



taylors[™]

first baptist church

Family

A PUBLICATION OF TAYLORS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH





Jerry Long Retired in May

Jerry Long has served as Minister of Pastoral Care since 2018 after retiring from Shandon Baptist Church in Columbia. Jerry has been a blessing to our staff and church, not only in the manner in which he has fulfilled his ministry role, but in his character of life! We are so thankful for Jerry and his wife, Lynne.



You have been a gentle and quiet force of mercy, strength and presence in our lives. In rooms of grief you have brought the peace of Christ and reflected the Father's compassion. You are truly "the good and faithful servant." Thank you my friend.

— Frank Fitzgerald, Life Group Leader



God blessed us by sending Jerry Long to Taylors First Baptist Church. His quiet, humble demeanor and infectious smile warmed the hearts of many suffering or having lost a loved one. Jerry brought a message of confidence, comfort, and hope from God. Working with Jerry for the past seven years has been an honor.

— Ronnie Davis, Funeral Usher Team



It has been a special privilege working with pastor Jerry Long over the past seven years. While doing hospital visits, leading the XYZ Fellowship, and supporting seniors' events, it's been my joy to minister alongside Jerry. His leadership, attention to details and pastoral care are gifts which have been a blessing to Taylors. Jane and I wish Jerry and Lynne God's very best as they enter a new phase of ministry in retirement.

— Paul Barber, XYZ Leadership



The chance to work with Jerry has been indeed a "God-send." To witness his dedication and passion to and for the Pastoral Care ministries, has been a great example to me of true servanthood. His humility and compassion have touched so many for the cause of Christ. And I am deeply blessed to have had the opportunity to share work, time, and space, with such a man of God. He will be truly missed.

— Cheryl Cruell, Pastoral Care Ministry Assistant



ENCOUNTER GOD.



Kids' Music Night of Worship



Sunday, July 6
One Worship Service
at 10:00 am
with the Lord's Supper

ENGAGE THE WORLD.

Upcoming Reach Trips



June 20 – 22: Myrtle Beach: News Travels Fast

Our team will be coming along side of Impact Church and their pastor, Wallace Evans. We will be having some directed community outreach events that are building on relationships created from the block party from the last Reach Team we sent in April.

- Pray for Impact Church's launch team. Ask that God would give them grace and steadfast confidence in Him as they approach the launch date of their church plant.
- Pray for those that will be attending our events. Ask that God would go ahead of us and begin to prepare their hearts to hear the Word and respond accordingly.
- Pray that our team would have boldness to proclaim the Gospel wherever He gives an opportunity, and that we would be given strength to serve and words to speak while working alongside Impact Church.



June 21 – 27: LA Serve and Share

This summer, our team of 9 from Taylors will be working with Send Relief and Purpose LA, serving in various settings including rescue missions, local parks, and Skid Row. Our mission is to share the hope of the Gospel while meeting the physical needs of the people in LA.

- Pray for the hearts of the people we encounter to be open to the message we have to share.
- Pray that each team member would be bold in sharing the gospel as we go.
- Pray for safe travel to and from the field, and for the protection of loved ones who remain at home.

June 22 – 29: New Hampshire: Kingdom Builders

- Pray for team members to abide well and to walk in the Spirit.
- Pray for all logistics of outreach events.
- Pray for outreach events to lead to gospel proclamation and for lives to be impacted for the glory of God!

July 13 – 18: NC: Myanmar Manna Team

We will be partnering with Refuge Sports and Myanmar Life Church in Jamestown and Greensboro, North



Carolina. We will lead and assist with a Bible story and recreational camp for children in first through eighth grade from Burmese and Nepali refugee families.

- Please pray for our team's preparation of the material to teach the children. Also, the training of high school students from Life Myanmar Church the week before we arrive by Julie and Mike Lee.
- Pray for the children attending the camp, to come to know Jesus as their personal Lord and Savior, or, if they already know Him, to strengthen their relationship with Christ.
- Pray for the families of children who attend the camp and that we would have opportunities for gospel conversations, and also for the children as they share the Bible lessons at home.

Serving the Sent 2026

Join us as we serve those working in South Asia!

