

# The JOY Journal

## YOUR TABC STAFF

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Shane Phillips, Senior Pastor

Andy Sweeney, Associate Pastor of Administration

Paul Thompson, Associate Pastor of Discipleship

Saúl Delgado, Hispanic Pastor

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Peggy Phipps, Church Secretary

Debbie Boyd, Ministry Support

Tiffany Sweeney, Children's Ministry Director

Alicia Trivett, Interim Worship Leader

Kim Hutton, Pre-School Director

Phyllis Humphrey, Pianist

John Gentry, Maintenance

Connie Stipes, Housekeeping

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Angie Williams, Office Manager

Amanda Pottorf, Director of Advancement

Cindy Beal, Director of Admissions & Development

### Daycare Staff

Jessica Sharrett, Director

Brittany Sheffield, Asst. Director

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Greetings Church Family,

Let me first say, "Happy Easter... He is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!"

As we come together for our Holiest of Days (The Resurrection of our Lord), I pray that, not just on Easter Sunday, but every Lord's Day, we enter into His Gates with Thanksgiving, and His Courts with Praise. God is worthy of all glory, honor, and worship! No matter how we feel, or the circumstances of our lives, God does not change – He is still there for us, and that will never change.

Yes, everyone has difficult times (no one is immune to pain and suffering) that try to hide Christ's face from our hearts; however, it is important to remember that we walk by faith, not by sight or feelings (2 Cor. 5:7). Whether on the mountain top, or in very dark valleys, God is still there and is as close as the mention of His name.

A great example of what I am sharing can be seen in

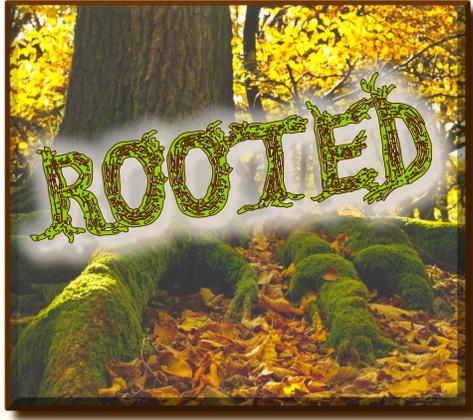
the suffering, crucifixion, and resurrection of Christ. The Apostles, Jesus' closest of disciples and friends, said that they would be faithful and never deny or abandon Him (Matt 26:35). They were sincere in their desire, but the tragedy that was about to face them would cause them to stumble and flee (Matt 26:31-33). The greatest "mystery" (in this context, a mystery is something that was previously hidden, but now is made known) of history was how God planned to save His people. No one would have ever dreamed or imagined that salvation could come through the suffering and death of God's Son. As Jesus died, the disciples (Apostles and others) were not filled with joy... they were filled with confusion, worry, and dismay. They could not understand how this could be the plan, or in any way, glorify God. After all, we had just murdered the Son of God. That would seem to bring judgement, not

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blessing; however, that is the beauty of the mystery.

God was sending His Son to do what we could not – save ourselves. God sent His Son and allowed Him to suffer unmercifully (IN OUR PLACE, BEARING OUR SINS), so that our sins could be atoned for and forgiven. What we see in the cross is the greatest act of love ever shown in creation. God's love showing no bounds, reaches out to save those that were not deserving. Not only that, but the Lord of Life rose from the dead – death having no power over Him (Acts 2:24). The point being, is that life sometimes may look bleak (at times heartbreaking), but never forget that God is always there, He always has a plan, and what we may not understand, may very well be one of God's greatest blessings. Don't believe me? ... just ask the Apostles when you see them in Heaven!

In Christ,  
Pastor Shane  
Senior Pastor



Dear TABC Family,

My heart has been burdened for the past month about the spiritual darkness in which our world is living. I have made two trips to two different cities and both times I have seen that the enemy has a true foothold in the lives of the young and the old. I have pondered and prayed and asked the Lord to reveal why this is happening. The Lord keeps leading me back to the word TRUTH!

