

The TAB Journal

BACK
TO SCHOOL

August 2025
Volume 34, Issue 8

YOUR TABC STAFF

Pastoral Staff

Joey Cole, Worship Pastor
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
Rick Hale, Bass Guitar
Susan Cox, Organist
Maston Greger, Percussion
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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Faithful in the Work, Focused on the Glory

*"Therefore, whether you eat
or drink, or whatever you
do, do all to the glory of
God."*

~ 1 Corinthians 10:31 ~

*"Whatever you do, do it
heartily, as to the Lord and
not to men."*

~ Colossians 3:23 ~

Dear Tennessee Avenue
Family,

As August arrives and summer slowly yields to the rhythms of a new school year, I find myself deeply

grateful—not just for the grace of God that sustains us, but for *you*, the church family He's surrounded us with. This has been a season of growth, of service, of transition, and of transformation—and God has been faithful through it all.

This month, I want to share a devotional thought that has been resting on my heart: **"Faithful in the Work, Focused on the Glory."** In every task before us—visible or unseen, ordinary or extraordinary—we are reminded that we are doing it not for applause or praise, but **unto the Lord**. And when the people of God serve with that kind of purpose, the result is not just

progress—it's worship.

Deep Thanks to Our Deacons & Transition Team

We have walked through a significant season of transition in the life of our church. And throughout this journey, our **Deacon Body** and **Transition Team** have truly gone above and beyond. Their commitment, wisdom, and prayerful leadership have helped carry us with steadiness and spiritual maturity.

To our **Deacons**: thank you for being the shepherds of our people—making hospital visits, praying with the hurting, ministering to families, and offering wise

Continued on Page 2

Faithful in the Work, Focused on the Glory *(continued from page 1)*

counsel in the quiet corners. You've helped keep this church grounded during a season of shifting ground. I've seen your faithfulness, and so has the Lord.

To our **Transition Team**: thank you for wrestling with the big questions and leading us with integrity. You've attended long meetings, worked through difficult decisions, and—most importantly—sought the will of God above all else. You've reminded us that leadership isn't about control, it's about surrender to Christ.

Gratitude for a Faithful Staff and Volunteers

I also want to extend a very special thank-you to our **church staff**. The day-to-day work of ministry does not slow down during a transition. If anything, it grows more demanding. And yet, our staff has risen to every challenge with grace, humility, and faith. From administration to communication, facilities to discipleship, each of you has helped carry the weight—and I am so thankful.

But we also know that staff alone can't do all that needs to be done. It takes a church family. And this summer, I have been *incredibly moved* by the army of **volunteers** who stepped in to help with **Phase 2 renovations** at Tennessee Avenue Christian Academy.



Let me say this plainly: **you showed up in a mighty way.**

From painting and cleaning to construc-

tion and coordination, many of you gave up evenings, weekends, and vacation time to serve. Your work has helped bring our building **up to fire code** and prepare the space to safely and joyfully welcome students back this fall. You were Christ's hands with hammers. His feet with extension cords. His heart behind every gallon of paint. The next generation may never know your names, but they'll walk into classrooms that are safe, clean, and ready to disciple because **you said yes** to serving. Thank you.

Looking Ahead: A Season of Disciple-Making

As the Academy prepares to welcome students back in just a few short days, I want to invite us all to **pray diligently** for the teachers, staff, and volunteers who will minister in those classrooms. They are more than educators—they are disciple-makers, walking examples of the love and truth of Jesus Christ.

They will stand before children who come from all walks of life. Some will come from stable homes, others from hardship. But every student will sit under the care of a godly teacher who has the chance to plant seeds of truth, grace, and love.

Let us pray for strength, creativity, patience, and most of all—**spiritual discernment** for these leaders. May our Academy not only teach reading and math, but raise up **young men and women of faith**, grounded in the gospel and ready to live boldly for Christ.

Doing All for the Glory of Christ

The heart of this month's message is simple but vital: **whatever we do, we do for the glory of Christ.**

Whether we're teaching in the classroom, volunteering with a paintbrush, leading a meeting, stacking chairs, pray-

ing in a quiet corner, or caring for the flock—we are to be faithful in the work, and focused on the glory.

The work may be hard. The road may be long. The results may not always be immediate. But when Jesus is our aim, **nothing is wasted.**

A Personal Word of Thanks

I also want to pause and thank you—**personally**—for your love and your prayers for me during some recent medical testing. I've felt the support of this church family in a deeply personal way. From texts and cards to whispered prayers and kind words in the hallway—you've been the Body of Christ to me. And I want you to know how much that means.