Trip Location: Southeast Asia

Dates: June 19 - 27, 2026

Let us know in the Church Center app if you are interested in going on the trip or providing support by June 8, 2025!

Mission Trip Reports

Gavin Wenning, Ecuador

Hi, my name is Gavin Wenning and I had the privilege of going on my first mission trip to Ecuador. I have wanted to be a missionary since I was six years old. I traveled to Ecuador with my teen boys' group which I have been part of for several years. When we arrived in Ecuador we were hosted by missionaries, Steve and Carol Thompson, who have been doing the Lord's work in Ecuador for over 40 years. During our stay at the missions camp we did some concrete work for a local church. Then we did a community outreach where we invited teens to come hear the word of God. During this special time with the local teens we played soccer and hosted a VBS. The teens that came to the VBS were so eager to hear God's word. I was able to share my own testimony that night with the teens.



Being in Ecuador and seeing how little material things they have but the joy of the Lord was always shining through their smiles was an encouragement to me. They seemed so happy. It really made me realize that things are not as important as having God in my life. That is the only thing that matters! I also learned so much from Steve Thompson, the missionary. He has really devoted his life to making relationships and guiding the Ecuador people in their walk with God. I am truly blessed to have been able to go on this trip. I want to thank Taylors First Baptist for praying for me and sponsoring a huge part of my trip. It was really life changing!

Emily Weaver, Middle East

I was incredibly blessed with the opportunity to return to the Middle East with North Greenville University during my spring break. While there, we partnered with a local school, and I had the privilege of teaching English to first, second, and third grade students for a week. Serving the students and staff was such a blessing! Their kindness, openness, and generosity was a perfect example of Christ. (John 13:34) God's presence and power was so evident in a place where being a believer is often looked down upon.

One of the highlights of the trip was visiting the site where Jesus was baptized. Walking where my Savior once walked was absolutely surreal. One thing that weighs heavily on my heart is the reality that so many people in the region are following false religions. Hearing the call to prayer multiple times a day was a constant reminder of that spiritual need! Would you join me in praying for those who have not heard would hear the gospel and believe it? Would you also pray for local believers—that they would be bold, encouraged, and steadfast in their faith?



Emily with a Third Grade Student



A Christian family who invited the team into their home to share a meal and have gospel conversations. They also showed the team what it is like being a believer in the Middle East.

Homework Club Volunteers

The Homework Club volunteers will be at Spring Grove this summer on six Thursday afternoons from 2:30-4:00 pm! Lots of children are showing up and we need more volunteers. We will have a late lunch, crafts, outdoor games, reading enrichment and Bible lessons. This summer we will be learning about the Fruits of the Spirit. What do volunteers do? They smile, encourage, love, serve with patience, read with kids, play games, work puzzles, offer a helping hand and do whatever they can to display the love of Christ to these children and their families! For more information, contact the Reach Office at lovetaylors@taylorsfbc.org.



Love Taylors Partner – Brook Glenn Elementary

Members of the Young Couples Life Group served at Brook Glenn Elementary for their School Spring Carnival! This was one of the first large community events the school has done since before Covid. The event ended up being a real hit with over 500 students and family members in attendance. Our Taylors FBC members had a sweet time serving in various ways and using this opportunity to connect with those in our own backyard and make them feel seen, welcomed, and loved! The school was grateful to have us involved, and we were thankful for the chance to serve.



STARTING POINT

Sunday, June 29,
3:30 - 6:00 pm

Starting Point will look a little different! We invite all new and prospective members that have never attended Starting Point to join us on Sunday, June 29, from 3:30 – 6:00 pm for our first ever *One Session Starting Point*. You will hear from some of our team members and learn about who we are and what we do at Taylors FBC. As well, as learn about ways you can join alongside us to Change the World for Jesus! Sign up in the Church Center App or at taylorsfbc.org/events to let us know you'll be joining us! We hope to see you there!

