

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

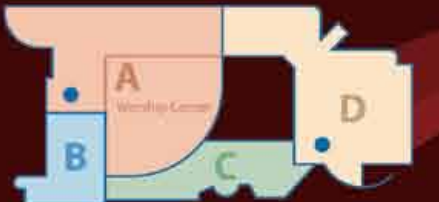
Are you experiencing grief, loneliness, illness, job loss or other life difficulties? The Pastoral Care Ministry provides free and confidential help through the Stephen Ministry. Call 713.957.6762 for assistance, or indicate your interests below:

() 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 | 1 Reception Rm |
| 1 Chapel | 2 Rehearsal Hall |
| 1 Connection Center | 1 Rms 143 & 145 |
| 1 Library | 3 Rms 330-336 |
| 1 Main Foyer | 1 Welcome Center |
| 1 Preschool Check-In | 1 Worship Center |

- B**
- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 3 The Clubhouse | 1 Rms 100-108 |
| 6 Counseling Center | 2 Rms 200-208 |
| 1 FBA Primary School | 3 Rms 301-303, 319, 322-329 |
| 3 The Loft | 4 Rms 400-408 |
| 1 Pastoral Care | 5 Rms 500-508 |

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

- D**
- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| 1 Café | 1 Harbor Rm |
| 1 Christian Life Center | 2 Rms 249-270 |
| 2 Crafts Rm (270) | 2 Rms 362-366 |
| 1 Fellowship Center | 3 Student Ministry |
| 2 Fitness Center | 1 Welcome Center |
| 1 Garden Rm | |

Welcome Centers *Numbers next to location indicate floor



Year-End Giving

The church business office will be open until 4:30 pm on Fri, Dec 31, 2010, to receive contributions that will qualify as a 2010 donation. Any donations received via mail will be treated as a 2010 donation if the postmark date on the envelope is before Sat, Jan 1, 2011. In addition, any donations made via the church's website at HoustonsFirst.org before midnight on Fri, Dec 31, 2010, will qualify as a 2010 donation.

Tithes and offerings towards the Operating Budget and the Be A Part Of The Story capital campaign all qualify as charitable contributions and are tax deductible. **CONTACT** Kerry Hunter at 713.957.5806 or Kerry.Hunter@HoustonsFirst.org should you desire additional information.

Gifts of Stock

The gifting of stock to the church is a "win-win" situation for both the donor and the church. Since the church is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, the gift will qualify as a charitable contribution and is tax deductible. This is a very simple and easy process that can be coordinated through the Financial Services office of the church. On all tax questions, it is advisable to consult with your tax advisor or CPA. If you donate a gift of stock, or desire additional information, **CONTACT** Amber Willet at 713.957.5807 or Amber.Willet@HoustonsFirst.org.

Decisions DEC 12, 2010

SALVATION IN CHRIST

Piccola Macerola Meredith Ware

FOR BAPTISM

Savannah Smith

FROM OTHER FELLOWSHIPS

Elizabeth Brockman	Todd Martin
Mark Brockman	Chris McMeans
Kaytha Coker	Lindsay McMeans
Roger Hall	Chad Olstad
Brenda Harding	Liani Olstad
Maurice Harding	Brandon Shepherd
Pat Martin	Lisa Shepherd

Births

- Kim and Brett Williams in the birth of their son, Graham Brett Williams; Brothers: Marshall and Logan Williams
- Dennis and Julisa Wales in the birth of their son, Daniel Elliot Wales; Grandparents: Ernie (Deacon) and Kathy Wales; Great Uncle and Aunt: Bill and Mary Archer

Sympathies

- John and Janet Fosdick in the death of her mother, Shirley McCarthy; Grandchildren: John, David, Anna, Katie and Blake Fosdick
- Jim Robertson in the death of his father, Harry Robertson
- Joe Burrell (Staff) in the death of his wife, Barbara Burrell
- Gary and Debra Turner in the death of their son, Andrew Turner; Siblings: Nathan Turner, Lindsey Harris and her husband, Todd

Fitness & Recreation

JANUARY SPECIAL

Join in the month of January and pay no enrollment fee—a savings of \$50! Memberships are only \$25 per month and you do not have to sign a contract to join.

