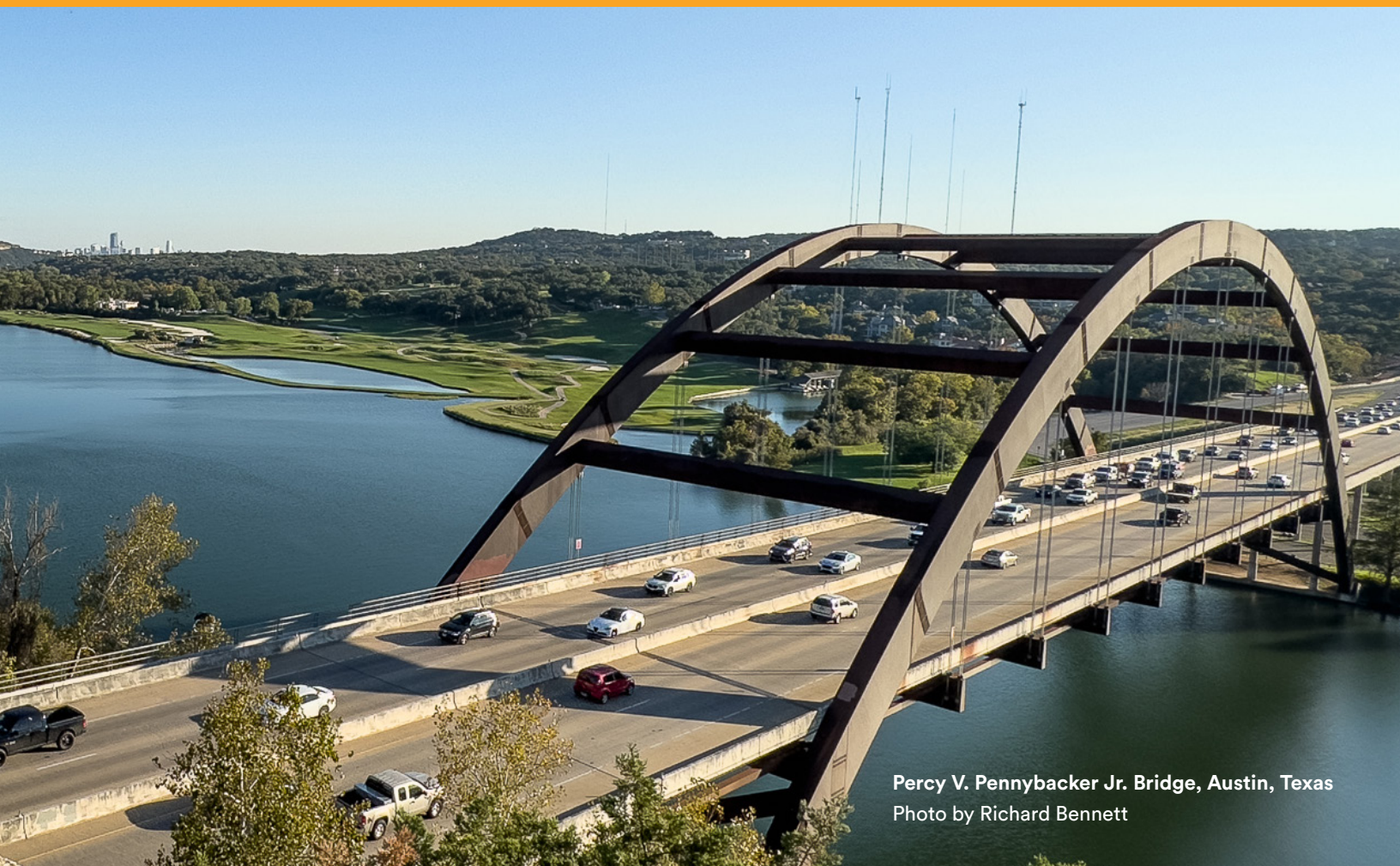


The BRIDGE

A PUBLICATION OF AUSTIN BAPTIST CHURCH



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

VOL. 19 NO. 24

JUNE 24, 2026



**AUSTIN BAPTIST
CHURCH**

LET THERE BE LIGHT

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A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

ABC Family,

God is doing a great work at VBS! It has been an amazing week of ministry with nearly 800 children and adults filling our building each day. Our ABC Kids are learning that Jesus is the light of the world, and they are having a blast through engaging games, crafts, and lots of cheers. Thank you for your continued generosity. Your faithfulness to The Great Commission Fund, which is the general fund of our church, makes the ministry of VBS possible. I am so proud that our church goes “all in” for VBS and can offer this incredible ministry free of charge because of you.

