



A Note from Vickie Landers...

Dear HAB family,

Thank you for your well-wishes and kind words of congratulations on my retirement. Thank you for 20 years of accepting me as a member of your family. You have celebrated so many happy occasions with me, and you have been a tremendous support during times of sadness. These words could be spoken by anyone in the process of bidding you all farewell, because HAB is a congregation that ministers to the world around you, and to one another. I have watched in awe as you each minister in your own deeply personal way. I have been truly humbled by your generosity.

My boss, my pastor, my friend, B.J. Hutto, decided to gift me with a stole. This is the most meaningful gift I have ever received. I did some research on the symbolism of the stole. Some view it as a symbol of status. In Protestant tradition, it is worn to signify that one has been ordained. But I especially love the reference on Wikipedia that the stole "...is linked to the napkin used by Christ in washing the feet of his disciples, and it is a fitting symbol of the yoke of Christ, the yoke of service." The men and women who have led in worship at HAB wearing their stoles truly embody the yoke of service. It means, "I will get up really early in the morning so that I can spend five minutes in prayer with you before

(continued on next page)



B.J. Hutto, Ph.D., Senior Pastor

Thomas M. Shapard, D.P.M., Associate Pastor of Music & Worship • **Britt Hester**, M.Div., Associate Pastor of Youth & Christian Education

Laraine Humbert, B.M.E., Pastoral Assistant • **Mike Suvada**, B.A., Communications & Technology

Darrell Mitchell, M.B.A., Financial Manager • **H. Kendell Smith**, Dip.C.M., Minister of Music Emeritus

(Vickie Landers, continued)

you go into surgery.” It means, “I will reschedule my wedding anniversary plans with my spouse if you need me.” It means, “I will cut my vacation short to fly home and be with you if you need me.” It means, “I will come to your home late at night when your father has died, and I will just sit and cry with you.” And it means, “I am always here to celebrate your happy occasions.” As I stood before you last Sunday, wearing that beautiful stole, I thought I really didn’t deserve to wear it. And then I caught a vision of each person in the congregation wearing one of their own. That’s who you are.

All those many years ago, when HAB asked me to come work on your staff, I had a “conversation” with God. Many of you know what a terrible introvert I am and that I struggle with anxiety, especially in front of crowds. I said to God, as if God didn’t know, “I can’t do any of the things that minister in the traditional way, but I can certainly support the people who do.” And I asked God to please consider that a fitting way to serve. I pray that has been true.

Finally, thank you to my fellow staff members. You are the very best group of people I’ve ever worked with. You are kind, you are loving, and your joy is contagious! I grumble almost every time I climb out of my bed to get dressed and come to work. But then I see just one of you and I forget that I was in a bad mood. You work tirelessly, you constantly go the extra mile, you are slow to anger and quick to forgive. You give comfort when it’s needed, and you always celebrate the good (especially if it’s your favorite football team)! I love you all and consider you life-long friends.

With much gratitude,
Vickie



We welcome Debbie Crumb to HAB!

Debbie was born in Cleveland, Ohio, and came to Florida at the age of six when her father took a job with the space program. Switching to hotel management, the family moved to Jacksonville when she was 16. Debbie has prioritized education throughout her professional career. She attended JU for two years in pre-pharmacy and then three years at the University of Florida to receive her B.S. in pharmacy. While working full time as a pharmacist, she continued her education by receiving a Master in Health Administration from UNF and then a Doctorate of Pharmacy from the University of Florida. She has just recently retired.

Along with being a life-long learner, Debbie has a wide variety of interests and hobbies. She loves to garden, hike, and travel. In fact, that’s how she found her way to HAB. She and Mary Bridgman were traveling companions many years ago and have remained friends. For a number of years, Debbie was the primary caregiver for her parents. After Debbie’s parents passed away, Mary invited her to visit HAB. Debbie gave it a try and never left.

As for what’s ahead for Debbie, she states, “Since I have retired, I am actively trying to give back to my community in ways that I was not able to do when I was working.” She has already jumped in to help with Sulzbacher, Meals on Wheels, and Safe Havens.

Debbie brings a wealth of life experience and compassion to share with Hendricks Avenue Baptist. We are so grateful she is part of the HAB family. Welcome, Debbie!

Homecoming

October 22 & 23

*Make plans to join us for
HAB's Homecoming Weekend*

Saturday, October 22



Home Run Derby at 11:00 a.m.

...featuring HACAA coaches



Fall
Festival

Fall Festival from noon-2:00 p.m.

Inflatables, petting zoo, fall photo ops, Trunk or Treat, face painting, balloon art, and more fun for the whole family! Wear your costume! Contact laraine@habchurch.com if you can decorate your car for Trunk or Treat.

Sunday, October 23

Combined Worship at 11:00 a.m.

Sunday we are hoping to see *everyone* at our combined 11:00 a.m. Homecoming Service as we reconnect post-pandemic. So plan to be there and encourage your friends and family to come as well! If you or a loved one needs assistance, please reach out to the deacons.



What's this?
Stay tuned...coming soon!