I'm trusting God in all things, and I'm walking this road with confidence because I know I'm not walking it alone. Thank you for loving your pastor well.

Walking Into August Together

So, as August unfolds before us, here's my encouragement:

- **Keep serving.** Even when it's behind the scenes.
- **Keep giving.** Time, talent, treasure—it all matters.
- **Keep praying.** For your church, your leaders, your students.
- **Keep hoping.** Because God is not finished with us yet.

Together, let's stay **faithful in the work**—whether it's in the classrooms, discipling children, encouraging one another, or planning for the future. And let's keep our eyes fixed on the only One who deserves the glory.

To Him be all praise,

Pastor Joey
Worship Pastor



Transitional Interim Ministry Team

Who we are:

Johnny Hutchins, Cody Cornelius, Marvin Feagins, Marie Fleenor, Rick Hale, Sue Miller, Mack Moore, Kent Peters, Diane Powers

Our Objective:

To be led by the Spirit of God through prayer and scripture to help grow TABC into a healthier 'on mission for Christ' congregation.

Five Focus Points in the 'Wilderness Journey'

Heritage

Study of the history, legacy and traditions of the church. Our goal was to celebrate our history and decide which parts we wanted to take into the future and which parts to leave behind. We accomplished that with power point slides of pictures from existing church directories, reviewing books and articles written about church history and with slides of interviews with church members. We also shared a well attended lunch with an opportunity for a church-wide survey with slides and printouts of the results.

Mission

Study of why TABC exists based on core biblical values. It should establish why the work is done but not how the work is done. A new mission statement was adapted - '***Make Disciples who make Disciples for Christ***', along with a new logo.

Leadership

Process of reviewing TABC's needs and ways of organizing. Help to develop an effective pastoral, staff and lay leadership structure.

Connections

Study of the relationships a congregation builds outside of itself, beginning with its relationship to a denomination.

Future

This is the time the Transition Team finishes the Congregational Profile and Pastoral Profile. We have valuable information from the History Focus Point, and we have conducted a 'Pastoral Leadership Expectations' sample survey so both initiatives are in process.

We covet your prayers as we continue serving TABC in the capacity of the TIM Team. ~Philippians 4:19-20 ~



the month of **AUGUST**

birthdays

1 st	Ruth Hagaman	14 th	Justin Vance	24 th	Vicki Cox
3 rd	Randy Wheeler	15 th	Vonda Beavers	25 th	Samuel Thompson
5 th	Karen James		Molly Frazier	26 th	
7 th	Debbie Boyd	16 th	Charlotte James		Lincoln Dixon
	Randy Braswell				Betty Hess
	Fred Ryan	17 th	Tammie Turner	27 th	Josh Leonard
8 th	Areta Thompson	18 th		28 th	
			Donna Morrell		Frankie Hunt
			Marc Perry		Priscilla Watters
9 th	Brandon Stevens		Jodi Peters	29 th	
	Jewel Hutton	21 st	Jan Eldreth		Autumn Messer
10 th	Alicia Brunette	22 nd		30 th	
			Scott Frazier		Jeff Morrell
11 th	Haley Correll		Beverly Jones		Alice Thompson
	Adron Cox	23 rd		31 st	
	Yogi Keeling		Sheyanne Carr		Steve Huff
	Phil Whitaker		Cristy Smallwood		Lydia White

anniversaries

8 th	Jerry & Marilyn Feathers	15 th	Paul & Areta Thompson	22 nd	John & Roni Depew
11 th	Steve & Jeannine Huff		Sean & Samantha Tuzzolino	24 th	
13 th	Clay & Sheila Gamble	16 th	Scott & Carmen Frazier		Clay & Erica Jackson
14 th	Tom & Betty Woosley	21 st	Doug & Linda Altizer	27 th	
					Phil & Linda Kendrick

Event Calendar

2 nd	Senior Adult Breakfast Golden Corral 9:00 am
3 rd	Children's Ministry Summer Program Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm (Every Sunday)
3 rd	Youth Service Youth Room 6:00 pm (Every Sunday)
4 th -7 th	TACA Teacher In-Service
5 th	Transition Team Meeting Fellowship Hall 6:00 PM (Every Tuesday)
6 th	Kidz Korner Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm (Every Wednesday)
6 th	Youth Service Youth Room 6:00 pm (Every Wednesday)
7 th	Academy Orientation Sanctuary K4 /K5: 5:30 pm; 1 st -5 th : 6:00 pm; 6 th -8 th : 6:30 pm; 9 th -12 th : 7:00 pm
7 th	Celebrate Recovery Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm
8 th	Academy School Year Begins TACA 8:00 am
12 th	Early Childhood Education Center Open House Sanctuary / EEC 6:30 pm
16 th	SON Golf League Tournament Twin Creeks Golf Course 8:30 am
18 th	Meals on Wheels
25 th	Widows Luncheon Fellowship Hall 12:00 noon

dear CHURCH family

THANK YOU!

