

Hendricks Herald

June 2021



Drawing by Echo Saunders
#HABOnTheMap

Vaya con Dios!

By B.J. Hutto, Pastor

As spring turns towards summer, it is so very good to feel like our communal life is approaching something like “normal.” Infections in our area are down, vaccination numbers

continue to rise, and while the pandemic is certainly not yet over—and while we will always grieve the losses we’ve suffered this last year—we are in the midst of a genuine turning point during these historic times.

After 15 months of social-distancing, Zoom meetings, and virtual school, I have to assume that, for many of us, a part of that return to normalcy will involve summer travel. Business travel, postponed vacations, trips to see family and friends in other climes: my expectation is that, this summer, Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church is going to be on the move! And I think that’s great! I think it’s great that we are finally back to a place where we can go visit loved ones and experience other parts of our country and our world that we’ve longed to see. If I can, though, let me please make four quick requests of y’all before everybody skips town.

First, please be sure to join us in worship on Sunday, June 6, as HAB is going to celebrate a baccalaureate service. I believe that it’s important for churches to do something like this: not just to celebrate achievement but also to encourage one another to pursue our personal and professional goals. Even more than that, however, the graduates of 2021 should be especially well celebrated, since they have persevered in their studies through this pandemic. Therefore, **if you know of someone who has graduated from high school, college, or graduate school—or if you know of someone who’s achieved any other professional certification or training—please let us know in the office** so that we can reach out

to them and invite them to take part. **In addition, because of the disruption of the last year, we will also be recognizing anyone who achieved any of the above during 2020 as well.** This is something that the pandemic denied them last year, so this year we really want to include them in the celebration!

Second, please remember that, while your attention might (rightly!) be elsewhere this summer, the missions and ministries of HAB will continue to go on. We will still be serving our neighbors, we’ll still be ministering to one another, and we’ll be here waiting when you—all tanned and rested—come back to see us! Therefore, as you prepare to travel, please remember to keep up with your church offerings. The ministries of this church are so very important within our church family and our wider community—especially for the littlest, the least, and the lost among us—that we need to make sure that they are able to continue apace. If you need to set up online giving, or if you need any other assistance, Vickie Landers (financial@habchurch.com) in our church office will be glad to help.

Third, please remember to take your “Where in the World Is HAB?” artwork with you! If you haven’t heard, we have set up a social media campaign that’ll allow us all to stay connected this summer. One of our own, Echo Saunders, has drawn a beautiful portrait of the church (above and on page 3 as a larger cut-out) that we can take with us in our travels...even if those travels are just a trip over to Jax Beach or a day out on the St. Johns River. Take the artwork and take a photograph with it, and then, if you will, either share it over your social media with the hashtag **#HABOnTheMap** or send it to us so that we can. That way, we’ll all be able to stay connected in our travels this summer and we’ll each be able to enjoy the beauty of others’ trips!

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B.J. Hutto, Ph.D., Pastor • Thomas M. Shapard, M.Div., M.M., Minister of Music & Worship

Britt Hester, M.Div., Minister of Youth and Christian Education • Claire Kermitz Chinn, M.Div., Minister of Children and Mission

Vickie M. Landers, B.B.A., Church Administrator • H. Kendell Smith, Dip.C.M. Minister of Music Emeritus

(B.J., continued)

Finally if, in all of your travels, you find yourself spending a Sunday with another congregation, please bring a copy of their bulletin—and whatever other literature they have on offer—back with you and share it with us! Church life (and church media) can always be improved, so it's always good to learn “best practices” from sister congregations, and this is an easy way to do so. And if you come across something that speaks to you particularly strongly, or if you come across something that's uniquely faithful, please do let us know that as well whenever you get back!

And that's it! I hope that everyone has a fun, safe, and blessed summer. Enjoy your travels if you go, and enjoy the beauties of Northeast Florida if you stay! But either way, know that at Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church you will always have a warm and welcoming place to come home to!

Kindest regards,
B.J.



Warmer Days

By Britt Hester, Minister of Youth and Christian Education

In recent weeks I have noticed a warming trend in our weather. While we have had cooler days here and there, most days we are getting closer to the summer heat we are accustomed to in the Sunshine State. As the weather changes, I am reminded that these warmer days bring us more than sweltering humidity. For me, they signal the winds of change we long for in our lives.

The past 15 months have felt cold, dark, and lonely at times. Many days it felt like the end of our global nightmare would never come. Yet, as we turn the page to these summer months, I am as hopeful now as I have ever been since March 2020. The recent decision by the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) allowing vaccinated members to remove their masks in most settings was a welcome, albeit surprising, decision. Additionally, the announcement that children 12-15 can become vaccinated brings me hope that our students can safely gather for programming this summer and beyond.

