May 2022



A PUBLICATION OF TAYLORS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

# ENCOUNTER GOD. EQUIP BELIEVERS. ENGAGE THE WORLD. ESTABLISH THE CHURCH.

# CHANGE THE WORLD FOR JESUS

#### At Taylors First we want to "Change the World for Jesus!"

Recently, I ran into an older couple from our church. After we talked for a few minutes, the lady began to well up with tears and said, "Pastor, we may not be here to see it, but I could not be more excited about the next ten years of our church!!" I agree! I left that conversation encouraged and thankful. God has used Taylors First in so many ways in its history, and at the same time, I believe that we are poised to accomplish more for the kingdom than ever before. We are ready to Change the World for Jesus!!!

#### To Change the World for Jesus gives us our clear PURPOSE



Our vision must come straight from God's Word. As Jesus was getting ready to depart and return to heaven at the end of Matthew's gospel, He gave His Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20.) In that moment He gave to the church all that they needed to be doing until He returns. The *scope* of their work was the world. There is no place on the earth that should be untouched by the gospel of Jesus. The *mission* was to transform people from death to life by making disciples of Jesus Christ. They were sent to change people through the proclamation of the gospel. Their *message* was simple; Jesus!! It is as if Jesus was saying, "Go change the world in my name!!"

# To **Change the World for Jesus** is our great **PRIVILEGE**

There is no greater task on the earth than being used by God to proclaim the name of His Son, Jesus Christ. This is the great privilege of all believers. It is the great privilege of Taylors First. As we see in the book of Acts, sometimes the proclamation of the gospel comes with great sacrifice. That does not change the fact that it is a privilege to be able to tell others how their sins can be forgiven, how their guilt can be erased, and how death does not have the final word. We never want to lose sight of this great privilege. We want to live it, sing it, and preach it. The church exists for this and it is our joy.

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# To **Change the World for Jesus** must have a determined **PLAN**

As we seek to change the world we must know that it does not just happen without a plan. We saw the plans in the book of Acts as the Apostle Paul went from city to city proclaiming the gospel with the hopes of establishing a church in that city. This model is the same one that we believe we must have here at Taylors First. We want to structure our ministry so that people can **ENCOUNTER** GOD, and once they have encountered Him we want to **EQUIP** BELIEVERS, so that they can **ENGAGE** THE WORLD. All of that is right and good, but we also need a plan to multiply.



#### ESTABLISH THE CHURCH.

We want to add a fourth "E." We believe the best way to multiply is by seeking to **ESTABLISH** THE CHURCH. This is what many people refer to as church planting. In order to plant healthy churches from Taylors First there are a few things that we need to do here on our campus.

**Residency**: It is our desire to start a residency program here at Taylors First. This program will be a training ground for pastors, ministers, and leaders. It will be a place for them to learn and grow with the intention of sending them out to lead the new churches. We will work with our partners to prepare these residents to serve in our state, our nation, or among the nations, wherever the Lord may call them.

**Replication**: Simply put, this means that we want to be doing on our campus what we want to reproduce. On Sunday mornings we have two vibrant worship services. Our Traditional Service and the Taylors Worship Service are both growing and doing well. We desire to add a third service on Sunday morning. This will be a Band Led service. By adding this service, not only will this create more space for people to join and be a part of our church, but it will also become a place that we can train up and send out people to start new churches. We will have Band Led Worship in the Fellowship Hall, then Traditional Worship, and finally Taylors Worship in the Worship Center. I will preach live in all three services.

**Renovation**: As we look to the future with the plan of planting more churches, our campus must be equipped. We have a beautiful campus that the Lord has blessed us with, but we must all admit that it needs a little sprucing up. We want our home campus to be as healthy as possible in order that we can be a strong sending church, and the healthier we are, the more we will be able to reproduce.



# To **Change the World for Jesus** will be our greatest **PLEASURE**

I constantly think about this quote from C. T. Studd, "Only one life 'twill soon be past, only what's done for Christ will last." That is our desire here at Taylors First, to live as a people with a purpose, privilege, and a plan for advancing the gospel of Jesus Christ. There is no greater pleasure for anyone than fulfilling the mission of God.

— Pastor Josh



### Equip Sunday MAY 15

#### Join us for a special Sunday set aside to Equip Believers!

Our special guest will be Dr. Albert Mohler, who will preach in both the 9:00 and 10:30 am Worship Services.

Dr. R. Albert Mohler Jr. serves as president of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary – the flagship school of the Southern Baptist Convention and one of the largest seminaries in the world.