Dear Brother Joey and Tennessee Avenue, thank you for the wonderful joy of being a part of you for these 35 years! Brother Joey, I am grateful for your great hospitality to our ministry. Church, the love offering was incredible and I promise to use it for His glory. Press on dear friends. God has got this! Because Jesus Lives!

Rick Coram

Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers you sent after Mom's passing. They brightened our week as we are enjoying them each day. We miss her but are glad she is no longer suffering. The Lord says, "I

will rescue those who love me"... "I will reward them with a long life and give them my salvation." ~Psalm 91:14a, 16~ Love,
Babs & Lee Childs

Thank you for the flowers and food sent during Mom's passing. She loved her church and missed being able to attend. We can have peace knowing where Mom is by her testimony. May glory come from her passing,

The Family of Rachel Smith

My heart is so very filled with gratitude for each one of you!!! **Thank You** for all of the texts, calls, cards, flowers, and food since my recent surgery. God has been so faithful

to hear and answer your prayers!!! I love you deeply and count each of you as one of my most treasured blessings!! With all my love,

Brenda Wheeler

Thank you church family for all of the prayers, thoughtful cards, meals and gifts during this struggle with my right hip. I praise God for the miraculous speed with which the Veterans Administration managed to get me worked in. Rehab seems to be going well. Thanks for Philippians 1:5 and for continued prayers. Love you all and there's nothing you can do to make me stop,

Brother Jimmy Phipps

Online GIVING

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

06/29/2025 Offering	\$ 7,681.00
07/06/2025 Offering	\$ 14,230.00
07/13/2025 Offering	\$ 12,793.00
07/20/2025 Offering	\$ 12,647.00
On-line Giving 6/24- 7/21/25	\$ 6,247.19
Period Giving Total	\$ 53,598.19
Total 2025 offering YTD:	\$ 381,970.15

Bank Balances

Current Loan Balance	\$ 826,408.60
General Account	\$ 166,367.96
Designated Account	\$ 71,245.46
Daycare / Academy	\$ 20,094.01
Money Market	\$ 21,847.11

SENIOR ADULT BREAKFAST

Saturday, August 2nd
9:00 AM

golden corral®

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5TH

CHURCH PICNIC

SAVE THE DATE!

beginning at 3 PM

Steele Creek Park, Shelter G



TACA Sword & Shield

AUGUST 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!

JESUS IS GREATER

As we busily prepare for the 2025–2026 school year let's reflect on the thought that **Jesus is Greater**, John 3:30 (NIV): **"He must become greater; I must become less."** This is a daily calling and the overall covering we desire for our school. As we teach, lead, compete, create, and serve,

we want every part of campus life to reflect this truth: Jesus alone deserves the spotlight.

We invite Jesus into everything we do at TACA... chapels, classrooms, athletics, fine arts, service opportunities, and the everyday moments in between. We are praying that every student will encounter Jesus in a personal and powerful way this year—and we invite you to begin praying with us. Let's ask the Lord to move mightily across TACA. Let's seek Him together with expectation, humility, and hope for all He desires to do in and through our school.

And in everyday, ordinary tasks—whether it's in the car line, on the sidelines, in the classroom, and at chapel, or simply around campus, may the light of Jesus shine through all we do. May we be eager to listen, serve, and walk this journey alongside HIM.

Let's keep our eyes fixed on Jesus. He is faithful. He is good. We must decrease, He must increase!

