



God is love and love lives here!

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Sunday, February 16, 2025

Embracing the Beatitudes

Dear Church Family,

This week we are beginning a new series from Jesus' address in what is known as the sermon on the mount. We reflect on one of the most profound teachings of Jesus in this message found in Matthew 5:3-12 — the Beatitudes. These verses offer us a blueprint for how to live a life that aligns with God's will and reflects His love in our communities.

1. Blessed are the Poor in Spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

This beatitude invites us to recognize our own spiritual poverty. It is in acknowledging our need for God that we open ourselves to His grace. Let us remember that humility is the first step toward experiencing the fullness of His kingdom.

2. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

In times of sorrow and grief, God promises comfort. Mourning isn't just about loss; it's about feeling deeply for the brokenness in our world. As a church, we are called to support one another, providing a space for healing and compassion.

3. Blessed are the Meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Meekness is often misunderstood as weakness. However, it embodies strength under control. Jesus exemplified this quality, showing us that true strength lies in gentleness and service. Let us strive to approach one another with kindness and understanding.

4. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

A deep desire for justice and righteousness reflects our commitment to God's will. As we engage in our community, let us advocate for what is right, seeking to be instruments of His peace and love in a fractured world.

5. Blessed are the Merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Mercy is at the heart of Jesus' message. In a society that often seeks revenge, we are called to offer forgiveness and compassion. Let us practice mercy in our daily interactions, creating a ripple effect of grace.

6. Blessed are the Pure in Heart, for they will see God.

Purity of heart is about sincerity and integrity. As we strive to align our actions with our beliefs, we open our eyes to see God at work in our lives and the world around us. Let's encourage one another to pursue holiness in thought and deed.

7. Blessed are the Peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

In a world filled with conflict, peacemaking is a radical act of love. We are invited to be agents of reconciliation, bridging divides and fostering understanding. How can we promote peace in our homes, our church, and our community?

8. Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Standing up for what is right may lead to challenges and opposition. Yet, Jesus assures us that our faithfulness in the face of adversity is honored in the Kingdom. Let us support one another in faith, especially during trying times.

As we meditate on the Beatitudes, let us ask ourselves how we can embody these teachings in our daily lives. Each beatitude reflects a countercultural way of living that brings us closer to God and to one another.

Let us come together this month to explore these themes through prayer, study, and service, striving to be a community that lives out the blessings of the Beatitudes. We encourage you to share your reflections and experiences as we grow together in faith.

Keep the Faith, Pastor Tommy

Scripture and Sermon:

Matthew 5:3

“Beatitudes:”



New Concerns

Sophie Phillips
Mac McCullough

Continue Prayers for:

Family of Jim Blanton
Ray Hubbard
Alice Roland
Kat Rigsby
Kitty Barfield
Tava Clark
Family of Brook Cross

Lamar Outz
Paul Smith
Phil & Betty Bailey
Dianne Harrington
Mac McCullough
Kathy Blanchard
Michael & Jennie Walston
Betty Byrd
Mary Prater
Jim & Mary Leary
Virginia Eadie
Bill Reedy
Our Country, Leaders, Military and
First Responders

Finance Report for

02-09-25

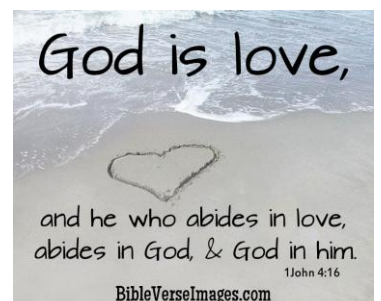
Operating Budget..... \$14,250.05
Apportionments..... 51.50
Food Pantry..... 325.00
Total..... \$14,626.55

Worship Attendance

148

Sunday School

52



Foster Parent Training

Hey Church! On March 11, 2025 we will be hosting a community Foster Parenting group that helps foster parents meet their continuing education requirements here at the church. This groups is solely supported by the foster parents and churches who help provide their facility, child care, and a meal if possible. We are excited to partner with their ministry and help support local community efforts like these that truly make a difference in the lives of kids in Houston as well as other surrounding counties. We will be providing child care and a meal for this event, if anyone can help please reach out to Dawn or Katie to register as a voluneer. Their itenerary is listed below.

Foster Parent Training classes itineryary

- Child care drop off start at 5:45pm
- Training meeting starts at 6pm
- Dinner served at 6:15pm
- Speaker beginning at 6:45pm
- Meeting ends at 8pm and children picked up promptly over

Thank you!!
Pastor Tommy

5th Sunday Lunches and Church Meal Contact Info

Hey Church! Guess what? We eat a lot at the church! Yes, we do! It is a joy to gather in community and share stories around the table as we eat together. Sometimes it's a 5th Sunday Lunch and sometimes it's to share in memories of someone we cared for as they enter into eternity. The purpose in either is the same; to commune with one another as the people of God. However, this is not possible without our volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure we have enough food and to organize events in the fellowship hall. To help, we want to make sure everyone knows who to contact for church meals in the future when we have the opportunity to gather. Vicky Moore is the head coordinator for 5th Sunday Meals and other special meals in 2025. Cheri Cox is the coordinator for all bereavement meals along with Nancy Hudson and Kimberly Cochran while Cheri is recovering from surgery. If anyone has any questions or would like to volunteer to cook, serve, or clean please reach out to Vicky. Thank you to Vicky and Cheri both for all their work to make these events happen. If anyone has any questions, please contact the church office.

