

# September *news*



## Vapor Locked

A few weeks ago, Shawn was working on removing a pesky bush that infiltrated itself on both sides of the community garden fence. The sun was beating down and it felt like one million degrees outside. He had several outside jobs planned at the church that day, and this one was saved for last. Unfortunately, that meant the sun was directly above in all its glory, and he was feeling it.

I walked over to see how things were going. He was armed with a chainsaw, hedge trimmers and a weed eater and had put a good-sized hurting on the bush. In the trailer attached to the back of his truck, he had all these limbs and leaves of the bush piled there, lots of them with pretty pink and purple berries.

While Shawn and I chatted, he put his tools aside for a minute and gathered up more severed limbs with a rake.

When we finished, he tried to start the chainsaw back up. Nothing.

He tried the weed eater. Nothing.

Hedge trimmers? Nothing.

He was baffled at what was going on and then wondered out loud if they could be vapor locked. He had to explain it to me, and I might not get it all right, but when the fuel in the weed eater (or hedge trimmers or chainsaw) gets too hot, it turns from a liquid to a gas, creating an air bubble. That air bubble blocks all the needed fuel from making its way to the engine, keeping the weed eater from doing its job.

It's not broken, but it's not functioning right now.

Guys, right now I kind of feel like that weed eater. I'm vapor locked.

Things have been especially stressful and unsettled in my world lately – health stuff, work stuff, and upheaval in the lives of people I care about. That's been my heat.

Much like the weed eater, I'm out of commission. I haven't spent time with God the way I know I need to. I'm existing but not thriving. I'm showing up to work, but not much is getting accomplished. I am not taking care of myself like I need to. I am thinking of people I care about and feel overwhelmed at what they are going through.

The weed eater needs to be in a cool, shady place to avoid becoming vapor locked. I need to prioritize time with God in focused prayer and Scripture. That is the one thing that can switch me from existing to thriving. Every aspect of my day, more specifically my perspective, changes completely when I make this a priority.

There are so many passages on the importances of prayer. Romans 12:12 tells us, ***"Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer."*** Hebrews 12:16 says, ***"Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need."*** All true. The same goes for the importance of Scripture. Psalm 119:105 says, ***"Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."*** ***"I have stored up your word in my heart, that I might not sin against you,"*** from Psalm 119:11.

Knowing all these things, it's so clear what needs to happen. If you are out of sorts like me, maybe give yourself intentional time in the shade with prayer and your Bible. If anyone needs me, that's where I'll be.

- Jennifer Chapman

You are invited to 

# VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DINNER

SEPTEMBER 6, 2025

6:00 PM

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SECOND SATURDAY

# PRAYER

PRAYER ROOM  
AT 9:00 AM


9/13

 **SEPTEMBER 13**

## MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

Special Guest Speaker  
**Dustin Epperly**

8:30 AM



# YOUNG ADULT COOKOUT

## FOOD -FUN- FELLOWSHIP

Join us for a cookout, filled with community spirit, love, laughter, and good food! It's a great opportunity to connect with leadership, make new friends, and THRIVE.

**SUNDAY  
9.14.2025  
6:00PM-8:30PM  
HF COURTYARD**




# PRAISE & TESTIMONY

SEPTEMBER 14  
5:00PM

Womens Ministry invites you for a

## Fall into Fellowship

### Craft Night

"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds."  
-Hebrews 10:24

Making a Fall Centerpiece  
September 18 at 6:00 PM

Please Sign up at the Welcome Center if you are coming.

# WIDOWS' LUNCHEON

Sept. 20





**JEREMIAH BOLICH**

 **SEPTEMBER 21-24**  
321 30<sup>TH</sup> ST, HUNTINGTON, WV

Dinner each night at 6:00 PM

PREACHING THE WORD  
PROCLAIMING JESUS

September is



**ALABASTER MONTH**

## CRISIS CARE KITS Collection Item

**Bars of Soap**  
(Bath Size or Larger)



## CELEBRATIONS

### Birthdays

1 Rick Epperly	15 Ayana Ellis
5 Melba Sprouse	Cabella Porter
Rick Treadway	17 Donna Christian
6 Phil Lanz	18 Alexis Deskine
Kyla Hammons	19 Eli Smith
8 Donna Connley	20 Marshall Henry
Sherry Hamilton	23 Andrew Cobb
11 Cheryl Bellomy	Rick Lanz
	Ayla Smith

