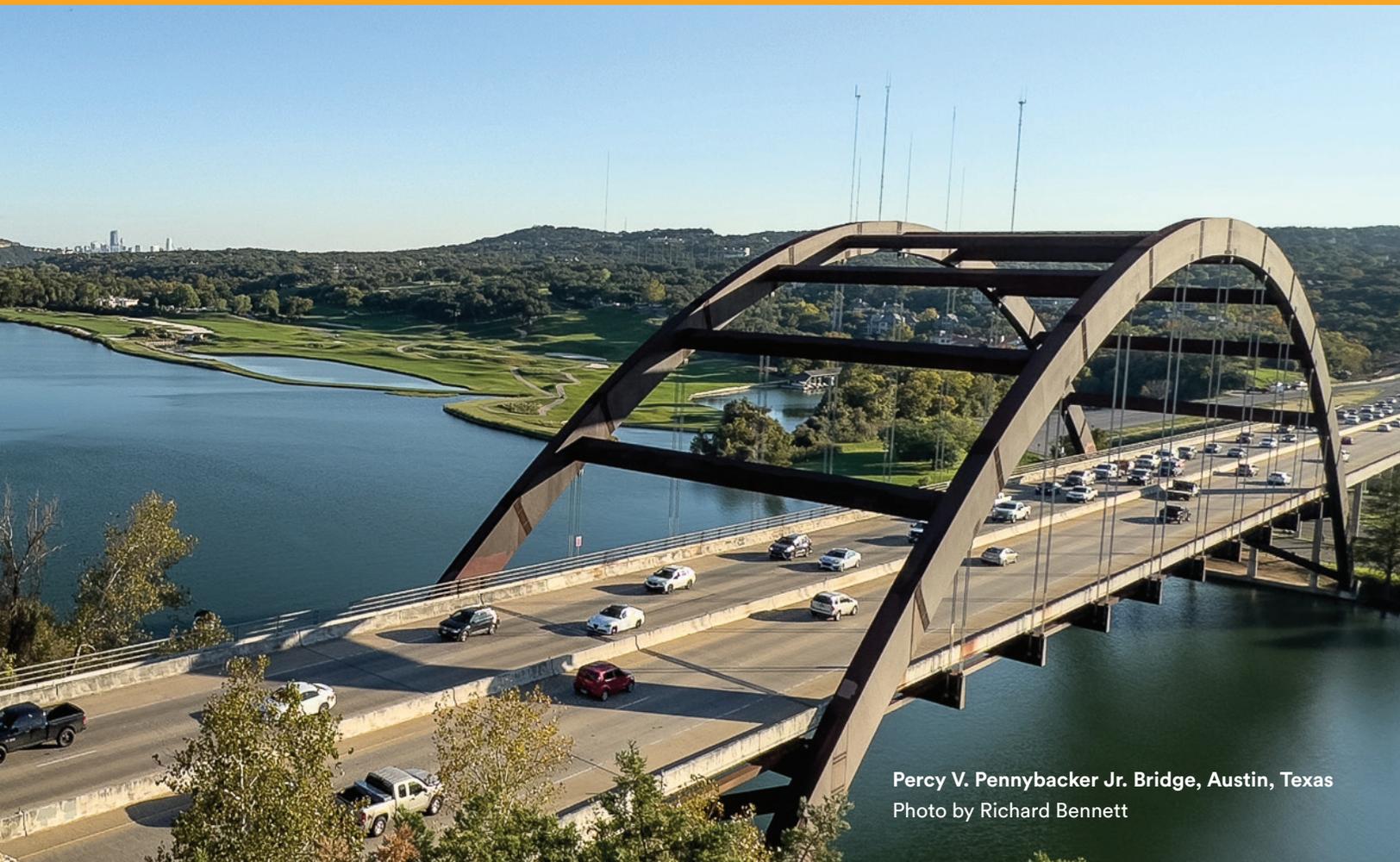


The BRIDGE

A PUBLICATION OF AUSTIN BAPTIST CHURCH



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

VOL. 19 NO. 9

MARCH 11, 2026



**AUSTIN BAPTIST
CHURCH**

LET THERE BE LIGHT

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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

ABC Family,

The Men's Steak Dinner is coming up on Thursday April 16th from 6-8pm. I am excited to see our church take this next step in building a vibrant Men's Ministry at ABC. I believe it is imperative for men in our church to build community, accountability, and discipleship with one another. Proverbs 27:17 reminds us, "Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another."