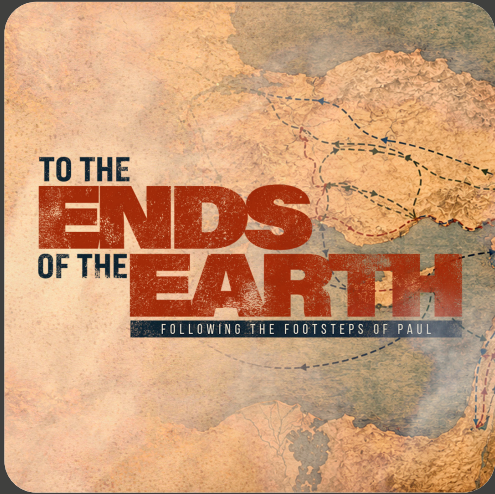
Join me in prayer for these children and their families. Pray that God will sow seeds of faith this week that will reap kingdom harvests for generations to come. Please also pray for this Sunday’s special baptism celebration. We already have 12 people committed to be baptized on Sunday with more likely signing up in the coming days. I will also offer an invitation during our worship services for others to come forward and join them if God is leading them to take that next step of faithful obedience.

Invite a friend for this special weekend. We will honor our veterans and pray for our nation. In fact, every family will have a special gift to take home to commemorate the 250th birthday of our nation. But most importantly, we will celebrate true freedom through Jesus Christ. I look forward to seeing you this Sunday 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 22, 2026



Mark Donaldson

432-664-1651



Andreas Block

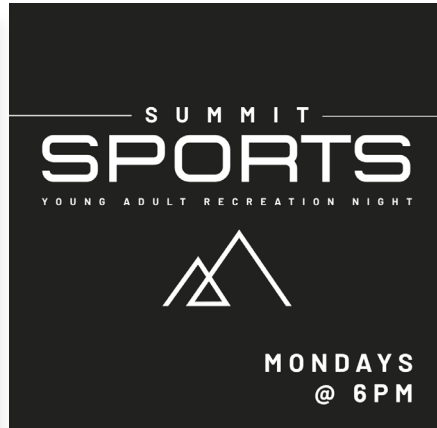
512-230-1492

UPCOMING EVENTS



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

WEEKLY REMINDERS



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

MARBLE FALLS, TX

AUGUST 12



Beloved Gallery

SENIOR ADULTS TRIP

REGISTER HERE

PHOTO CREDIT
BELOVED GALLERY

DAY TRIP TO

Beloved Gallery

EXPERIENCE THE ARTWORK THAT CHANGED MILLIONS

Join us for a special day trip to the Beloved Gallery in Marble Falls featuring the extraordinary works of Akiane Kramarik. View many of her childhood masterpieces, including the world-famous *Prince of Peace*, the painting inspired by her personal experience with Jesus. The painting disappeared for nearly 20 years before being recovered and can now be viewed free of charge.

ITINERARY

- 9:30 AM – Depart from ABC
- 11:00 AM – Private Guided Tour of Beloved Gallery
- 12:15 PM – Lunch & Pie at the famous Bluebonnet Café
- 2:00 PM – Depart Marble Falls
- 3:00 PM – Return to ABC

Contact: Bill McGinnis
billm@austinbaptistchurch.com



PATRIOTIC SUNDAY

JUNE 28, 2026

Honoring our veterans and
active duty military

For the 250th anniversary of the United States, we will be honoring our veterans and active duty military on **June 28th**. The ABC Choir and Orchestra will also be performing special patriotic music during the **8:45am worship service**.

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



ABC Women's Ministry

WHERE EVERYONE HAS A SEAT AT THE TABLE



J U N E 2 8 | 4 P M - 6 P M

Hello Ladies!

Sweet Sunday Summer Edition is coming this Sunday, June 28, from 4pm–6pm, and we would love for you to join us! Yes, we're having a pickleball theme, but don't worry, you don't have to play pickleball to have a great time! Whether you come dressed for the courts or dressed for the air conditioning, there will be something for every woman to enjoy.

We'll begin in the Café with sweet treats, fellowship, and a short devotional before the afternoon unfolds. If heading outside isn't your thing, we've got a fun surprise waiting inside the cool of the Café! If you want to join the pickleball fun, you'll have three great options:

- Play on our new pickleball courts.
- Learn the game on our 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 else on.

For a little extra fun, come dressed as if you're headed to a tennis or pickleball match, whether you're playing or simply spectating! So don't be a pickle, come anyway! There truly will be something for women of every age and every stage of life. That's what makes Sweet Sunday so sweet.

Best of all, *no registration is needed*. Just invite a friend and join us for an afternoon of laughter, connection, and encouragement. Sweet Sunday is one of the easiest and most natural ways to introduce someone to our church family—and to the hope of the gospel. We can't wait to see you this Sunday!

Woven Together,
ANITA MCGINNIS
WOMEN'S MINISTER

P.S. We're also hoping to gauge interest in starting a Women's Pickleball Night at ABC!

VBS: Day 1 & 2

June 22-23, 2026



WEEK IN REVIEW

From the Pages of Bill's Notebook

Love your enemies, it will drive them nuts! My collegiate cheer coach is an impressive man with a winning personality, and he has always treated people well. During football games and in cheer competitions, he always honored, served, and showed respect to the opposing teams and rivals. It never mattered how intense the rivalry, he always acted like himself and treated other people well. He always welcomed the opposing teams, encouraged them, valued their strengths, and learned from them. He would do anything he could to make their experience better whether or not he agreed with them about who should win the game.