Dr. Mohler has been recognized by such influential publications as *Time* and *Christianity Today* as a leader among American evangelicals. In fact, Time.com called him the "reigning intellectual of the evangelical movement in the U.S."

In addition to his presidential duties, Dr. Mohler serves as president of the Evangelical Theological Society. He also hosts two programs: "The Briefing," a daily analysis of news and events from a Christian worldview; and "Thinking in Public," a series of conversations with the day's leading thinkers. He also writes a popular blog and a regular commentary on moral, cultural and theological issues.



Visit albertmohler.com/about to learn more.



#### Browse the "10 of Those" bookstore in the Welcome Center

We look forward to partnering with "10 of Those" to provide resources for purchase on this weekend and continuing into the future through our online bookstore.

Sunday, May 8





Join us for **Equip Sunday Lunch** and Learn at 12:00 pm in the Student Worship Room Featuring David Mathis, author of "Habits of Grace." Signup in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/events!



Graduate Recognition Sunday, May 22



# NATIONAL DAY of PRAYER

#### Worship Service Thursday, May 5 12:00 pm | Chapel

We'll gather together to humble ourselves and unify, in prevailing prayer, for the next great move of God in our country.

Learn more at nationaldayofprayer.org.



#### Beach REACH Trip 2022 June 18-25

Regeneration Student Choir and Taylors Students will be ministering at Lakewood Campground Resort in Myrtle Beach, SC



### Spring Musical Sunday, May 15

6:00 pm | Worship Center

"The Praise Team" presented by the Preschool Choir and "Sermon on the Mound" presented by the Children's Choir



### Freedom Celebration Thursday, June 30

7:30 pm at TD Stage at the Peace Center Bring your lawn chairs and picnic dinner.

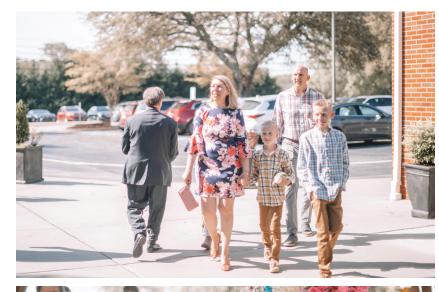
























### **Boston Pop-Up REACH Trip**

In March of this year, five of us traveled to the Boston area to help Encounter Church with their "Easter Egg Drop." The "Drop" is one of the many ways that Encounter Church reaches the local communities of Dedham and Westwood to spread the gospel through hard work and service. This annual event began in 2016, but because of the recent Covid restrictions, the Easter Egg Drop had not taken place for the past two years and they were anxious to celebrate the event again.

A couple of other church groups from Georgia and Texas spent the previous week in Dedham preparing for the day, and when we arrived on Friday afternoon, much of the preparations were complete. We met as a group on Friday night to get our instructions. Chris Causey, Pastor for Encounter Church, stressed to us that many things could disrupt the event, so we divided into small groups and prayed specifically for God's

protection, guidance, and for the Holy Spirit to work in the lives of all attendees and volunteers. We prayed for good weather, safety, the children, and the parents.

There were about 8,000 people signed up for the big day. There was to be four different egg drops from a helicopter at different times during the day. The day started with a little rain, but it cleared in time to greet the first group of children and parents. Throughout an overcast and sometimes rainy day, which dampened the field and the crowd size a bit, the children were excited when they got to hunt eggs, ride the train, and jump on the many available inflatables. They were especially excited when the helicopter would fly overhead and dump hundreds of eggs out onto the field. The day was full of sunshine, passing rain showers, two hailstorms with lightning, and then sunshine again. God was in control and confirmed that all to us when He provided a rainbow at the end of the day. It was estimated that about 4500 people attended. Chris said that it was the largest "Egg Drop" event ever for Encounter Church. We sent all the children home happy, filled with candy, and a little wet with rain from heaven. The egg drop event is a great way for Encounter Church to reach and serve young families. We pray that the Holy Spirit works in the lives of all that were there, and we pray that God will continue to bless Encounter Church.

— JD and Susan Burke



#### E3 in Brazil

We started the E3 training about six weeks ago after we spent much time translating the E3 guide to Portuguese. We are meeting every Thursday evening from 7:00-8:15 pm with about 13-15 individuals going through the book of Ephesians using E3.

In a community where many people are illiterate, or not strong readers, and the culture inhibits believers from studying the scriptures for themselves, we weren't 100% positive that the training was going to be received well. So, what we were asking of the people from this small rural farming community, an hour outside of the city of Fortaleza, Brazil, was a huge change.

