

# *the messenger*

● LIVE OAK CHURCH MAGAZINE / JANUARY 2023





***NEW WORSHIP SERVICE  
for adults!***

**STARTING JANUARY 11**

---

**WEDNESDAY NIGHTS**

---

**6:30-7:20**

---

**JOIN DR. MARK TO HEAR  
HIS TEACHING ON  
*A REASON TO BELIEVE***

**LIVE OOK CHURCH**

**WHEN YOUR WORSHIP IS RIGHT,  
YOUR LIFE WILL BE RIGHT. pg. 12**

## articles & devotions

**07 from the pastor's desk**

The Do Over

**08 don't choose church,  
choose jesus**

You want your children to follow in  
your footsteps.

**12 when your worship  
is right**

Your life will be right

## newsletter & updates

**16 letter of intent**

From Seth Doiga

**19 senior adults**

There is always something to be  
thankful for!

10 SMALL GROUPS

5 MONTHLY EVENTS

17 A DROP FROM THE ALTAR

20 MEET OUR TEAM



## CELEBRATING OUR NEW MEMBERS!

Ronnie Amorello  
ShaNell Amorello  
Elisha Bankston  
Timothy Bankston  
John Berna  
Rebecca Berna  
Patricia Brown  
Zacariah Camara  
Joanne Carroll  
Melissa Cormier  
Tim Cormier  
Gina Cutrer  
Jane Denby  
Andrew Doerfler  
Devin Doerfler  
Jeanie Doerfler  
Brooke Hanna  
Denise Jones  
Marsha Lincecum

Layla Meng  
Connie McClendon  
Collin McClure  
Jeremy McKernan  
Brad Perry  
Clydia "Mona" Perry  
Paul Ridgell  
Donnie Robinson  
Priscilla Berna Rodriguez  
Beatriz Ross  
Billy Rogers  
Madison Simoneaux  
Katelyn Thoroughman  
Justin Thoroughman  
Jenna Valentine  
Stephen Valentine  
Kathleen Varnado  
Kevin Varnado  
Angela Willis

**We will recognize our New Members on  
January 29th in our Worship Services.**

# January 2023 | Calendar of Events

## A TIME AND A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

For more information about groups and events visit  
[www.liveoak.church](http://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 Gardener: K-3rd - Room #214  
 Jodi Rushing: 4th - 6th - Room #213  
 8:45 AM Student Ministry:  
 Linda Johnson: 7-11th Grade - Upstairs in FLC  
 Nathan Lott: 12th Grade - Age 25 - Upstairs in FLC  
 8:45 AM Adult Co-ed Sunday School Classes:  
 Pastor Mark Crosby - Choir Room  
 Dickie Davis - Room #202  
 Sam LoBello - New Members Class - Room #102  
 8:45 AM Senior Adults Sunday School Class:  
 Layne Hutchinson - Room #201  
 9:30 AM Co-ed Sunday School Class:  
 Robert Poole - Room #211  
 9:30 AM Children's Church  
 9:30 AM Axis 456 Preteen - Chapel  
 9:30 AM Worship Service  
 10:00 AM Students 7th-12th Grade:  
 Jonny Carroll - Upstairs in FLC  
 11:00 AM Children's Church  
 11:00 AM Axis 456 Preteen - Chapel  
 11:00 AM Worship Service

#### MONDAY

- 6:30 PM Women's Deeper Life - Chapel  
 6:30 PM Men's Deeper Life - Room #201  
 6:30 PM Men's Home Bible Study - Robert Poole's House

#### TUESDAY

- 6:30 PM - 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of the Month - Chapel  
 Stephen Hebert - Battlefield of the Mind

#### WEDNESDAY

- 8:00 AM Quilters Ministry - FLC  
 9:30 AM Worship Wednesday - Online  
 6:00 - 7:15 PM 4th Wednesday of the Month - FLC  
 Women, the Bible, & Mental Health  
 6:00 - 7:15 PM Kingdom Kidz: Kindergarten - 3rd Grade  
 6:00 - 7:30 PM Axis 456: 4th, 5th and 6th Grade  
 6:00 - 7:30 PM Student Ministry: 7th - 12th Grade  
 6:30 - 7:20 PM Dr. Mark's Class - Adults

#### THURSDAY

- 6:00 PM Men's Play and Pray Basketball - FLC  
 7:00 PM Refuge - Room #201  
 7:00 PM Mid Week Worship - Chapel

#### FRIDAY

- 5:30 AM Iron Man Study - Room #202  
 6:00 PM Adult Co-ed Bible Study - Room #202

