

“Give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.”
— 2 Corinthians 9:7



This past year, these Houston's First family members have shared about the joy that comes from giving to God's kingdom. Read their stories at HoustonsFirst.org/Generosity and see inside about how you can make a difference with a year-end contribution to Houston's First.

LET THE FITNESS & RECREATION CENTER HELP YOU!

Celebrating its 32nd Anniversary in 2016, the Fitness & Recreation Center at The Loop Campus offers a variety of classes, programs, and opportunities to get fit!

JANUARY PROMOTION

Join the Fitness Center in January and pay no enrollment fee — a savings of \$50. Membership is \$25 per month with no contract.

FIRST PLACE 4 HEALTH ORIENTATION

Thu, Jan 14 @ 6:30-7p and Sun, Jan 17 @ 4-5p — The Loop (Rm 258)
Learn more about this Christ-centered weight-loss program focusing on emotional, mental, physical and spiritual wellness. First Place 4 Health classes are Jan 19-Apr 7, 2016.

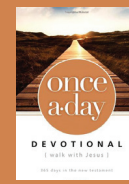
FITNESS EXPO

Sun, Jan 24 @ 12:30-2p — The Loop (Fitness & Rec Ctr)
Come and discover all that the FRC has to offer at Expo 2016: class demonstrations, health screenings, kids' programs, and much more. In the health industry? Consider being a vendor at Expo!



Learn more about all the FRC has to offer at HoustonsFirst.org/Fitness.
CONTACT Debbie.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org

2016 DEVOTIONAL



Pastor Gregg recommends the *Once-A-Day Walk with Jesus Devotional* for our church family to use in 2016. The 365 daily entries allow you to read through the New Testament in one year. Each day includes a Scripture portion, insight from a Christian writer of the past, and a personal application and worship portion. The devotional is available from CornerBooks for \$15.

OPEN CARRY LAWS

Effective Jan 1, 2016, the Open Carry law goes into effect in Texas. However, Houston's First Baptist Church will not permit the open carry of handguns and other firearms on any of its campuses or properties. If you have questions, please contact Director of Security Nate Finn (Nate.Finn@HoustonsFirst.org).



FIRST PANTRY

Sun, Jan 3
The Food Pantry & Clothes Closet serve over 1,000 people each month. At The Loop Campus next Sunday, please bring non-perishable food items, gently used clothing, and other household goods to help serve those in need in the Spring Branch community. Donation bins will be located at main entrances to the church and in the Missions Office.

SPRING MISSION TRIPS

Interested in a 2016 mission trip? For trip details and to complete an interest form, visit online at HoustonsFirst.org/Missions.
Spring trips include:

- California (Bay Area): Feb 24-28
- Costa Rica (Family Trip): Mar 12-19
- NYC (Easter): Mar 23-27
- NYC (IT Trip): April 8-13
- Brazil: May 11-16
- Cambodia: May 12-22

CONTACT Ameer.Omar@HoustonsFirst.org

For more information on Giving Life Away, contact Charlotte.Nease@HoustonsFirst.org

KIDS NEED COATS

Our church's new Faith Center - Harwin location is asking for gently used or new coats to provide for the many children they serve. Please bring donated coats for infants through 12-year-olds to donations boxes at The Loop Campus by the Missions Office or The Clubhouse (Level 3) by Sun, Jan 10.



