

Hendricks Herald

Hendricks Avenue Baptist Church

October 2020



HAB Sunday Bible Study Reformatting

By Britt Hester, Minister of Youth and Christian Education

HAB Family and Friends,

As you know, we plan to reopen our sanctuary for worship on Sunday, October 4, for two identical services at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. I am sure many of you are excited to return to our sanctuary to worship together in body as well as spirit. With these changes to worship on Sunday mornings, there also come changes to our Sunday Bible Study schedule.

For the past seven months, we have exclusively met on Zoom for Sunday Bible Study, out of an abundance of caution for everyone's safety. While Zoom is not ideal for Bible study, it has provided a unique and consistent place for us to meet regularly to study Scripture and interact with one another. We are grateful for this opportunity, and our plan is to continue meeting in this format in the near future. With that in mind, however, we need to make some necessary changes in the short term to accommodate the new worship structure on Sunday mornings.

As a result, effective October 4, we are pausing Sunday Bible Study on Zoom for the next eight weeks to narrow our focus to worship planning, seating logistics, and building safety. In the meantime, our Sunday Bible Study Leadership Team will formulate a study for Advent and a detailed plan for the foreseeable future. During these eight weeks, Susan and Joe Stepp will offer pre-recorded lessons on the Psalms that will be uploaded each week. The title of their study is "A Life of Faith: Lessons from the Psalms." You can interact with this material and with one another on both Facebook and YouTube in the chat features, or you can visit the lessons at your own leisure. Stay tuned for more info.

In addition to the changes to our adult SBS, our youth and children are also adjusting their Bible study schedules to accommodate our new worship schedule.

It is important for everyone to know that we arrived at this conclusion for two reasons: 1) The service times for worship on Sundays align closely together, thus creating too narrow a window for people to attend worship and Sunday Bible Study in many instances. For the time being, it seems prudent to evaluate our current structure and develop a long-range plan that will assimilate Sunday Bible Study into our new Sunday morning schedule. 2) We felt it was in the best interest of the congregation to focus our collective attention on in-person worship. While we have a solid plan in place for regathering, we also realize we will need to evaluate our process and make adjustments as we begin to regather in October. Pausing Zoom Bible Study gives us the collaborative freedom to do this while we iron out the inevitable logistical kinks.

During these eight weeks, I hope you will take advantage of the material that Susan and Joe have so graciously agreed to provide. Of course, many of us will miss the real-time interaction on Zoom, but we hope you will take advantage of the opportunity to interact on social media and YouTube. Additionally, we encourage you to join us on Wednesday nights for vespers either in-person or online. This is a great outlet for community and interaction similar to what we experienced on Zoom each Sunday.

(continued on next page)

B.J. Hutto, Ph.D., 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

(Britt, continued)

We appreciate your flexibility and understanding during this time. We believe this short-term pivot is positive for us in the long-term, both for worship and Christian education. Please know, as always, that these decisions are made with you and your families in mind. We are always open to feedback and critique, so please do not hesitate to speak with me, another staff member, or our lay leadership if you have any questions or concerns. In the meantime, please pray for us as we continue to navigate this new reality together and lean on the One who goes with us and before us now and always.

Grace and Peace,
Britt



What the Pastor's Reading

By B. J. Hutto, Pastor

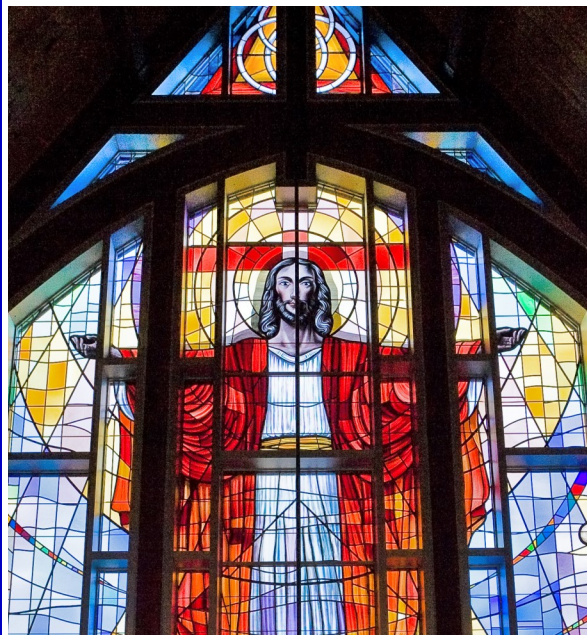
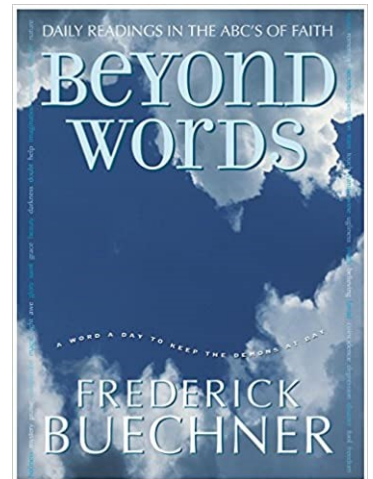
Frederick Buechner, *Beyond Words: Daily Readings in the ABC's of Faith*

Doubt—Whether your faith is that there is a God or that there is not a God, if you don't have any doubts, you are either kidding yourself or asleep. Doubts are the ants in the pants of faith. They keep it awake and moving.

