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# A time and a place for everyor

For more information about groups and events visit www.liveoak.church or call (225) 664-4801.

#### WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### **SUNDAY**

8:00 AM Worship Service

8:45 AM Children & Pre-Teen Sunday School Sherri Gardner: 1st-4th Grade - Upstairs in FLC Jodi Rushing: 5th-6th - Chapel

8:45 AM Students 7th-12th Grade: Dawn Lott - Upstairs in FLC

8:45 AM Adult Small Groups: See Page 5 for Full List

9:30 AM Children's Ministry - 1st-4th Grade - FLC 9:30 AM Preteen - 5th-6th Grade - Chapel

9:30 AM Worship Service

11:00 AM Children's Ministry - 1st-4th Grade - FLC 11:00 AM Preteen - 5th-6th Grade - Chapel 11:00 AM Worship Service

6:00 PM Young Adults Worship Service - Chapel



#### **WEDNESDAY**

8:00 AM Quilters Ministry - FLC 9:30 AM Worship Wednesday - Online

6:30 - 7:30 | Nursery | Infants-2 y/o

6:30 - 7:30 | Preschool | Pre-K3 to Kindergarten

6:30 - 7:30 | Kingdom Kidz | 1st-4th

6:30 - 7:30 | Preteen | 5th-6th

6:30 - 7:30 | Student Ministry | 7th-12th

6:30 - 7:30 | Worship & Study | Adults

6:30 - 7:30 | Study | Young Adults

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Faith Formation September 3
- · Ladies Ephesians Study September 8
- Family Bible Study September 14

### **Download the App**





**Church Map** 



# ADULT BIBLE STUDIES \*\*\*

### small group | large group

### Sunday 8:45 AM

Young Adults & Couples Class // Galatians // Krist & Katie Norsworthy -Sanctuary Upstairs

Adults Class // Romans // David Orges - Room #214

Median Adult Class // Obadiah // Dickie Davis - Room #202

Senior Adult Class // **Topical** // Layne Hutchinson - Room #212

Pastor's Class // **Gospel of Luke** // Dr. Mark Crosby - Choir Room

New Member Class // Bro. Sam LoBello - Room #201

### Sunday 9:30 AM

Co-ed Class // Topical // Robert Poole - Room #211

Couples Class // Gospel of John //
Todd & Sealy Pettavino - Room #202

#### **Sunday Evenings**

4:00 PM // **Doctrinal Study** // Layne Hutchinson & Jon Williams -Room #202

6:00 PM // Young Adults // Worship Service // Krist Norsworthy - Chapel



### **Monday**

6:00 PM // Men's Discipleship Group // Topical // Robert Poole's Home

**6:30 PM** // Deeper Life Men // Lessons Learned: Numbers & Deuteronomy // David Tate - Room #201

**6:30 PM** // Deeper Life Women // Psalm 23: The Shepherd with Me // Jan Tate - Chapel

#### **Tuesday**

6:30 PM // Discovering Daniel (1st & 3rd Tuesday) // Stephen Hebert -Chapel

6:30 PM // Grief Support Group (2nd & 4th Tuesday) // Stephen Hebert -Chapel

#### Wednesday 6:30 PM

Worship & Study // Topical // Dr. Mark // Sanctuary

Young Adults Class // A Biblical Guide to Life and Faith (Adulting 101) // Krist Norsworthy - The Loft