FITNESS EXPO

Sun, Jan 9 @ Noon-2 pm – Gym

See what the Fitness & Recreation Ministry has to offer the whole church family! Free food from My Fit Foods for the first 200 people, and free lunch for the first 60 kids. **COST** Free! **CONTACT** Debbie.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org.

Weekly Summary

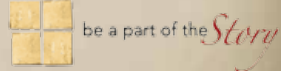
ATTENDANCE, DEC 12, 2010

Sunday Bible Study	3,693
Mission Bible Study	977
Weekday Bible Study	No Bible Study
Total Bible Study	4,670
Wednesday MidLink	No MidLink

GIVING, WEEK ENDING DEC 12, 2010

Tithes & Offering	\$409,843
Weekly Requirements	\$315,839
Over/(Under)	\$94,004
Designated Gifts	\$40,415
Over/(Under) for Nov	\$207,364
Over/(Under) Fiscal YTD	(\$482,825)

Capital Campaign



WEEK ENDING DEC 12, 2010

Total Pledged	\$25,446,592.77
Donations Received	\$64,331.64
TOTAL RECEIVED	\$20,381,986

Merry Christmas!

FROM THE STAFF AT
HOUSTON'S FIRST



MEET THE PASTOR



Pastor Gregg Matte

Dear Church Family & Guests,

This December, I am so grateful for how many people Houston's First has ministered to beyond our church family. At The Christmas Store, we provided gifts for hundreds of families—including 911 children! That day, 60 individuals prayed to receive the Greatest Gift: Jesus Christ as their Savior.

2011 Churchwide Devotional

Pastor Gregg has chosen *The One Year Worship the King Devotional* by Chris Tiegreen as the 2011 churchwide devotional. In this book, you'll be encouraged to give your all for the glory of the King and to continually press toward deeper and purer praise. Copies are available in Corner Books for \$15.



Latest News & Updates

CHRISTMAS WEEKEND SCHEDULE

Join us on **Christmas Eve, Fri, Dec 24**, as we celebrate Christ's birth with worship through song and a message from Pastor Gregg. Choose between two identical worship services offered at 5 & 11 pm. On **Sun, Dec 26**, we will gather our hearts for worship at 9:30 & 11 am. There will be no Sunday Bible Study classes or 6:30 pm evening service that day.

HOUSTON'S FIRST CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT

Deck your Christmas tree with Houston's First! Purchase this limited edition Christmas ornament in Corner Books for only \$5. Available while supplies last.

Need to Contact Us?

To contact HFBC staff, call 713.681.8000 (Mon–Fri, 8 am–4:30 pm) or email FirstName.LastName@HoustonFirst.org.



Gather Our Hearts

Churchwide

PASTOR GREGG'S BOOK SIGNING
Wed Evening, Jan 12 – Main Foyer

Come celebrate the release of Pastor Gregg's book *Finding God's Will* and get him to personally sign your copy! Find the book in Corner Books, at Amazon.com, or at Barnes & Noble stores and website. **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/CornerBooks.

Summit Young Single Adults

MIDNIGHT IN THE PARK

Fri, Dec 31 @ 9 pm – Minute Maid Park

Ring in the New Year with young single adults from across Houston at Minute Maid Park, home of the Houston Astros. Enjoy a unique setting along with live music, dancing, games, fellowship, and fireworks! **COST** \$49 by Dec 30, \$59 at the door. **REGISTER** HoustonFirst.org/NYE2010. **CONTACT** Ryan.McPhetridge@HoustonFirst.org.

Grow Our Souls

Churchwide

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDIES

Go deeper into God's Word in Sunday Bible studies, and experience community along the way. Stop by the Welcome Center for help finding a Bible study that's right for you, or visit HoustonFirst.org/BibleStudies and explore the options on your own. Here's some to consider:

- **Quest @ 9:30 am – Gym (SW corner)**
For single adults ages 21-26
- **Blueprint @ 9:30 am – Rm 335**
For couples married 1-3 years

- **Just for Men @ 9:30 am – Harbor Rm (252F)**
For men of all ages
- **The Heights @ 9:30 am – Rm 263**
For women of all ages

HIGHPOINT BIBLE STUDY

Wednesdays @ 11:30 am – 1010 Lamar (Lower level)

HighPoint will not meet on Dec 22 & 29 due to the Christmas holiday. Join us again in January! **CONTACT** Diane.Bagby@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.6781.