The Church is unable to penetrate society because there is a famine of truth. But where can we find truth? Truth is found in the Bible, which is God's Word. God inspired the Bible to be put together in the exact order that it is, He spoke each word in the order that it is written, and God desires us to read it and interpret it. How do we interpret it? Scripture interprets Scripture. We can't take one verse and feast off of it without finding the context behind it. We cannot treat the Bible as a buffet line.

To be able to see change in the world and in the lives of those around us, we must have sound preaching and teaching from every pulpit in America. It cannot be watered down, it cannot be out of context, and it cannot be for each person's own interpretation. When we honor God's Word and let it transform our lives and our thoughts, society will notice. Society will see right from wrong and the Gospel will go forth.

My prayer for our church and every other church in America is John 4:24b, which says, "... those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth." The church needs genuine worship of the one true God and that can be only be done through Truth. I challenge you to stand on the Truth, learn from the Truth, and share the Truth.

Love in Christ,

Andy Sweeney  
Associate Pastor of Administration



Dear Family,

The prophecy of Malachi 4:5-6 is such an encouragement to me because God, Who cannot lie, has promised as a Father to draw His true sons and daughters unto Himself. He will "turn our hearts" to Him. The further promise of Jesus in John 10:10 is that He had come that you and I might have life and have it to the full.

In Luke 11:13, Jesus is speaking for the Father when He says, "*If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him.*" These Scriptures are such an encouragement to me because the Character of God is perfect and He has given us His Word. As we all cry out for His Spirit to move, He will, in His perfect timing. My prayer is that Tennessee Avenue Baptist Church, as an entire body, would be vibrating with anticipation that our Father will properly align us and fill us with His Spirit.

Psalms 23:3 is also a great comfort to me. It says, "*He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.*" Our God is worthy and He has extended His mercy to us, but He will ultimately do it for His name's sake. It's time to get in alignment under the flow of God's goodness as He glorifies His worthy name. Tennessee Avenue Baptist Church, we have so much to look forward to as we trust in the Lord. We have been prepared for such a time as this.

Thank you so much for your love for myself and my family. We are overwhelmed and thank God for His goodness in placing us here. The best is yet to come!

Believing Malachi 4:5-6 over us all,

Bro. Paul Thompson  
Associate Pastor of Discipleship

# Tennessee Ave KIDZ

I am extremely excited to see Tennessee Avenue Kidz getting back to normal! We are hosting our first walk-through Easter Event; VBS 2021 June 6<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>; and for the first time we will host a day camp called Kingdom Camp June 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup>.

Kingdom Camp is a day camp for children who have graduated Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> graders. We will be focusing on Missions around the world. Each day we will focus on a different country and what it

looks like to be a Christian in that culture. We will learn about missionaries, taste some yummy food, worship, play games, and complete a craft. What I am most excited about is that on Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday we will be serving different organizations. On Wednesday, we will be helping Isaiah 117 House, and on Thursday we will be packing food boxes for Heaven Sent Ministries. On Friday, the entire camp will be venturing to WonderWorks in Pigeon Forge for a day of fun.

Kingdom Camp is not your normal Bible Camp; we will take Matthew 28:19 and teach kids how to live it out. Only 10% of Christians share their faith, and the main reason Christians don't share their faith is because they have never been taught how. We have a golden opportunity to teach the next generation how to be bold

and live out their faith. How exciting!

Over the next few months, Tennessee Avenue Kidz will be needing your prayer and support. **We will need volunteers for VBS and Kingdom Camp.** Maybe you aren't called to work with children. That's okay, we will need help serving meals and snacks. Maybe you aren't a cook. That's okay, we will also need prayer warriors to take a name of a child and pray for them specifically that week. We need all of Tennessee Avenue Baptist Church to come together to make these events successful and to shine the light of Jesus into the lives of these kids.

