

# Hendricks Herald

HENDRICKS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH  
SEPTEMBER 2021



## Thank you, Laraine!

By Dr. B.J. Hutto, Pastor

Friends,

Think back: where were you 20 years ago? What were you doing? What was your world like? For some of us, certainly, our lives today might look similar to our lives then, but I suspect that, for many of us, our lives have changed significantly: births, deaths, moves, two-decades'-worth of transitions large and small. "The only constant in life is change," the Greek philosopher Heraclitus once said, but today I want to put forward that there might actually be *two things* that remain constant in our world: change...and Laraine Humbert.

For two decades now, in the midst of all of our lives' transitions—with us for the births and the deaths and everything else—Laraine has walked alongside the members of Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church as the Pastoral Assistant. Indeed, she's not only walked alongside us; she's also coordinated quite a bit of our ceremonies and celebrations and even blessed a number of them with her beautiful music as well. At the same time she's also done something else: she has continually kept this office, and this church, running smoothly, and—while outcomes may sometimes vary—she does her best to keep the rest of us on staff in line. ☺ Laraine not only works hard, she works with excellence. Whatever she's asked to do, she does well, and she always—*always*—does more than she's asked. She even edited this article! (*Author's note: Laraine did not add anything to this article. All compliments are original.*) The rest of us could not ask for a better colleague, and I for one remain continually grateful not just for how knowledgeable she is but, even beyond that, how very wise.

All of that, y'all already know. Laraine is a pillar of this church family. And here's something else that we all know: more important than any of the above, Laraine is also a good friend. She is patient and kind and warmhearted. She's quick to laugh and always ready listen if someone has something they need to talk about. She even sits patiently in staff meetings when the rest of us go off on long, drawn-out tangents about college sports (*Go, Eastern Illinois Panthers!*). And in just a few weeks, on and around September 16, we will all get to reciprocate that friendship by celebrating her twentieth anniversary at HAB. Twenty years is a long time—it's a long journey—but long journeys are made easier by having good company, and Laraine's been the best! We love you, Laraine; thank you so much for being you. We are so very blessed to have you as a part of our church and our lives!



Kindest regards,  
B.J.

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**B.J. Hutto**, Ph.D., Pastor • **Thomas M. Shapard**, D.P.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

# HENDRICKS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH CELEBRATES 75 YEARS! October 23-24, 2021



## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

HAB will celebrate its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary the weekend of October 23-24.

On **Saturday, October 23**, we will offer fun for all ages with three concurrent activities from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. on our campus:

- On our ball field, HACAA (Hendricks Avenue Community Athletic Association) will sponsor a Home Run Derby featuring all our HACAA coaches and a surprise first batter!
- A Fall Festival with games, inflatables, and food trucks will be held on the front lawn as our gift to the community for 75 years of love and support.
- *Reflection and Fellowship* will be held in the chapel, providing a time for you to share your special HAB memories and even enjoy some clips from HAB on Broadway.

On **Sunday, October 24**, we will hold a Campus Open House from 9:00-10:45 a.m., with displays of our history and church family displayed throughout the campus, including a new exhibit in the art gallery in the narthex. Worship will follow at 11:00. An outdoor luncheon will be held after worship.

We are grateful to have been a part of this wonderful community these 75 years! Come and celebrate with us October 23-24.



## Kill Them with Kindness

*By Rev. Claire Chinn, Minister of Children and Mission*

Growing up I constantly heard my parents tell me to “kill them with kindness.” When someone is being mean to you, be kind; when someone is leaving you out, be kind to them. Just be kind. Kindness is something we talk about a lot. We aspire to be kind people. If we are honest with ourselves, being kind is a little more difficult than we care to admit.

After a long day at work we might be a little more short-tempered with the person who didn't use on their turn signal. Or maybe after a long, ongoing pandemic we find ourselves just being more irritable. Being kind can be difficult when life is hard. Being kind sometimes feels like the last thing we can muster up when everything is going wrong.

Then I watched the Summer Olympics. As most of you know, I love sports, I love competition, and I love cheering for my beloved teams. But during this Olympics I found myself less captivated with the competition and more captivated by the kindness and humility I saw. It is something I hope our children saw as well.

