

# The TABC Journal

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October 2022

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## YOUR TABC STAFF

### Pastoral Staff

Shane Phillips, Senior Pastor  
Paul Thompson, Associate Pastor of Discipleship  
Joey Cole, Worship Pastor  
Saúl Delgado, Hispanic Pastor

### Ministry Support

Beverly Estep, Financial Secretary  
Peggy Phipps, Church Secretary  
Debbie Boyd, Ministry Support  
April Casaday, Children's Ministry Director  
Kim Hutton, Pre-School Director  
Phyllis Humphrey, Pianist  
John Gentry, Maintenance  
Connie Stipes, Housekeeping

### Academy Staff

Cindy Beal, Administrator  
Melinda Widener, Principal  
Adrian Padgett, Guidance Counselor  
Angie Williams, Office Manager  
Amanda Pottorf, Director of Development

### Daycare Staff

Jessica Sharrett, Director  
Brittany Sheffield, Asst. Director

## Make Today Matter For Eternity

### John 9:4

*I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.*

We all get tired. Whether young or old, healthy and active or experiencing the lack thereof, all labor eventually leads to some sort of fatigue. There is no escape for this human condition... it's the reason we eventually must go to bed and rest – our bodies need the reprieve... so, you give it willingly, or it will cut itself off for you. Because it is precious, we want to make the most of our time.

There are a limited number of hours in a day, but we often try to cram in a few more hours of work (you know, trying to get 26 hours out of a 24 hour day). Busy is not the problem as much as it is what we are busy about. More often than not, we are fatigued over the trivial and not over those things that

truly matter. Yes, we might look at our labor and say that we struggle so much because we want so much for our families, ...but, if we are honest with ourselves (especially in our spiritual walk)... is it really more stuff that we need, or is it more quality time together? Even to look at this another way, that we would work hard so that we can take family vacations and enjoy one another, do the few days a year make up for the "day to day" time that we need to really know one another and be there for one another?

This reminds me of a situation that occurred in my marriage. Misty and I had been planning for some time to go out of town for our anniversary. We both had been working hard, and had been looking forward to our time with great anticipation. And wouldn't you know it, the day before, I leaned forward (no, not doing anything crazy or dangerous... just leaned

forward) and my back went completely out. By "completely", I mean that I could not move because of the pain and could hardly breathe. Though my pain was the primary concern at that moment, I could not help but think... "oh no, what about our trip... how am I going to spend time with my sweetie." Well, as the story goes, I ended up in the emergency room, enjoying the wonderful world of narcotics – thank you Jesus!

Ok, so eventually I was sent home, we did get to go on our trip – though I was under so much medication, most of the trip is a little fuzzy! Alternately, I had a wonderful and life changing thought. Though trips are fun, we should not put all of our stock in them. Life and circumstances change; thus, our plans must change as well. How many times of joy was I missing because I was too busy with "stuff."

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## Make Today Matter For Eternity

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I made a decision to not simply spend my life looking forward to doing something in the future; I was going to enjoy my life with those I love "today!"

This applies to our natural and spiritual lives as well. I never want to stand before

Jesus and say, "Lord, you know eventually I was going to get around to it", or "I know that those people/situations are important but...." As is often said in our worship services, "never miss an opportunity to do good." There may only be so many hours in a day, but let's make sure we make the most

of them... not busy with stuff, but with those things that really matter and have eternal consequences!"

Maranatha,  
Pastor Shane



Let us...SING!

*Come, let us sing for joy to the Lord; let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation. Let us come before him with thanksgiving and extol him with music and song. (Ps. 95:1-2)*

I have had the privilege to serve God and his people for over 20 years, and throughout those years I've done so "wearing many hats". I have run the soundboard, been the church pianist, stood on stage singing southern gospel music with my favorite singer (my dad), and I've led choirs and congregations to sing worshipful, Christ-centered, music. Throughout those 20 years I've had many conversations with church members who are concerned with various things: "the weird buzz" the speakers are making, the song choice, the music style, or even how great (or not so great), the pastor's preaching is. While all those concerns are important, I rarely hear any

reflections on this topic:

"How well is our congregation singing?"

