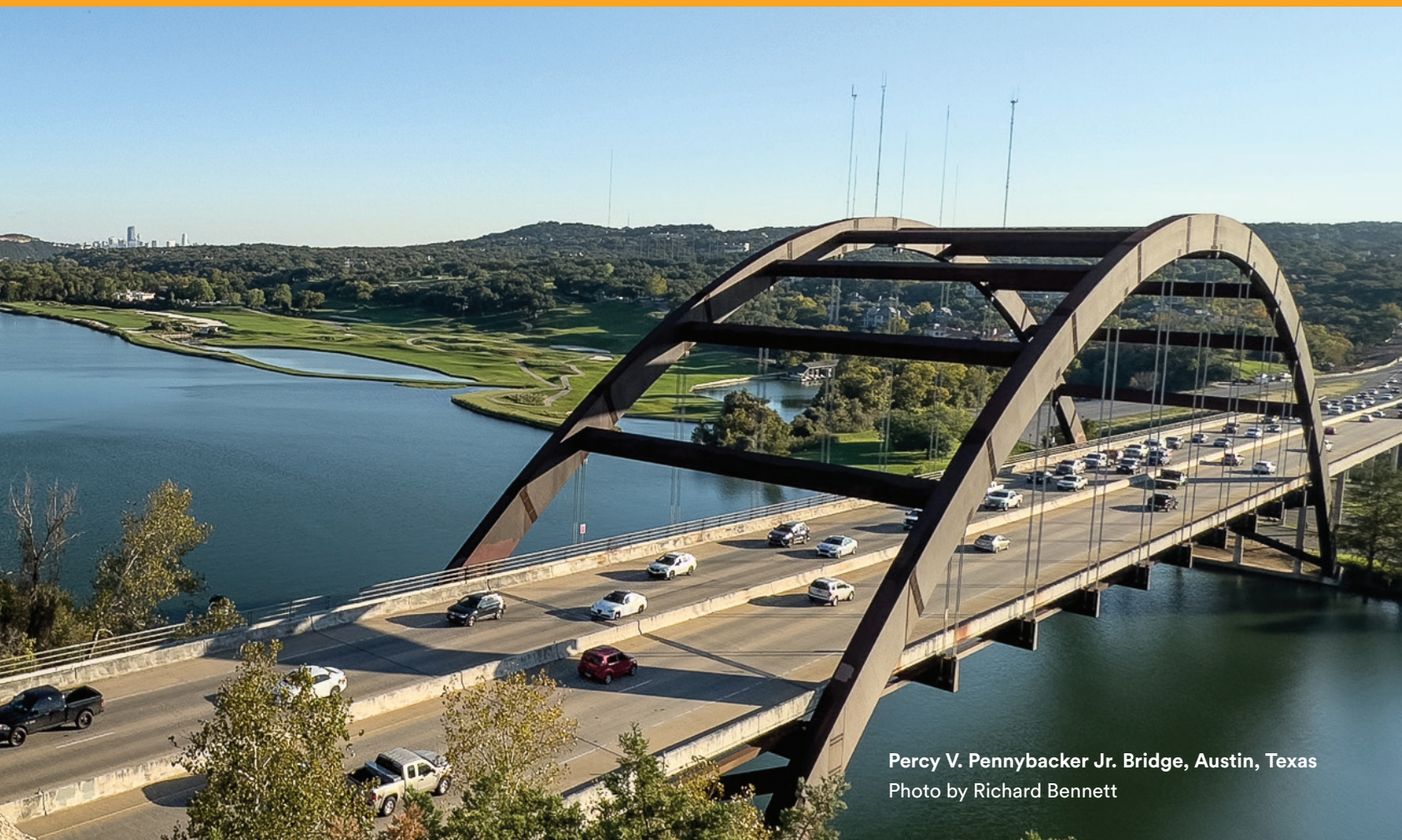


The BRIDGE

A PUBLICATION OF AUSTIN BAPTIST CHURCH



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

VOL. 18 NO. 35 ————— SEPTEMBER 24, 2025



**AUSTIN BAPTIST
CHURCH**

LET THERE BE LIGHT

TABLE of CONTENTS

A Word from Our Pastor	3
Deacons on Call	4
New Members	5
Upcoming Events	6
Weekly Reminders	7
ABC Women's Ministry	8-10
- Week in Review: Sweet Sunday	
- Mom Q Workshop: Mom Guilt	
Mary Hill Davis Offering	11
NEW Live Spanish Translation for 11:15am Service	11
Egypt Tour 2026 with Dr. Jonathan Spencer	11
From the Pages of Bill's Notebook	12
ABC Library	13
Our Response to God's Faithfulness	14
- Attendance	
- Financial Report	



A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

ABC Family,

Our vision at ABC is “to see God light up your life, your home, your neighborhood, and the world.” To fulfill that vision, we must be intentional in building bridges to our neighbors around us.