MIDNIGHT MADNESS

Fri, Jan 28, 2011 @ 5:30 pm-Midnight – Houston's First

Save the date for the annual Sunday Bible Study Leadership equipping event, Midnight Madness! Whether you currently serve in a SBS or are interested in exploring more about serving, you will come away with a clear vision, effective strategies, and a renewed passion for seeing lives changed for Christ. Dinner is included. **COST** Free! **CONTACT** Jeanene.Andrus@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7601.

Counseling

MEN OF INTEGRITY

Begins Jan 13, Every Thu @ 5:30-7 pm – Counseling Ctr

Led by a professional counselor, this confidential therapy group is for men who struggle with compulsive sexual behavior including those who have difficulty with internet pornography or homosexual thoughts or behaviors. A pre-screening interview is required by Jan 7. **COST** \$40 per session. **CONTACT** Greg.Curnutte@HoustonFirst.org, 713.335.6462.

FATHER TO THE FATHERLESS

Begins Jan 25, Every Tue @ 8:30-10 am or 5:30-7 pm

Counseling Ctr

Women dealing with father wounds are invited to this

therapy group, led by a professional counselor, as they go through *Father Hunger* by Robert S. McGee (available in Corner Books). Learn how your relationship with your father affects your emotional style, your relationships, and the way you think about God. Choose from 2 times on Tuesdays. A pre-screening interview is required by Jan 17. **COST** \$40 per session + purchase of book. **CONTACT** Katie.Comer@HoustonFirst.org.

Give Our Lives

HUB Student Ministry

AS WE GO MISSION CONFERENCE

Jan 14-15 – Houston's First

Students in 7th-12th grades are invited to spend a week-end focusing on missions. This year's theme is "Helping the Sick," primarily discussing diseases in the world and our role as Christians. Hear from Warren Samuels of Next Worldwide Ministries with worship led by Zach Dodd. **COST** \$50. **REGISTER** HoustonFirst.org/HUBMissions. **CONTACT** Susan.Newman@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.7631.

Churchwide

WORLD MISSION OFFERING

Nov 2010-Jan 2011

The World Mission Offering (WMO) supports 5,000 missionaries serving with the Southern Baptist Convention around the world. Our church's goal this year is to raise \$400,000 in donations given in addition to our regular tithes. To give, use a WMO envelope in the Worship Center and Chapel seatbacks or go online at HoustonFirst.org/WorldMissionOffering. All donations to the WMO are tax-deductible. **CONTACT** Rochelle.Ferrada@HoustonFirst.org, 713.957.5861.

2011 MISSION TRIPS

Be on the lookout for upcoming 2011 Mission Trips around the world! Pray about where God may want you to go next year. **VISIT** HoustonFirst.org/MissionTrips. **CONTACT** Rochelle.Ferrada@HoustonFirst.org.

GIVING LIFE AWAY EXPO 2011

Sun, Jan 16 @ 8:30 am-1 pm & 4-8:30 pm – Main Foyer

Stop by this all-day missions event where you can give, go, or pray locally or internationally. Learn more about Houston's First's mission trips and opportunities such as adopting a missionary, taking a stand to stop human trafficking, or actively aiding in clean water. **CONTACT** Rochelle.Ferrada@HoustonFirst.org.

Volunteering

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

- **Healthy Helpers (First Place)**
CONTACT Lisa.Lewis@FirstPlace4health.com
- **Emerge/Relevant Style Team (College Ministry)**
CONTACT Nate.Stewart@HoustonFirst.org
- **English as a Second Language Team (The Faith Center)** **CONTACT** Peter.Lee@HoustonFirst.org
- **Farm & Ranch Volunteer Team (Hunt Retreat)**
CONTACT Bill.Murrell@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.



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

Get Connected Complete and place in the offering plate or in a collection box by a Worship Center exit.
() I am a first time guest today.
() Send me info about Sunday Bible Studies.

Check all that apply:
() College student (school):

- () Single
- () Single parent
- () Engaged (fiancé):
- () Married (since date):
- () Widowed
- () Veteran (branch):

Contact Information () Check if this is a change of address.

Name	_____	Today's Date	_____
Address	_____	City	_____
Primary Phone #	_____	St	_____
Email	_____	Zip	_____
Children living at home:	_____	Birthdate (mm/dd/yy)	_____
Name	_____	Grade	_____
	_____	School	_____

How Can We Help? (turn over)