Why is it on our drive home from church, we are quick to compliment the Pastor's message, the choir special, or the solo, but no one says, "Wow, the congregation sang, 'Amazing Grace' better than I have ever heard?"

It could be a lot of reasons; perhaps congregational singing is painful because someone who used to stand beside you and sing is no longer there. Maybe you are going through a tough time, and you are so stressed you can't seem to even hum along. Maybe you are a young single parent who is over-extended, barely made it in the church doors five minutes late, and just the thought of participating in anything is too much right now. It could be that you feel like music isn't your thing. After all, we have a Worship Pastor, Praise Band, Praise Team, & Choir; so you are content to sit back and listen.

The truth is, we are all welcome in this musical, worshipful family. Our church is, should, and will continue to be a place of joyful singing unto the Lord. Peter told the local churches that they were a "chosen

people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light." (1 Pet 2:9 NIV). Paul encouraged the church in Ephesus to be "speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit." He told them to "Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ (Eph. 5:19-20 NIV).

For these reasons, it is my firm belief that congregational singing is one of the greatest and most beautiful tools we have been given to declare God's Glory, and to share His light around the world.

At our next service, enjoy joining your voice with your church family. Take note of how beautiful the congregation is singing and giving praise to the God of the universe. Ask yourself, "How well did the congregation sing?"

Then, you will find at least one part of the answer to that question within your own heart.

Blessings,  
Pastor Joey



Dear Church Family,

As you know from my previous article, I've been reading about our eternal home, Heaven. It has truly changed the way I think and live, for which I am so grateful. It has also changed how I read and understand the Bible; all of a sudden I see Heaven everywhere in Scripture. Old passages that I've known for years are taking on a new light and I am asking some new questions in my intimate relationship with My Father who dwells there. Asking new questions is al-

ways exciting because you can then receive answers that can and do change your life.

From the perspective of being a resident citizen of Heaven, which I am, one of those passages is Matthew 16:13-20, the confession of Peter that Jesus was the Christ, the Son of the Living God. Jesus tells him that he got that from his Father who is in Heaven, not from anyone on earth. Jesus goes on to say that upon the rock of Peter's confession about who Jesus is, He would build His church and the gates of hell (authority) shall not prevail against it. Then He says in verse 19 (KJV), "And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." These words have really struck me as being important; and yet, I am not terribly

familiar with what they mean exactly, so I'm on the hunt, for treasure.

Think about this - keys of the Kingdom? Imagine how important keys are to your everyday life. What if you lost your house keys, your car keys, your work keys, and all your pass keys to everything you do online? How far would you get? Not far I imagine. My point is this: these keys are essential to what we do while we are here on earth in the building of the kingdom. And I'm determined to learn exactly what Jesus is saying here. In short, so far in my studies I feel certain that these keys are all about the words that we speak, the power of our words. We are establishing heaven or hell with every word that we speak. Jesus said, "...for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks." Matt. 12:34b (NKJV)

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James Chapter 3 tells us if we talk perfectly we would be perfect! Wow!

Friends, I cannot write all about it in this space, but I will say this: Think on Heavenly things and then speak blessings over your environment. You will be closing doors of hell and opening doors of Heaven if you will. Jesus thought this was so important that He said in Matthew 12:36 that we will give an account for every careless word we speak. We are responsible! My advice is from John 15:7 (NKJV), which tells us to abide in the Word; and from Colossians 3:16a (NKJV), "Let the Word of Christ dwell in you richly..." We can change the world with God's Word in our hearts and released in words as He would lead.

Have fun in Christ,

Brother Paul

Associate Pastor of Discipleship

Tennessee  
Ave  
KIDZ

If you would like to join in helping in the Children's Ministry, please contact Miss April Casaday as soon as possible. You may email [missapril@tabaptist.org](mailto:missapril@tabaptist.org) or text or call 423-773-1844.

We will have an in-depth AWANA training session Sunday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> immediately after the morning worship service. This is for all current AWANA workers and those who would like to help with AWANA. It will last until approximately 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be provided.