In 366 entries over 400 and some-odd pages, author and Presbyterian minister Frederick Buechner in his book *Beyond Words* reintroduces his readers to characters and concepts that we think we already know so well: Abraham, David, Doubt, Faith, Peter, Paul, and so on. A compilation of three of his earlier books—*Wishful Thinking*, *Peculiar Treasures*, and *Whistling in the Dark*—this book is a

treasury of wit and insight. While its entries are arranged alphabetically instead of on a daily calendar, it's very much in the genre of the daily devotional, and its entries are perfectly sized for small, daily doses. Buechner's playful interpretations are refreshing—and often, refreshingly flip—and I never come away from this book disappointed. As you read it, you not only come to see Abraham and David and Doubt and so on differently, but you also come to see yourself and your faith differently, too.

Christian—A Christian is one who is on the way, though not necessarily very far along it, and who has at least some dim and half-baked idea of whom to thank.



Sunday, October 4, is the day!

We look forward to welcoming each other back to in-person worship on Sunday, October 4. We will have two identical services, one at 9:00 a.m. and one at 11:00 a.m. (Online services will also continue to be available on YouTube and Facebook.)

We have sent information to our members assigning one of the two identical service times to you. Please contact laraine@habchurch.com or call 904-396-7745 if you did not receive this information.

It is important that you read our plans and procedures for regathering so that you will know what to expect in our “new normal.” You can find a copy of these procedures on our website (habchurch.com—and then click on “Online and In-Person Worship Info”). Or click on this link: <https://habchurch.com/mt-content/uploads/2020/09/regathering-plan-in-phases.pdf>

Please know that we have done our best to pair HAB families with the service times requested.



The Light of Christ

By Claire Chinn, Minister of Children and Mission

During this time of COVID-19 worship, where we are engaging through TV screens, telephones, and computers, the absence of physical presence has been one thing that I have missed greatly (and I am sure you have missed that as well). Like you, I have missed the large moments in our lives, but there's a small moment that has been one of the biggest things I have missed celebrating with you.

I have missed lighting the Christ candle with a full sanctuary. I have missed hearing how God is working in your life and then lighting the Christ candle, as we did in the early service. I have missed watching a child process down the aisle and light the candle while Andy plays

something magical. For me it is that moment when things are still and we seemingly take a collective deep breath and exhale as we enter into this sacred time of worship.

Don't get me wrong; I know very well that the presence of Christ is with us all the time, but there is something special and holy about lighting the Christ candle in the presence of one's faith family. Through this absence I have learned a great lesson about the light of Christ.

The light of Christ shines most brightly when we care for each other. The light of Christ shines most brightly when we are patient with one another, when we show compassion and grace. This congregation—this family of faith—has been a bright shining light these past six-plus months. You have been generous and exceedingly kind. More than anything in the world, you have been the light of Christ for our church, for our community, and for me.

A single flame burning on Sunday morning is not bright enough to illuminate the world. Each one of you carries that flame, and that is the way a single Christ candle can be the light for our world. Continue burning bright, HAB. Continue to be the presence of Christ. It truly makes a difference.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Following the lead of our Sunday Bible Study Team, the children will also be taking a pause from Zoom Sunday Bible Study (SBS). Our Zoom SBS time has been rich, energizing, and fun. With in-person worship service times at 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m., our schedule for SBS and worship will have to shift and adapt to make sure we are providing the absolute best worship and learning environment. While we will not be having Zoom SBS for the time being, we will be publishing video devotionals that families can do together. We are excited about regathering for in-person worship, and we are looking forward to seeing everyone soon.



Needed: Community Garden Leader

We are looking for a new leader for our Community Garden. This person would be responsible for the planning, coordinating, and executing of planting and harvesting different crops, flowers, and herbs. The leader would coordinate and manage these responsibilities: order and distribute new soil to the beds, grow and harvest different produce, water, weed, mulch the walkways, fertilize, and basic upkeep of the space.





