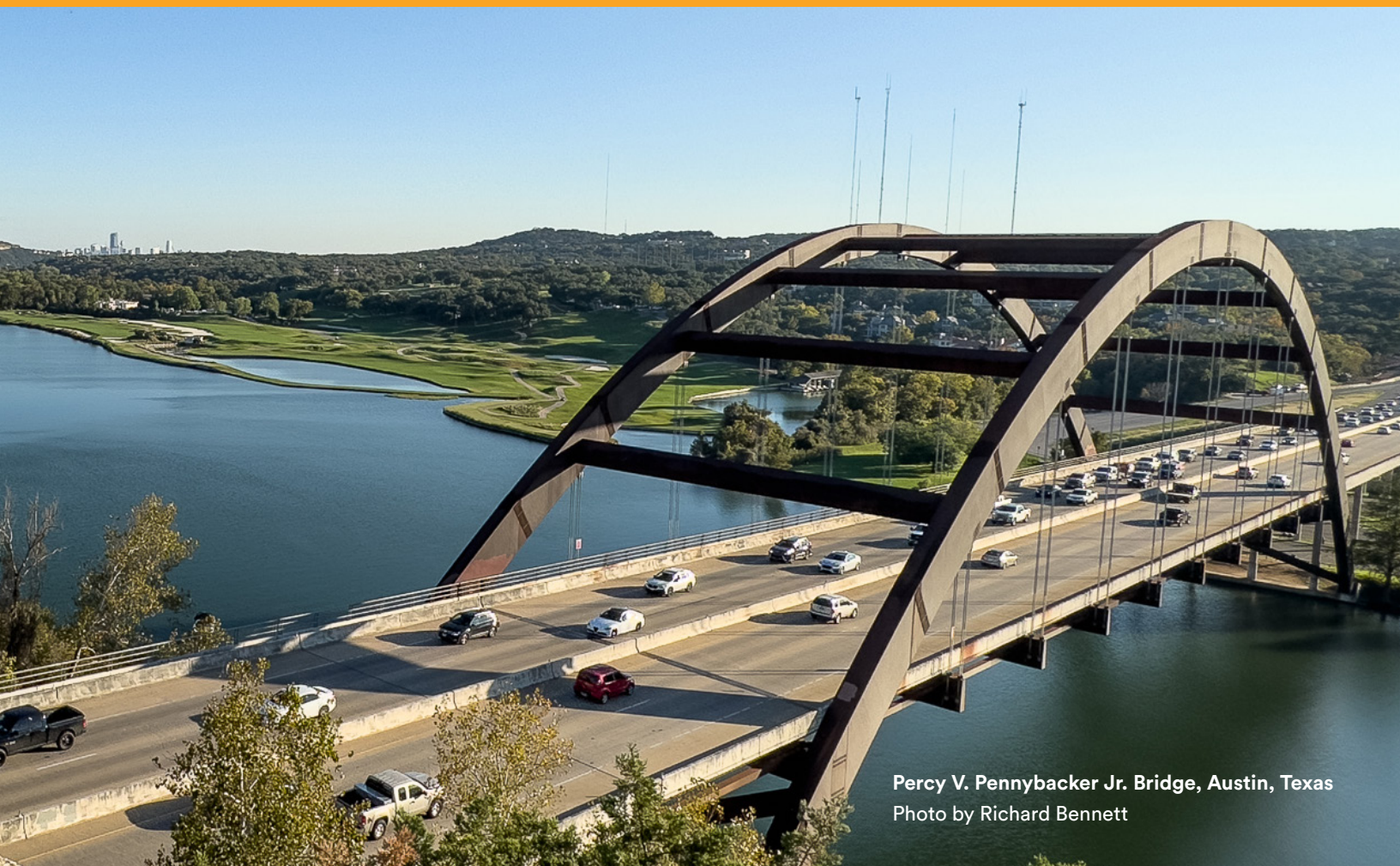


# The BRIDGE

A PUBLICATION OF AUSTIN BAPTIST CHURCH



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

VOL. 19 NO. 22

JUNE 10, 2026



**AUSTIN BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

LET THERE BE LIGHT

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# A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

ABC Family,

This Sunday we will be blessed to host **Pastor Derek Berry** from Gospel of Christ Church in Pasadena, California. Dr. Berry is our church-supported planter in Los Angeles. Through your generosity to *Light The Way*, we have been able to fund the Send LA church residency program in partnership with the North American Mission Board.



Together we have helped fund seminary education and residency training for several church planters, including Derek, who recently graduated with his Doctor of Ministry from The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Kentucky. He has planted a vibrant church in Pasadena, that we continue to support through prayer, giving, and sending. Our Young Adult Ministry will be going on a mission trip next month to support Derek and the church planting movement that is happening in Southern California.

