



SUMMERDALE YOUTH NEWS

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"SHINING OUR LIGHT"

To God be the glory! I've been a member of this congregation for nearly two years. In that time it was my honor to work as the marketing director for GTKYB, lead singing, preach, teach, coordinate the L2L program, conduct Bible studies and organize the quarantine worship services. For over a month now I have been blessed to serve in a full-time capacity as the Minister to Youth & Young Families. For nearly 24 years I have been working in ministry. It is my passion. Mentoring and encouraging this generation of young people has been a highlight. I promise to work hard and serve with compassion, zeal, and genuineness. My prayer is that our young people can see Christ in me. Let's get to work!

First things first. We are adopting the theme of "**Shining Our Light**" for the rest of 2020. There are many overwhelming things going on in our world and we need to learn to push back the dark. You are probably familiar with term "light of the world." Most people are quick to note that Jesus spoke of Himself as the Light of the world (John 8:12) and that He asked His disciples to shine as a light (Matthew 5:16). However, this is an Old Testament concept. Remember that a light was present at the creation, got the attention of Moses in the bush, and guided the Israelites. Psalm 109:105 says, "Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my path."

Light ALWAYS removes the darkness. It brings order to the chaos of darkness. It discerns between good and evil. illuminates all things without prejudice. Scripture compares light to salvation, goodness, and wisdom. It is obvious that God wants to be seen as Light (Psalm 27:1, Isaiah 9:2, Amos 5:18, II Corinthians 4:6, I Timothy 6:16, James 1:17, I John 1:5). Throughout Scripture we see that Satan is the prince of darkness. He lurks in the shadows waiting to lure us into temptation. He promises safety and contentment in the darkness... but it leads us to death. In the light we will find life!

We live in a dark world that is thirsty for the light. We shouldn't be surprised that the world around us has a different set of values. I doubt a star is surprised to find that it shines in the great expanse of darkness. A candle doesn't melt because its afraid of the dark, but because it is focused on the light. We have one great purpose in Christ. A disciple is supposed to shine their light in the darkness, no matter how great that darkness! Even if we are all alone, we still make an impact.

The apostle Paul says, "*Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure*" (Philippians 2:12-13). Great words of advice! Let's shine and push back the dark!

*You are loved,
Ray*



YOUTH NEWS

JUNIOR WEEK
JULY 5-8

MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL WEEK
JULY 26-31

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After carefully weighing the COVID-19 safety concerns, we must announce that we have decided not to send our children or any staff to GCBC this year on the church van. However, we will not discourage parents from sending their own kids to GCBC or other summer camps. We believe that each family should weigh the risks and make that decision. Thank you so much.



The "Sunshine Studies" online series has moved to 9 AM on Sunday mornings. These studies revolve around the Sermon on the Mount and are directed towards our pre-K to 5th grade. However, it is fun for the whole family! We will continue this series of Bible lessons until Sunday morning Bible classes resume at the building at 9 AM in the near future. Please watch the bulletin and our social media pages for that update.

We've got questions. You've got the answers. Don't throw us shade. It's time to spill the tea.

Each week one of our teens will be asked a series of random questions.

We call it "7 Groovy Questions." You can find it on Facebook, Instagram or YouTube.

So far we have interviewed Brady Long, Sebastian Hall, and Carter Long.

Who will be next? Follow us to find out!!



On Sunday, June 14, we honored our two seniors: Jordan White and Sebastian Hall. If you missed your opportunity to give them a card we are providing the address here:

Jordan White
9690 Watkins Drive
Fairhope, AL 36532

Sebastian Hall
25313 Rawls Road
Loxley, AL 36551



6-22-20 - ZOOM PLANNING MEETING - 7 PM

On Monday, June 22, we will have a Zoom meeting for all our youth and their parents.

This will be a brainstorming session for the rest of the 2020 calendar.

Topics for discussion will include VBS, Summer trips, in-home devos, parent vs. teen games, Back to School Bash, Lock-ins, Bible class curriculum, bonfire, bowling, TITUS Camp, GCBC, L2L, movie nights, game nights, Nerf Night, Good Samaritan projects, etc.

We are tentatively planning an awards presentation after Sunday morning services on June 28. We want to encourage everyone to stick around for about 10-15 minutes as we pass out the trophies, certificates, and other awards to our L2L kids. Also, we plan on getting started with Junior Leaders ASAP when Sunday night services resume. We may be attending a small convention in New Orleans on August 8 for a local convention (details TBA). Thank you to everyone who helped our young people this year in L2L. We look forward to going to the convention in 2021.



Happy Father's Day to ALL our fathers. You are truly a blessing to us. We praise God for our Christian fathers who are leading Christian homes.



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