Athletes that have put everything into this once-in-a-lifetime chance exhibited a remarkable show of humility and kindness. When a swimmer who just missed gold by the smallest of margins celebrates with the winner, humility and kindness are at work. When triathletes who have swum, biked, and run a grueling race stay at the finish line to cheer on their competitors, humility and kindness are at work.

In the face of defeat it is easy to walk away angry, sad, and discouraged. Being defeated on the largest stage is the making of an environment where being kind is very difficult to do. However, the Olympians time and again showed us that even in the hardest moments being humble and kind is possible. They showed us that celebrating another's victory can be a joyful moment. They showed us that waiting to celebrate or to console another who just lost is meaningful.

My parents were right. Being kind makes a world of difference. Facing defeat and sadness with kindness is not easy. It takes more than just “killing them with kindness.” Having the humility to be kind in the toughest of situations is a life that lives closer to Jesus; it is a life that is filled with joy.



## Little Friends Go Back to School!

*Julie Mason, Little Friends board chair*

Hard though it is to believe, Little Friends has opened for its fourth year under the HAB umbrella, and the children are back in school for the 2021 school year at the maximum capacity of 45. We are hoping to be licensed for 100 students in the near future.

The year started smoothly, the kiddos are delighted to be back in class, and the teachers are happy to see the smiling faces.

All of the resources that make Little Friends such an enriching place for the children are being brought back, after a stringent year of doing without. Chapel has begun again, as have music, physical education, and gardening. A wonderful addition is the new S.T.E.A.M. Lab, the exciting learning center that will replace the former media center/library.

The acronym S.T.E.A.M. stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics, and all of those subjects will be taught with hands-on experiences for the Little Friends students.

And speaking of the S.T.E.A.M. Lab, the conversion is moving right along, and we hope to host an open house the weekend of HAB's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary, October 23-24. The entire church will be invited to see the renovated facility and to see first-hand some of the things the children are learning.

### Little Friends Heroes:

**P. J. Burkhalter**, for bringing his equipment to clear the media center. **Charlotte Haines**, for all her help with the redesign of the new S.T.E.A.M. Lab. **Dora and David Orr** for single-handedly (whoops, double-handedly) painting the entire S.T.E.A.M. Lab and attached workroom.



**To Dream Dreams, Part 3**, will appear in next month's Herald...

*By Dr. Tommy Shapard, Minister of Music and Worship*



## Dinner on the Grounds

**What:** Dinner on the Grounds

**When:** Wednesday, September 8, at 5:30 p.m.

**Where:** Outside between gym & E wing

**Who:** Children, youth, & adults

Reservations are required by Sunday, September 5, by contacting Laraine at [laraine@habchurch.com](mailto:laraine@habchurch.com) or 904-396-7745, ext. 333. Menu: Poppseed chicken, rice, green beans, chocolate delight. Cost: Adults \$8,

children \$4, immediate family maximum \$19. You can pay online at [habchurch.com](http://habchurch.com); then choose "Give" and then "Donate."

### Youth & Children's Activities Also Resume Wednesday, September 8!!!

In addition to Dinner on the Grounds on September 8, we will also resume children's and youth Wednesday night activities.



### Where in the World Is HAB?

(And where is the world are the pictures? Keep looking throughout this issue of the *Herald*.)





## From the Church Mouse

It's been a busy summer of traveling for the HAB family. A lot of us finally got to take that COVID-delayed vacation. The most amazing, exciting one must be **Janet Metcalf's** trip. In August she and her granddaughter, **Lauren Metcalf**, shared the pilgrimage to Santiago de Compostela in Spain. The Camino de Santiago (the Way of St. James) is a large network of ancient pilgrim routes stretching across Europe and coming together at the tomb of St. James (Santiago in Spanish) in Santiago de Compostela in northwest Spain. Thousands of people choose to do this walk every year on their own or in a group. Walking the Way is a meditative, spiritual journey that has challenged pilgrims since the year 814.

The actor Daniel Radcliffe, best known for Harry Potter, said, "When I go back to school everyone asks a lot of questions. Then, after about a week, when I've answered everything, we get back to normal." HAB is almost "back to normal" with so much school news. **Justin Weise** is now head coach of middle-school football at The Episcopal School of Jacksonville. Go, Eagles!

