

Inside this Issue:

Ministry Information	1-3
Birthdays & Anniversaries	4
April Events	4
Dear Church Family	5
TACA Sword & Shield	6-7
Early Ed Center News	7



The Joy Journal

April 2023

Volume 32, Issue 4

YOUR TABC STAFF

Pastoral Staff

Shane Phillips, Senior Pastor
Paul Thompson, Associate Pastor of Discipleship
Joey Cole, Worship Pastor
Saul 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
Kent Peters, Housekeeping

Academy Staff

Cindy Beal, Administrator
Melinda Widener, Principal
Adrian Padgett, Guidance Counselor
Angie Williams, Student Accounts Manager/
School Secretary
Amanda Pottorf, Director of Development

Early Education Center Staff

Jessica Sharrett, Director
Brittany Sheffield, Asst. Director

CHRIST IS RISEN... HE IS RISEN INDEED!

Matt 28:5-7a

"5 But the angel answered and said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay. 7 And go quickly and tell His disciples that He is risen from the dead..."

As we have shared over the past several weeks, the most Holy of Holy Days for Christians is almost upon us – Easter... "Resurrection Sunday." Though it may stagger our imagination to try to fully understand this truth, all of the promises of God (that is, all that the Scriptures have promised) find their fulfillment in the person of Jesus Christ, and in particular His Resurrection. From the very beginning, God promised fallen man a Savior (Genesis

3:15). As we look through the pages of Scripture, we see a type of "scarlet thread" (the symbol of Christ's shed blood that was to come) painting the beautiful work of Christ that was to come. All the mercy and forgiveness of God for His people, all the spilled blood of animals, the Passover, the Exodus, the Ark, the passing through the sea... all of these things pointed to the ultimate salvation of God that would be found in the Death (and ultimately the Resurrection) of Christ.

Without the Cross, there is NO forgiveness of sin, no salvation, and no hope. Not too many denominations today like to talk about the Cross of Christ. Some say that the cross is too bloody and the suffering of Christ offensive to

the senses. Many prefer to share sermons of the resurrection and the finished work of Christ and bypass the cross altogether. But therein is where we find the problem... There can be no resurrection without first having a crucified Savior. The resurrection loses its full revelation and impact unless Christ suffers first. And... in order for that suffering to be fully understood, we must understand "why" He suffered and died; and that, my fellow saints, was for you and me!

Easter "Resurrection Sunday" is a proclamation of the awe-inspiring mercy and grace of God. That God would wrap His Son up in flesh and send Him to suffer and die for you and me... to die in our place...

Continued on Page 2

CHRIST IS RISEN... HE IS RISEN INDEED! (Continued from Page 1)

to take the condemnation for sin that was supposed to come to us! Easter is not just a happy ending to a tragic event, but rather it was God's answer for a broken people who were lost in sin with no way to save themselves. Sin... that would have seen our lives destroyed and our souls in hell has been defeated! Sin was no more to be our master and destroyer of our lives. Christ The Lord conquered death, hell, and the grave, and has set us free to walk in the forgiveness and grace of the living God.



Greetings!

I pray that you are excited about our upcoming Easter service and the opportunities that this season presents to serve those who visit with us! I have been in prayer daily that we will see commitments to Christ, and that we as believers are renewed and revived by the truth of the resurrection!

While Christmas is very precious to me, I am most thankful for Easter. I would argue that without Easter, without the resurrection, Christmas would be just another holiday. I believe Christianity begins with the resurrection. According to the apostle Paul, *"And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain,"* (1 Cor. 15:14 ESV) meaning that if the resurrection of Jesus never happened, then Christianity as a whole crumbles.

