



Northside Drive
BAPTIST CHURCH

The Pinnacle

FULLY KNOWN, FULLY LOVED.

August 14, 2025

**August 17 | Livestream * Order of
Worship**

Tackling Individualism

This next week I will spend three days on campus at Candler School of Theology with my Doctor of Ministry cohort. We will set ourselves up for our third and final year of our program. This year will consist primarily of writing for our projects. As it takes shape, I will be writing on the role of individualism in Baptist churches.

Individualism can be both a strength and weakness for Baptists. It is our strength in that we don't have hierarchy outside the local church. We rely on the Holy Spirit to shape and guide our faith. But it is a weakness because we tend to isolate ourselves from one another. The historical Baptist value of 'soul freedom' tends to become, 'I am free to believe and do as I wish.'

Conservative Baptist churches tend to embrace individualism in regards to salvation while progressive Baptist churches tend to seek to elevate the autonomy of the individual's unique faith journey. Again, strength and weakness.

My hope is to help progressive Baptist churches (like ours) navigate between affirming individual autonomy and engaging with one another in a faith community of shared values and shared work. In other words, how do we hold both an 'I' and a 'we' in a healthy and productive way.

I look forward to sharing my progress along the way!

Scott Hovey

**Making Waves: Together for Hope Arkansas Hosts Summer Swim
Camp in Helena-West Helena**



Together for Hope Arkansas (TFH AR) made a splash in more ways than one by hosting another year of two, week-long, free Summer Swim Camp sessions for the children living in Helena-West Helena, Arkansas. As part of its ongoing mission to cultivate hope in persistent rural poverty communities, TFH AR provided not just swim lessons, but also joy, confidence, and life-saving skills to dozens of local children.

In the evenings, teens and adults come out to the pool to learn new swimming skills as well. Afterwards, the fun continues and the community gathers for water aerobics. This is a health initiative for the community to move, lose weight, and decrease health concerns like diabetes and high blood pressure.

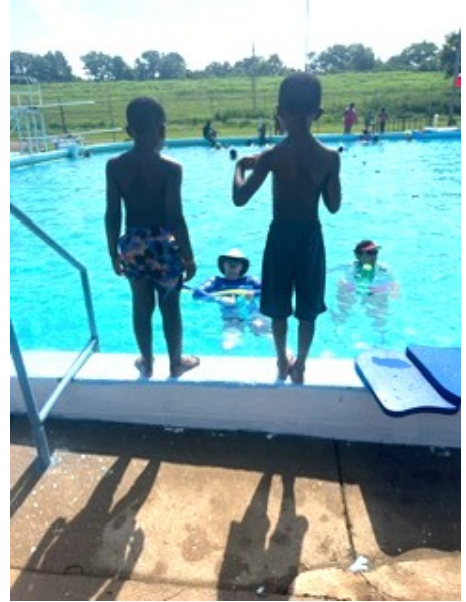
2025 Swim Camp was the most successful it has been since starting back from the dreaded COVID. Both weeks averaged 135 campers ages 3 to 12 and countless volunteers. The pool alone had 18 pool instructors! This included local volunteers that taught swim lessons for both weeks of camp. This year Swim Camp even received donations from a church of tote bags, a water bottle and T-shirt for campers and volunteers for the two weeks.

Your gifts to Swim Camp create opportunities for children in Helena to overcome their fear of water, gain confidence for today and courage for tomorrow, and learn about the unconditional love and grace of Jesus. They also get something every child deserves ... a chance to celebrate summer in a safe space supported by a diverse group of caring adults and teens to teach and mentor them.

Thank you for participating alongside by donating your gently used or new swim towels. Know you, too, are helping to make a difference in this Delta community. Know your financial gifts and donations are always welcomed and needed.

Be sure to watch the swim camp video below!