### - ADULT EVENTS -

#### NEW MEMBERS CLASS

8:45am in Room #102  
 4 Week class that restarts the first Sunday of every month.  
 Email Sam LoBello at [sam@loumc.org](mailto:sam@loumc.org)

#### GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

6:30pm in the Chapel  
 Second and fourth Tuesday of each month.  
 For more information email Stephen Hebert at [stephen@loumc.org](mailto:stephen@loumc.org)  
 Christmas Dinner at Duke's in Watson on December 13th. (See Page 17)

#### MEN'S MINISTRY

Men's Prayer Breakfast  
 Second Saturday of each month at 7:30am in Room #202.

#### LIVE OAK LADIES

Bible Recap  
 Wednesdays at 6:30PM in the Conference Room.

### - STUDENTS & YOUNG ADULTS -

#### PASSION CONFERENCE

January 3-5

**Considering Becoming a Member of Live Oak Church?**  
 It begins right here!

**CONNECT CARD**

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN JOINING OUR CHURCH, PLEASE COMPLETE THIS FORM TO HELP US GET TO KNOW YOU AND YOUR FAMILY. WE WILL CONTACT YOU TO ASSIST YOU IN YOUR JOURNEY.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

**FAMILY INFORMATION**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRST TIME GUEST  RETURNING GUEST  
 MEMBER OF LIVE OAK CHURCH

I WANT TO JOIN THE BIBLE STUDY  
 I WANT TO JOIN THE WORSHIP  
 I WANT TO JOIN THE MEN'S MINISTRY  
 I WANT TO JOIN THE WOMEN'S MINISTRY

I WANT TO JOIN THE YOUTH MINISTRY

I WANT TO JOIN THE SENIORS MINISTRY

**LIVE OAK**

Located at the Information Desk  
 Get Connected Today!

LIVE OOK Ladies

# Beach Retreat

**FEBRUARY 23-26, 2023**

Join us for fun, food, devotions,  
goal planning, and more!



03  
FEB

**6:30 TO 8:30 PM**

FREE EVENT

**FATHER  
DAUGHTER  
DANCE**

FAMILY LIFE CENTER

**H**appy New Year!! My prayer is that 2023 will be a great year for all of you. We look forward to “new beginnings” and opportunities. We look forward to “starting over” and creating a new narrative. These are all themes that come with the new year. However, most of us have learned that is not as easy as it sounds. With each passing year we gain experiences, live through circumstances and muddle through situations, but if we don’t analyze those experiences, circumstances and situations, then we never really learn or make changes.

One of the questions we often ask as we reflect on our lives and various events, is “What was I thinking.” If we never answer that question then we are probably going to repeat the experiences we promised we would never repeat. This is why we keep making the same mistakes with our finances, businesses, and relationships. This is why we never really improve in our spiritual formation and walk is because we rarely analyze our lives and figure out what we can and should do differently so we aren’t repeating the same patterns year after year.

Therefore, in the month of January we will begin the series “The Do Over,” how to begin again, start over and make this time in our life, better than before as we share how to start over and this time be the person God intended as we follow His Word and apply His principles to our lives.

We hope you will make Live Oak Church your place of worship, growing and learning as we proclaim God’s Grace found in the Messiah Jesus and as we learn in January how we can start over, and have the “Do Over” we all need and desire.

Hope to see you Sunday! 🌿



# FROM THE PASTOR’S DESK

*One of the questions we often ask as we reflect on our lives and various events, is “What was I thinking?”*

**Dr. Mark Crosby**  
Senior Pastor



# DON'T CHOOSE CHURCH CHOOSE JESUS

by Faith Storck

Two years ago, I had a word that I used for children's ministry. I prayed over that word and I wanted it to be used for God. That word was "BOLD". I know I'm an outspoken person, but hard conversations and controversial topics aren't my thing. I don't normally want to rock the boat or be misunderstood about a subject, but I'm going to put myself out there and be bold. Today is not that day that I will stray from a hard conversation. Please hear me out and hear my heart. I don't want to offend anyone, but this has been on my heart for years, and I just didn't have the courage to boldly write this out. I've written and deleted this so many times as it is a sensitive subject for a lot of people, so I pray that you will keep an open mind and pray about how the Lord is leading you in training up your children who will be the church after we are gone.

Back a few years ago, a parent told their kid to tell me that they wouldn't be at church for three weeks because they had games on Sunday. The only response I could come up with at the time was "I hope it rains." I literally had no words. My heart hurt when I heard this. Listen, I don't want you to choose church. I want you to choose Jesus.

