

the TABC Journal

TENNESSEE AVENUE
Baptist Church
THE JOY PLACE



YOUR TABC STAFF

Pastoral Staff

Paul Thompson, Associate Pastor of Discipleship
Joey Cole, Worship Pastor
Dr. Lee Childs, Minister of the Transitional
Interim Ministry
Saúl Delgado, Hispanic Pastor

Ministry Support

Brenda Wheeler, Financial Secretary
Peggy Phipps, Church Secretary
Debbie Boyd, Ministry Support
April Casaday, Children's Ministry Director
Kim Hutton, Pre-School Director
Phyllis Humphrey, Pianist
Benny James, Maintenance

Academy Staff

Cindy Beal, Administrator
Melinda Widener, Principal
Angie Williams, Director of Student Accounts/Office

Early Education Center Staff

Jessica Sharrett, Director

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March 2025

Volume 34, Issue 3



The Work and Leadership of the Holy Spirit

As the month of March begins, we see the seasons shifting once again. The cold days of winter start to give way to the warmth of spring, bringing new life and fresh beginnings. In much the same way, we see the Holy Spirit at work, renewing our hearts and preparing us for what is ahead.

One of the ways we are experiencing this firsthand is through our choir as they prepare for our upcoming Easter musical, "Shout Hosanna!". Each rehearsal is more than just learning notes and rhythms. It is a time of worship, surrender, and allowing the Holy Spirit to guide us in leading our congregation. Just as the people in Jerusalem cried out, "Hosanna!" as Jesus entered the city, the Holy Spirit is leading us to shout the message of salvation today.

The work of the Holy Spirit is not just reserved for a choir or a particular ministry; it is something every believer should seek daily. Jesus promised in John 14:26 (NKJV), *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."* The Spirit leads us in truth, equips us to serve, and strengthens us to live out our faith. Whether we are preparing for an Easter celebration, stepping into a new season of life, or simply going about our daily routines, we must be sensitive to His voice and obedient to His leading.

As we move toward Easter, let's take time to reflect on the Spirit's role in our lives. How is He working in your heart? Where is He leading you? Just as He is preparing the choir to lead in worship, He is preparing each of us to glorify Christ in all that we do. May we walk in step with Him, trusting His guidance in every season.

Looking forward to worshipping with you.

Blessings,

Joey Cole
Worship Pastor



It is evident and folks are sharing that the Lord is leading us through the guidance and work of His Spirit during this intentional interim period. Below is a broad overview of what He has accomplished so far at TABC. In addition to this list, and of great significance, people are coming to the Lord, ministries are growing and those involved are unified in the mission of making disciples who make disciples for Christ.

April

- First of the month, our pastor resigned.
- Deacons, leadership, and congregation prayed seeking the Lord's direction.
- Deacons and leadership decided to pursue the Transitional Interim Ministry approach (TIM).

May

- TABC staff met and were introduced to TIM (May 20).
- TABC Ministry leadership met and were introduced to TIM (May 22).

June

- Churchwide meeting to introduce the congregation to TIM (June 5).
- Congregation overwhelmingly affirmed TIM (June 30).

July

- Deacon's meetings to pray over selection process of transition team candidates.

August

- Deacons select candidates, contact candidates giving them time to prayerfully consider.
- Congregation affirms the transition team members (August 25).

September

- Transition team training (September 13-14).
- Transition team's first meeting and began the Heritage Focus Point. (September 24)
- Began sharing regularly during Sunday morning services (September 29).

October

- Began the Mission Focus Point (October 15).
- Held the churchwide meeting to complete the Heritage questionnaire (October 20).

November

- Recorded members video of their reflections at TABC (November 8-10).
- Shared the results of the churchwide questionnaire (November 24).
- Began the Leadership Focus Point (November 26).

December

- Continued the work on leadership seeking a Biblical model of leadership.

January

- Began showing member videos during the services.
- TABC Mission Statement affirmed by the congregation (January 5).
- Continued focus on an 18-month vision statement for TABC (January 7). This statement will be presented soon.
- New TABC logo affirmed by leadership (January 28).

February

- Introduced the New Testament church Biblical model of leadership to the deacons (February 2).
- New logo introduced to the congregation (February 16).

The TIM team, the deacons and your pastors are seeking the best Biblical model of leadership for Jesus Christ's church today. As we learn, grasp, and understand this model and how it will guide the ministry of TABC, that model will be shared with the congregation in a variety of formats and ways, giving you opportunity to also search the Scriptures and be led by the Spirit.