So is the resurrection something we simply celebrate once a year with a special Sunday worship service, or should the resurrection be ingrained in every

One of the things that I love most about the resurrection story (as you can see above) is that the angels did not simply announce that "Christ was risen", but they also offered proof... "Come, see the place where the Lord lay!" In essence they were saying, come see for yourself... He is not here... He is Risen... just like He promised! And if you think about it, we can do that too! We can show others that Jesus is Risen! We can show the power of Easter. How? The next time someone asks for proof, just point back to your life

aspect of our lives? Paul equates walking with God, *knowing God*, to knowing the power of His resurrection (Phil. 3:10). While I'm sure we all want to learn more about the details of the resurrection, and some of you may have even had the privilege of seeing the empty tomb in the Holy Land, simple knowledge isn't what Paul is speaking of. Paul implies that the resurrection power of Jesus must be experienced and lived. When we follow Jesus' example in baptism, it symbolizes dying to our sinful nature and being raised as a new creation. Paul tells the Romans that *"our old self was crucified with Him so that the body ruled by sin might be rendered powerless so that we may no longer be enslaved to sin, since a person who has died is freed from sin. Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with Him..."* (Romans 6:6-8 CSB) I will encourage you as a believer, the resurrection power of Jesus is within you! For without it, there would be no freedom from sin - no eternal life. When we seek for more and more of Jesus, we will inevitably find the transformational power of the resurrection!

I would also like to share some good news; I am very pleased to inform our church family that our choir room can once again be used for rehearsals! The

and explain... come, look at my heart and see where the broken shackles of sin now lay. I am no longer bound to sin or death! Because Jesus lives, I shall live also. He is risen! Yes, He is risen indeed!

Maranatha,

Pastor Shane
Senior Pastor

extensive damage caused by multiple roof leaks has been repaired. We have a new ceiling, fresh coat of paint, and clean carpet! We are blessed to have such a space to learn and prepare to lead worship each time we gather.

As some of you know, I have the privilege to teach Instrumental Music at our Academy. Just to give a picture of what that looks like, our ensemble is composed of the following: Flute, Clarinets, Saxophones, Trumpets, Trombones, Tuba, and Percussion. These children have worked extremely hard this semester and have exceeded every expectation that I have had. Prior to January, these young musicians had no experience playing these instruments or even reading music, but they have excelled due to their attitudes, work ethic, and most importantly, God's favor. I would like to invite you to attend the inaugural concert of the Tennessee Avenue Crusader Band on Thursday May 4, 2023, at 6:30 PM in our sanctuary. A full house of support for these children would surely be appreciated by my students and myself.

I pray you have a blessed Easter,

Pastor Joey
Worship Pastor



Dear Family,

I've gotta verse that I'm really leaning into these days—
Philippians 3:10-11 (NKJV):

"That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead."

I'll be turning 50 years old in a month and for whatever reason 50 is hitting me hard. Life is so short and I can see the end of mine coming so fast at this point. I mean, 10 years goes ridiculously fast! My choices are all coming into focus these days with much greater scrutiny. What am I doing? What am I not doing? What do I fear? As I ask these questions, the honest answer is that most of what I do has to do with me running from something. I hate to admit that. I don't want to suffer, and I'm afraid that I've lived 50 years of my life trying my best to avoid it. It has taken me that long to figure out that when you live to avoid suffering, you only suffer more.

We live in a world of suffering and we will all feel that one way or another. The question is: Are you facing it with purpose? It is meaningful suffering? Are you suffering regrets for foolish choices, or are you suffering choices of discipline as you trust a perfect God who can redeem it all?

At this late hour in my life, I'm beginning to embrace suffering for the first time. I do regret how long it had taken me to figure it out, but I can't help but thank God for revealing it to me at all! I can see that most people never do figure it out. What a blessing that we are given the privilege of choice. We can choose our suffering. I choose to suffer with Jesus, allow His Spirit of wisdom to show me what choices to make, and allow Him to redeem all that He sees fit. Psalm 39:4 (NASB) is a powerful mindset for us all to have: *"Lord, let me know my end and what is the extent of my days; let me know how transient I am."*

As we surrender our short lives to His eternal life, Jesus makes us overcomers like Him. Jesus is the greatest investor to ever live. Allow Him to guide you into investing every choice you make from this day forward. Our choices are like seeds and they all have a harvest of some kind. May we learn how to grow Heaven's crops on earth.

Praying Malachi 4:5-6 over our church family. God is our Father - He is perfect!

