

The Vision

From the Pastor's Desk

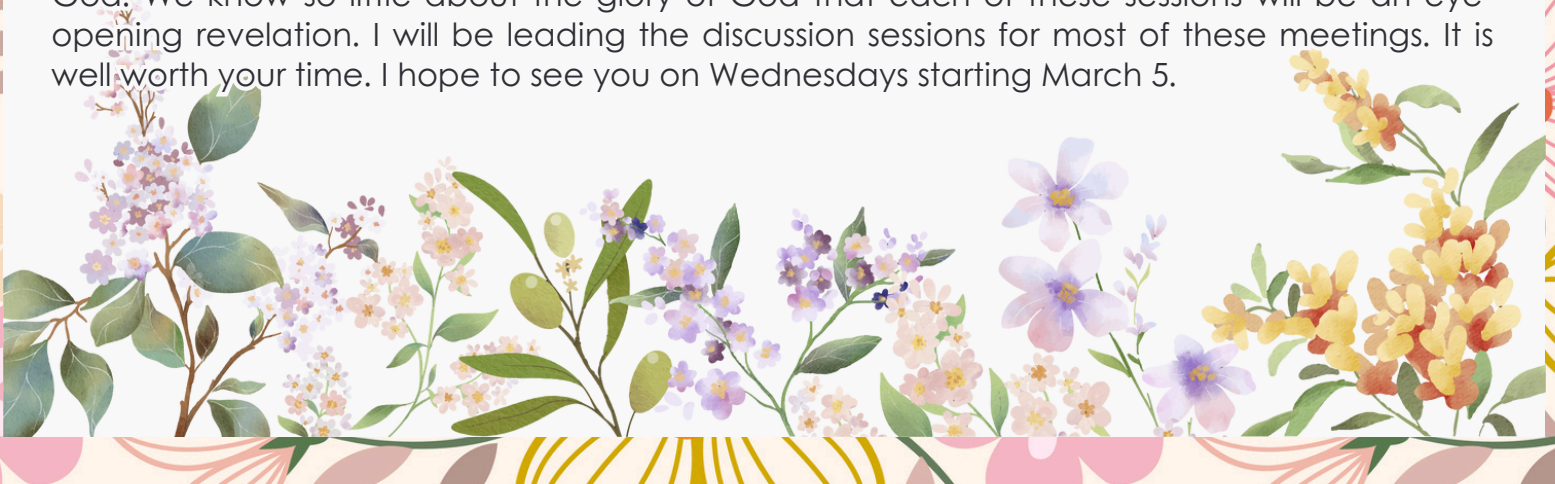
Prentis McGoldrick
Senior Pastor



There are a few things I would like to urge you in this month. The first one concerns Elder Nominations. Elders are not Deacons on steroids. They are specifically different from Deacons. Becoming an Elder is not an honor. It is a responsibility. Becoming an Elder should take precedence over other ministries. In other words, being an Elder may mean dropping something else rather than not becoming an Elder because of something else. Please carefully nominate people whom you believe can fulfill the role of Elder. If nominated, please carefully seek if it is your responsibility to serve as one.

The second encouragement I would like to give you is to be in a 70 X 7 group this summer. Every person has been hurt by others. Nearly every person continues to be hurt by those previous hurts. Forgiveness is not simply forgiving the person but forgiving the person for each time that person has hurt you. Otherwise, you will be tormented because of this unforgiveness. You can be free of all this for that's what will be covered in a 70 X 7 group this summer. The groups will meet for eight weeks. Childcare will be provided. Senior groups can meet during the day so that it is unnecessary to drive at night. Leaders for 70 X 7 groups are being trained now to help you be free of your torment. You will get more information as the summer gets closer.

Finally, in March we will be doing a study on Wednesday nights at 6:00 PM on the glory of God. We know so little about the glory of God that each of these sessions will be an eye-opening revelation. I will be leading the discussion sessions for most of these meetings. It is well worth your time. I hope to see you on Wednesdays starting March 5.



