



A PUBLICATION OF TAYLORS FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



Change the World for Jesus



# LIFE GROUPS



**Word of God**



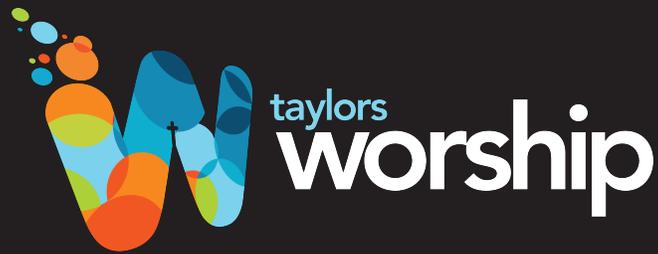
**Prayer**



**Biblical Fellowship**



And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. 2 Corinthians 3:18



## Regeneration Student Choir: Mission Trip to New Orleans

By Kevin Batson, Worship Pastor

Thanks so much for praying for the Student Choir as we ministered and served in New Orleans in June. We could feel your prayers!

We worked each day through the "Mission Lab" at New Orleans Seminary. Our team of 32 students was divided in thirds. Each group had a morning assignment and an afternoon assignment.

In each of these areas, students not only worked hard, but had conversations of encouragement for those leading the ministries, and conversations about the Lord with those they met. They were encouragers, witnesses, and ambassadors for Jesus. You should be proud of them. Diann Greer and all our leaders were awesome as well, working right beside the students in every ministry.

Pray for those we ministered to. Several folks who are fighting addiction come to mind – one guy I met had been clean for 30 days the day we talked, and had come to Christ at the very end of his recent incarceration. Through tears he asked that I pray that he would be strong this time and not relapse. So many stories like this! Pray for



the churches we worked with – many with the same problems we face, but in a place where both Catholicism and an “anything goes spirituality” are prevalent.

Each evening we had a service of worship and preaching, and then met in our teams to debrief. Long but fruitful days.

Thanks again for your prayers – we traveled 1700 miles with no problems, no sickness, no real issues. God is good!



Some of the ministries we were a part of:

- Excite All-Stars – non-profit day care program, where we hosted a full VBS and continued to help in the afternoon
- New Orleans Mission – drug addiction ministry, including a year long intensive discipleship program (currently there are 500+ men and women in the program); we worked in the pantry, clothing area, kitchen, and we sang for the daily worship service to over 60 men
- Bethel South Ministry – drug addiction ministry, providing jobs and therapy for men and women; we sorted clothes and assisted in the car wash, both of which provide funding for the program and income for those in it
- Baptist Friendship House – ministry to homeless people, provided clothing, helped organize clothing donations, worked in the kitchen, fed over 150 homeless people
- Parkside Baptist – we distributed hundreds of VBS flyers door-to-door in their neighborhood, with many good conversations about the church and the Lord
- Vintage Church – we assisted in clean-up from their recent VBS ministry and helped refurbish their children’s area, also assisted with their food distribution program
- Evangelism – teams walked in the City Park area and in the French Quarter, praying, asking people for prayer requests, and having gospel conversations
- Habitat for Humanity – volunteered in the Restore, and had conversations with patrons
- Food Bank – made over 1000 sandwiches to help feed people across Mississippi and Louisiana
- Urban Farms – community garden, helping to feed the poor
- Rebuild Ministries – helping to provide and improve housing for the poor

# EQUIP BELIEVERS.



## Wednesday Nights Resume August 13

Learn more at [taylorsfbc.org/wednesdays!](http://taylorsfbc.org/wednesdays!)

### Dinner

Served from 5:15–6:10 pm. Sign up through Monday at midnight in the Church Center App or at [taylorsfbc.org/events](http://taylorsfbc.org/events).

- August 13 — Hamburgers with toppings, Ruffles chips, baked beans, and dessert of cookies and cobbler; or Chick-fil-A
- August 20 — Fried chicken with macaroni and cheese, green beans, rolls, and dessert of strawberry cake or brownies; or Chick-fil-A
- August 27 — Salisbury beef steak with mashed potatoes, green peas, roll and dessert of pineapple upside cake and brownies; or Chick-fil-A



### Pastor's Bible Study

Pastor Josh will lead an in-depth, verse-by-verse study through the Bible.

### Student Back-to-School Bash

All students are invited to the Taylors Rec Picnic Shelter for an evening of food, fun, and fellowship.

### Konnect for Elementary and Preschool

Children will engage in memorizing scripture, singing songs, and enjoying time together.

### Worship Rehearsals

Worship Choir at 6:15 pm or Traditional Choir at 7:20 pm; Orchestra at 6:30 pm

### Grief Support for Spouses

Our Grief Support Ministry is designed to help you navigate the process of grieving, through group discussion, fellowship, and guidance from those who have walked through the grieving process. Sign up in the Church Center App or at [taylorsfbc.org/events](http://taylorsfbc.org/events).