I look back at my childhood and see how my parents clung to their faith when their world was falling apart. You might not know, but I have a brother that is legally blind. He wasn't born blind. He was born three months premature and due to something with the oxygen his retinas became detached. My brother Shane has had over 7 eye surgeries, and during a lot of that time, my sister and I had to live with my grandparents.

During that same time, my dad played fast pitch softball. Not to brag or anything, but he was really good. So good, he tried out to play for the Cincinnati Reds. I was talking to my dad and asked him why he



turned all of that down. He told me that he was on a flight to a Fast Pitch Softball World Tournament and the Lord clearly told him that baseball had become a god to him. I can't remember my dad playing a game after that.

Through all of these life challenges with my brother and my dad playing baseball, church wasn't a priority for them. The Lord radically changed my dad. I can tell you that the dad I was born with, isn't the dad that I have today. I physically have the same dad, but spiritually, I do not. After that, I can't remember a Sunday we didn't go to church. When the doors were open, we were there. We were even there when the doors weren't open preparing or volunteering for something going on at church. My parents knew the secret to life wasn't church, but it was Jesus, and part of knowing Jesus was growing in our faith through corporate worship. That's what I want for my child, and that's what I want for yours as well.

I was recently reading an article and came upon the following quote and I had to sit and read that over again and just let it soak in. "The church is losing its young people because the parents never taught their children that it was important." - Carl Trueman

Our world is desperately wicked and doing every single thing possible to tear our families apart, and I believe the first place it is taking a stronghold at is in the area of church attendance. The first time you miss, it's hard and doesn't feel right, but the more you miss, the harder it is to come back.

The Bible gives clear examples of what happens when children are not taught consistently about Jesus.

Judges 2:10, "All that generation also were gathered to their fathers; and another generation rose up after them who did not know the Lord, nor even the work which He had done for Israel."

The first generation of people loved and served the one true God.

The second generation, not so much.

Jesus must be a priority for families. The Bible gives many scriptures about corporate worship. If we want to see the next generation follow Jesus, it needs to be modeled to our children.

Hebrews 10:25a states, "not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging another." The Bible clearly commands us to gather together as believers for corporate worship. I've heard the argument of having devotions before games, etc. That's great. I love that you are having a devotional before a game, and it's a great approach and it's better than nothing, but it shouldn't replace corporate worship at church. You are missing the best opportunity to teach your children that above all, Jesus should be the center of all things.

Children come into contact daily with people that think and believe differently from them and let me tell you, some of what I hear isn't exactly what you want your children to learn. When children go to

church on a regular basis, they make relationships with people that share the same beliefs as they/their family do. They also have the opportunity to see adults that believe like mom and dad, serve Jesus and be their mentor, as well as seeing examples of multi generations serving God.

I had a set of parents in our church tell me that if something interfered with church, they weren't doing it. They clearly communicated to the teacher/coach that they wouldn't be available on Wednesdays and Sundays if they would miss church. I was over on the sidelines yelling, YES! They got it. They want to make sure their children have a firm foundation and know the rock on which they stand was founded on Jesus.

I've been in ministry long enough to see patterns develop in families and in their church attendance. Mom and dad come every other week and when their child is grown, the child only attends once every month or two. The next generation is a Christmas and Easter only family, better known in the church world as CEOs. What we do in moderation, our children do in excess. If we miss church a little bit, they will miss church a lot.

It's important for families to be in church regularly. I'm not telling you this because I want to see this place so packed with people, however I do love it. I want you to be in church because I want your children to know that there is a great, big, awesome and mighty God, who loves them. I want families to be in church because we need to be taught about Jesus too. Just like the 3R's are important to our children's success so we make school a priority, I want families to make church a priority because they can't make it without Jesus. I want our families to desperately want a relationship with Jesus that everything they think, say or do is pleasing to our heavenly Father and helps grow the kingdom. I want our children to know that when their world is crumbling, and it will, that they know that the church is their place where they can come for comfort and be surrounded by believers that will help encourage them and pray for them.

When I first started this article, I was telling my dad what I was writing about. He told me to be gentle in my approach. I've let him read the article to fact check and give thoughts. He said I said what I meant in a round about way, but that he thought I should just come right on out and state what I was trying to say. So to honor my dad, and the fact that Jesus radically changed him in this area when I was a young child, I will be bold because it was so important to him, and now as a parent, it is just as important to me. We, as parents set an example for our children and they watch what we say and do. They also see what is and what is not a priority for their parents. So parents, please choose wisely.

