Jean Baptiste

Yves is a Chaplain Candidate USAR Doing M. Div. at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary and an FCA Area Representative Greater Louisville



July 18

Andy McDonald

Andy is the KBC's regional consultant for the North Central Region. Andy is the Chair of our Evangelism team.



July 25

Brandon Porter

Brandon is the Communication Director for the Kentucky Baptist Convention.

It was with much sadness that we said farewell to two of our staff members in June. We have included portions of their resignation letters below, and ask that you would remember both Jon & Kevin and their families in your prayers as they begin a new season of ministry.

Dear Simpsonville Baptist Church,

Over 10 years ago Bobbi and I came to this church to join you in ministry. We vowed to do life with you. Many of the students that I started with are now married, have children, and are doing great things for the Kingdom. After time, we were called away and we were grieved to leave this church, but we were obedient and God blessed us with a daughter. After much prayer, God called us back. Now, we have 3 beautiful children, a growing family, and a growing church.

I would like to officially submit my letter of resignation as Associate Pastor to Students and Administration of Simpsonville Baptist Church, effective June 13, 2021. To the students, I love you dearly. God has great things in store for you. My prayer is that you will fight the devil and the temptations of the world through prayer and adoration to Christ.

To our student ministry parents. You have been amazing. Through the years I have witnessed sacrificial love that comes only from Christ. You have supported me and my family through so much. We have been a lot of places, seen a lot of things, laughed a ton, cried a ton, and we had a blast doing it, from Florala, AL to Lesotho, Africa.

To the church body. Thank you for your continual support of my family through adoption, sickness and health. Thank you for taking us in and allowing us to be a part of God's plan for this community. These years at Simpsonville Baptist have been a privilege to serve you and do life with you.

Sincerely,
Jon Caranna



Dear Church Family:

At the beginning of this year, Taylor and I began praying for opportunities to move closer to home. God began to answer those prayers by opening up doors for us. We were contacted by two different churches in that time. We went through the strenuous interview process and came to the conclusion that God was leading us to Richton, Mississippi.

To the children and families of SBC, Taylor and I have enjoyed seeing you learn about the Bible and take new steps in your faith each week. Thank you to those parents who trusted us in aiding in the discipleship of your children. Thank you to all the servant leaders that were consistent and flexible. Thank you to all who were involved with pouring into Ollie and being part of the village that it takes to raise a child in the church.

On Sunday, June 20 I was presented with a unanimous vote to call me as Associate Pastor/ Pastor to Students at First Baptist Church Richton, and we accepted the call. With that, I am resigning as Pastor of Children and Families from Simpsonville Baptist Church. My last Sunday to serve will be June 27, and my last official day of work will be June 30.

In Love and In Christ,
Kevin Barnette

Great Wolf Lodge July 28-30

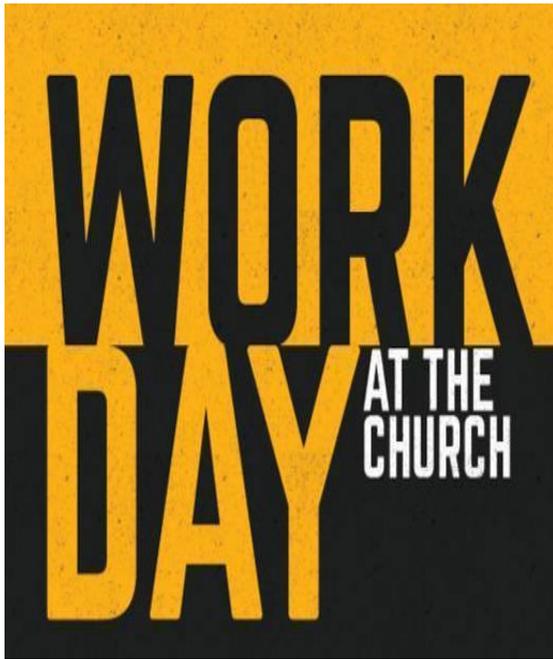
We are in need of one male chaperone. Chaperones need to be members and at least 25 yrs old to drive the vehicles.

Sunday Driver's

We need 2-3 drivers to drive students to The Warehouse on Sunday mornings following worship.

Please contact Angie in the church office if you can help!!

BE THE
HANDS & FEET
OF JESUS



Saturday, July 17

8:30am

The following is a list of some of the work day projects:

- ◆ Change filters in Fellowship Hall and Family Life Center
- ◆ Spray weeds in all parking areas
- ◆ Replace soap dispenser and toilet paper holder in restroom
- ◆ Rake leaves from around playground fence and bushes
- ◆ Apply dirt to needed areas
- ◆ Touch-up painting at The Warehouse
- ◆ Straighten railroad ties in parking lot
- ◆ Change lights in the Fellowship Hall
- ◆ Someone with truck to pick up 15 bags of mulch
- ◆ Apply mulch
- ◆ Take load of trash to dump.

Please sign up in the foyer of the FLC if you are available to help.

Community Free Fair

Saturday, July 24

8:30am-11:30am

SBC is hosting our 2nd annual free community yard sale. Everything will be given away! If you would like to donate gently-used household supplies, toys, or summer clothing for any age, please contact Angie in the church office.



Simpsonville Baptist Church
PO Box 56
Simpsonville KY 40067