

The Vision

From the Pastor's Desk

Prentis McGoldrick
Senior Pastor



Recovering from surgery has given me time to do things that I may need to do but never find the time to do them. I have prayed more than I have ever prayed. I have read more than I normally do. I have been able to see things that are going on in the Church that I would not have known.

According to those who claim to have done the research (from more than one source), 15,000 churches will close in 2026. Mega-churches (characterized by a regular attendance of over 2,000 weekly) are shrinking. The Asbury College revival of 2023 is almost a total bust with only 12% of the thousands of people who gave their lives to Christ actually following Christ. Those churches who sent their people to experience this revival are struggling.

Unfortunately, I am afraid that most Christians will merely wag their heads and say, "Ain't it a shame." They either don't see how they have any responsibility in the matter or don't have a clue what they can do about it. Maybe both.

Remember, I have had a lot of time to pray recently. From this prayer I believe that God has spoken. Emotional fervency for the sake of excitement will not grow Christians who are truly disciples of Jesus. It attracts the crowd for a time, but it cannot be sustained. Jesus never told us to whip up the crowds in excitement. He told us to make disciples. Discipleship is not rapid emotional growth. It is deliberate, intentional maturity. It may not attract the masses, but it will slowly build Christians who will remain steady and united during times when it is not popular to be a Christian.

I fell under conviction as I prayed. I have been praying for a long time for revival. I wanted to see our church filled with new believers. I wanted to see our members excited about God's work in the church. I wanted us to succeed where others are failing. God spoke to me. He said, "You have prayed for revival, but you have neglected to pray for my presence. You seek what I can give you and have failed to seek Me. You just want to look good." Asking God for growth without His presence is like trying to have children without a spouse.

Well, conviction must be followed by repentance, or it becomes quenching and grieving the Spirit. I have chosen to repent. Our church may not be exciting like those who have worship bands who record and sell their music. I may not be the preacher that wows the people like many of those who write books and speak at major conferences. Yet, I am committed to making disciples who know the presence of God is working in them. I want our services to seek the face of God as we grow in Christian maturity. I want to see authentic faith.

Would you pray with me in this matter? Would you consider taking the time at the beginning of the services to pray that we seek God's face? Would you pray that you and others will see Christians maturity that knows the presence of God?

The XP Corner

David Doyle

Executive Pastor of Administration

Occasionally I peek in at the theunstuckgroup.com to see what is new. The Group's mission is to help pastors grow healthy ("unstuck") churches by guiding them through experiences to align vision, strategy, team and action. I followed this site very closely until its founder, Tony Morgan, died 18 months ago. Recently I read one of the Group's articles on the most common core issues that churches are facing today. Here are the top three:

1) Strategies to Reach the Mission Field. Many churches have identified a mission field, but they're not actually designing ministry strategies around it. Churches need to consider whether current strategies, including their communication strategies, are truly reaching the people they say they want to reach. Key questions to consider: Is the environment at the church conducive to welcoming new people? Are our people equipped and mobilized to be the key to reaching our mission field?

2) Lacking a Leadership Bench. Churches are consistently facing a shortage of qualified leaders to step into key roles. The challenge isn't just hiring externally—it's developing leaders internally and being proactive rather than reactive. The solution starts with intentionality. Invest in top performers. Identify potential leaders in a calm state, not in a panic when a position opens. Cast vision with emerging leaders over coffee. Almost every church is short of a few leaders, but the best churches are developing their bench before they desperately need it.

3) First Engagement Steps. Churches are struggling to create clear, compelling first engagement steps that help newcomers take their next step toward connection and spiritual growth. It's not enough for people to simply show up on Sunday—churches need an intentional pathway to move people from first-time guests to engaged participants. Many churches have systems in place, but they're often outdated or ineffective. What worked in 2005 probably doesn't work in 2026. Churches need to evaluate their engagement processes and be willing to make changes based on what's really working, not what they hope is working.



KNIGHTS OF THE 21ST CENTURY WORKSHOP

Calling All Men!