God has blessed us with a great opportunity to share the love of Christ with some of our closest neighbors at the Cardinal Point Apartments. Cardinal Point offers affordable housing with free on-site services for families in need. On Saturday, October 4th, a group of volunteers from ABC will provide dinner and fellowship there on site. You are invited to come volunteer by simply serving food and breaking bread with our neighbors. We prayerfully believe this will be the first of many opportunities to relationally engage our neighbors and introduce them to Jesus and our church. If you’ve been looking for an opportunity to light up your neighborhood, visit austinbaptistchurch.com/cardinalpoint.

We have one more week in our current sermon series, “The One Anothers.” We’ve learned to love one another, welcome one another, forgive one another, bear one another’s burdens, and encourage one another. This Sunday, we’ll conclude our series by learning to **serve** one another. During the service, we will celebrate our young families through Parent-Child Dedication and also take the Lord’s Supper together as a church family.

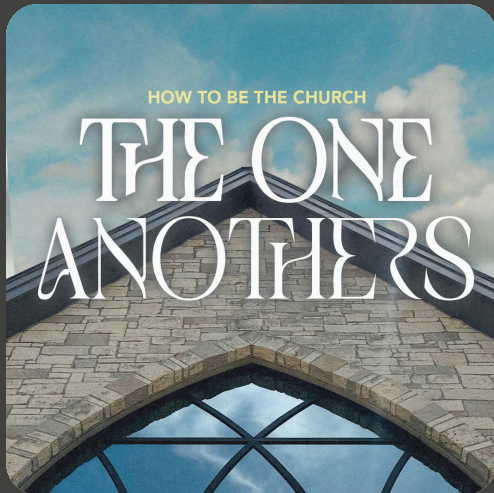
Lastly, don’t forget our Egypt Bible Tour is now open for registration at austinbaptistchurch.com/egypt. Come experience the trip of a lifetime and get a glimpse of what God is doing through our church’s partnership with tC Egypt. I’ll host an informational meeting Sunday, October 19th, at 12:30pm in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

Onward and Upward,

DR. JONATHAN SPENCER

SENIOR PASTOR





CURRENT SERIES

The One Others

How To *Be* The Church

DEACONS ON CALL

FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 2025



Larry Hart

512-632-1591

LARRY HART earned a B.S. degree in Aerospace Engineering and an MBA from Texas A&M University. He is the Senior Director of Solution Marketing at Micron Technology. He and Michelle are blessed with daughters Katie, Meredith, and Alaina. They joined ABC in 2014.



Mitchel Wong

512-940-0688

MITCHELL WONG earned a B.A. Degree in Zoology from the University of Texas at Austin and a D.M. from Baylor College of Medicine. He went on to do his internship, fellowship, and residency in Baylor-affiliated hospitals. He founded Austin Eye Clinic, and with his son founded the Mitchel & Shannon Wong Eye Institute at Dell Medical School. He and Rose have four sons: an attorney, an architectural photographer, and two ophthalmologists. They joined ABC in 2020.

CHURCHWIDE ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025



**Linda
Miller**



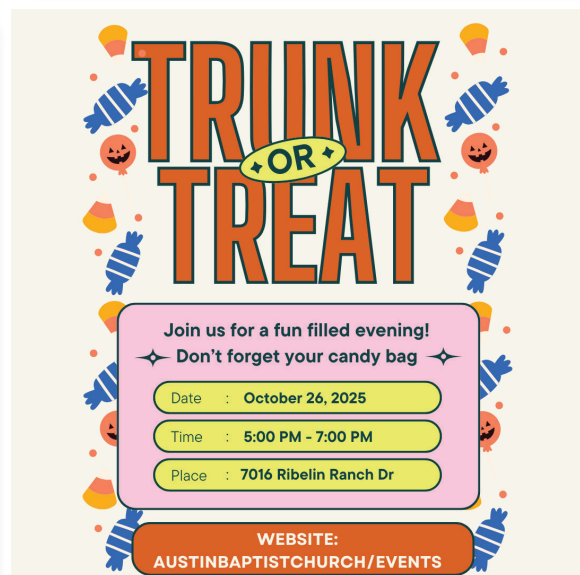
**Claudia
Melendez**



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.