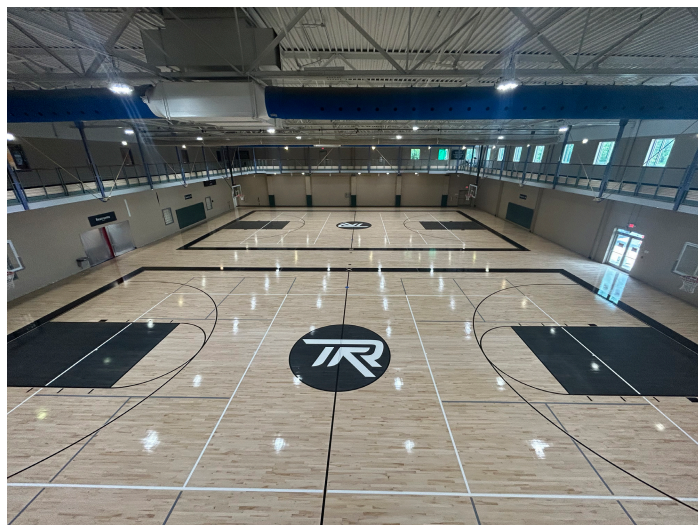


REC'd moms

June 10 and July 8 | 9:00 - 11:00 am

Rec'd Moms is a group for moms with children ages five and under. Your children will have time to play and you'll connect with other mothers. In June, we'll meet at Paris Mountain State Park — come join us as we play in the park, walk trails and learn about the animals and plants.

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



The gym floor resurfacing is complete!
We are happy to welcome everyone back.



Music and Movement Camp and Classes

For Ages 2 - 8

Tumbling Camp and Classes

For Ages 3 - 10

Dance Camp and Classes

For Ages 3 - 9

Cheer Camp

For Ages 4 - 12

Train and Play Basketball Camp

For Rising 5K - 1st Grade

Pickleball Camp

For Rising 4th- 9th Grades



New! Middle School Hoops

Students in grades 6th- 8th are invited to join us for
pick-up basketball on Sundays in July
from 6:00 - 8:00 pm!

EQUIP BELIEVERS.



Move up Sunday in August will be here before we know it! Do you have a heart for shaping the next generation to love Jesus and change the world for Him? We'd love to find a place for you to serve within Taylor's Children on Sunday mornings or Wednesday nights. Please reach out to the Children's Team at children@taylorsfbc.org or call Lea Hardy, Minister of Children, at 864-678-8811.

Prayer Requests for Vacation Bible School

Please pray for these requests every day this week along with the purpose of Taylor's children: To come alongside parents to raise up the next generation to love Jesus with all their heart, soul, mind and strength.

Monday, June 2

Pray that everyone who steps on our campus, especially those coming for the very first time, feels welcome and genuinely loved.

Tuesday, June 3

Pray that our volunteers will have daily strength and excitement.

Wednesday, June 4

Pray that the gospel presented on this day will transform hearts.

Thursday, June 5

Pray for our last day to be one of excitement and fun as we welcome parents back for the Closing Rally and a time of fellowship outside the Welcome Center. Pray that those who are seeking a church home will feel led to return!



Singles Picnic

Saturday, June 14, 5:00 pm

Taylor's Rec Picnic Shelter

Menu: BBQ. Bring your favorite side or dessert.

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

Summer Kick-off



The Summer Kick Off was such a blast! It was the perfect way to begin my summer! I believe it helped the student ministry become closer and get even more excited for all the events coming up. We were able to fellowship with one another, not just our grades, but the younger and older grades as well. Overall, it was such a fun time and I am thankful for a student ministry that loves one another and Jesus so much! I cannot wait to see how God continues to work in and through Taylors Student Ministry this summer and I believe it will be an amazing, adventure-filled, fruitful summer for us all!

— Macy Grace Powell, 11th Grade



Lunch & Learn

For High Schoolers
Tuesdays: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm
June 10 - July 29 (Except 7/1)
in the Student Worship Room

**Summer
Nights**

For All Students
Wednesdays: 6:30 – 8:30 pm
June 11 - July 30 (Except 7/2 & 7/16)
at the Taylors Rec Center

Class of 2025 Graduation Banquet



I've had the privilege of serving in Taylors Students as a girl's small group leader for the past 5 years. This last weekend, with the Graduate banquet and Graduation Sunday, was the culmination of those years as I got to be a part of the celebration honoring the group of girls I've been with since 8th grade. I've been able to watch them grow into amazing young women, serve the body and grow in their faith and understanding of the Word. Thank you, Taylors Students, for pouring into our students. Thank you for celebrating this milestone with the students and their parents and leaders. I love being a part of a multi-generational church, and I can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for these students as they transition out of student ministry into adulthood.

