

HOW CAN WE HELP?

PRAYER

We will pray for these requests for two weeks unless notified or updated. Feel free to leave requests on our 24-hour prayer line at 713.335.6456 or HoustonsFirst.org.

() Add this request to the church's public prayer database.

PASTORAL CARE


Are you experiencing grief, loneliness, illness, job loss or other life difficulties? The Pastoral Care Ministry provides free and confidential help through the Stephen Ministry. Call 713.957.6762 for assistance, or indicate your interests below:

() I would like a Stephen Minister to call me.
() I am interested in serving as a Stephen Minister.

Don't forget the "Get Connected" section on the other side!

GET CONNECTED (turn over)

campus directory & parking map



A

1 Chapel	2 Rehearsal Hall
1 Connection Center	1 Rms 143 & 145
2 Education Ministry	3 Rms 330-336
1 Library	1 Welcome Center
1 Main Foyer	1 Worship Center
1 Reception Room	2 Worship Ministry

B

3 The Clubhouse	1 Rms 100-123
6 Counseling Center	2 Rms 200-221
1 FBA Primary School	3 Rms 301-329
1 Pastoral Care	4 Children's Ministry
2 Preschool Ministry	5 Children's Ministry


C

1 First Baptist Academy	1 Oasis Rm
1 FBA Library	

D

1 Café	2 Rms 249-265
1 Christian Life Center	3 Rms 362-366
2 Crafts Rm	3 Student Ministry
1 Fellowship Center	1 Harbor Rm
2 Fitness Center	1 Welcome Center
1 Garden Rm	

● Welcome Centers *Numbers next to location indicate floor



MIDLINK

MidLink Café - Wed @ 4:45-6:45 pm in the Fellowship Center

Casual dining with food for all ages! Adults \$6, Senior Adults \$5, Children (12 & under) \$4.50 Students can buy discount tickets from Student Ministry for \$3

THE LINK 7-8 pm – Garden Rm Bible study with Curtis Jones

MUSIC REHEARSALS 7-8:30 pm Choir – Rehearsal Hall (open) Singers – Rm 143 (open) Orchestra – Worship Center (by audition)

JUST FOR KIDS! Children of all ages can learn about God and have fun, too!

MISSION FRIENDS 6-8:30 pm – Preschool Suite Birth-Kindergarten

HIGH 5 KIDS' CHOIR 6-7 pm – Walk-ins welcome! PreK-K – Rm 210 1st & 2nd – Rm 211 3rd-5th - The Clubhouse (Rm 303)

BREAKOUT 7-8:30 pm – The Clubhouse (Rm 303) 1st-5th Grades

JUST FOR STUDENTS! Weekday connections featuring worship and truth from God's Word

WIRED 6:15-7:45 pm – Rm 364 (MS Students)

AMP 7-8:30 pm – Rm 363 (HS Students)

DECISIONS AUG 16, 2009

SALVATION IN CHRIST

Jan Pecherski
FOR BAPTISM
Kristen Champagne
Ralph Fite
Chance Mann
Samantha Rembowski
Sang Rhee

FROM OTHER FELLOWSHIPS

Julie Arnold Sara Thomas
Kali Jackson Oscar Wiley
Kelli Kouba Jennifer Zecher
Randy Peterson Rod Zecher

BY STATEMENT

Benny Mathew Annie Sylvester

BIRTHS

John and Lindsay Wagner in the birth of their daughter, Ainsley Kate Wagner
Sister: Hayden

Jason and Priscilla Sloan in the birth of their daughter, Mackenzie Claire Sloan
Les and Emily Strech in the birth of their son, Tobias Gage Strech
Sister: Carter Brother: Micah

SYMPATHIES

Bill (Staff and Deacon) and his wife, Diane (FBA Staff) Murrell and Patrick and his wife, Roverta Murrell in the death of their mother, Mary Murrell
Grandchildren: Peter, Phillip, Oksana and Jennifer Murrell

Marilyn McCarnes in the death of her husband, John McCarnes

SYMPATHIES (cont'd)

Family and Friends of Elizabeth Ballenger
Jimmy and Mary Davis in the death of their daughter, Glorianne Davis

HOUSTONSFIRST.ORG

Open 24/7/365
Ministry info, news, events & more!

SERMONS ON CD

Available before & after services.

WEEKLY SUMMARY

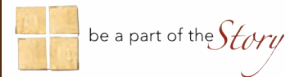
ATTENDANCE, AUG 16, 2009

Sunday Bible Study	3,184
Mission Bible Study	1,155
Weekday Bible Study	904
Total Bible Study	5,243
Wednesday Night	226

GIVING, WEEK ENDING AUG 16, 2009

Tithes & Offering	\$302,382
Weekly Requirements	\$293,142
Over/(Under)	\$9,240
Designated Gifts	\$18,633
Over/(Under) for Aug	\$26,217
Over/(Under) Fiscal YTD	(\$91,836)

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



WEEK ENDING AUG 16, 2009

Total Pledged	\$24,457,310
Donations Received	\$60,489
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$12,501,929

weekend worship

aug 23, 2009

sundays

9:30 am
11 am
6:30 pm

sunday

Bible study

8:20 am
9:30 am
10:45 am
5:15 pm

sunday

kids' worship

9:30 am
11 am
6:30 pm



HOUSTON'S FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH

a message series by
Gregg Matte

meet the pastor



pastor gregg matte

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY & GUESTS, Welcome to Houston's First! We're glad you're worshipping here today.

