

Hendricks Herald

SEPTEMBER 2023



This Treasure Within

By B.J. Hutto, Senior Pastor

Friends,

If you look around yourselves, you'll see that the decade of the 1980s seems to loom large in our cultural imagination these days. You can hear its influence in popular music, and you can see it relived in television shows such as *Stranger Things*, *The Americans*, *Physical*, and *Chernobyl*. You can even see it at the intersection of sports and fashion, as more and more Major League Baseball and NFL franchises roll out "throwback" uniforms from that decade. Some of these trends might just be a manifestation of cultural nostalgia—people around my age wanting to relive something of their childhood and share some of it with their children—but part of me thinks that, embedded in this cultural moment, is also a realization of how the events of that decade have shaped our current world in particular ways: the heightened tensions and then sudden collapse of the Cold War (as seen in Ukraine), the rise of video games as a subculture (currently the largest media industry in the world), the popularization of the home computer and the beginnings of the internet age (currently...everywhere!), and so on.

Alongside these broader shifts, the 1980s were even more eventful for Baptists like us. This is because that's the decade during which the old Southern Baptist Convention came apart. The timeline of this rupture can be bracketed by two dates. First, on May 10, 1979, the Georgia Baptist *Christian Index* published an article confirming that meetings had already begun amongst the leadership of the denomination's hard right in order to plot out a political takeover of the Convention. And then secondly, on May 9, 1991, the first convocation of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship was held in Atlanta, Georgia. As some of you may know, that first meeting in Atlanta was presided over by the Rev. Dr. Daniel Vestal. Because his daughter, Rev. Anne England, has previously served on staff here and because she and her husband, Jordan, are now active lay leaders at HAB, Dr. Vestal has long been a friend of our congregation, even outside of his leadership in CBF. **Thus, we are blessed to be able to welcome him back to Jacksonville on Sunday, October 1. On that Sunday, Dr. Vestal is going to be leading us in worship. Then, following worship, he is going to lead us in a lunchtime conversation about his recently released memoir, *This Treasure Within*.**

While *This Treasure Within* is about Dr. Vestal's life and career more broadly, the controversies within the SBC and the development of CBF are discussed in depth within its pages. While these topics might appear at first to be old history, and while you might not count them amongst the most exciting topics of conversation, I'd ask you to consider this: Many of the issues that were being faced by Dr. Vestal and his colleagues back in the 1980s are still very much around us today:

What place(s) can women hold within the life of the Church? What power structures are in place to either support or suppress their gifts?

What does it mean to have a critically informed faith and to raise and educate our children within a curious, informed community?

How do we relate with neighbors of different belief systems, or simply different beliefs?

Since Baptist politics are largely small-d-democratic, what should it look like to exercise political power in community with people who disagree with you?

I could go on, but my hope is to encourage all of you to take part in this conversation with Dr. Vestal on October 1 and, between now and then, to grab a copy of his memoir and give it a careful read. Dr. Vestal is a wise man, and quite a bit of that wisdom was hard-earned as he lived and led throughout these years. My hope is that, through this book and through this conversation, we might all become wiser Christians as well.

Kind regards,

B.J.

Information about ordering the book and making reservations for the luncheon can be found on page 7.

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

Thomas M. Shapard, D.P.M., Associate Pastor for Music & Worship • Britt Hester, M.Div., Associate Pastor for Youth
Chelsea Weise, B.C.E., Interim Director of Children & Community Life • Laraine Humbert, B.M.E., Pastoral Assistant
Darrell Mitchell, M.B.A., Financial Manager • H. Kendell Smith, Dip.C.M., Minister of Music Emeritus



Back to School

By Chelsea Weise, Interim Director of Children & Community Life

"The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

My prayer for the students this year is for them to portray the fruit of the Spirit. Each part of the fruit is something that I have seen in your children. They bring me peace and joy, and watching them live life faithfully is a gift. Keep up the amazing work, parents!