“This Little Light of Mine”

By Britt Hester, Associate Pastor of Youth & Christian Education

In my previous *Herald* article, I talked about our youth ministry theme for the 2022-23 year: “Torches Together.” I mentioned that the emphasis of this theme was Christian community, that as we let our light shine, we illuminate others and others illuminate us, ultimately creating a flame large enough to bear witness to God’s amazing grace together.

The interesting thing about this theme is that there are a couple of underlying assumptions. The first being we have a light to share in the first place. The second being that as we shine our light, others will be drawn to the light we bear. The first assumption is rather simple. Scripture tells us that “the people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned,” (Isaiah 9:2). In the Gospel of John, Jesus proclaims, “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light

of life” (John 8:12). In other words, those who profess Jesus as Lord bear the light of Christ, a light that “shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it” (John 1:5).

The second assumption is more complicated. There was a time in America’s past where most people believed in a “higher power” and identified as Christian. The current reality is markedly different. This past week I read multiple articles highlighting the alarming trends surrounding declining church attendance. Further, it’s not merely an attendance issue; rather, it’s a label issue, particularly for those who have scars and trauma from their experience within the institutional church.

By now the rise of the “nones,” or those with no religious affiliation, has been well documented. The interesting part of all of this is most people still hold on to the idea that there is a “higher power.” This signals to me, and perhaps to others, that the issue at hand is not a question of a belief, but rather a question of allegiance. After all, who remains committed to an institution that has not only failed to live up to its lofty ideals, but also demands the culture around them assimilate to the values they themselves are unwilling to adopt? Perhaps Brennan Manning was right when he said, “The greatest single cause of atheism in the world today is Christians. Who acknowledge Jesus with their lips, then walk out the door, and deny him by their lifestyle. That is what an unbelieving world simply finds unbelievable.”

But here’s the good news. We who confess Jesus is Lord are given but one primary task in this world: “to love the Lord our God with all of our heart, soul, mind, and strength and to love our neighbor as ourselves,” (Matthew 22:37). Jesus said, “By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another” (John 13:35). Jesus essentially says, “Your light shines when all that you do is out of love for God and others. Everything else takes care of itself.”

Madeline L’Engle once wrote, “We do not draw people to Christ by loudly discrediting what they believe, by telling them how wrong they are and how right we are, but by showing them a light so lovely that they want with all their hearts to know the source of it.” Perhaps then our only response is the confession of that classic children’s hymn: “This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine.” And if we shine together, perhaps others will want to know with all their heart the Source of such grace and joy.

“Take the Word with you!”
Sermons are available
for download at

www.buzzsprout.com/225151

Wednesday Bible study with B.J.

6:15 p.m. in the chapel

We’re currently studying
the book of Genesis

Blessing of the Animals
Sunday, October 2
4:30 p.m. Central Breezeway





Thank you to our wonderful
 Children's Team:
 Patti Carson
 Julie Carter
 Anne England
 Courtney Hester
 Ansley Parfitt
 Rachel Shapard
 They have been working hard
 planning fun and meaningful
 activities for our children!

See info about Fall
 Festival on page 3.



**FALL
 FESTIVAL**

**Wednesday Nights
 for Kids**

Supper at 5:30 (by reservation)
 6:00-7:00—Children's choir &
 other fun activities



CHILDREN'S
Sunday School
 Sunday Mornings
 9:45-10:45 a.m., room E-14
 October facilitator: Shirley Dasher
 If you can volunteer to teach or be a
 helper, please contact Rachel Shapard
 at rachel@tfhope.org

News of the Church Family

Sympathy to...

...Dan & Sharon Dundon in the death of Dan's mother, Betty Dundon, on Saturday, August 13.

...the family of (Muriel) Gene Rosamond, who died Thursday, September 8, 2022. Her service will be Thursday, September 15, at 1:00 p.m. in our sanctuary, followed by a reception in the fellowship hall.

...Sharon Maszy and family in the death of Gene Maszy on Thursday, September 22, 2022. The service will be Friday, October 7, at 11:00 a.m.

...the family of Rosemary English, who died Thursday, September 22, 2022. Arrangements are pending.

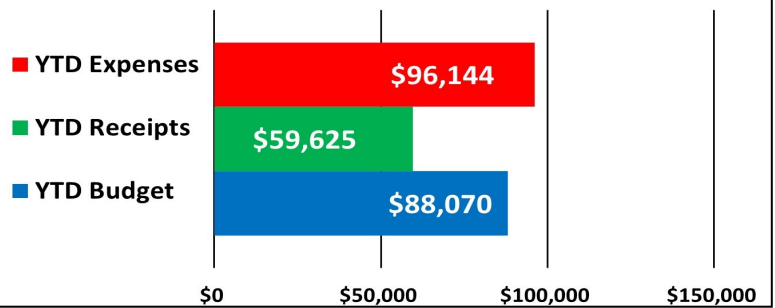
Thank you...

