

# THE PRINCE OF PEACE



## FEATURES

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## OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday: 8:00am - 6:00pm

Friday: 8:00am - 2:00pm

## FOOD PANTRY

Closed Permanently

## THRIFT SHOP

Closed Permanently

# A FREE GIFT FOR YOU!

**rightnow** MEDIA

**rightnow** MEDIA

Our church's Bible study library is now digital...

# AND GIGANTIC.

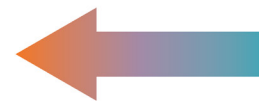
Over 20,000 discipleship videos  
for kids, youth, and adults.

**rightnow** MEDIA



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to 41411



## FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK BY DR. MARK CROSBY

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

The year is almost over and what a year this has been. So many concerns, circumstances, and changes occurred this year. It seems that so many of us experienced frustration, disappointment and division. For some the pandemic created a sense of fear and panic. For some the political and racial divide caused pain and problems between themselves and those they love. For others the hurricanes and other natural disasters impacted extended family here in Louisiana and throughout the country. It seems that this year was the year for unprecedented problems and heartache as the economy struggles and "shutdowns" loom on the horizon.

The common desire that seems to be on the lips of everyone is the desire for peace. It seems today that peace is fading from our society with each passing day, though many desire it now more than ever. The reason for that deep desire is that it seems that today if a person uses the wrong terminology, pronoun, or doesn't respond in the "correct way" to questions and situations, then violence, conflict and persecution will occur. Is that where we are today in the USA?

It seems if one person disagrees with another then they are now an "instant enemy" to be derided (on social media) called maligning names and accused of all sorts of "phobias." What will happen if this sort of bellicose attitude continues. The answer is, we will consume, bite and devour each other.

The Christmas season has many themes that describe it. One of those themes was declared by a multitude of angels on that first Christmas when they praised God saying *"Glory to God in the Highest and peace among men with whom He is pleased."* (Luke 2:14)

If there was ever a time (in our country) where peace was needed and wanted, it is today. It seems that 2020 has been a year of peril and problems that have robbed most people of their peace. However, Jesus was born to bring into our lives a "peace that passes all understanding."

This Christmas season let us focus on the peace Jesus brings. Maybe you need peace with God, or peace with your family, or peace with yourself or peace with your past. Wherever you are in life, remember, Jesus came to bring peace to that which is troubled, difficult, and painful.

So come join us in December for the Series *"The Prince of Peace"* as we look at how Jesus brings peace into our lives and how it all began that first Christmas and can continue today as we seek His peace and as we give away His peace in a time of great turmoil.

Hope to see you Sunday.

