



A PUBLICATION OF TAYLORS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



Taylors Children exists to
Change the World for Jesus
because children who are changed by Jesus
and walk with Jesus, are sent by Jesus.



Dear Church Family,

As 2022 came to an end, my heart was overflowing with thanksgiving. First of all, Allison and I would like to thank everyone for the Christmas cards and gifts. You all have always been so gracious to us and our family. It truly was a blessed season here at Taylors First, a season of joy and celebration, and many sweet times of worshipping our Savior with each of you.

I am amazed at all the Lord allowed us to be a part of in this past year. We were able to serve so many through Love Taylors and our Serving the Sent events. We were able to do major improvements to our campus including a new roof on the gym and a major renovation of the Fellowship Hall. We added some

incredible people to our team, like our Executive Pastor, Chris DeWease, our Reach Pastor, Steven C., and our new Teaching Pastor, Nathan Finn. We cast a vision that will lead us to establish more churches so that we can reach more people with the Gospel. God is faithful to allow us the privilege of serving Him and at times, I am overwhelmed by the opportunities that He has placed before us.

I look forward to this new year! My prayer is that we will continue to be used by the Lord to advance His Gospel. We will see the vision to Establish the Church come to life through our Institute and Residency Program. We will see the church continue to grow in grace and truth, and that we would be faithful as He is faithful.

With God's help, let's "Change the World for Jesus!"

With much love,
Pastor Josh



taylors
worship

Lord's Supper Service

February 12 at 5:00 pm



What A Legacy...

A great legacy has been carried on for several decades following in the footsteps of the late Ynema Biesecker who taught the Senior Ladies Class. Over the years, various classes have come alongside this class of faithful Bible students and prayer warriors. Several of the ladies reached 100 while being loyal members, with Dot Breazeale living to be 103.

The most recent teachers of the Friendship Life Group were Mitsy Ballentine, Florence Harvey, Joyce Hawkins, Judy Hodge, and Brenda Stone. Of note, Florence Harvey has faithfully taught at Taylors FBC for over 30 years and Ruth Griffin, retired missionary who served in Indonesia, also taught this group of ladies.

The class has been a strong supporter of various ministries and missions. Some of these include Brown Family Ministries; Child Evangelism Fellowship; Christmas gifts for a student at Brook Glenn Elementary; Christmas Shoes Ministry; Fireweed Ministry in Eagle River, Alaska; Greer Community Ministries; Kids Alive at the Oasis in Guatemala; Just For Today; Love Taylors; Refuge Sports; Taylors Free Medical Clinic; Taylors REACH; Wycliffe Bible Translators; as well as scholarships for our children and youth to attend camps/retreats.

The ladies were recently given the endearing nickname of "Applesauce Angels" as the class assisted in packaging applesauce for Bella's Bags, which is a food program for children at Woodland Elementary.

As stated by one of the teachers, "These precious ladies displayed the epitome of what a Christian woman should be all the days of her life. You could feel love and care every time you entered their presence." What a godly legacy has been sown and given to Taylors First Baptist Church. To God be the glory!





Captivated

For 6th - 12th Grade Girls

February 10, 5:00 - 10:30 pm | February 11, 9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join us for our annual Captivated Girls Event! The ladies of Taylors Student Ministry will spend intentional time together through worship, teaching, activities, and fellowship. We won't be spending the night this year but we will have plenty of time to spend together.

Cost is \$25 and includes food, activities, and a t-shirt. Sign up in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/events by February 6.



Spring Retreat

For All Students

March 10 – 12 | Lake Junaluska

Only \$179 when you sign up by February 19.
Price increases to \$199 on February 20. Sign up in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/events.



FUGE Camp

For All Students

July 17 – 22 | North Greenville University

Cost: \$379 / \$100 deposit

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

Guest Services Spotlight

Ralph Neisler has faithfully served on our Usher Team for nearly 40 years. Each and every Sunday you can find Ralph stationed in the Welcome Center ready to warmly greet our members and guests, share a laugh, and help anyone in need. Ralph's smile and zeal for the Lord is contagious and we are so thankful for his servant's heart. In January, Ralph retired from our Usher Team, in true spirit saying it was time to "pass the baton to the next generation." We are thankful to Ralph and the path he has helped pave for faithful servants to come.





Converge Conference

February 3-5 | Myrtle Beach, SC

Big Table

February 19 | Taylors Rec Center | 12:15 pm

Ladies Latte Night Guys Night

February 27



Cultivate! Plant, Prune and Flourish

Our Taylors Women Ministry Team celebrated a wonderful beginning to 2023 with over 150 women gathered together for Mom to Mom and Women in the Word! We praise God for the hunger among our Taylors Women to study the Bible, grow together, and be transformed into the image of Christ.