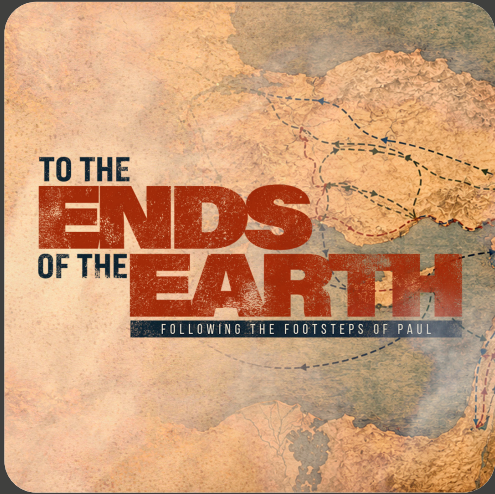
This weekend Derek will be at church with his wife, Krystal, and their three beautiful daughters. I look forward to introducing him to you on Sunday and sitting under his preaching alongside you. We will be blessed to hear more about his calling, his church, and how God is using us at ABC to impact lives on the other side of our nation. Be sure to join me this weekend and encourage Derek and his family as they continue to make disciples and reach the unreached in California.

Thank you for your continued generosity. As you give to the church, you are also giving through the church and making a real difference around the world. I look forward to seeing you at 8:45am or 11:15am.

Onward and Upward,

**DR. JONATHAN SPENCER**  
SENIOR PASTOR





## CURRENT SERIES

### To The Ends of The Earth

*Following the Footsteps of Paul*

#### WEEKLY SERMON CONTENT

Follow us in the YouVersion Bible App and get weekly sermon notes to follow along with every Sunday!



## DEACONS ON CALL

FOR THE WEEK OF JUNE 8, 2026



**Greg Kalb**

512-784-7772



**Ron Mullen**

512-914-0792

# CHURCHWIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 2026



**Maclin Ross**



**Shannon Gabbert**



**Briscoe Padgett**



**Taye Oyedele**



**Kenny Oyedele**



**Oyin Oyedele**



**Thatcher Bolin**



**Randy & Reenie  
Rollo**

# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

JUNE 9, 2026

Hey Church Family,

We have several Staff Work Anniversaries to share with you this week.

First, we congratulate **Adela Mendoza** on completing her fifth year on staff as our Finance Assistant for Accounts Receivable on June 1st. If we had to vote for a most joyful staff member, it would be Adela. Her booming laugh and her work ethic make our office a brighter place, and we are so thankful for her consistent work in helping maintain our finances. She is a wonderful member of our team, and we are so glad for her!



Next, we congratulate **Eby Whatley** on reaching her fifth work anniversary with us as the Director of the Little Lights Preschool on June 1st. Eby pours her heart into leading these little ones, and it is such an encouragement to see what the Lord is doing in the lives of these wonderful preschoolers, their teachers, and their families. Eby has done a tremendous job building the Little Lights team. We're grateful for her leadership and hard work in the gospel for our preschoolers.

Next, **Bryan Goodwin** celebrated his first work anniversary on June 2nd as our Finance Assistant for Accounts Payable. Bryan is newer to the team but has become a pillar for us in analyzing our finances and in helping our staff team sharpen the stewarding of finances. He has a servant's heart, and he is a major encouragement to our team. We're glad to have him on board.



# STAFF SPOTLIGHT

JUNE 9, 2026

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On June 9th, **Felicia Kim** celebrated her second year working with us as our Church Pianist. Felicia is a masterful musician and every week leads our 8:45 service with wonderful worship from the piano. Her heart to serve and create makes her a fantastic member of our worship team. We're grateful for her service.



On June 16th, **Todd Stearns** celebrates his fifth year as our Worship Pastor. Todd leads our worship team and choir with a huge heart for the Lord and for the discipleship of His people. We are blessed to have a man of humility who serves in this vital place of pastorship for the church, and he has done so much to see us grow through worship and ministry. I'm grateful for his partnership in the gospel and for the heart with which he leads.

Also on June 16th, **Anita McGinnis** will celebrate her fourth year as our Women's Minister. Anita brings joy, creativity, and prayerful care to our church. She leads her volunteer team with excellence and communicates the joy of salvation in effective ways. Through her leadership the Lord has certainly blessed our women's and hospitality ministries. She is a ray of sunshine and powerful in sharing the gospel.



Please join me in thanking and congratulating these wonderful team members this week. We're thankful to God for an awesome staff team at ABC and excited to see how He will continue to move through our faith family in the coming years!

