

## EN ESPAÑOL

- **ACTUALIZAR NUESTRO DIRECTORIO** - Por favor traiga a su familia para una foto familiar gratis. Esta foto se utilizará en nuestro Directorio de miembros de 2023 y se le proporcionará digitalmente. Si prefiere enviar una foto familiar, envíe un correo electrónico a [abruce@delcitychurch.org](mailto:abruce@delcitychurch.org). La fecha será **domingo 8 de enero**.
- **CANTO DE FIN DE AÑO** - Disfrute de una noche de canto y compañerismo en **Ridgecrest Church of Christ** el **28 de diciembre**. Los servicios comenzarán a las **7 PM**.
- **CLASES Y CUIDADO PARA NIÑOS** - Hay cuidado de niños desde recién nacidos hasta los 23 meses y una clase especial para niños de 2 y 3 años durante el tiempo de adoración. Las familias pueden dejar a sus hijos antes de que comience el servicio en el área de niños.
- **NOTAS DEL SERMON** - El enfoque de gran parte del mundo cristiano de hoy y de los días y semanas anteriores ha sido el nacimiento de un bebé en un pesebre cuyo nombre se llamará Emanuel, que significa Dios con nosotros. Y es una hermosa historia que toca el corazón y debe ser contada, y contada a menudo. Pero la historia de Navidad realmente no debería comenzar ahí. Hoy haremos un viaje a través de las Escrituras con muy pocos comentarios comenzando donde debería comenzar la historia de la Navidad.
- **WINTERFEST** - Los adolescentes asistirán a Winterfest en Arlington, Tx del 13 al 15 de enero. El costo es de \$110 si se paga antes del 25 de diciembre. Regístrate e información adicional en el mostrador del punto de conexión en el vestíbulo.
- **¿SABÍA USTED?** - Nuestro armario comunitario atendió a 580 adultos, 418 niños y 594 familias en total en este año 2022. Gracias por donar alimentos y útiles al ministerio comunitario que fue significativo y muy agradecido. Cada mes podemos ayudar con alimentos y necesidades básicas a las familias necesitadas de nuestra comunidad. Para involucrarse más en 2023, comuníquese con Tommie Biggers, 405-831-4538.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Our **Community Cupboard** served 580 adults, 418 children and 594 total families in 2022. Thank you for donating food and supplies to this meaningful outreach. Each month we are able to supply groceries and other basic needs to families in need in our community. To get more involved in 2023, reach out to Tommie Biggers, 405-831-4538.

## GET CONNECTED

**END OF THE YEAR SINGING** - Enjoy a night of singing and fellowship at Ridgecrest Church of Christ on December 28th. Services will begin at 7 PM.

## MINISTRY AND MAINTENANCE STATISTICS

12/18 Worship Attendance .....	224
12/18 Bible Class Attendance .....	142
12/18 Contribution .....	\$13,806.32
YTD Regular Contribution.....	\$698,542.59
Weekly Average .....	\$13,696.91
Weekly Budget .....	\$14,703.58

## FEATURED EVENTS



**Interested in being a Secret Sister?**

Open to all ladies of the church!  
Info will be given on **January 8th, 2023, in the Coffee Shop at 2 PM.**  
**Secret Sisters will encourage** a sister by praying for them and sending notes or small gifts throughout the year with a "final reveal" toward the end of the year.  
Contact Barb Crane at 405-938-8998 or call the office at 405-672-1311 for more details. Hope you can join us!



**SMILE. JESUS LOVES YOU!**

**IT'S TIME TO UPDATE OUR CHURCH DIRECTORY**

**Please bring your family for a FREE family photo.**  
This photo will be used in our 2023 Membership Directory and provided to you digitally.

If you prefer to submit a family photo, please email to [abruce@delcitychurch.org](mailto:abruce@delcitychurch.org) by January 8th.