I am so thankful and excited to be back with you after being away on my sabbatical. My family and I greatly appreciate your allowing me to take this time to be refreshed and to plan for the year ahead.

Today, I begin a year-long study of the book of Genesis. Along the way, we'll look at creation, temptation, and the flood, then take a closer look at a few of the fascinating characters found in the first book of the Bible. Also today, we begin our new Sunday schedule. Thank you for doing your part to make room for "one more" here at Houston's First as we gather our hearts in worship and grow our souls through the study of God's Word.

Finally, I invite you to come forward at the conclusion of the worship service, especially if you're a first time guest. Staff members are available to talk with you about becoming a Christian, being baptized, or joining our church – a relevant biblical community!

In Him, *Pastor Gregg Matte*

NEED TO CONTACT US?

To contact HFBC staff, call the church at 713.681.8000 (M-F 8-4:30 pm) or email firstname.lastname@HoustonFirst.org.

HOW CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU?

Share your requests the following ways and we'll add them to our online prayer database!
• Click "Find Help" at HoustonFirst.org
• Text "PRAYFIRST [your name and requests]" to 41411
• Call our Prayerline at 713.335.6456
• Complete the attached "How Can We Help?" card
• Visit the Prayer, Missions & Connection Center

LATEST NEWS & UPDATES

CELEBRATING FIVE!

On Aug 30, we'll celebrate Pastor Gregg's fifth anniversary at Houston's First. Be sure to attend one of the worship services as we thank Pastor Gregg for his service and praise God for all He has done at our church over the last 5 years!

CornerBooks

AT HOUSTON'S FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Opens Aug 30

A new chapter in the story of Houston's First begins Aug 30 with the opening of **CornerBooks**. Featuring "books to borrow and books to buy," you'll find Bibles, Pastor Gregg's messages, Milestones resources, "First Family" items, over 18,000 titles to check out, and much more – all at the corner of 2 major corridors right off the Main Foyer. And you can get a fresh cup of coffee, too! Make **CornerBooks** a part of your Sundays at Houston's First!

NEW & PROSPECTIVE MEMBER ORIENTATION

Whether you've recently joined or just visited Houston's First, come learn what it means to be a part of a relevant biblical community on Sun, Sep 13! Choose lunch at noon or light snacks at 5 pm. **REGISTER** at HoustonFirst.org. **CONTACT** malcolm.marshall@HoustonFirst.org, 713.335.6453.

GATHER our hearts >

CHURCHWIDE

MIDLINK

Begins Wed, Aug 26

Join the church family on Wednesdays for MidLink—an evening of food and activities for all ages! Come for MidLink Café from 4:45-6:45 pm, then take advantage of Milestones courses, music rehearsals, kids programs and more! MidLink—connecting the Body from Sunday to Sunday! **CONTACT** candie.gonzales@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7651.

HUB STUDENT MINISTRY

6TH GRADE BALL

Sun, Aug 30 @ Noon-2 pm - Rm 364

All new 6th graders and their parents are invited to the 6th Grade Ball celebrating their official entrance into The HUB Student Ministry! Lunch is provided. **RSVP** by today to susan.newman@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7631.

MEN'S MINISTRY

UNLEASHED – MEN'S RETREAT '09

Oct 2-3 – Camp Cho-Yeh

Wherever you are in your journey, God is eager to help you take the next step. Join other men for an action-packed time of adventure, inspiration and connection with sessions led by Pastor Gregg, Steve Knox and Eric Reed. **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/Men for details and to register. **CON-**

Houston's First Baptist Church is a relevant biblical community where we gather our hearts, grow our souls, and give our lives as we seek to fulfill the Great Commission (Matthew 28:19-20).

TACT christen.barrios@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7681.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

LIVING PROOF LIVE SIMULCAST

Aug 28-29 – Worship Center

Beth Moore is bringing Living Proof Live to her hometown of Green Bay, WI. Thanks to simulcast technology, she'll be here at Houston's First, too. Soul-stirring worship led by Travis Cottrell, life-changing teaching from Beth—right here, in real time. **COST** \$10 per person. **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/Women for details and tickets. **CONTACT** jessica.villalpando@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7642.