Our moms in Mom to Mom are learning to “plant seeds” of the gospel within their own families, and our women in Women in the Word are studying the book of Hebrews to learn how God designed something “better for us in Christ.”

We are excited for what the future of Taylors Women will look like and even more excited for the work that God is cultivating within the hearts and minds of each of our Taylors’ ladies.



XYZ Fellowship

Monday, February 13, 11:15 am

Sign up by February 8 in the Church Center App
or at taylorsfbc.org/events.



February 14 and 28

Only \$8 per family each month!

Rec'd Moms is a new group for moms with children ages five and under. Your children will have time to play, you'll connect with other mothers, and enjoy coffee, tea, and conversation. Each session we will have new activities. Sign up in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/events





Home Repair Team

Two teams worked on demolition and rebuilding of the deck of a church member. Members of our Home Repair Team Bart Miller, John King, Ross Greene, Warren Rowe, Andres Moreno, John Foster, Dan Wyatt, Jason Hardman, and Team Leader David Massie worked diligently on this project with the addition of Keith Cunningham for help with clean up.

We are thankful for the giftedness of our Home Repair Team members and their willingness to serve our church and community members.



Love Taylors Day | April 1

Save the Date! Our annual Love Taylors Day will be on Saturday, April 1, so mark your calendars and plan to join us as we go out into the community to serve our neighbors and show the Gospel by acts of service. Be sure to talk to your Life Group about your project assignment. Sign up later this month in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/events.





2023 Reach Trips

We have trips planned to our partners in Los Angeles, New England, and South Asia as well as to Alaska and North Carolina. Applications to serve on a Reach Trip are due by February 12. Visit taylorsfbc.org/reach.

Los Angeles

LA SEND RELIEF — TAYLORS STUDENTS

Los Angeles, CA | June 9 - 16

Our students will assist LA Send Relief in outreach activities to marginalized people in the city of Los Angeles.

CHURCH PLANTING NETWORK

Orange County, California | July 20 - 27

Prayer walking, evangelism, and other ministry activities in partnership with four church plants in LA.

MARRIAGE RETREAT FOR LOS ANGELES CHURCH PLANTERS

Los Angeles, CA | July 28 - August 3

Host a marriage retreat for nearly 30 church planter and leadership couples.

South Asia

ASSESS, PLAN, AND EQUIP

India / Sri Lanka | Trip completed in January

Read all about this trip on page 8.

SRI LANKA CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

Sri Lanka | Tentative: August 4 - 13

Encourage and equip local believers; Invest in a network of local church planters.

HIMALAYAN VALLEY OUTREACH

Nepal | Tentative: November 3 - 12

Work alongside local believers to share Good News; Encourage our "laborers" that live and work there.

New England

ASSESS, EXPLORE AND ENCOURAGE

Nashua, NH & Boston, MA | February 16 - 19

Gather info to educate our church; explore future ministry opportunities; encourage our missionaries; proclaim the gospel.

REGENERATION STUDENT CHOIR

Nashua, NH | June 23 – July 1

Relational evangelism / block parties / concerts / outreach event. Team is full.

TRIPLE PLAY

Nashua, NH | Fall 2023

Encourage and serve The Well Church; Assist The Well Church in a community outreach event; Equip and empower the New Hampshire church planting network.

BOSTON OUTREACH

Boston, MA | March 30 – April 2

Assist Encounter Church in their egg drop outreach event in their community.

Love our Laborers

SPORTS AND ACADEMIC DAY CAMP

Jamestown, NC | June 25 - July 1

Sports Camp and Academic Support to assist the church in building relationships with Bhutanese and Nepali youth and families in partnership with Refuge Sports.

PARK OUTREACH WITH FIREWEED MINISTRY

Anchorage/Sutton, Alaska | June 3 - 11

Back Yard Bible Club and evangelism



God is Working in South Asia

by Steven C., Reach Pastor

Thank you for praying for my trip to South Asia December 30 - January 13. The Lord is doing some amazing things and I am so thankful that Taylors First Baptist Church has the opportunity to be involved! While there I partnered with our international workers, along with several South Asian brothers, to train local believers in both India and Sri Lanka.

One of those trainings was in a coastal city of India that has about 3 million people and is only about 1.8% Christian. Local church leaders gathered to assess the health of their strategies and to evaluate their progress towards the goal of seeing every people group in their region engaged with the Gospel. It was an exciting few days with about 35 leaders from several different networks. I was encouraged by the renewal of their individual commitments to pursue this goal. I was also blessed greatly by their passionate worship of the Lord as we met. Let's pray together for these brothers to invest wisely in those they disciple, and ask that God would multiply the harvest force in this area.

I also had many opportunities along the way to share the Gospel message with people I met. Two of those times weigh heavy on my mind, because there was such a contrast in the responses. One was with a 60+ year old taxi driver who claimed "everything is god." The other with a younger driver, who said, "I haven't seen God, so I don't believe He exists."



