

# THE GOOD NEWS

First Baptist Church Fair Oaks Ranch Newsletter

## THANKSGIVING: REMEMBERING GOD'S GOODNESS



As we enter the week of Thanksgiving, we're reminded that gratitude is far more than a holiday theme—it's a posture of the heart that Scripture calls us to cultivate daily. "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever" (Psalm 107:1). Even in seasons of challenge or uncertainty, God's unchanging goodness gives us a firm foundation for thanksgiving. Gratitude shifts our focus from what we lack to the One who supplies our every need.

Thanksgiving also invites us to remember the countless ways God has been faithful—both seen and unseen. When we pause to reflect, we begin to notice His provision, protection, and presence woven through our days. "Every good and perfect gift is from above" (James 1:17), reminding us that God's blessings meet us in the ordinary as well as the extraordinary.

This week, may we carry hearts of praise into our homes, conversations, and gatherings. As we thank God for His blessings, let's also extend that same generosity and encouragement to those around us. A grateful heart not only honors God but shines His light into the world. May your week be filled with peace, joy, and the sweetness of His presence.

### Gratitude and Scripture Jar

**Supplies:** Small jar or bowl, slips of paper, pens.

**Activity:** Invite each person to write down two things...

1. One blessing they are thankful for this year.
2. One way they've seen God's faithfulness in their life recently.

Encourage everyone to include a Scripture verse that reflects their gratitude or another favorite verse.

Have everyone place their slips in the jar, then read a few aloud together. Close with a brief prayer of thanks, asking God to continue shaping your hearts toward gratitude in every season.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GROWTH GROUPS & WEDNESDAY SUPPER

Wednesday morning and evening Growth Groups along with Wednesday evening supper are all on Winter/Holiday break. We will reconvene in January.

## VOLUNTEERS WANTED

We are assembling a medical team to work in conjunction with our security team. Have a medical background? Willing to get trained? See Rick Villareal to get on the list!



WE MEET EVERY SUNDAY BOTH ON CAMPUS AND ONLINE AT 10:00 A.M.

## PERSEVERANCE SISTERS - NEW MINISTRY

Organically created by a handful of women who found each other. This ministry's focus is to walk alongside women—and men—who are caring for a loved one living with dementia. This ministry offers encouragement, prayer, support, and community for those carrying the unique challenges of caregiving, reminding you that you are not alone on this journey. See James 1:2-4. Jo Anne Dispanet is leading this new ministry.

Perseverance Sisters is planning a meeting for mid-January. More info coming soon.

## NEW CHURCH WIDE BIBLE STUDY

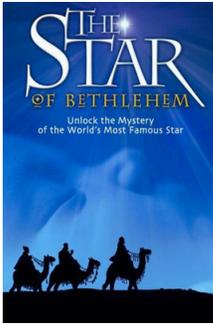
In the New Year we will begin an in-depth study of the Book of Romans. Please see [Jennifer Gentry](#) to order your book.



This daily devotional lets you spend a year in Romans with Dr. R.C. Sproul as your guide. The fruit of deep study and decades of teaching, his sermons are presented here in a unique format with accompanying applications from each reading. Set out on this yearlong study as you seek to walk in the power of the gospel, one day at a time.

(<https://store.ligonier.org/>)

# UPCOMING EVENTS



Can we actually unlock the mystery of the world's most famous star? If this was an actual event - can there possibly be historical and scientific evidence for the Star of Bethlehem, the star followed by Magi from the east? Come watch to find out! December 3rd at 6:30 p.m. we will view the Star of Bethlehem Video.

The invitation card is set against a teal background with white snowflakes and dots. It features a red envelope with a pink polka-dot ribbon tied around it. The text on the card reads:

YOU'RE INVITED

*adult  
christmas  
party*

**DECEMBER**

**5th @ 6:30 PM**

*hosted by Don & Leslie Powers*

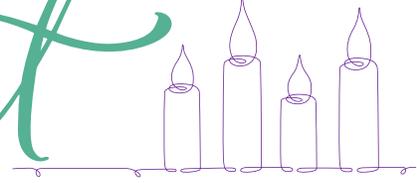
- Dinner & Gift Exchange
- Sign up to bring an appetizer or dessert.
- \$15 gift for the gift exchange (one per participant)
- Childcare at the church is available. Drop off at 6:00 p.m.