Singing a New Song...for Now

By Tommy Shapard, Minister of Music and Worship

It has been a long time since I have written an article for *The Herald*. As I type these words, I feel the need to express my gratitude to you and to our God. Over the past six months I have been recovering from my battle with SARS-CV-19 (COVID-19), physically, mentally, and emotionally. Thank you for your love, prayers, and support. I am thankful I survived. Over the summer, I found the energy to return to my doctoral thesis. While difficult, the writing has been therapeutic. Recently, I have been studying safe ways to make music with ensembles at the church and at FSCJ. Since the start of the pandemic, scientists have conducted studies on singing and the spread of aerosols. We now know ways to sing more safely in this season. Universities, schools, professional groups, and churches are using these same results. Here is a summary of the guidelines that will shape what we do at HAB while we wait for a medical intervention for SARS-CV-19:

For choirs:

- Sing wearing masks over nose and mouth (no exceptions).
- Sing in small ensembles (8-12 singers).
- Sing outside whenever possible.
- Sing socially distanced (outside, 6 feet; inside, 9-12 feet).
- If inside, sing in a large space for no more than 20 minutes (outside, 30 minutes).
- Sing in spaces with good air flow and ventilation.

For congregations:

- Hum or sing softly with masks over nose and mouth (no exceptions).
 - Soft singing is no riskier than talking.
- Brevity is recommended (for example, 1-2 stanzas of a hymn).
- For larger gatherings, only hum and read the words to hymns/songs.

With these parameters, and with the approval from our HAB Regathering Task Force, we will begin lifting our voices once again. Given the research, we know age and health factors play a significant role in the vulnerability of some of our choir members, so for now, only a handful of individuals from our Sanctuary Choir (as well as our children and youth) will meet using these guidelines. You may not see or hear them in worship often (or at all), but know we are taking careful steps based on research to lift our voices again.

Grateful for survival, song, and science. Be safe.



Sympathy to...

... Steve, Janis, & Walker Price in the death of Steve's father, R.K. Price, on September 8, 2020. The service was in Mobile on September 12.

...B.J., Billy, Michael, & Will Weyer in the death of B.J.'s father, Bernie Morris, on September 9, 2020.

...Rick, Charlotte, Carson, and Riley Haines in the death of Dora Rasmussen, Rick's grandmother, on September 9, 2020. Her graveside service was September 12 in Georgia.

Thank you...

Dear HAB Members,

We can't thank you all enough for your calls, kindness, and love for Cecil. Those cards made his days very happy and fulfilling. Both he and Frances loved their church family. You all are special people.

Sincerely,

Charlie & Gaye Acree

Wednesday Vespers

We've had a great time at our outdoor vespers services. **Beginning Wednesday, October 7, we will begin having vespers in the sanctuary on Wednesday nights at 6:30.** (Note the time change.) We will still stream the service on our YouTube and Facebook pages for those who are unable to attend in person. Enjoy these pictures from our outdoor services:



If you are unable or not yet ready to join us for in-person worship, the service will be available online on Sundays at 11:00 a.m. on our YouTube or Facebook pages.

The YouTube link is

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzdiHq1ue_3GjixqyBFL6dA

Year-End Operating Results for Fiscal Year 2019-2020	For the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2019		
	Sept '19 - July '20	Aug '20	Year-to-Date
Offerings and Other Revenue	\$ 1,080,875	\$ 101,016	\$ 1,181,891
Expenses	(1,016,881)	(138,828)	(1,155,709)
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	63,994	(37,812)	26,182
Budgeted Offerings & Other Revenue	1,136,228	103,294	1,239,522
Above/(Below) Budget	(55,353)	(2,277)	(57,631)
# Days Operating Cash on Hand (period-end)	40.43	28.46	

DID YOU KNOW? You can give online at habchurch.com; then choose "Give."

Sacred Glass Collection to Benefit Little Friends

By Julie Mason, Little Friends Board Chair

After the 2007 fire destroyed our sanctuary, hundreds of shards from the beautiful Welcoming Christ stained glass window were recovered by loving hands whose owners sat on overturned buckets and sifted through the ashes. The pieces were broken and most blackened beyond even color recognition. Stored for 13 years in boxes, they are tiny reminders of a past marred by loss.



From the ashes, these shards have been restored and turned into gorgeous treasures by two local artists

to celebrate the memories of the church of our past while at the same time looking to the future to help sustain the ministry of Little Friends Preschool.

Bette Len Mitchell and Danielle Clark have created from these fragments exquisite jewelry, suncatchers, Christmas ornaments, and window hangings that reflect not just natural light but the story of a congregation moving from the sadness of loss to the hope and promise of the future as reflected in our youngest citizens.



Every creation in this **Sacred Glass Collection** is unique, a work of art, just as is each child at Little Friends, where creativity and self-expression are encouraged. No two are alike, even imperfections bringing their own kind of beauty.

