



4001 Hendricks Avenue, Jacksonville, Florida 32207-6321 904-396-7745 info@habchurch.com www.habchurch.com

Is It Really a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood?

By Kyle Reese, Pastor

I am fascinated by the work of theologian David Leong. Leong is doing insightful work regarding the intersection of theology and the way we live together in our neighborhoods and cities. He poses an interesting question as he thinks about our travels outside of our own neighborhood: "Where is the place closest to you that you feel you don't belong?"

Leong does not leave the question unanswered. Rather, he encourages those with the willingness to reach outside their own neighborhood and comfort zone to explore why they feel uncomfortable. Is it the people? Change in the socio-economic demographic? Simply outside of one's normal path and travels?

It occurs to me that Leong's question serves us well as we examine all of the "neighborhoods" we inhabit.

How far outside of your religious "neighborhood" do you have to travel in order to feel discomfort?

How far outside your political "neighborhood" do you have to explore before you feel as though you don't belong?

Finally, Leong encourages those with the willingness to explore outside the boundaries of their particular neighborhoods. For the courageous, community can be formed in new and creative ways. For the willing, unexpected gifts and people can be discovered and appreciated.

It's difficult to move outside the "neighborhoods" we inhabit. Despite the difficulty, we must explore because surely wherever we go, there God is.

Exploring,
Kyle

The poster for Trivia Night is set against a solid orange background. At the top, the words "Trivia Night" are written in a large, bold, black, sans-serif font. Below the title are four white icons: a location pin, a puzzle piece, a speech bubble, and a question mark. In the center, the date "OCTOBER 17" and the time "5:30-7:00 P.M." are written in a bold, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the text "A fundraiser for local hunger programs" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

Hunger Initiative Kicks Off with Trivia Night!

One of the ways to expand our community and neighborhoods is to invite others to partner with us in serving our local community. Our Trivia Night on Wednesday, October 17, from 5:30-7:00 p.m. is a great opportunity for you to invite your friends and neighbors to help us kick off our Hunger Initiative. Form a team of 8 and pay an entrance fee of \$40 or register as an individual for \$5 and we will build a team! Proceeds from trivia night will go to benefit UCOM. Contact Claire Chinn at claire@habchurch.com to register!

(See more about our Hunger Initiative and ways to get involved on page 6.)

Kyle T. Reese, D.Min., Pastor • Thomas M. Shapard, M.Div., M.M., Minister of Music & Worship

Britt Hester, M.Div., Minister of Youth and Christian Education • Claire Kermitz Chinn, M.Div., Minister of Children and Mission

Vickie M. Landers, B.B.A., Church Administrator • H. Kendell Smith, Dip.C.M. Minister of Music Emeritus

Politics, Fear, and Scripture

By Britt Hester, Minister of Youth & Christian Education

If I were to ask people to make a top-10 list of things they would rather not talk about at church, my guess is politics would be at the top or near the top of most lists. I suppose politics has always been a taboo topic for most individuals and families, which is disheartening on a number of levels. Conversation about politics should be welcomed as an opportunity for us to engage important topics that impact each of us. While we may disagree on certain issues, that should not discourage us from fellowship with one another. In fact, it should do quite the opposite. If it were not for family members and friends who challenged me over the years, I would never have arrived at some of the convictions I hold today. We need each other in order to grow in our understanding of that which shapes and impacts us and our society.