Thank You,
Pastor Tommy

Gifts Given to the Glory of God

- ◇ In memory of Jim Blanton Jim & Barbara Hilliard, Mel & Paula Strozier, Matry Frances Logue, Expos/Wolfpack family; Carol Graham & Mac McCullough, Marie Davis, Brenda Craw & Paul Smith, Sherrie Shell, Cynthia Boutwell, Vicky Moore, J.O. & Lynn Miller, Christian Fellowship SS Class, Margaret Henley, LaWanna Porter
- ◇ In memory of Miss Ann Stafford by Debbie Gray
- ◇ In memory of Mary Ann McCamish by Carol Graham & Mac McCullough
- ◇ In honor of February birthdays by Debbie Gray




- ✓ 02-17-25 Office Closed- President's Day
- ✓ 03-05-25 Ash Wednesday 6p
- ✓ 03-10-25 Finance Committee Meeting 6p
- ✓ 03-10-25 Administrative Council Meeting 630p
- ✓ 03-30-25 5th Sunday Lunch 1130p

Community Missions

- The next Food Pantry will be February 26, 10a-1p. Please see Cheri to help with this ministry. You will be blessed. Our Food Pantry Team rocks!
- The next Clothes Closet is February 26 (9a-1p) and second and fourth Tuesdays for processing(9a-1p) anyone that would like to volunteer, see Brenda. Donations can be dropped off in the white trailer beside the Yak Shack. The door may need a hard tug to open; it is unlocked.
- February 26- 8:45-11:00... Cynthia Boutwell, Sabrina Williams, Joyce Wyatt
- February 26- 11:00-1:14... Sherrill Pinckney, Maries Davis, Nancy Brechin

Young at Heart

Young at Heart is meeting on the second Friday of the month (except for this month) in addition to the fourth Friday. On the second Friday we will play a variety of games, so bring your favorite game or puzzle, set it up and players can group around the games they want to play. We will continue with Bingo on the fourth Friday (February 28). We are excited to bring our Y@H attendees another afternoon of food, fun and fellowship. Everyone is invited, come join us!



18
Mary Prater

21
Carolyn Nettles

22
Mary Summers

Bible Reading Plan	
Week of February 16 th :	
Sunday.....	Job 15
Monday.....	Job 16-17
Tuesday....	Job 18
Wednesday.....	Job 19
Thursday.....	Job 20
Friday.....	Job 21
Saturday.....	Job 22



Are you Looking for a place to serve? To get involved? We have it!

This Week's Schedule:

Sunday- February 16

Ushers

10:30a J.O. Miller, Tony Rozier
Mel Smeltz, Cheri' Cox, Lynn Mayfield
Keith Mobley, Stevie Bowen
Joy Fleming, Sherrie Shell, Roy Carter
9:15a Sunday School
10:30a Worship

Greeters

10:30a Cheri Cox, Marie Davis

Communion Servers

Susan Howdeshell, Brenda Craw
Keith & Susan Mobley

Prayer Teams

Don & Sharron Schall
Thomas & Joy Fleming

Finance Stewards

Nancy Hudson, Amber Gamble, Joy Flemin

Assisting with Children

Sunday- February 16
Nursery- Rosalyn, Lauren, Sarah
Children- Dawn Wilkins, Kelly Evans
Sunday- February 23
Nursery- Sarah, Rosalyn, Lauren
Children- Brenda Craw, Sherrie Shell

Monday- February 17

Office Closed- President's Day

10:00a Quilters
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Tuesday- February 18

9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Partners in Prayer
10:00a Yoga
11:30a Life Group IV "J Walkers

Wednesday- February 19

8:00a Men's Fellowship Breakfast
11:30a Friendship Circle
1:00p Life Group I "Under Construction"
6:00p Youth
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Thursday- February 20

9:00a Life Group II "Work of Art"
9:15a Movin' n Groovin'
10:00a Yoga
7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Friday- February 21

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous

Saturday- February 22

7:30p Narcotics Anonymous



Sunday School at 9:15a

Are you looking to get involved in Sunday School? We have a great line up of classes to explore! Maybe you've been attending Sunday School regularly but see a topic you're interested in – it's okay to move around and try different classes – let's learn and grow together!

Sunday School Class
Seekers
Issues & Answers
New Beginnings
Christian Fellowship

Studies
Hospitality Training
Luke
Questions Christians Ask
Matthew

Teacher
Tommy Odum
Joy Fleming
Nancy Hudson
Don Schall/Luis Morales



Choir News

There will be no choir practice this Wednesday, February 19... they will resume on Wednesday, February 26 and began The Empty Tomb, by Marty Parks.

Partner in Prayers/Visitation Team

Partners in Prayer will be forming teams to visit our shut-ins on a regular basis. If you would like to participate in this ministry, please see Pam Spence or call/email the office or come to Partners in Prayer, they meet every Tuesday at 10a in the Christian Fellowship SS Classroom.

Family Promise

If you are interested in helping out with Family Promise on our next rotation, contact J.O. or Lynn, this is a very blessed ministry of our church... check out their website at <https://www.familypromisehoustonco.org/>

Women at the Well

Ladies, circle meetings are coming up... so, don't forget to attend. If you have never been to a meeting, you are welcome to attend any of the circles. We'd be so happy to have you visit!

Men at the Well

The Men meet the second Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. All men are welcome and are encouraged to attend any meeting. The men also meet every Wednesday morning at 7:30am at Steak n Shake for Men's Fellowship Breakfast. All men are welcome.

Church Website

Please contact Sabrina Williams at sabrinamwilliams2@cox.net for any requests to have something added or deleted from our church website or Facebook. Also contact Sabrina if you have any pictures taken at any church function that you would like posted. And make sure you follow our Facebook page!