You are invited to partner with Little Friends in supporting our terrific preschool ministry by purchasing a piece from the **Sacred Glass Collection**. The collection is limited, and pieces will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. To view these lovely pieces, go to this link: <https://www.littlefriendsathab.com/sacred-glass-fundraiser> To purchase an item, please e-mail sacredglassofhab@gmail.com

Meet the Artists

After graduating as a math and art major from Meredith College in Raleigh, **Bette Len Mitchell** worked for six years at IBM as a systems engineer, installing software all over eastern North Carolina. She always loved art,



often crafting her own masterpieces. She designed and created glass panels for the 1914 house she and Jack occupied in Tulsa, and for 10 years studied bead-weaving with Amolia Willowsong, the master weaver who taught Bette Len to make exquisite jewelry from treasures such as Swarovski beads, semiprecious gems, and freshwater pearls. Bette Len has chosen to share her remarkable gift with Little Friends by creating some of the truly lovely works of art in the Sacred Glass Collection, each one from the shards of the old stained glass window.

Danielle Clark, owner of artist's studio House of Pale, has experience in both the service industry and in traumatic brain injury rehabilitation, which played important parts in her final career choice. Although she grew up in West Virginia, her family roots are in north Florida, where she was raised by an architect and a dental hygienist, both having positive impacts on her comfort with visual interpretation. She said that working with her hands always felt "embedded" in her being. She is now a full-time artist and the mother of two nine-year-old boys. She was taught to cut glass while working on a renovation in Springfield, realizing many years later that she could use this skill as a means of creative expression. Little Friends is blessed that Danielle is willing to share her astonishing skills through her creations from the shards of old stained glass window in the Sacred Glass Collection.



TWO NEW MEMBERS ELECTED TO LITTLE FRIENDS BOARD

Pam Fordham and Alyson Lee have been elected to the Little Friends Board of Directors. The other directors are Julie Mason, chair; Amy Reese, vice chair; Jack Mitchell, treasurer; Caroline Welkley, secretary; Marshall Hill; Elizabeth Spradley; and Susan Stepp.

The school is now at capacity with 45 students.

Kitchen Korner

*By Sharon Maszy
(cartoon courtesy of Gene Maszy)*

It is fall and school has started. In the olden days September would seem like the beginning of a new year. This time in October we would be looking forward to our annual Fall Festival. But in our new COVID-19 world we are still waiting to see if things will ever be “normal” again. I am reminded that even though daily life is different, the important things remain the same. We still think about the people we love, even if we cannot visit them in person. We know that God is still present for each of us, right where we are, though we have not been in our beautiful sanctuary in months. And you still have to figure out what to make for supper tonight!

We tried out another menu that may make it into the Wednesday night lineup. This time of year, everyone is thinking about football. For a perfect game day menu, I found a Tyler Florence recipe for pulled pork. It starts with a good rub for a Boston butt. After an overnight rest in the refrigerator, it is then cooked low and slow. Tyler’s barbecue sauce did not make it past Gene’s taste test—too vinegary. I added honey and catsup until he liked it. You must have slaw with pulled pork sliders, so I tried the recipe below. I found it on a favorite food blog called Smitten Kitchen. This recipe was in a 2008 post. I have made it a few times and found it is okay to use sweet onion instead of shallot.

You can leave out the chives, but it is better with them.

Surprisingly, I had trouble finding the Napa cabbage one week and used regular cabbage; it is ok, but not as good. Our meal was a casual one, so we just had potato chips with the sandwiches. To round out the perfect “Game Day Menu” for a Wednesday night we might add some Loaded Tater Tots to the meal and a handheld dessert like Gene’s Everything Cookies.

I know you are looking forward to being able to gather in community too. In the meantime, keep your church family in your prayers, and cook something yummy for whoever is in your safe circle.

Napa Cabbage Slaw

- 1/2 cup well-shaken buttermilk
- 2 tablespoons mayonnaise
- 2 tablespoons cider vinegar
- 2 tablespoons minced shallot
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 3 tablespoons finely chopped chives
- 1 pound Napa cabbage, cored & thinly sliced crosswise (4 cups)
- 6 radishes, diced
- 2 celery ribs, thinly sliced diagonally

Whisk together buttermilk, mayonnaise, vinegar, shallot, sugar, 1/2 teaspoon salt, and 1/4 teaspoon pepper in a large bowl until sugar has dissolved; then whisk in chives.

Toss cabbage, radishes, and celery with dressing. Note: It might look a little dry at first; just let it sit a few minutes and toss again.



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for information about our Sunday
Bible study classes, upcoming events,
new books at the library,
Wednesday night menus, and more.

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