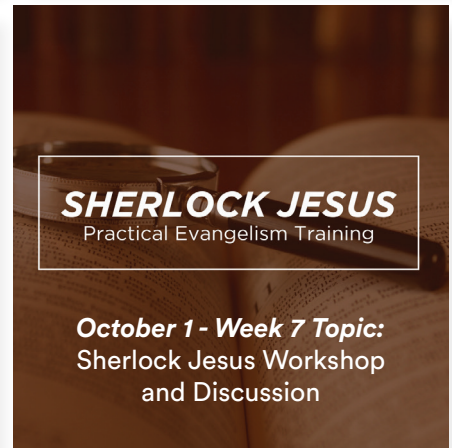
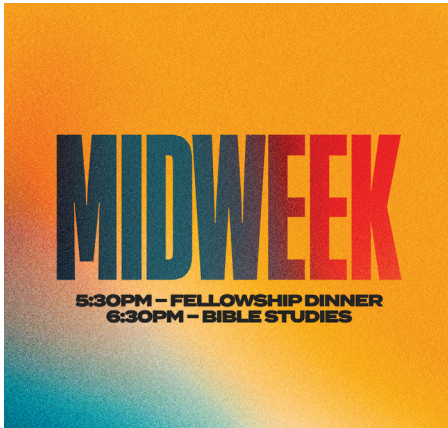
MATTHEW 28:19-20

UPCOMING EVENTS



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

WEEKLY REMINDERS



MIDWEEK MENU

NEXT WEEK'S MENU
OCTOBER 1

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

Cheeseburgers and french fries

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.



ABC Women's Ministry

WHERE EVERYONE HAS A SEAT AT THE TABLE

Hello ladies!

What a joy it was to hold Sweet Sunday in the Great Hall for the first time! The extra space gave us room to visit, enjoy sweets and drinks, welcome more friends to the table, and even appreciate better sound. It truly felt like a gift.

A big thank you to everyone who came! I'm always amazed at how God uses these gatherings—yes, even when we're weaving potholders. For some it was fun, for others maybe a little frustrating, but together we shared lots of laughs. I loved how God gave us such a clear picture: when we're woven together, our cord grows stronger. Even if we feel like a frayed knot, in Christ we can be “a-frayed-knot” because His Word reminds us, “Do not be afraid.” He is with us, and so is the Body of Christ to support and encourage us.

Mark your calendars for our next Sweet Sunday on **November 2nd!** We have something new and exciting planned. Don't worry—no weaving this time!

Also, moms—save the date for a special MomQ workshop on **October 5th!** We'll tackle the real and pressing issue of Mom Guilt with our friend Lindsey Werner, a licensed professional counselor and favorite at ABC. She'll share Biblical wisdom and practical tools to help us let go of guilt and embrace God's grace. Thanks to our partnership with MomQ, this event is completely free! Just be sure to register using [this link](#) (or scan the QR code on Page 10) so we know you're coming.

Let's keep encouraging one another to be “a-frayed-knot”!

Woven in His Grace,

ANITA MCGINNIS
WOMEN'S MINISTER



Sweet Sunday
September 21, 2025



See You at the Pole
September 24, 2025



WEEK IN REVIEW

Mom Guilt Workshop

Find Freedom & Confidence in Christ



Featured Speaker



Lindsey Werner
Licensed Professional Counselor,
Founder of Relational Equipping

Anita McGinnis
Women's Minister,
Austin Baptist Church

Candace Nassar
MomQ Founder &
Executive Director

Topics

- Driving Expectations
- The Neuroscience of Motherhood
- Strategies to Minimize Mom Guilt

Come be encouraged, connect with other moms, and walk away with hope and practical tools.

Special Guests



Free Event—All Moms Welcome!

Why Attend?

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.



Scan or use the [Link](#) to register!

17 Sunday, October 5th 4:30-6:00 PM

Austin Baptist Church 7016 Ribelin Ranch Dr, Austin, TX 78750

Hosted by Austin Baptist Church in partnership with MomQ

Visit www.momq.org for more information
Find us on IG, FB and YouTube @momq512



WE ARE TEXAS MISSIONS

OUR ABC GOAL:

\$15,000

GIVE AT: austinbaptistchurch.com/give

IAMTEXASMISSIONS.ORG
Mary Hill Davis Offering

¿Hablas español?

¡Escanea este código QR para traducción al español!

Traducción al Español disponible en nuestro servicio de adoración dominical a las 11:15 AM.



ESCANEAR AQUÍ



FROM THE PYRAMIDS TO THE RED SEA

EGYPT TOUR

WITH DR. JONATHAN SPENCER

MARCH 2-12, 2026



EXPERIENCE THE BIBLE COME ALIVE

Walk through one of the world's greatest ancient civilizations and see where Joseph, Moses, and Mary & Joseph walked with baby Jesus. Experience the Exodus as we visit sites such as the Great Pyramids, the Nile, the Red Sea, and the traditional site of Mount Sinai. Spots are limited so sign up fast!

