

THE BIBLE CHAPEL / C O N N E C T E D



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## Editor Highlights



### The Heart of Community pg. 10

The Bible is clear that God calls us to live in community—to share each other's burdens and to be a source of encouragement for one another. At TBC, we've seen firsthand how Jesus uses these connections to truly change our lives.

### Easter Events & Services pg. 16

He is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Join us this Easter season as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ!



### Telling the Story of Transformation pg. 22

What story is God writing in you? Take a moment to read about the life-transforming power of Jesus through baptism and what that means for you.

# Welcome to *Connected*

**Anticipation. Green. Bird song. Sunshine. Easter. Hope. New life.**

Spring is a beautiful season full of new beginnings. We pause to feel the sunshine on our faces, notice the daffodils and irises standing tall in the cool air, take a breath, and think, "We did it! We made it to spring."

For believers, spring also brings the anticipation of Easter and all it means for us, not just in the here and now, but for eternity. Because Jesus died and conquered death, we have hope. Because He died, we live! And as Paul reminds us, in **2 Corinthians 5:17**: **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: the old has gone, the new is here!"**

One impactful way we experience this "newness" as Christians is through baptism. In 2025, we celebrated over 90 baptisms at TBC - God is moving in big ways in our church, and you won't want to miss the behind-the-scenes perspective on page 26. Our Creative Video Manager shares his front-row seat to the incredible life-change unfolding in our church.

Of course, spring doesn't always feel refreshing. Maybe you're feeling behind or worn out. Some of us set big goals for 2026 - perhaps to grow closer to God - and now, a few months in, those goals may already feel like they're fading into the background. If that's you, remember what **Ephesians 2:8-9** says: **"For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast."**

We don't have to be perfect Christians to receive the gift of Jesus - isn't that amazing? So if things haven't gone according to plan, that's ok! There is no time like the present to have a spring reboot. We have you covered! On page 20, you'll find a special section on how to "Refresh Your Time with God," including a devotional, journal prompts, and practical tips to help reconnect with God and get back in the Word.

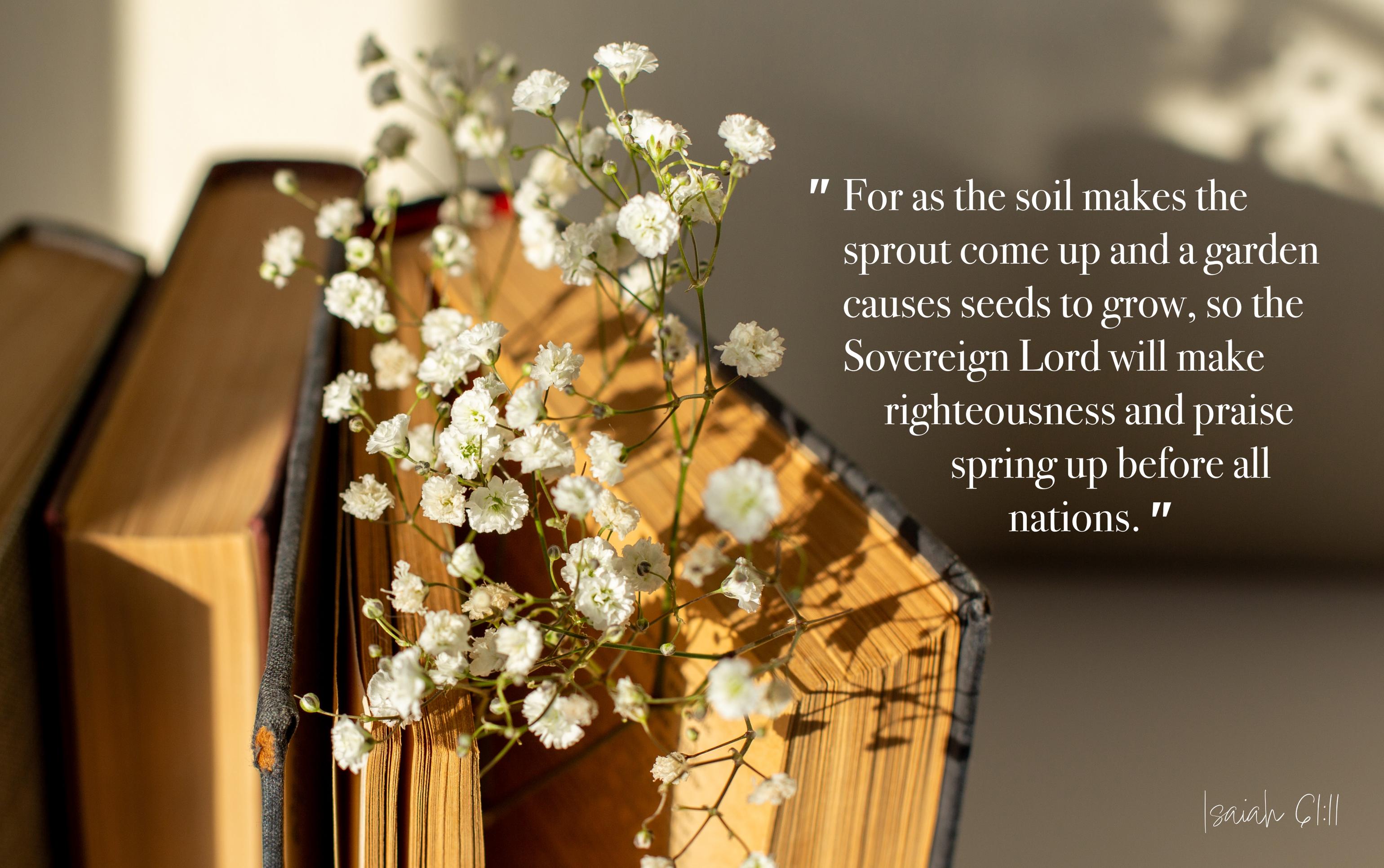
And maybe this spring, you're feeling energized and inspired! There's plenty to celebrate in these pages as well - milestone moments in our "Let's Celebrate" section, a wonderful spotlight on our Special Needs Ministry (with a delicious recipe included!), highlights from both international and local outreach, and so much more.

TBC family, let's lean into the fresh start this season offers and remember God's faithfulness: **"The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness."**  
**Lamentations 3:22-23**

**Questions or comments?**  
Email us at [editor@biblechapel.org](mailto:editor@biblechapel.org)

*The Connected Team*



A close-up photograph of a bouquet of small, delicate white flowers, possibly baby's breath, resting on the pages of an open, aged book. The book's pages are yellowed with age, and the dark cover is visible. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, creating soft shadows and highlights on the petals and paper. The background is a blurred, light-colored surface.

