



## Summer's Upon Us!

(And soon, so will be the question, "Where in the World Is HAB?")

by B.J. Hutto, Senior Pastor

Friends,

Even as I write you, the days seem to insist on growing warmer and longer—as does my lawn, unfortunately—which can only mean that summer is just around the corner! For many, this season will mean a change of pace—the end of the school year; the promise of vacations; opportunities for rest, recreation, and perhaps some travel near or far. Whether your summer plans involve adventurous trips, quiet staycations, family gatherings, or simply enjoying the beauty right here in and around Jacksonville,

we pray God's blessings over your time. May it be a season of refreshment, joy, and deepening connection with God and loved ones!

We will have a full life here at HAB this summer—so keep an eye out for opportunities to plug in!—but we also know that summer can easily take us in all different directions. Still, even when we are physically apart, we remain connected as a church family. And one wonderful way we can bridge the distance and continue to share in each other's lives is through pictures! As you embark on your summer adventures—whether it's exploring a national park, visiting family across the country, relaxing at the beach, or discovering a hidden gem in our own area—we invite you to capture those moments and share them with your church family. Take your "Where in the World Is HAB?" drawing with you (available in the narthex), hold it up when you take your photograph, and smile! Then tag us in it on social media or email it to [laraine@habchurch.com](mailto:laraine@habchurch.com). We'd love to compile them and share them across social media in order to celebrate the diverse ways our members are experiencing God's beautiful world and enjoying this season.

Furthermore, summer travels sometimes offer the unique opportunity to experience worship in a different setting. If your journeys give you the opportunity to visit another church—whether in a distant city or back home with family—we would love for you to bring back any materials they offer. Items like their weekly bulletin or order of worship, visitor information cards, newsletters, or pamphlets about their ministries can offer fascinating insights into how other congregations share the good news, welcome newcomers, and serve their communities. So please bring any such items back with you! Seeing how different faith communities operate can spark new ideas, affirm things we do well, and potentially help us grow in our own mission and ministry here. It's a simple way to glean wisdom and inspiration from our brothers and sisters in Christ elsewhere.

Friends, have a blessed summer! May God bless you all with a season filled with peace, joy, safe travels, and memorable moments. We look forward to hearing about your adventures, seeing your photos, and learning from the experiences you share!

Kind regards,  
B.J.

# Hendricks Herald

HENDRICKS AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH

MAY 2025



**Macaiden Weise**

Episcopal School of Jacksonville



## Baccalaureate Sunday

**June 1 at 11:00 a.m.**

If you or someone you know is graduating from high school, college, or graduate school—or has achieved any other professional certification or training—please contact Laraine at [laraine@habchurch.com](mailto:laraine@habchurch.com) or 904-396-7745, ext. 103, so that we can invite them to take part and list their names in the order of worship.

## Vacation Bible School

**June 9-13**

**9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.**

**YOUR HELP IS NEEDED  
FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!**

The theme is “*Surf’s Up! Strength when the waves get rough.*” We can’t have VBS without volunteers, so please contact Chelsea at [children@habchurch.com](mailto:children@habchurch.com) to help.





*Chelsea Weise, Director of  
Children and Community Life*

**Scenes from Children's /  
Little Friends Sunday &  
Easter Eggstravaganza**



As you wrap up another school year, I just want to say how proud I am of you! You've learned new things, faced challenges, and kept going—even when it was tough. That takes courage and heart.

Remember, God has been with you every step of the way, and he will continue to guide you as you grow. Keep being kind, curious, and brave. Enjoy your summer—you've earned it! Be on the lookout for our summer calendar soon!

Love, Mrs. Chelsea





## News of Our Church Family

### Sympathy to...

...the family and friends of Jim Smith, who died Monday, March 24, 2025. Jim's service was April 25 in our sanctuary, followed by a reception in the fellowship hall.

...Jack & Elizabeth Spradley in the death of Jack's father, W.J. "Buddy" Spradley, on Sunday, April 6, 2025. The graveside service was April 14 at Campbell-Harmony Church Cemetery, Greenville, Florida.