INTEREST MEETING

Sunday, October 19th // The Chapel // 12:30pm
austinbaptistchurch.com/Egypt

From the Pages of Bill's Notebook

At one of my churches, I had arrived on staff with a big celebration. There was a parade with cars, firetrucks, and lights in the yard of the newly renovated parsonage. The congregation gave us something called a “pounding.” I was a little anxious about this because the only “poundings” I had received were in middle school by the bullies at recess. This pounding, however, was when they brought you a pound of some household staple (i.e. a pound of sugar or flour, butter, or my kids favorite, their own breakfast cereal). In spite of the wonderful welcome, the honeymoon period ended pretty quickly. I had only been at this church for a couple of weeks when two couples were embroiled in a disagreement and they weren’t making any progress on resolution. Each family was pretty insistent on convincing me to take their side. As their new pastor, I decided to lean in and invite them all to my office to talk through it one Sunday afternoon. I knew I needed to address this interpersonal issue since it had literally disrupted Bible study that day. I also wanted to include the chairman of deacons, a wise man who could possibly speak some wisdom and peace into this situation. I prayed, then called the couples and asked them to meet at my office. They agreed. Then I called the chairman of the Deacons who lived down the street. He said he would be there. I began to pray that the Holy Spirit would guide our meeting, that our words would be pleasing to the Lord, and helpful to reconciliation. Everyone arrived at the church, but somewhere in the mile-and-a-half drive to the church, the chairman of deacons had completely lost his voice. He had just spoken clearly to me on the phone when he was leaving the house, but he could not talk at all when he arrived. I do not know what happened, but apparently he would end up being the example of one who listened rather than speaking into the situation. I listened and spoke with the couples, and we were able to resolve some of their issues... for the moment, because apparently it was a pretty deep-seated conflict, and it would resurface again in a few months.

When James the half-brother of Jesus was trying to help the early church remember how to treat each other now that they belonged to Jesus, he said, “My dear brothers, take note of this: Everyone should be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry, for man’s anger does not bring about the righteous life that God desires” (James 1:19-20 NIV). Maybe we should all lose our voice temporarily, be more curious, and be quick to listen when there is a conflict. Jesus Himself fulfilled Isaiah’s prophecy and remained silent before His accusers at His trial, which would ultimately accomplish the salvation of many. He certainly could have spoken and silenced them all, but He chose not to.

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

In His Joy,

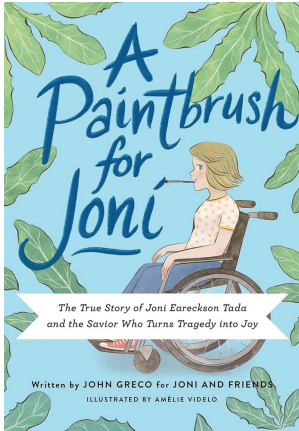
BILL MCGINNIS

PASTOR OF CARE





ABC Library



***A Paintbrush for Joni* by John Greco**

John Greco is a writer and editor who lives in Nashville, Tennessee. Most of his career has been in the Christian publishing industry. He has written several books for children and adults. His most recent book series for young adults is called *The Timefall Trilogy*. John is the senior manager of publishing and creative content for *Joni and Friends*, which is a ministry started by Joni Eareckson Tada in 1979. It is committed to reaching and serving people with disabilities by offering help and sharing the love of Jesus Christ.

A Paintbrush for Joni is the story of how Joni Eareckson Tada became a quadriplegic after a swimming accident when she was seventeen years old. Joni had many struggles adjusting to her new way of life. She did not like having to ask for help to do everything and she worked hard to do things in a different way. She could not use her hands, but she still had some strength in her shoulders that enabled her to move her arms slightly. Joni learned to write and paint using a paint brush that she held in her mouth. Joni continued to ask God to heal her body. Through much prayer and Bible study, she learned that God could use her disability to help others. The book tells how Joni's ministry began and of all the ways that she and her ministry have helped thousands, both with and without disabilities, to seek a relationship with God. There are discussion questions for parents and their children to use at the end of the story.

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

ATTENDANCE09.21.2025

8:45 AM WORSHIP	611
11:15 AM WORSHIP	283
BIBLE FELLOWSHIP	761

FINANCIAL REPORT09.21.2025

ACCOUNT	SEPT. 21, 2025	YTD
GENERAL FUND	\$58,958.30	\$2,960,185.96
DESIGNATED	\$3,155.00	\$116,075.40
LIGHT THE WAY - COMBINED	\$110,971.68	\$1,545,369.82
TOTAL GIVING	\$171,084.98	\$5,621,631.18
MISSION OFFERING	CURRENT TOTAL	GOAL
MARY HILL DAVIS	\$13,071.90	\$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**
- **CALL:** **512.334.8247**

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



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