I know I said I don't want to choose church, but choose Jesus and I really mean that. However, I want you to be in church because you choose Jesus and because you want your children to follow in your footsteps. I want your children to see the value of going to church as much, if not more than you do, because this world needs Jesus now more than ever. 🌱

# Small Groups



## **- SUNDAY SMALL GROUPS -** **Starting at 8:45 AM**

Pastor's Coed Class - 2nd Timothy - Choir Room  
Dickie's Coed Class - The Book of Acts - Room #202  
Bro. Sam's - New Member Class - Room #102  
Wesley Senior Adult Class - Explore the Bible - Room #201

## **Starting at 9:30 AM**

Robert's Coed Class - Book of Romans - Room #211  
Todd & Sealy Couple's Class - Miracles of Jesus - Room #202

## **Starting at 5:00 PM & 6:00 PM**

5:00 PM - Young Adults - H.S. Seniors—Age 25 - Chapel  
6:00 PM - Layne Hutchinson's Doctrinal Study (Coed) - Room #202

## **- WEEKDAY SMALL GROUPS -** **Monday - 6:30 PM**

Jan Tate - Deeper Life Women - Experiencing God - Chapel  
David Tate - Deeper Life Men: Explore the Bible - Room #201  
Robert Poole - Men's Home Group - Robert Poole's Home

## **Tuesday - 6:30 PM**

Stephen Hebert - Grief Support Group - (2nd & 4th Tuesday) - Chapel  
Stephen Hebert - Battlefield of the Mind - (1st & 3rd Tuesday) - Chapel

## **Wednesday 6:30**

Worship & Study - Pastor Mark - A Reason to Believe - Sanctuary  
Coed Home Group - Jim & Janet Setoudeh's Home

## **Thursday**

6:00 PM - Jim Otken - Men's Play & Pray Basketball and Lesson - FLC  
7:00 PM - Sam LoBello - REFUGE Addiction Recovery - Room #201

## **Friday**

5:30 AM - Jim Otken - Men's Group - Gospel of John - Room #202  
6:00 PM - Robert Poole - Coed - 1 John - Room #202

## **Second Saturday of Each Month**

7:30 AM - Bro. Sam - Men's Study/Prayer Breakfast - Room #202



# **EXPERIENCING GOD BIBLE STUDY FOR WOMEN IS LAUNCHING**

We are launching an...Experiencing God...Women's Bible Study on Monday, January 23rd at 6:30 PM in the Chapel. This study will be led by Jan Tate.

This may be the most rewarding Bible study you have ever been involved in. Many people have been told about God and have read about God, but do not know Him personally.

This Deeper Life study will help you actually encounter and experience God and develop a personal relationship with Him. God wants to be your best friend. This study will help make that happen.

# WHEN YOUR WORSHIP IS RIGHT, YOUR LIFE WILL BE RIGHT.



by Trent Barnett

Each year, many of us make New Years' Resolutions - noble goals we promise to actually keep this year, unlike last year... or the year before that. These resolutions are generally things we know we need to pay more attention to in our lives - losing weight, getting out of debt, finishing that project, etc. I want to encourage each of us to take stock of where we are spiritually and resolve to strengthen our reliance on God, grow in our understanding of His Word, and live as followers of Christ. These 'resolutions' may be the most important ones we make this year because our spiritual health impacts the rest of our lives.

In Matthew 6:33, Jesus says, "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you." When we focus our hearts, our thoughts, and our lives on Christ first, He provides for us, and His righteousness sustains us. You see, a busy-centered heart is not going to lead to greater peace or less anxiety. It's only with a Christ-centered heart that everything else falls into place, not the other way around. Centering our hearts on Christ everyday begins first and foremost with worshipping Him. Louie Giglio has said, "When your worship is right, your life will be right." When our lives are focused on Christ first and foremost, seeking His heart and direction as our first priority, then our lives are oriented the best way - the right way.

Worship of our Savior is meant to be so much more than just singing songs.

It's an important piece, no doubt, and it's something Scripture calls us to do daily - but it's only one piece. Worship is defined as ascribing worth to someone or something that holds significant value - in our case, God. Christian worship is a longing to experience the genuine presence of God. It's a desire to know Him, to interact with Him, and to experience the things we sing about to be true of God and of His involvement in our lives. It's a desire for relationship. Just as our connection with a spouse grows the closer we are in relationship with each other, when we walk closer in relationship with God, the deeper our worship of Him grows.

