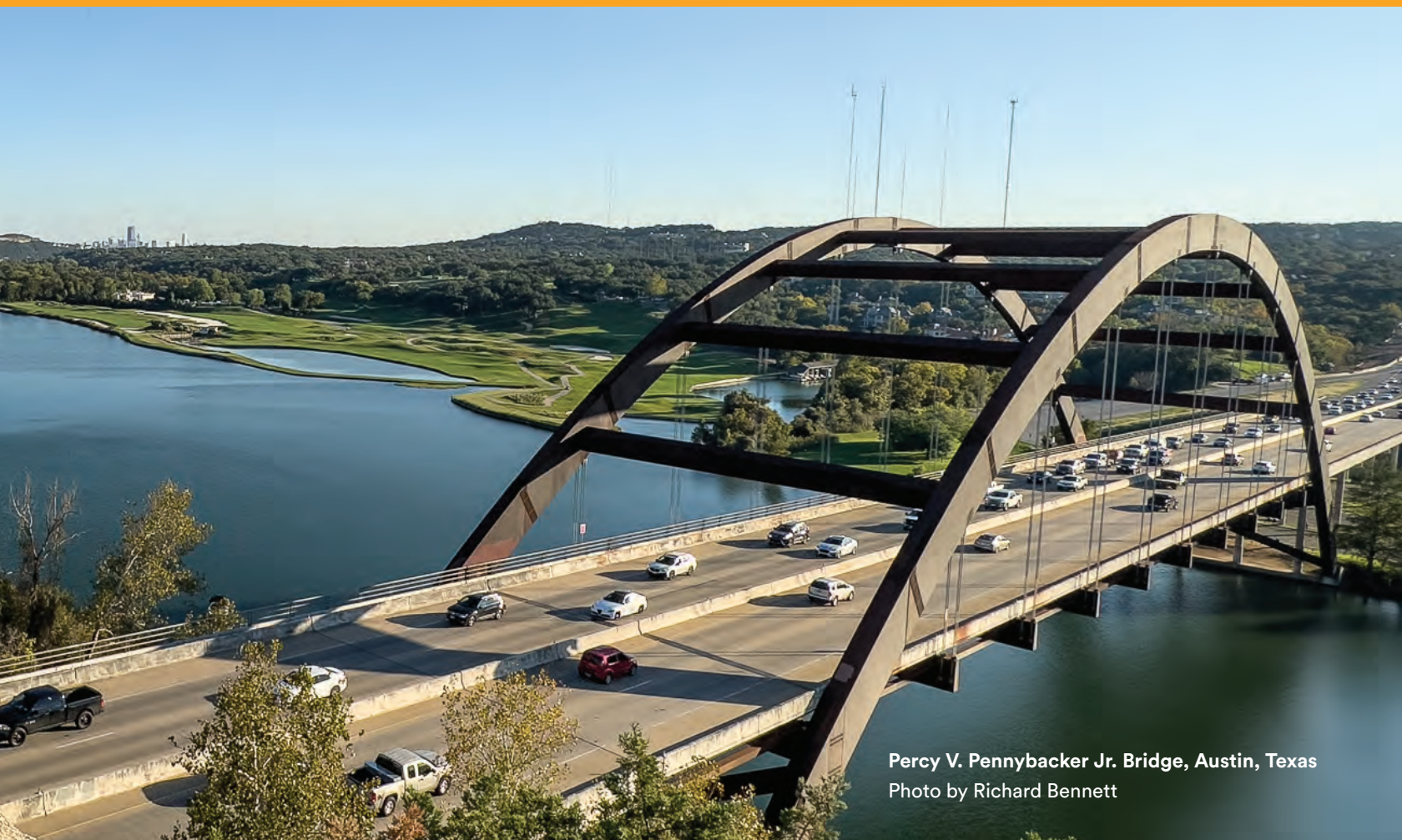


The BRIDGE

A PUBLICATION OF AUSTIN BAPTIST CHURCH



Percy V. Pennybacker Jr. Bridge, Austin, Texas
Photo by Richard Bennett

VOL. 18 NO. 36 ————— OCTOBER 1, 2025



**AUSTIN BAPTIST
CHURCH**

LET THERE BE LIGHT

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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

ABC Family,

Acts 1:8, “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” Jesus had a clear vision for his disciples. He said his followers will become his witnesses, and they will multiply themselves across the earth. What began with 120 faithful believers in the upper room of Acts chapter one, has now become a movement of two billion professing Christians across the globe.