Cindy Beal
Administrator

August Dates to Remember

4-7 Teacher
In-service

7 Orientation
TABC Sanctuary

K4-K5 5:30pm
1st-5th 6:00pm
6th-8th 6:30pm
9th-12th 7:00pm

8 First Day of School
Dismissal at 11:30

20 Chapel
K4-12th

"That generations to come might know Him"
Psalm 78:6

TACA TEACHER FEATURE



Mrs. Hannah Sandoe,
TACA First Grade Teacher

TACA welcomes Mrs. Hannah Sandoe as a new member of faculty. Hannah will join the elementary department as first grade teacher this fall. Mrs. Sandoe is a graduate of East Tennessee State University with a Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Education. She is licensed by the State Board of Education,

Pre-K - Third Grade. Welcome to the TACA family, Hannah Sandoe!

Miss Stephanie Allen

Miss Stephanie Allen has always loved learning and school, and she carries that love into her classroom, where she shares it with her students. She enjoys teaching and has a passion for helping her students to not only learn, but to excel in all they do. Miss Allen graduated from Hyles-Anderson College in 2009 with a Bachelors in Elementary Education, graduating summa cum laude. Stephanie furthered her education by earning her Masters degree in elementary education from Crown College of the Bible, where she graduated in 2023 with a 4.0 GPA. She earned her Masters degree while teaching full time. Stephanie has eleven years of teaching experience, teaching first grade, second grade, band, music, art, middle school and high school English, Chemistry, Biology, Algebra 1, World History, Geography, and U.S. Government. Stephanie also taught for one year in a class geared toward special needs students. Even though Stephanie has taught a vast array of grades and subjects, her passion lies in teaching lower elementary. TACA is blessed to have Stephanie Allen on faculty.





Tennessee Avenue
Early Childhood Education



Families,

Happy August! As I am typing this out, we are in the process of gearing up for our TACS Conference. This is always an exciting event for us, and it allows the teachers to get valuable training to use here in their classes. I was asked to do a training session again this year and have chosen to do it on *"The Whole-Brain Child"* (by Daniel J. Siegel, M.D. and Tina Payne Bryson, Ph.D.). I recently had a counseling class that used this book, and I ended up loving it. It talks about the importance of brain integration and helping children learn to use all four sections of their brains (Left, Right, Upstairs, Downstairs). I think as early education educators it is important to understand how a child's brain works, and why they may act the way that they

do at times. Often, once a child "flips their lid," they need help learning how to calm themselves down, and this book goes through different strategies on how to help do that. Being able to help them can lead to them being able to have more control of their actions and emotions as they grow older, and that is something that I take very seriously.

Often, people take for granted what we do here at the Early Ed. Center. We are so much more than just "babysitters." We are teaching letters, numbers, shapes, sights, sounds, colors (the list really can go on and on); we are loving and caring for the kids when they get hurt or when they are stressed and scared; we care for them when they are sick, we wipe noses, clean hands and faces, put shoes on the same kids 100 times a day; and most importantly, we are pouring the love of Jesus into their little hearts and brains. Once that seed is planted, it will always be there. What does that have to do with brain integration? If I am dealing with a child who is having a meltdown (their downstairs brain has taken over), I am holding and loving on them (this affects their right brain), talking to them soothingly and calmly (this affects their left brain), asking them questions about what is going on (this affects the upstairs brain). This all allows their brains to reset (this means getting the downstairs brain calmed). Now, if in this process I am telling them how much we love them, and more importantly how much Jesus loves them, then someday when they are older and struggling, they may have a flash of a memory (thanks to the Hippocampus) that reminds them of the time that someone at our center told them that Jesus loves them and it helps calm them down. That is Brian Integration.

There are so many verses of Scripture that tell us about how God made us. He made us in His image (Genesis 1:27); He knew us when He formed us in our mother's womb (Jeremiah 1:5); and He has plans for us all (Jeremiah 29:11). He created our brains, and He has supplied ways for us to grow and nurture our own brains, as well as the ability to help and teach others. This is just another amazing reminder of what a Mighty God we Serve!

Please be in prayer for our Center, our Staff, and the Families as we get ready to start a new year!

Blessings in Christ,

Jessica Sharrett, Director
Early Childhood Education Center

ECEC Dates to Remember:

- August 1:** Last Day Public School attends Camp
- August 7:** Last day of Camp for TACA students
- August 11:** New Year starts for the ECEC
- August 12:** Open House @ 6:30 in the ECEC Building

TACA Sword & Shield
AUGUST 2025



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.
Children's Summer Program	6:00 p.m.
Youth Worship Service	6:00 p.m.

Prayer Prompter

*"Have you ever noticed there are
no holidays in August?
It's never time to take a break
from prayer either."*

(See I Thessalonians 5:17)

WEDNESDAYS

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

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)