"Worship, as it is described so vividly in Scripture, was meant to be a dialogue, flowing from the outpouring of a relationship with God. Worship is more than one-way communication from us to God. It is a two-way communication between God and His people. We exalt God. He reveals His presence and changes our hearts. We pour out our hearts and remember His greatness...He meets our needs for intimacy and grace" (Joe Horness). When we see worship as a rich expression of a growing relationship with our Savior, we place the highest value on it. When our lives are oriented around Christ-centered worship first, we grow in a desire to see our world through God's eyes and begin to re-prioritize the things in our schedule. Sure, we still bring the kids to dance or sports, but we recognize those activities aren't the center of our lives, nor

is our identity wrapped up solely in those activities. Our identity and the center of our focus in life should be rooted in our relationship with Christ. Everything else falls into place from there. With God first, we want His will for our lives to take center stage, and everything else that is a distraction to fade away. As we worship Him, we make the choice to place His priorities as our first priority.

As we examine our hearts in worship, are we worshipping in spirit and in truth (John 4:24), or are we just going through the motions? The prophet Amos makes it clear that we can worship in a way that is not authentic, and that it actually burdens God's heart (Amos 5:21-23). Are we coming to church to join a community of believers in singing, fellowship, learning, and serving? Or are we coming to church to just go through the motions, to let those on stage do our worship for us (as if that's somehow even possible)? Are we worshipping Him during the week, away from a church service? Do people see the "joy of our salvation" (Ps. 51:12) in the way we live and prioritize our schedules? In this new year, may we do as Dr. Chuck Kelley (former President of New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary) has said, may we "choose uncomfortable obedience over comfortable disobedience every time." 🌿

# the family answer man



DR MARK CROSBY

REV DAVID ORGES

Join the Family Answer Man program with Dr. Mark Crosby and Rev. David Orges at 12:00noon and 6:30pm locally on WPAE-FM 89.7 / KPAE-FM 91.5.

The Family Answer Man is here to answer your questions from a Biblical worldview to help you and yours have a stronger, healthier, and happier family.

Email your questions to [FamilyAnswerMan@LOUMC.org](mailto:FamilyAnswerMan@LOUMC.org)



Find These Episodes and More on the **Live Oak Church** youtube page!

# Bible Recap



LIVE OOK Ladies

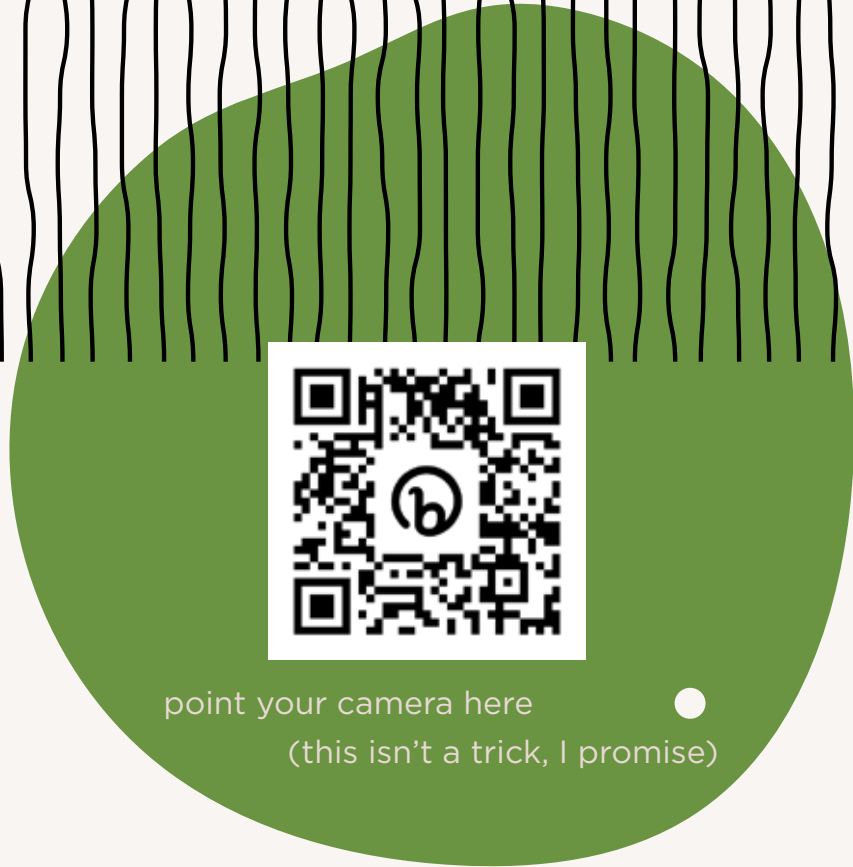
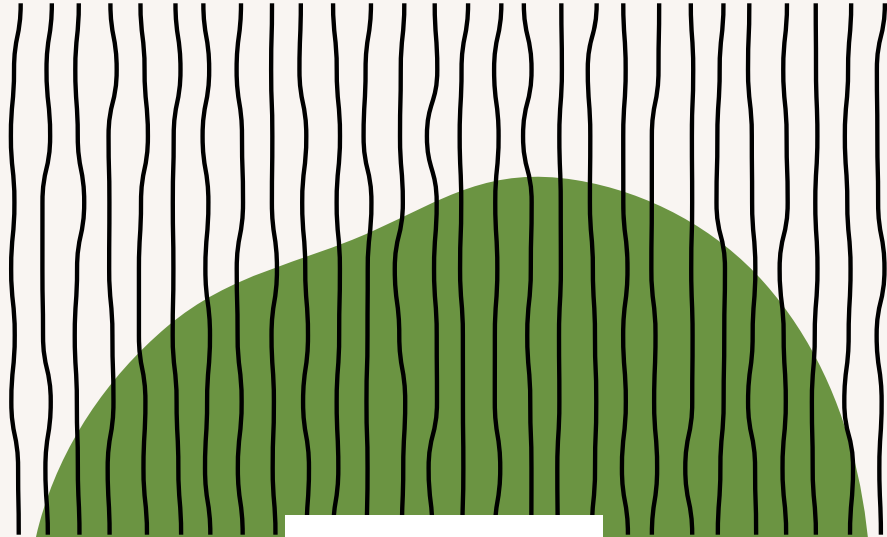
Read through the Bible in a year with the encouragement, help and support of your fellow sisters in Christ.