" For as the soil makes the  
sprout come up and a garden  
causes seeds to grow, so the  
Sovereign Lord will make  
righteousness and praise  
spring up before all  
nations. "

| Isaiah 61:11



**CHAPEL MEN**

Chapel Men's Gatherings  
FIRST + THIRD THURSDAYS

Chapel Men's Large  
Group Prayer Meeting  
FIRST THURSDAY

Chapel Men's Conference  
APRIL 25

**CHAPEL SPORTS**

Upward Soccer  
SEASON BEGINS  
APRIL 13

Men's Open Basketball  
THURSDAYS

Women's Faith and Fitness  
MONDAYS, THURSDAYS,  
+ SATURDAYS

Adult Volleyball  
MONDAYS

**CHAPEL STUDENTS**

Senior Celebration  
MAY 17

**CHAPEL WOMEN**

Moms in Prayer  
WEDNESDAYS

Night Out with  
Chapel Women  
MAY 4

**CONNECTIONS**

Discover TBC  
MAY 3

**OUTREACH**

Global Outreach  
Info Meeting  
MAY 3

**SPECIAL NEEDS**

Special Needs Respite  
MARCH 4,  
MARCH 14, APRIL 18,  
MAY 2, + MAY 18

**YOUNG ADULTS**

Gatherings  
MONDAYS

**CARE**

GriefShare  
THURSDAYS

Dementia Care  
APRIL 2, APRIL 6,  
MAY 4, + MAY 7

DivorceCare  
MONDAYS

Cancer Care  
FIRST + THIRD THURSDAYS

Women's Recovery  
MONDAYS

Men's Recovery  
TUESDAYS

**MEMBER INFORMATION**

Members Vision  
and Prayer Meeting  
MARCH 15

**MILESTONES**

Baptism Weekend  
APRIL 11/12

Child Dedication Weekend  
MARCH 28/29

For the most up-to-date information,  
scan the QR code!



**EASTER SEASON**

Holy Week  
BEGINS MARCH 30

Good Friday Service  
APRIL 3 | 6:30 PM

Easter Services  
APRIL 4 | 5:00 PM  
APRIL 5 | 9:00 + 10:45 AM



# The Heart of Community

What does community look like in your life? Maybe it's a Small Group, a local sports league, or a few friends you can always count on. We believe that we aren't meant to carry the weight of life by ourselves. The Bible is clear that God calls us to live in community—to share each other's burdens and to be a source of encouragement for one another. At TBC, we've seen firsthand how Jesus uses these connections to truly change our lives.

We often say that we aren't meant to walk through life alone, and the Fagan family is a living testament to that truth. Through the highs and lows of the last decade, David and Jenn have seen God's faithfulness reflected in our Special Needs Ministry. They recently shared their story of how this community has become a central part of their walk with Christ.

**David and Jenn have seen God's faithfulness reflected in our Special Needs Ministry.**

**“We know that she's happy and that she's safe; it makes all the difference.”**

**Take us back to the beginning - how did your journey with the Special Needs Ministry at TBC first start?**

**Jenn:** We started attending in 2016 - that's the reason we came to the church! I heard about the ministry from another mom, and I emailed Jaclyn because Sierra is a complex case. I said, 'Here's what it is for us—she has a trach and feeding tube and is non-verbal. Would she be a good fit for you all?' and Jaclyn said, 'Yes, bring her out and let's get to know her.' It truly was such a blessing to our family to start attending here.

**How has Jesus transformed your lives through this ministry?**

**Jenn:** I think for Sierra, it's created friendships for her when she couldn't have any before. It's created purpose for her. I just know that she loves coming to church. When we first started coming, we made a sign - the sign for 'Jesus' with our hands - and we'll say, 'We're going to church!' She looks forward to it. The same with Wonderfully Made on Thursdays - we make the sign for 'cookies,' and she knows exactly what we mean, and she enjoys coming.

Sierra always seems excited to be here. And for us as a family, it's given us some freedom. Having a medically complex daughter, it can be isolating because she can only do so much.

Even having the freedom to send her to class on Sunday mornings while we sit in church - it gives us a moment to just focus and breathe. We know that she's happy and that she's safe; it makes all the difference.

**What is something about our Special Needs Ministry that people may not know?**

**David:** One thing that sticks out to me is the accommodating portion. Everybody was willing to accept Sierra right in and learn how to best care for her based on her needs. And Sierra is just one case - the volunteers and Jaclyn take the time to know and accommodate each person's needs. Everyone is willing, patient, and ready to jump in and love them.



## Q+A WITH THE FAGANS

**Jenn:** Yes, and one thing that comes to mind for me is that the ministry really is a safe place. We feel very comfortable leaving Sierra. They're very good at taking care of the individuals that come, and I can see the love they have for each one of them!

**When you look back at Sierra's journey here over the last decade, which memories stand out most to you?**

**Jenn:** Center Stage was fantastic, and Sierra absolutely loved them - she loves music! The respites are always fun, and the summer camps are great. And now she does the baking in the café! She volunteers in the café on Thursdays before they do the baking, and that's been great. She has found real purpose here.

**How has your understanding of God's character evolved through the unique joys and challenges of your journey with Sierra?**

**David:** Our faithfulness has definitely increased, and that's actually Sierra's middle name: Sierra Faith. Every step, every year, there is a challenge - procedures, surgeries, or doctor's visits - and we have to give her to God every step of the way. Faith has been a big component in our spiritual journey.

**Jenn:** Like Hebrews 11:1 says, "Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."

**David:** Right, and even thinking about God's faithfulness and how He knows what's best for us and for Sierra. Like leading us to this church,

where He has a special place for her. It's been such a blessing to our family to be a part of this church. And Sierra even helps us serve! When we're Greeters, we put her on a chair or in her stroller, and she welcomes people coming through. It's such a blessing to see people treat her so kindly.

**Jenn:** We've also learned that God will meet you right where you are. He's always there with you, and He guides you right to where you need to be. Some of the times I have felt His presence the most were when she's been in the hospital, struggling with a virus or something; I have nothing to give her, and I just have to surrender. It takes a lot of faith.

**For a family who might be hesitant or just starting their journey with a special needs child or adult, what is the one thing you'd want them to know about the heart of TBC?**

**David:** If there was one thing we could tell people, it would be that if you're hesitant about taking a next step, go ahead and talk with Jaclyn. Her team changed things to accommodate Sierra, and they've done so with other kids and adults. The entire ministry embraced Sierra, and they will for you too.

