



THE ACCENT

June 2025

AUSTIN GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

5919 Austin Grove Church Road, Marshville, NC 28103

Website: www.austingrovebaptist.com

E-mail: austingrovebaptist@windstream.net

YouTube Channel: Austin Grove Baptist Church

704-624-2929

To My Church Family and Friends,

I recently read an article by Thom Reiner, Founder of Church Answers, about church attendance. In it he says, "I don't hear many church leaders advocating weekly worship attendance of their church members. They do not want to be legalistic. They do not want to suggest church should come before entertainment, sports, and sleeping in. It's a mistake. A big mistake."

Survey data shows that from 2008 to 2024 weekly or more frequently church attendance dropped from 31% to 25% and those never attending church rose from 20% to 34%.

The goal of the church leaders should be moving church members to weekly attendance.

What is the solution? There is no silver bullet, but he makes three suggestions.

First – add faithful attendance as an item of prayer.

Second – identify members who are not attending regularly and encourage them to come more regularly.

Third – emphasize and encourage Sunday School attendance. Statistics show those that attend Sunday School are five times more likely to be weekly attenders than worship only attendance.

We should not be reluctant to encourage our fellow church members to attend faithfully, particularly weekly. The New Testament from Acts to Revelation 3, was either written TO a local church or ABOUT a local church. If it was that important to God – it should be that important to us.

The local church is God's plan A for His mission on earth – He didn't leave us a plan B.

Weekly worship attendance should be the norm for Christians. Please join me in encouraging our membership.

It is just that important!

Roger James



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 3 Hannah Napier
- 4 Josh Lemon, Xaiden Moore
- 5 Pam Rivers
- 6 Emily Graham
- 9 Maggie Collins
- 10 Brandon Knight
- 14 Suzanne Simpson
- 15 Rebecca Edwards
- 16 Elijah Haigler
- 17 Katie Rivers
- 18 Amanda Ikerd Lynn
- 20 Laurel Preslar
- 21 Donald Griffin
- 22 Melissa Estridge
- 24 Tommy Edwards, David Simpson
- 25 Josh Fowler
- 27 Kyle Howard
- 28 David Figueroa, Sheri Bradshaw
- 29 Vickie Griffin

First Week in July

- 1 Nolan Maner, Dawn Smith Eudy
- 3 Eli Dermid
- 5 Taylor Hilton
- 7 Kaylan Maner, Cody Helms



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- 13 Mr. & Mrs. Roger Haigler
- 14 Mr. & Mrs. Donald Griffin
- 14 Mr. & Mrs. Jerry Knight
- 15 Mr. & Mrs. Clinton Oster
- 25 Mr. & Mrs. Irvin Griffin
- 25 Mr. & Mrs. Dwight Starnes
- 26 Mr. & Mrs. Tom Preslar

First Week in July

- 6 Mr. & Mrs. Bill Ivey

June issues of *Mature Living*, *Home Life*, *Open Windows*, and *Our Daily Bread* are in the vestibule and Sunday School classes for pick up. Please see Roger Haigler to update the number of each your class needs. Thank you.

Library News

For the last while Larry Smith has contributed several study guides that accompany the DVD's by Dr. David Jeremiah. They include the following:

Captured by Grace

12 Habits of Truly Happy Christians

Escape the Coming Night (Volumes 1, 2, and 3)

60 Days of Prophecies

Even though these are study guides, they contain valuable information.

Another book donated to the library is *100 Bible Verses That Everyone Should Know*.

An oversized, colorful large book of biblical maps has been added to the church library.

The DVD of *The Passion of the Christ* is available for checkout.

How about taking a look at the available reading material in our church library. There is something for everyone's reading interest.

Brenda Lee

Librarian

ALOHA SPREAD

Brenda Thomas Lee

3 (3-oz.) pkgs. Cream cheese	2 T. lemon juice
3 T. milk	1 (3-oz.) can coconut
¾ c. crushed pineapple	¾ c. chopped pecans

Soften cream cheese with milk. Drain pineapple; mix until cheese is smooth. Add remaining ingredients. Spread on bread.



NURSERY SCHEDULE

June 1st: Hannah Napier & Hunter Canup
 June 8th: Christa & Brandon Love
 June 15th: Carter & Laura Dermid
 June 22nd: Sandra Helms
 June 29th: Barbara Simpson & Madison Stancill
 July 6th: Kathy Starnes & Volunteer



June 1st: Debbie & Baylee Jordan
 June 8th: Need Volunteers
 June 15th: Julia & David Godwin
 June 22nd: Cindy Whitley & Kelcey Griffin
 June 29th: Janel Griffin & Roger Haigler
 July 6th: Debbie & Baylee Jordan



FOOD MINISTRY

JUNE FOOD MINISTRY NEEDS

Thank you for your contributions to helping feed the children in our community.

June 1st: Can of 15 oz. vegetables such as green beans, corn, peas

June 8th: Can of pasta such as spaghetti, ravioli, lasagna

June 15th: Rack of Ramen noodles

June 22nd: Box of individual snacks such as oatmeal cakes, Swiss rolls (kind of snack doesn't matter as long as individually wrapped).

June 29th: Box of individual packs of grits or oatmeal.

2025 FELLOWSHIP HALL RESERVATIONS

REMINDER...If you or your Sunday School Class wants to use the Fellowship Hall, please be sure to schedule with Sheri. Thank you.

June Fellowship Hall Clean Up:

Knights for Christ, Adult Class #1, Adult Class #5



Vacation Bible School

Monday, June 23rd

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Thursday, June 26th

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

You can now register online at:

<https://giving.myamplify.io/App/Form/2b9147c7-bdba-410e-bc99-c408ff21698f>



Tanner Griffin

Averie Stancill

SECOND HARVEST

June 4, 2025

Here at Austin Grove Baptist Church

8:00 a.m.



Churchwide Project for Samaritan's Purse

The children and youth are asking for your help by donating items each month for their Shoebox Mission Project/Packing Party that will take place later this year. 😊

For the month of June we are again collecting toy items such as balls, small baby dolls, Barbies, Hot Wheels, flashlights, stuffed animals, fidget toys, legos, card games, small puzzles, slinkies, cars.

Please leave items in the Welcome Center. A monetary collection box for donations is in the vestibule. If you have any questions, please contact Julia Godwin. Thank you so much for your help!



Sunday, June 15th