EVERY  
WEDNESDAY,  
BEGINNING ON  
JANUARY 11, 2023  
AT 6:30P

CONFERENCE  
ROOM





point your camera here  
(this isn't a trick, I promise)

# FOLLOWING GOD'S CALL

by seth doiga



I would like to express my gratitude for the Lord blessing me with the time I've been allowed to serve God's people here at Live Oak. In the last 3 1/2 years, God has led me through some of the greatest, and toughest times in ministry. Doing ministry in the town and church I grew up in has been rewarding and challenging. Had it not been for God's faithfulness and the refuge of this rock solid staff - made up of many people I claim as dear friends and brothers and sisters in Christ - I'm not sure I would have experienced all the amazing victories God has led me through.

This year our church has walked through some incredible and difficult change. God faithfully led us through disaffiliation from the UMC. Pushing through to this huge win for our community of faith caused the staff to truly stand on our Cornerstone, the Lord Jesus. We had to be sensitive to the leading of the Holy Spirit and trust the Lord's leading down this road of disaffiliation. I'm excited to see how God continues to lead Live Oak Church up this mountain of following Him.

In Worship Ministry, I've been blessed to see the church I grew up in experience a ground swelling shift of culture and posture of worship in our weekly worship services. I have expressed multiple times that Live Oak has become a "singing church". The way the Holy Spirit has led our students and our adults into a deeper love and understanding for expressing worship to our King has been humbling and inspiring. The restructure of 9:30 and 11 allowed us to launch a rotation for our volunteers, prioritizing time for them to worship with their families, and to allow

more volunteers to serve and get plugged in. This new model allows for the congregation to experience different styles of leadership each week, and has been a blessing to so many in our church.

Worship Choir has been a blessing that has brought an infectious energy to Sundays. From the first Sunday with choir this year on Easter, to our last on December 4th, hundreds of church members have had the opportunity to lead their fellow congregants to worship the King of Kings. December 4th was a beautiful display of multi-generational worship leadership in our church, and a day that will stick with me the rest of my life. The spirit of worship our services has embodied is only possible because of the Holy Spirit's leading as we faithfully met to worship the Lord Jesus. Another memorable moment was the afternoon of the vote on October 30th. Hundreds of church members gathered to stand firmly on God's word, and I humbly had the privilege to lead them in worship that day. Hearing such a large chorus of voices declaring praise and adoration to the Lord Jesus can be profoundly described as a glimpse of what eternity in heaven will look like, where believers join the saints and angels around the throne of the risen, victorious Lord Jesus worshipping Him for eternity. We've experienced the mountains and valleys this year, and though more of those lie ahead for all of us, I'm excited to finish this year celebrating the birth of our Savior. God is faithful to His people who follow Him, and knowing Live Oak will remain faithful to that, I know greater things are on the horizon for this community of faith.