### Thank You...

Thank you for your support and kindness to my sister, Sandra Hurst, during her lengthy illness. The cards, phone calls, visits, and words of encouragement kept her going, and my family and I are very grateful.—  
With love and gratitude, Judy Baggett

Thank you for all of the prayers, cards, calls, visits, texts, and expressions of Christian love for David, me, and our family during his last months of sickness and his passing in March. It has comforted and blessed us. Thank you. I cannot seem to find words to thank you all. David and I also wanted to thank you for sharing the "angel walker" from the church. It allowed David to get stronger and improve with dignity.—Elaine Galloway

Thank you to all in my church family who reached out with kind words and expressions of sympathy in the passing of my husband, Dave DeVries. It meant a lot to me and my family.—Marilyn DeVries



**Aleesha Gray** joined HAB on March 23, 2025. Stay tuned for an article about her in next month's *Herald*. In the meantime, give her a warm HAB welcome when you see her!



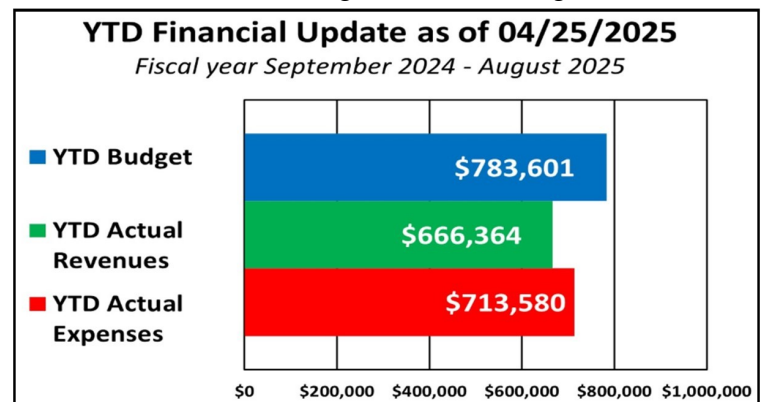
**IWS NEEDS YOU!** Would you consider welcoming a student into your home for the week of June 18-25? No transportation or meals are required. They also need people to serve in the following capacities: library, supervising and staffing the meal stands (breakfast, lunch, and dinner), greeting, ushering, and so on. Please click on this link [bit.ly/48FvxPI](https://bit.ly/48FvxPI) or scan the QR code to fill out the volunteer form. Or reach out to [office@iws.edu](mailto:office@iws.edu) or [Oluwatayo.loyede@iws.edu](mailto:Oluwatayo.loyede@iws.edu).



## Senior Adult Luncheon by Joe Stepp, Diaconate Chair

A sensational Senior Adult Luncheon was enjoyed by over 70 folks on Sunday, April 13! Entering a beautifully decorated pink & red fellowship hall to the piano playing of Lee Turner, HAB seniors were served a delicious meal, were entertained with love songs by Amy & Eric Quinn, enjoyed some remarks & door prize gifts by Debbie Hagan, and embraced wonderful fellowship with our church family—all in just two hours!

"You Gotta Have Heart" was lavishly done by our HAB deacons, who each generously shared their God-given gifts with us. Special thanks to Jackie Brann, Becky Sullivan, and Teri Higgs for the theme & decorations; Trent Fisher and kitchen crew for a fabulous food extravaganza; Debbie Hagan and Sharon Maszy for the program; food servers and Jon Yost for the clean-up crew. Thanks to all who came, participated, and enjoyed a class event!





### May 7

Company chicken  
Rice  
Green beans almondine  
Apple cobbler

## JOIN US FOR WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER!

You're invited to join us each Wednesday for a wonderful meal (that you don't have to cook!) and great fellowship. Please make reservations by Monday each week by contacting Laraine at [laraine@habchurch.com](mailto:laraine@habchurch.com) or 904-396-7745, ext. 103. Adults are \$12, children \$8, and immediate family maximum \$30. Children's menu is chicken nuggets and fries. Please specify adult or children's meal when making reservations. If you'd like a permanent reservation, let us know; then we'd just ask

### May 14

Eye of round  
Loaded potato casserole, broccoli  
Chocolate marble cake

### May 21

Meatloaf with special sauce  
Mashed potatoes, lima beans  
Carrot cake w/cream cheese icing

### May 28

Hamburgers  
Hot dogs  
Fries  
Condiments & toppings  
Dessert

All meals include a dinner roll and salad, plus tea, peach tea, lemonade, coffee, or water.