**Questions? Contact Amy Bruce at 405-205-4855.**

**Before & After Worship in the Main Building Lobby**

Sundays:  
December 4th, 11th, 18th and January 8th

**Before & After Wednesday Meal Starting at 5 PM**

Wednesday Nights:  
December 7th & 14th  
(in main building lobby)



ARLINGTON, TX

**Winter Fest**

JANUARY 13 - 15  
2023

**COST: \$110 IF PAID BEFORE DECEMBER 25TH**

SIGNUP AND ADDITIONAL INFO AT THE CONNECTION POINT IN THE FOYER

## SERMON NOTES

### Where the Christmas Story Should Begin Assorted Scriptures

The focus of much of the Christian world today and the days and weeks before now has been on the birth of a baby in a manger whose name would be called *Immanuel*, meaning *God with us*. And it's a beautiful story which touches the heart and should be told, and told often. But the Christmas story really should not begin there. Today we will take a journey through the Scriptures with very little comment starting where the Christmas story should begin.

John 1:1-5

Genesis 1:1

Genesis 1:26-27

Genesis 2:18-23

Genesis 3:1-15

Genesis 12:1-3

Jeremiah 23:5-6

Isaiah 7:14

Micah 5:2-5

Isaiah 9:6-7

Philippians 2:5-8

John 1:9-14

Matthew 1:18-25

Luke 2:1-21

Matthew 2:1-11

Luke 23:23-24, 26

Luke 23:33-46

Luke 23:55—24:6

Philippians 2:9-11

Hebrews 4:14-16

Hebrews 7:25



**Please fill out an attendance card and pass it to the end of the aisle.**

**EDITORIAL**

**And There Were Shepherds**

“And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night” (Luke 2:8). This was the scene when the announcement came that the *Good Shepherd* had been born in Bethlehem. The *Shepherd* model of leadership in God’s kingdom has been the predominant one since the very beginning. Yet it is often the one least emphasized in many quarters of the Kingdom today. We are more comfortable waiting on tables than we are with prayer and preaching. It is easier to perpetuate the *board room* mentality in church leadership than to *live out in the fields* with the sheep. Change is difficult, but our thinking must change. God’s church needs shepherds, not corporate tycoons.

Just what did shepherds of the Bible do? *They lived with their flocks* (see the text mentioned above). Doing so enabled them to know their sheep, when they were sick, when they were missing and when they needed comforting. *They defended their flocks*. The teenaged David told King Saul that he had killed a lion and a bear in defense of his sheep. *They led their flocks to the best water and pasture*. Psalm 23 is a beautiful picture of that. *Shepherds also laid down their lives for their flocks*. Jesus illustrated this truth in John 10:11. And when the shepherd does this, the sheep will follow him anywhere with full trust.

God’s shepherd today should learn from the ancient ones. *He must live with his flock*. The flock is the local congregation. That means there must be regular contact so he can know the people, when they are hurting, sick, erring and missing. It is not always comfortable and pleasant. But it is necessary. *He must defend the flock*. This requires great familiarity with the Word of God and potential heresies. He must be able to distinguish the difference between real heresy and the things which are simply non-traditional. Divisive influences must not be allowed to scatter the sheep. *He must also lead the flock to the best water and pasture*. This is referring to feeding God’s sheep. A shepherd must be able to actively teach God’s Word to others. He should be leading the charge in evangelism to grow the flock. And as long as there are many elders, there should never be a shortage of qualified adult teachers. And finally, *he must daily lay down his life for the flock*. I am talking about service. Shepherds are first servants. Serving shepherds will always be followed.

As this year draws to a close, pray for our shepherds to be empowered by Holy Spirit to faithfully and fervently be able to fulfill their responsibilities to the sheep of this congregation. Pray also that God will raise up more shepherds to lead the Del City church into both spiritual and numerical growth.