This was accomplished through multiplication. This Sunday I’m going to begin a new sermon series titled, “Multiply: How God Can Advance His Mission Through Us.” For the next few weeks, we will see how God wants each of us to make more disciples and expand his Kingdom even farther. In conjunction with this sermon series, October will be themed as our “Missions Month.” Every Sunday you will hear a report of some of the wonderful ministries we partner with as a church locally, nationally, and globally. This month we are also training our adults in interpersonal evangelism through our Bible Fellowship Groups at 10am.

I encourage you to come expectantly and learn how God can use you to advance his mission right here in Austin and beyond. Lastly, don’t forget our Egypt Bible Tour is now open for registration: www.austinbaptistchurch.com/egypt. Come experience the trip of a lifetime and get a glimpse of what God is doing through our church’s partnership with tC Egypt. I’ll host an informational meeting Sunday, October 19th, at 12:30pm in the Chapel for any who would like to learn more.

Onward and Upward,

DR. JONATHAN SPENCER

SENIOR PASTOR





UPCOMING SERIES

Missions Month: Multiply

How God Advances His Mission Through Us

DEACONS ON CALL

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29, 2025



Dale Hefner

512-762-9969

DALE HEFNER is a graduate of the University of Texas at Austin with a BBA in Finance. He is experienced in accounting, finance, banking, and commercial real estate, including 19 years at Dell. He and Kim have a daughter, Alex, who, with husband Drew, has given them three grandchildren: Finley, Beckett, and Campbell. They are charter members of ABC.



Ethan Wood

512-695-4297

ETHAN WOOD earned a bachelor's degree in Economics from the University of Texas at Austin. He is employed by Dell Technologies as a marketing executive. Born in Houston and raised in Bellaire, he and Meredith are the proud parents of Bennett, Presley, and Jack. They joined ABC in 2011.

CHURCHWIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2025



Emerson Knowles



Shawn Few



**Mark & Lisa
Leyva**



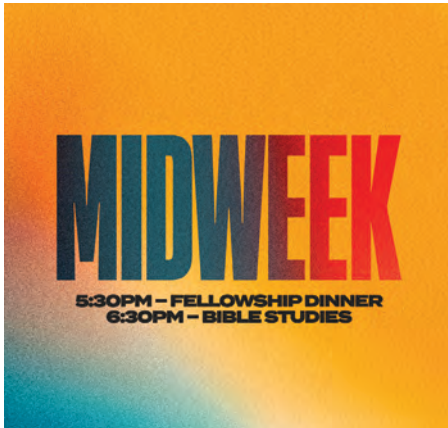
Beth Moravec

UPCOMING EVENTS



For all event and weekly activity information, please visit
austinbaptistchurch.com/EVENTS

WEEKLY REMINDERS



MIDWEEK MENU

NEXT WEEK'S MENU
OCTOBER 1

COST: \$10 per person;
\$5 for kids' meal (12 & under)

Grilled chicken, mashed potatoes, corn,
bread rolls, and salad bar

Please note that Midweek dinner will now be served in the Café.
Seating for dinner will still be in The Great Hall until 6:30pm.



Egypt Medical Mission Trip

SEPTEMBER 18-29, 2025

Hey Church Family,

This past week, ABC sent a group of 10 folks to serve with our friends in tC Egypt and tC Fayoum. We served in a medical clinic that had not seen service in the community in a long time. This free medical clinic in the village of Sinnuris served over 550 clients (not including the dozens of children who attended). Beyond that, we served in the Baptist Church in Fayoum with the Children/Teens Ministry, in Work & Faith Seminars, in the Addiction Recovery Houses, and in Faith Development Seminars that served well over 200 people on the tC Fayoum campus in the Name of Jesus.