**Jenn:** They will. And to those who don't have special needs individuals in their families, don't be afraid to talk to us. Reach out, say hello. Sierra realizes when somebody says hi even though she can't talk back. Don't be afraid to embrace us, love us, and come around us - it means so much.



**We praise God for the Fagan family and the dedicated staff and volunteers who make our Special Needs Ministry a place where every person is seen, known, and loved.**

**To learn more about how you can serve or be involved in our Special Needs Ministry, scan the QR code!**





## Wonderfully Made

Our Special Needs Ministry launched Wonderfully Made Ministries to serve freshly made sweets that can be purchased at our South Hills campus throughout the year. Each week, the Special Needs Ministry will bake together and package all of their yummy creations. We hope you have a sweet tooth like us! And be sure to visit the Chapel Cafe on Thursdays, where our adults run the cafe from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM. Stop by for your favorite drink and say hello!

## Respite

Our Special Needs Ministry relaunched and expanded their respite program for 2026! They now offer over 20 respite events throughout the year designed with love and care for both children and adults with special needs. When registering, you'll be able to choose whether it's a Children's Respite or an Adult Respite, so we can best serve your family. We can't wait to welcome you! Registration is required. For more information, email [specialneeds@biblechapel.org](mailto:specialneeds@biblechapel.org).



## Weekends

SUNDAYS, 9:00 AND 10:45 AM

Individuals can enjoy interactive Bible storytime and free play in our classrooms, which are equipped to meet their physical, cognitive, emotional, and social needs. The Special Needs Ministry uses a secure check-in system at our own separate entrance. We can't wait share the Good News of Jesus with your loved ones, and we hope you'll join us!



# Wonderfully Made Chocolate Chip



7-10 MINUTES

## Ingredients

- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1 cup crisco
- 2 eggs
- 1 tsp vanilla extract
- 2 cups flour
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking soda
- 1 cup dark chocolate chips

**Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.** Mix together the brown sugar, sugar, and crisco until combined. Add in the eggs and vanilla extract until well mixed. Mix in the dry ingredients. Add the chocolate chips to the dough until well incorporated. Once everything is mixed together, **bake for 7-10 minutes** or lightly browned. Add sea salt to them when you pull them out of the oven.

**Our adults add a whole lot of love to each cookie, so their cookies will be hard to duplicate! Enjoy!**

Up from  
The Grave

hope

# He is Risen

Ⓟ

EASTER AT THE BIBLE CHAPEL

Alin

**JOIN US  
AS WE  
CELEBRATE OUR  
RISEN SAVIOR!**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 3**  
**GOOD FRIDAY | 6:30 PM**

**SATURDAY, APRIL 4**  
**EASTER | 5:00 PM**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 5**  
**EASTER | 9:00 AM + 10:45 AM**

Regular Chapel Kids and Special Needs  
Programming Available

**FOR MORE INFORMATION,  
SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW!**





# REFRESH

Your Time with God



## 01

**"Telling the Story of Transformation"**

*By Joshua Smelser*

pg. 22

## 02

**Six Ways to get in the Word**

pg. 26

## 03

**"The Promise of Seedtime"**

*By Laura Ankrom*

pg. 28

By Joshua Smelser,  
Creative Video Manager

# Telling the Story of Transformation

**One of the greatest privileges of my role as Creative Video Manager at The Bible Chapel is coming alongside people as they prepare to be baptized.** Baptism is more than a milestone or event on the church calendar. It is a public declaration of private surrender. It is the visible representation of a life that has been transformed by Jesus. Romans 6:4 tells us, “We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead... we too may live a new life.” Baptism is a portrait of our new life in Christ.

Throughout the New Testament, we see that baptism is tied to a public profession of faith. In Acts 2:41, those who received Peter’s message “were baptized,” publicly aligning themselves with Christ. Jesus Himself was baptized, serving as the ultimate example of humility and obedience to God. When someone steps into the baptism waters at The Bible Chapel, they are boldly proclaiming, “Jesus has transformed my life!” It is a beautiful moment of submission, celebration, and testimony all at once.

My role in that moment happens before they ever enter the water. I have the honor of sitting down with each person to film their baptism testimony video—a short but powerful retelling of how Jesus has transformed their life. And I can honestly say it has become one of my favorite parts of the job. It is deeply inspiring to hear others, time and time again, putting into words the ways God has pursued them, liberated them, and rewritten their story.

Over the years, I’ve heard hundreds of these amazing stories firsthand. Each one is personal and unique, yet all of them resound with the same truth: Jesus changes everything.

I’ve listened to a woman describe how she lived life exhausted, chasing after perfection through personal achievement only to discover the freedom of being made perfect in Christ. The pressure she carried fell away when she realized that her identity rests not in her own performance, but in the life transforming grace of Jesus.

I’ve heard the story of a father gently challenged by his daughter’s bold obedience to God’s call to baptism. Her obedience stirred his own heart and, in a beautifully humble act of unity, the two of them chose to be baptized together. Stories like theirs remind me that God often works through the most unexpected voices—even the faith of a child—to awaken callings deep within us.

I sat and listened, tears welling in my own eyes, as a woman described hitting rock bottom—lonely, broken, and with no one to lean on. On a Good Friday, feeling a nudge she couldn’t quite explain, she drove to The Bible Chapel where she found healing in Jesus and her new spiritual family. Her story stands as a testament to a God who meets us right where we are but never leaves us there.

**These stories have changed me.**

Sitting behind a camera, asking simple questions guided by the Holy Spirit, watching tears gently fall as person after person recounts God’s faithfulness—I am constantly reminded that our God is real, He is alive, and He cares deeply for every one of us. That life changing impact doesn’t stop with me. As each person’s story is shared during baptism services, they always resonate deeply within our church family. Heads nod, tears fall, and hearts soften as viewers recognize fragments of their own story reflected on the screen.

The beauty of these testimonies, to me, is that God gives us the gift of playing a role in His redemptive work. Of course, He could draw people to Himself in any way He chooses—and often does. But in His kindness, our Heavenly Father invites us into the process. He uses our voices, our journeys, our victories, and even our wounds. As 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 tells us, God comforts us in all our troubles so that we can comfort others with the comfort we ourselves have received. When we share our stories, our heartbreak becomes the bridge that leads others to hope.

I firmly believe that God places each one of these testimonies into the right ears at the right time to draw others near to Him. My story will reach people yours cannot. Yours will reach people mine never could. Each testimony is uniquely woven together by God for the sake of the Gospel. No chapter is wasted. Every thread can be used

to draw someone closer to Him. After all, Jesus Himself understood the power of a good story. He taught in parables—earthly stories with eternal meaning—because He knew stories have a way of slipping past the walls we’ve put up to protect ourselves and landing deep within our hearts. And there is no greater story than that of a life transformed by Jesus.

