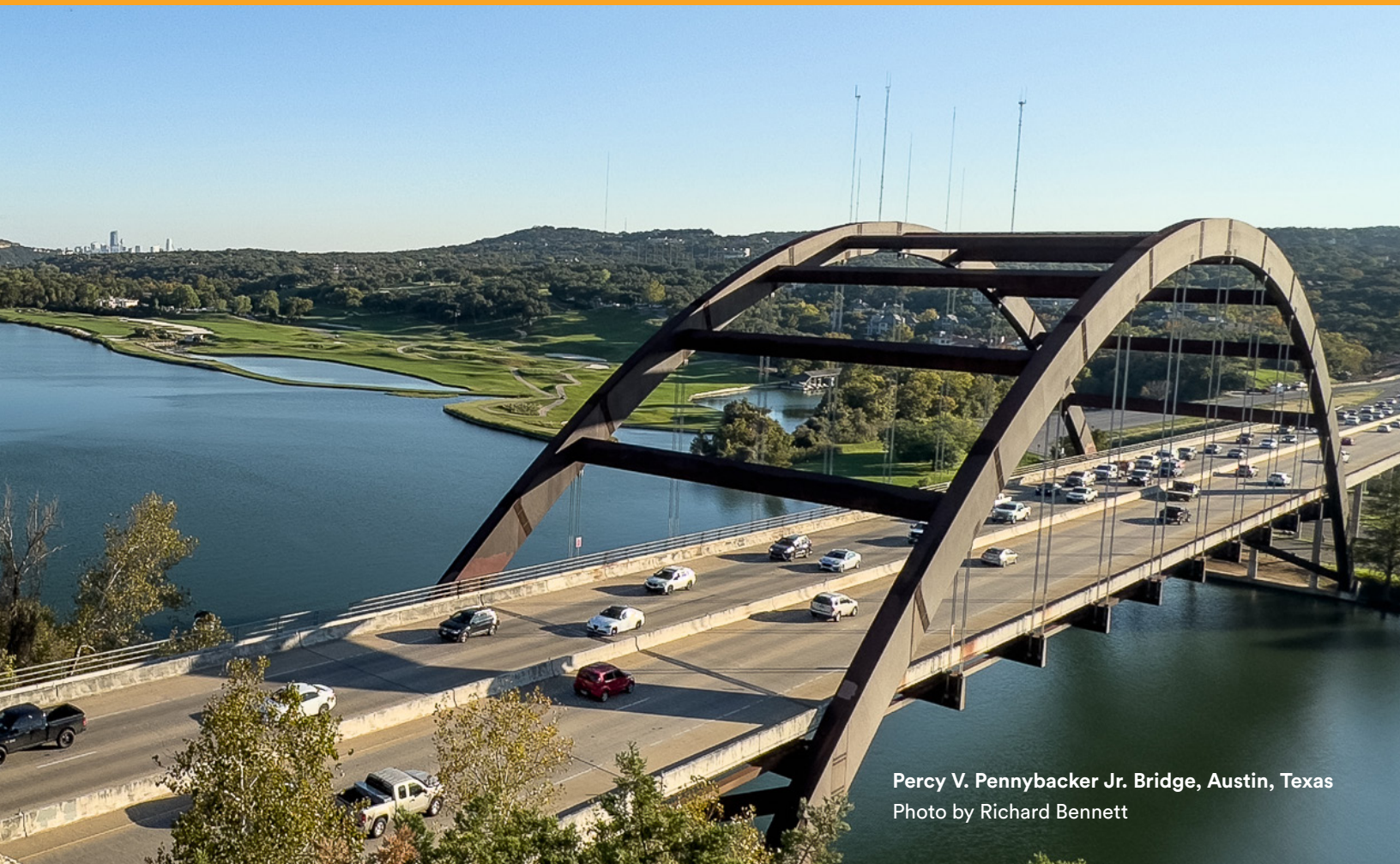


The BRIDGE

A PUBLICATION OF AUSTIN BAPTIST CHURCH



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

VOL. 19 NO. 21

JUNE 3, 2026



**AUSTIN BAPTIST
CHURCH**

LET THERE BE LIGHT

TABLE of CONTENTS

A Word from Our Pastor	3
Deacons on Call	4
Upcoming Events	5
Weekly Reminders	6
ABC Women's Ministry: Sweet Sundays	7-8
Agape Pregnancy Center: Baby Bottle Campaign	9
From the Pages of Bill's Notebook	10
ABC Library	11
Our Response to God's Faithfulness	12
- Attendance	
- Financial Report	



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

ABC Family,

Our mission at ABC is to lead people into a life-changing relationship with the Light of the World, Jesus Christ. We have a goal behind what we do at church. We do not offer worship services, camps, events, and activities simply to fill our time. We do these things to lead people to experience the life-changing power of Jesus Christ.