I encourage you to download the app d365.org. Use this app to talk to your kids, read Scripture, listen to music, and so much more. Have conversations! Let them pick a fruit of the Spirit to focus on each day. Ask questions and explore together.

I am excited to get into a routine. Wednesday evenings will look a little different—I cannot wait to tell you all about it! Save the date for Sunday, September 10. We will have our first Grandparents' Day breakfast at 9:00 a.m. before the service. All are welcome!

I am looking for volunteers to help in the nursery on Sunday mornings. Even once a quarter would be an amazing gift.

Have a great school year! Sending lots of love!
Mrs. Chelsea



Abigail
Hester



Hannah Ruth &
Elijah Hutto



Elizabeth &
Charlotte
England

**See the Church
Mouse for more
back-to-school pictures!**



Grades 1-4, from 9:45-10:45 a.m. in the
STEAM Lab (former library)
Taught by Shirley Dasher & Lee Gautney



From the Church Mouse

Hi, there, all of my eager readers! Here I am again, your lowly Church Mouse who has big ears.

Back to school is a big deal for most of our students, whether they are just advancing a grade, or starting at a new school—like kindergarten, middle school, high school, or college. Some are even entering their senior year—their “last first day” of school! We have tried to document some of these first day experiences with as many pictures as we could.

A **HUGE** shoutout goes to our **Hendricks Hammerheads** 10-year-old team who won the Jacksonville area District Tournament, were

runners-up in the State, and advanced to the Southeast U.S. Regional Tournament! This was a tremendous accomplishment for

(Church Mouse continued next page)



Henry & Jonas
Wilson



Hannah
McDonald



Drew, Kate, &
Mac Shapard



Bella & Abby
Smith-Sosa



Church Mouse (continued)

our young baseball league made possible in part by the support of HAB members! We are very proud of their growth and how well they played. **WAY TO GO, HAMMERHEADS!** (See picture below.)

I am very excited to tell you that **Rev. Co'Relous Bryant** has been called to be Senior Pastor of the **United Church of Lincoln, Vermont!** After spending a great year in New York City at St. James' Church, Manhattan, **Co'Relous** is excited to begin his ministry in "a



Hammerheads



lush, verdant paradise that has stolen my heart." Look at the picture of his new church (top right). We at HAB are excited for this new opportunity.

In other news, **Maddie Weise** was awarded the **Bonner Scholarship for Stetson University.** The **Bonner Program** provides a scholarship to students in exchange for weekly commitment of intensive and meaningful service with a local community organization over the four years as an undergraduate student, with campus partners.

That's all I've overheard for this month. I look forward to getting more news in my email, or as I "mouse around" the church with my big ears wide open. So long for now!



Chelsea Weise & Genni Jett were chaperones extraordinaire at PassportKids camp!



Caroline Welkley and Carolyn Hinckley recently visited Camp Bethel in Haddam, Connecticut.



*Where in the
World Is HAB?*
#HABOnTheMap



Suzanne Bass Parker & Fred Parker, along with their daughter Helen, enjoyed a summer trip to Sedona, Arizona.



The Hester family vacationed in Gatlinburg, Tennessee, and spent most of their time visiting the Great Smoky Mountains National Park. Here they are pictured in front of Mingo Falls near Cherokee, North Carolina. They also visited Cades Cove and saw a mama bear with her cubs!

Jackie & Bob Brann enjoyed a visit to Venice, Florida, to see Bob's cousin Berta and her husband Tom. They spent four wonderful days sightseeing, eating at delicious beachside restaurants, and just visiting and catching up.



Sylvia McQuaig had a great trip to Scotland with her family.





Nancy & Carle Felton
Greywolf Golf Course,
Panorama, British Columbia

**SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10
11:00 A.M. COMBINED SERVICE**



DEACON INSTALLATION

Installing the following deacons:
Dee Bumbarger, Trent Fisher, Debbie Hagan,
Sharon Maszy, Mark Scott



HAB

a place of grace



Sympathy to...

...Janie Robinson and Victor Towns in the death of their sister, Kathy.

Congratulations to...