#### **Thursday**

6:00 PM // Men's Play & Pray Basketball // Jim Otken - FLC

7:00 PM // REFUGE Addiction Recovery // Sam LoBello - Room #201

### **Friday**

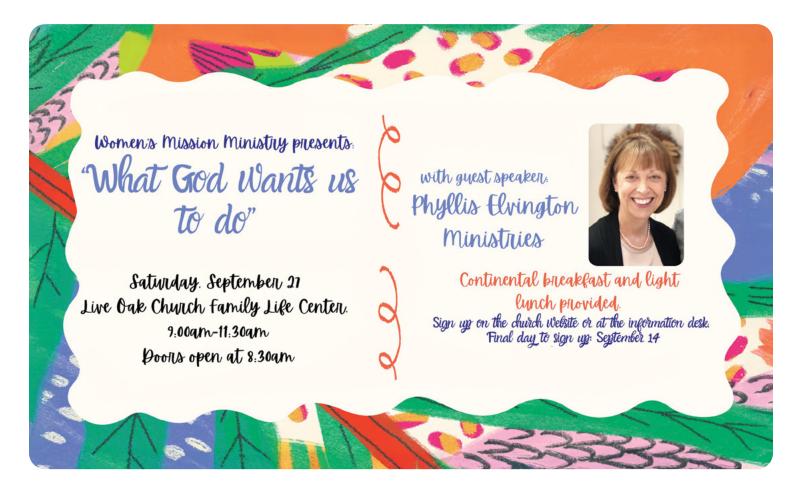
5:30 AM // Men's Group // Acts // Jim Otken - Room #202

6:00 PM // Co-ed // Acts // Robert Poole - Room #202

### **Second Saturday of Each Month**

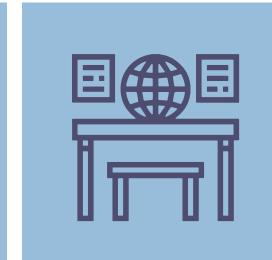
7:30 AM // Mens Prayer Breakfast & Study // Tame Your Thoughts // Sam LoBello -Room #202







# from the PASTOR'S DESK



eptember means so many things. It means going back to school, it means back to a routine (after a busy summer), it means going back to football games on weekends, and the list goes on. One of the most popular movies in the 80s was "Back to the Future". It was a movie about how the events of our past so impact and direct our future.

The Bible does the same thing. The Bible gives us prophecies, parallels, and profiles so that we may see and understand the future. Those who don't understand that the Bible is an "Integrated Messaging System" miss out on the predictions, profiles, and purposes of events that at "first glance" make absolutely no sense until they see the fulfillment of it (often times in the words and actions of Jesus).

God gave certain Holy Days (Feasts) for Israel to keep and celebrate. These Holy Days would point to the work of Messiah. We see this in the Spring Holy Feasts beginning with Passover. In the Fall, there are 3 Holy Feasts

beginning with Rosh Hashanah (Feasts of Trumpets).

This September, we will study The Warnings of Jesus as we look at the Holy Days of Israel and the impact and importance of these Holy Days, and the message for us and the times we are living in.

As we look at the turmoil in the Middle East, anti-semitism, and the other events (signs) that are all around, many are asking, "What on Earth is happening?" When you understand the words and prophecies of Jesus, he takes you "back to the future."

So come see us in September as we go "Back to the Future Pt. 2"

Hope to see you Sunday

THE BIBLE
GIVES US
PROPHECIES,
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**Dr. Mark Crosby**Senior Pastor







# GROWING TOGETHER THROUGH GROWING PAINS

by Trish Graves, Business Administrator

What an incredible season we are in at Live Oak Church! Over the past year, God has blessed us with steady growth. Every week, we are welcoming new faces, new families, and new opportunities to see lives changed. With growth comes excitement—but also some growing pains.

You may have noticed some of these challenges yourself:

- Space limitations as ministries share classrooms and meeting areas on Sunday and Wednesday.
- Parking lots filling up, sometimes pushing people to park at neighboring businesses.
- A full sanctuary, especially during the 9:30 service, where everyone has to scoot in a little closer on the pews.

We want you to know that we see it, and we feel it too!

To help in the short term, our staff has been working hard to adjust space and scheduling on Sundays and Wednesdays so that every ministry has what it needs with as little disruption as possible. We've also added a Parking Lot Team and 6-seater Golf Cars to help get everyone in and out quickly and safely each week.

These steps are immediate solutions that we can put into place while we continue to look at the bigger picture. We want you to know this: we see the needs, we feel the pressure points, and we are actively working toward lasting solutions and already have some exciting long-term plans in motion that we will be sharing with you soon.