Recall in Exodus 32, the children of Israel, only some few months from living in captivity in Egypt, became impatient with Moses. In reality, their impatience was with God, as Moses had been gone for 40 days on top of Mt. Siani receiving God's leadership, guidance, and instruction for leading the people into the promised land. They resorted to the practices they had grown accustomed to from their history and past. They missed the new thing God had ready for them by resorting to their old traditions.

Let us learn from this passage and not become impatient with the Lord and His work as He desires to lead TABC in a new way for His glory and Kingdom purposes. Through this interim time, the only part of TABC that has been paused is the old methods which most folks would agree needed to be reworked. God is working at TABC and has a great plan for our ministry. Let us praise, honor, thank, and glorify Him for His work.

Grace,

Dr. Lee Childs
Minister of the Transitional Interim Ministry



Dear TABC Family,

I have never been so at peace and so excited about a job in my life. Everyday I come on campus, gratitude fills my heart, mixed with a hopeful expectancy concerning what God is doing here. I would not trade this family of believers with anyone in the world because of the qualities of God's spirit that I see coming out of you all.

Of course this is not a job, it is a calling. I am on assignment here at TABC, and it's the same assignment that I had when I started here nearly 12 years ago. I'm glad to be able to declare victory in this assignment because we work from victory and not for victory. Our victory is in the finished work of Jesus and Jesus is Lord, however you want to slice that up.

I've learned so much in these 12 years.

For one, I've learned that all of God's promises are yes and amen in Christ according to the Apostle Paul in 2 Corinthians 1:20. However, every single promise is occupied by an enemy that must be dispossessed before we can possess it. Although Jesus has already stopped the enemy of all authority, that is something that you and I must enforce by faith and patience and learning to live in Christ. The enemy does not respond to our authority unless we step into union with God and use the authority of Christ.

I certainly have learned this lesson the long and hard way, and I continue to learn it on a daily basis. It is me yielding to the life of God and then saying what Jesus says in full faith and trust. I just never understand how much transformation is required for God to move in my life. He really does require ALL. ALL of me must die on that cross before my new creation life can live in the authority of Jesus.

TABC, I can see the vision of what God is going to do here at this church. I get little glimpses of it; it's so beautiful and amaz-

ing. However, the enemy will do anything and everything to stop it. He doesn't play fair. It's the absolute opposite. The promised land is a life in union with God, building his kingdom on this earth. It's exactly like Joshua and Caleb and the Israelites. God said, "I give you the land of Canaan, now take it." Every inch of promised land was violently taken from the enemy. As they followed God's leadership, God's power led the way into giants and fortified cities. The Israelites had absolutely no business engaging. But, all things are possible through Christ Jesus who loves us.

What we have before us at TABC is the same. The promises are present and valid. Will we die to the past and follow God into battle to take the future? I believe we will!

The war has been raging, let's take the land for Jesus's sake! I love you all and look forward to fighting alongside each of you.

In Christ,

Bro. Paul

Associate Pastor of Discipleship



Hi Everyone!!

What a wonderful time we are in! A time that we can come together as a

family to grow and actively participate in what we are ALL called to do.....Disciple!

New Children's Class Beginning March 9th

"I'm a Christian Now!" is a new class for children that will begin March 9th and will continue the 2nd and 4th Sunday night each month at 5:00 pm. This class is designed for kids who are interested in becoming a Christian, are new Christians, or just want a deeper dive into what being a Christian is all about. Class will start promptly at 5:00 p.m. in the Children's area; there is a sign-



up sheet at the Children's Check-in desk for any interested.

Resurrection Easter Egg Hunt Volunteer Meeting

Sunday, March 16th after AM Service

Let's get ready to celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ! Can you fill Easter Eggs?? If YES, we have the job for you! We will host the community this year for a **Resurrection Easter Egg Hunt** on **Saturday, April 12th**, and we need YOUR help!

- ♦ Volunteers to lead the kids, serve snacks, register, and more! Sign-up sheet is in the vestibule.
- ♦ Volunteers to make treats for participants... cookies, brownies, cupcakes, anything you would like to make 2-3 dozen of! Sign-up sheet is in the vestibule for these treats.
- ♦ Volunteer meeting in the Sanctuary immediately after morning service on

March 16th. Please plan to attend and help with the event!