In Christ's Love,  
**DR. MATT GILLUM**  
EXECUTIVE PASTOR

# UPCOMING EVENTS



For all event and weekly activity information, please visit  
[austinbaptistchurch.com/EVENTS](http://austinbaptistchurch.com/EVENTS)

# WEEKLY REMINDERS

SUMMIT  
**SPORTS**  
YOUNG ADULT RECREATION NIGHT



**MONDAYS**  
@ 6PM

 agape  
women's clinic

## Change for Life.



WILL YOU PARTNER WITH US IN THIS SIMPLE WAY TO **SAVE LIVES?**

Take a bottle, fill it with coins, cash, or check, then bring it back to your church by collection time or bring it to one of our centers, or scan the QR code and give online any time!

Give online anytime at:  
  
agapeprc.org



*Peak Week*

Estes Park, CO June 14-19, 2026



*SWEET SUNDAY*  
PICKLEBALL EDITION

JUNE 28 | 4PM - 6PM  
@ PICKLEBALL COURTS

ABC WOMEN'S

## SWEET SUNDAY

SUMMER EDITION:  
RIVERBOAT CRUISE



JULY  
**26**  
4:00PM

## UPWARD SPORTS

[AUSTINBAPTISTCHURCH.COM/SPORTS](https://austinbaptistchurch.com/sports)

K-3<sup>RD</sup> GRADE

**BEGINNING FALL 2026  
REGISTER ONLINE**

## STAY IN THE LOOP THIS SUMMER!

Follow us on social media and keep up with everything happening at ABC.



Austin Baptist Church



@austinbaptistchurch



Austin Baptist Church



# ABC Women's Ministry

WHERE EVERYONE HAS A SEAT AT THE TABLE

***This summer, get a double dose of sweetness!***

Two summer Sweet Sundays, double the fun!



JUNE 28 | 4 PM - 6 PM

Whether you're a seasoned pickleball player or still wondering what all the excitement is about, this Sweet Sunday is for you! We'll gather in the café for treats, fellowship, and a short devotional before heading out for some pickleball fun. You'll have three great options:

- Play on our new pickleball courts
- Learn the game on beginner courts with equipment provided and instruction from some of our own ABC pickleball enthusiasts
- Relax courtside in the shade with a glass of lemonade while cheering everyone on

To make it even more fun, come dressed as if you're headed to a tennis or pickleball match, no matter if you're playing or spectating! **No registration is needed**, just bring a friend and join us for a fun afternoon together.



Mark your calendars for our Sweet Sunday Summer Edition: Riverboat Cruise on Sunday, July 26th! Our adventure will begin at ABC as we board charter buses headed to the dock where we'll step aboard The Commodore for a relaxing riverboat cruise along Lake Austin. While on board, we'll enjoy a delicious fajita dinner along with lots of fun, fellowship, and conversation.

This outing has long been a favorite among women of all ages! I'm also happy to share that this boat is very easy to board. The lower deck is easily accessible, and the stairs to the upper deck are gentle and manageable for those who want an even better view.

Registration is required for the riverboat cruise to reserve your spot. Click [HERE](#) to register. Grab your sundresses and sun hats and join us for a beautiful summer evening cruise!



**COLLECTING SUNDAY, MAY 24 - SUNDAY, JUNE 21**

# WILL YOU PARTNER WITH US IN THIS SIMPLE WAY TO *SAVE LIVES?*

Take a bottle, fill it with coins, cash, or check, then bring it back to your church by collection time or bring it to one of our centers, or scan the QR code and give online any time!

[agapeprc.org](http://agapeprc.org)



(512) 248-8200



## **PATRIOTIC SUNDAY**

**JUNE 28, 2026 @ 8:45AM SERVICE**

Honoring our veterans and  
active duty military

In honor of the 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary, the ABC Choir and Orchestra will be performing special music for our annual Patriotic worship service at **8:45am on June 28th.**

**All veterans and active duty military are invited to wear their uniforms,** and will be honored for their service during the performance. Invite friends and join us for this special Sunday service.

# Preteen Camp Recap

Preteen Camp was truly an unforgettable week! It was filled with joy, connection, and spiritual growth. ABC Kids had the incredible opportunity to spend time together and build stronger friendships. They also had the opportunity to make new ones as we got to worship with nearly 800 fellow campers.

From exciting recreation activities on the field, to swimming, zip lining, and conquering the ropes course, every moment was packed with fun and laughter as we created memories that will last us a lifetime. We shared meals together and enjoyed meaningful church group time every night that brought us closer as a community. It was amazing to watch the kids step out of their comfort zones and encourage one another.

What made this week even more special was the focus on deepening our relationship with God. Each morning began with quiet time, where the children read their Bibles and invited God to speak to their hearts. Throughout the week, they worshipped wholeheartedly and took notes while they listened to a message from the Camp Pastor. It was inspiring to see their growth and the impact these moments had on their lives.