Both men had the opportunity that day to hear the truth, and both seemed to listen with an openness to at least consider the claims of the Gospel. That same week, in God's providence, I would meet another driver named *Baboo, who had been radically transformed by Christ. He was from a Hindu background, but after seeing his mother's life impacted by Christ years ago, he too would repent and believe in Jesus. In his taxi, he kept saying, "God is great, sir... our God is GREAT!!"

As we consider these three drivers, we get an accurate picture of the confusion that is typical here regarding

spiritual matters. And, what a powerful reminder that God is pursuing people for a relationship! Would you pray with us for these two men, that God would reveal Himself to them and grant them faith to repent and believe. Pray for them and for many others, that they would join *Baboo in declaring "Our God is GREAT!!"



While in Sri Lanka, I spent some time with a few fishermen that I met in the southern part of the island. In our conversation, I was able to share the Good News with them. As I think about these two men, I can't help but remember how Jesus launched his earthly ministry. It was to a few fishermen that Jesus said, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." (Matthew 4:19 ESV) Please pray that God would reveal Truth to them and give them faith to believe. And, pray that through them the Good News would spread rapidly, just as it did through the fishermen Jesus called out!

While in Sri Lanka, we conducted similar training events to those we led in India. At one of these events I met a young couple named *Duleep & *Ranjani. They left their home at around 2:00 am the night before and traveled 8 hours on a "scooter" to participate in the 2-day event. The focus of the event was to equip believers to share the Gospel, make disciples and plant churches. With a gas can strapped to the side of their scooter containing their limited ration of fuel (4 liters per week), *Duleep and *Ranjani rode through the night to come and be equipped, only to ride the 8 hours back home once the training was completed. I was greatly challenged by the sacrifice they made to participate. Please pray for them, and others that were trained at this event. Ask that God would bless and use them to multiply the number of disciples and churches all over the island nation of Sri Lanka.



Our Church Family

Celebrate new members, anniversaries, stewardship, and more.

Welcome New Members



**Richard & Stacia Campbell
Hudson & Kayla**
Joined January 15, 2023
by Statement



**Nathan & Leah Finn
Baxter & Georgia**
Joined January 1, 2023
by Letter



Ken & Pam Huber
Joined January 8, 2023
by Statement
Pam Huber



Paul & Sheri Metz
Joined December 11, 2022
by Statement



Tim & Billie Jo Tharp
Joined January 8, 2023
by Statement



Howard & Carolyn Yonally
Joined December 11, 2022
by Statement



Adam & Samantha Slama
Joined January 22, 2023
Adam by Statement
Samantha Pending Baptism

Photos Not Available

Matthew & Carroll McNutt
Joined December 11, 2022
by Statement

Caleigh Wray
Joined December 18, 2022
Pending Baptism

Marshall & Robin Cochran
Joined December 11, 2022
by Letter

In Memoriam

Garnell Clifton

November 9, 1932 - December 16, 2022

James Duncan

June 1, 1962 - November 30, 2022

Jerry Nichols

June 26, 1940 - December 4, 2022

Mary Rivers

November 10, 1942 - January 8, 2023

James "Buddy" Keller, Jr.

January 12, 1941 - January 28, 2023

Staff Anniversaries

FEBRUARY

Shianne Bujtor — 1 year of service

Cheryl Cruell — 1 year of service

Mario Saavedra — 2 years of service

Lisa McGill — 19 years of service

Stewardship

NOVEMBER

MONTH TO DATE

Budget Receipts: \$452,021

Actual Receipts: \$425,601

Actual Spent: \$444,275

YEAR TO DATE

Budget Receipts: \$4,972,227

Actual Receipts: \$4,366,989

Actual Spent: \$4,801,056

DECEMBER

MONTH TO DATE

Budget Receipts: \$452,021

Actual Receipts: \$735,537

Actual Spent: \$516,203

YEAR TO DATE

Budget Receipts: \$5,424,248

Actual Receipts: \$5,102,526

Actual Spent: \$5,317,258











Welcome Nathan Finn

Dr. Nathan Finn joins us as Teaching Pastor. He is a native of Georgia who has lived in the Greenville area since 2018. He and his wife, Leah, are the parents of four children. Nathan is a theologian and church historian who previously served as a full-time faculty member at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary and Union University prior to relocating to South Carolina. In addition to serving as bivocational Teaching Pastor at Taylors FBC, he serves as the full-time Provost and Dean of the University Faculty at North Greenville University.