Bro. Paul Thompson
Associate Pastor of Discipleship



Happy Spring! This season is all about new life! 2 Corinthians 5:17 says, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!"* (NIV)

As we celebrate Easter, we focus on the very definition of Love and Forgiveness. What better time/way to help our children understand what new life really means.

Please be on the lookout for the events that are happening in the Children's Ministry.

April 16: VBS Meeting immediately following the morning service in the Family Life Building. Lunch will be provided. We will be discussing VBS week, the theme, the lessons, and placing people in their Volunteer spot.

June 11-16: VBS

We would love to have you both at the meeting and at VBS!

Miss April
Children's Ministry Director

the month of APRIL



Upcoming Events

birthdays

2 nd		13 th		22 nd
Danny Lewis		Anne Haynes		Carmen Frazier
Jimmy Phipps, Jr.		Katie Belle Phipps		Jim Saunders
3 rd		Zachery Strouth		Katie Smith
Aaron Cole		15 th		23 rd
Derek Haga		Emma Padgett		Jason Carter
Max Minor		Jennie Sutherland		24 th
4 th		17 th		Roger Cox
Joshua Thompson		Hannah Moore		25 th
5 th		Cade Stevens		Steven Morton
Jerry Feathers		Stuart Sutherland		Don Rowland
Sylvia Rowland		18 th		26 th
Taylor Ryan		David Price		Makayla Blair
6 th		Samuel Worley		Terry Ryan
Janet Coker		19 th		27 th
Cathy Wolfenbarger		Diane Whitaker		Paul Thompson
7 th		20 th		28 th
Celesta Jenkins		Benny James		Jonathan Keen
10 th				30 th
Hank Pottorf				Ronnie Martin

- 1st **Community Easter Egg Hunt**
TABC 1:00-3:00 pm
- 2nd **AWANA Balloon Night**
Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
- 2nd **Youth Ministry Sunday Worship**
TABC 6:00 pm (Every Sunday)
- 3rd **Ladies' Bible Study**
Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm (Every Monday)
- 5th **Ladies' Step Study**
TABC 8:00 am (Every Wednesday)
- 5th **TACA Parent Chapel**
Sanctuary 8:15 am
- 5th **Kidz Korner** (Every Wednesday)
Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
- 5th **Youth Ministry Wednesday Service**
TABC 6:00 pm (Every Wednesday)
- 6th **Ladies' Community Bible Study**
TABC 9:15-11:15 am (Thursdays)
- 6th **Celebrate Recovery**
Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm (Thursdays)
- 7th **Senior Adult Breakfast**
Cracker Barrel 9:00 am
- 7th **GOOD FRIDAY - Church Office, Academy & Early Education Center Closed**
- 9th **EASTER SUNDAY - No Evening Service or Activities on Campus**
- 9th **TABC Easter Musical**
Sanctuary 11:00 am
- 15th **Ladies' Spring Luncheon**
FLB 11:30 am
- 16th **VBS Lunch Meeting**
FLB 12:30 pm
- 16th **AWANA Cow Night**
Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
- 21st **Dinner at "The Kitchen"**
Grace Meadows Farm depart TABC 3:00 pm
- 22nd **TACA Sports Banquet**
FLB 5:30 pm
- 23rd **CMA Run for the Son Presentation**
Sanctuary 11:00 am Service
- 23rd **AWANA Auction Night**
Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm
- 24th **Widows Ministry Luncheon**
Fellowship Hall 12:00 Noon
- 28th **Hispanic Church Prayer Vigil**
Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm-12:00 am
- 30th **AWANA Book Night**
Children's Ministry Area 6:00 pm

Blessings

May God Shower you with His

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

anniversaries

2 nd		10 th		26 th
Marvin & Rose Feagins		Jim & Clara Melvin		John & Amie Parker
4 th		17 th		29 th
Johnny & Jill Hutchins		Marc & Debra Perry		Cody & Olivia Cornelius
6 th		19 th		30 th
Kyle & Sandra Hillman		Phil & Diane Whitaker		Frankie & Becky Hunt
				Jim & Bambi Rush

dear CHURCH family

Thank you

Thank you all for the prayers, flowers and calls after my surgery. Love all of you,
Benny James