...Becky Sullivan on the birth of her great-granddaughter (and namesake!), Rebecca Deane Sullivan, on July 3, 2023, in Atlanta. Proud parents are Will and Venice Sullivan.

Thank you...

Thank you so much for lifting me up in prayer. It's been a lot for me this year, but so much comfort has been found in the love of my church family. The Lord is full of mercy and compassion. It is given voice in his ministers! —Sharon Maszy

To know you is to know people who are kind, considerate, and thoughtful. For everything you've done...for being the special people that you are...thank you so very much. With much love and appreciation for all the cards, emails, phone calls, and food following my "little brother's" death. —Eleanor Rogers

I am grateful for the prayers, calls, and notes during my foot surgery and recovery. You are a blessing. —Pam Thomas

COOKOUT!

WELCOME BACK TO WEDNESDAY NIGHTS!

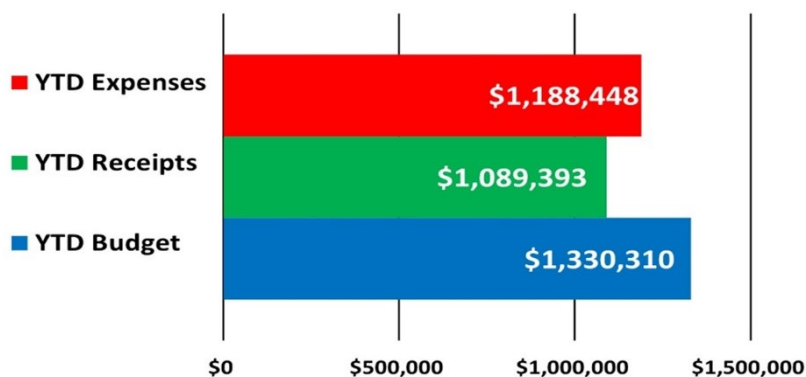
August 30, 5:30 p.m.
in the fellowship hall

Hamburgers, hot dogs, & all the trimmings,
plus fries, banana pudding, & beverage.

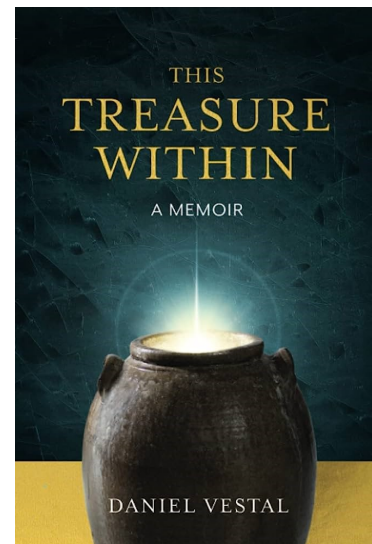
Adults \$12, children \$8,
immediate family maximum \$30.

Reservations by Monday, August 28:
laraine@habchurch.com or
904-396-7745, ext. 103.

Budget Year-to-Date at 08/18/2023



Come Let Us Reason Book Discussion



Our next book discussion will be on the book *The Treasure Within* by Daniel Vestal.

The luncheon and discussion—**with Daniel Vestal himself**—will take place on Sunday, October 1, at 12:15 p.m. in D4. Please make reservations for the meal by Tuesday, September 26, by contacting Laraine at laraine@habchurch.com or 904-396-7745, ext. 103.

You can order the book and start reading now by going to the following link: amzn.to/46KKoXI

For a review of this book, see bit.ly/3KaQFT5



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VISIT habchurch.com
for more information.

As we travel throughout the year, let's remember that the work of HAB will continue. Please take advantage of online giving to continue supporting our ministries. Or, **before you go, set up a recurring gift** so that you won't have to remember! It's easy!

Go to bit.ly/HABGiving or scan this QR code—



IN THIS ISSUE:

A Word from the Pastor

Children's Ministry

Back-to-School Photos

Church Mouse

Where in the World Is HAB?

Grandparents' Day

Deacon Installation

News of the Church Family

Cookout!

Book Discussion