If you—or someone you know—has a story of how Jesus has transformed your life, and you believe it could comfort or encourage our church family, we would truly love to hear it. We invite you to scan the QR code below and fill out our story submission form so we can follow up and learn more about what God has done in your life.

And if you’re reading this and don’t yet feel like you’ve experienced the life-transforming power of Jesus, we pray that today would be the day your story begins. Seek Him. He is listening. **If you’re unsure where to start, perhaps begin with this simple prayer:**

**“Jesus, my heart is open to You. Let me experience Your life-transforming power. Guide me to Your will, and reveal what You desire for my life. I’m ready to follow You.”**



Tell your story here.



There is no better story than the one Jesus wants to write in you.



# 6 WAYS

to get into the Word



## Set the Atmosphere

Create a quiet, welcoming space - brew a cup of tea, play worship music, and clear your surroundings. A calm environment helps still your mind so you can focus on God's Word.

01



## Take Prayer Outside

As the weather warms, turn a walk into a prayer time. Being in God's creation can make it easier to slow down, listen, and connect with Him.

02



## Listen Instead of Reading

If you usually read Scripture or devotionals, try an audio version. A new format can refresh your routine and help the Word sink in differently.

03



## Invite Accountability

Partner with a friend to stay consistent. Choose a devotional, set a schedule, or meditate on the same weekly verse. Checking in together helps you stay rooted.

04



## Stack Prayer into Daily Life

Pair prayer with everyday tasks like cooking, folding laundry, or yard work. These small moments of intentional prayer can transform ordinary routines into acts of worship.

05



## Begin Again with Grace

Falling out of the habit doesn't mean you've failed. Start fresh! The Psalms are a gentle place to return when you're not sure where to begin.

06

By Laura Ankrom  
Director of Women's Ministry

# The Promise of Seedtime

It's easy to take for granted the passing of each season. During the heat of the summer, we long for cooler days. During the frigid winter, we anticipate the warmer breezes of spring. And as we enter spring this year, the single digit temperatures of the past winter seem a distant memory.

There are few things in this life that we can count on, but spring is one of those. And the promise of spring is a biblical concept. This promise goes all the way back to the days after the global flood. Upon exiting the ark, one of Noah's first recorded actions is an offering to the Lord (Genesis 8:20-22). Noah's offering was pleasing to the Lord, and in response, the Lord says, "While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease."

She gave me a few of the tomatoes to try, and I had the foresight to save some of the seeds. Each winter, I plant the Ox Heart tomato seeds in little pots, keeping them moist and warmed with heat mats in our bay window. I watch with great anticipation as they sprout and grow. And once they are ready, they are planted in my garden. When we harvest these enormous tomatoes, we enjoy them in sandwiches and sauce. Each year, I save seeds from the harvest for the future. One tiny seed contains everything needed to perpetuate an abundant harvest for years to come. An annual rebirth of that original Ox Heart tomato.

**All four seasons are represented in this promise.**

Summer and winter are mentioned explicitly. Seedtime is associated with spring, as harvest is with fall. And the promise the Lord made that day is steadfast and unbreakable. The promise was not dependent upon the actions of mankind. God even acknowledges that the character of mankind is evil. Though we are undeserving, God promises consistent seasons. So, spring is a beautiful illustration of God's great faithfulness and patience.

**It was early in January, during those days when the temperatures dipped below zero, that I read this passage again and was awed by God's promise of seedtime.** You see for this hobbyist gardener, I am fascinated with seeds. One very special seed I have was acquired from a woman who was having a garage sale at her home. We stopped at the sale, and I noticed tables of huge tomatoes. She explained they were Ox Heart tomatoes, a variety she had obtained from Italy.

”  
Then Noah built an altar to the Lord and took some of every clean animal and some of every clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. And when the Lord smelled the pleasing aroma, the Lord said in his heart, “I will never again curse the ground because of man, for the intention of man’s heart is evil from his youth. Neither will I ever again strike down every living creature as I have done. While the earth remains, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night, shall not cease.

GENESIS 8:20-22, ESV

**You see, seedtime is a permanent picture of growth, harvest and rebirth. And as fascinating as Ox Heart tomato seeds are, they are nothing in comparison to the spiritual seeds that each believer can sow in the lives of others.**

Jesus spoke of seeds in several of his parables. In those parables, seeds represented the word of God, the good news of Jesus. And Jesus explains it this way in Matthew 13:23, “As for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it. He indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.” (ESV)

Spring is seedtime! Time to share the seed of the Gospel to those around us. And when the seed of the Gospel (the word of God) is heard and understood, that person will bear fruit, yielding additional seed that will perpetuate the message for future generations. One little seed, eternal impact. That's how I want to start spring this year!

## Journal Prompts

What season are you currently living in spiritually — seedtime, growth, harvest, or waiting? What is God teaching you in this season that might not be learned in another?

Where in your life have you seen the steady faithfulness of God, even when circumstances felt uncertain or undeserved?

Seasons change, but God's promises do not. What fears or uncertainties are you carrying that need to be surrendered to God's unchanging faithfulness?

Seedtime requires waiting, care, and trust before any harvest is seen. What spiritual “seeds” might God be asking you to plant now, even if you may not see the results immediately? What makes waiting difficult for you?