— Tara Bergstrom, Leader

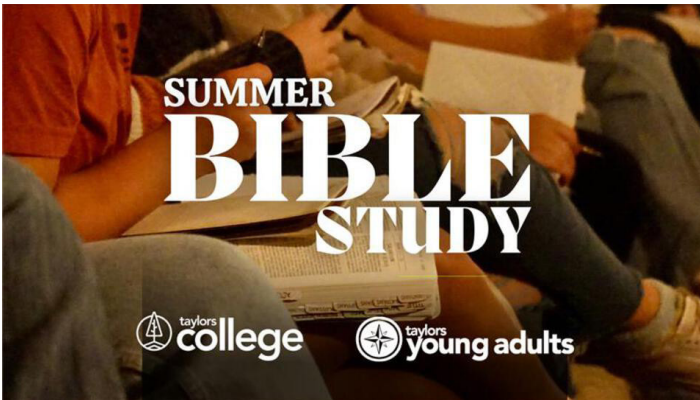
This weekend was a beautiful celebration of all we've accomplished. We shared amazing food, received encouragement and wisdom from our leaders, and on Sunday, our parents and the church came together to pray over us. It was a meaningful reminder of the community that's walked alongside us through every step. We're deeply grateful for the love and support of our church family as we step into this next chapter of our lives. Their prayers and presence mean more than words can express.

— Kezia Deighton, Graduate

I am so grateful for the way Taylors FBC pours into our children with such love and intention. It's been a true blessing to watch them form meaningful friendships and grow in their walk with Jesus. The senior dinner was wonderful example of the care – an intentional time to reflect on their journey through Taylors Students and to look ahead with hope and excitement to the next chapter of life.

— Rion DeMars, Parent





Sundays, 6:00 – 10:00 pm, Beginning June 8
Taylors Ministry Center

Join us for our annual summer young adult bible study. We'll gather together to study God's Word and go play pickleball at Riverside Park after. Can't wait to dive into Scripture together!



Tuesdays, 7:00 – 10:30 pm, Beginning June 3
Taylors Rec Ball Fields

College students, summer Ultimate Frisbee is back! Join us every Tuesday night during the summer for fun, fellowship, and stiff competition. Bring a friend and we'll see you there

Prayer Requests

SOUTH ASIA TEAM

Pray for the team going to South Asia at the beginning of June. Pray that God would be glorified, those going would be proclaim the Gospel with boldness, and lives would be changed leading to a revival in the country. The team will be going into the communities and partnering with local believers. May God receive all the glory!



COLLEGE STUDENTS SERVING THIS SUMMER

35 college students will be serving this summer in some capacity for the sake of the Gospel. From short term mission trips, summer camps, missional internships, to multi-week serving opportunities we have the joy of praying for and lifting up these students this summer. They are using their gifts to change the world of Jesus!



ESTABLISH THE CHURCH.



Equipping and sending multiplying leaders who abide in Christ, make disciples, and develop leaders to Establish the Church. We are excited to introduce our 2025 Establish Network Summer Interns and are honored to play a small part in equipping them for the work of ministry and are expectant that God will use them to Change the World for Jesus!



Alexa Atkinson

Reach | Connections Intern
Junior at Anderson University



Matt Bullard

Reach Intern
Junior at North Greenville University



Alex Burch

Taylor's Worship Intern
Junior at Charleston Southern University



Brooke Crittendon

Taylor's College Intern
Junior at Anderson University



Bethany Keefe

Taylor's Children's Intern
Junior at Winthrop University



Chapel Leroy

Taylor's College Intern
Senior at North Greenville University



Grant Swafford

Taylor's Students Intern
Graduate of Anderson University

Our Church Family

Celebrate new members, baptisms, anniversaries, stewardship, and more.