Summer VBS

June 8-13, 2025

Summer VBS is coming quick! Magnified! VBS will encourage

kids to look closely at the details of God's amazing world and magnify, or proclaim, the greatness of God. God made us, cares about us, loves us, forgives us, and is faithful to keep all His promises to us. We can praise God together! We were made to magnify God!

Our first **volunteer meeting** will be **April 13th** for anyone at all interested in helping out. We need you! We have so many places for each and every person to get involved. More details coming soon; if you have any questions, please reach out to me!

the month of MARCH

birthdays

1 st	Arvella Williams	14 th	Kenny Price	27 th	Lakyn Boroughs
2 nd	Mack Moore Wayne Ramsey	17 th	Helen Grindstaff	29 th	Darlene Clark Vicky Ramsey
3 rd	Kyle Hillman	18 th	Janet Ware	30 th	Sandra Jones
4 th	Phyllis Humphrey	19 th	Daniel Hagy	31 st	Eric Ringley
7 th	Diana Carter	24 th	Bonnie Rein		Devon Medaglia
9 th	Mia Gardner		Rob Trivett		Margie Wallace
13 th	Linda Simcox	25 th	Kaden Dunavent		
		26 th	Jody Keys		



anniversaries

5 th	Jeff & Alicia Brunette	13 th	Dennis & Kim Hutton	24 th	Nancy & Lewis Moody
10 th	Kent & Jodi Peters	17 th	Eddie & Gail Guy	24 th	Stephen & Cristy Smallwood
11 th	Tony & Tammie Harmon Kevin & Jessica Sharrett			31 st	Billy Joe & Charlotte James

Event Calendar

- 1st TACA Open Enrollment Begins
- 2nd Deacon's Meeting
TABC 4:00 pm
- 2nd AWANA
Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
(Every Sunday)
- 2nd Youth Service
Youth Room 6:00 pm (Every Sunday)
- 3rd TACA Home Basketball Games
FLB beginning 5:30 pm
- 4th Transition Team Meeting
Fellowship Hall 6:00 pm (Every Tuesday)
- 5th TACA Parent Chapel
Sanctuary 8:15 am
- 5th Children's Ministry Kidz Korner
Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
(Every Wednesday)
- 5th Youth Service
Youth Room 6:00 pm (Every Wednesday)
- 6th Ladies' Community Bible Study
TABC 9:15—11:15 am (Every Thursday)
- 6th TACA 4th-8th Grade History Fair
FLB Open to Visitors 9:45 am-12:00 pm
- 6th Celebrate Recovery
Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm (Every Thursday)
- 7th TACA Open House
Academy Campus 10:00 am-5:00 pm
- 7th Senior Adult Breakfast
Cracker Barrel, Exit 7 9:00 am
- 10th-14th TACA Spring Break
- 11th-18th TACA Students - Belize Mission Trip
- 17th Meals on Wheels
- 21st TACA Mexican Mercado
FLB
- 24th Widows Ministry Luncheon
FH 12:00 noon
- 29th Ladies' Spring Brunch
FLB 10:30 am

dear CHURCH family



THANK YOU!

We are so thankful for your expressions of sympathy during the passing of our loved one. Your kindness will always be remembered.

The Family of Earl Hicks
Mark, Amy Grubb & family

Thank you very much for the prayers made and beautiful dish garden sent for my Mom's recent funeral. It has been a difficult and emotional time losing both parents exactly nine months apart to the day, but with God's help "this too shall pass". I am so grateful for such a wonderful and supportive Church family. Love in Him,
Stephen and Jeannine Huff

Thank you for the payers, flowers, and visits during my recent back surgery. We love and appreciate our church family.

Benny & Karen James

We are deeply grateful for your kindness and sympathy during our time of loss.

The Family of Ronnie Blacklock

Online GIVING

Visit tabaptist.org and select the 'Giving' tab ~OR~ Open the Mobile App, select "Church", then "Give".

TEXT TO GIVE

Text **JOYPLACE** to **73256** to give via text message.