## Vacation Bible School 2025 was Amazing!

We had nearly 400 children and over 150 volunteers on campus *magnifying the bigness of God in the smallest of things*. The children learned about how God sees them, cares about them, loves them, forgives them and how He keeps His promises. We had incredible missionary speakers who shared about where they serve, who they serve, and the various experiences they've had with sharing the gospel around the world. Our mission project this year was to raise money to have 1 and 2 Thessalonians translated for the Arbore people group in Ethiopia. Our goal was \$5,000 but families went above and beyond to raise over \$7,111! We are so thankful for all the amazing volunteers who gave of their time to serve at VBS! The Lord was gracious and faithful to provide a smooth and joyful week as we shared our love for Jesus.



### Our VBS Experience

"It was a joy to serve at VBS this year. What a special opportunity to be part of Taylors Children — sharing the love of Jesus with children in our community and helping plant seeds of faith. Through this summer's theme of magnifying God, we encouraged children to look closely and discover His presence in all things and magnify the greatness of God.

VBS offers a unique opportunity to share the love of Christ not only with children, but also with their families, extending the reach of our church and the message of the



Gospel beyond our walls. It was incredible to see God at work in the children during Bible story time and worship, where their joy and curiosity were truly evident.

Serving at VBS also reminded us that God works in our hearts as volunteers, too. As we planted and watered seeds of faith, we were reminded that it is "God who gives the growth" (1 Corinthians 3:6). It was a blessing to grow spiritually through sharing the Gospel and a wonderful way to glorify God through our time and gifts."

— Neco and Savanna Smit



## Move Up Sunday

Move Up Sunday is August 10. Children will promote to their next age/grade and will receive a postcard in the mail that shares information for this day.

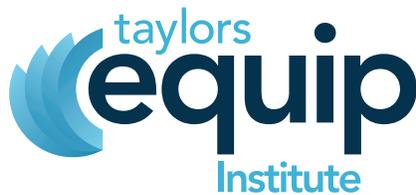
## KONNECT

Konnect begins on Wednesday, August 13 at 6:15 pm.

Elementary check-in begins at 6:10 pm and Preschool at 6:15 pm. Elementary will be dropped off in the gym and picked up in their classroom. Preschool will be dropped off and picked up in their classroom.

## Are you interested in volunteering in Taylors Children on Sunday mornings or Wednesday night?

If you've been an active church member for at least 6 months and have a heart for sharing Jesus with children, we'd love to have you! Please contact Leah Hardy, Minister of Children, at [leah@taylorsfbc.org](mailto:leah@taylorsfbc.org).



## The Equip Institute Begins September 3

The Equip Institute exists to equip members of Taylors First Baptist Church to think rightly about God and His world for the sake of living rightly before God in His world. Join us for a study of "Baptist Beliefs." Our theme for the Equip Institute this entire school year will be Baptist Beliefs. We will study the Baptist Faith and Message 2000, working through the confession article by article, learning more about the key doctrines and emphases that are affirmed by most Southern Baptists. Sign up in the Church Center App or at [taylorsfbc.org/events](http://taylorsfbc.org/events).

## Equip Institute Summer Reading Group

During June and July, the Equip Institute hosted its second annual Summer Reading Group. This year's book was Rebecca McLaughlin's *Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion* (Crossway, 2019). Each chapter addresses a different concern that skeptics raise about Christianity, or that sometimes cause believers to have doubts about the faith.

- Aren't we better off without religion?
- Doesn't Christianity crush diversity?
- How Can You Say There's Only One True Faith?
- Doesn't Religion Hinder Morality?
- Doesn't Religion Cause Violence?
- How Can You Take the Bible Literally?
- Hasn't Science Disproved Christianity?
- Doesn't Christianity Denigrate Women?
- Isn't Christianity Homophobic?
- Doesn't the Bible Condone Slavery?
- How Could a Loving God Allow So Much Suffering?
- How Could a Loving God Send People to Hell?

The Summer Book Group met on Monday mornings at 7:30 am. Teaching Pastor, Nathan Finn, led the group, and approximately 25 church members participated. The weekly discussions focused on the big idea of each chapter, the various defenses McLaughlin offered, and how best to address each question among our friends, family members, and co-workers. The Summer Reading Group was a big success. Lord willing, the tradition will continue in Summer 2026.

*Confronting Christianity* is available to check out from our Resource Center or for purchase at [tenofthose.com](http://tenofthose.com).