I write this letter with the heaviest of hearts, but also with joy and excitement for what God is leading my wife Marissa and I into. We grew up in this area and have spent the majority of our married life serving and worshipping the Lord at Live Oak. God has a theme throughout scripture of choosing the lowly to accomplish the work of His Kingdom and shepherding His people. I am honored the Lord has allowed me to play a small role in this posture change that our church has gone through. Few things in life can compare to being in a room filled with God's people pouring out their hearts to Him and joining together with heavens song. I am honored and humbled God led me here for this season to experience the church I grew up in become a church that sings and declares the truths of God with boldness. I know Live Oak will continue being a strong force against the kingdom of darkness, and continue the life changing work of the Great Commission.

Marissa and I have accepted a call to FBC Columbia Mississippi, so I am officially submitting my resignation as the Music Minister of Live Oak Church. My last Sunday will be January 8th. I trust God will continue to be faithful to the staff and people of Live Oak. I'm excited to cheer you guys on from afar. God is faithful. His Word never returns void. His work never goes without His power and provision. 🌿

Soli Deo Gloria,

Seth Doiga





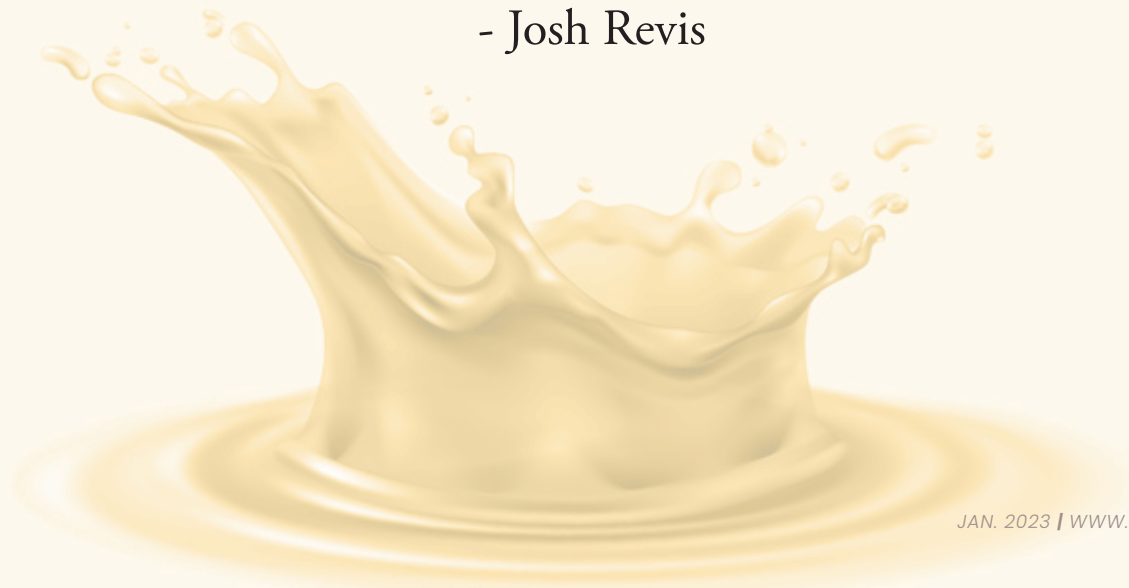
## **A DROP FROM THE ALTAR** by sam lobello

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.

***“Sin is not a pet  
to be tamed.  
Sin is a beast to  
be slain!”***

- Josh Revis



# **JOURNEYING THROUGH GRIEF**

**at Live Oak Church**

---

**GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

**2nd & 4th Tuesday of the Month**

**6:30pm in the Chapel**

---

**For More  
Information Contact:**

**Pastor Stephen**

**[Stephen@loumc.org](mailto:Stephen@loumc.org)**

# SENIOR ADULTS



***“LOVE EACH OTHER WITH GENUINE AFFECTION, AND TAKE DELIGHT IN HONORING EACH OTHER.” –ROMANS 12:10***

The new year is here and I am reflecting on the wonderful memories of 2022. Jeff and I are so blessed to be a part of such an amazing church family. We are thankful for the time we spent with our own family from out of state. We look forward to seeing how God guides us through this new year .