SUNDAYS AT HOUSTON'S FIRST

- | | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| The Loop Campus
7401 Katy Fwy
Houston, TX 77024
Worship 9:15a • 11a • 5p
Life Bible Studies
8a • 9:15a • 10:45a • 6:30p | Cypress Campus
Smith Middle School
10300 Warner Smith Blvd
Cypress, TX 77433
Worship 9:30a & 11a
Life Bible Studies 9:30a & 11a | Downtown Campus
1010 Lamar (Tunnel Level)
Houston, TX 77002
Worship 11a
Life Bible Studies 9:30a | Sienna Campus
4309 Sienna Pkwy
Missouri City, TX 77459
Worship 9:30a & 11a
Life Bible Studies 9:30a & 11a | Spanish Campus
7401 Katy Freeway
Houston, TX 77024
Worship 5p
Life Bible Studies 6:30p |
|---|---|---|--|---|



ALL CAMPUSES

HighPoint Bible Study

Wednesdays @ 11:30a — 1010 Lamar (Tunnel Level)

This weekly downtown Bible study is taking a Christmas break! Join us on Wed, Jan 6, with Dr. David Self teaching. Bring your lunch, or purchase one there for \$8. The lesson begins at 12:10p. Visit HoustonsFirst.org/HighPoint to learn more.

CONTACT Diane.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org

Stephen Ministry Training Class

Applications due Wed, Jan 20

Stephen Ministry training equips members through 50 hours of classes to come alongside individuals who are experiencing loneliness, relationship difficulties, loss, divorce, grief or spiritual crises in their lives. To become a Stephen Minister, apply at HoustonsFirst.org/PastoralCare. Classes begin Jan 20 on Wednesday evenings during MidLink at The Loop.

CONTACT Denise.Munton@HoustonsFirst.org

Midnight Madness

Fri, Jan 29 @ 5:30p-Midnight — The Loop

Current and prospective Life Bible Study leaders from each Houston's First campus will gather for this annual equipping event for great training, inspiring vision, fantastic giveaways, interactive fun — and food, of course! Learn how Life Bible Study is a critical part of the mission of Christ and come together as leaders from all age groups and leadership positions to focus on how each leader can serve with excellence. Register at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

CONTACT Melanie.Russell@HoustonsFirst.org

YOUNG SINGLES

Summit New Year's Eve

Thu, Dec 31 @ 9p-2a — Lucky Strike

Strike gold at Summit NYE 2016! Whether you decide to eat, dance, sing, or play, we'll keep things rolling until the New Year comes! Don't miss this golden opportunity to ring in 2016 at Lucky Strike in Downtown Houston with other young singles. Online registration available through Wed, Dec 30, at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

CONTACT Joshua.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org

Summit Snow Jam

Apr 6-10, 2016 — Winter Park, CO

Cool temps, fresh air, mountain scenery, and snow-covered peaks: these are just a few of the things Winter Park has to offer during Snow Jam 2016! Unlike any other ski trip, Snow Jam includes airfare, charter buses to and from the resort, ski-in/ski-out lodging, lift tickets, rentals, and most of your meals — and a bunch of young singles to meet and hit the slopes with! Learn about registration and pricing at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

CONTACT Joshua.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org

WOMEN

The Table

Tuesdays, Feb 2-Mar 8 @ 6:30-8p — The Loop

Come experience the presence of Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit as women from across Houston join together ready to embrace the hope and provision found through the Word. Teachers Kay Altic, Kelly Matte, and Star Smith will lead us as we 'dine' together and see how Jesus is MORE than enough!

CONTACT Carolyn.ONeal@HoustonsFirst.org

MEN

Men:Serve

Sat, Jan 23 @ 8a-1p — The Loop (Oasis Rm)

Men will gather at The Loop Campus then head out in teams around the city to serve the widows of our church family. Yard work, home repairs, car maintenance, and other tasks — there is a place for you to serve! Register by Fri, Jan 15, at HoustonsFirst.org/Events. If you are a widow in need of assistance, contact Sherry Oradat at 713.957.6764.