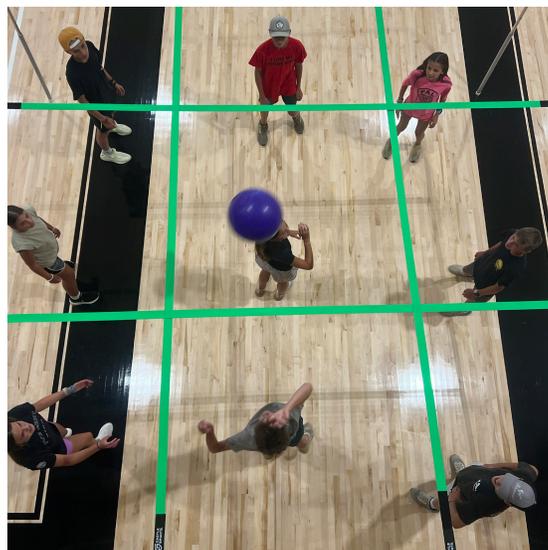


# tsm Summer

by Matthew Kilgore, Minister of Students

Summer can be tricky when it comes to scheduling events, everyone is on vacation, students are working, but it was such a blessing to see students seeking and desiring community at our Lunch & Learns and at Summer Nights. We focused on God, who He is and how He's revealed Himself to us in His Word. We looked at his attributes, so that by truly knowing God we might truly love God.

FUGE at North Greenville University was a great time for us to step away from the regular rhythms of life so that we might be undistracted as we encounter God. This past summer was a great time to develop intentional relationships with students as I started out in this role. I pray the momentum from this summer in relationships, our weekly gatherings, and time at FUGE will carry over as we begin the fall semester!





## August 2025

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**9**  
AUG

Rise Up for Rising 6<sup>th</sup> Graders  
Sign up by 8/3\*

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**10**  
AUG

Move Up Sunday, 9:40 am  
State of the Student Ministry, 4:00 pm  
Sign up by 8/3\*

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**13**  
AUG

Back to School Bash for All Students, 6:00 pm

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**17**  
AUG

First Remedy for High School, 6:15 pm

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**20**  
AUG

First Rise for Middle School, 6:15 pm

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\*Sign up in Church Center App or at [taylorstfbc.org/events](http://taylorstfbc.org/events).

# Remedy LA Mission Trip

Going on the Remedy LA trip is something that I'll never forget. The trip included a few days of prayer over The Abiding Church as well as the areas affected by the fire. We also had the opportunity to pray that the people of LA would respond to the gospel. This time taught me how prayer is extremely important and vital for God to be able to work in the area. Prayer is such a simple way we can communicate with God and something that Trenton and his team heavily rely on. This time of prayer allowed us to be able to have many gospel conversations on the train, Skid Row, downtown LA, and Venice Beach. Trenton and his team were also very helpful to me and the other students on the trip as he guided us along this journey. Overall, I felt that if I can share the gospel in LA, then I can share the gospel wherever I go. — Isaac Allen, 11th Grade



Spending a week in LA with a group from Remedy was an experience I will never forget. As we stepped into the brokenness found right here in our country, we were reminded that the gospel is not known everywhere. We were also reminded that presenting the truth is the most loving thing we can do. As we spent time surrounded by lostness, it was so encouraging to see the students praying for and sharing the gospel within the city. Trenton and his team were willing to challenge the students, and leaders, to go outside their comfort zones for the sake of the gospel and that is truly what happened! The Lord is moving in LA. We should continue to pray for Trenton and The Abiding Church as well as for the city of Los Angeles. — Jess Knepp, Leader





## South Asia Trip Reflection

By Brooke Crittendon, Establish Network Summer College Intern

I feel so blessed to have had the opportunity to travel and serve with our college team in the place I called home for seven years. Being able to invest in the same place that shaped so much of my early life was a true gift from the Lord. Our team had a very encouraging time partnering with the local church to put on a Youth Camp. Witnessing young believers from all over the island come together and worship the Lord stirred something deep inside me. It was beautiful to see a generation and culture so hungry for truth and unafraid to pursue Christ boldly.

I had the opportunity to help lead worship, form deep relationships, and share my testimony with many students. The people in this place are the most hospitable, joyful, and gracious I have ever known. I felt incredibly honored to worship alongside them and even more humbled to share parts of my story and see how God used it to encourage others.

At camp we played games, watched and performed many skits, laughed over meals and shared moments that I will cherish forever. Outside of camp I got to explore parts of the island again, try familiar foods that brought back memories, and step into conversations with people that led to sharing the gospel. It was priceless to get to reconnect with the culture I grew up in, but this time through a personal calling of my own.

More than anything, what impacted me most was being able to encourage the local church. Seeing how faithfully they serve reminded me that ministry is happening every day, even when no one sees it. I left feeling both full and challenged to continue living missionally wherever I am with open hands and a willing heart.



# What a Great Summer!

By Alex Smith, Minister of College and Young Adults.