Welcome New Members



Kennedy Young
Joined May 11, 2025
by Baptism



Annie James Fickey
Joined May 18, 2025
by Baptism



Matthew and Samantha Kilgore
Joined May 18, 2025
by Letter



Jonathon and Savannah Bennefield
Joined May 25, 2025
by Statement



Cheryl Smallwood
Joined May 25, 2025
by Statement

Photos not Available

Stephanie LaBelle
Joined May 4, 2025
by Statement

Will Cooker
Joined May 18
by Letter

In Memoriam

Bill Clifton
January 8, 1935 - May 2, 2025

Linda Kovach
September 13, 1945- May 11, 2025

Margaret Burns
November 10, 1932 - May 15, 2025

William "Bill" Madden
December 28, 1925 - May 29, 2025

Baptisms

We welcome to the Body of Christ
through believer's baptism:

Annie James Fickey
Wake Fickey
Fuller Finn
Kennedy Young

Sunday Statistics

	5/5	5/11	5/18	5/25
Nursery	41	40	44	32
Preschool	45	64	56	41
Elementary	63	70	69	51
Students	74	84	103	67
College	56	50	50	40
Adults	640	608	636	508
Life Group Total.....	1035	1032	1070	846
Morning Worship.....	1471	1622	1620	1317
Kids' Music Night of Worship			555	

Staff Anniversaries

June

Kevin Batson — 17 years of service
 Dick Kay — 8 years of service
 Kay Lumpkin — 8 years of service
 Amanda McKenna — 8 years of service
 Kaitlyn Ross — 7 years of service

July

Jeremy Thompson — 13 years of service
 Beverly Vest — 11 years of service
 Alex Smith — 7 years of service
 Lea Hardy — 1 year of service

April Stewardship

MONTH TO DATE

Budget Receipts \$478,749
 Actual Receipts \$374,583
 Actual Spent \$444,131

YEAR TO DATE

Budget Receipts \$1,914,99
 Actual Receipts \$1,561,154
 Actual Spent \$1,786,308

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

Bacon, Biscuits, and the Bible

Wednesdays, June 18 - July 30 — Breakfast at 8:45 am and Bible Study at 9:30 am

It is nearly summer and time for Bacon, Biscuits, and the Bible. Join us as Pastor Josh Powell and our ministers teach through the powerful book of 1 Peter. We look forward to spending this time with you in God's Word!

Breakfast will include biscuits, gravy, bacon, grits, scrambled eggs, and fresh fruit for \$8.

Sign up for breakfast in the Church Center app or at taylorsfbc.org/events.



Welcome Matthew Kilgore, Minister of Students

Matthew is married to Samantha Kilgore. They have one daughter, Nora. Matthew graduated from the University of South Carolina with a degree in History, and also The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary with an MDiv in Biblical and Theological Studies. He has a passion for discipleship and helping students understand God's Word. Matthew also enjoys sports, reading, and spending time with his family!



Welcome our New Team Members



Tatiana Dolan as Reach Ministry Assistant

We are thrilled to welcome Tatiana Dolan as our new Reach Ministry Assistant! Tatiana, her husband Matt, and their children Haleigh and TJ have been members here at Taylors FBC for just over a year. She is a graduate of North Greenville University where she received her B.A. of Christian Studies. She is passionate about the local church and making Christ known to those around her, we thankful to have her join our team and excited to see how the Lord uses her! Welcome Tatiana!



Blake as Taylors Students Coordinator

Blake F. has served Taylors FBC faithfully. First, as an intern in the Reach Ministry, then as our first Establish Resident, and most recently as the Interim Student Minister. He has lead our students well during this interim period and we are excited to welcome Blake Faulkner as our new Student Ministry Coordinator. Blake will continue his ministry to Taylors FBC students as he works alongside our Minister of Students, Matthew Kilgore, to coordinate the activities and ministries within the Student Ministry.



Morgan Hester as College and Young Adults Ministry Assistant Apprentice

We're excited to welcome Morgan Hester as our new College and Young Adults Ministry Assistant Apprentice! Morgan is a Liberty University graduate with a background in education. She interned with our Children's Ministry last summer and gained further experience through the SC Baptist Convention Catalyst Program. We're grateful for her heart for ministry and passion for discipling college students.