One of the greatest symbols of life change is baptism. Jesus was baptized (Matthew 3:16) and He commanded us to be baptized as His disciples (Matthew 28:19). We are called to be baptized in imitation of Jesus, but also in obedience to Jesus. On June 28th, we will have a special baptism celebration during our two worship services. We will celebrate freedom in our nation and celebrate the true freedom we have received through Jesus Christ.

Join me in praying as we have our Preteen Camp, Peak Week, and Vacation Bible School in the coming weeks. Pray that lives will be changed through the ministries of ABC. Pray that some will have their hearts stirred to give testimony to what God has done through believer's baptism on June 28th.

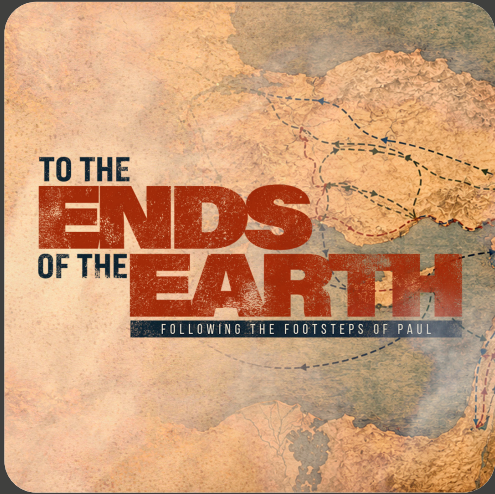
I also ask, do you need to give testimony to what Christ has done in your life? Have you ever made the personal decision to be baptized? Have you publicly identified with Jesus' death, burial, and resurrection? Baptism is an ordinance from Jesus, and it is a blessing for the church. We get to celebrate that Jesus continues to set people free from sin and death.

If you or a loved one would like to talk more about baptism, reach out to Nathan Wood today (nathanw@austinbaptistchurch.com). We would be happy to give you more information and help you take the next step in your faith journey. I'll see 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 1, 2026



Dean Crane

512-944-8949



Bruce Kirtley

512-284-1948


UPCOMING EVENTS



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

WEEKLY REMINDERS

SUMMIT
SPORTS
YOUNG ADULT RECREATION NIGHT



MONDAYS
@ 6PM


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

BAPTISM
RAISED TO
LIFE

BAPTISM SUNDAY
JUNE 28, 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

K-3RD 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 just got twice as sweet! We have two Sweet Sunday Summer Editions planned this summer, and you won't want to miss either one! We can't wait to spend these special summer afternoons with you. Invite a friend and join us for fellowship, fun, and sweet memories together!



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

Sweet Sunday: Pickleball Edition June 28 | 4:00–6:00pm

Don't be a pickle, come have a ball with the women of ABC!

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.



ABC Women's Ministry

WHERE EVERYONE HAS A SEAT AT THE TABLE



SWEET SUNDAY

SUMMER EDITION:
RIVERBOAT CRUISE

JULY
26
4:00 PM

Sweet Sunday: Riverboat Cruise July 26 | 4:00pm

*Grab your hat and favorite sundress
and join us for an unforgettable evening
cruising down beautiful Lake Austin!*

Our adventure begins at ABC as we board chartered buses and head to the dock, where we'll step aboard The Commodore. We'll cruise along Lake Austin from the Tom Miller Dam, taking in breathtaking views of natural limestone cliffs, Mt. Bonnell, stunning lakefront homes, and the iconic Pennybacker Bridge.

While on board, we'll enjoy a delicious fajita dinner along with plenty of fellowship, laughter, and conversation. The riverboat offers open-air decks for enjoying the scenery and enclosed air-conditioned spaces for added comfort.

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.

Schedule

- 3:00 PM – Meet in the ABC parking lot and board the buses
- 4:00 PM – Cruise departs
- 6:30 PM – Cruise returns to the dock
- Approximately 7:15 PM – Return to ABC

Registration is required for the riverboat cruise to reserve your spot. Click [HERE](#) to register!



Change for Life.

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



(512) 248-8200

From the Pages of Bill's Notebook

Did you try unplugging it and plugging it back in? Anita and I used to enjoy watching the sitcom "The Middle." Many of the middle class American situations that the producers built their comedy around were situations that we were living through in our own home with our own kids, so much so that we sometimes felt there must have been secret cameras capturing the everyday drama of real life and rewriting it in sitcom form. One particular episode that lives on in our home is when Patricia Heaton's character, Frankie Heck, had a computer problem. Everything she tried to make the technology work correctly and recover the files of pictures she reluctantly saved to the computer never yielded a good outcome. So, after an emotional meltdown she dramatically unplugged the computer, counted the magical "10 seconds," and plugged the computer back in. She did this repeatedly (not recommended). Eventually, miraculously, the computer worked again and the photos were found. This still happens with the technology around our house now. When the Wi-Fi is being wacky, we ask, "Did you try unplugging it and plugging it back in, Frankie?" Most times the Wi-Fi comes back up. We do this with smart TVs, laptops, smart phones, and anything else that we feel technically unfit to fix.