**Justin and Chelsea's daughter, Maddie**, preached at chapel on August 18 at Episcopal. Recalling her sermon at HAB on Youth Sunday, we're sure she shared a wonderful message. **Hannah Gray** is at University of Florida. **Hailey Hartle** is also at UF in Gainesville. And **Trent Gautney** will also be at UF doing graduate studies. Go, Gators! **Anna Mayo** is in New York City at Fordham University; last year was all virtual so it must be very exciting to finally get to BE there. **Hannah Reese** is starting her graduate studies this fall at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island.

**Brian and Sarah Cooke** welcomed their twin boys into this world on July 22, 2021. They are beautiful boys, **Salem Brian** and **Dean Allen**. **Logan** is the twins' big brother, and **Suzanne Jenkins** is the proud grandmother!

The Mouse has more HAB extended family baby news. **Bob and Ann Tomlin** have a new great-grandniece. Sidney Jordan Green, 6 lbs., 19 inches, joined this lovely family on August 12. Her precious parents are Ashley and Jordan Green of Clayton, Georgia. Ashley's dad is the mayor of Clayton!

**Chelsea Wiese's** sister, Casey Kimbro, delivered her miracle baby, Cove Kimbro, 8 lbs. 13 oz., on July 31. Casey and Caleb were told they would never have children! The Mouse could quote Scripture, but let's just say God is so good!

Everyone, celebrate! **Tom Rosamond** is happy to report that he and his family celebrated his **90th** birthday in St. Augustine! The proof is in the picture →

Another celebration: **Mary Ann and Dean Denmark** marked their 67<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on August 28, 2021. What an amazing milestone! It reminds the Mouse how many couples have August anniversaries. When we used to recognize anniversaries on Wednesday nights eight to 10 couples would come up. Seek out those couples, recognize them for the love they share, the families they have nurtured, and the faith they have exemplified!

Congratulations to **Susan Howell**, who is the new chair of the board of directors for The Towers of Jacksonville. Many thanks to **Robert Kermitz**, outgoing chair, for his service and commitment to the Towers.

**Susan Howell; Debbie Hagan; Karla, Matthew, & Lucas Repper;** and **Karl Kronquist** witnessed the baptism of Avery Gackle, daughter of Kay & Greg Gackle. Avery was baptized by her dad in the ocean at Crescent Beach.

The Mouse read a great definition this week for wisdom. "Knowledge is knowing a tomato is a fruit. Wisdom is knowing not to put it in a fruit salad."

Your HAB Church Mouse



E-mail the Mouse at [churchmouse@habchurch.com](mailto:churchmouse@habchurch.com) so your church family can celebrate the joys, milestones, and special recognitions in your life!

# WELCOME

## NEW MEMBERS

We are happy to welcome **Pam and Drew Thomas** to HAB! Pam and Drew joined our family of faith on August 1, coming from Tabernacle Baptist Church in Raleigh, North Carolina. They have just recently moved to Jacksonville and are living at Westminster Woods. Drew is a retired Baptist minister, and both he and Pam are PKs (preacher's kids). Interestingly, they learned about HAB from Randall Lolley, who was formerly our interim pastor.

Pam and Drew, welcome to HAB!



### Sympathy to...

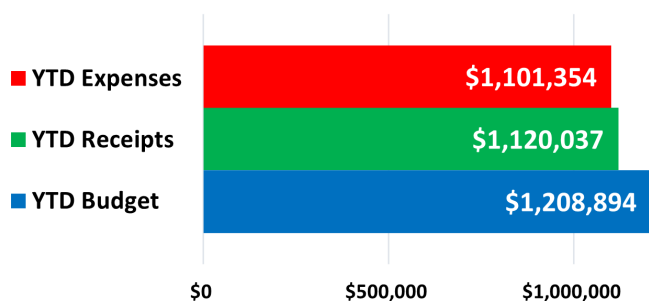
...Nita Blackstock in the death of her husband R.T. on July 29, 2021. If you'd like to send Nita a card, her address is P. O. Box 1046, Penney Farms, FL 32079.