Thank you for your patience, flexibility, and joyful spirit as we grow together. While these growing pains sometimes feel like problems, they are signs of life, and we truly believe they are preparing us for even greater things ahead!







**SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY** 

8:45am in the Loft



6:30pm in the Loft



6:00pm in the Chapel













### Join Team **Live Oak Church!**

Saturday, November 8

**Downtown Baton Rouge** 

1/2 Mile or 5K

Support life-affirming pregnancy counseling and medical services.

### HARMONY IN CHRIST

### LIVE OAK & ST. LUKE'S JOINED IN WORSHIP





In Loving Memory of
Carol Justice

St. Luke's Episcopal Church
in honor of Carol Justice,
who played with dedication and joy
for many years to our Lord.
Her music lifted hearts
and her faith inspired lives.
Her legacy lives on in every note.



In early 2024, St. Luke's Episcopal Church, a local Baton Rouge congregation, tragically lost their sanctuary building to a devastating structure fire. The building and contents were a total loss. Among the losses was their cherished pipe organ. This instrument was an integral part of leading their weekly worship services. Since the fire, the people of St. Luke's have been anxiously searching for an organ to accompany their singing and participation in worship of our Savior.

Live Oak Church connected with Terry Bowman, the Director of Music at St. Luke's through another local minister. Terry shared St. Luke's story with us, how integral an organ is to their worship services, and how long they had been looking to purchase something to replace their lost organ. As we continued talking with Terry, it became clear the Lord was providing an opportunity for us to bless this local church. The Live Oak Church staff and lay leadership all agreed God was leading us

to bless St. Luke's with our organ - an instrument that had been such a blessing to our local church family for many years. It was a joy to deliver the news to Terry that we wanted to gift their congregation with this instrument. He was emotional and deeply grateful for God blessing St. Luke's and answering a prayer they had been praying for so long.

As of August 2025, the organ is fully operational in St. Luke's temporary worship space. A beautiful custom plaque was sent with the organ to honor Mrs. Carol Justice who faithfully served her Savior and our church throughout her life, volunteering as Live Oak's organist for over 70 years. This whole process was just as much a blessing to Live Oak Church as it was to St. Luke's Episcopal Church. I encourage us all to be in prayer for our brothers and sisters in Christ at St. Luke's as they continue to serve and worship Jesus during this time of rebuilding.



# October 3rd at 5:30p & October 4th at 12p



# DEEPER LIFE FOR WOMEN



### Jennifer Rothschild

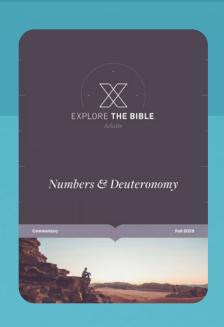
Psalm 23: The Shepherd With Me

Mondays at 6:30 in the Chapel

# DEEPER LIFE FOR MEN

Lessons Learned
Exploring The Book of
Numbers & Deuteronomy

Monday at 6:30 in Room 201



## WHO IS THE MAN IN THE SHROUD?

A Traveling Exhibit on The Shroud of Turin and Jesus's Resurrection Experience features a full-sized, authorized, museum-quality replica of the Shroud of Turin and other pieces related to the historical death, burial and Resurrection of Jesus.