I am extremely thankful for what God has done in and through our college students. We have seen increased attendance and engagement all season—Sunday morning Life Group has been full of energy and group collaboration, and our Sunday evening Bible study through the book of James has been impactful led by our intern, Chapel Leroy. Beyond our regular Summer rhythms, we've shared many moments of competition and fellowship—Sunday night pickleball returned as a favorite, and our Tuesday evening ultimate frisbee games have drawn a great crowd each week. This summer, several of our college students celebrated marriage, and over 30 students have served in missional capacities—from local outreach to global opportunities. What a beautiful reflection of the Gospel lived out! We praise God for a thriving college ministry and for the faithful support of our church family that makes this possible. Thank you for praying, giving, and cheering on the next generation of Christ-followers.



BEGINS AUGUST 27

*the*  
**GATHERING**

Wednesdays at 7:00 pm  
Taylors Ministry Center

# Fall Gathering

*Deeply Rooted*

September 12 at 6:30 pm

Join Taylors Women for a cozy fall evening of sweet treats, creative fellowship and Christ-centered connections. We will gather and fellowship because we are better together.

Sign up in Church Center App or at [taylorsfbc.org/events](https://taylorsfbc.org/events).



## Women's Retreat



January 23 - 25

Billy Graham Training Center at The Cove

Join us for an exciting weekend of dynamic teaching of the word, worship, and fellowship. We are excited to have Glenna Marshall as our guest speaker and Cameron B. Phillips leading worship.

Registration spots are filling up quickly so sign up in Church Center App or at [taylorsfbc.org/events](https://taylorsfbc.org/events).

"I loved my time at the last retreat! It's always so good to step out of the routine, spend intentional time with the Lord, connect with old friends, and meet new friends. I love that our retreats create the space to do that, specifically in small groups, where you can connect on a deeper level." — Maria Hine

"The Taylors Women Retreat was such a sweet and fun time! My favorite part was getting away and spending time with my friends, but also getting to meet other Taylors' ladies from different stages and seasons of life and getting to learn from them!" — Shianne Bujtor

Don't let finances keep you from coming! Scholarships available — email [malloryg@taylorsfbc.org](mailto:malloryg@taylorsfbc.org) for details.



### Facilitator and Mentor Training: August 24 at 3:00 pm in The Loft

We are offering training for those interested in serving as discussion leaders in our small groups. Whether you have served before or are interested in learning more, we invite you to join us. In this training session we'll offer practical tools to develop skills in leading fruitful biblically-based discussions and provide opportunities for women to grow in relationships with each other as we dig deeper into God's Word. Sign up in Church Center App or at [taylorsfbc.org/events](https://taylorsfbc.org/events).

# Fall Taylors Women Studies

## Moms Mentoring Moms

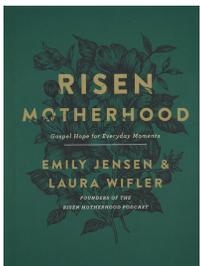
Moms Mentoring Moms is for young moms and is an opportunity to gain spiritual and emotional encouragement and social connections. We want to encourage, equip, and challenge moms to apply the gospel to their everyday lives. Our prayer is that through this community of moms, your growth as a mom has a ripple effect seen throughout all areas of your life.

**Wednesdays at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall, beginning September 10**

Meet for 10 weeks, take a holiday break, and start back on January 6 for another 10 weeks.

**Session Details:** Moms Mentoring Moms meeting typically includes various styles of practical and biblical teaching, fun activities, input from mentor moms, and, most importantly, you'll get to have real conversations with other moms who understand the joys and frustrations of motherhood. We finish each semester with a Celebration Brunch.

**Curriculum:** Year two of *Risen Motherhood* by Emily Jensen and Laura Wifler. Motherhood is hard. One second, we think we're doing a good enough job; the next, we feel like the worst mom on the



planet. Which is why we need the refreshing truth of the gospel to be repeated over and over again, giving us hope in the everyday moments. What does the gospel have to do with birth, education choices, self-care, relationships, and body image? We will look

through the lens of the gospel and see scripture has everything to do with the way we think through all of our parenting challenges, big and small.

**Childcare:** Available for birth through 5th grade with registration.

**Cost:** \$25 for the two semester program, including fall and winter. This fee covers the practical expenses for both semesters such as childcare, work booklet, and the end-of-the-semester brunches. *The Risen Motherhood* book is not included in the fee but recommended that you purchase on your own.

## Bible Study

Women's Bible Study is for women of all ages. It is an opportunity for you to be encouraged to read God's Word daily, grow in your knowledge of who God is, and know what His Word says. We will deeply dive into a portion of scripture and apply what we learn to our everyday lives.

**Tuesdays at 6:30 pm in the Student Worship Room, beginning September 9**

**Tuesdays at 7:00 pm on Zoom, beginning September 9**

**Wednesdays at 9:00 am in the Fellowship Hall, beginning September 10**

**Session Details:** The 10-week Bible Study meeting typically includes fellowship, biblical teaching, input from table discussion leaders, and, most importantly, you'll get to have discussion with others and grow in God's Word and spiritual maturity together. Moms will participate in their own peer-led discussion group. Online attendees will participate in the large group time and then have virtual table time with other women.