Do you have your FREE Right Now Media Account? Let Jennifer Gentry know if you need an invite to join FBC Fair Oaks Ranch for your complimentary subscription. Read about [Right Now Media here.](#)



# PREPARING FOR *Advent*



The four pillars of Advent—Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love—guide our hearts as we prepare for the coming of Christ. Each week invites us to pause and reflect on a different truth: the Hope we have in God’s promises, the Peace He brings into our lives, the Joy that grows as we draw near to Him, and the Love He showed by sending Jesus to the world. Together, these themes help us slow down, refocus, and enter the Christmas season with hearts centered on Christ. The Advent Season is November 30<sup>th</sup> - December 24<sup>th</sup>.

## **BUSINESS MEETING & THE LORD’S SUPPER**

Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30. Come to review the past year and hear plans for what is to come in 2026. Afterwards we will all partake in the Lord's Supper.

## **WOMEN’S CHRISTMAS PARTY**

Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. Hosted by Kristy Hightower. Come for a comfy, cozy time with dinner, fellowship, and a friendly gift exchange. Wear your comfy slippers or house shoes to the event. Sister’s in Slippers Celebrating the Savior!



## **YOUTH - ELF LOUISE GIFT DELIVERY**

“Santa” Teams deliver toys to underprivileged children throughout the San Antonio area. One Santa Team makes deliveries up to 11 families during their shift. The Elf Louise organization is 100% volunteer reliant. Learn more [here](#). This is our fourth year delivering for Elf Louise and we are fortunate enough to staff TWO teams. Please allow your youth student to participate in this spirited event. Parents are also welcome to attend and/or chaperone. See Cayman or Jennifer Gentry for more information.

# REMINDERS

## MEN'S & WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAYS @ 9:00 AM

Childcare is available beginning at 8:45 AM

Adult morning Bible Study  
9:00 a.m.



Worship service  
10:00 a.m.

Ages 11 & up are welcome  
for a time of  
family-integrated study

DOWNLOAD NOW

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH



# WE NEED TEACHERS

Must love Jesus, love kids, and want  
to make a difference!

- Full Time and Part Time Positions available
- Flexible Schedule
- Competitive Salary
- Discounted Child Care
- Friendly atmosphere



APPLY NOW

SEND YOUR RESUME TO  
[MIRANDA@FBCFAIROAKS.ORG](mailto:MIRANDA@FBCFAIROAKS.ORG)  
or fill out our short online  
[application](#) to get started.



*find us*

Click on the icon to go to our page.



Facebook



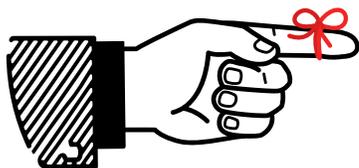
YouTube



Website



Contact



**DON'T FORGET TO CHECK  
THE LOST & FOUND!**

# HAVE YOU GOTTEN OUT YOUR BIBLE TODAY?



## DID YOU KNOW?

- You can email/text a staff member at any time to send a church-wide email for prayers needed.
- Sign up for our current volunteer needs or fellowship events are located in the church foyer.
- Our Sunday Live Stream can be viewed via:
  - The link sent out by email
  - The front page of our website; [fbcfair Oaks.org](http://fbcfair Oaks.org)
  - Our YouTube channel
  - Our Facebook page



## STAFF

Pastor - [Eric Hightower](#)  
Worship Leader - [Kristy Hightower](#)  
Children's Ministry - [Kaela Slusser](#)  
Community Life - [Holly Kallemyn](#)  
Adult Discipleship - [Margo Everett](#)  
Youth Ministry - [Cayman Gentry](#)  
Business Manager - [Jennifer Gentry](#)  
Day School Director - [Miranda Velez](#)



all staff emails are [firstname@fbcfair Oaks.org](mailto:firstname@fbcfair Oaks.org)