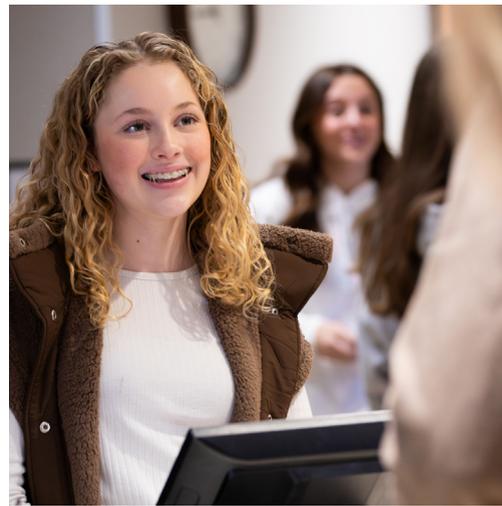
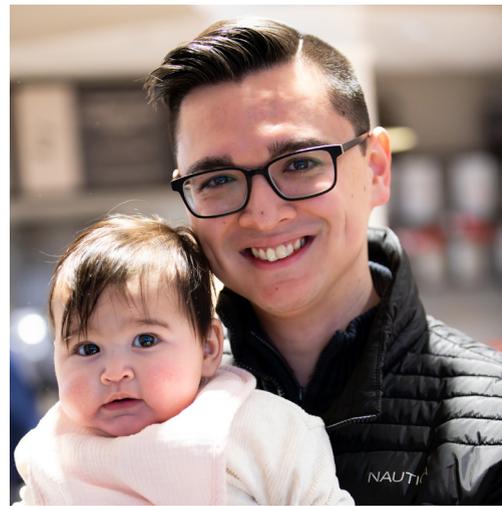
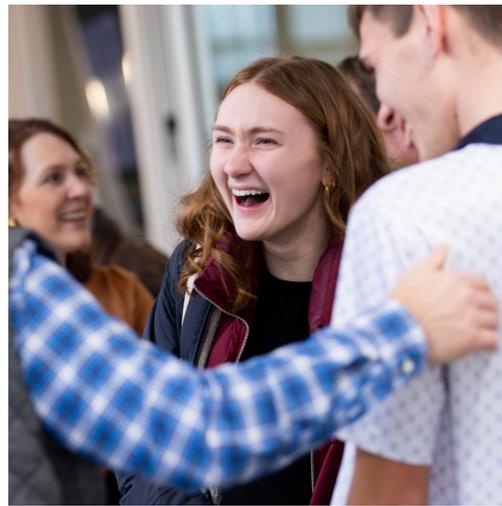
Reflect on the image of a tiny seed holding the potential for abundant, repeated harvests. What small, faithful step can you take this season that could have long-term spiritual impact beyond what you can see or measure?

# Forget

**THE FORMER  
THINGS;**

DO NOT DWELL ON THE PAST.  
SEE, I AM DOING A NEW THING!  
NOW IT SPRINGS UP; DO YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT?  
I AM MAKING A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS  
AND STREAMS IN THE WASTELAND.

ISAIAH 43:18-19



# LET'S CELEBRATE

01

**Celebrating Sue Berringer's  
25 Years on Staff**

pg. 34

02

**Tender Shepherd Preschool  
30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

pg. 38

03

**Neighborhood VBS  
2026**

pg. 42

04

**Kids' Corner**

pg. 44



**Sue Berringer**  
Technical Support  
Manager

# Sue Berringer's 25<sup>th</sup> Year on Staff!

**We love celebrating at The Bible Chapel, and in 2026, we have the special privilege of celebrating Sue Berringer's 25<sup>th</sup> year on staff!**

For more than two decades, Sue has faithfully served behind the scenes in our Creative Arts Ministry. Chances are, if you've viewed anything digital from TBC, Sue has had a hand in bringing it to life. Ministry as we know it wouldn't happen without her, and if you haven't had the opportunity to meet Sue yet, we hope this interview gives you a glimpse into both her heart and the incredible gift she is to our church family.

## Q&A

*When did you begin working at TBC?*

Q1

We started attending The Bible Chapel in 2001, and there was a position open for the *Chapel Channels*, their monthly magazine. They wanted somebody who could format them, and I started with that! I did that for a while, ended up doing the bulletin, and then - this is the funny part - I said to Simon [James] one time, 'Your website is out of date.' He said, 'Great, here's the password. Can you update it?' So that was funny! I did the website for five to seven years, and then my role kept growing from there.

*Over the last 25 years, have you had any favorite events, projects, etc.?*

Q2

The Car show was always great; the kids loved it! The other thing that sticks out in my mind is Teen Madness for the youth. That was huge, and everyone was involved in serving those four days in the summer.

*What has been most meaningful to you about serving the TBC family over the years?*

Q3

My thing has always been about getting the congregation connected; whatever I can do to help people in their journey with Christ.



# *The Sue-per Speed Round*

*Pick One: Pierogies, Primanti's, or Pickles?*  
Pierogies, but with sour cream

*FAVORITE PITTSBURGH ACTIVITY?*  
Participating in any Pittsburgh cookie table - it's so fun!

*Finish this Sentence:*  
*People may be surprised to know that...*  
I am an avid scrapbooker!

*Favorite Bible verse?*  
"Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!" Psalm 46:10

*FAVORITE WORSHIP SONG?*  
"Goodness of God" by Cece Winans

**Sue, we are so thankful for you and for the heart you bring to everything you do. THANK YOU for serving our staff, our congregation, and most importantly, our Lord with such faithfulness.**

## Q+A

### *How has serving at TBC shaped your personal walk with Christ?*

I grew up in a serving family, and serving has always been ingrained in me. People always feel like serving is something you do for the church, and I don't think people realize the blessings you get in return. And I would say that's a big thing too - we have been hugely blessed by people who know us and reach out to help us in times of need. It's definitely drawn me closer to Christ.

### *What kind of fruit have you seen from the work God has allowed you to be part of?*

The expansion of TBC! Going from a smaller church to a much larger church is incredible, and to see the impact that it's made on a lot of people's lives.

### *What has God taught you about faithfulness through your years on staff?*

I tend to be a worrier, and the Lord just takes care of everything every time. God has always been faithful, and I think that's the thing - just that constant faithfulness. Even in the small things that I've prayed about, He's been faithful through everything. Even with serving, I've had those moments where I've thought, 'I shouldn't be doing this.' But He calls us to do something different and gives us all gifts to do something different, and I can rest in Him in that.

### *As you reflect on 25 years of ministry, what excites you about what God is still doing at TBC?*

I've always said this about TBC: people are so passionate about their ministries. It's really neat to see how God gives people an excitement and passion for different areas so that all the needs get met. Being on staff, we see so many needs, and it can feel overwhelming, and yet, the Lord raises up the right people to manage and serve. I hope to see more people finding the joy in serving!

### *What is one thing you love about the TBC community?*

The passion, friends, and how people rise up to help each other. I can think back to different times when people had a great need and watching people surround them and be there for each other.

# TENDER SHEPHERD PRESCHOOL

**30 YEARS**  
**OF SHEPHERDING CHILDREN**

**Imagine a place where every teacher doesn't just show up for a job but answers a calling to love and lead the next generation in Christ's name. That place is Tender Shepherd Preschool (TSP), which celebrates a milestone that represents three decades of little hearts not only learning to grow academically but also hearing the Good News of Jesus.**

We sat down with our TSP Director, Naomi Paul, to look back on thirty years of TSP - from our very first classroom to the answered prayers at our Robinson campus - and how God has faithfully guided every step of the way. All praise and glory belongs to Him for the success of TSP's ministry.