**Curriculum:** *Behold and Believe, A Bible Study on the "I Am" statements of Jesus* by Courtney Doctor and Joanna Kimbrel. Seeing is believing. If we want to know more about Jesus and why He is important to our lives, we need to take a closer look at what He says about Himself. Jesus describes Himself as the bread of life, the light of the world, the good shepherd, and more. His bold words invite us to behold Him and then to trust Him. Come and explore the question of Who is Jesus? Using Jesus's I AM statements in the Gospel of John.



**Childcare:** Available for birth through 5th grade on Wednesdays with registration.

**Cost:** \$10 for the semester for in-person Bible study. This fee covers practical expenses for the semester.

# Moms & Work

Moms & Work is for all moms. All moms have a calling to fulfill and a contribution to offer in kingdom work. We want to encourage, equip, and challenge moms with practical wisdom from God's Word. There will be an emphasis on the calling of motherhood no matter your vocation, inside or outside the home. You will have an opportunity to offer and receive emotional and spiritual encouragement as you connect with other moms seeking to walk faithfully in the good work the Lord has given us.



The first Wednesday of each month at 6:15 pm beginning September 3 (Building C Welcome Area)

**Session Details:** A Moms & Work meeting typically includes fellowship, practical and biblical teaching, input from table moms, and most importantly real conversations with other moms who understand the joys and frustrations of motherhood. We will break up in discussion groups based of the season the Lord currently has you in. Moms will walk away with a challenge each month and some helpful tools to help apply to their everyday lives.

**Curriculum:** God's Word tells us, "The Fear of the Lord is the beginning of Wisdom." We will look at Proverbs 31 and take one verse each month. You will be given a booklet that will be a guide for each month and offer additional resources to go deeper. A helpful resource for this year will be *Habits of the Household* by Justin Whitmel Earley.

**Childcare:** Taylors Children offers Konnect each Wednesday from 6:15 - 7:30 pm for preschool and elementary children. Stop by the Preschool or Elementary Welcome Desks for help with check-in.

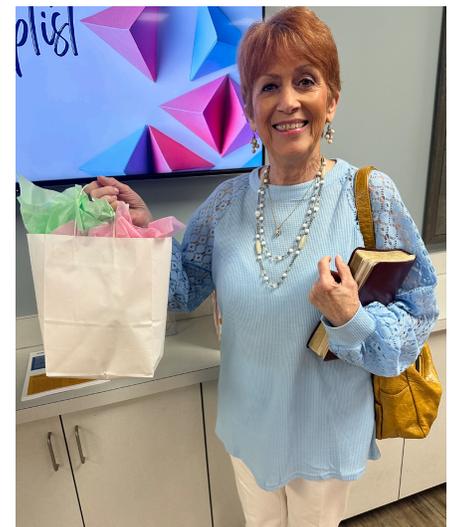
Memorize a Psalm with us this Summer!



## Summer Bingo Memory Challenge

Congratulations to all our Women who have memorized scripture this Summer!

This summer Taylors Women have been challenged to memorize a Psalm and play a fun game of Bingo for a chance to win a drawing. One of our core values at Taylors First Baptist Church is Biblical Authority — The Bible is God's Holy Word and our authority for everything we say and do. We believe by memorizing God's Word we will not only grow in knowledge, but we will also grow in our affections toward Christ and His Word. We will have a "heart watered" by the Word. We asked women to pick up a card, choose a Psalm, initial each circle as they completed a task, and dropped it in our bingo box.



Lynne Hentosz is our June Drawing Winner

- The most popular Psalm memorized: Psalm 121
- Who has memorized the most Psalms so far? It's a tie between Lynn Hentosz and Debbie Cain
- First Psalm memorized: Psalm 23
- What will be the grand prize? Free 2026 Retreat — join us at the Fall Gathering to learn the grand prize winner.

# ENGAGE THE WORLD.



## TRIP REPORT

### Remedy Los Angeles

By Marisa Simmons, Trip Participant

We began our trip off with helping to set up The Abiding Church and watching their church service. Following that, we drove around the parts of the city that were affected by the fires and just prayed over them and the families that lived there. We also dedicated time to worship and to pray over The Abiding Church, that they would find a new location to move their church to; the city of LA, that people would rise up and create churches to make disciples to share the Gospel; and all of us, that God would use us for His glory on this trip. Additionally, during our train ride into downtown LA, we had the opportunity to interact and have conversations with other passengers which opened doors for us to share the Gospel with them. One of the most impactful parts of the trip was serving meals to individuals living on Skid Row, where we also had opportunities to share the Gospel with people and bring them hope. Our mission for this trip was to share the Good News of Christ with everyone around us, whether it was specifically an evangelism day or if we were just walking around the city, which is something we are called to carry into our daily lives back home!