XP Corner

David Doyle

Executive Pastor of Administration

Thoughts on Church Leader Development. Occasionally, a high-capacity leader who loves Jesus will just show up right on our doorstep looking for the opportunity to help accomplish God's mission here. That is not the norm! In fact, it is highly unlikely that we will ever randomly have enough leaders to help sustain the health and growth of our church. This is why intentionality in identifying, equipping, and empowering leaders to grow in their capacity is so important. Filling leadership needs as they arise may keep us afloat—for a while—but this strategy will eventually undermine God's purpose for our church. Leadership development is necessary to support a vision, not to simply fill a current need.

Here are several reasons why most churches are stuck when it comes to leader development:

1) Church calendars are so packed with events that they have no margin for leadership development. Leadership development is highly relational and requires focused time and attention. Most churches spend more time trying to draw crowds or in Christian education efforts than in investing key resources and time towards leadership development.

2) Churches tend to look to only one or two people to lead the entire church. This strategy may be faster and easier, but it certainly is not a healthy way to develop a culture of leadership development.

3) Churches typically do not have anyone responsible for leadership development. It sounds simple, but a culture of leadership development is not going to change without a leader developer.

4) Churches promote low-capacity leaders to high-capacity leadership positions. Leaders cannot take others further than they have been themselves. Moreover, high-capacity leaders will not typically follow low-capacity leaders. Many churches give promotions because of longevity rather than leadership capacity or effectiveness. It is wonderful to recognize and honor people who have been faithful for many years—but putting someone with a capacity to lead tens in a role that leads hundreds is a recipe for stuck results.

5) Churches typically have a culture that only allows “professionals” to do ministry. Rather than a church staff person trying to handle all the leadership responsibilities on their own, they are supposed to give way to other capable leaders. Ephesians 4:11-13 clearly teaches us that the role of a ministry team is to equip the church to do the ministry. Expecting the church staff to do all the work of the ministry will limit leadership development because potential, capable leaders will never be given the opportunity to lead.

6) Leaders delegate tasks but often never empower others to lead. Only giving people tasks is not inspiring or fulfilling. To truly empower, leaders must give others responsibility, tools, budget, decision making authority, and freedom to fail. Not empowering leaders causes them to feel bored and insignificant. Eventually, they will move on to other churches where they can reach their potential.

How are we doing on the leadership development scale? How would you fix it? Are you willing to become a leader in our church? Think about it, but more importantly, act on it. Leadership demands it.

TLBC ELDER INFORMATION

Elder Nominations

ALL FORMS DUE MARCH 31, 2025

Where to get forms:

Forms can be found in the church office, on the church website, or under the Resources Tab in the Thalia Lynn Group in Realm.

HOW TO TURN IN YOUR FORM:

All forms must be turned in to the Church Office in person by March 31st.

email the church office at office@mytowncenterchurch.com for more information

CHURCH 101

Everything you need to know about becoming a member of our church family.

LED BY DAVID DOYLE

Sunday, March 9, 2025
9:45 am - 10:45 am
Room 61



STEP INTO THE STORY

TLBC x NAM WEEK OF PRAYER

The Week of Prayer for North American Missions is March 2—9.

The 2025 theme is "Step into the Story."

This Month envelopes for your Annie Armstrong Easter Offering and Week of Prayer guides will be available in the Portico, Narthex, and outside the library.

You may also give your Annie Armstrong Easter Offering on Realm anytime during the months of March and April.



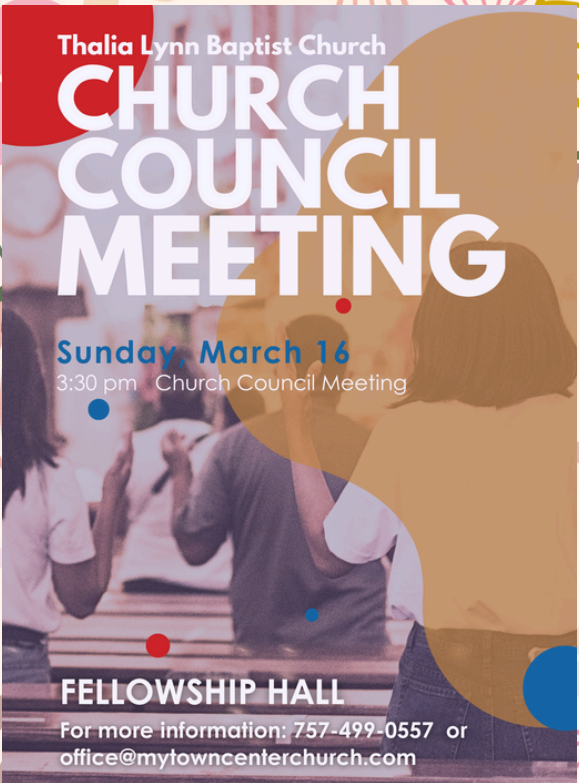
BAPTISM SUNDAY

Baptisms will be held on March 16, 2025
Help us welcome the new members of our Church Family.