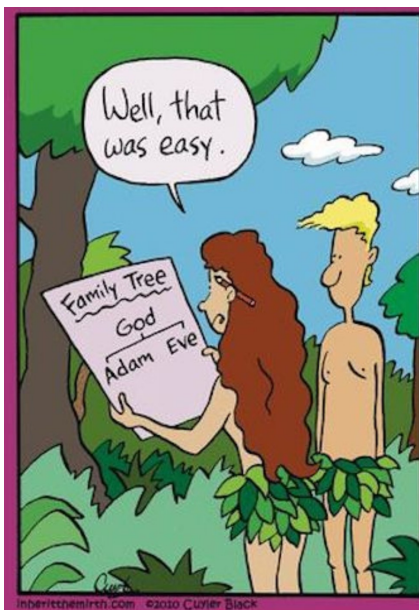
Perhaps the reason we are so reluctant to have these conversations is due to fear. After all, it is awkward to sit in silence at the dinner table because someone thought it was a good idea to talk about gun control, immigration, or another hot topic issue. And while fear is what often keeps us silent, it is what also allows anger, bitterness, and resentment to build over time. If we stay silent for too long, bottling up our thoughts and feelings due to fear, it has the tendency to spill over into rage, resulting in the tribal nature we see so often in the current political climate. It is

our fear that keeps us isolated from one another, allowing us to turn neighbors into enemies, friends into opponents, and family into strangers. Fear can get the best of all of us if we allow it, and when it does, it can spread like wildfire.

That's why in our three new Sunday Bible Study classes we are discussing politics and fear and what scripture tells us about God's concern for these issues. In our classes, we are talking about these topics because they matter. And they matter not only to us, but to God as well. Deciding to talk about these matters is the first step in creating authentic community, where we are willing to listen and share with one another, even if we disagree on certain ideas. Being able to do this in Sunday Bible Study affirms our commitment to trusting God's guidance in these important matters, for we know we cannot navigate the complexity of these issues by ourselves. As we finish our current studies and begin new studies in October, I hope you will make a commitment to join us in these conversations that matter. And I pray that as we engage them together, we will grow deeper not only in our faith, but in relationships with one another as well. See you Sunday!

Your Monthly Funnies

By Gene Maszy



YOUTH FALL RETREAT

October 12-14

Fall Retreat at Epworth By The Sea
(Theme: Carry the Fire)

\$100 per person (covers food, lodging and transportation costs for two nights)

Please contact Britt for more details.

britt@habchurch.com
904-396-7745 x316

Volunteers Make Wednesday Nights Happen!

Wednesday night fellowship dinners are back and going strong. Dinner with a Deacon kicked off the fall schedule. We served our classic meatloaf, lovingly prepared by Mary Jane Cooper, to a nice crowd. Our second meal contained all new recipes, prepared by two of our fabulous staff, Claire Chinn and Britt Hester. They did a great job, too. I've had several requests for the recipe for the Five Bean Bake. I did my best to copy the beans at Bearded Pig, I admit. It's so affirming when people like your food and want to make it at home. Poppyseed chicken and rice is always a favorite, the entree our third week. Dotty Pye has made that recipe her own with delicious results. That's only the beginning of our fall line-up of menus, new and tried and true.

I've not even mentioned the desserts; salads; or fresh, homemade bread we serve. We are so blessed to have Bob McMeekin, Bill English, and Lynne Galbraith in our kitchen.

Dawson McQuaig, Jr. has joined our team on a weekly basis, too. All these guys can cook! They make Wednesdays happen.

September started a new church year. It's an exciting time to be a member of the HAB family. We are launching the Imagine 2020 initiatives with meaningful studies and projects. Our first quarterly conference will be Sunday, October 21. Lunch will be served. This is your opportunity to be a part of the mission and community that is HAB.

As you get into the fall season, with its new school schedules, football games and, hopefully, some cool weather, make Wednesday nights at HAB your chance to relax, enjoy a meal, connect with your church family, and be renewed in body and spirit.

October 3

Pork loin, bread, risotto, broccoli, chocolate cake.

October 10

(RESERVATIONS NEEDED, SEE BELOW)

Filet mignon, bread, baked potatoes, green beans, chocolate delight

October 17

Turkey, bread, California mac and cheese, green beans, bread pudding with hard sauce

October 24 [Fall Festival Night!]

Pulled pork sandwiches, sides, dessert

October 31

Roasted chicken, bread, Bearded Pig baked beans, yellow rice

Quarterly Conference Menu

Sunday, October 21

12:15 p.m.