Dear Tennessee Avenue Family, thank you for thinking of our family during this difficult time. Your support and celebration of

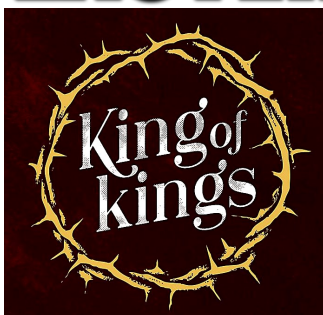
Mom's life is so appreciated. In Christ,
Tim, Todd, and the Osborne Family

Thanks so much for the prayers, phone calls, food and flowers during Wayne's knee replacement surgery. It is so great to be part of TABC, a loving and ministering church.
Wayne & Vicky Ramsey

EASTER MUSICAL

**Sunday, April 9th
11:00 AM**

Join us as our
TABC Celebration Choir
presents the Easter musical
"King of Kings".



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

Online GIVING
Visit 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

02/26/2023 Offering	\$7,503.00
03/05/2023 Offering	\$12,291.00
03/12/2023 Offering	\$7,546.00
03/19/2023 Offering	\$7,335.00
03/26/2023 Offering	\$11,473.00
On-line Giving 2/22-3/26/23	\$25,489.00
Period Giving Total	\$71,637.00
Total 2023 offering YTD:	\$174,805.00

Bank Balances

Current Loan Balance	\$1,146,794.77
General Account	\$283,089.87
Designated Account	\$16,669.00
Daycare / Academy	\$115,772.69
Money Market	\$50,788.53

**Saturday APRIL 15
11:30 AM**
in the Family Life Building

Ladies, please join us for our Spring Luncheon! We'll have lunch from Chicken Salad Chick; and we'll welcome special guest speaker April Taylor Barnes of "Music and Life with April" on 97.3 Love FM!

Tickets are \$10 per person. Please see Mrs. Peggy, Mrs. Beverly or Mrs. Debbie to get your ticket.

Princess
Daughter of the King of Kings
Your Worth in the Eyes of God
Ladies' Spring Luncheon

JOIN US FOR DINNER AT
The KITCHEN
at
Grace Meadows
FRIDAY, APRIL 21st

Dinner is served family-style, all you can eat, and the food is excellent! Cost is \$20.95 per person (cost does not include drink or gratuity). For those who would like to ride the bus, we will depart TABC at 3:00 p.m. **Please sign up in your Sunday School Class or the Vestibule.**



RUN FOR THE SON ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

**APRIL 23, 2023
11:00 AM Service**

The Christian Motorcycle Association (CMA) is a non-profit ministry that God uses in a variety of ways. The offerings received through the annual RUN FOR THE SON goes to support MISSIONARY VENTURES INTERNATIONAL, OPEN DOORS, AND THE JESUS FILM PROJECT, along with other missions. 100% of the RUN FOR THE SON offering goes to missions. Please support this unique and effective ministry. You may make your check payable to TABC and designate "Run for the Son".

TACA Sword & Shield

APRIL 2023

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!



Trustworthy & Faithful

Hosea 6:3

3 So let's learn, let's press on to know the Lord.

His appearance is as sure as the dawn;

And He will come to us like the rain,

As the spring rain waters the earth."

This passage is packed full of promises, hope and comfort. It begins with an emphasis on knowing the Lord and acknowledging Him in all circumstances. The more intimately we know Him, the more we trust in His faithfulness to us. Have you faced difficulties and felt His comfort, His presence, His grace? Have you ever wondered how those who don't know Him are able to face those same difficulties?

"His appearance is as sure as the dawn." This statement is a promise! A word that cannot be broken! What assurance to know that in the darkest of times, when all hope seems to be lost, He is there! And in the best of times, when our hearts are light and all seems to be right with our world, He is there! He is as sure as the sunrise every morning. We can trust in Him.

"He will come to us like the winter rains and like the spring rains that water the earth." He provides all of our needs, material, physical, and spiritual. He nurtures us along with His tender care and we can rest knowing the Shepherd is always there.