After the first week, we saw people struggling through the training and filled with doubts. We challenged them to continue pushing forward. Thankfully many returned week after week to study the Word of God. We are now beginning to see God's people studying on their own and eager to share with other believers what they have learned. We have even had another individual come and ask, "Will you teach me to study the Bible?" We are excited for what God is doing and expectant for what God will do in and through this small rural farming community.

— Tim Bayne, Serving in Brazil



As I write, my immediate thoughts are with a family of six heading "home" to Asia after nearly a year in the States. Especially I am thinking of the prayer time we had for them before they left, as they asked us to pray specifically for their 36-hour trip. Their commitment to a people group, who are far from South Carolina and far from Christ, is God glorifying. Their example, to serve where they've been sent, is life-changing.

So, when our church family was asked to serve not only this one family, but also every family sent to this region of our world, we joyfully committed! As shared with Taylors leadership, these families needed to come together for encouragement, equipping, and worship in their home language, and they needed to do so ASAP! Many of these families have been living in isolation because of Covid restrictions, and their time to gather was two years past due. Would our Taylors FBC church family meet this need by providing care and teaching time for their children at a family conference? Would we fill a void for those who were serving where they had been sent?

The church leadership knew this was a God-sized task, not only because of the number of volunteers needed, but also because of the short time period to prepare. The commitment was presented to the church family with an invitation to attend an interest meeting. In a week's time, volunteers were registering and plans were underway. While there are 95 church members who will be Serving the Sent at the family conference later in the summer, all our church family can participate with this REACH partner through prayer.

Pray that we serve in such a manner that every participant's expectation will be exceeded in the areas of encouragement, care, support, and love.

Pray that our team would be strengthened for each day and protected from sickness and injury.

Pray for each participant that they will be refreshed and renewed to return to their ministry among the nations.

— BJ Bateman

Larry and BJ Bateman serve as Serving the Sent Team Coordinators





For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for

good workes,

which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them.

Ephesians 2:10

At our annual Love Taylors Day on April 2, we were blessed with more than 540 people serving at over 20 locations throughout our community. Love Taylors is our opportunity as a church body to serve our community by serving our neighbors, building on-going relationships, and sharing the love of Jesus as we do it! Love Taylors Day is not about the one specific day, but about loving our neighbors every day, year-round! Love Taylors Day allows the opportunity for our people to serve in a variety of ways alongside our ministry partners and ministries and then get connected into on-going opportunities. We are so thankful for everyone that joined in the fun and served. This is how we obey Christ and care for the poor, the orphan, the widow, and the sojourner right here in our community.



The heart behind the block party was to not only provide a fun time for the children and families, but to provide them with the gospel in our words and actions. Thankfully we saw the Lord provided the opportunity to do just that. One of our volunteers was able to lead two of the kids to Christ at the face-painting booth!! What an exciting time to join in with the work God is doing in the hearts of our community! — Hannah Smith



There are two reasons that I enjoy Love Taylors. First of all, Love Taylors is a visual representation to our surrounding community of Christ living within us. Second, I love that Love Taylors is truly the body of Christ coming together with different talents and strengths and working together to complete the project at hand. — Tim Roller



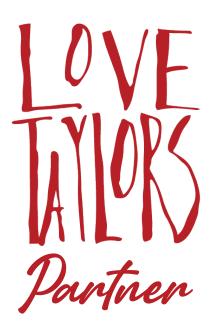
My husband, Caleb and I, along with our daughter, Dani, and our son, Reed, served at Taylors Elementary for our Love Taylors community project. Some of the ways we helped improve the school grounds were by spreading pine needles and mulch, as well as planting greenery for new beds. This year, the best part of Love Taylors was getting to share it with my children! It was a wonderful opportunity for Dani and Reed to experience how we can be the hands and feet of Jesus by helping others! They saw how we all worked together as a team, as one body, to share the love of Christ! The best part of my day was when my husband told me that our five year old son, Reed, said to the grown men, "Well, I guess I'll just stay over here with you guys and help mulch!" And that is exactly what he did! — Ashley Mitchell





What a blessing it was to see our church body step out to love and serve the Taylors community! You were a tremendous encouragement and reflection of Christ's love to all you served and an inspiration to the surrounding community. Thank you for serving on Love Taylors Day and all year long through on-going Love Taylors Ministries.