Men's Prayer Group

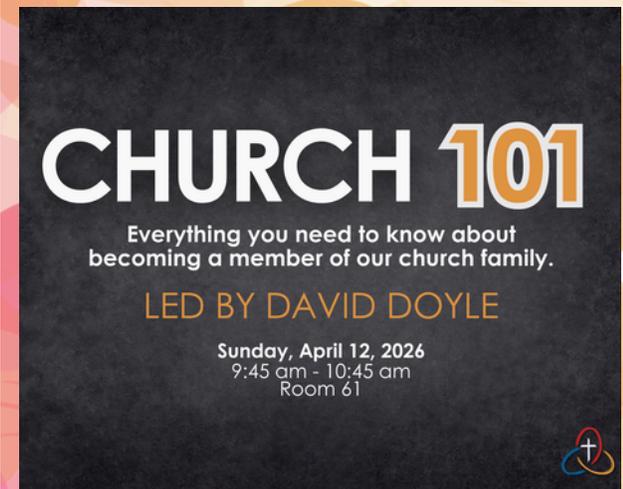
Every Tuesday
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
Room 54

Registration is not required for entry but encouraged.

Knights of the 21st Century Workshop

Every Tuesday
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

Registration is \$25 and includes weekly meals, workbook, and ceremonial dog tag.



CHURCH 101

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

LED BY DAVID DOYLE

Sunday, April 12, 2026
9:45 am - 10:45 am
Room 61



Fruit Friendzee

Spring is coming!
Let's share our love for our neighbors and friends by donating canned fruit to the food pantry.



Donations can be left in the carts in the lobby across from the fellowship hall

TLCB Food Pantry Ministry

NEXT GEN Ministry Momentum

Written by Executive Pastor of
Ministries: Peggy Peek

FROM BUT GOD TO YES LORD

A few days ago, I saw this bumper sticker in a parking lot while I was out running errands. Like many of you, I spend my time in my car having conversations with God about my day and my concerns. God often prompts me to pray for someone or something as I sing along to my praise music that is almost always on in my car. And as I hear the voice of God encouraging me or correcting me or guiding me, sometimes my response is "But God,". I think that is why this bumper sticker caught and kept my attention. I snapped a quick picture of it with my phone and texted it to a few close friends.

As I have had more time to reflect on our habit of speaking back to God with a "But God," I wanted to share with you what God has been teaching me.

When I say "But God," because I'm afraid, I remember Psalm 56:3 When I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

When I say "But God," because I'm tired, I remember Matthew 11:28 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

When I say "But God," because I'm angry, I remember Ephesians 4:26-27 In your anger do not sin: Do not let the sun go down while you are still angry, and do not give the devil a foothold.

When I say "But God," because I'm lonely, I remember Philippians 4:19 My God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.

When I say "But God," because I'm sad, I remember 2 Corinthians 1:3-4 Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.

When I say "But God," because I'm sick, I remember 2 Corinthians 12:9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ's power may rest on me.

When I say "But God," because I'm busy, I remember 2 Corinthians 9:8 God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

When I say "But God," because I'm selfish, I remember Philippians 2:3 Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit. Rather, in humility value others above yourselves.

May our response "But God" begin to change to "Yes, Lord!" as we become more conformed to His image.

grace and peace,
Peggy



KIDS Missions CAMPOUT

May 1st 5:00 pm - May 2nd 4:00 pm



THALIA LYNN BAPTIST CHURCH

Music & Me

Wednesdays @ 10:00 a.m.
March 4, 11, 18 & April 1, 15, 22, 29

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.

4392 VIRGINIA BEACH BLVD
next to Princess Anne High School

KIDS ON MISSION

APRIL 17, 2026 AT 6:30PM
Third Friday of Each Month
Fellowship Hall & Preschool Hallway
Mission Friends for Preschool
"Royal Ambassadors" and "Girls in Action"
for Grades 1-6

Kids learn to make missions an important part of their daily lives by participating in Bible study, games, and missions projects.

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



Cost \$55.00

TLBC JOY MINISTRY

SENIOR SPIRIT OF NORFOLK SPRING CRUISE



FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH
12:00-2:00 (BOARDING IS AT 11:30)

We have limited space.
Contact Julie if you are interested to
make sure space is available.
Julie@mytowncenterchurch.com

JOY NOTES



If you would like to send a card to
a homebound member, greeting
cards are in the Church Library
along with names and addresses.

Any questions, contact Julie
julie@mytowncenterchurch.com

TLBC JOY MINISTRY

LUNCH AT PLAZA AZTECA

THURSDAY, MAY 14TH @11:30

PLAZA AZTECA
(PROVIDENCE SHOPPING CENTER)



JOY SINGERS APRIL 2026

Rehearsals - Tuesdays at 9:30

April 7, 14, 21

Outreach

April 16- 11:00 - Commonwealth

April 28 - 10:30 - Bay Lake

Open to anyone whose schedule permits!
Come join the fun!