**Tender Shepherd has such a rich history - 30 years worth! Can you tell us a bit about how this ministry first began?**

There was a need in The Bible Chapel (TBC) congregation for a good, Christian preschool. When the preschool started, it was not only for the families here, but it also became an outreach to the community. Our mission and vision are to bless families with Christian academics and with a developmentally-appropriate preschool curriculum. When the preschool first started, it had only one classroom, and when I joined, we expanded into two. Now, we have 13 classrooms where we see 150 students each school year, and with two locations - South Hills and Robinson campuses.

**Looking back at your own story, how did the Lord lead you to The Bible Chapel and into the heart of this preschool?**

I did direct a school in the Washington, D.C./Maryland area, but then my family was suddenly moved to Pittsburgh. I was looking for a church similar to the church where we came from, and that's how I found TBC. There was a preschool here, and I felt that God was leading me to this church. Ultimately, my heart was to teach at a Christian school where I could minister to moms, dads, and children. Can I speak into the lives of a child, of a mom, and of a dad in Christ's name? If so, then count me in!

I also wanted to make sure the preschool was an outreach as well - TSP is a great opportunity for that. Being a missionary convert myself, the American missionaries who converted my family from Hinduism to Christianity undertook an arduous journey to do so, and it made a lasting impact on me. So now I have the opportunity to talk freely about Jesus and share His Good News with families who may not know Him. It is a privilege I don't take lightly.

**With so many options for families today, what is it about TSP's culture and teachers that makes it truly special?**

I love that all our teachers have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ. I have yet to advertise for a teaching job at TSP in the last 30 years - that in itself is a glory story! Every teacher we have, both now and in the past, came to TSP at the Lord's promptings. And they want to be here! They come excited! They know Jesus. They want to share Jesus' love with the children. Their dedication is priceless, and this makes TSP unique compared to other preschools.

**After three decades of ministry, is there a specific memory that still brings a smile to your face?**

One that comes to mind is when we started our Robinson campus! When we started eight years ago, we had an open house with lemonade and popcorn, we advertised it in local magazines, had hallways filled with balloons, everything! Only one person showed up! Neva Nobers, Linda Urbanic (the teachers at Robinson), and I were concerned about how we would make this work. The one lady who showed up confidently said, "Do not worry, God will bring the people - let's pray." So the three of us held hands outside the classroom and prayed. Since then, we've had full registrations there - God brought the little children!



**NAOMI PAUL**  
Director, Tender Shepherd Preschool

**As we look forward to the future, how can our church family and community pray for TSP?**

Pray that we continue to impact the lives of children and families in the church and in the larger community. Pray for boldness in proclaiming the glories of God and for our continued mission-mindedness. TSP has been instrumental in bringing unchurched families to find a home church at TBC, so pray that He continues to do so. Also, pray that we help unleash the potential of the children and families who come to TSP and that the children will come to know Jesus.

**Serving here for so long is a journey of faith in itself; how have you seen Jesus personally transform your heart through your time at TSP?**

I would say that I get to taste and see that the Lord is good every day. It's not the big things, but daily moments where I see His Hand, leading me through the challenges and triumphs of leading a preschool. And that helps me believe, trust, and fall in love with Him more and more. My prayer life has been strengthened by it, and ultimately, my daily dependence on Him has deepened significantly.

**If you could share one heartfelt truth with a family considering TSP for their child, what would it be?**

TSP was formed with a biblical foundation and has been sustained with dedicated prayer over the years. Families can be assured that God's word is held in high esteem and is the springboard for each of our units of study in the classroom. Also, prayer is a vital component of our daily dependence and operations.

As we celebrate 30 years of TSP, we are thankful for the dedicated staff at Tender Shepherd Preschool who serve as the hands and feet of Jesus every single day. We give thanks to God for the thousands of lives He has touched through this ministry, and we look forward to all He will do in the next 30 years!

**TO LEARN MORE ABOUT TSP, SCAN BELOW!**

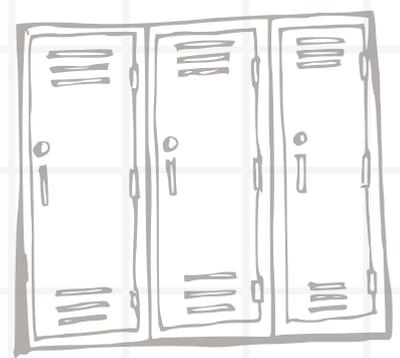


**Matthew 19:14**

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

**Proverbs 3:5-6**

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight.





Get ready because Neighborhood VBS is coming soon! Step through the mist into Rainforest Falls, overflowing with wild waterfalls, towering trees, and colorful creatures. Beneath a canopy of chattering birds and howling monkeys, kids plunge into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God. They'll explore what it means to be rooted in relationship with God, their creator, a safe place in life's storms.