Thank you so much for your support and encouragement,

Tiffany Sweeney  
Children's Ministry Director

Families,

What an exciting time of year we are entering! Everything is becoming new and beautiful after the winter dullness. We quite literally get to watch the old and dreary become new.

2 Corinthians 5:17 says, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." How amazing is it that we ourselves can become new through Christ's resurrection? I often wonder why people choose not to accept Christ. It is something that is hard for me to understand. No matter what we have done, no matter how far we have strayed, we are able to become new again through Him.

Romans 5:8 says, "But God demonstrates His own Love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us." Who would not want to be saved through this amazing Love? I feel like the sacrifice that was made for us has become something that is often taken lightly, or even for granted. Think for a minute, if you were told to save the world and you would have



to sacrifice your child I bet you could not even fathom it. I know I could not. But God did that for us. Because His Love for us is even more deep and amazing than our own love for the children in our lives, God made a way. God sacrificed His one child, so that the rest of us would be able to be His children as well.

The whole story of Jesus' life is amazing. From the birth to the crucifixion, to the resurrection, to the ascension. All of this was done for us. All of this was done so we could take off the old, put it away, know that we are forgiven, and become New in Him!

Blessings in Christ,  
Jessica

### Daycare Announcements:

- Closed April 2<sup>nd</sup> - Good Friday
- Registration now open for...



**June 1<sup>st</sup> - August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021**

**Weekdays from 6:30am until 5:30pm**  
For children who have completed Kindergarten through Sixth Grade!

**FOR MORE INFORMATION  
or a registration packet:**

**Camp Joy**  
c/o Tennessee Avenue Childcare Center  
822 Tennessee Ave., Bristol, TN 37620  
423-989-4343  
[sharrettj@tabaptist.org](mailto:sharrettj@tabaptist.org)

# the month of APRIL

## birthdays

2 <sup>nd</sup>	Danny Lewis Jimmy Phipps, Jr.	13 <sup>th</sup>	Anne Haynes Cristy Jackson Katie Belle Phipps Zachery Strouth	23 <sup>rd</sup>	Jason Carter
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Derek Haga Max Minor	15 <sup>th</sup>	Emma Padgett Jennie Sutherland	24 <sup>th</sup>	Roger Cox
4 <sup>th</sup>	Ray Federow Joshua Thompson	17 <sup>th</sup>	Cade Stevens Stuart Sutherland	25 <sup>th</sup>	Steve Morton Don Rowland
5 <sup>th</sup>	Jerry Feathers Sylvia Rowland Tayler Ryan	18 <sup>th</sup>	David Price	26 <sup>th</sup>	Mary Bernard Makayla Blair Terry Ryan
6 <sup>th</sup>	Cathy Wolfenbarger	19 <sup>th</sup>	Diane Whitaker	27 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Thompson
7 <sup>th</sup>	Celesta Jenkins	20 <sup>th</sup>	Mattie Bellamy Benny James	28 <sup>th</sup>	Jonathan Keen
8 <sup>th</sup>	Greg Owens	22 <sup>nd</sup>	Carmen Frazier Jim Saunders Katie Smith	29 <sup>th</sup>	Phyllis Copenhaver
9 <sup>th</sup>	Taylor Hayes			30 <sup>th</sup>	Ronnie Martin
10 <sup>th</sup>	Hank Pottorf				

## Event Calendar

1 <sup>st</sup>	<b>Ladies' Community Bible Study</b> TABC 9:15-11:15 am (Thursdays)
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>GOOD FRIDAY - Church Office, Daycare &amp; Academy Closed</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup>	<b>"Easter Love Letters from God" Children's Ministry Event</b> TABC 2:00-4:30 pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>HAPPY EASTER! - Senior Pastor Shane Phillips preaching both services</b>
4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Prayer Focus (Every Sunday)</b> Family of Faith Classroom 5:00 pm
4 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Youth Service (Every Sunday)</b> Student Center 6:00 pm
5 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Ladies' Bible Study</b> Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm (Mondays)
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Kidz Korner (Every Wednesday)</b> Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
7 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Youth Service (Every Wednesday)</b> Student Center 6:00 pm
9 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Youth Lock-In</b> FLB/Student Center 7:00 pm - 8:00 am
11 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AWANA OCC Collection Night</b> Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
17 <sup>th</sup>	<b>TACA Spring Formal</b> Ron Ramsey Agricultural Center 5:30 pm
18 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AWANA Western Night</b> Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>VBS Luncheon</b> FLB 12:15 pm (after AM Service)
25 <sup>th</sup>	<b>AWANA Mart Year-End Store</b> Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
30 <sup>th</sup> - May 2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>Youth Trip to Busch Gardens Williamsburg, VA</b>