### **TOUR TIMES AND DATES**

10/19 - 1 pm - 7 pm

10/20 - 8am -12pm & 3pm - 7pm

10/21 - 8am - 12pm & 3pm - 7pm

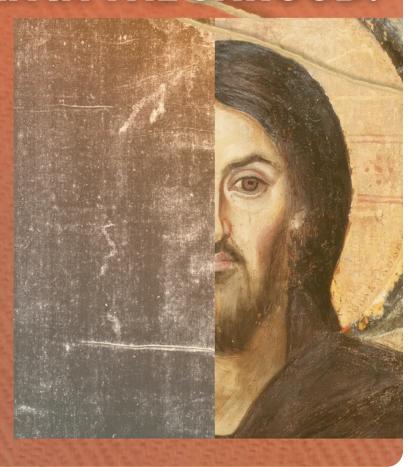
10/22 - 8 am - 12 pm

10/23 - 8am - 12pm & 3pm - 7pm

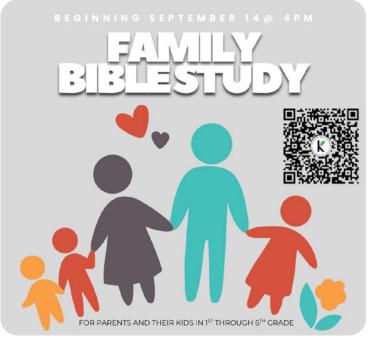
10/24 - 8am - 12pm & 3pm - 7pm

10/25 - 2 pm - 7 pm

Free Entry - All are invited!









by Faith Storck, Director of Children's Ministry

I'll never forget the time I was driving the Orges kids to school. Out of nowhere, they mentioned their carpool prayer and then asked me to pray. Out loud. While I was driving.

Let's be clear. I've got severe ADD. You kids want me to drive you to school safely and string together a meaningful prayer at the same time? That's like asking me to juggle flaming torches while riding a unicycle. But I did it. And you know what? It turned into one of the sweetest moments ever.

That's discipleship right there. It doesn't have to be fancy. It doesn't have to be a sit-down lesson with charts, graphs, and a Greek lexicon. It's just everyday life pointing to Jesus.

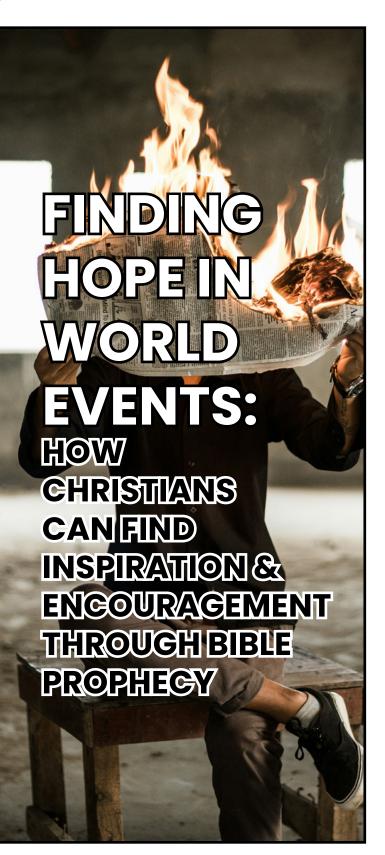
Here's the difference in simple terms:

- Evangelizing your kids means introducing them to Jesus—telling them who He is, why He came, and how they can trust Him as Savior. (Think John 3:16.)
- Discipling your kids means walking with them as they actually follow Jesus—helping them learn to pray, read God's Word, and live it out daily. (Think Deuteronomy 6:7: "Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road...")

And here's the good news: it doesn't have to be complicated. Discipling can happen in the carpool line, around the dinner table, or right before bedtime when they're stalling for "one more story." It's not about being perfect; it's about being present and pointing them to Jesus in the middle of real life.

And the church? We're here to back you up. Sunday mornings, small groups, kids' ministry, camps...we exist to partner with you. Parents are the front-line disciple-makers, and the church is the support team. Together, we can help your kids not just hear about Jesus but actually walk with Him.

Because sometimes the most powerful discipleship doesn't look like a lesson plan. Sometimes it looks like a distracted mom whispering a carpool prayer while keeping the minivan between the lines.



by Dr. David Orges, Executive Pastor

In a world filled with uncertainty and rapid change, many people are looking for reassurance amid chaos. Recent events from global pandemics to shadow wars and political deceptions to natural disasters often evoke fear and anxiety about the future. Yet, as Christians, we are empowered to view all of these challenges through a lens of faith. A biblical worldview. The prophecies in the Bible can serve as sources of hope and direction, even when they initially appear alarming.

The Apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 14:3, "But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouragement, and comfort." This verse encapsulates how we should react to prophetic events: not with dread but with a sense of purpose and encouragement. The Apostle John begins his revelation of Jesus stating in Revelation 1:3 "Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy and blessed are those who hear the words of this prophecy and keep what is written in it." In this post, we will explore how Christians can find hope in world events, embrace biblical prophecies, and live out their faith with confidence.