Lynn and I are so thankful to the church family at HAB. The care and support we received during our precious mother's illness and passing was what kept us going. The meals, cards, and visits were our saving grace. A very special thanks to B.J. Hutto, Christi Matteson, Eleanor Rogers, and Laraine Humbert for listening and loving.—Mary Ann Corbett and Lynn Harper

Thank you to the staff, deacons, and church members for all the cards and prayers during my recent illness.—Etta Booros

Thank you for your prayers and cards with words and expressions of warmth and concern. Our church family is so wonderful in our life—especially during this time of sadness during the death of my mother.—Susan & Dick Clark

Budget Year-to-Date at 09/23/2022



Little Friends

By Julie Mason, Little Friends Board Chair

Little Friends Preschool is having a wonderful year! With 55 students now enrolled, two wonderful new classrooms for the threes and VPK kiddos, and a spacious second playground, the children are feeling new creative juices flowing and there are energies exploding into their learning and their development.

Truly, Little Friends Preschool is a blessed place—the nurturing, loving family ambiance that enfolds both the children and the teachers, the atmosphere of exploration and discovery the children experience every day, and the social and cultural diversity that surrounds them

make this place a rare and privileged daytime dwelling.

There is much richness in the children's days—the glorious S.T.E.A.M. Lab (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Mathematics) provides multi-sensory learning, along with their regular daily reading, art, music in every activity, physical education, chapel, computer science, running and playing—it's all a part of the excellent socialization and education processes to which the children are exposed every day.

Little Friends had a great turnout for Grandparents' Day!



Kitchen Korner

By Sharon Maszy

Fall is in the air, the holidays are just around the corner, and the fellowship activities at HAB are in full-speed-ahead mode! Wednesday night suppers are back on the calendar every week. We are having wonderful meals each week prepared by our staff cook, **Angie Bell**

and her sous chef, **Joharen Gallardo**. It still takes several volunteers each week to plan, shop, assist Angie, and serve the meal to our church family. **Garry Andriesse** has taken on the job of coordinating all those tasks and volunteers. Thank you, Garry, for the tremendous gift of time and energy you give to HAB each week!

The menus are in the bulletin each Sunday. Please make your reservations by Monday of each week. It's easy to email Laraine or give the church office a quick call. Knowing how many people to plan for each week helps us to be good stewards of our resources and reduces waste. Not to mention, how awful it would be if we ran out of food just as you got to the front of the line! Which brings to mind another nice thing that has happened. We have gone back to the traditional serving line, salad bar, and dessert trolley set-up. That was one of those things we didn't fully appreciate (pre-COVID) until we couldn't do it. See you Wednesday!

Another welcome restoration is Coffee Time on Sunday mornings. Look for the signs directing you to the chapel for coffee and something savory and/or sweet. Garry Andriesse is overseeing this ministry, too. Volunteers are needed to bring the goodies. The more people that sign up, the less often it will be your turn. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact Dolly Colwell by email at dolly4455@att.net or by text at 904-477-1745. It's the nicest way to start your Sunday morning, in fellowship with your HAB sisters and brothers.

One of the best things about being a cook is talking about food and sharing favorite recipes. Everyone has certain friends that are golden resources for a family favorite or something brand new to try in your own kitchen. The following recipe was developed by Lisa, the innkeeper at The Addison House on Amelia Island. It was passed on to me by my friend Judy, a great cook in her own right, and a veteran church kitchen cook.

Hashbrown Muffins

6 large eggs	¼ cup sour cream
1 tsp garlic powder	½ teaspoon paprika
Fresh ground pepper to taste	1 (20 ounce) package shredded hash brown potatoes
2 Tablespoons butter, melted	4 green onions, finely chopped
½ cup parmesan cheese	2 cups shredded cheddar cheese

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Spray muffin tins with cooking spray.

In a large bowl, whisk together the eggs, sour cream, and seasonings. Add hashbrown potatoes, melted butter, green onions, and cheeses. Mix gently. Scoop into prepared muffin tin.

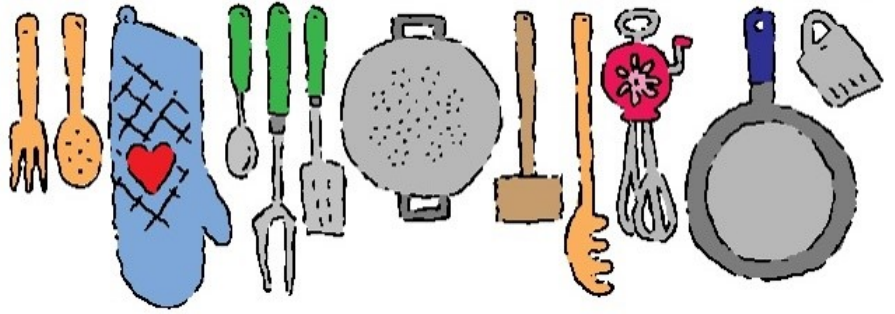
Bake 25-30 minutes. Let cool about 5 minutes. Remove from pan.

Serve with a dollop of sour cream, chopped green onion, and crumbled bacon.

Wednesday Night Suppers

5:30 p.m. in the fellowship hall

Reservations are required by Monday for the following Wednesday by contacting Laraine at laraine@habchurch.com or 904-396-7745. Cost: Adults \$10, children \$6, immediate family maximum \$25.





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for more information.