

FEBRUARY 2026

# THE MESSENGER

**Talbot Park Baptist Church**

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## KEITH MARTIN, INTERIM

### FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Holly Costas – 2  
Faye Sims – 4  
Shirley Campbell – 6  
Jennifer Heisler – 11  
Robert Williams – 20  
Alma McMath – 21  
Wayne Mostiler – 27  
Justin Patten – 27  
Andy Craft – 28

I left TPBC in May of 2000 after 23.5 years as its Associate Pastor in Education. It was not because I was tired of the place or the people. I left because I was in my early 50's and I could see that Talbot Park would not be able to support my staff position to my retirement.

A church in St. Simon's Island, GA had called me to be its associate in education. I gratefully accepted and went there ahead of my family. Then after only 2 weeks there, I made the stunning discovery that I could not stay and returned to Norfolk. Later, I would realize it was not the "there" that I ran into in GA. It was the need to step away from ministry in a local church that I ran into.

In the years that followed I became a branch manager at Bank of the Commonwealth for 12 years, thanks to Ed Woodard. Then I started a one-man LLC as a handyman which I am doing still.

I don't know the details of why Aaron Brittain decided to leave local ministry. (I do know it was not because he was tired of you or disappointed with us.) I do know, though, what it's like to make a transition like Aaron is making.

Aaron's departure left us with two living questions: "What will Aaron do next?" "How will we make it without him?"

The first question is answered. Aaron Brittain is the new Director of Operations for Grace Inside Prison Ministries based in Henrico, VA. Grace Inside is a network of chaplains who serve Virginia prisons. We celebrate this good news for Aaron and the Brittains. Go to the Grace Inside website and click on staff and board.

The second question is being answered. The doors of TPBC are still open. The people of TPBC are still giving their best to one another, to others in our city, and to God's Christ. We're not perfect. God's Christ never asks us to be.

Keep up the good work!!

## YEARBOOK

The 2026 yearbook is nearly complete and will be ready for printing and distribution soon. If you have had an address, telephone number or email address change, and you haven't already contacted the church office, please do so now. Your help and cooperation ensures our yearbook will be as accurate as possible. Thank you!

20  
26

## CHURCHWIDE FELLOWSHIP

On Saturday, February 14, everyone in the church is invited to the home of Evelyn Cooper (8802 Gramel St.) for fellowship and lunch. Evelyn will provide lunch and everyone is encouraged to come and socialize. The event will begin at 12:00 Noon. Please sign up if you plan to attend on the sheet in the hallway or call the church office.

## WORSHIP FEBRUARY 1 PENDING WEATHER

It's been an interesting 2 weeks of weekend weather and forecasts in the Tidewater area. Consequently, churches, businesses, schools & colleges have faced and made decisions.

Last Sunday, 01/25/26, TPBC chose not to have its worship service. Its Deacon Ordination Service & Annual Business Meeting were rescheduled for February 1st.

Well, due to this weekend's weather forecast TPBC has, again, moved the Deacon Ordination and Business Meeting down the calendar to February 8<sup>th</sup>.

A decision on the 10 a.m. worship service will be made Saturday and publicized using the Announcements & Prayer Concerns email thread.

## SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Pastor Search Committee is pleased to provide the following update to the church. To date, the committee has met three (3) times to prayerfully and thoughtfully address the task of identifying pastoral leadership for our church. Our next scheduled meeting will be held on January 26th, 2026.

During these meetings, the committee has accomplished several key milestones:

- Developed a detailed job description for both an Interim Pastor and a Full-Time Pastor
- Created a Church Profile Statement that will be shared with prospective pastoral candidates
- Posted the pastoral positions availability with The Baptist General Association of Virginia, The Bridge Network of Churches, & The Cooperative Baptist Fellowship as well as additional ministry and church-search organizations.

The committee is committed to seeking God's guidance throughout this process and appreciates the continued prayers and support of the congregation.



## CHOIR REHEARSALS

This is an invitation to all who would like to join us in the church Sanctuary Choir. Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings at 7:00. You need no special training, just a love of music and the joy of singing. We will make beautiful music together! If you have any questions, please reach out to Rosell Carr at 757-406-2418.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, February 15<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.



## Preschool News

We are excited to announce the Caroline Hendrix Memorial Fund, established in memory of longtime member Caroline Hendrix. This fund reflects the deep love Caroline had for children, Talbot Park, and teaching. Proceeds will support and enhance the academic, physical, and emotional growth of the children at Talbot Park Baptist Preschool. Our initial goal is \$15,000. We are kicking off our fundraising efforts with a Winter Festival on Friday, February 27, from 4:00–8:00 PM, and we are looking for volunteers, donors, and item donations to help make this event a success.

### Ways to Help:

- Volunteers to help with decorating, setting up fencing and fire pits
- Consider becoming a donor. You can donate by check (made out to Talbot Park Baptist Preschool and write "Caroline Hendrix Memorial Fund in the memo), cash or by pledge as we work on online payments.
- We need 3-4 fire pits to borrow
- We need to borrow tables for vendors
- Assembling craft kits and s'mores kits
- Donating baked goods for the bake sale
- Day-of volunteers to assist with:
  - Selling baked goods, food, s'mores kits, and taking donations
  - Manning the fire pit area

Please note: Children will not be permitted to fire pit area without adult supervision.

If you are interested in helping, please contact Holly Costas at [hcostas@talbotparkpreschool.org](mailto:hcostas@talbotparkpreschool.org). 757-423-8677

There is also a sign-up sheet available in the hallway for volunteer signups.

Thank you for helping us honor Caroline's legacy in such a meaningful way

## BUSINESS MEETING

Our quarterly business meeting has been rescheduled to Sunday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am.

The menu includes:

- Sliced Pork Tenderloin
- Scalloped Potatoes with Cheese
- Butter Beans with Corn
- Yeast Rolls
- Various Desserts

## DEACON ORDINATION

Due to inclement weather, our Deacon Ordination has been rescheduled to Sunday, February 1, at 10:00 a.m. Evelyn Cooper, Sheri Foster, Buzz Foster, and Myra McCarthy will be ordained as deacons to serve our church family. The worship service will be given to their ordination. We will hear testimony from each of them. Ordained deacons and clergy will conduct a ceremony of laying on of hands. The congregation itself will commit them to God and to service. Make sure you're a part of this special day in the lives of these four persons and ours. They have proven their commitment to God's Christ and to us already. We look forward to your presence and participation.

## PRESCHOOL RECOGNITION SUNDAY

On Sunday, March 1, we will be inviting all our preschool staff and families to join us for our morning service. We will have special children-led music and worship. Following worship, at 11am we will have a brunch in the social hall during the normal Sunday School time. Everyone is asked to bring a fruit or pastry item.

# February 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 10:00am Deacon Ordination  11:00am Business Meeting and Lunch	9	10 7:00pm Deacons Meeting	11	12	13	14 12:00 Noon Churchwide Fellowship at Evelyn Cooper's  Valentine's Day 
15 10:00am Communion  11:00am Sunday School Resumes	16 Office Closed <i>President's Day</i>	17	18	19 7:00pm Church Council	20	21
22 11:00am Sunday School  4:30pm Comfort Meals at Ronald McDonald House	23	24 2:30pm Birthday Club	25	26	27	28