Chicken, potato salad, cake

Please RSVP for the meal to Laraine at 904-396-7745 x 333 or laraine@habchurch.com by Thursday, October 18.



A Very Special Wednesday Night

Tommy Shapard's 10th anniversary celebration will take place at the regular church supper on **Wednesday night, October 10**. The steak dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m., and will be immediately followed by the anniversary celebration from 6:00-7:00 p.m. You will not want to miss this event, which will be funny, nostalgic, moving, and most of all, FUN! **Please make your dinner reservations by October 7**. Contact Laraine at laraine@habchurch.com or 904-396-7745 x333.

Celebrating 10 Years with the Shapards

by Julie Mason

Who would think that a little old Baptist church would have the bravery, the willpower, and the pure, gut-wrenching FAITH, to call a music minister when it had no sanctuary, no hymnals, no organ, no choir robes, very little music—almost nothing with which to support a worship service, not even a baton for the director, all having been completely destroyed by fire one year earlier? But HAB did—and furthermore, it landed THE BEST in the land.

Tommy Shapard, in a huge leap of faith and an innate, unshakeable belief in what COULD be, took the job in October 2008 in the face of multiple complications and obstacles, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Tommy and Rachel and their family of one beautiful little boy, Drew, arrived in Jacksonville just in time for Tommy to participate in the groundbreaking ceremony for our new sanctuary. The date was October 5, Tommy's very first Sunday on the dais as official Minister of Music and Worship. The choir sang John Leavitt's "Festival Sanctus" and Mark Hayes' "Then Will the Very Rocks Cry Out." Rachel and Tommy also sang an arrangement of "Here I Am, Lord."

Most of us at HAB know that Tommy is mid-way through his Doctorate of Pastoral Music from the Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University in Dallas, where he is researching innovative practices that will help pastoral musicians thrive in the early 21st century. Not all of us know, however, that he holds two and a half Master's degrees. He has a Master in Music Performance with a specialization in conducting from the University of North Florida and a Master of Divinity from Candler School of Theology at Emory University with an emphasis on worship, justice, and Baptist studies. The "half" was a Master in Music at Florida State University with specialization in ethnomusicology—the thesis remained unfinished because he enrolled at Emory's Candler School of Theology in Atlanta, where a spectacular redhead was living and was enrolled at Mercer's McAfee School of Theology.

Actually, the spectacular redhead—Rachel Gunter—was only partially responsible for Tommy's change in geographical direction. His focus was changing direction, too, and was leading him toward the concrete practices of music and worship and their ex-

tensive, wide-ranging ramifications for the Church.

By the time Tommy got to HAB some five years later, we were the beneficiaries of a wonderful "two-fer"—not only did we get Tommy, but we also got Rachel Gunter Shapard, M.Div. Reverend Rachel is the Associate Coordinator for the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship of Florida and the Caribbean. She also graces our congregation with her excellent preaching from time to time, she participates fully in our church life, and she sings with the Sanctuary Choir, sharing her soaring, beautiful soprano nearly every Sunday and on special occasions. Who can ever forget her rendition of "The Tenebrae Song," one of HAB's most beloved Good Friday traditions, that annually leaves us in tears?

Tommy is a native of Raleigh, North Carolina, but grew up in Ft. Worth, Texas. He is a 1997 magna cum laude graduate of Baylor University (thus, a Baylor Bear, like Kyle and Hannah, and equally insufferable). At Baylor, he was inducted into several academic honor societies, won the Annual Senior Award for Outstanding Music Educator, was on the Dean's Academic Honor List, won multiple scholarships, and was a finalist for the award "Top Five Sophomores" in Baylor's School of Music.

He was equally accomplished at FSU, inducted into the Phi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society and awarded a graduate stipend and scholarship for all three years in Tallahassee. At Emory, he was a Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Leadership Scholar, an Honor Scholarship recipient, and won the scholarship that is presented to the rising senior who shows exceptional promise in the Baptist tradition.