Our trip was incredibly fruitful, and deeply grateful for the support from ABC that enabled us to go and serve to the ends of the earth! Please continue to pray for our friends at tC Fayoum and with tC Egypt. The Lord has amazing things ahead for them, and we're grateful to partner with them on the journey.

In Christ's Love

DR. MATT GILLUM
EXECUTIVE PASTOR





Singing Men of Texas Baltic Mission Trip

SEPTEMBER 15-26, 2025

Thank you for praying for our Singing Men of Texas Baltic Sea Mission Trip! Eddie Cox and I had a wonderful experience sharing the Gospel through song and testimony in Sweden, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, and Poland. The churches and people were gracious, kind, and very appreciative of our ministry. Many said that our music was “a healing balm for their souls.” We presented eight concerts in eight days, ministering in several churches, a Christian University, and two Philharmonic Orchestra Centers.

Evangelist Michael Gott (MGI.GLOBAL) organized our trip and preached the gospel in each of our concerts. As a result of your

prayers and the prayers of many others, we registered 1,134 people who responded positively to the Gospel. Many were first-time decisions, and others were for rededication to Christ. Praise the Lord and to God be the glory!

We are grateful to ABC for your support and prayers as the Lord moved in many hearts, even our own, during our trip to the Baltics. I’m also grateful to Garrett Ullrich for leading worship, and to my wife Sonya Stearns for leading choir rehearsing while I was away.

DR. TODD F. STEARNS
WORSHIP PASTOR

[CLICK HERE TO SEE THE PERFORMANCE](#)

Southwestern A Cappella Choir



The Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary A Cappella Choir will lead in worship with us this Sunday, October 5th, in both services. This vocal ensemble desires to point others to Christ through music and worship. Their high energy and passionate singing inspire audiences wherever they go.



ABC Women's Ministry

WHERE EVERYONE HAS A SEAT AT THE TABLE

Hello ladies!

I am excited to invite you to a free workshop being hosted at ABC on a topic every mom can relate to: Mom Guilt. Whether you're raising littles or navigating the teen years, we've all felt it. If you're not yet a mom or you have already raised your children to adulthood, please pass this information on to the moms you know; this workshop is open to all moms.

Our friend Lindsey Werner, a licensed professional counselor and one of our ABC favorites, will guide us through the following topics:

- The driving expectations moms carry
- The neuroscience of motherhood
- Practical strategies to minimize mom guilt

And the best part? Thanks to our partnership with MomQ, this workshop is completely *free*! Just register using [this link](#) so we know you're coming.

Sunday, October 5th | 4:30–6:00 pm

You'll leave refreshed, encouraged, and equipped with Biblical wisdom and practical tools to release guilt and embrace God's grace. Plus, it's a wonderful opportunity to connect with other moms who understand the journey.

Woven in His Grace,

ANITA MCGINNIS
WOMEN'S MINISTER





Mom Guilt Workshop

Find Freedom & Confidence in Christ

Featured Speaker

Special Guests



Lindsey Werner
Licensed Professional Counselor,
Founder of Relational Equipping



Anita McGinnis
Women's Minister,
Austin Baptist Church



Candace Nassar
MomQ Founder &
Executive Director

Motherhood is beautiful, but guilt can weigh us down. This workshop will equip you with biblical wisdom and practical tools to release guilt and embrace God's grace.

We will be discussing topics such as: Driving Expectations, The Neuroscience of Motherhood, Strategies to Minimize Mom Guilt.

Sunday, October 5th | 4:30-6:00 PM
Austin Baptist Church
7016 Ribelin Ranch Dr, Austin, TX 78750

Free Event – All Moms Welcome!