Most of us attack those with whom we disagree. We quit acting like our “Jesus selves.” We forget how to treat people civilly, we name call and demonize anyone who doesn’t share the same perspective as we do. It’s like we forget who we are and Who we belong to. It’s like all bets are off as we completely lose our kindness and care for people that God loves and values. When Jesus came, He never forgot who He was or how He should to act. He loved His enemies and died to save them. He said from the cross, “Father forgive them, they don’t know what they are doing.” When He was attacked, He kept on loving... when people were coming to crucify Him, He carefully replaced the ear that one of His followers lopped off of one of the guards. He tells us all, “You’re familiar with the old written law, ‘Love your friend,’ and its unwritten companion, ‘Hate your enemy.’ I’m challenging that. I’m telling you to love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the energies of prayer, for then you are working out of your true selves, your God-created selves. This is what God does. He gives his best—the sun to warm and the rain to nourish—to everyone, regardless: the good and bad, the nice and nasty” Matthew 5:43-45 (MSG). We are never more like the One we are following than when we love our enemies. Jesus didn’t let the opinions, words, threats, abuse, or accusations of others change Who He was or how He treated those around Him. Next time we feel threatened by someone we perceive as an enemy, I challenge us all to do like Jesus tells us... pray for them, give them your best self, and love them. Many people won’t know what to do with your kindness, it will drive them crazy.

(P.S. There’s a part of me that is not really looking forward to the opportunity to practice this one...)

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

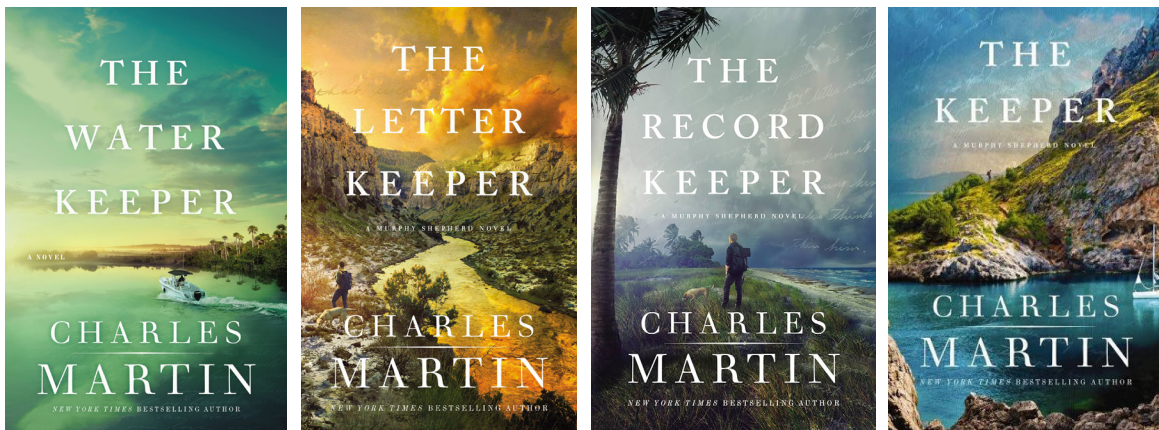




ABC Library

Murph Shepherd Novel Series by Charles Martin

Charles Martin grew up in Jacksonville, Florida and began writing when he was 15. His first novel, ***The Dead Don't Dance***, received 86 rejections before it was published. Martin is now a popular Christian fiction author with fifteen fiction titles and two book series: ***The Awakening Series*** and ***The Murph Shepherd Series***. He has also written five non-fiction Christian titles. One of his novels, ***The Mountain Between Us***, was released as a film in 2017. Charles Martin's novels are captivating, and in them you will find "the compassion of Jesus, the Father heart of God, and the endearing call of the Holy Spirit."



The four books in the Murph Shepherd Novel series are: ***The Water Keeper***, ***The Letter Keeper***, ***The Record Keeper***, and ***The Keeper***. The main character of these books is Murph Shepherd, who lives alone on an island. Murph is a former government operative who has dedicated his life to rescuing people from human-trafficking and to helping them find freedom. These books are action packed and are filled with stories of love, friendship, sacrifice, dedication, and forgiveness. Martin's books show what it means "...to leave the ninety-nine to find the one."

CONTACT: Rita Ervin

Email library@austinbaptistchurch.com

or visit us online at austinbaptistchurch.com/LIBRARY

LIBRARY SUMMER HOURS

SUNDAYS - 9:45AM-11:15AM

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

ATTENDANCE **06.21.2026**

8:45 AM WORSHIP	646
11:15 AM WORSHIP	338
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP	768

FINANCIAL REPORT **06.21.2026**

ACCOUNT	JUN. 21, 2026	YTD
GREAT COMMISSION FUND (GENERAL)	\$48,480.27	\$2,368,842.79
DESIGNATED	\$1,690.00	\$101,504.00
LIGHT THE WAY - COMBINED	\$7,324.08	\$667,307.45
TOTAL GIVING	\$57,494.35	\$3,137,654.24

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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