### Understanding Prophecy in the Bible

Prophecy is often misunderstood and viewed as a foreboding warning rather than a source of hope. Throughout the Bible, prophetic messages serve to guide, strengthen, and comfort believers. From Isaiah's declarations of a Messianic figure to the revelation of the New Jerusalem in Revelation, these messages invite us to engage with God's ultimate plan for humanity.

For example, in Jeremiah 29:11, God declares, "For I know the plans I have for you," a promise specifically to the prophet Jeremiah, but that also infuses our challenges with hope. Bible prophecy often carries a 'now and not yet' dynamic, offering immediate relevance for its original hearers while also pointing to a fuller future fulfillment in the narrative of God's ultimate redemptive plan. Therefore, rather than doom, Bible prophecy remind us of God's unwavering faithfulness and purpose. By studying prophetic texts, we can shift our understanding of world events, seeing them as part of God's divine narrative rather than just chaotic occurrences.

# The Role of Current Events in Strengthening Faith

World events can be a catalyst for spiritual growth. Witnessing turmoil or crisis can prompt us to reflect on our faith and our place in God's plan. Instead of retreating into fear, we can deepen our understanding of God's word and His promises, and respond on mission, bringing His hope to a hurting world.

For instance, during the COVID-19 pandemic, many Christians found renewed motivation to serve their communities. According

to a survey by Lifeway Research, reported a **significant increase in Bible sales** during the early months of the pandemic (April–June 2020), with Lifeway alone selling approximately **2.5 million Bibles**, signaling a sharp rise in people turning to Scripture in times of uncertainty. Seeing suffering in others ignites the Christian call to action: we are reminded to be peacemakers and to extend compassion to those in need. Engaging actively with the world allows us to embody Christ's love and hope.

# Embracing Prophetic Messages with Confidence

Instead of seeing prophecy as something alarming, Christians should embrace it with confidence. The biblical prophetic messages center around God's redemptive plan for humanity. Even amid chaos, they remind us that God is in control and intends good for our future.

For example, the prophecy of fulfilled events, such as the return of the Jews to Israel detailed in Isaiah 11:11-12, reassures believers of God's promises in action. While the world around us may feel overwhelming, these prophecies offer hope and encourage us to remain steadfast. We are invited to participate in God's mission and trust in His control over history. Because at the end of the day, **history** is *His-story*.

### Finding Hope in Fulfilled Prophecies

As Christians, we can draw significant hope from the fulfillment of biblical prophecies seen throughout history. The birth of Jesus in Bethlehem alone fulfills multiple Old Testament prophecies, showcasing God's sovereignty. Even more impressively, around 300 prophecies in the Old Testament correlate with Jesus's birth, life, death, and resurrection, highlighting God's faithfulness to His plan and His people.

When current events align with prophetic scripture, it can reaffirm our faith. Instead of succumbing to fear, celebrate these connections as evidence of God's ongoing work and presence in our lives. This perspective empowers us to face current challenges with hope and anticipation, assured that God is guiding history toward His ultimate purpose.

## Living Out Your Faith in Challenging Times

In light of current events and Biblical prophecy, Christians are tasked with living out their faith boldly. This engagement can take many forms, whether advocating for justice, supporting local charities, or personally sharing the hope of the Gospel with

those around us.

When we actively participate in our communities, we become carriers of God's love and grace. Our actions can inspire others to seek hope amid uncertainty.

Furthermore, cultivating a deep relationship with God through prayer, studying His Word, and regularly fellowshipping with other believers equips us to navigate life's complexities. As we grow in our understanding, we become more adept at responding to world events with wisdom and grace.

# The Importance of Community in Times of Uncertainty

In difficult times, the support of a faith community is invaluable and cannot be understated. Christians are called to bear one another's burdens and uplift each other in faith (Galatians 6:2). When we come together, whether in Christian community, we create an environment conducive to sharing our fears, praying for one another, and finding strength in our shared beliefs. God has written the need for community into the code of our DNA.