And HAB got him! Before we got him, however, Tommy served in several churches in various positions, all related to music: Choir Director at Gray Memorial United Methodist in Tallahassee; Assistant Director of Music at Cannon United Methodist Church, Snellville, Georgia; Assistant Minister of Music at First Baptist Church in Gainesville, Georgia (where he was officially ordained into the ministry in 2005); and lastly, as Pastor of Music and Worship in Lubbock, Texas, from whence he came to HAB.

Tommy's enormous talents burst at the seams, as anyone who has been around or

worked with him knows. In addition to his full-time position at HAB as Minister of Music and Worship and the extensive music programs he has established and supports for HAB, Tommy is a part-time instructor on the music faculty at UNF and has written a sacred music curriculum now in use there, the graduates of which earn a Certificate in Sacred Music. He has conducted the Men's and Women's Choruses at UNF in the past, and still conducts the 5 O'Clock Singers. He serves as the Director of Choirs at Florida State College at Jacksonville (FSCJ) and worked for five years as a member of the Jacksonville Children's Chorus Artistic Staff (in which sons Drew and Mac sing).

Selfishly for us, one of the greatest benefits to HAB of Tommy's community involvement is the greatly increased exposure of our church within the community and as a vivid source of spiritual witness in the many forms that our music takes. We at HAB have stated that we believe it to be our mission to offer our music to the public in the form of our widely varied special programs and performances, and conversely, we attract through our doors absolutely wonderful musicians of all genres and talents. It is a win-win for HAB and for the community.

Rachel, a native of Tallahassee and a Florida State grad with a B.A. in Music in addition to her Master of Divinity from McAfee at Mercer, brings her own wonderful gifts to HAB, as do the two lovely children who have arrived since the Shapards moved to Jacksonville. Kate is now an astounding nine years old and in the third grade at Pine Forest School of the Arts; Mac, believe it or not, is seven, and in the second grade, also at Pine Forest. Drew, only two when they moved here, is now 12 and in the seventh grade at LaVilla School of the Arts and will soon see eye-to-eye with Tommy in height.

While the Shapard family is a common sight around HAB, the kids blasting through doorways and down corridors—Tommy and Rachel ditto, though at perhaps a more sedate pace—the Shapards are nevertheless an extraordinary family, and we know we are uber-fortunate to have them. We have loved and valued them for 10 years and pray we'll get to do the same for at least 10 more.

What the heck, let's hope for 20 more!

Sympathy to...

...Julie Babcock in the death of her brother, Dennis Cheves. Dennis died on Tuesday, August 14, 2018, after a long illness. His service was August 21, 2018, in Gainesville, Florida.

...Connie Jones and family in the death of Connie's husband Frank. The funeral service was August 28 in our sanctuary.

...Sally Lott and family in the death of Sally's husband Dale on September 12, 2018. Dale's service was September 17 in our sanctuary.



Thank You...

Dear church family,

Many, many thanks for your prayers, love, cards, visits, calls, flowers, and meals during my recent surgeries and recovery. I am looking forward to being back soon. Love, Sheryl Gates.

Welcome to HAB!

Dennie and Julie Carter, both Jacksonville natives, returned to HAB after seven years in Tampa, transferring from Bayshore Baptist Church. They have two children, Ramona, age 9, and Simon, age 5. The children attend Pine Forest School of the Arts, where Ramona is in third grade and Simon in kindergarten.

Julie is a college counselor at Episcopal School of Jacksonville, and Dennie works in IT at Fanatics, Inc., an online retailer of licensed sportswear, equipment, and merchandise, which is headquartered in Jacksonville. They are currently attending Britt Hester's Sunday Bible Study class. Julie volunteers with HAB's Wednesday children's activities and participates in HAB Moms Meet-Up.

Dennie enjoys playing drums, Julie likes reading and cooking, and the whole family loves to travel and visit Disney World.