## Blessings

*"...and I will cause the shower to come down in his season; there shall be showers of blessing." -Ezekiel 34:26b-*

*May God Shower you with His*

## anniversaries

4 <sup>th</sup>	Johnny & Jill Hutchins	10 <sup>th</sup>	Jim & Clara Melvin	19 <sup>th</sup>	Phil & Diane Whitaker
6 <sup>th</sup>	Kyle & Sandra Hillman	17 <sup>th</sup>	Marc & Debra Perry	30 <sup>th</sup>	Jim & Bambi Rush

# dear CHURCH family

Thanks for the prayers and flowers during the passing of Wayne's brother Larry Ramsey. It is great to be a part of a such a loving church family. May God bless you all for your service. Your brother and sister in Christ,  
**Wayne & Vicky Ramsey**

My thanks to you for the lovely flowers and the cards that were sent to me during the passing of my sister. It meant so much to me. Also, to Bro. Paul for the comforting words with a prayer. Again, thank you very much. Love,  
**Shirley Jenkins**

Please join us for a TWIN GIRL  
*baby shower*  
HONORING MOM-TO-BE  
*Erica Jackson*  
SATURDAY, APRIL 10TH AT 10:00 AM  
TENNESSEE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH FELLOWSHIP HALL  
104 CYPRESS ST, BRISTOL, TN  
*Registry*  
BABYLIST.COM

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

**Andrew & Morgan White**  
announce the birth of  
**Parker Jennings White**  
Born March 3, 2021  
He weighed 7 lbs. 11 oz.  
Proud Grandmother:  
Arvella Williams  
Proud Great-Grandmother:  
Willetta Leonard

WOMEN OF JOY  
2021 FALL TOUR  
**EMBRACE JOY!**  
THE JOY OF THE LORD IS MY STRENGTH. NEHEMIAH 8:10

**October 8th-10th**

Women of Joy conferences are always such a spiritually uplifting time of fellowship! We have three rooms reserved at the All Season Suites in Pigeon Forge. Cost (includes conference tickets, lodging and breakfast at the hotel) is: 1 room with 3 people: \$209 per person; 2 rooms with 4 people per room: \$189 per person. Total payment due by July 14th. Contact Nancy Blacklock 276-494-9499 or email [nsbsusieq@yahoo.com](mailto:nsbsusieq@yahoo.com).

TABC FINANCES	
<i>tithes &amp; offerings</i>	
"...try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts... See Malachi 3:10	
02/28/2021 Offering	\$8,511.00
03/07/2021 Offering	\$11,641.00
03/14/2021 Offering	\$14,247.00
03/21/2021 Offering	\$8,800.00
03/28/2021 Offering	\$10,598.00
On-line Giving 2/25-3/25	\$27,091.16
Total Offering 2/25-3/28/21	\$80,888.16
Total 2021 offering YTD:	203,744.56
Bank Balances	
Current Loan Balance	\$1,464,437.74
General Account	\$317,151.30
Designated Account	\$237,294.43

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Visit [tabaptist.org](http://tabaptist.org) and select the 'Giving' tab ~OR~  
Open the Mobile App, select "Church", then "Give".

# TACA Sword & Shield

VOLUME 7, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2021

Please enjoy this edition of the Tennessee Avenue Christian Academy newsletter, to keep us all up-to-date on the latest news from our Academy!