Mark



## CHURCH MEMBER INFORMATION DRIVE

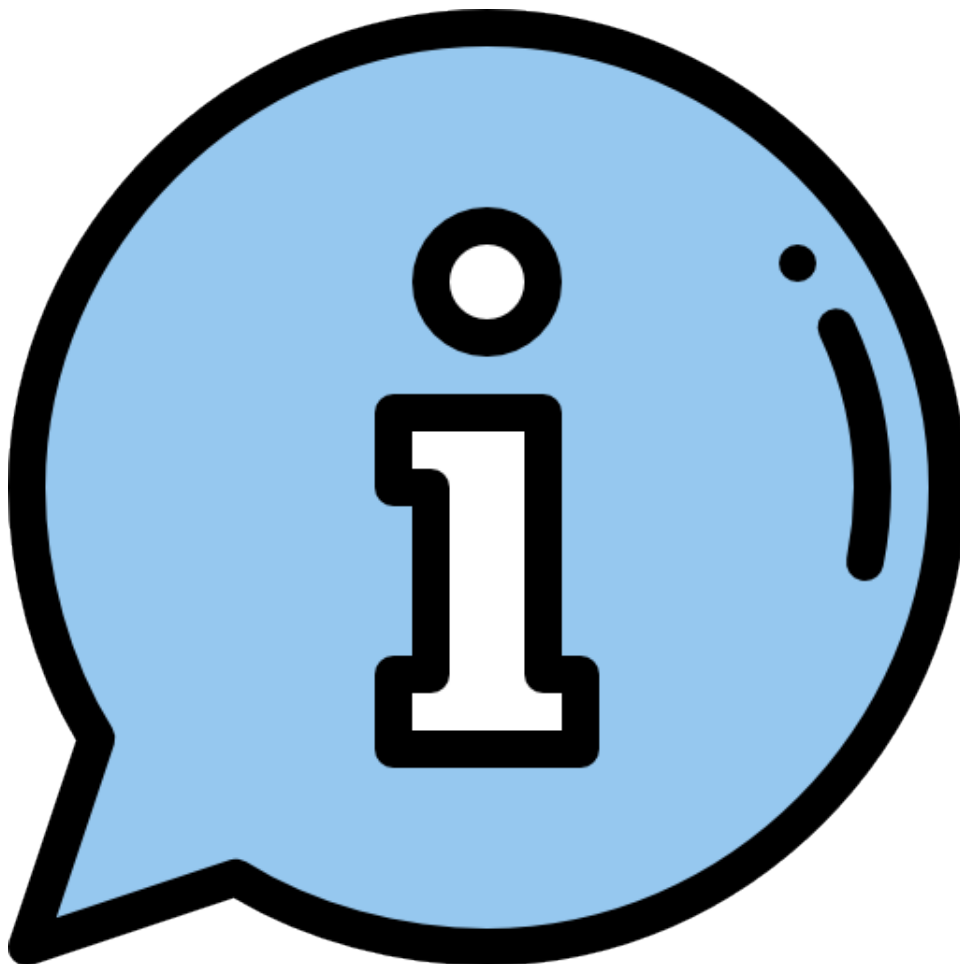
BY JIM OTKEN

**D**uring the month of December, Live Oak would like to update your church information. Please note that Live Oak Church holds your information in strictest confidence, and we would never share it with any other organization. However, in an effort to minister to you and your family in a more meaningful way, we request that you provide this to me via my church email – [jim@loumc.org](mailto:jim@loumc.org).

Please send me the names and birthdays of the family members in your household as well as your current address, cell phone provider and number, and your primary email address.

Thank you for helping us to update our information so that we can better serve you.

~ Jim Otken





# NEW MEMBERS CLASS BY SAM LOBELLO



## NEW MEMBERS CLASS

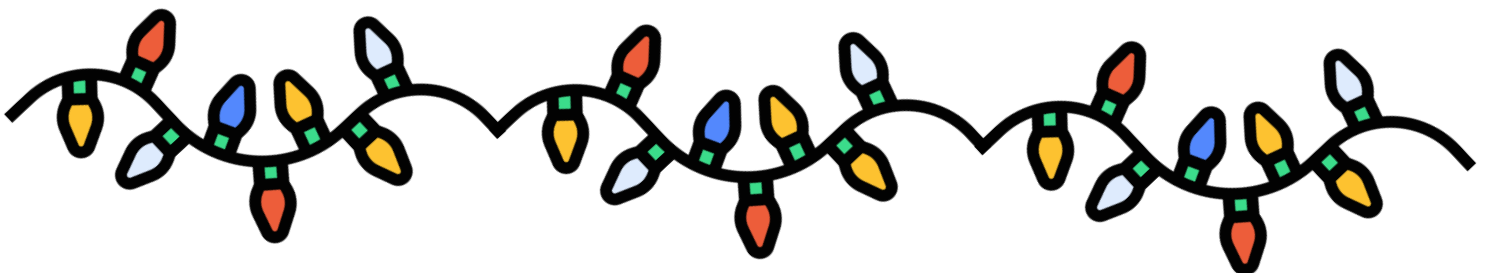
Sunday Mornings at 9AM in Room #16

A new class begins the first Sunday of each month and runs for four Sundays.

Come join the Live Oak family!