*Dennie and Julie Carter
Joined September 9, 2018*

The Offering Plate	For the Fiscal Year beginning September 1, 2017		
	Sept - Jul	Aug	Year to Date
Offerings and Other Revenue	\$ 1,076,326	\$ 120,176	\$ 1,196,502
Expenses	(1,117,598)	(110,308)	(1,227,906)
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	(41,272)	9,868	(31,404)
Budgeted Offerings & Other Revenue	1,142,639	103,876	1,246,515
Above/(Below) Budget	(66,313)	16,299	(50,014)
# Days Operating Cash on Hand (period-end)	26.8	29.6	29.6

Understand and Engage: Ways to Fight Hunger in Our Community

by Claire Chinn, Minister of Children and Mission

A few months ago we launched our Imagine 2020 initiatives, and there has already been such excitement and energy. Through missions we are focusing our energies around hunger. You might have noticed conversation starters and hunger facts at the tables on Wednesday night suppers.

We are working to truly understand what hunger is and what it looks like, while engaging with our local partners. There are a number of ways we can do this. One way we can engage is through committing our financial resources and our time. On October 17 we will be having a Trivia Night [see information on the front of this newsletter.]

There are also plenty of ways to get invested in the work our local agencies are doing. UCOM (United Community Outreach Ministry) will be hosting their annual Chili Cook-off on Saturday, October 20, at 6:00 p.m. at San Jose Church of Christ. Come join the fun and bid on wonderful auction items.

UCOM partners with CROP Walk each year to do a one-mile and three-mile walk to end hunger at home and around the world. We will be joining with other congregations in our area on Sunday, November 4, at 2:00 p.m. at South Jax Presbyterian Church to walk to end hunger. Our goal this year is to double our donation and our walkers from last year. A tall task, but one I know we can achieve!

We have been preparing and serving meals at the Sulzbacher Center for a long time now, and we are expanding our pool of cooking volunteers by 10% this year. No experience is necessary, and volunteers rotate, serving only four times per year. If you are interested in joining the team, you can contact Joyce Hanson at hansonj68@gmail.com.

New Sunday Bible Study Sessions Begin October 21

TRACK 1: LESSONS FROM THE LECTIONARY

Living the Word

Following the Narrative Lectionary, we'll discover how the people of God responded to God's calling in their lives. From David's sin and repentance to Isaiah's prophecy of hope, God's covenant of love continues to call out a response from people of faith.

Facilitator: Dawson McQuaig, Jr.

TRACK 2: DIGGING DEEPER

Krazy Kinfolk: Exploring Dysfunctional Families of the Bible

by Barbara Essex

With the holidays approaching, are you already dreading the family gatherings with angry Uncle Bob, brooding cousin Sarah, and the brother who has to argue politics with anyone who will listen? You're in good company! Even God's chosen in the Bible had trouble getting along with one another and maintaining healthy relationships. And yet through them, God found a way to bless the world.

Facilitators: Pam Fordham, L.M.H.C.;
Dr. Karla Repper

TRACK 3: CROSSROADS: WHERE FAITH MEETS LIFE

Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, and the Bible

by M. Daniel Carroll

As one of the most divisive issues on the national agenda, Christians often disagree on how to confront this growing problem. The author, Daniel Carroll, is recognized as an international immigration expert and empathizes with both sides of the argument.

Practice how to think biblically and compassionately about this urgent topic.