We ended 2022 with our first ever Christ-

mas Cookie Baking Day. This went really well. The last time I saw that many cookies was from my childhood with all my aunts, cousins, and sisters. I am looking forward to doing this again.

We have many great adventures planned for 2023. Make sure to listen to the announcements on Sunday morning and/or get your copy of the Newsletter. All events

are posted in the Newsletter.

On January 10th at 11 am we will meet for fellowship and lunch at Xalapeno's in Denham Springs. This is located at the old Pappi's. We will go over the itinerary for 2023 at this time. Don't forget to sign up at the kiosk, or you can text me at 225-400-1687. Looking forward to celebrating life with you in 2023. 🌿



LIVE OAK CHURCH

**QUILTING  
MINISTRY**

WEDNESDAYS AT 8 AM IN THE FAMILY LIFE CENTER  
**COME JOIN US!**

# MEET OUR TEAM

Coming together from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences, our skilled team of pastors and ministry professionals are the backbone of Live Oak Church. Their ideas and leadership help shape the direction and mission of our organization as we continue to grow.

## PASTORAL



Dr. Mark Crosby  
Senior Pastor



Rev. David Orges  
Executive Pastor



Rev. Stephen  
Hebert  
Minister of  
Pastoral Care

## FINANCE



Jim Otken  
Treasurer

## ADULT MINISTRY



Rev. Sam LoBello  
Director of Adult  
Ministries

## YOUNG ADULT & STUDENT MINISTRY



Rev. Nathan Lott  
Director of Young  
Adult and Student  
Ministries

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Trish Graves  
Children's  
Ministry Director



Faith Storck  
Children's  
Ministry Assistant

## MOTHER'S DAY OUT



Ila Clark  
Mother's Day Out  
Program Administrator



Austyn Chopin  
Mother's Day Out  
Curriculum  
Administrator

## WORSHIP



Rev. Trent Barnett  
Director of  
Worship Ministries



Seth Doiga  
Music Minister

## MAINTENANCE



Chris Lacara  
Maintenance  
Director

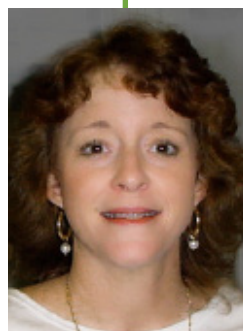
## OFFICE



Linda Holdman  
Administrative  
Assistant



Kim Pamplin  
Office  
Professional



Thanette  
Hunsberger  
Office  
Professional

## COMMUNICATIONS



Krist Norsworthy  
Communications  
Coordinator



## WHAT'S HAPPENING IN MEN'S MINISTRY?

Mondays, 6:30 PM-Deeper Life Small Group. Tate in Room # 201.  
Led by David Tate

---

Mondays, 6:30 PM-Home Bible Study. 1403 Weeping Willow in DS.  
Led by Robert Poole

---

Tuesdays, 6:30 PM-Quarterly Steak Dinner Fellowship/Study in FLC.  
Led by Sam LoBello

---

Thursdays, 6:00 PM-Play & Pray Basketball w/Lesson in FLC.  
Led by Jim Otken.

---

Thursdays, 7:00 PM-REFUGE Addiction Recovery Group. Room #201.  
Led by Sam LoBello

---

Fridays, 5:30 AM-Iron Man Bible Study. Room #202.  
Led by Jim Otken.

---

Saturdays, 7:30 AM-Monthly Prayer Breakfast & Study on the second  
Saturday. Room #202. Led by Sam LoBello

---

Annual Crawfish Boil-First Saturday in May. LOC outside.  
Coordinator: Troy Bozeman

---

Annual GRIDIRON Men's Conference in Huntsville, Alabama. June 16-17. Mike  
Pence, David Jeremiah, Rick Burgess and more. Coordinator: Sam LoBello

---

Discovery Weekends. APRIL 14-16, May 19-21, August 4-6, September 15-17.  
Coordinator: Todd Pettavino

# REFUGEE

**Support. Instruction. Accountability.**

**“Taste and see the LORD is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.”**



**Thursdays at 7pm**

**STRUGGLING WITH ADDICTION?  
WE ARE HERE FOR YOU.  
WE MEET IN ROOM #201.  
COME JOIN US!**

**rightnow** MEDIA

## A Gift from Our Church

Free Access to +20,000 Bible Study Videos—  
Anytime, Anywhere, From Any Device



Scan the QR Code to Create Your  
Free Account and Start Browsing

android chromecast  iPhone & iPad **Roku**  tv fireTV