In every situation, whatever life throws at you, He is as sure as the morning, and cares for us as tenderly as the gentle rains that water the earth in spring. Trust Him, dear friends. He is faithful.

Amazed at His Grace,

Cindy Beal
Academy Administrator

Tennessee Avenue
Christian Academy

APRIL
Dates To
Remember

- 4th Band Meeting 3:30
- 5th Parent Chapel Praise Team
- 7th Good Friday No school or daycare
- 12th-13 IOWA Assessments
- 14th Jr/Sr Formal 6:00pm
- 18th Marsh Regional Blood Drive
- 19th-20th IOWA Assessments
- 22nd Sports Banquet 6:00
- 24th-28th TEACHER/STAFF Appreciation
- 25th BETA Club Induction 1:00
- 26th Boosterthon Kickoff!



K-4 Star Students

Mrs. Chanda's K-4 class is excited to share with all of our parents the K-4 Star Students for the month of April....

April 10-14 Zane Woolley

April 17-21 Addie Vanover

April 24-28 Lucas Coffey



From the Early Education Center.....

Tennessee Avenue Families,
Early Childhood Education



One of the most important series of events in Christian history is approaching. The death, burial, and resurrection of our Savior. And oh, what a Savior He is! Often during this time of year, we think of Jesus as our Shepherd, our Lamb, and the Lion of Judah.

John 10:14-15 (KJV) says: *"I am the good shepherd, and know my sheep, and am known of mine. As the Father knoweth me, even so know I the Father: and I lay down my life for the sheep."* How amazing that Jesus knew all along that He was our Shepherd. He knew that He was there to take care of and minister to the people while He was on earth, and even now.

But let's go a bit further. The Shepherd doesn't just care for the well-to-do, got it all together, never misses a beat sheep. He always cares for those who are weak, and fail, get lost, stumble, or maybe are even considered the "black sheep". One of the most popular phrases we often see these days is *"He left the 99 for me"* based on the parable from Jesus in Matthew 18:12-14 (NKJV) that says, *"What do you think? If a man has a hundred sheep, and one of them goes astray, does he not leave the ninety-nine and go to the mountains to seek the one that is straying? And if he should find it, assuredly, I say to you, he rejoices more over that sheep than over the ninety-nine that did not go astray. Even so it is not the will of your Father who is in heaven that one of these little ones should perish."* Again, how amazing it is to know that our Shepherd cares for us even when we go astray. And we all go astray sometimes. There is none perfect, except Jesus. And He comes looking for us!

Also, Jesus is seen as our Lamb. During His time on earth, He was humble and lowly. Even though He was a Man of supernatural significance, He did not behave that way. We see John proclaim Jesus as the *"Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!"* (John 1:29). He was the Shepherd sent to care for us, the Lamb that was sent to save us....and then came the Lion! He wasn't just crucified and buried to be left for all eternity. He was buried, and then arose, Roaring! Granted, He probably wasn't literally roaring, but what happened was as astonishing and loud as the Lion's roar. He conquered death and the grave, all to save us. He didn't go quietly into the night. He appeared to his followers several times and was taken to heaven in a cloud of glory, that was visible to many. Like Revelation 5:5 (NKJV) says right in the middle of the verse: *"Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed"*.

So, Jesus is our caring "Good Shepherd", our meek and gentle "Lamb", and our strong and mighty Savior, the "Lion". I don't know about you, but that makes me feel incredibly loved and cherished!

Just a little fyi....The Crabb Families' song "The Lamb, the Lion, and the King" and Elevation Worship's "Hail, Hail, Lion of Judah" are two of my favorite songs!

Blessings in Christ,

Jessica Sharrett
Director, Early Childhood Education Center

TACA Sword & Shield
APRIL 2023

Early Ed Center Dates to Remember:

- Thursday, April 6th: Easter Celebration! (More info will be going home soon)
- Friday, April 7th: Closed
- Registration for this Summer's Camp Joy, and our K4 summer program is now open! Contact us at the Early Ed Center for more info!

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

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	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 & 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)*