Facilitators: Art and Teri Mills

Mark Your Calendar

Monday, October 1

8:00 a.m. Men's Book Study: D-1

Tuesday, October 2

1:00 p.m. Prayer Shawl Ministry: D-1

Wednesday, October 3

5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Meal Served: FH

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Children's Choirs: E-wing

6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Moms Meet-Up: Parlor

6:00 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Youth Group: Gym

6:30 p.m.-6:55 p.m. Vespers: Chapel

7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room

Saturday, October 6

10:00 a.m. Blessing of the Animals: Central Breezeway

Sunday, October 7

8:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m. Worship: Sanctuary

9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Bible Study Classes

11:00 a.m.-noon Eleven O'clock Worship: Sanctuary

Noon African Church: Chapel

12:15 p.m. Outreach Lunch: FH

4:00 p.m. Romanian Church: Chapel

4:30-5:00 p.m. HAB Ringers: E-9

5:00-6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Youth: Choir Room

6:30-8:00 p.m. Master Ringers: E-9

7:00 p.m. Burmese Church: Chapel

Monday, October 8

8:00 a.m. Women's Book Study: D-1

Wednesday, October 10

5:30 p.m. Meal Served: FH [reservations due by 10/7]

6:00-7:00 p.m. Celebrating 10 Years with the Shapards

7:00-8:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room

Friday, October 12– Sunday, October 14

... Youth Fall Retreat: Epworth by the Sea

Sunday, October 14

8:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m. Worship: Sanctuary

9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Bible Study Reflections Class: Chapel

11:00 a.m.-noon Eleven O'clock Worship: Sanctuary

Noon African Church: Chapel

4:00 p.m. Romanian Church: Chapel

4:30-5:00 p.m. HAB Ringers: E-9

5:00-6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Youth: Choir Room

6:30-8:00 p.m. Master Ringers: E-9

7:00 p.m. Burmese Church: Chapel

Monday, October 15

8:00 a.m. Men's Book Study: D-1

5:30 p.m.– 6:45 p.m. Sulzbacher Feeding

Wednesday, October 17

5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Meal Served: FH

6:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Trivia Night [Hunger Initiative]: FH

7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room

Saturday, October 20

6:00 p.m. UCOM Chili Cook-off:

San Jose Church of Christ

Sunday, October 21

8:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m. Worship: Sanctuary

9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. [New Sessions] Bible Study Classes

11:00 a.m.-noon Eleven O'clock Worship: Sanctuary

12:15 p.m. Quarterly Conference/Lunch: FH

Noon African Church: Chapel

4:00 p.m. Romanian Church: Chapel

4:30-5:00 p.m. HAB Ringers: E-9

5:00-6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Youth: Choir Room

6:30-8:00 p.m. Master Ringers: E-9

7:00 p.m. Burmese Church: Chapel

Monday, October 22

8:00 a.m.-9:00 a.m. Women's Book Study: D-1

Wednesday, October 24

5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Meal Served: FH

5:30 p.m.-7:00 p.m. Fall Festival

7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room

Sunday, October 28

8:45 a.m.-9:45 a.m. 8:45 a.m. Worship: Sanctuary

9:45 a.m.-10:45 a.m. Bible Study Classes

11:00 a.m.-noon Eleven O'clock Worship: Sanctuary

Noon African Church: Chapel

4:00 p.m. Romanian Church: Chapel

4:30-5:00 p.m. HAB Ringers: E-9

5:00-6:00 p.m. Sunday Night Youth: Choir Room

6:30 p.m.-8:00 p.m. Master Ringers: E-9

7:00 p.m. Burmese Church: Chapel

Wednesday, October 31

5:30 p.m.-6:30 p.m. Meal Served: FH

7:00 p.m.-8:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room



4001 Hendricks Avenue
Jacksonville, FL 32207-6321
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Jacksonville, FL
Permit No. 2725

ADDRESS LABEL HERE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE
www.habchurch.com
for information about our Sunday Bible study classes, upcoming events, new books at the library, Wednesday night menus, and more.

IN THIS ISSUE:	Is It Really a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood?	Celebrating 10 Years with the Shapards
	Hunger Initiative Kicks Off with Trivia Night	News of Your Church Family
	Politics, Fear, and Scripture	Welcome New Members
	Your Monthly Funnies	The Offering Plate
	Kitchen Corner	Ways to Fight Hunger in Our Community
	October Menus	New Sunday Bible Study Sessions
	Special Wednesday Evening RSVP Details	October Calendar