Southeastern Myeloma Networking Group

March 15, 2025 | Room 63 | 8:00 am



Thalia Lynn Baptist Church

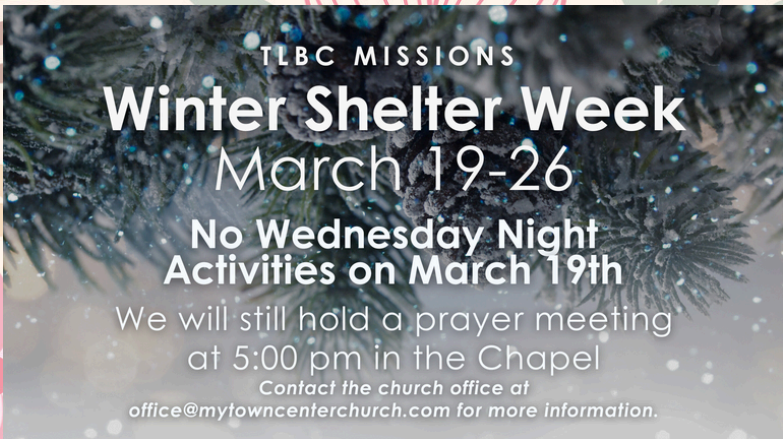
CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Sunday, March 16

3:30 pm Church Council Meeting

FELLOWSHIP HALL

For more information: 757-499-0557 or
office@mytowncenterchurch.com



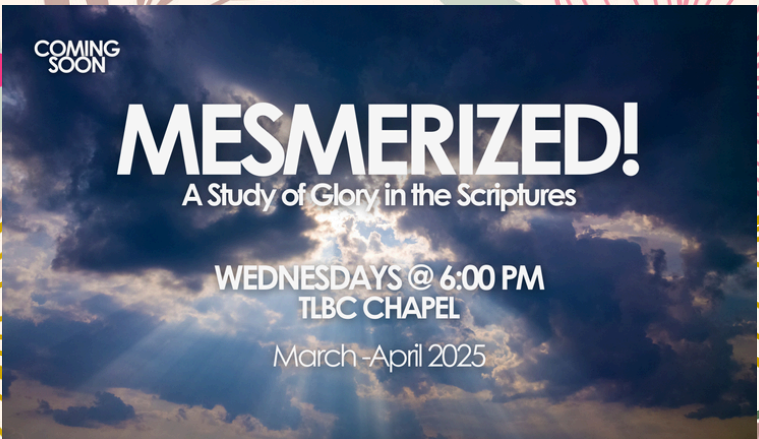
TLBC MISSIONS

Winter Shelter Week March 19-26

No Wednesday Night Activities on March 19th

We will still hold a prayer meeting at 5:00 pm in the Chapel

Contact the church office at
office@mytowncenterchurch.com for more information.



COMING SOON

MESMERIZED!

A Study of Glory in the Scriptures

WEDNESDAYS @ 6:00 PM
TLBC CHAPEL

March-April 2025

NEXT GEN Ministry Momentum

Written by Executive Pastor of
Ministries: Peggy Peek

WINTER SHELTER

We are in the middle of getting ready for our annual Winter Shelter Week. We still have plenty of room for additional volunteers. Our Winter Shelter Week is Wednesday, March 19 through Wednesday, March 26. Please pray for this effort and all of the volunteer hours that will be required. This is one of the most practical, hands-on ministry that we do every year with those who need some of the most significant help. We spend hundreds of hours and a significant amount of money to share the love of Christ in very basic ways with 60-70 adults who currently do not have a place to live.