# HAB NIGHT WITH THE JUMBO SHRIMP

## FRIDAY, MAY 23 - 7:05 P.M.

- Come join the fun!
- Tickets are only \$20 (food not included).
- Game starts at 7:05 p.m.
- Please reserve your ticket(s) by Friday, May 9, by contacting [britt@habchurch.com](mailto:britt@habchurch.com)



### By Debbie Crumb, Mission Team Leader

The church has a new mission partner—[Jacksonville YoungLives](http://JacksonvilleYoungLives.com). YoungLives exists for expectant and parenting adolescents to grow in faith, grow in life, and grow in leadership. The ministry offers mentorship, educational support, and spiritual guidance to help youth navigate life challenges, build resilience, and develop a strong sense of purpose. All this is done by offering fun, but life-changing, experiences.

YoungLives representatives, including volunteers, donors, board members, and staff, go where the girls are by visiting schools, hospitals, and foster homes. The focus is particularly on those girls that are in vulnerable situations such as poverty, neglect, or social isolation. Many of the girls have heartbreaking stories and need positive people around them to show love.

**How can you help?** YoungLives needs *volunteers* to help provide food for monthly clubs, provide childcare for monthly clubs, and mentors to meet consistently with teen moms and pour love into them. If you are not able to volunteer, you may wish to consider a *one-time or ongoing financial donation*. The current goal of YoungLives is to have 30 people give \$30 a month.

If you would like to get involved, please contact Chelsea Weise at [children@habchurch.com](mailto:children@habchurch.com). As most of you know, Chelsea Weise is not only the HAB's Director of Children and Community Life, but is also the area director for Jacksonville YoungLives. You can also give online at [giving.younglife.org/chelseaweise](http://giving.younglife.org/chelseaweise).



## From the Church Mouse

Good Day to you! And a fond hello from your HAB Church Mouse! Do I have some news for you this month! Thanks to those of you who emailed me or sent me messages; there are some interesting features to read about.

**Ann Carter** celebrated her **99th birthday** on April 15. Several of her friends dropped by to give her hugs. Members of our church showered her with birthday cards to help with the celebration. That's quite a milestone, Ann, 99—not very many folks reach this landmark event!

**Daniel DeLong**, son of **Kim & Frank DeLong** and grandson of **Sylvia McQuaig**, has been selected for a prestigious summer internship with the Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program in Pediatric Prosthetics at Limbitless Solutions, University of Central Florida. Daniel was chosen from an impressive pool of over 375 applicants for one of just 10 available positions. Congratulations, **Daniel**!



Our own pastor, **B.J. Hutto**, joined other faith leaders across Jacksonville in building a house with HabiJax, a part of Habitat for Humanity, during Leaders Week 2025. B.J. was featured in a video highlight of the project which you can view on the HabiJax Facebook page. We want to send out a special “Thank You” to all of the faith leaders who participated in this project.

**Debbie Crumb** and **Julie Babcock** were seen in B.J.'s awesome Bible study comparing their new “glitter sneakers.” Which



ones do you think shine the most? Looks like neither of these ladies are bashful about their footwear. I wonder if I could find some of those glitter sneakers small enough to fit me!

**Sylvia McQuaig** is excited to let us know about her new great-grandson, **Wyatt James Bellinrath**, born a month early on January 16. As you can see from this picture, he has caught up! His proud parents are **Bradley & Sarah Bellinrath**, and his grandmother is **Rae Avery**.