Nathan is a graduate of Brewton-Parker College (B.A. in History) and Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary (M.Div. and Ph.D.). He writes widely on Baptist history and thought, higher education, and spiritual formation. He also serves as the current Recording Secretary of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Ways to Give

-  In the Church Center App
-  Online at taylorsfbc.org/give
-  Through online banking — set Taylors FBC as a payee in your banking system
-  Bring your tithe/offering to the Church Office
-  Mail your tithe/offering to the Church Office
-  Place your contribution in one of the Giving Boxes
-  Other Giving: Give through your charitable trust, charitable annuity, or your IRA Required Minimum Distributions
-  Legacy Giving: Give through your estate as a bequest

Deacon Nominating Committee

Church members are asked to nominate individuals to serve on the 2023 Deacon Nominating Committee by scanning the QR code or calling the Church Office at 864-244-3535. The election of seven individuals will be Sunday, February 26, 2023.



The Purpose of the Deacon Nominating Committee

The committee is a group of seven men or women elected each year by the church body who have the responsibility of nominating a slate of deacons to be approved by the church membership.

Deacons and What they Do

Deacons are men selected and approved by the congregation to serve three-year terms. A Deacon should be a Spirit-directed man who agrees to have the responsibility of caring for the physical and practical needs of the church body. He is to be an encourager, peace-maker, and servant-leader who devotes himself to the spiritual welfare of the members and seeks to unite the church under the ministry of the Word.

Sunday Statistics

| | 12/4 | 12/11 | 12/18 | 12/25 | 1/1 | 1/8 | 1/15 | 1/22 | 1/29 |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|-----|-------|-------|-------|--------------------|
| Nursery | 30 | 36 | 28 | 0 | 19 | 34 | 43 | 31 | 36 |
| Preschool | 27 | 46 | 44 | 0 | 24 | 67 | 57 | 54 | 60 |
| Elementary | 0 | 82 | 68 | 0 | 0 | 85 | 79 | 93 | 81 |
| Students | 0 | 114 | 102 | 0 | 0 | 109 | 82 | 100 | 98 |
| College | 0 | 49 | 29 | 0 | 0 | 32 | 58 | 52 | 40 |
| Adults | 0 | 557 | 550 | 0 | 0 | 635 | 600 | 607 | 526 |
| Life Groups | 0 | 976 | 907 | 0 | 0 | 1,046 | 1,016 | 1,025 | 912 |
| Morning Worship | 1,679 | 1,295 | 1,331 | 669 | 941 | 1,370 | 1,425 | 1,370 | 1,359 |
| Special Events | 951 | 683 | 413 | 1587 | | | | | 137 |
| | There is Another King | Children's Musical | Lessons & Carols | Christmas Eve | | | | | Women's Retreat |



**TAYLORS REC
CENTER**

Taylors Rec Center

The full facility membership includes use of the walking track, cardio/weight room, group fitness classes, gymnasium, game room, wifi, and cafe.

Guests are welcome at our special event classes this month!

Spin Cycling Classes, 3 Days per Week | Learn to Zumba: February 22, 10:30 am
Simple Yoga, February 25, 5:15 pm | Learn to Zumba: February 27, 6:00 pm

Weekly at Taylors FBC

Sunday Mornings

8:30 am: Band Led Worship

Nursery, Preschool, and Adult Life Groups
Kid's Worship for 1st - 3rd Grade (except 2/5)

9:40 am: Traditional Worship

Nursery, Preschool, Elementary, Students,
College, and Adult Life Groups

11:00 am: Taylors Worship

Nursery, Preschool, and Adult Life Groups
Kid's Worship for 1st - 3rd Grade (except 2/5)

Evening

5:00 pm: Regeneration Student Choir
6:15 pm: Remedy for High School

Wednesday Evenings

Family Dinner, 5:00 - 6:10 pm

Join us in the Welcome Center!

- February 1: Chicken casserole with green beans, rice, and coleslaw or Chick-fil-A
- February 8: Ham with potato salad, peas, and coleslaw or Chick-fil-A
- February 15: Chicken fillet with french fries, baked beans, hush puppies, and coleslaw or Chick-fil-A
- February 22: Beef tips with rice, fried okra, and coleslaw or Chick-fil-A

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

Taylors Worship: Rehearsals

Worship Choir, 6:15 pm
Orchestra, 6:30 pm
Traditional Choir, 7:55 pm

Pastor's Bible Study

6:30 - 7:30 pm | Worship Center

Taylors Children: Nursery and Konnect

6:30 - 7:30 pm | Doors Open at 6:15 pm

Taylors Students: Rise for Middle School

6:30 - 7:45 pm | Cafe Opens at 6:15 pm

Taylors College and Young Professionals: The Gathering

7:30 - 9:00 pm

Stay Connected

Subscribe to Taylors FBC Emails

Visit taylorsfbc.org and click "Sign up for email announcements" at the bottom of the page.

Download the Church Center App

Google Play or The App Store.

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@taylorsclg
@taylorsrec
@taylorswomen
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