

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.

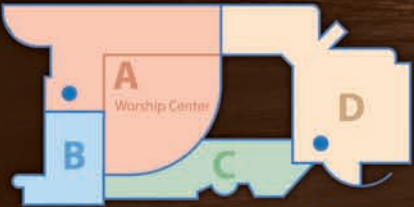
PASTORAL CARE
Are you experiencing grief, loneliness, illness, job loss or other life difficulties? The Pastoral Care Ministry provides free and confidential help through the Stephen Ministry. Call 713.957.6762 for assistance, or indicate your interests below:

() 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 Bookstore | 2 Rehearsal Hall |
| 1 Chapel | 1 Rms 143 & 145 |
| 1 Connection Center | 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 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 OCT 25, 2009
BAPTIZED
Travis Blair
Ricky Cheek
Abigail Diaz
Gabriel Diaz
FOR BAPTISM
Gary Carroll
Jessica Jackson
Maegan Kiphart
Jennifer Overshiner
Walter Wilson
Xiaojui Wilson
Lyndle Jackson

FROM OTHER FELLOWSHIPS
Megan Miller
Shane Miller
Emily Voeltner
Matt Voeltner
Andrew Wolford
Linda Wolford

BY STATEMENT
Anne Schruha

BIRTHS
Ryan and Kathlene Thompson in the birth of their daughter, Charlotte
Kathlene Thompson
Brother: Caden Ryan Thompson

Barry and Kristina West in the birth of their son, Miles Tanner West
Sisters: Brynn, Anna and Kenzie West

SYMPATHIES
Benson and Carol Kelly (Staff) in the death of her mother, June Redford
Grandsons: Drew and his wife Misty Kelly; Matthew Kelly
Great-Granddaughter: Hailey Kelly

Family and Friends in the death of Earl Pierce

Lydia Cordova in the death of her husband, Paul Cordova

Marty Oliphant in the death of her husband, Gail Oliphant
Marcia Looper in the death of her step-mother, Darlene Graves

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

SERMONS ON CD
Available before & after services in Corner Books.

WEEKLY SUMMARY

ATTENDANCE, OCT 25, 2009

Sunday Bible Study	3,346
Mission Bible Study	1,063
Weekday Bible Study	5,578
Total Bible Study	9,987
Wednesday MidLink	1,371

GIVING, WEEK ENDING OCT 25, 2009

Tithes & Offering	\$209,475
Weekly Requirements	\$293,142
Over/(Under)	(\$83,667)
Designated Gifts	\$24,251
Over/(Under) for Oct	\$12,833
Over/(Under) Fiscal YTD	(\$239,949)

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
be a part of the *Story*

WEEK ENDING OCT 25, 2009

Total Pledged	\$24,457,310
Donations Received	\$63,162
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$13,714,906



weekend worship

Nov 1, 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. As we enter November and the holiday season, two churchwide opportunities to "give our lives" are getting underway.

On Sun, Nov 15, the Main Foyer will overflow with thousands of gifts as Houston's First members bring new, unwrapped items to

donate to The Christmas Store at the Faith Center on Sat, Dec 5. At least 2,000 gifts and 500 volunteers are needed to meet the needs of those we'll be serving.

Today also marks the beginning of the annual World Mission Offering. This offering, collected now through January, is above our regular tithes and supports thousands of missionaries around the world serving through the Southern Baptist Convention. Look under the "Give Our Lives" section below to learn more about these two opportunities and others.

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 (Mon-Fri 8-4:30 pm) or email firstname.lastname@HoustonFirst.org.

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.

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).

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, Nov 8! Choose lunch at noon or light snacks at 5 pm. **REGISTER** at HoustonFirst.org. **CONTACT** malcolm.marshall@HoustonFirst.org, 713.335.6453.

PROSPECTIVE FAMILY OPEN HOUSE

Thu, Nov 5 @ 6:30 pm - Oasis Rm
Parents and children can learn what FBA offers for early childhood through 8th grade as you tour the facility and meet the teachers, too! **CONTACT** allison.smith@FBAHouston.org, 713.290.2522.



CELEBRATION

TICKETS ON SALE
Tickets to "Celebration" on Dec 11 & 12 are \$10 or \$12 based on location. All seats are reserved, so purchase your tickets soon to get the seats you want!

Choose one of 4 ways:

- Online at TheFirstChristmas.org
- In Person in **Corner Books**
- At Kiosks in the Main Foyer
- By Phone at 1.888.695.0888 (\$2 service charge per ticket)

Childcare is available for birth through Kindergarten for \$3 per child. Space is limited & reservations must be made when tickets are purchased.

FIRST FAMILY PORTRAITS
Professional photographer and Houston's First member Jack Potts is providing photo sessions for our church family as we enter the holidays. Sessions are \$50 each and will take place on Sun, Nov 1, 8 & 15 from 9 am-1 pm and 5-8 pm and on Wed, Nov 4, 11 & 18 from 5-8 pm. You'll walk away with a CD filled with photos for you to print on your own. A portion of the proceeds benefit The Christmas Store at the Faith Center. **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/FirstFamilyPortraits for details and to register for a session.