—Jeff Gardner

*Pray for our shepherds to be empowered by Holy Spirit.*

**FAMILY UPDATES**

**BIRTHDAYS**

**Sue Watkins** Dec. 26  
**Everly Butler** | Dec. 26  
**Doylene Tompkins** | Dec. 30

**Ryan Dillinger** | Dec. 30  
**Kathy Robinson** Dec. 31

**CONDOLENCES** - Our Brother in Christ, Paul Pearson, passed away on December 19th. His service was Friday at our building. Please keep the Pearson and Aldridge families in your prayers.

**UPCOMING DATES**

- **Dec. 26** Christmas Holiday, Offices Closed
- **Dec. 28** End of Year Singing, Ridgecrest Church of Christ, 7 PM
- **Dec. 28** No activities or meal at the building
- **Dec. 28 - 29** DCYG Lock-In (See details below)
- **Jan. 2** New Year Holiday, Offices Closed
- **Jan. 4** Wednesday Night Fellowship Meal
- **Jan. 8** Secret Sister Kickoff, 2 PM, Coffee Shop
- **Jan. 13-15** DCYG - Winterfest, Arlington, TX
- **Jan. 15** Third Sunday Potluck after Bible Class
- **Jan. 29** Del City Ministry Fair
- **Jan. 29** OSBI Blood Drive, FLC
- **Feb. 12** Sweetheart Banquet
- **Feb. 25** Acappella in Concert at Del City (Ticket Purchase Required)
- **March 31 - April 2** DCYG Spring Retreat
- **April 8** Easter in the Park
- **April 14-16** Women of Joy Conference, Branson, MO



**December 25, 2022**

**Schedule of Assemblies**

Sunday	
Worship	10:00 AM
Classes	11:15 AM
Wednesday	
Early Class	4:30 PM
Ladies Class	7:00 PM
Bilingual Class	7:00 PM

Childcare for age newborn to 3-years-old is available during Worship on Sundays & Wednesdays. For transportation to Worship and other assemblies, call (405) 672-1311, M-F, 9:00 AM-5:00 PM.

**WORSHIP ORDER**



Song #387, <i>Tell Me the Story of Jesus</i> .....	Tim Holt
Welcome .....	Sam Day
Song #1001, <i>Hark the Herald Angels Sing</i> .....	Tim Holt
Song #1002, <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i> .....	Tim Holt
Song #1003, <i>Silent Night! Holy Night!</i> .....	Tim Holt
Song, <i>Glorify Thy Name</i> .....	Tim Holt
Prayer .....	Melvin Thompson
Song #382, <i>Why Did My Savior Come To Earth?</i> .....	Ivan Gonzalez
Communion .....	Mark Carr
Offering .....	Mark Carr
Message, <i>Where the Christmas Story Begins</i> .....	Jeff Gardner
Song #464, <i>Because He Lives</i> .....	Jimmy Lee
Year in Review .....	Video Presentation
Closing Announcements .....	Jeff Gardner
Prayer .....	Chris Dillinger
Song #1018, <i>Joy To The World</i> .....	Ivan Gonzalez

**Points of Contact:**

Tommie Biggers, <i>Food Pantry</i> .....	405.831.4538
Amy Bruce, <i>Communications</i> .....	405.205.4855
Sam Day, <i>Youth</i> .....	913.353.4892
Jeff Gardner, <i>Preaching</i> .....	405.550.7658
Ivan Gonzalez, <i>Connections</i> .....	405.923.4964
Melissa Phillips, <i>Children's Ed</i> .....	405.625.3922
Sonya Weaver, <i>MoW</i> .....	405.249.2225
Liz Zamudio, <i>Secretary</i> .....	405.476.7898

**Shepherds:**

Chad Barney .....	405.821.6794
Mark Carr .....	405.740.4354
Chris Dillinger.....	405.830.6456
Tim Hempel .....	405.990.1729
Melvin Thompson .....	405.606.9253
Rob Weaver .....	405.301.4889
Adiel Zapata .....	405.664.7729