**We can't wait for you to join us for Neighborhood VBS June 22-26!**

## Neighborhood VBS Important Dates

**MARCH 8**  
Host Home & Worship Team registration opens

**MAY 1**  
Volunteer registration opens

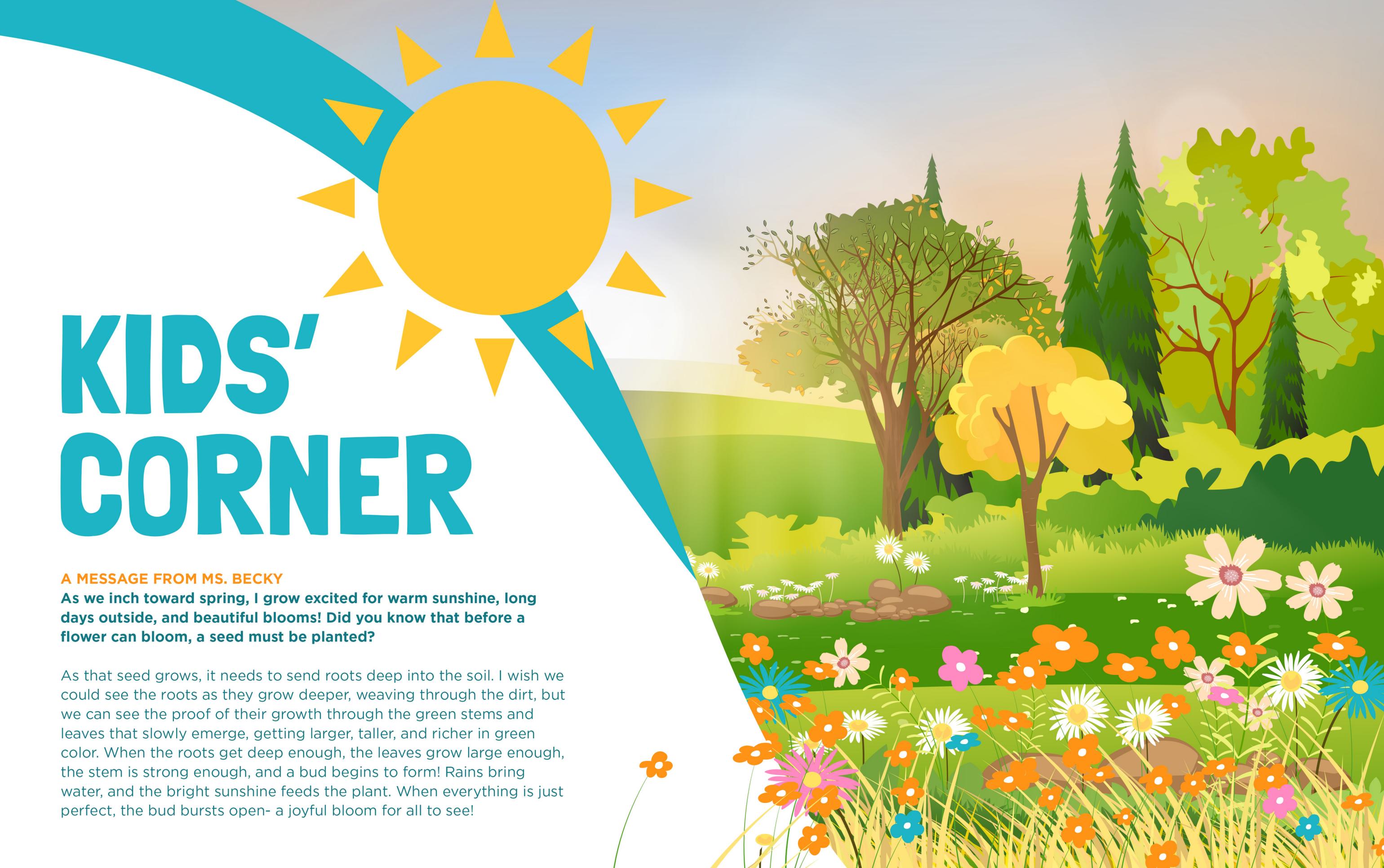
**MAY 2**  
Donation Station begins

**JUNE 1**  
Kid registration opens

**JUNE 22-26**  
Neighborhood VBS



Scan the QR code to learn more about VBS.



# KIDS' CORNER

## A MESSAGE FROM MS. BECKY

**As we inch toward spring, I grow excited for warm sunshine, long days outside, and beautiful blooms! Did you know that before a flower can bloom, a seed must be planted?**

As that seed grows, it needs to send roots deep into the soil. I wish we could see the roots as they grow deeper, weaving through the dirt, but we can see the proof of their growth through the green stems and leaves that slowly emerge, getting larger, taller, and richer in green color. When the roots get deep enough, the leaves grow large enough, the stem is strong enough, and a bud begins to form! Rains bring water, and the bright sunshine feeds the plant. When everything is just perfect, the bud bursts open- a joyful bloom for all to see!



# SPOT THE ANIMAL!

Try to spot all ten animals in the garden, and list out the animals you find!



## DID YOU KNOW THAT BELIEVING IN JESUS AND FOLLOWING HIM IS A LOT LIKE THIS?



**The flower will soon release seeds, starting the whole process again.**

My prayer for you is that you also plant seeds - telling others about the amazing love of Jesus!

**And as we grow, we become more thankful, praising God through our worship - the things we do for Him!** We are like a big, beautiful flower blooming for Him!

**When faith grows, we see evidence in our actions** (the things we do, the way we treat others, the attitudes we have).

**Our faith must grow deep like roots!**

**Someone must plant the seed and tell us about Jesus!**



# In the garden



*C. Austin Miles*

I come to the garden alone,  
While the dew is still on the roses;  
And the voice I hear, falling on my ear,  
**The Son of God discloses.**

And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
And He tells me I am His own,  
And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
**None other has ever known.**

He speaks, and the sound of His voice  
Is so sweet the birds hush their singing;  
And the melody that He gave to me  
**Within my heart is ringing.**

I'd stay in the garden with Him  
Tho' the night around me be falling;  
But He bids me go; thro' the voice of woe,  
**His voice to me is calling.**



## Here are our upcoming mission trips!

Hungary  
MARCH 14-22

Thailand  
APRIL 16-26

Panama Men's Construction  
APRIL 25-MAY 2



### Mission Trips



At The Bible Chapel, our Outreach Ministries provide opportunities for us to impact Christ in our neighborhoods and throughout the world.



In Matthew 28: 19, Jesus says, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit," and it's through this teaching that we adopted *PRAY • SEND • GO!*

We're so excited about the work God is doing through our ministries. We ask you to come alongside us and alongside people near and far who need the help and hope of Christ.



Scan below to learn how you can pray, send, go!





# Joy at Faith House: God's Work in Thailand

*By Brenda Tenison*

**When you arrive at Faith House in Thailand, you are greeted before you even leave the airport. Several young girls wait just outside the glass doors, bopping up and down with excitement, waving flowers in the air. They are so excited to see you that they can't sit still. I have to admit—the feeling is mutual.**

After greeting everyone with at least one hug, we load all of our luggage into one open-air truck and climb into the back of a second one ourselves (picture a pickup truck with a roof and bench seating, but open sides). We wind our way out of the city toward the Faith House compound. When we arrive, we are greeted again—this time by even more smiling, excited girls, all waving flowers and eager to offer hugs.

They are filled with joy. Joy from being rescued from the scourge of human trafficking. Joy from belonging to a family. And joy from knowing Jesus as their Savior and their Father in heaven.

Faith House is a very special place—just ask anyone who has traveled there over the past ten years. God has done, and continues to do, incredible things through the girls who live there and the 14 staff members who care for them. Imagine being responsible for the daily care of nearly 50 teenage girls, many of whom carry deep trauma, all living together under one roof. Only God can do that.

Today, there are over 50 million people enslaved in human trafficking worldwide, and approximately 25% of them are children. For us, as a church congregation in the Pittsburgh area, those numbers can feel overwhelming. It can be hard to know what to do or how we can help.



Bangkok, Thailand is one of the top ten cities in the world for human trafficking. Any vulnerable child in that region is at great risk of being caught up in this ugly and destructive industry. That is why Faith House—located in a city just one hour by flight from Bangkok—is so important.