GROW our souls >>

CHURCHWIDE

HIGHPOINT BIBLE STUDY

Wed, Aug 26 @ 11:30 am – 1010 Lamar (lower level)

Executive Pastor David Self will speak at this week's downtown Bible study. Lunch begins at 11:30 am for \$8, and Bible study takes place from 12:10-12:40 pm. **CONTACT** diane.bagby@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.6781.



HOLY LAND TOUR

Oct 29-Nov 10, 2009

Join Ministries Pastor Jason Swiggart and Jim & Wanda Jean Hickey on a fascinating trip to the Holy Land! This tour of Israel will enhance your spiritual life as you walk through the Bible in living color. Visit HoustonFirst.org/Events for details. **COST** \$4,190 per person. **CONTACT** Jim & Wanda Jean Hickey, jhickey3@comcast.net, 281.496.1525 or 713.817.8157.

FIRST PLACE 4 HEALTH

ORIENTATION SESSION

Today @ 4-5 pm – Reception Rm

Several First Place 4 Health classes are offered this Fall at Houston's First. Attendance at this orientation is required

to join a class. Come learn what FP4H is all about! **CONTACT** lisa.cramer@FirstPlace4Health.com, 713.335.6405.

MILESTONES

FALL 2009 SEMESTER

Begins this week!

Milestones is a tool for taking God's road map—the Bible—and applying its principles of spiritual development to nine seasons of life. **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/Milestones or pick up a brochure in the Main Foyer for a list of offerings.

PRECEPTS - MARRIAGE WITHOUT REGRETS

Every Mon, Aug 24-Dec 28 @ 6:30-8:30 pm

This new addition to the Fall 2009 semester of Milestones takes place in the home of facilitators Danny & Cindy Davis in the Spring Branch/Memorial area. **CONTACT** candie.gonzales@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7651.

GIVE our lives >>>

MISSIONS

MISSIONARY U

Classes begin today and Wed, Aug 26, including Spanish, Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts, Chronological Bible Storying, Water Well 101, Perspectives Exposure, and International Student Friendship Ministry Orientation. **REGISTER** at HoustonFirst.org/MissionaryU. **CONTACT** frank.blackwood@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.5862.

2009 MISSION TRIPS

Visit HoustonFirst.org/Missions to sign up for these upcoming trips:

- Acuna, Mexico (Open): Sep 17-20
- Philippines (Evangelism): Sep 23-Oct 5
- Nizhny Novgorod, Russia (Orphanage): Oct 5-17
- Acuna, Mexico (Deacons – Construction): Oct 15-18
- Torino, Italy: Oct 16-25
- Nasir, Sudan: Oct 21-Nov 5



VOLUNTEER

CORNER BOOKS

A new chapter in the story of Houston's First begins Aug 30 with the opening of Corner Books. Help provide others with "books to borrow and books to buy" – and fresh coffee, too! **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/Volunteer. **CONTACT** nancy.squires@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.5821.

WELCOME TEAM

Courtesy Cart drivers, greeters, Welcome Center staff and more are needed to help us make a great First impression! **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/Volunteer. **CONTACT** steven.murray@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.5890.

PRESCHOOL & CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Help care for the little ones in the Houston's First family! Whether it's holding newborns, teaching kids, or anything in between, there's a role for you to play! **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/Volunteer. **CONTACT** melinda.scurlock@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7611 (Preschool); rae.edwards@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7622 (Children).

Visit HoustonFirst.org/Volunteer for details about the following opportunities and nearly 100 ways you can serve His Kingdom:

ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE TEAM

The Faith Center

CONTACT Simone Brown; sbrown1987@sbcglobal.net; 713.812.0080

CONNECTION CENTER TEAM

Prayer, Missions & Connection Center

CONTACT jerrell.altic@HoustonFirst.org; 713.335.6450

AFTER SCHOOL TUTORING TEAM - The Faith Center

CONTACT tracy.collier@HoustonFirst.org; 713.554.8825

GET CONNECTED

Complete this card and place in the offering plate or in a collection box by a Worship Center exit.

() I would like to speak to a minister about salvation, baptism, membership, ministries or _____

() I would like to receive information about Sunday Bible Study opportunities.

CONTACT INFORMATION

() Check if this is a change of address

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Primary Phone # _____

Email _____

() Single () Married (date) _____

() Engaged () Widowed

() Children living at home (ages) _____

COMMENTS

HOW CAN WE HELP? (turn over)

Creating a worshipful environment. Worship requires our full attention. We ask that you: >> not bring food or drinks in the Worship Center >> silence cell phones >> use the restroom before the service (take your children, too!) >> remain seated once our time of Bible study begins. If you must leave during the service, you may either: reenter through the rear doors and find a new seat in the back or watch the remainder of the service on a monitor in the Main Foyer. At the end of the worship service, people will be invited to accept Christ or join the church. Please remain in the Worship Center during this time. Pastor Gregg and other worshipers will appreciate your thoughtfulness.



Remember to pray for the thousands of names written on the floor of the Worship Center. Share and read stories of God's faithfulness at HoustonFirst.org/Prayer.