### Calling all Guest Services Team Members!

Join us on August 17 for our annual Guest Services Rally as we prepare for another wonderful year together. Scan the QR code to register or sign up on the Church Center App. Interested in serving with us on the Guest Services Team? Email Shianne at [shianneb@taylorstfbc.org](mailto:shianneb@taylorstfbc.org).



### Generosity Moment

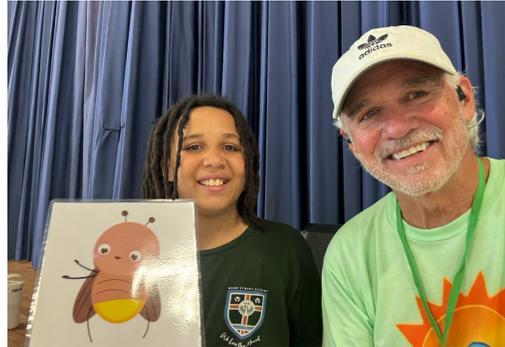
Thank you to everyone who participated in our Back to School Backpack Collection! We were able to pack over 200 backpacks for children in need within our community because of your generosity! We could not have done this without you. Please continue to pray for the children that received these backpacks as they enter into a new school year. Pray the Lord would bless and keep them and make His face shine upon them!

TRIP REPORT

# Kingdom Builders New Hampshire

By Bo Davies, Trip Participant

We sent a team of eight people to New Hampshire to conduct a basketball camp by morning and VBS in the afternoon. We interacted with the townspeople of Hookset, N.H. as we gave them basketball instruction to their children and taught them God's Word with the VBS program after lunch. It culminated with a family cookout and a finale of their new learned skills and dances. It was a success in that we helped the church planter make inroads with the town executives and the town folks. What a blessing we all shared during these four days.



## Thank You to our Establish Network Summer Reach Intern

Alexa Atkinson has been such a joy to work with this summer as our intern! We will miss her smiling face, eagerness to serve, and kind spirit. This summer, Alexa served in various ways, from the Welcome Desk to the community, she made an impact. She met and served alongside many of our community partners, led out in our Spring Grove VBS, helped oversee our Back to School Backpack Collection, served faithfully on Sunday mornings with our Connection Team, and much more! We will miss having you around, Alexa! Good luck this next semester!



## South Asia Trip

By Matt Bullard, Establish Network Reach Summer Intern

My time in South Asia was nothing short of amazing. In my time there, I saw the need for gospel urgency, worshiped with local believers, shared the gospel, and encouraged believers in the faith. The South Asian people are very hospitable. They love to share food and tea with guests while sitting down and hearing their life stories.

During the second part of our trip, we spent most of our time encouraging national partners, doing training, and sharing. It was really encouraging getting to spend time with our Reach Pastor, Steven, and encouraging his South Asian brothers and sisters. I was impacted greatly by being able to hear their stories and meet people who are being faithful to the call God has on their lives. Our training focused on teaching new believers how to share their testimony and the gospel, hoping they will engage the lost people around them. I met two guys at the youth camp named \*\*Eshan and \*\*Poncho, and was able to connect with them after the camp. I enjoyed spending time with them and hearing how the Lord has worked in their lives. They are both passionate about sharing the gospel and making disciples. \*\*Eshan wants to take part in getting the gospel to every village in his country

Story: One evening, Steven and I had some time to spare and decided to prayer walk and look for opportunities to share the gospel. As we were walking, we made eye contact with two Buddhists, who ended up stopping and having a conversation with us. Steven began to share the gospel, explaining our need for Christ. A person



overheard our conversation and asked to join, so we gladly accepted him. The brother who joined the conversation began to ask many questions, so Steven continued talking with the monks while I started discussing with \*\*Johnny. When sharing with \*\*Johnny, he shared how hopeless he was. We explained that the hope Christ gives us is our greatest hope. Later, he decided to place his faith in Christ and is now being disciplined. The monks were also able to hear the gospel message for the first time. Steven and I were excited to witness a brother come to faith.

Continue to pray for the kingdom to be advanced in South Asia. It is exciting to see the kingdom growing, but there is still much work to be done.

\*\*Names changed for security

## Serving the Sent 2026 Final Interest Meeting

Wednesday, August 6 | 6:00 pm | Fellowship Hall

Join us to learn about this trip in June 2026. Registration will be open August 6 - 31 with a \$200 deposit. Don't let finances keep you from going with us next summer. Please contact [reach@taylorstfbc.org](mailto:reach@taylorstfbc.org)!