During times of uncertainty, community allows us to process feelings and boost each other's morale. Together, we can explore how to respond to events in the world, encouraging one another to remain steadfast in our faith while offering practical support.

### A Call to Hope and Action

Christians are not called to fear the prophetic events unfolding in our world. Instead, we are invited to seek inspiration and encouragement through them. By understanding the purpose of prophecy, engaging with current events, and living our faith actively, we can draw insurmountable hope from God's promises.

In a chaotic world, remember the words from 1 Corinthians 14:3, reminding us that prophecy is meant for our strengthening, encouragement, and comfort. May we approach the future with confidence, knowing that God is at work and inviting us to play a role in His divine plan.

Let us be inspired by the Bible, embracing the hope that stems from our faith and actively participating in the world around us. Together, we can navigate these challenging times with grace, courage, and unwavering hope.



"For I the Lord do not change, therefore you, oh children of Jacob, are not consumed." Malachi 3:6









One thing about life is it's always changing. Sometimes, before things can get better, it gets hard. But God is never changing. He is True and Faithful. So trust that whatever you are going through, He will walk you through it, guiding you, protecting you, and preparing a better way for you.

We had such a great turnout for the Rosedown Plantation. So many new faces were welcomed, and new friendships were made! Looking forward to seeing our community grow.



On September 25th, we will be meeting at Mike Anderson's in Gonzales at 11:00. We are not taking a bus there. Afterwards, if you choose to continue the fellowship, we will meet at the Tanger Mall outlet down the road so we can get some early Christmas shopping done. Please make sure to sign up at the information desk so we can prepare the restaurant manager for the number of people attending.

There are still 10 spots available for the Tennessee trip. All the information you need is at the information desk. This is going to be a joyous time of fellowship, watching some amazing shows for the holidays, and shopping.

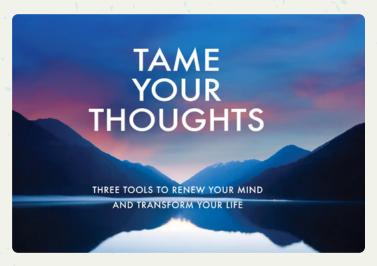






# **MEN'S MINISTRY**

Men Helping Men Be Men



### PRAYER BREAKFAST

Saturday, Sep. 13, 7:30 in the Conference Room

Max Lucado's new study: Tame Your Thoughts: Three Tools to Renew Your Mind and Transform Your Life



# MEN'S STEAK DINNER FELLOWSHIP

**SEP. 30** 6:30 PM in Children's Church Cost: \$15

### PLAY N PRAY BASKETBALL

Thursdays at 6:00 PM in FLC



# Together for Good

### A Day of Renewal at the Marriage Conference

On Saturday, August 23, Live Oak Church hosted the *Together* Conference 2025, a one-day marriage seminar designed to encourage and equip couples with biblical principles for a Christ-centered relationship. The sanctuary and Family Life Center were filled with couples eager to learn, worship, and strengthen their marriages.

The day began with a time of worship that set the tone for the conference. Throughout the day, couples engaged in practical workshops on communication, intimacy, and spiritual growth, led by speakers including Dr. Nathan Lott, Sam LoBello, Dr. David Orges, Krist Norsworthy, and Dr. Mark Crosby.

experience. The final session, led by Dr. Orges, centered on the importance of covenant commitment and encouraged couples to keep Christ as the foundation of their union.

wisdom and practical advice from decades of ministry and marriage

We're thankful for everyone who attended and for the many volunteers who made this event possible. Plans are already underway for Together Conference 2026. Be sure to save the date and sign up early—you won't want to miss it!