- Kathy Dority, Minister of Connections



#### **Making Changes For Eternity**

Just For Today is one of our Love Taylors Partners. Their mission is to provide a godly home and environment for women who are battling the grips of addiction and homelessness. The



ministry is changing the lives of women in our community one day at a time. For many women, Just For Today is a beacon of hope and light in an ever darkening world. Life change is happening in this ministry and our church body is excited to be partnered with them as women come to know not only recovery but come to know the Savior. A testimony of God's goodness has been witnessed as one woman from Just For Today joined the family of Christ, acknowledging she "had sinned greatly and needs a great Savior." We pray that you, church body, would continue to uplift this ministry and these women in prayer, with thanksgiving to God for the glorious works He is doing. Life change is happening, the dead are being made new! Learn more at justfortodayrecovery.org.

# Love Taylors is what we do at Taylors FBC for our community – we serve our neighbors, build on-going relationships, and share the love of Jesus.

Serving Ministries

Brook Glenn Elementary — Coming alongside children, families, and administration to build relationships, pack and deliver food bags.

The Christmas Store — The Christmas Store provides an economical way for parents and grandparents to purchase gifts for their kids.

Home Repairs — Responding to people in our community who need assistance by providing essential maintenance and repair of their home.

Just for Today — Operating three homes in Taylors and one in Greer for women on their journey to freedom from addictions.

Mission 1:27 — Ministering to families within the adoption and foster community through support, education, and prayer.

Refuge Sports — Welcoming and ministering to new immigrant refugee families in the Greenville area through sports and recreation, education, and community outreach.

Single Mom's Oil Change — Ministering to single moms in a practical way through free oil changes.

Village Wrench — Building meaningful relationships in our neighborhood through bike repairs.

Support Ministries

Cancer Support — Cancer Support offers God's hope and love through encouragement, practical support and prayer for cancer patients and families.

Employment Coaching — Employment Coaching provides encouragement, support, and tools for job seekers while encouraging them to grow as disciples of Christ.

Mental Health Support — Designed for those struggling with a mental health disorder and their families.

Grief Support — Grief Support offers support and encouragement for spouses grieving the lost of their spouse.

Marriage Ministry — Supports all facets of married life including pre-marital preparation, enrichment and support as couples grow together, as well as offers aid for couples experiencing crisis.

Reboot — For First Responders and Families. Reboot focuses on helping first responders and their families heal from the spiritual and moral wounds from service-related trauma.

We would love for you to join us in serving our community! Email Kathy Dority, Minister of Connections, at lovetaylors@taylorsfbc.org.

## OUR CHURCH FAMILY

Celebrate baptisms, new members, anniversaries and more.

#### In Memoriam

David Fultz November 17, 1949 - April 2, 2022

Ina Williams July 23, 1932 - April 8, 2022

**Johnny Flynn** May 17, 1947 - April 9, 2022

Cat Pruitt November 28, 1923 - April 12, 2022

#### **Baptisms**

We welcome to the Body of Christ, through believer's baptism: Shane Barrett, Foster Griggs, Bryson Keefe, Kirsten King, Andrew Lee, Cameron Pierce, Holden Pierce, Kylie Reid, Tylar Reid, Emma Riddle

#### **Staff Anniversaries**

MAY Jeff Hensley — 19 years of service Alex Rogers — 5 years years of service

#### Welcome New Members



Dana Bobotis Joined April 10 by Letter



Donna Foster Joined April 10 by Letter



Cameron Pierce Joined April 17 by Baptism



Holden Pierce Joined April 17 by Baptism



Foster Griggs Joined April 17 by Baptism



Jackson Rogers Joined April 17 by Baptism



Vanessa Flack Joined April 17 by Baptism

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Kirsten King Joined April 3 by Baptism

### **Attendance Statistics**

	4/3	4/10	4/17	4/27
Nursery	41	50.	64.	50
Preschool	55	62.	81.	60
Elementary	58		53.	75
Students	104	102.	113.	85
College	12		35.	
Adults	650	593.	527 .	609
Life Group Total	. 1,010			1,025
Morning Worship*	. 1,322	1,318.	2,037.	1,317
Night of Worship*		935.		
Good Friday Worship*			572.	
*Includes online attendance				

#### Seminary Scholarships

Taylors Foundation is accepting applications for scholarships to Southern Baptist seminaries.

#### Fall Semester Deadline is May 30

To learn more about Taylors Foundation and apply for a scholarship visit taylorsfbc.org/taylors-foundation

### Stewardship

MARCH Month to Date Budget Receipts: \$452,021 Actual Receipts: \$369,606

Actual Spent: \$402,833

#### Year to Date

Budget Receipts: \$1,356,062 Actual Receipts: \$1,102,023 Actual Spent: \$1,212,614

#### Ways to Give

Give in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/give.