Operation Christmas Child Packing Party September 24, 2025



Parent-Child Dedication

September 28, 2025



WEEK IN REVIEW

From the Pages of Bill's Notebook



I hate to admit it, but I enjoy an old movie called *The Three Amigos*. In one of the scenes, the three friends are riding their horses across the desert. They are all parched, hot and dry as a chip, and obviously in need of water. So, they stop and get out their canteens. Lucky Day turns his canteen up and one little drop of water comes out. Ned Nederlander opens his canteen, turns it up and only sand comes out. Dusty Bottoms opens his canteen, puts it to his mouth and water gushes

out soaking his mouth and clothes. The other two turn to him hoping he will share just a little drop with them. Dusty, however, is oblivious to their need or their desperate stares and proceeds to not only gulp down the liquid, but spill it all over himself, gargle it, swish it around his mouth then spit it out. When he has had all the water he wants, he throws the canteen into the sand, and the rest of the water pours out all over the ground. He then blissfully pulls out some chapstick and coats his lips. Finally, he notices his friends' woeful stares and offers them some lip balm, a sad consolation for the other two who were desperate for some water.

Sometimes we believers are like this. We have the living water of Jesus. We are refreshed and enjoying His blessings, but we can sometimes be totally oblivious to those around us who are spiritually parched. We enjoy worship and studying God's Word. We enjoy the Christian fellowship of the body of Christ, but we sometimes forget how refreshing God's love for us is and we don't share it with those who need it most. The writer of Proverbs says, "Like cold water to a weary soul is good news from a distant land" (Proverbs 25:25 NIV). We have the best news ever, the Good News that God loves us all and sent His Son to rescue us. The next time you are enjoying Jesus, look around to see who else needs to enjoy Him too.

Hang in there people. God is glad to be with us. I'm praying for us all.

In His Joy,

BILL MCGINNIS

PASTOR OF CARE





ABC Library

Check out the ABC Library Catalog on our website by clicking on *Resources* on the ABC Homepage Menu. At the bottom of the drop-down list, click on *Austin Baptist Church Library* and then click *Visit Library*. The library homepage appears with a scroll bar at the top with pictures of our new books. If you click on the picture of a book, information about that book will pop up. You can also search the online catalog from this page by typing in the author's name or the title of the book you are looking for in the Search box that is on the left top corner of the page.

Below are some of the books recently added to the ABC Library. You can also visit us at austinbaptistchurch.com/library!



CONTACT: Rita Ervin

Email library@austinbaptistchurch.com

or visit us online at austinbaptistchurch.com/LIBRARY

LIBRARY HOURS

SUNDAYS - 9:45AM-11:15AM

WEDNESDAYS - 5:00PM-7:30PM

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAM: austinbaptistchurch.com/WATCH

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP GROUPS: austinbaptistchurch.com/BFG

ABC PODCASTS: austinbaptistchurch.com/PODCASTS

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD’S FAITHFULNESS

ATTENDANCE09.28.2025

8:45 AM WORSHIP	643
11:15 AM WORSHIP	354
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP	757

FINANCIAL REPORT09.28.2025

ACCOUNT	SEPT. 28, 2025	YTD
GENERAL FUND	\$72,918.54	\$4,033,104.50
DESIGNATED	\$2,027.00	\$118,102.40
LIGHT THE WAY - COMBINED	\$45,814.00	\$1,591,183.82
TOTAL GIVING	\$120,759.54	\$5,742,390.72
MISSION OFFERING	TOTAL	GOAL
MARY HILL DAVIS	\$14,536.90	\$15,000

JOIN US SUNDAY FOR WORSHIP!

8:45 AM | Choir-led Worship

10:00 AM | Bible Fellowship Groups

11:15 AM | Band-led Worship

HAVE A QUESTION OR NEED PRAYER?

CONTACT US!

ABC CHURCH OFFICE

Call **512.491.9600** or visit **austinbaptistchurch.com/TEAM**

ABC PRAYER TEAM

Email Bill McGinnis at **billm@austinbaptistchurch.com**

FOR PUBLICATION CONSIDERATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Mariah Parker, Director of Communications

- **EMAIL:** **mariahp@austinbaptistchurch.com**
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Please submit articles and items for The Bridge by the Friday BEFORE publication.



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