Tennessee Avenue  
Early Childhood Education



Families,

Have you ever been in a situation where you just don't see a way, or maybe an escape? Have you ever been praying earnestly waiting for a sign or a way to escape? Have you ever had others praying for you as well, and still waiting for the escape plan? I wonder what Peter was feeling when he was arrested during the Feast of Unleavened Bread.

Acts 12:12b says, "... where many people had gathered and were praying." (NIV) So here we have Peter, who knows James has been put to death, praying for

a way out of King Herod's grasp, and the church was praying for him, and he was waiting. Verses 6—11 go on to tell us more: "The night before Herod was to bring him to trial, Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains, and sentries stood guard at the entrance. Suddenly an angel of the Lord appeared and a light shone in the cell. He struck Peter on the side and woke him up. 'Quick, get up!' he said, and the chains fell off Peter's wrists. Then the angel said to him, 'Put on your clothes and sandals.' And Peter did so. 'Wrap your cloak around you and follow me,' the angel told him. Peter followed him out of the prison, but he had no idea that what the angel was doing was really happening; he thought he was seeing a vision. They passed the first and second guards and came to the iron gate leading to the city. It opened for them by itself, and they went through it. When they had walked the length of one street, suddenly the angel left him. Then Peter came to himself and said, 'Now I know without a doubt that the Lord has sent his angel and rescued me from Herod's clutches and from everything the Jewish people were hoping would happen.'" (NIV)

Peter needed an escape. God sent his Angels to rescue him, and here we see through the whole ordeal that Peter thinks he is dreaming. Then, he realizes it's all real. God had made a way. How often are we in a situation or a crisis and we are praying, maybe begging for God to make a way for us? Chances are, He has already provided the way, we're just not seeing it. More than likely, He has provided a way that we don't want (because we want it how we want it!) so we just don't see it until it smacks us in the face. Shew, I am this person! Often, I am saying "Your will" when really, I am already thinking of what the solution needs to be, and when, and how, and on and on. But, He knows exactly what we need, how we need, and when it is best to supply it for us. We just have to be patient (Yeah, I know, that is so hard!), and be willing to see it when He sends us our escape.

I am so thankful that He always knows, and He always provides. He has been so good to me! I challenge you in whatever situation you are facing today, just stop. Look and see if God has already provided the way, and you've just not seen it, because you just didn't want to. I think you may just be surprised.

Blessings in Christ,  
Jessica Sharrett  
Early Childhood Education Center Director

**Date to Remember:**  
October 28<sup>th</sup>  
Fall Parties  
(more info will be sent  
out close to time)

# the month of OCTOBER

## birthdays

2 <sup>nd</sup>	9 <sup>th</sup>	21 <sup>st</sup>
Lydia Keys	Sarah Hunt	Thomas Parker
Teresa Martin	12 <sup>th</sup>	22 <sup>nd</sup>
Betty Woosley	Teresa Hart	Ava Fuller
3 <sup>rd</sup>	13 <sup>th</sup>	23 <sup>rd</sup>
Erin Kirk	Alivia Hutchins	Ron Smallwood
Beth Haynes	Judy Watkins	27 <sup>th</sup>
4 <sup>th</sup>	Paul Whisman	Brookelyn Bouton
Nathan Ball	14 <sup>th</sup>	Bettye Gilreath
Jim Rush, Jr.	Randy Leonard	Chelsea Messer
5 <sup>th</sup>	Peggy Phipps	Shane Phillips
Amanda Phipps	15 <sup>th</sup>	28 <sup>th</sup>
6 <sup>th</sup>	Marilyn Feathers	Sandee Tallman
Lee Jackson	Blake Haynes	29 <sup>th</sup>
Jared Leonard	17 <sup>th</sup>	Reda Green
7 <sup>th</sup>	Melanie Hutton	30 <sup>th</sup>
Linda Kendrick	Misty Phillips	Patty Borja
Pat White	Garrett Williams	Helen Raymond
8 <sup>th</sup>	18 <sup>th</sup>	31 <sup>st</sup>
Sheila Gamble	Tessa Worley	Paula Stigall
Luke Gent	20 <sup>th</sup>	
Kent Peters	Doug Cox	