Closer to home, we recently made the decision to bring Sunday Bible Study back to our Sunday morning schedule. We also removed the dividing rope from our pews for worship on Sunday mornings. While these are subtle changes, they are signs. Signs that things are trending in the right direction. Signs that perhaps there is light at the end of the tunnel. Signs that warmer days are ahead.

As we lean into these changes, I hope the warmth we feel in and amongst ourselves would radiate from our community at 4001 Hendricks Avenue. The world is not a cold, dark place as it is often portrayed. Yes, there is evil, hatred, and death that permeates throughout our culture. Yet, there is too much grace to keep to ourselves. There is too much love that needs to be let loose in world.

Christ empowers and equips us with the necessary tools and strength to be ambassadors of God's great love for our world. As we come out of this bleak period in our lives, our friends and neighbors are hungry for a good story, a shared meal, a warm hug, and a reassurance that life is still worth living and sharing. All signs that warmer days are ahead. All signs that Christ is still at work in this world. And the beauty of it is that you and I have the extraordinary privilege of being a part of it. Let us not waste our shot.



A Place for Children

By Claire Chinn, Minister of Children and Mission

As a child I always felt like the church was a home away from home. I felt comfortable running around campus playing with my friends or sitting (not very still) in the sanctuary during worship services. It was a place of safety and of comfort. I knew exactly who was going to sit behind me and in front of me in our fourth pew on the right-hand side.

I knew that during the time I was in college and came home for a visit, Beverly Hicks would always tell me that Christian Ponder would make a great husband, and then Sheryl Gates would give me such a big hug it would last until my next trip home. Church was a place that gave me a feeling of purpose.

Over this past year plus, while our children have been active, they have not been able to have those same chances I had growing up, but finally things are changing. Over the past several Sundays we have been able to add back some items that are gifts to our young families, such as childcare. Resuming childcare on Sunday mornings is truly a gift for our families. It

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(Claire, continued)

allows our families with young children to know their children are cared for and loved beyond measure. Sarah Cooke is our leader in the nursery, and I do not think we could have a better person loving and caring for our youngest.

We, as a congregation, have this extraordinary opportunity in front of us to be a small part of our youngest families' stories. Hospitality is nothing new for our congregation. Having young families is nothing new for our congregation. Over the past year our children have grown up. Some new children have been born, other children have taken their first steps or lost their first tooth. We have missed celebrating these milestones with our families. And now—now we get to celebrate it all. We get to begin sharing life together, in person again for the first time since last March.

As we begin to regather, take a moment to welcome back our families with young children. Take a moment to ask how their week was. Take a moment to invest in them. We have the chance to make our church a home for our youngest families, and what a gift that is.



drawing by Echo Saunders

“Where in the World Is HAB?”

If you were not able to pick up one of these drawings at church, you can print or cut out the one above.

Here are the instructions:

Wherever you are this summer, take HAB with you!

In each place you visit, take a photo of your family holding this artwork.

Then post your photo on social media with the hashtag **#HABOnTheMap**



From the Church Mouse

Shali Charles married **Nathan Brand** in a beautiful riverfront ceremony at the home of **Norma Hagan**. The bride and groom celebrated with family and friends at their wedding reception following the ceremony, also at Norma's lovely home. Our best wishes to the happy couple!

Another happy couple is **Janice Barnard & Walker Price**. They were married in May also. Celebrating this special event are Walker's parents, **Janis and Steve Price**. Our congratulations and best wishes to the Price family!

The Mouse has lots and lots of school news to share. So many of our church family are recognizing milestones and enjoying the fruits of their hard work.

Our Tommy is now **Dr. Tommy Shapard**. He walked in the graduation ceremony on May 14 at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas. He is scheduled to defend his dissertation on May 28. Tommy's degree is Doctor of Pastoral Music. Along with his HAB family, Tommy's wife **Rachel** and children, **Drew, Kate, and Mac**, celebrate his wonderful accomplishment.

Kate Rogers, Eleanor Rogers' granddaughter, graduated from Paxon High School and will be attending FSU in the fall. She will join her big sister **Alyce**, who is already a Seminole in garnet and gold.

Maisie Warnock completed the Cosmetology Course at FSCJ. She has also successfully earned her Florida Cosmetology License. Life is more beautiful when you meet the right hairdresser. That is sure to be Maisie!

The University of Florida will be welcoming a true scholar in the fall.

Hannah Gray graduated from Mandarin High School. With over 500 students in the 2021 graduating class, she ranked an amazing 4th! Good job, Hannah! And Go Gators, of course.