★ 2ND THURSDAY - JOY LUNCH ★

INDOOR
BASEBALL

BASEBALL Game

DOORPRIZE

FOURTH
ANNUAL!



THURSDAY
11
JUNE

TEAM A VS TEAM B

POTLUCK - NO CHARGE

TLBC FELLOWSHIP HALL

GATE OPENS AT 12:00 P.M.

Mark your calendars for an
exciting Fall event...
October 12th & 13th Lancaster, PA
JOSHUA at the Sight and Sound
Theatre
Registration begins in April

TLBC PRESENTS

SPECIAL NEEDS MINISTRY EVENT CALENDAR

SATURDAY AFTERNOONS

TLBC FELLOWSHIP HALL

February 21

Adult Special Needs Dance
doors open at 1:30 pm

April 18

Adult Special Needs Dance
doors open at 1:30 pm

BAPTISM SUNDAY

Baptisms will be held on April 19, 2026
Help us welcome the new members of our Church Family.

There IS Bible study and discussion groups THIS Wednesday and Sunday evening. However, for the next two weeks after, **we will have a break from Wednesday evening and Sunday evening Bible study and discussion groups as a result of Holy Week and Spring Break.** Evening discipleship will resume on Wednesday, April 15th.

Next week, please instead **join us for daily Holy Week abbreviated services Monday through Friday beginning each evening at 6:00 p.m.,** detailing Jesus' road to the cross. **If your student would like to join us at the regular time of 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, they are welcome to come upstairs to hang out before service begins.** We would love for your students to be a part of this important week in the life of Jesus Christ!

Stay Up to Date at the Youth Town Hall!

In order to best support each of your families, **I am inviting the parents and/or guardians of current youth students and the students themselves to join us for a Youth Town Hall Meeting on April 19th directly after the 11:00 service.** We will keep this meeting to approximately an hour. This is a meeting that will allow all youth, youth volunteers, and parents to hear about upcoming youth events, the current student curriculum, and to pray for the students involved in our student ministry. I am excited to get to know each of you better!

Celebrate Cody with Us!

During this time, **we will also be having a small celebration to thank Cody for serving as the Interim Youth Minister! Please ensure your students are able to be present** to express their appreciation to Cody. If they would like to write a thank-you card, they will have the opportunity to do so during Wednesday evenings and Sunday mornings in the coming weeks. If they will not be present at these times, **I encourage you to have them write a thank-you card at some point throughout this week!** Let's show Cody the meaningful impact he has had on your students in such a short time!



KISS Ministry
Spring Tea Party
Be Blessed
Join us for an afternoon filled with delightful conversations, exquisite teas, and delicious treats.
Saturday, April 25th
2-4 PM
Fellowship Hall at
Thalia Lynn Baptist Church
This event is FREE and open to all women of any age.




ILLUMINATION STATION
VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
JUNE 22-JUN 26 | 9:30 AM - 12:30 PM
Children who have completed 1st grade through completed 6th grade, may attend our annual VBS June 22-26 from 9:30am-12:30pm (Monday-Friday). Preschool children ages 3 and up may also sign up as space is available. Younger Preschool Children of our volunteers are eligible to attend.
EACH CHILD WILL RECEIVE A FREE VBS T-SHIRT.



REGISTER HERE



THE BRIDGE
Network of Churches
2026-2027
SCHOLARSHIPS




TLBC YOUTH MINISTRY
SUMMER FUGE
JULY 3RD-7TH
CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN
Register before April 27th
Contact Natalie Cox at
natalie@mytowncenterchurch.com
for more information.




LASER
MEET US AT CHURCH!
TAG
COST: \$20
APRIL 12TH @ 4:30 PM



Thalia Lynn Baptist Church
4392 Virginia Beach Boulevard
Virginia Beach, Virginia 23462
Phone: 757-499-0557 Fax: 757-499-5226
www.thalialynn.com

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Join us for HOLY WEEK

Every day from March 30 to April 3rd we will be holding holiday nightly services in the TLBC Sanctuary. Please be sure to join us as we Praise The LORD and remember the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross all those years ago.

Easter Sunday Services will be held during the 8:30 and 11:00 worship hour on Sunday, April 5th.