We will all be sharpened on April 16th as former Secret Service Agent Darin Kinder shares his story and biblically challenges our men. Darin served on the ground in New York City on September 11, 2001. Like so many other heroes that day, he chose to run to the disaster rather than from it. He wrote a book telling his story called "Bury Me In a Dirty Suit," and he will challenge men to not run from the fights in their lives but instead remain faithful in the battle.

This event is designed to help disciple our men but also serve as outreach to our community. I encourage you to purchase a ticket for yourself and another man outside of our church. We will be serving 16oz ribeyes and your event ticket can be purchased at austinbaptistchurch.com/SteakDinner.

Please note we will have a lot going on at the church in the next few weeks. We will begin new carpet installations during Spring Break, and it will take us two weeks to overhaul the Lobby, Great Hall, and Worship Center. Paragon 360 will also begin installations during that time to set up our new cameras and broadcast equipment purchased through your continued generosity to *Light The Way*. We are inching closer to the end of our stated goals. We need a little over \$300k to complete all objectives!

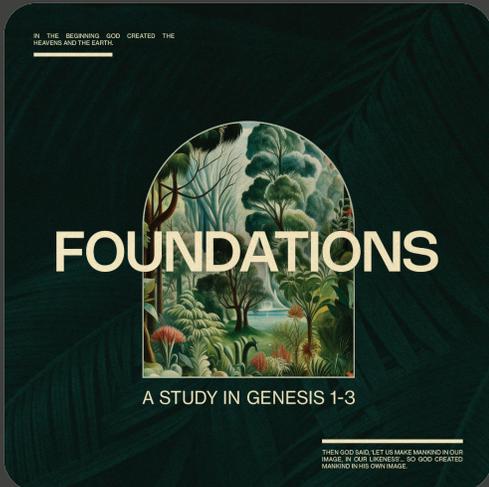
Thank you for your faithfulness, and I look forward to seeing you at 8:45am or 11:15am.

Onward and Upward,

DR. JONATHAN SPENCER

SENIOR PASTOR





CURRENT SERIES

Foundations

A study in Genesis 1-3

GOT GENESIS QUESTIONS?

Submit your questions for Citizen ATX Podcast by scanning or clicking the QR code! New episodes every Wednesday.