When life is going nuts and things just don't seem to be right, sometimes we need to unplug for a moment (take a time-out) and then plug back in. When I do pre-marriage counseling, I tell couples that when they become angry or frustrated to the point of engaging the fight, flight, freeze, or fawn response in their brain, it typically takes the body 30 minutes to calm down from this God-given protection response. The chemicals in our brains are triggered in such a way that we become self-protective and even aggressive if we feel threatened or unsafe. The part of the brain that reminds us who we really are, and how we really should act in this situation, has shut down. If we don't recover, we continue to act in fear instead of joy. That means, "I have to win at all costs and everyone else has to lose..." so then we all lose. God reminds us through Paul that if we let emotions control us, we quit acting like our Jesus-self and we start acting like the evil one. Paul says, "In your anger do not sin: do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold" Ephesians 4:26-27 (NIV). So, when something triggers us we need to do a "Frankie Heck Restart" and take some time to return to joy by plugging back in to Jesus, and then plug ourselves back in to the relationships with those around us. We can then start acting like our "Jesus-self" again.

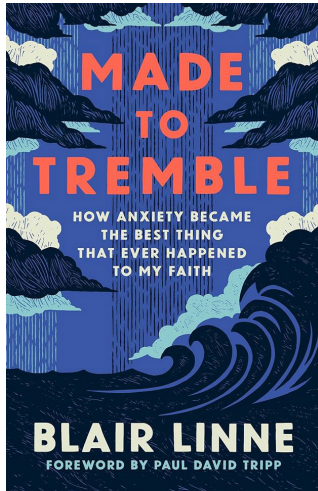
Hang in there people! God is glad to be with us! I'm praying for us all!

In His Joy,
BILL MCGINNIS
PASTOR OF CARE





ABC Library



Made to Tremble: How Anxiety Became The Best Thing That Ever Happened to My Faith by Blair Linne

Blair Linne is a Bible teacher, an actress, a spoken word artist, and the creator of The Gospel Coalition podcast GLO. She is one of four hosts for GLO, a podcast for women that discusses God’s work around the world. Linne is also one of the creators of the Christian Spoken Word genre, a subgenre of oral performance poetry that combines rhythmic expression with Christian theology, the Gospel message, and Biblical truths. Listeners become engaged emotionally and intellectually through the live delivery. As an author, Linne often uses poetry and prose, drawing from her experiences as a poet and a spoken word artist. Linne has also toured around the world speaking and performing. She lives in Oregon with her husband and three children.

In *Made to Tremble*, Linne shares her own struggles with crippling anxiety. Many who see the title of this book will wonder how anxiety could possibly be the best thing that ever happened to her faith. She came to realize through the Bible that, “To sense struggle is not victory or defeat in and of itself. To feel our weakness in the face of suffering is not failure. In fact, to feel the acuteness of our fragility and acknowledge the acuteness of God’s divinity opens a portal to true success, which is a deep dependence on a never-anxious God.” Linne prefaces that this is not an “anxiety manual” and that she is not an expert on mental health, but that she has experienced “anxiety and trembling.” This book gives the lessons that she learned and the Biblical passages that have been the most instructive to her. Linne reminds readers, “...there’s a day coming when we won’t have to do life scared. ...fear will no longer be a threat. Where the peace of God will be the way of the world.”

CONTACT: Rita Ervin

Email library@austinbaptistchurch.com

or visit us online at austinbaptistchurch.com/LIBRARY

LIBRARY HOURS

SUNDAYS - 9:45AM-11:15AM

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVESTREAM: austinbaptistchurch.com/WATCH

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP GROUPS: austinbaptistchurch.com/BFG

ABC PODCASTS: austinbaptistchurch.com/PODCASTS

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD'S FAITHFULNESS

ATTENDANCE **05.31.2026**

8:45 AM WORSHIP	562
11:15 AM WORSHIP	421
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP	714

FINANCIAL REPORT **05.31.2026**

ACCOUNT	MAY 31, 2026	YTD
GREAT COMMISSION FUND (GENERAL)	\$75,090.95	\$2,158,257.46
DESIGNATED	\$735.00	\$97,674.00
LIGHT THE WAY - COMBINED	\$10,580.15	\$406,875.29
TOTAL GIVING	\$86,406.10	\$2,662,806.75

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**

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- **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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