## TRIP REPORT

# Serve and Share Los Angeles

The city of Los Angeles is home to approximately 3.7 million people, with an estimated 45,000 of these being homeless. On the other side of the glamour and fame of Hollywood, are thousands who have been forgotten by society. This summer, a team of 9 was sent out from Taylors to share hope to the hopeless and be the hands and feet of Jesus.

As soon as we arrived in the city, we joined the team from Send Relief and Purpose LA to share water and the Gospel message with people living in MacArthur Park. Many did not speak English, but we still shared what we had with those who would talk with us.

Throughout the rest of the week, we used a variety of service opportunities to open the door for Gospel conversations. We planted a vegetable garden in a low-income apartment complex, and we cooked and served dinner at the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission. There was also an opportunity to lead a children's program at one of the Send Relief Ministry Centers. On the last day, we walked the streets of Skid Row, inviting people to worship and enjoy a meal with us at the Fred Jordan Mission. Those who came heard David tell his story and share the hope he has in Jesus Christ.

We wrapped up our time in LA with a time of prayer on the rooftop overlooking the city. Each of us carried with us the names and faces of those we engaged during the week. Our prayer is that the Lord was glorified through our words and actions, and that the seeds of the Gospel will sprout in the hearts of the 200+ names we prayed over.

Our team is thankful for the support of our church family. Please continue to pray for Darryl and Tracy Speers, our partners at Send Relief; Purpose LA, the church plant they also lead; and the people of Los Angeles. There are so many hurting people who desperately need the hope the Gospel provides.





### Dance Camp August 4

For beginner and intermediate dancers, ages 4-9. Sign up in the Church Center App or at [taylorsrec.com](http://taylorsrec.com).



### Pickleball Tournament August 17

Join us for a Generational tournament! Sign up in the Church Center App or at [taylorsrec.com](http://taylorsrec.com).



### Line Dance Workshop

Join us on Saturdays at 10:00 am in August — check out a Taylors Rec Group Fitness Class for free.



### Basketball League begins September 8

We are excited to begin a new league. Sign up in the Church Center App or at [taylorsrec.com](http://taylorsrec.com).



### SOCCER LEAGUE

Our soccer league, in partnership with Upward Sports, is open to boys and girls K4 - 2nd grade. The league is designed with your family in mind — featuring just one practice and one game day per week.

Practices Begin: September 23

Games Begin: October 4

The link to sign up is in the Church Center App and at [taylorsrec.com](http://taylorsrec.com) until September 13!

# SUMMER CAMPS AT TAYLORS REC!



# Our Church Family

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

## Welcome New Members



**Bennett Chandler**  
Joined July 13, 2025  
Pending Baptism



**Barry and Carol Ellis**  
Joined July 6, 2025  
by Letter



**David Hedaya**  
Joined June 22, 2025  
by Statement



**Tyler and Kayla Henson**  
Joined July 13, 2025  
by Letter



**Kirk and Anita Leslie**  
Joined June 22, 2025  
by Statement



**Mike and Melissa MacConney**  
Joined July 20, 2025  
by Letter



**Scott and Julia Mason**  
Joined June 8, 2025  
by Statement



**Brian and Megan Rodriguez**  
**Benjamin and Mia**  
(not pictured)  
Joined June 22, 2025  
by Baptism



**Charisse Toledo**  
Joined July 20, 2025  
by Statement



**Caleb and Allison Wildman**  
Joined June 8, 2025  
by Statement

### Photos not Available

**Susan Freeman**

Joined July 1, 2025, by Letter

**Brad Lathrop**

Joined June 29, 2025, by Letter

**Tom and Vicki McArdle**

Joined June 8, 2025, by Statement

**Ila Grace Moore**

Joined June 15, 2025, Pending Baptism

## Sunday Statistics

	6/1	6/8	6/15	6/22	6/29	7/6	7/13	7/20	7/27
Nursery.....	41	35	33	34	33	32	30	43	53
Preschool.....	59	50	51	52	43	33	64	53	54
Elementary.....	52	59	61	62	41	N/A	72	62	76
Students.....	91	70	45	64	72	N/A	65	81	76
College.....	37	45	34	33	37	N/A	46	36	23
Adults.....	633	564	605	619	618	N/A	603	640	617
Life Group Total.....	1026	941	933	963	938	90	984	1015	1009
Morning Worship.....	1649	1345	1351	1389	1370	1049	1337	1216	1286



# Welcome Wes Henderson as Interim Minister of Pastoral Care

Wes has 20 years of pastoral ministry experience as well as a Master of Arts in Ministry from Luther Rice Seminary. Most recently he has served as the Hospice Chaplain with Agape Care Group in Clemson, SC. He and his wife, Tania, have been members of Taylors First Baptist Church for nearly 4 years. We are excited to welcome Wes to our team!