DEACONS ON CALL

FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 9, 2026



Stanley Wood

737-309-6938



Greg Parker

214-430-6856

CHURCHWIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026



Eva Oviedo

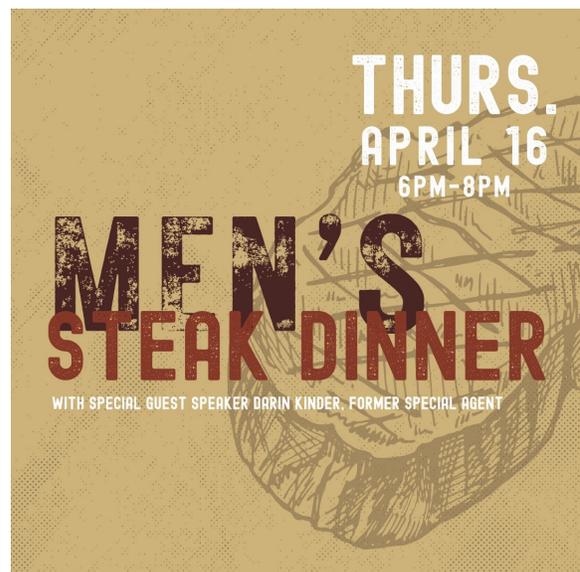
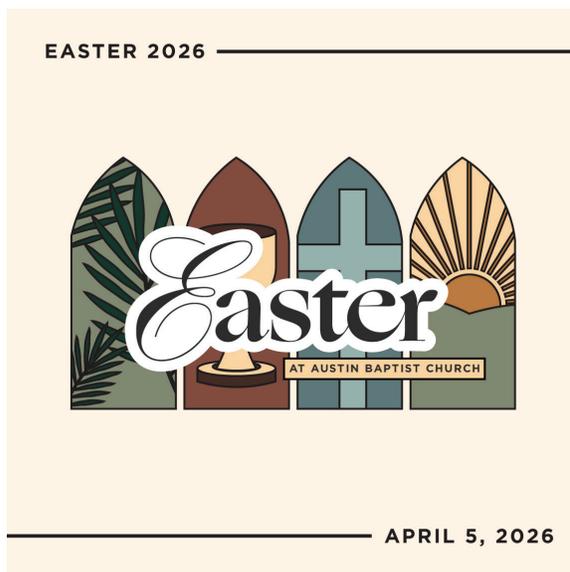


**LIGHT UP
YOUR** *Life*

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

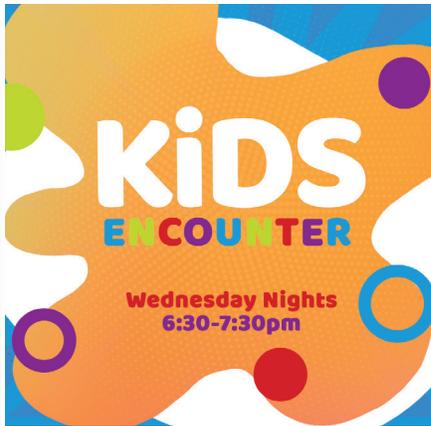
MATTHEW 28:19-20

UPCOMING EVENTS



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

WEEKLY REMINDERS



MIDWEEK MENU

NEXT WEEK'S MENU
MARCH 18

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

No Midweek Meal next week.

We will be taking a small break, March 18th, during the LISD Spring Break.

SAVE THE DATE FOR....



PALM SUNDAY

MARCH 29

8:45AM

Choir-led service

11:15AM

Band-led service

GOOD FRIDAY

APRIL 3

6:00PM

Choir-led service & Lord's Supper

EASTER SUNDAY

APRIL 5

8:00AM & 9:30AM

Choir-led service

11:00AM

Band-led service

austinbaptistchurch.com/Easter2026

MEN'S STEAK DINNER

**THURS.
APRIL 16
6PM-8PM**

WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OUR VERY FIRST MEN'S STEAK DINNER!

Come be encouraged in the Word of God with other men and enjoy a 16 oz hand-cut ribeye steak dinner hosted and prepared by our deacons.

We are also excited to welcome our guest speaker Darin Kinder, a former US Secret Service agent, Medal of Valor recipient, and a survivor of the 9/11 attack on the World Trade Center. Darin's unique experience of those events helped form his Christian perspective as an author and speaker. He brings a word that men need to hear. So invite friends, colleagues, and neighbors and don't miss out on this fantastic men's ministry event!

REGISTER AT AUSTINBAPTISTCHURCH.COM/STEAKDINNER



**WITH SPECIAL GUEST SPEAKER
DARIN KINDER, FORMER SPECIAL AGENT**



ABC Women's Ministry

WHERE EVERYONE HAS A SEAT AT THE TABLE

Thank you, church family, for the many ways you helped make the Twilight Tea an event that warmly welcomed guests and glorified God! I'm convinced my "talk-to-text" that renamed ABC as Awesome Baptist Church might have been more accurate than accidental.

Thank you to our hostesses for the way you invited, decorated, and hosted your tables with such grace, authenticity, and purpose. The spirit of wovenness you created at each table was felt not only by the women seated there, but across the entire room of more than 450 women.