Pray about how you can be involved and reach out to Stephanie Mayfield or the church office to sign up for one or more shifts. Here are some words of Jesus right before he began to celebrate His last Passover on earth before the first Easter in Mathew 25 beginning in verse 35: I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, 36 I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' 37 "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? 38 When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? 39 When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' 40 "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'



Grace & Peace,
Peggy

Childcare for
2 & under for
parents
attending
Bible Study

KIDS PRAISE

SINGING, GAMES, AND INSTRUMENTS
for Ages 3 Years through 6th Grade
Wednesdays 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Contact Peggy Peek for any questions at peggy@mytowncenterchurch.com



KIDS Missions CAMPOUT

May 9 5:00 pm - May 10 4:00 pm



TLBC
WLP

TLBC-Weekday Learning

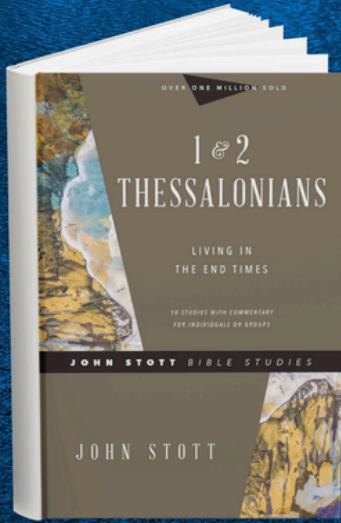
Preschool

REGISTRATION now open

GET \$50 OFF YOUR
REGISTRATION FEE IF
YOU REGISTER YOUR
CHILD FOR SCHOOL
BEFORE APRIL 1ST



2025 - 2026
SCHOOL YEAR
email WLP Director, Jacque,
for more information at
jacque@mytowncenterchurch.com



Women IN THE Word

The Wednesday afternoon ladies' Disciple Group will begin our Spring Bible Study on "1 & 2 Thessalonians: Living in the End Times (John Stott Bible Studies)" February 26th. Books are available at \$10 each. Cheryl Foster will lead our study.

Bring your lunch at 12:45 for fellowship; the study begins at 1:30. Hope to see you there!



ANNIE ARMSTRONG (1850-1938)

Annie was born in Baltimore at a time when there was little opportunity for women. Yet, her devotion to Christ led her to a life of service and leadership. She organized women to pray, to give and to meet the needs around them. She challenged pastors and churches to action and rallied vital support for missionaries. Ultimately, Annie was recognized as a national Southern Baptist trailblazer for her visionary leadership that still inspires millions today.

ANNIE'S CONTRIBUTIONS

- Started Bay View Mission for Baltimore's poor and addicted
- Served as the first executive of Woman's Missionary Union, the largest protestant women's organization in the world
- Led the formation of missions' organizations for children
- Raised support for missionaries to Italian and Jewish immigrants
- Refused a salary because she would never give to the Lord "that which costs me nothing" (2 Samuel 24:24)
- Gained support for the first black, female missionaries
- Secured funds to relieve China missionary, Lottie Moon, who had served for 11 years without a furlough
- Advocated for Native Americans and impoverished mountain people
- Wrote over 18,000 letters in one year and traveled across America encouraging and inspiring churches to pray, to give, and to act in support of our missionaries
- Honored in 1934 when The Home Missions Offering (now called the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for North American Missions) was re-named for her to encourage more to follow her sacrificial example

Easter Petunia Plant

Thalia Lynn will decorate our sanctuary with beautiful Spring Flowers for Easter.

If you would like to buy a Petunia Plant, please choose the quantity you want and complete the payment online or drop off a flower envelope with your check or cash in the Church Office.

Don't forget to mention the names of the people you wish to honor or remember with the plants.

COST PER FLOWER:
EACH PETUNIA PLANT IS PRICED AT \$12.
FLOWER ORDERS ARE DUE BY APRIL 6.



scan to order online



JOY Council Meeting
Monday, March 24 at
2:30 pm in Room 56

Music & Me

Wednesdays @ 10:00 a.m.

March 5, 12, 19, 26
on March 26 we will be in Room 63

Age-appropriate music and movement for Children, Birth through pre-K, accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

Contact the office at 757.499.0557 if you would like more information.



JOY SINGERS

MARCH 2025

Rehearsals-Tuesdays at 9:30
March 4, 11, 18

March Outreach
March 20 at 11:00 - Commonwealth
March 25 at 10:30 - Bay Lake

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