TABC FINANCES

Tithes & Offerings

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

02/02/2025 Offering	\$ 13,227.00
02/09/2025 Offering	\$ 10,829.00
02/16/2025 Offering	\$ 18,649.00
02/23/2025 Offering	\$ 7,908.00
On-line Giving 1/28-2/24/25	\$ 9,410.16
Period Giving Total	\$ 60,023.16
Total 2025 offering YTD:	\$ 104,889.53

Bank Balances

Current Loan Balance	\$ 864,530.75
General Account	\$ 198,362.80
Designated Account	\$ 38,306.46
Daycare / Academy	\$ 75,896.38
Money Market	\$ 127,986.82

Cracker Barrel
Old Country Store

SENIOR ADULT BREAKFAST

Friday, March 7th 9:00 AM

Senior Adults, we'll gather at Cracker Barrel at Exit 7 for our monthly breakfast. Please join us for great food and fun fellowship!

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A COMMUNITY

Resurrection
EASTER EGG HUNT

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 2025

1:00 - 3:00 PM

- * FREE!
- * PRIZE DRAWINGS!
- * PRE-K - 5TH GRADE
- * SNACKS PROVIDED WHILE SUPPLIES LAST

TENNESSEE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH 104 CYPRESS STREET BRISTOL, TN 37620

Saturday, March 29th 10:30 a.m.

created with a *Purpose* Proverbs 16:4

Ladies, please plan to join us in the Family Life Building for a brunch beginning at 10:30 a.m. Bring your favorite brunch food to share. Mrs. Babs Childs will be sharing with us, and Alyson will share in song! Sign up in the vestibule to let us know you'll join us!



TACA Sword & Shield

MARCH 2025

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!

MARCH 2025

BELIZE MISSION

Tues 11th	Pray for safe travel and God's favor.
Wed 12th	Pray for safety and divine appointments as the team begins our week of service.
Thurs 13th	Pray for those needing medical help to have the ability to reach the med team.
Fri 14th	Pray for the construction team as they work to complete the beds that will be donated to the
Sat 15th	Pray that our team will be called to missions in some way. To go, to give, or to pray for others.
Sun 16th	Pray for the camp missionaries as they serve our team and for Marla's House Orphanage.
Mon 17th	Pray for safe travels as we make our way to San Pedro.

To God be all the glory! Great things He has done!

TACA STAR STUDENTS

The TACA K-4 classes are excited to share with all of our parents the K-4 Star Students for the month of March....

Mrs. Chanda's Class:

March 17-21 Malichi Cadle
March 24-28 Kingston Haga

Mrs. Tereasa's Class:

March 3-6 Sawyer Murphy





TACA Sword & Shield

MARCH 2025



HISTORY FAIR!

**Tennessee Avenue
Christian Academy
4th - 8th Grade
2025 History Fair**

**Thursday, March 6, 2025
8:30 am - 2:00 pm
Family Life Building**

**Please come see the history projects of
our 4th-8th graders.**

They have been working very hard!

- The fair will be open to visitors from 9:45 am—12:00 pm.
- Free Admission, all are welcome!

**Tennessee Avenue
Early Childhood Education**

Families,



I don't know about you all, but I am ready for warmer weather and some sunshine! I think we are all feeling that over here. Having 60+ kids couped up for days makes it so crazy over here! They love going outside, and we love letting them play outside. There is nothing better than some warm sunshine and fresh air! The only thing that I can think of that is better is the love and warmth we feel from the Son of God! I think these dreary cold days remind us so much of how it feels to bask in His love! Or even better, it reminds us that on those dark and dreary days in our lives, we always have hope and love through Him.

1 John 4:9-10 (KJV) says, "In this was manifested the love of God toward us, because that God sent his only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through him. Herein is love, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins." Nothing will warm a person up quicker than realizing the amount of love God has for them! So, the next time you're out and about remember to be thankful for not just the sunshine that warms us, but also for the "SONshine" that fills us with love and warmth every day!

Blessings in Christ,
Jessica Sharrett, Director
Early Childhood Education Center





We're on the web!
www.tabaptist.org

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	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.

Prayer Prompter

*"Only when we pray
 will the winds of revival
 lift us to the highest
 blessings of heaven."*

See II Chronicles 7:14

104 Cypress St., Bristol, TN 37620 · 423-989-4325 · tabaptist.org

All our Worship Services can be viewed live, as well as viewing
 previously recorded services, by visiting www.tabaptist.org
 & selecting the 'Live Worship' tab.

Our services are also Live Streaming via:

Tennessee Avenue Baptist Church FaceBook Live
 YouTube

Boxcast App (on Apple TV, ROKU, Amazon Fire TV)