Trent Gautney, son of **Lee and Will Gautney**, graduated from the University of North Florida. Another successful UNF Osprey SWOOP!

The Mouse's last scholarly tidbit comes from the family of **Amy and Kyle Reese**. Their daughter **Hannah** graduated from Baylor University.

She will be attending Brown University pursuing her master's in public health. Congratulations, Hannah, good job! And the Mouse must note, Hannah is quite successfully going from being a Baylor Bear to being a Brown Bear!

Marilyn DeVries shared some wonderful news from her family. **Marilyn and Dave** recently had a BIG SURPRISE when their son Christopher, who lives in Nebraska, told them that he and his wife Jordan now have a three-year-old foster child in their home. They have hope and expectation (but no 100% certainty yet) that the little guy will become available for adoption. Chris and Jordan have both worked with kids in the foster care system and have a real heart for them. This would be the DeVrieses' first grandchild, Lord willing. They will meet him Labor Day weekend when the family travels here for son Eric's wedding. Two blessed events to anticipate!

Hopefully, you were able to attend worship on May 16 (either in person or virtually) when **Mark Scott** and **Eric Quinn** sang "In This Very Room," accompanied by **Laraine Humbert**. It was simply beautiful! But something you may not know about these two is that Mark was Eric's music teacher. When Eric was in eighth grade, Mark saw him in the hall and said, "You need to be in choir." Eric joined the choir at Mark's urging, which eventually inspired him to major in music. Eric served as a minister of music for 20 years, and he credits his musicianship to the influence of Mark Scott. Thank God for the teachers, ministers, and musicians that reach out to us and encourage us.

If you have longed to spend time in prayer and God's Word but need a plan of action, *Reflections* devotional guide can help. It provides thoughtful, daily devotions, designed to challenge and encourage adults on their spiritual journey. In the current issue, **Britt Hester** wrote the devotionals for the week of June 27- July 3. **Kristen Pope** (her father **Greg Pope** is our former pastor) wrote the devotionals for the week of May 9-15.

Please share your happy news, hard-earned honors, and noteworthy accomplishments with the Mouse at churchmouse@habchurch.com. We are one body in Christ with many parts. It multiplies the joy when it is shared in the family of God.

Your HAB Church Mouse



Little Friends Ends School Year Successfully, Looks Forward to Summer Program *By Julie Mason, Little Friends board chair*

Another school year is behind us! It seems unbelievable, because we could swear that it just began only a few days ago—but, indeed, graduation for our VPK kiddos takes place on May 27. B.J. plans to recognize the Little Friends graduates in the June 6 service at 10:30 a.m., along with the graduates of other schools.

This year our VPK-ers took their “readiness-for-kindergarten” testing digitally, and we say, “Hats Off!” to our valiant VPK teacher, Lisa Kaufman, for getting all of them ready on her single, personal laptop. In our plans for our future growth is a reading lab with computer terminals so our children will enter kindergarten with the beginnings of real computer knowledge under their belts.

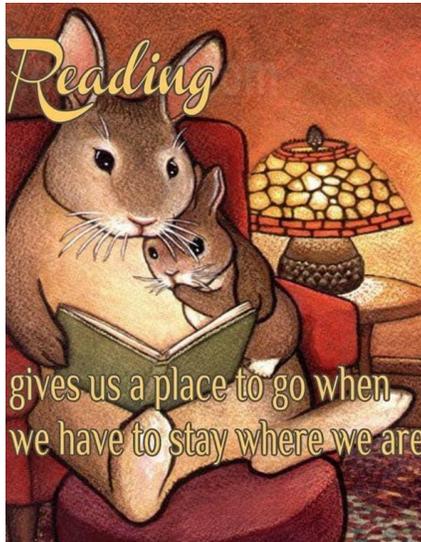


And speaking of valiant teachers, here are ours, all of them tops in their fields. Little Friends is blessed in its faculty. From the left around the circle: **Anna Schnabel**, ones; **Chelsea Weise**, principal; **Meg Meyer**, infants; **Arold Ramboloarisoa**, floater; **Liz Sims**, infants; **Sarah Cooke**, threes; **Lisa Kaufman**, VPK; **Taran Nelson**, twos; and **Kristen Schnabel**, floater.

The summer program for those already enrolled in Little Friends begins on Monday, June 7, and will last for five weeks, daily from 9:00–3:00. The curriculum is varied and is very summer-fun-out-of-doors-oriented, ending with a literal splash in “Water Day.”