## Upcoming Events

- 1<sup>st</sup>- Fall Choir Kickoff  
TABC 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- Children's Ministry  
Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm  
(Sundays)
- 2<sup>nd</sup>- Youth Ministry Sunday Worship  
TABC 6:00 pm (Sundays)
- 3<sup>rd</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>- TACA Fall Break
- 5<sup>th</sup>- Kidz Korner  
Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm  
(Wednesdays)
- 5<sup>th</sup>- Youth Ministry Wednesday Worship  
TABC 6:00 pm (Wednesdays)
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Ladies' Community Bible Study  
TABC 9:15-11:30 am (Thursdays)
- 6<sup>th</sup>- Celebrate Recovery  
TABC 6:30-8:00 pm (Thursdays)
- 7<sup>th</sup>- Senior Adult Breakfast  
Shoney's—Abingdon 9:00 am \*  
(\* 8:30 am if able to take the bus)
- 7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup>- Clothing Closet OPEN  
Children's Ministry Area 11:00 am-2:00 pm
- 11<sup>th</sup>- Ladies' Fall Canvas Painting Fellowship  
Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm
- 12<sup>th</sup>- TACA Parent Chapel  
Sanctuary 8:15 am
- 23<sup>rd</sup>- AWANA Training Meeting  
Fellowship Hall 12:15-3:00 pm
- 24<sup>th</sup>- Widow's Ministry Luncheon  
Fellowship Hall 12:00 Noon
- 30<sup>th</sup>- Trunks of Treats  
TABC 4:00-6:00 pm

## anniversaries

4 <sup>th</sup>	Don & Sylvia Rowland
12 <sup>th</sup>	Chris & Rachel Blevins
14 <sup>th</sup>	Sam & Connie Messer
18 <sup>th</sup>	Brandon & Nikki Stevens
25 <sup>th</sup>	Bill & Vickie Coleman



# dear CHURCH family

*Thank you*

Church Family, once again we thank you for showing us the love of Christ, at the passing of Don's sister, Shirley Evans.

Our family has suffered the loss of three precious family members in less than a year and your support and prayers made a difference. Thank you for the beautiful plant, special cards,

gifts of food, phone calls, texts and especially your prayers. Love in Christ,  
**Don and Sylvia Rowland**

Church Family, thank you for the beautiful red roses I received during my hospital stay, and for the prayers and cares sent my way. What a blessing our church family is!

**Nancy Blacklock**

## TABC Welcomes

### By Letter:

- Janet Coker
- Veronica Coker
- Aaron Cole
- Alyson Cole
- Joey Cole



Text  
**TABAPTIST**  
to  
833-428-5456  
to give via  
text message.

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

### TABC FINANCES

#### *Tithes & Offerings*

"...try Me now in this," Says the LORD of hosts... See Malachi 3:10

09/04/2022 Offering	\$21,520.00
09/11/2022 Offering	\$6,486.00
09/18/2022 Offering	\$9,083.00
09/25/2022 Offering	\$4,252.00
On-line Giving 8/24-9/27/2022	\$15,939.66
Period Giving Total	\$57,280.66
Total 2022 offering YTD:	\$574,074.14

#### Bank Balances

Current Loan Balance	\$1,233,032.66
General Account	\$355,587.97
Designated Account	\$2,009.08
Daycare / Academy	\$262,024.70
Money Market	\$50,755.43

October is  
**Pastor**  
APPRECIATION MONTH  
Let our Pastors know you appreciate them!

## Trunks of Treats

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30<sup>TH</sup>**  
**4:00-6:00 PM**

**Tennessee Avenue Baptist Church**

Student Center Parking Lot

806 Tennessee Avenue Bristol, TN 37620

**SAFE Family Friendly** trick or treating!

Come see all the decorated trunks & get lots of candy!!



We're on the web!  
[www.tabaptist.org](http://www.tabaptist.org)

## Prayer Prompter

*The days are getting shorter,  
the air is getting cooler,  
it's harvest time.*

*"Pray ye therefore  
the Lord of the harvest,  
that he will send forth  
labourers into his harvest."  
Matthew 9:38*

## COME JOIN US!

### SUNDAYS

Sunday School	9:45 a.m.
Morning Worship Service	11:00 a.m.
Evening Worship Service	6:00 p.m.
Children's Ministry	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)*