GATHER our hearts >

ADOPTION & ORPHAN CARE MINISTRY

ORPHAN SUNDAY

Sun, Nov 8 @ 4-6 pm – Chapel

Join Steven Curtis Chapman and others via a live concert webcast from Nashville. A mix of musical performance and the sharing of the heart of God, the event is designed to "give a megaphone to the cries of the millions of orphans around the world." Appropriate for all audiences. **CONTACT** Steve Klein, stevek@entouch.net, 281.246.9904.

SUMMIT MINISTRIES

PUNT, PASS, KICK & TAILGATE PARTY

Sat, Nov 7 @ Noon – Faith Center (Long Point Baptist)

A tailgate party is a great way for young single adults to end the flag football season – and we're taking it one step further with a Punt, Pass, Kick event, too! Make plans to join us for lunch, games, and special guests. **COST** \$15, or \$6 for just the tailgate party. **REGISTER** at HoustonFirst.org/SummitNews. **CONTACT** summit.ministries@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7671.

GROW our souls >>

CHURCHWIDE

HIGHPOINT BIBLE STUDY

Wed, Nov 4 @ 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.

ISRAEL JOURNEY 2010

Apr 5-15, 2010

Take a journey with Worship Ministry leaders in the place where our worship began! Join Stephen Smith, Roger Cullins and John Bolin along with tour guides Jim & Wanda Jean Hickey on this "journey of a lifetime." **COST** \$3,425 per person (\$100 discount if signed up by Dec 1). Space is limited. **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/IsraelJourney2010 for detailed itinerary. **CONTACT** Jim & Wanda Jean Hickey, jhickey3@comcast.net, 281.496.1525 or 713.817.8157.

HUB STUDENT MINISTRY

HAVING A HEART CONNECTION WITH YOUR SON OR DAUGHTER

Sun, Nov 15

Richard Ross, co-creator of True Love Waits and co-author of *Parenting with Kingdom Purpose*, leads this free Mile-

stone seminar for parents of 6th-12th graders. He has appeared on the Today Show, ABC Evening News, CNN, 48 Hours and 20/20. Parents will meet at 10:45 am in Rm 363, then parents and students will gather from noon to 2 pm. Child care available for birth-5th grade with reservations. **COST** \$5 for optional lunch. **RSVP** by Nov 11. **CONTACT** susan.newman@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7631.

PASTORAL CARE

CANHOPE

Mon, Nov 9 @ 6:45 pm – Reception Rm

Uldine Bisagno, former HFBC First Lady, is the special guest at the next CanHope gathering. CanHope ministers to families touched by cancer. Everyone is invited to this time of prayer and fellowship. An entree is provided; please bring a salad, vegetable or dessert. **CONTACT** linda.askin@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.6761.

GIVE our lives >>>

CHURCHWIDE

THE CHRISTMAS STORE COLLECTION DAY

Sun, Nov 15

Families from our mission churches and Houston Project sites will "shop" for gifts at The Christmas Store at the Faith Center on Dec 5. To make that happen, Houston's First members are asked to bring new, unwrapped gifts to the Main Foyer on Collection Day, Sun, Nov 15. See today's insert for gift ideas and volunteer opportunities. **CONTACT** tracy.collier@HoustonFirst.org.

WORLD MISSION OFFERING

Nov 2009-Jan 2010

This annual offering supports 5,000 missionaries around the world serving with the Southern Baptist Convention. These funds given above our tithes are dispersed to the IMB (85%), NAMB (10%), and Southern Baptists of Texas State Missions (5%). Houston's First consistently ranks in the top 10 of SBC churches in terms of our missional giving. Look

for WMO envelopes in the Worship Center today! **CONTACT** frank.blackwood@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.5862.

FITNESS & RECREATION

BLOOD DRIVE

Sun, Nov 8 @ 8:30 am-1 pm – CLC Gym

Give the gift of life at the blood drive next week sponsored by Fitness & Recreation and the Gulf Coast Regional Blood Center. **CONTACT** debbie.brown@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.6701.

PASTORAL CARE

STEPHEN MINISTRY INFO MEETING

Sun, Nov 8 @ 12:15 pm – Reception Rm

Stephen Ministers are church members trained to minister to people experiencing a crisis, facing a challenge, or simply going through a tough time. If you're interested in becoming a Stephen Minister or having one contact you or a loved one, come learn about the ministry at this informational meeting. Light refreshments provided. **CONTACT** kelly.laughlin@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.6762.

VOLUNTEER

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

THE CHRISTMAS STORE TEAM - The Faith Center

CONTACT tracy.collier@HoustonFirst.org; 713.554.8825

FITNESS & RECREATION VOLUNTEERS - Recreation

CONTACT jerrell.altic@HoustonFirst.org; 713.335.6450

NORTH CENTRAL FOLLOW-UP TEAM - Missions

CONTACT Keith Brice; briceclan@gmail.com; 281.460.5373

PRODUCTION TEAM - Music/Worship

CONTACT brad.duryea@HoustonFirst.org; 713.957.6740

HEART 2 HEART - Preschool & Kindergarten

CONTACT sherry.oradat@HoustonFirst.org; 713.957.7613

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)



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.