I am blessed and extremely grateful for this incredible experience with ABC Kids! I also want to give a huge thank you to all the leaders who took the time and went with us to camp. Not only did they pour into the kids, they spent quality time with them in small groups and prayed over them. Thank you; you made a lasting impact.

With a grateful heart,

**RACHEL TOVAR**

**DIRECTOR OF ABC KIDS**

## QUOTES FROM THE KIDS MINISTRY TEAM

“Camp was so fun for me. I loved hearing and seeing the kids sing in worship; it was such a blessing. Also, seeing the kids form deeper relationships amongst themselves was so cool to see.”

**- ANAKAREN MORENO**

“I knew that camp would be fun, but it went so far beyond that. Inch-thick plastic mattresses and lukewarm showers have a way of bonding you with your group, but what grew my heart was watching our preteens throw their hands up in worship as though it was their only job. The deep conversations during Bible Study and watching as they each developed lifelong friendships is something I will not forget.”

**- JANA BOLIN**

**SEE PICTURES ON PAGE 13**

# Preteen Camp

June 2-5, 2026



WEEK IN REVIEW

# Summit Sports Kickoff

Monday, June 1, 2026

WEEK IN REVIEW



# Spring Men's Clothing Drive

May 3-21, 2026

Thank you for your generosity!

During the month of May, we hosted a clothing drive collecting gently used men's clothing for our friends and ministry partners at the Baptist Community Center in East Austin. Because of your generosity, ABC was able to deliver over 40 boxes of clothes!



WEEK IN REVIEW

# From the Pages of Bill's Notebook

I don't know if you've ever had the gift of "overshare," but for some reason I seem to always have the urge to give TMI (Too Much Information). As a kid I was rarely able to keep myself from saying what would better have been left unsaid. The only time I received enough demerits to earn myself detention after school was when I couldn't stop talking in the library. To my shame, words would just spew out of my mouth like a loose water hose spraying anyone in range of the loud and sometimes embarrassing deluge. This trait made me a bit vulnerable to anyone who wanted information. All they had to do was pull the string and I would talk like a kid's toy from back in the day before they discovered that a string was a hazard to children (think Woody on Toy Story). I was also prone to ask questions that might make someone uncomfortable without considering the impact. This trait I come by honestly from my grandmother, who once asked a very tall checkout clerk at the grocery store if she was standing on a box. Even I blushed right along with the clerk when she said it. As an adult I'm still fully capable and apt to say something embarrassing that causes my adult kids to cringe. A friend of mine, 90-year-old Lucille, is quick to say that her ex-husband, who was a doctor, said she had "diarrhea of the mouth" (but that of course was not a medical term). I'm glad to know there are others who talk a lot, too. However, it is often accompanied by much regret especially when intensely discussing a disagreement with my wife.

King David wisely requested that God help him not say the wrong thing or say anything at all when he shouldn't. He prays, "Set a guard over my mouth, O LORD; keep watch over the door of my lips" (Psalm 141:3 NIV). Maybe this should had been my prayer from way back. Oh well, I can at least pray it now! What about you?

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**



# OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

**ATTENDANCE** **06.07.2026**

<b>8:45 AM WORSHIP</b> .....	<b>662</b>
<b>11:15 AM WORSHIP</b> .....	<b>372</b>
<b>BIBLE FELLOWSHIP</b> .....	<b>802</b>

**FINANCIAL REPORT** **06.07.2026**

<b>ACCOUNT</b>	<b>JUN. 7, 2026</b>	<b>YTD</b>
<b>GREAT COMMISSION FUND (GENERAL)</b>	<b>\$92,608.82</b>	<b>\$2,250,866.28</b>
<b>DESIGNATED</b>	<b>\$1,640.00</b>	<b>\$99,314.00</b>
<b>LIGHT THE WAY - COMBINED</b>	<b>\$91,119.08</b>	<b>\$497,994.37</b>
<b>TOTAL GIVING</b>	<b>\$185,367.90</b>	<b>\$2,848,174.65</b>

## 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](http://austinbaptistchurch.com/TEAM)**

### **ABC PRAYER TEAM**

Email Bill McGinnis at **[billm@austinbaptistchurch.com](mailto:billm@austinbaptistchurch.com)**

### **FOR PUBLICATION CONSIDERATION, PLEASE CONTACT:**

Mariah Parker, Director of Communications

- **EMAIL:** [mariahp@austinbaptistchurch.com](mailto:mariahp@austinbaptistchurch.com)
- **CALL:** **512.334.8247**

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



**7016 RIBELIN RANCH DR. AUSTIN, TX, 78750**