



NYC MISSION TRIP INTEREST MEETING

Sun, Jan 10 @ 12:30p — The Loop (Reception Rm)

We're sending out technology experts to church plants and ministry partners around the country to make a difference. On Apr 8-13, 2016, be a part of the team that consults on audio visual, information technology and everything in between. God called you for a higher purpose and He's equipped you with skills that can make a huge difference. Raise up, save up, pray up and join us!

CONTACT Ameer.Omar@HoustonsFirst.org

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 donation boxes at The Loop Campus by the Missions Office or The Clubhouse (Level 3) by next 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

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

SHUTTLE PARKING

Do you attend The Loop on Sunday mornings? Use shuttle parking to make room for others! It's a simple way to expand the ministry of our church. Get details on the five garages at HoustonsFirst.org/ShuttleParking.

OPEN CARRY LAWS

Effective Jan 1, 2016, the Open Carry law went into effect in Texas. However, Houston's First Baptist Church does 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).



HOUSTON'S FIRST
BAPTIST CHURCH
PASTOR GREGG MATTE

Weekly Guide
Jan 3, 2016

THE
NEW
YOU

D I F F E R E N C E M A K E R S

**FOR JESUS TO WORK DEEPLY IN US AND CLEARLY THROUGH US,
OUR HEARTS AND MINDS MUST BE FOCUSED ON HIM.**



In a series coming this month, Pastor Gregg looks at personal purity and the role it plays in our ability to be difference makers for the Gospel.

NEWS + UPDATES



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.



TWEET OF THE WEEK: "If our kids were perfect, they would not need godly parents and a Savior." @GreggMatte @HoustonsFirst — @ChadOverton1

ALL CAMPUSES

HighPoint Bible Study

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

This weekly downtown Bible study is open to everybody! This week, Dr. David Self will be 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 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! Invite others at HoustonsFirst.org/Events.

CONTACT Carolyn.ONeal@HoustonsFirst.org

MEN

Warrior's Heart

Every Thu, beginning Jan 7 @ 6:30-7:30a

The Loop (Garden Rm)

This spring we will continue our *Great Men of Faith* series, as we look at men who show faith in all types of situations. We will begin with a seven-week session led by Russell Minick. Breakfast is available to \$5. Registration at HoustonsFirst.org/Men is encouraged, but not required.

CONTACT Emily.Brown@HoustonsFirst.org

Men: Serve

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

Men will gather at The Loop Campus then go 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

Milestones & MidLink Preview Night

Wed, Jan 20 @ 6:30-8p

Come for a soup and chili dinner at MidLink Cafe (4:45-6:15p) followed by worship led by Elevate Student Worship and a presentation by Dwight Edwards, pastor, speaker, and best-selling author. After that, discover opportunities for growth and discipleship through Milestones during an Open House. Preschool, Children, and Student programming starts that night, too! Milestones classes officially begin the following week.

CONTACT Courtney.Schisler@HoustonsFirst.org

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 or 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

Welcoming the New Year

Today @ 5p — The Loop (Oasis Rm)

Welcome in the new year with the Spanish Campus! Gather tonight as Pastor Juan shares a word of hope and joy for the new year based on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-22. We will also be introducing our Life Bible Study curriculum for the new year. Don't miss it!

CONTACT Karina.Bazaldua@HoustonsFirst.org

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES

Life Bible Studies are the primary method for connecting with others and growing together at Houston's First. Visit HoustonsFirst.org to find one that's right for you, or ask the Welcome Team at your campus for assistance.



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.

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
- Use restroom before worship service
- Remain seated once message begins
- 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
- Pray as people respond
- Leave once we are dismissed