

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

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

- C**
 - 1 First Baptist Academy
 - 1 FBA Library
- 1 Oasis Rm

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

● 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 217
1st-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 23, 2009

BAPTIZED
Lindsay Alleman
Thomas Alleman
Allison Bryant
Steven Crain Jr
Steve Edwards
Thao Edwards
Zach Hayes
Downy Vickery
Kavin Vickery

FOR BAPTISM
Randy Keeney Jr
Meagan Kiphart
Lezleigh Seerey
Rachel Talpas
Stacy Wilson

FROM OTHER FELLOWSHIPS
Christin Abbott
Kimberly Bonnet
Pat Booth
Christy Brown
Genoveva Davison
James Davison
Jerry Davison
Jon Dutton
Lance Farrell
Alicia Hannah
Alla Heitman
Cathy Lander
David Lee
Mimi Marquez
Daniel Scott
Brent Silva
Jerry Simonton
Sondra Simonton
Michael Sterling
Emily Talpas
Stephanie Wulf

SYMPATHIES

Elba Ray and Hildegard Futch in the death of his sister, Sylvia Brownlee
Nieces: Naomi and Helene Futch
Great Nephew: Caleb Balladares

Gabriel and Elena Martinez in the death of their father, Andro Pete Martinez

Aldo and Marilyn Paret in the death of her father, Dillie Kelley
Grandchildren: Harrison, Hamilton, and Halston Paret

David and Pris Mikulenska in the death of her mother, Nita Seale

CornerBooks

Sunday 8 am–12:30 pm & 5–8 pm
Monday Closed
Tuesday 9 am–4 pm
and 4-9 pm during Living Proof Bible Study
Wednesday 9 am–4 pm
and 4-9 pm during MidLink
Thursday 9 am–4 pm
Friday & Saturday Closed

WEEKLY SUMMARY

ATTENDANCE, AUG 23, 2009

Sunday Bible Study	3,863
Mission Bible Study	1,207
Weekday Bible Study	910
Total Bible Study	5,980
Wednesday Night	493

GIVING, WEEK ENDING AUG 23, 2009

Tithes & Offering	\$272,474
Weekly Requirements	\$293,142
Over/(Under)	(\$20,668)
Designated Gifts	\$29,826
Over/(Under) for Aug	\$5,549
Over/(Under) Fiscal YTD	(\$113,199)

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

be a part of the *Story*

WEEK ENDING AUG 23, 2009

Total Pledged	\$24,457,310
Donations Received	\$70,050
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$12,571,979

weekend worship

aug 30, 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



meet the pastor



pastor gregg matte

DEAR CHURCH FAMILY & GUESTS,

Welcome to Houston's First! We're glad you're worshipping here today.

Thanks to your support of the new schedule and off site parking, we didn't make room for just ONE MORE at Houston's First last Sunday – we made room for MANY MORE! Excluding Easter Sundays and the grand opening of the renovated

Worship Center last September, we had the highest attendance in our worship services in the last three years!

This is an exciting season at our church: a new schedule, new Bible studies, and a new worship service; expanded worship opportunities for preschoolers and children; a new semester for MidLink, Milestones and Missionary U; the opening of Corner Books; and new volunteers stepping up to "give their lives" by serving in different ministries. I'm humbled to serve as Pastor of the body of believers here at Houston's First.

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

DEACON MEETINGS

The Deacon Administrative Committee meets today at 2:30 pm in Rm 143. The entire Deacon body will meet at 3:30 pm in the Chapel.

CHURCH CONFERENCE

This monthly gathering meets today at 4:30 pm in the Chapel. The meeting covers church financial and membership reports, as well as other information as necessary. Anybody may attend, but only individuals who are members of HFBC may vote.

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.

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

On the first Sunday of each month, donations are collected for the Food Pantry at our church's Faith Center. This ministry relies on contributions to meet the needs of nearly 1,200 people each month. Bring non-perishable items on Sun, Sep 6, and leave them in the CLC lobby, the South Tower elevator lobby, or outside the Garden Rm. **CONTACT** 713.554.8801.

a relevant biblical community • HoustonFirst.org



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).

CornerBooks
AT HOUSTON'S FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Grand Opening!

A new chapter in the story of Houston's First begins today 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! **CornerBooks** – extending the message, ministry and mission of Houston's First!

GATHER our hearts >

CHURCHWIDE MIDLINK

Every Wed thru Nov 18

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.

CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION!

Dec 11 & 12

It may not feel like Christmas outside, but plans are already underway for this year's Celebration! Visit TheFirstChristmas.org to volunteer, see pictures from last year's production, and for a countdown to when tickets go on sale on Oct 17! **CONTACT** dean-na.wilks@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.5881.

HUB STUDENT MINISTRY

6TH GRADE BALL

Today @ 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. **CONTACT** 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, the God of the Universe is excited to help you take the next step. Join other men for an action-packed time of adventure, inspiration, and connection at Camp Cho-Yeh with sessions led by Pastor Gregg, Steve Knox and Eric Reed. **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/Men for details and to register. **CONTACT** christen.barrios@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7681.

GROW our souls >>

CHURCHWIDE

HIGHPOINT BIBLE STUDY

Wed, Sep 2 @ 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

Only 2 spots remaining! 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.

MILESTONES

FALL 2009 SEMESTER

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.



GIVE our lives >>>

EVANGELISM EQUIPPING

XEE

Begins today and Wed, Sep 2

XEE is the new generation of evangelism training that equips Christ-followers to share our faith relationally in a simple way to the postmodern world. The 7-week training begins today @ 4-5 pm (Rm 143) and includes classroom instruction, small group discussions, and real-life witnessing experiences. A live, interactive online class begins Wed, Sep 2 @ 9-10 pm. **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/XEE. **CONTACT** lee.hsia@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.6770.

MISSIONS

MISSIONARY U

Fall classes just got underway, including Spanish, Chronological Bible Storying, Water Well 101, Perspectives Exposure, and International Student Friendship

Ministry Orientation. It's not too late to sign up! **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
- Nizhniy Novgorod, Russia (Orphanage): Oct 5-17
- Acuna, Mexico (Deacons – Construction): Oct 15-18
- Nasir, Sudan: Oct 21-Nov 5

VOLUNTEER

WELCOME TEAM

Courtesy Cart drivers, Greeters, Shuttle Hosts, 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

Care for the little ones in our church! 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:

FIRSTFEST TEAM - Recreation

CONTACT becky.kiser@HoustonFirst.org; 713.957.6702

FOOD PANTRY TEAM - The Faith Center

CONTACT claudia.reyes@HoustonFirst.org; 713.554.8800

BAND OF BROTHERS SPECIAL OPS - Men's Ministry

CONTACT eric.reed@HoustonFirst.org; 713.957.7680

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.