Sign up today to reserve your spot for 2026 https://bit.ly/3HEIHmY



### articles & devotions



### Disaster Relief & Our Live Oak Church Missions

### KERRVILLE TEXAS FLOOD RESPONSE









The Martin Family - Jon, Cassidy & David delivered our Live Oak Church offerings to Cleveland, Texas, where One Point Rescue received our Live Oak Church offerings of Quilts, Flood Buckets & Hygiene Kits, and delivered them directly to the people, the families, and the areas of direct need in Kerrville, Texas, and the other western areas that flooded. Please be in prayer for them, as it will take a long time for their recovery. May we lift them all up in prayer in Jesus' Precious Name. - Pastor Stephen Hebert



### A DROP FROM THE ALTAR by Sam LoBello

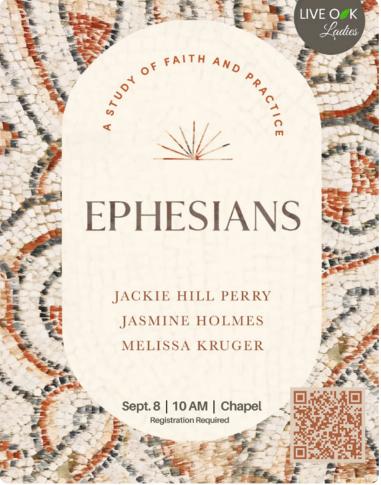
One of my seminary professors used to say to his class while teaching, "This is a drop from the altar." He was communicating to his students that what he was about to say was important and may well appear on the next test. As a result, it would be wise for us to remember it.

As I have journeyed through life God has given me "Drops from the Altar" from time to time. I have tried to remember them and apply them to my life. I will share one with you each month. I hope you find them to be helpful in your journey, as well.

"It's better to be divided by truth than united by error. It is better to speak the truth that hurts and then heals, than falsehood that comforts and then kills."

Adrian Rogers





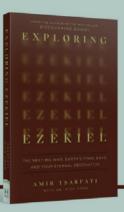
### **COMING SOON**

ON THE 1ST & 3RD
TUESDAYS OF THE MONTH

### EXPLORING EZEKIEL

66

God's desire is repentance, not punishment.



God HAS Fulfilled His promises,
IS Fulfilling His promises,
and Very Soon WILL Fulfill the Rest.

CONTACT STEPHEN@LIVEOAK.CHURCH

Dr. Mark Crosby Senior Pastor



Dr. David Orges Executive Pastor



Trish Graves
Business
Administrator



Rev. Trent Barnett Worship Pastor



Rev. Sam LoBello Director of Adult Ministries



Rev. Stephen Hebert Minister of Pastoral Care



Dr. Nathan Lott Student Pastor



Faith Storck
Director of
Children's Ministry



Seth Doiga Worship Minister



Madison Cody Children's Minister



Rev. Krist Norsworthy Young Adults Pastor & Communications



Linda Holdman Administrative Assistant



Kim Pamplin Counseling Office Manager



Jim Otken Treasurer



Liz White Office Secretary



Mark Herbst Facilities Director



At Live Oak, our Addiction Recovery Ministry is called REFUGE. For God's Word declares, "Taste and see the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him." REFUGE is a Christ centered support group helping people who struggle with addiction. REFUGE has a unique blend of instruction, support, encouragement and accountability.

The teaching and sharing that takes place within our group is helpful and enriching. What is taught is often life changing! If you wrestle with addiction issues we are here to assist you on your journey to life recovery!

Your questions about our REFUGE Ministry can be answered by calling our Church Office at 664-4801 or email Bro. Sam at sam@liveoak.church.

**THURSDAYS AT 7 PM** 

WE MEET IN ROOM #201. COME JOIN US! HAVE YOU BEEN VISITING LIVE OAK CHURCH?

CONSIDERING BECOMING A MEMBER?

WE HAVE A CLASS JUST FOR YOU!

# **NEW MEMBERS CLASS**

This class begins the first Sunday morning of each month at 8:45 and ends on

In these four sessions, you will encounter life-changing truths and learn more about Live Oak Church. You will look at Salvation in 3-D, learn to Enhance Your Relationship With God, Examine the Stages of Spiritual Growth, and Discover Your Spiritual Gifts.

the fourth Sunday.

This class meets in Room #201 and recycles each month. You can sign up for our New Members Class at the Information Desk. We look forward to welcoming you into our Live Oak Church Community of Faith!