CONTACT Emily.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org

THE LOOP

YOUNG SINGLES

Desire: Summit Women's Conference

Fri, Jan 15 - Sat, Jan 16 — The Loop (Oasis Rm)

How do we navigate our desires for His honor and our best? Keynote speaker Kori DeLeon will focus her remarks on God's passion, plan, and power to transform people into His beautiful likeness. Register for \$30 until Thu, Jan 14, at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

CONTACT Sherrie.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org

CYPRESS

MARRIED YOUNG ADULTS

3-Day Marriage Clinic

Jan 11-13 @ 12-6p — Cypress Ministry Center

Though couples experience different symptoms such as anger, resentments, and withdrawal, the root problem is usually the same: violating one of more of 25 *Essential Marriage Skills* Dr. Karl Elkins has identified in the Bible. Elkins, from Christway Counseling Center, will lead a 3-day marriage clinic to explore these essential marriage skills, which provides the equivalent of 18 weeks of counseling in just three days! Register, for just \$75 per couple at HoustonsFirst.org/Cypress.

CONTACT Greg.Curnutte@HoustonsFirst.org or 713.335.6465.

DOWNTOWN

Time Management for Differencemakers

Every Wed, Jan 20-Feb 10 @ 7-8:30p

Vine Street Studios (1113 Vine St., Ste 117)

In this day and age, many of us struggle with balancing work and rest, often running out of time to do what is most important as Differencemakers. During this four-session class, we will learn Bible-based principles and practical applications for calendar planning, time budgeting, important versus urgent tasks, and taking of the Sabbath. Register at HoustonsFirst.org/Downtown.

CONTACT Lee.Hsia@HoustonsFirst.org

SIENNA

NEXTGEN MINISTRIES

Popcorn & Pajamas Family Movie Night

Fri, Jan 8 @ 6:30p — Sienna Worship Center

You wear your pajamas and we will supply the popcorn for a family movie night! Families with kids of all ages are welcome to come and watch *Home*. Light refreshments will be served. Learn more at HoustonsFirst.org/Sienna.

CONTACT Cara.Buis@HoustonsFirst.org

SPANISH

A Year in Review

Today @ 5p — The Loop (Oasis Rm)

We invite you to a special service tonight as we celebrate all of what the Lord has done through the Spanish Campus this year. Pastor Juan will give tonight's message which will include testimonies from members impacted by serving in our different ministries.

CONTACT Karina.Bazaldua@HoustonsFirst.org

YEAR-END GIVING

As 2015 comes to a close, consider sharing your generosity with Houston's First to support the ministry of our church as we share the Good News in our city, our nation, and our world.

To qualify as 2015 donations, contributions must be received as follows:

IN PERSON

Bring to the church's business office by 4:30p on Thu, Dec 31, 2015. The business office is located at The Loop Campus at 7401 Katy Freeway. Contributions can also be placed in the offering plate at any campus throughout December.

BY MAIL

Must be postmarked before Fri, Jan 1, 2016, and mailed to Houston's First Baptist Church, 7401 Katy Freeway, Houston, Texas 77024.

ONLINE

Submit contributions at HoustonsFirst.org/Generosity before midnight (Central) on Thu, Dec 31, 2015.

MOBILE

Submit contributions on a mobile device before midnight (Central) on Thu, Dec 31, 2015. To make a mobile contribution, text your campus code to 77977 to receive a designated link — HFBCLoop, HFBC Cypress, HFBCDowntown, HFBCSienna, or HFBCSpanish.

Please contact Sara Johnson at 713.957.5806 or at Sara.Johnson@HoustonsFirst.org should you desire additional information about year-end giving.

GIFTS OF STOCK

Since the church is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, gifts of stock qualify as a charitable contribution and are tax deductible. If you would like to donate a gift of stock, or desire additional information, please contact Amber Willet at 713.957.5807 or at Amber.Willet@HoustonsFirst.org.

Need more information? Call 713.681.8000, visit HoustonsFirst.org, and follow us on

CREATING A
WORSHIPFUL
ENVIRONMENT.

As a courtesy to others:

- Silence cell phones
- Remain seated once message begins
- Use restroom before worship service
- If you leave, re-entry may not be allowed

At the end of the worship service as people are invited to accept Christ or join the church:

- Remain in the Worship Center
- Leave once we are dismissed
- Pray as people respond