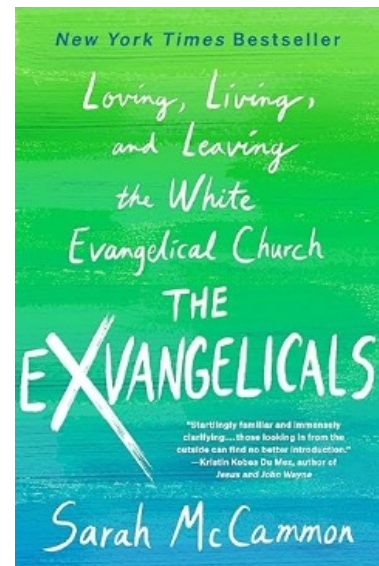
Swim Camp Video

The Exvangelicals: We Are Listening...

A Conversation with Sarah McCammon
4:00 PM Sunday, September 28
Northside Drive Baptist Church Chapel
Tickets are \$15 and are on sale now!

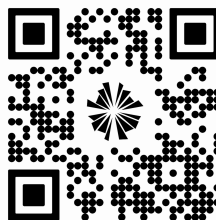
Sarah McCammon is a National Political Correspondent for National Public Radio and co-host of the *NPR Politics Podcast*. Her work focuses on political, social and cultural divides in America, including abortion policy and the intersections of politics and religion. She's also a frequent guest host for NPR news programs.

McCammon is the author of *The Exvangelicals: Loving, Living, and Leaving the White Evangelical Church*, a 2024 book that is part memoir and part journalism, about the movement of people who grew up inside the powerful evangelical subculture and ultimately left in response to its increasing politicization.



Registration is open for the Exvangelicals: We Are Listening...

Scan the QR Code below or click [here](#) to register online.



For online payments, be sure to click "Add payment" prior to submitting your registration.

Use discount code: "NDBC" for a member discount.

Cash and checks are accepted. Checks should be made payable to Northside Drive Baptist

Teach Me Something!

All are invited! Adult Ed is sponsoring a Sunday morning Church School series each week, with the theme, "Teach Me Something!" We are meeting in the Art & Soul classroom, continuing through August 24, with a wide variety of speakers and topics. Please join us, beginning with snacks in the breakroom before the class convenes at 9:30 AM.

This week we will hear from Hal Meeks with his presentation entitled, "My Time on the Camino de Santiago."

A Waycross Native, Hal attended the University of Georgia, earning an English degree in 1976 and a law degree in 1979. He earned numerous honors and accolades but is too modest to list them all. (The Phi Mu's did bestow the coveted "best date" award in 1975.) Upon graduation in 1979, he and his law school classmate Jo Lanier married, moved to Atlanta, started employment at law firms and joined NDBC. Now retired from law practice, Hal misses the challenge, the intellectual stimulation, the relationships with clients, but most of all- the money.

Hal and Jo hiked "a" Camino in Spain in 2024. On mentioning to a client where he had been, the client implored him to talk about the experience to the adult Sunday school class at Peachtree Road Methodist. (Apparently they are desperate for content). Hal promises a warmed-over version of the talk he gave there in May 2025.

The presentation will cover such subjects as:

- Why the apostle James is venerated in Santiago Spain
- Dem bones, dem bones, dem dry bones
- The Multiple Caminos that lead to Santiago
- Blisters
- The practicalities of walking the Camino
- The pilgrim's proof of the journey and the certification by the Catholic Church

Summer Schedule

August 17: Hal Meeks - "My Time on the Camino de Santiago"

August 24: Dave Wooten - "Innovators You Might Not Know About"

August 31: (No Meeting - Labor Day weekend)

This Sunday

Adult Church School

Teach Me Something!

Led by Hal Meeks

"My Time on the Camino de Santiago"

9:30 AM | *Room 202*

Children's Church School

9:30 AM | *Undercroft*

Worship

11:00 AM | *Sanctuary*

Upcoming Events

Scott Out of Office
August 18-20

Choir Retreat
August 23 | 9:00-2:00 PM
Choir Room

Adult Church School
Teach Me Something!
Led by Dave Wooten
"Inventors You Might Not Know About"
August 24 | 9:30 AM
Room 202

Children's Ministry Team Meeting
August 24 | 12:15 PM
Conference Room

Wednesday Bible Study
August 27 | 10:30 AM
Room 202

Events

August Birthdays

Sydney Johnson - 22
Ann Grant - 23
Susan Isakson - 24
Curt Tucker - 27
Joey Guynn - 27
Melinda Clark - 29

Northside Drive Baptist Church Staff

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