### Anniversaries

2 Chris and Misty Strow
4 Rick & Leigh Shepard
9 Joe & Debbie Chinn
10 Joey & Cyndi Saxton
21 Nathan & Hannah Miller

## Hello SEPTEMBER





# September 2025

All Church, HF Kids, HF Youth, HF Women's Min, Thrive

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Prayer Shawl THRIVE-Young Adult	3 Wed. Night Activities @ 6 PM	4	5	6 THRIVE-Moms of Little Ones
7 THRIVE-Rorabaugh	8	9 THRIVE-Rick's THRIVE-Young Adult	10 Wed. Night Activities @ 6 PM Women's Bible Study	11 THRIVE-Married Group	12	13 2nd Saturday Prayer Men's Prayer Breakfast
14 Praise & Testimony Young Adult Social	15	16 Prayer Shawl THRIVE-Young Adult	17 Wed. Night Activities @ 6 PM Women's Bible Study	18 Women's Ministry Craft Night	19	20 WIDOW'S LUNCHEON SONFEST @ MVNU
21 NDI Mtg	22	23 THRIVE-Rick's	24	25 THRIVE-Married Group Win-A-Couple Class Mtg	26	27
<b>REVIVAL SERVICES</b> 6:00 pm Dinner 7:00 pm Kids with Emily Brubb 7:00 PM Youth and Adults with Jeremiah Bolich						
28 Leadership Team Mtg	29	30 Prayer Shawl THRIVE-Young Adult				



# Connect.Thrive.Serve.

*"Our vision at HF is to be a church that is **CONNECTING** with Christ and people, **THRIVING** in Christ and God's Word and **SERVING** Christ and others."*

## CONNECTING:

**Gathering Room:** Phase One renovations are finishing up. Our goal is to have it completed by October. This will be a wonderful place for ministry and class parties, Thrive Group get-togethers, Bible studies, and a location for further prayer on Sunday morning.

There will also be days when it will be open to the community in our efforts to connect our church body with our neighbors. Incorporating Stillwater's Coffee Co. as part of that connection is our hope, but it is pending city approval for rezoning.

**Rezoning:** Something our church already needs to do, as we are currently zoned incorrectly, and this will open us up for any opportunities in the future to connect and share Christ with others. We are on the Planning Commission docket for October 6.

**Parsonage improvements:** Often used for discipleship and fellowship purposes. The front, back and side porches need repair/replacing as well as the awnings. There's also a plan to add a patio area off the back porch for outside gatherings for all our ministries as well. This work is still in the planning process.

**First Impressions and Bridge Team:** Our Stewards are working hard to make meaningful connections with our visitors as well as those who we've missed for some time. The process involves several steps that include personal contacts from multiple people. We would love to have volunteers for this amazing ministry. Contact Joey Saxton to volunteer.

## THRIVING:

**HF Kids Ministry:** The storage room has been relocated, which will allow that room to

become a place to prepare and serve food for our children. It will also have a serving window. Helping with the light construction would be great. Contact Pastor Marc to volunteer.

This month, our children's ministry will relaunch a pre-school program and is still in need of

several volunteers for that. In addition, our Nursery needs volunteers for serving on a

rotational schedule. Please contact Pastor Treavor to help.

**NDI (Nazarene Discipleship International):** We are presently searching for qualified Teachers/Bible Study facilitators. We have a need for a college-aged SS Class as well as a

Thrive Group facilitator (*Also a home or location to host it*). Please contact Jerry Bellomy to help.

**Widows Ministry:** We have a need for a leader or two with a heart for ministering to widows. They meet monthly and stay connected regularly. Please contact Lynda Turner to help.

**Prayer Ministry:** On August 9th we kicked-off our "*Second Saturday Prayer*" and would love to have you join us for an hour on (*September 13th at 9 AM*) as we pray for the ministries of the church, our relationships, and our community.

## SERVING:

We certainly have plenty of opportunities to serve available in every church ministry.

**Community Garden:** We would welcome someone with a passion for gardening to oversee our Community Garden year-round.

**HF Youth:** There's a tremendous *need* for riders and drivers with options for Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings so that our students can continue to be discipled.

**Trustees Team:** There will be an upcoming "*All Hands on Deck*" Fall cleaning and painting day coming soon. Stay tuned for details.

## HOUSEKEEPING:

We've had ongoing issues with our Wi-Fi, as well as a need to be cyber secure. This was fixed at the end of August (*K&M Enterprises*) and will also help us financially with consolidating/canceling some monthly tech charges. You will have "HF-Guest" access, and a new password is now available when you log in.

I hope this helps keep you better connected as we move forward in reaching people for Jesus here at Huntington 1st. I'm always available if you need to chat. Until we see each other again, let's go and be light in a dark world!

In Jesus,  
Pastor Marc