### Congratulations to...

...Sarah & Brian Cooke on the birth of their twin boys, Salem Brian and Dean Allen, on July 22, 2021. Logan is the big brother, and Suzanne Jenkins is the proud grandmother.



### Budget Year-to-Date at 8/13/2021



**DID YOU KNOW?** You can give online at [habchurch.com](http://habchurch.com); Choose "Donate" and then choose "Give."

## Kitchen Korner

By Sharon Maszy

Remember eating at your grandma's table? My mom's mom had a little café in Tulsa, Oklahoma. All the aunts, uncles, and cousins got together for family dinners at the café. Lucille's would be considered a

classic now, a counter and stools, booths upholstered in Naugahyde, and one of those little square boxes on each table connected to the juke box. The menu was never a surprise, fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, biscuits, and cake and pie. It was good, homemade food and loving, warm company. An interesting coincidence, Gene's maternal grandmother had a little café, too, in Joplin, Missouri.

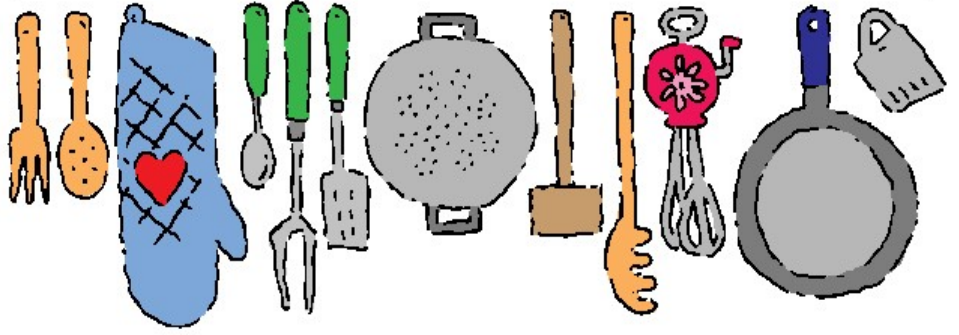
On Wednesday, September 8, we will be starting our Wednesday night fellowship meals with a Dinner on the Grounds. And that's the plan at HAB for our first Wednesday night back, too, good comfort food and lots of warm, loving HAB family with whom to enjoy it. Mark your calendars now for dinner at 5:30 p.m. on September 8. **Please make reservations with Laraine (904-396-7745, ext. 333) by Sunday, September 5.**

Spoiler alert...there may be some surprises in store for our future Wednesday nights that you don't want to miss. Stay tuned for a delicious reveal.

Soup is a favorite at our house. Recently, because of a dental problem, we had soup for dinner eight nights in a row! We discovered a new favorite brand of prepared soup, Organic *Imagine*, found at Publix. Gene often added a little extra something to make the soup even more tasty—sautéed onions, celery, or mushrooms, maybe a little grated cheddar or parmesan. With fall coming and the busy school year upon us, I thought a nice, homemade soup prepared in the slow cooker might be appealing.

### Healthy Broccoli Soup

- 1 Tablespoon olive oil
- ½ cup celery, diced
- 2 teaspoons garlic, minced
- ½ cup carrots, diced
- ½ cup onions, diced
- 3 cups broccoli florets, about ½ pound
- 2 cups Yukon gold potatoes, about ½ pound, peeled and diced into one-inch cubes
- ½ teaspoon salt
- ½ teaspoon pepper
- 3 cups chicken broth (preferably homemade)
- ½ cup milk



1 ½ cups grated Colby Jack cheese

Optional for serving: chopped green onions, bacon crumbles, more cheese

Sauté the carrots, celery, and onions in the olive oil. Add the garlic and sauté for about two more minutes until fragrant.

Put the sautéed vegetables in the slow cooker. Stir in the potatoes, salt, pepper, broccoli, and chicken broth. Cook on low for six hours or on high for four hours.

Add the milk. Puree using an immersion blender or spoon into a regular blender. Blend until you like the consistency, chunky or completely smooth. (Be very careful blending hot liquids. Vent the blender as you puree the soup.)

Add the cheese a ½ cup at a time, stirring between additions to prevent clumping.

Garnish with the cheese, onion, and/or bacon and serve.





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