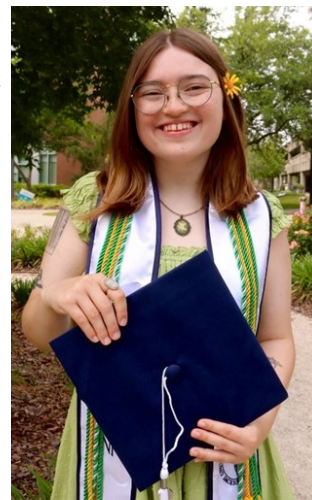
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(Church Mouse, *continued*)

**Macaiden Weise won the FHSAA State Championship in weightlifting!!!** Representing Episcopal High School, Macaiden lifted well over 300 lbs. to take the title! Congratulations on such a fantastic win!

**Kate Rogers**, granddaughter of **Eleanor Rogers** and daughter of **Susan & Kevin Rogers**, was selected **Student of the Year at UNF**. This was part of her speech when accepting the award: "A few years ago, I didn't know who I was or where I belonged, but now, I do. I belong in the woods. I belong in gardens, on trails. I belong in spaces where curiosity & wonder can thrive, and most of all, I belong in this work: work that protects, teaches, and constantly shows us that Earth is not just a place we live, but something we are deeply a part of. So, here's to the bees & wildflowers, to mentors & muddy shoes, to forests that hold our hearts, and to the trails that lead us home. May they be wild, meaningful, and full of life."

I, your lowly Church Mouse, had a bright



idea! 💡 Any time one of you misplaces something at church, like leaving your jacket 🧥 or glasses 🕶️ or umbrella ☂️ or keys 🗝️, call the church office. You would be surprised what we find around here! I was hoping for some cheese 🧀 but no such luck! Well, that's about it for now. See you next month!

If you know of events that need to be celebrated (yours or others'), please email the Church Mouse at [churchmouse@habchurch.com](mailto:churchmouse@habchurch.com) so your church family can rejoice in these milestones and special recognitions!



### A Word from Little Friends

By Alyson Lee, Board Chair

Children's Sunday on April 6: It was AWESOME! FABULOUS! OVERWHELMINGLY SPECIAL AND MEANINGFUL! Hearing those precious little ones sing (and watching them wave to family members—too cute!) and hearing our HAB kiddos read Scripture and pray—just too ADORABLE!!! The worship service was overflowing with parents, siblings, and grandparents, all of whom were beaming with pride. Many thanks to the HAB attendees who welcomed our visitors with love and welcoming hugs. Kudos and many thanks to Little Friends director, Amy Love, and Chelsea Weise, HAB's Director of Children and Community Life, who put together a truly lovely worship service.

While I am passing out kudos, let me thank B.J. Hutto who, while leading our weekly



Little Friends students performing at Douglas Anderson School of the Arts

Little Friends chapel, brought the family pup, Archie, to join the experience. Our Little Friends children were delighted with Archie (they liked B.J. too...). Again, as a writer, I try not to state the obvious, but I will break that rule also: HAB is such a SPECIAL, SPECIAL place. Thanks to all of you for making HAB so wonderful.





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As we travel throughout the year, let's remember that the work of HAB continues. Please take advantage of online giving to continue supporting our ministries. Or, **before you go, set up a recurring gift** so that you won't have to remember! It's easy!

Go to [bit.ly/HABGiving](https://bit.ly/HABGiving) or scan this QR code:



VISIT [habchurch.com](https://habchurch.com)  
for more information.

IN THIS ISSUE:

**Summer's upon Us!**  
**Our High School Graduate**  
**Baccalaureate Sunday**  
**Vacation Bible School**  
**Children's Ministry**  
**News of Our Church Family**  
**New Member**  
**Kitchen News**  
**HAB at Jumbo Shrimp**  
**Mission Update**  
**Church Mouse**

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**Chelsea Weise**, B.C.E., Director of Children & Community Life • **Laraine Humbert**, B.M.E., Pastoral Assistant  
**Darrell Mitchell**, M.B.A., Financial Manager • **H. Kendell Smith**, Dip.C.M., Minister of Music Emeritus