During the week, bring or mail your tithe or offering to the Church Office.

On Sundays and Wednesdays, place your contribution in one of the Giving Boxes or in the basket as you exit the Worship Center on Sunday.

#### Welcome to the Team



**Doug Fredricks**, a native of Kalamazoo, MI, recently joined our team in Maintenance.

He comes with years of experience as a power plant manager. He is married, with four adult children, and has a love for fishing. He is a member of Edwards Road Baptist Church.



**Dawn Vanasse** is no stranger to our Church family. She and her family are long time members.

With years of experience, and her many talents, she is sure to be an asset in the position of Rec Center Coordinator.

# STAY CONNECTED

What's Happening at Taylors

Subscribe to Taylors FBC Emails Visit taylorsfbc.org and click "Subscribe" near the bottom of the homepage.

Download the Church Center App Google Play or The App Store

Connect on Social Media @taylorsfbc | @taylorsstudents @taylorsclg | @taylorsrec @taylorswomen | @taylorschildren

### SUNDAYS taylorsfbc.org/worship/services



#### 9:00 am

Nursery | Preschool | Elementary | Middle/High School College | Adult | Young Professionals

#### 10:30 am

Nursery | Preschool | Adult Kids Worship for Elementary (except 1st Sundays)

#### **Evenings**

Regeneration Student Choir: 5:00 pm

### WEDNESDAYS taylorsfbc.org/wednesdays

#### Family Dinner, 5:15 - 6:15 pm\*

May 4: Chicken Fillets or Chick-fil-A May 11: Meatloaf or Chick-fil-A May 18: Barbeque or Chick-fil-A May 25: Beef Tips or Chick-fil-A June 1: Hamburgers or Chick-fil-A

#### Taylors Worship: Rehearsals

Worship Choir, 6:15 pm / Orchestra, 6:30 pm Traditional Choir, 7:20 pm

Parish Nurse Office Open Health Counseling / Monitoring, 5:30 - 6:30 pm

Pastor's Bible Study 6:30 - 7:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

Taylors Children: Nursery and Konnect6:30 - 7:30 pm | Doors Open at 6:15 pm

Taylors Students: Rise and Remedy United6:30 - 7:45 pm | Cafe Opens at 6:15 pm

\* Reservations are required by the Tuesday prior and are non-refundable. Sign up in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/events

#### Join the Taylors FBC Directory!

Just as we've had a pictorial directory in the past, we have built a digital pictorial directory that can be accessed on the Church Center App or computer. Only church members can view the directory.

- 1. Download the App on Google Play or The App Store. Follow the prompts to select Taylors FBC, and enter your email to log-in.
- 2. To add your family's photos, click on the top right circle, to access your Profile. Then click on your name and "update photo." You can use a photo on your device or take a new photo. Do the same for each person in your "household."
- 3. Also under your Profile, click on "My Directory Settings" to allow specific information to show in the directory and add a household photo. Follow the instructions to opt in.



# EVENTS AT TAYLORS

Sign up at taylorsfbc.org/events or in the Church Center App.



### **XYZ** Fellowship

May 9 | 11:15 am

"Xtra Years of Zest" meets monthly for fellowship, entertainment and lunch. The May meeting features Taylors FBC Legacy Choir, with hamburgers for lunch. Sign up by May 4!



Sign up in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/events.

Tumble Weekly ClassesWednesdays, June 15 - 29 | \$25

Tumbling CampJuly 11, July 18, or July 25 | \$25

Dance Weekly Classes Thursdays, June 9 - 23, or July 7 - 21 | \$25

> Dance Camps June 10 or August 3 | \$25

Grant Harrelson Basketball Camp July 11–14 | \$95

> Cheer Camp July 13 | \$25



#### Very Best Summer (VBS)

June 6 - 9, 6:00 - 8:15 pm for Children Age Three, by 9/1/21, through completed 5th Grade

It's going to be the Very Best Summer learning from the Book of Acts about how the church started and how to share Jesus with others. VBS will include a rotation of large group, Bible story, crafts, gym, and music. Each rotation will point children to what it looks like to live a life for Jesus.

**Volunteer!** One of our values at Taylors is "Everybody Serves." Everybody (those who have completed 6th grade through adults) is invited to serve at Very Best Summer!

Sign up in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/events