Thank you to the Women's Team for your support, encouragement, and tireless work to bring this event together. I love the way you catch the vision and use your gifts to make things come to life—from the beautiful design details to the program and worship to serving and cleaning. You make me better every day!

A special thank you to Debbie Donaldson for leading and growing this tea into something beyond what we ever thought or imagined. Your vision, tireless work, and humble servant's heart are an example to us all.

Thank you to our speakers—Kaylee Booth, Mary Sabota, Analea Anthony, and Carolyn Brown—for saying yes to sharing how God has been at work in your lives and relationships. You truly shone like stars in the sky, and the encouragement you brought was felt by so many.

And thank you to everyone for your kindness and graciousness as we scaled the tea to a new level this year—with more guests than ever before. Your patience, encouragement, and grace were deeply felt and greatly appreciated.

Above all, thank You, Lord, for allowing us to be used for Your glory. The goodness of God was felt in tangible ways throughout the day.

WOVEN!

ANITA MCGINNIS

WOMEN'S MINISTER



Twilight Tea

Sunday, March 8, 2026



Worship Ministry Community Events

February - March 2026

The Worship Ministry of Austin Baptist Church recently had the privilege of hosting four outstanding community concerts over the past two weeks. We welcomed The Collingsworth Family, the Christian Youth Theater of Austin, the Vandegrift High School Choir, and the Canyon Ridge Middle School Choir.

Each event brought incredible music and encouragement to our Four Points community. It was a joy to open our doors and see families, students, and music lovers gather together for evenings filled with worship, excellence, and celebration of the arts. We are truly blessed with wonderful facilities at Austin Baptist Church.

The Collingsworth Family Concert



Canyon Ridge MS and Vandegrift HS Choirs



Christian Youth Theater of Austin



WEEK IN REVIEW



SINCE 2010, SOUTHERN BAPTISTS
HAVE PLANTED MORE THAN

11,000

CHURCHES ACROSS
NORTH AMERICA

Give online at
AUSTINBAPTISTCHURCH.COM/GIVE

ABC'S GOAL

\$15,000

FOR NATIONAL MISSIONS

Annie Armstrong
Easter Offering



North American
Mission Board



THANK YOU, ABC!

Thank you, ABC, for your support to Behind the Walls Austin March Day of Champions. We trained 61 teammates, including nine rookies on Friday night. Teammates went behind the walls to the Kyle Men's and Lockhart Coleman Women's facilities on Saturday, March 7th, where they had 327 Gospel conversations. 42 inmates began relationships with Jesus, and another 129 repented and returned to Him! We were also able to train 118 inmates to share the Good News inside the facilities. New Christians were provided an eight-week Bible study to get them started while becoming a part of the facility chaplain's Bible study program.

The next Austin event will be in November. *Behind the Walls* continues to appreciate your prayers and participation in this evangelism ministry for God's glory.

From the Pages of Bill's Notebook

Guest Article from Annabelle McGinnis Jenkins

What is that one thing in your closet that you have tucked away because it's reserved for special occasions?

Mine is a pair of Hunter rain boots. I remember in high school and college I wanted some very badly. One day when I was at Sam's Club, God provided a pair for me that I could afford. I couldn't believe it. I thanked God for the pair of boots I had been wanting so badly and thanked him for being such a good Father that gets His daughter shoes. I bought the Hunter boots and then left them in their box in my closet waiting for the perfect occasion to wear them. As the days went on, I would wear them on the occasional rainy day, but for the most part they would sit in my closet collecting dust.

Now instead imagine those rain boots, or that special item, in your closet as your God-given talent and reread the story. God doesn't want us to hide our talents and light in the closet so the world can't see. He wants us to proudly shine and wear our faith for all to see. God provides what we need — whether that be strength, peace, self-control, or whatever it may be. He provides so we can live in the light and be the light to someone else. So dust off your shoebox and put your special shoes on. God doesn't make mistakes. He made you on purpose and for a purpose. Go live it out.

