

JUNE 2026

Senior Adults Living Triumphantly

Rainbow Presbyterian Church

BIRTHDAYS

2

Andrew Roberts

8

Kay Ward

13

Wilbur Smith
Lynne Orton

14

Barbara Chambers

16

Becky Moon

17

Rick Moran

18

Patty Clokey

26

Beth Howard

ANNIVERSARIES

9

Jerald & Lynn Rogers

14

Mickey & Joan Lee

16

Charlie & Nancy
Gardner

20

Ray & Lisa Tucker
George & Beth Day

22

Charles & Jan Watts

27

Chuck & Grace Brown

30

Will & Ginger Smith



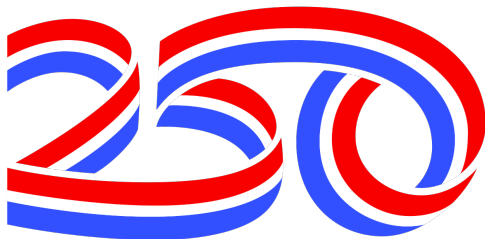
MESSAGE FROM OUR ELDERS

Mike Maddox

For a quick introduction, I am Mike Maddox and I currently have the privilege of serving as one of your ruling elders. My wife is Cindy and we started attending church at Rainbow in the late 1970's prior to being married in 1982 which was the same year that I graduated from dental school and we moved to Gadsden. That summer of 1982 we joined the church here at Rainbow. Since that time, we raised our four daughters at Rainbow and have continued to be members for well over 40 years.

I would like to share a personal story with you that started in the summer of 1975 just prior to the beginning of my junior year of college at the

AMERICA



SALT's Annual Independence Celebration
July 1 at 5:00 pm
Whiter Hall

University of Alabama. I had recently heard a teaching that encouraged me to enlist three older women who I thought might be willing to pray for me for the next season of my life. The wisdom of that lesson and the importance of it struck a chord in my heart. At that age, and at that point in my education, it would be inevitable that there would be decisions made, or not, roads taken or not, that would have a direct and lasting impact on me for the rest of my life. So, I took that advice to heart and wrote letters to three very spiritual women, one of whom was my childhood Sunday school teacher. I asked them if they would commit to praying for me throughout this next season of my life. In the coming few years, it would seem that I would be faced with decisions that would greatly affect at least three areas of my life. So, I listed three prayer requests. 1. Would you please pray that God would lead me to the correct vocation for His calling on my life? 2. Would you pray that God would lead me to His choice for my wife? 3. Would you also pray that if God gives me children, that they would follow Him and serve Him faithfully all their lives?

Decades later I forgot about those letters.

I don't remember the exact year, but it would've been somewhere between 2000 and 2005. I began to have some emotional thoughts as I reflected on my life. I don't know, maybe it was because I was nearing 50, but I was beginning to feel some guilt about how good God had been to me and my family. I had parents who had loved and supported me all my life. I had a wife who loved and supported me our entire marriage. I had four healthy children, all who professed to be in the kingdom. I would listen as patients came in and spoke of extreme adversity, express heartache, loss, and brokenness. It didn't seem quite right that I had not had that experience. Don't get me wrong, I wasn't asking for any of that. I was just trying to understand it.

Weeks later I was sitting at my desk eating lunch and a staff member brought me my mail. In the mail that day was an envelope from the daughter of my childhood Sunday school teacher. As I opened that envelope, I found a letter from her as well as another envelope inside. The letter read like this.

Dear Mike,

As you know, our mom recently passed away.

We were going through her personal effects and found this envelope that I am sending to you, along with this note that you are now reading. When we found and read your letter, and realized that our mom had been praying for you all those years, you have to know how deeply that touched our hearts. We hope it means as much to you as it does to us, and for that reason, and, so that you know that our mom was faithful to you, we wanted to return it all to you.

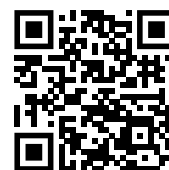
Love,
Kathleen

I opened the envelope that was enclosed and saw the letter that I had written all those years ago. It was worn and tattered, evidence of her praying over that letter many many years. In addition to the letter there was a clipping from the Gadsden Times announcing my graduation from dental school. There was a newspaper clipping that contained a picture of Cindy and our wedding announcement. There were also newspaper clippings of the birth announcements for all four of my daughters. That saint had prayed for me and those three prayer requests for over a quarter of a century. I was overcome with emotion and gratitude. It was a beautiful gift the Lord gave me that day, something He did not have to reveal to me. I was humbled by God's answer to my questions. Why He was so good to me was simple...His grace and the prayers of His saints. As I finished up this article for the newsletter this thought occurred to me: I, and likely you, are very close to the same age as the lady who prayed for me so faithfully. Whose lives might we be impacting if we are as faithful as she?

All my best to all of you,
Mike Maddox

Contact Us!

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www.rainbowpca.org/senior-adults