Currently, 41 girls live at Faith House. Many are refugees from the ongoing war in neighboring Myanmar, having escaped with little more than the clothes they were wearing. Some still have family connections; some do not. But all of them are finding family at Faith House.

**Faith House was founded nearly 20 years ago by Maria Amihan, who stepped out in faith, fully dependent on God to provide everything that was needed. Today, there are 14 dedicated staff members serving alongside her. Four girls will graduate from college this year. Many others who grew up at Faith House have already graduated, found employment, and are contributing members of their communities.**

One former resident, Mae, grew up at Faith House, earned her degree, and became a nurse. After beginning her career, she felt God calling her back—to serve and care for girls who are growing up just as she did. Her story is just one example of how God is multiplying His work through Faith House.

For the past ten years, a team from The Bible Chapel has traveled to Faith House annually. Our recent focus has been on teaching the girls about spiritual identity, self-confidence, values formation, and God's truth about who they are. Each lesson typically includes a short teaching time followed by an activity to reinforce the message.

Sometimes that activity is a craft, as these girls are incredibly artistic and gifted. Other times it involves journaling, giving space to reflect on what God is speaking to them. And sometimes we simply play games, laugh together, and enjoy being present with one another.

The congregation of The Bible Chapel has been a tremendous partner in the growth and ministry of Faith House. Several years

ago, the church helped fund the construction of a new staff house to accommodate a growing team. More recently, The Bible Chapel contributed funding to enclose the open-air activity center, which now serves as Faith House International Church.

That congregation now welcomes nearly 200 people each week. Faith House also leads ten Bible studies in the surrounding community and distributes food to local villages while sharing biblical teaching with both adults and children.

In April 2026, we will once again return to visit these joyful, resilient, young women and the faithful staff who care for them. We ask for your prayers—for the girls, for the staff, and for all that God is preparing during our time together.

If you feel led to contribute financially, you may do so by visiting [www.biblechapel.org/give](http://www.biblechapel.org/give) and selecting Thailand Trip 2026.

**Thank you for partnering with us as God continues His redemptive work through Faith House.**



# Harvest Street Mission

A STORY OF PRESENCE,  
COMPASSION, AND COMMUNITY

*By Jack and Jennifer Zebo*

**For many of us, the word mission evokes far-off places and big outreach projects, but sometimes, the greatest calling is right in our own backyard. Harvest Street Mission is one such ministry that meets needs locally with compassion, consistency, and Christ-centered love. What started out as a simple act of service has grown into a lifeline of hope for people on the margins, especially those experiencing homelessness or material poverty in Pittsburgh's communities.**

At its core, Harvest Street Mission exists to connect communities, grow relationships that inspire change, and love our neighbors as ourselves. Harvest Street Mission does not have a payroll, buildings, or glitz; we simply work through our faithful volunteers. Many followers of Jesus show up week after week, rain or shine, in Allegheny Commons Park—setting up tables, preparing meals, and opening their hearts.

The ministry's rhythm is simple yet powerful: **every Sunday, from 12:00 - 1:00 PM**, volunteers gather to provide food and life's necessities to 150 people who might otherwise go without. But Harvest Street Mission has learned that a meal is just the beginning. As they serve, they distribute gently used clothing, shoes, bedding, and personal care items—and even help meet specific needs like bus passes, birthday gifts, or household items when possible.

What truly sets Harvest Street Mission apart, though, isn't just what team members give, but how they give it. The leadership and volunteers understand that what many of our guests really need isn't only food, but connection. Relationships are built when someone knows their name, listens to their story, prays for them, and shows genuine care. This relational focus is intentional, but not easy. Our volunteers show up consistently because people who are struggling need to know they can count on someone being there—not just occasionally, but faithfully.

Behind the scenes, Harvest Street Mission remains a grassroots, volunteer-powered organization. There are no salaried employees and no large administrative structure—just a small board and a dedicated core team. This includes the Zebo family, who run day-to-day operations out of their home. Volunteers bring meals, serve on Sundays, sort donations, connect with guests, and offer their gifts to keep the mission moving forward.

Over the years, the ministry has witnessed countless moments where God's presence is unmistakable. We continually see answered prayers for individuals in crisis, connections that lead to deeper hope and stability, and moments of grace that remind us God cares about each person's story. While many needs remain, Harvest Street Mission stands as a testament to what consistent presence can do: relationships flourish, trust is built, lives are touched, and the love of Jesus is made tangible in simple acts of service.

## So how can you or our church family get involved?

### There are many opportunities:

- Provide and serve a Sunday meal (meal teams are needed for each week).
- Volunteer on Sundays in setup, serving, or cleanup.
- Host a donation drive or contribute items from their current needs list.
- Pray for the ministry, volunteers, and guests—believing in the power of prayer to transform hearts and situations.



For many of us, visiting Harvest Street Mission might be the first time we step into street ministry. It can stretch us, humble us, and remind us that the people Jesus cared about most were the ones others overlooked. This mission invites us not to fix everyone's problems, but to love consistently and reflect Jesus's heart in practical, everyday ways.

As a congregation, supporting Harvest Street Mission isn't just about charity—it's about joining God's work in our city. It's a chance to put our faith into action, to build bridges where barriers exist, and to embrace the truth that every person is made in God's image and dearly loved. Whether through serving, giving, praying, or simply spreading the word, there's a place for each of us to participate in this beautiful, life-changing ministry.



**To learn more and support Harvest Street Mission, scan here.**

This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down his life for us. And we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters. If anyone has material possessions and sees a brother or sister in need but has no pity on them, how can the love of God be in that person? Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth.

**1 JOHN 3:16-18**



# Next Steps

## Discover TBC

If you're newer to the church and would like to learn more about who we are, what we believe, ways to get involved, and more, join us at Discover TBC! We hope to see you there!

MAY 3



## GIVING

We believe that giving is a part of worship, and thanks to your generous giving, our ministries are able to continue to share the Good News and show how Jesus transforms lives.



## LET'S CONNECT

We want to help you stay connected! Be sure to sign up for our weekly congregational email.



## QUESTIONS?

We would love to hear from you!



**Do you have a prayer or care need?**  
**We are here for you.**



JEREMIAH 31:12 ESV

**They shall come  
and sing aloud  
on the height of Zion,**

AND THEY SHALL BE RADIANT OVER  
THE GOODNESS OF THE LORD, OVER  
THE GRAIN, THE WINE, AND THE OIL,  
AND OVER THE YOUNG OF THE FLOCK  
AND THE HERD; THEIR LIFE SHALL BE  
LIKE A WATERED GARDEN, AND THEY  
SHALL LANGUISH NO MORE.

SUMMER 2026 COMING SOON



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