"You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do people light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a stand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven" Matthew 5:14-16 ESV.

In His Joy,

BILL MCGINNIS

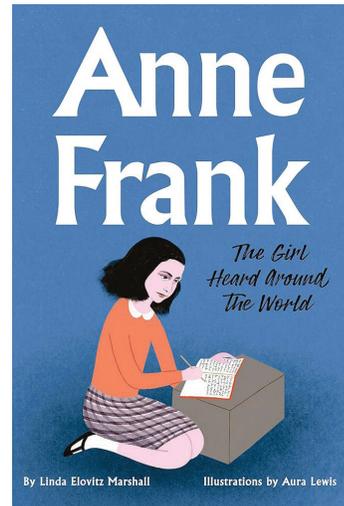
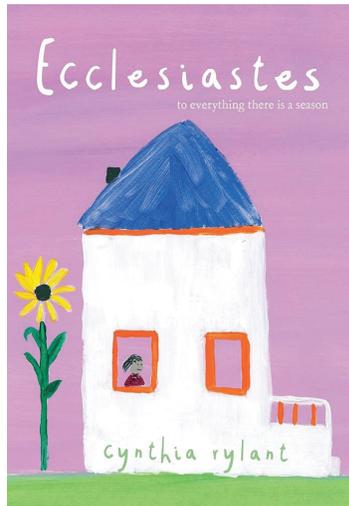
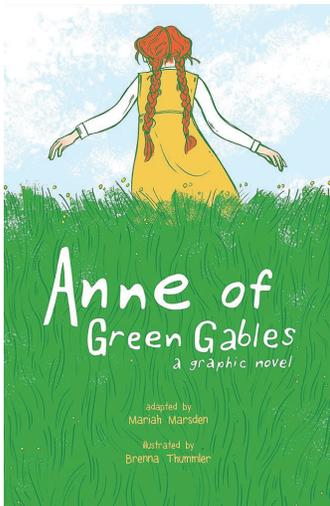
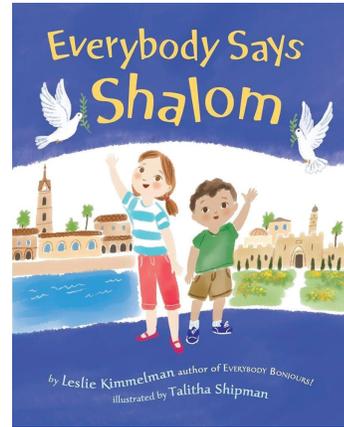
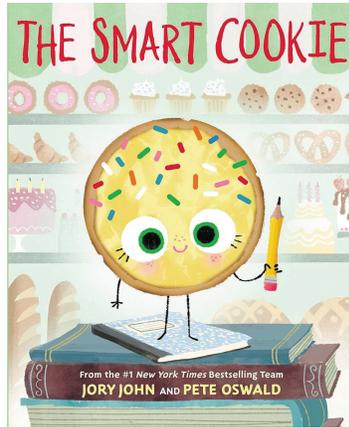
PASTOR OF CARE





ABC Library

Thirty-three new children's books were recently added to the ABC library. Some of these new titles are shown below. All the new books are located on the small purple rolling cart that faces the library door. Please bring your children to the library to look at these new books! Hope to see you in the library on Wednesday evening or Sunday morning!



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

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

ATTENDANCE **03.08.2026**

8:45 AM WORSHIP	553
11:15 AM WORSHIP	413
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP	764

FINANCIAL REPORT **03.08.2026**

ACCOUNT	MAR. 08, 2026	YTD
GENERAL FUND	\$119,004.05	\$1,068,345.86
DESIGNATED	\$10,310.00	\$29,373.00
LIGHT THE WAY - COMBINED	\$21,189.00	\$21,189.00
TOTAL GIVING	\$150,503.05	\$1,358,550.99

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
- **CALL:** 512.334.8247

Please submit articles and items for The Bridge by the Friday BEFORE publication.



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