Although the indoors mask mandate has been lifted for those who have been fully vaccinated against the COVID-19 virus, it remains in place for those who have not yet had the appropriate shots. Little Friends has not eased up on the safety precautions practiced in the classrooms and plans to continue to be vigilant.

Little Friends Heroes: Little Friends PTA and the Little Friends Board of Directors for loving and appreciating the teachers all year but especially during Teacher Appreciation Week; and **Rebekah Hutto**, reader to the threes and VPK-ers during Library Hour.



From the Library

By Julie Babcock, Church Librarian

Time travel—it’s here now! Just pick up a good book and begin your voyage! And read to your little ones. They will enjoy it, increase their vocabulary, and see that reading books (real ones in hand) can be a pleasant thing!



WELCOME

New Member

We welcome **Frances Schutts Ripley**, who joined Hendricks Avenue Baptist on Sunday, May 2. Frances is the sister of Alyson Lee.

News of the Church Family



Sympathy to...

- ...Barbara Jay in the death of her husband Harvey, who died April 27, 2021.
- ...the family of Herman Fauss, who died Friday, April 23, 2021. A memorial service was held in our sanctuary on May 22.
- ...Donna Furman in the death of her father, Donald Furman, who was 97. Donald died on Saturday, May 8, 2021.

Thank You...

Dear Church Family, During the past four months through my various health problems your beautiful cards, kind and loving calls, and other remembrances kept a smile on my face and joy in my heart. Your prayers, though, have meant the world to me. I felt God's healing hand through your prayers. It sustained me through the months which seemed longer than they actually were. Thank you each and every one. —Martha Douberly



Here's what 200 combined years of love, grace, and wisdom look like.

It was an honor to celebrate Mary Harper's 105th birthday on April 28, 2021, while also having Ann Carter (who just turned 95) present as well! What a gift to all of us!

Budget Year-to-Date at 5/20/21



DID YOU KNOW? You can give online at habchurch.com; then choose "Give."



Summer Sunday Schedule

From May 30 through Labor Day
we will resume our usual
summer schedule of one
combined service at 10:30 a.m.

Sunday Bible Study
will begin at 9:15.



Kitchen Korner

By Sharon Maszy

It is so appropriate that life is opening up for us; the restrictions of the last COVID-dominated year are slowly being lifted! We will soon be able to meet, study, worship, and maybe even sing together as a Body of Christ. It is appropriate because on the classic Christian calendar we have entered the second period of Ordinary Time, the season after Pentecost, following the Easter season. Ordinary Time does not mean routine or everyday (except this year we kind of hope it does). Instead, it refers to the “ordinal numbers” (first, second, third) used to count the Sundays, such as third Sunday after Pentecost. Advent and Lent are times of preparation. Christmas and Easter are times of celebration. Ordinary Times are times of action! At HAB, we are all ready for action, opening up our facilities, gathering in Sunday Bible Study classes, ministry with our youth and children, so much to look forward to in the coming weeks.

One night to look forward to is Wednesday, June 9. We will have our last Dinner on the Grounds until fall. The menu will feature shrimp and grits and yummy lemon squares, or maybe strawberry shortcake (to be determined). You do not want to miss this one! Make your reservations now!

Did you know there is a food item designated as a “National Day for”? June 9 is Strawberry-Rhubarb Pie Day. I admit I do not have a recipe for that one. But maybe you would like to observe one of these: June 7 is National Chocolate Ice Cream Day, June 12 National Peanut Butter Cookie Day (Claire has a great recipe for that), or June 25 National Catfish Day. There is not a lemon recipe honored in June, but I have a good old-fashioned one for lemon squares that you could make just to enjoy any day!

Lemon Squares

Preheat conventional oven to 300 degrees.

First Layer, Crust

1 ½ cups flour
½ cup brown sugar
½ cup butter

Cut ingredients together, as you would making pie crust, until it looks like cornmeal. Press in the bottom of a 9”x13” baking pan. Bake for 10-12 minutes. It does not bake long, just enough to get light brown.

Second Layer, Filling

Raise the oven temperature to 325 degrees.

2 eggs
1 ½ cups coconut
1 cup chopped pecans
½ teaspoon vanilla
2 Tablespoons flour
½ teaspoon baking powder
¼ teaspoon salt

Mix all ingredients together. Drop in dollops over the first layer and then spread evenly. Bake 20-25 minutes. It should turn a light golden brown.

Third Layer, Glaze

1 cup 10X sugar
1 Tablespoon melted butter
3 Tablespoons fresh lemon juice (one juicy lemon)

Mix glaze ingredients together. Drizzle over the baked filling while it is still hot.

Allow to cool. Cut into squares.





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