## APRIL

### Dates to Remember

- 1-2 Spring Break continues; closed for Good Friday
- 12-16 Iowa Assessments
- 16 Progress Reports Distributed
- 17 Spring Formal

## Love of Reading

Kathryn Benton, our new Spanish Teacher, is also a Reading Instructor and loves to promote the important benefits of reading outside the classroom. Mrs. Benton shares some practical ways families can inspire children to LOVE to READ at home.

### Practical ways your family can encourage and inspire the love of reading in your home...

Look for books that you and your child would enjoy reading together...

Organize a relaxing reading nook in your home with favorite books and cozy cushions...

Visit your local library often with your child, and attend free library programs and story times...

Encourage your child to read along with you and talk about what you've read together...

Talk to your child often about the value and importance of reading and writing...

Offer Bible story books,

inspirational stories, and books that encourage faith and values.

Read an inspirational or a comforting story with your child each evening before they go to sleep...

Expand your home reading nook to include writing and drawing materials...

Ask your child to write about things they have read or to draw pictures of them...

Decide to be a family that encourages and inspires the love of reading in your home...

## SENIOR CRUSADERS

This sports season has definitely been different than any other season because of Covid and the restrictions placed on games and practices. From week to week, the players never knew if a game would be cancelled due to quarantine or whether spectators would be allowed in the stands. However, this group of seniors played whole heartedly and faced their opponents together as a team. They had a great season, and we are very

proud of them! They will be missed tremendously on the court next fall. We wish

every one of them the best and pray God's blessings on them.





**TACA** **Sword & Shield**  
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APRIL 2021

## Tennessee Avenue Christian Academy



On Friday, March 19, TACA held the first Open House for prospective families. Faculty and staff were on hand to give tours, answer questions, conduct new family interviews, and make our guests feel welcome. Student Ambassadors gave firsthand accounts of their experiences and love for our school, and Hannah Ayers with LOVE FM broadcasted live while featuring our students and staff in live interviews. Everyone enjoyed a delicious luncheon provided by Mr. Jerry Feathers and Woodmen of the World. Mrs. Rebecca Reynolds shared a beautiful devotion filled with words of encouragement and love.

Sixteen families toured TACA! All in all, Open House was a great success. We are excited about Tennessee Avenue Christian Academy's future where we make everyone feel like family!



Sponsors include

K-VA-T Food Stores, Blackbird Bakery, Tennessee Florist Supply, and Woodmen of the World

## K-4 STAR STUDENTS

We are excited to share with all of our parents the K-4 Star Students for the month of April and May....

**Mrs. Chanda's Class:**

April

- 5-9 Jake Eige
- 12-16 Allison Love
- 19-23 Laklynn Pendergrass

**Mrs. Tereasa's Class:**

April

- 5-9 Eric Freckleton
- 12-16 Emmy Slone
- 19-23 Grayson Grizzel
- 26-30 Frazier Kennedy

May

- 3-7 Phoebe Seats



THE JOY PLACE  
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### *Prayer Prompter*

*"Prayer is to our countenance  
like sunshine and rain  
to spring blossoms.  
Got Glow?"*

*See Exodus 34:29-33*

## **COME JOIN US!**

### SUNDAYS

Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 p.m.
AWANA Clubs	6:00 p.m.
Youth Worship Service	6:00 p.m.

### WEDNESDAYS

Evening Worship Service	6:00 p.m.
Kidz Korner	6:00 p.m.
Youth Worship Service	6:00 p.m.

*All our Worship Services can be viewed live, as well as viewing previously recorded services, by visiting [www.tabaptist.org](http://www.tabaptist.org) & selecting the 'Live Worship' tab.*

*Our services are also Live Streaming via:*

*Tennessee Avenue Baptist Church FaceBook Live • TABC mobile app (Live Worship)  
YouTube • Boxcast App (on Apple TV, ROKU, Amazon Fire TV)*