## Baptisms

We welcome to the Body of Christ through believer's baptism: Benjamin Rodriguez, Brian Rodriguez, Meagan Rodriguez, Mia Rodriguez

## In Memoriam

**Larry Owens**

April 25, 1940 - June 12, 2025

**Clyde Duncan**

November 2, 1935 - June 20, 2025

**Linda Baxley**

May 10, 1950 - July 10, 2025

**Bud Harlow**

August 5, 1942 - July 15, 2025

## August Staff Anniversaries

- Beth Caskey — 20 years of service
- Melanie Thompson — 17 years of service
- Steven C. — 3 years of service
- Morgan Hester — 1 year of service
- Theresa Ledford — 1 year of service

## Reflections from the SBC Annual Meeting

In June, Pastor Josh and several members of our church attended the 2025 Southern Baptist Convention in Dallas, Texas. Below are a few articles about the convention. Use the QR codes below to read each one.



## Stewardship

### MAY

Budget Receipts.....	\$478,749
Actual Receipts .....	\$436,381
Actual Spent.....	\$450,198

### JUNE

Budget Receipts.....	\$478,749
Actual Receipts .....	\$442,515
Actual Spent.....	\$471,247

### YEAR TO DATE

Budget Receipts.....	\$2,872,496
Actual Receipts .....	\$2,440,050
Actual Spent.....	\$2,707,754

## Ways to Give



In the Church Center App



Online at [taylorsfbc.org/give](http://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

# Welcome New Team Members



## Welcome David Evette as the Rec Center Assistant

David, his wife Chelle, and their children Sara and Bobby are members of Taylors FBC. David is a graduate of Carson Newman College where he received a B.S. of Psychology. He also holds Master's Degrees in Teaching and Physical Education. David has over 22 years of service in education and high school athletics. He is passionate about the local church and has lead mission teams for over 10 years at Taylors FBC. He and his wife Chelle currently serve as Life Group Leaders and as part of the Great Commission Leadership team for Reach. We are excited to have him use his gifts and talents to use sports as a way to proclaim the gospel to our neighbors and all nations.



## Welcome Ashley O'Shields as the Financial Coordinator

Ashley has BA in Finance from Georgia Southern University, and held a accounting/financial role in a similar size church in Savannah, GA. She relocated to Greenville in late 2024 in anticipation of her marriage to her now husband, Connor, who is in law enforcement with Greenville County. We are excited to have her work with our finance team!

## Welcome the following to our Facilities Maintenance Team

John Phillips comes to us with extensive experience in facilities work, most recently serving as a plumber at Bob Jones University since 2016. In that role, he maintained and repaired a wide range of plumbing systems. Before joining the plumbing department, John's responsibilities also included light electrical work, carpentry, finish carpentry, and drywall repair—giving him a well-rounded skill set in maintenance operations. John holds an Associates in Applied Science in Manufacturing Engineering Technology from Forsyth Technical Community College. He also earned a Commercial Art diploma from Rutledge College.



Charlie Johnson has over 31 years of experience as a HVAC and Mechanical Systems Technician at Bob Jones University, where he maintained and repaired boilers and chilled water systems. A retired U.S. Navy veteran, Charlie adds deep technical knowledge and will work to maintain our chiller and boiler mechanical systems.



David Petz recently retired from Lockheed Martin after 36 years of service as an aircraft mechanic. Before that, he served in the U.S. Air Force for four years and was honorably discharged. Over the years, David has worn many hats—including working in an iron foundry in California, running his own landscaping business in Connecticut, and working in housing maintenance after moving to Greenville to be closer to his parents. He also volunteered for a year and a half with Greer Relief in partnership with Greer Ministries, demonstrating his heart for service. We're grateful for the work David has already done with our outside maintenance here at Taylors FBC—and we love having his smiling face on our team!



## Thank you Faith!

Faith Keefe has taken a position within the Spartanburg School System working with children who have special needs. We are excited for her and this new opportunity. Please pray for her as she enters this mission field, that God will use her mightily to display and proclaim His great love through Jesus Christ! We will miss her on our team and are so thankful for the manner in which she has served as our Preschool Coordinator!

# ESTABLISH THE CHURCH.



Our 2025 Establish Network Summer Internship has come to an end. We had a great summer equipping these college students for the work of ministry and are expectant that God will use them to Change the World for Jesus



This summer gave me the chance to grow in my understanding of ministry, as simply being faithful to walk in obedience everyday. We had the joy to be part of intentional discipleship, to serve in the community, and to step into leadership roles among our college ministry. — Brooke Crittendon, College Intern

The most impactful part of my internship experience has been watching so many faithful believers, both church members and community partners, serve as the hands and feet of Christ to meet specific needs with such joy and compassion.

— Alexa Atkinson, Reach Intern



This summer internship has given me the opportunity to deepen my relationship with God and learn to lead not by my own will, but through Christ and His Word.

— Alex Burch, Worship Intern