**We Welcome  
New Members to our  
Live Oak Family!**

- Cindy Achord
- Jeanette Clark
- Sara Elbon
- Jennifer Griggs
- Scott Griggs
- Deborah Homan
- John Homan
- Donna Knapps
- Gerald Knapps
- Ray Lane
- Rhonda Lane
- Aaron Roundtree
- Chris Williams
- Mallory Williams

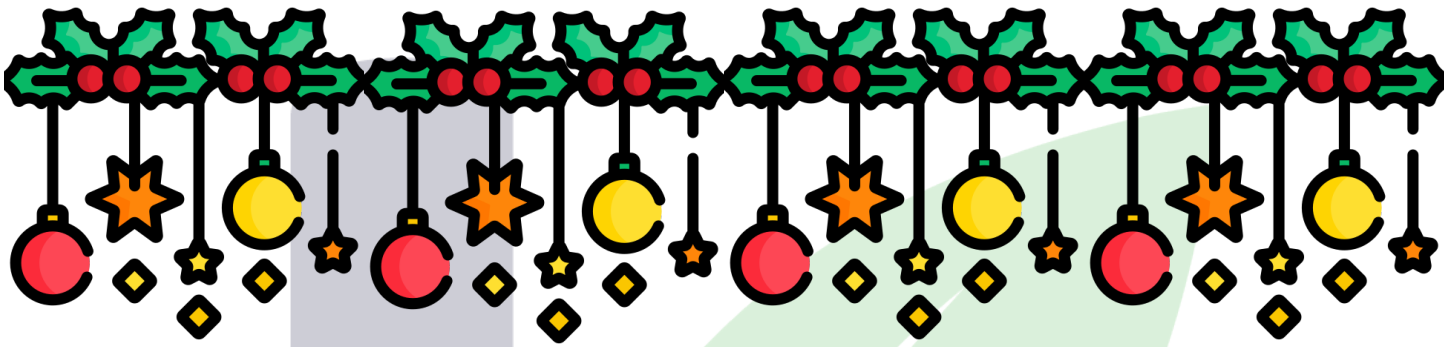


# A CHRISTMAS WITH PURPOSE BY TRENT BARNETT



As you listen to your favorite songs this Christmas season, I want to remind you of one of our praise bands' Christmas album called "*A Christmas with Purpose*." You can stream these holiday tracks on your favorite platform - Spotify, Apple Music, Pandora, Amazon, YouTube, and many others. There are also physical copies available in the lobby, or the church office during the week. Our hope is that these songs will help you worship Christ this Christmas season.

## SURVIVING HOLIDAYS BY TRISH GRAVES



It has arrived... the holiday season is here. Full of laughter, excitement, and family fun. Or is it?

Do you look forward to the holidays with dread? The shopping, cooking, forgotten costumes, Christmas plays, school parties, and Christmas clothes to buy for the obligatory photo Christmas cards?

We all love to say yes. Yes to the parties, yes to the pictures, yes to dinners and family gatherings. But saying yes to everything can make you, and everyone in your family begin to dread the holidays. Overloaded calendars mean added stress.

Take some time now to organize your calendar. Use a pencil and write in all the parties, plays, picture dates, shopping days and family gatherings. Now take a look at what your calendar really looks like, and figure out what you can say no to. Decide if you want to do one thing or two each week. Make a conscience effort to combine shopping trips into one day of shopping or do it online. Choose one party to attend instead of multiple. The one word that I would use to describe this process would be intentional. Do what matters, what makes a difference.

Can you skip one of the parties? Do you have to have photo pictures this year or will a regular Christmas card work? Will people understand if you just choose to not send cards at all this year? (I think they probably will). Would it mean more to my family to just spend a quiet evening at home drinking hot cocoa and reading Christmas stories or singing carols? Or to help someone in need?

Intentionally fill your calendar this holiday season with things that will have meaning, and will teach your children about the real reason for Christmas.

**Trish Graves**  
**Children's Education Director**





**MEN'S MINISTRY** BY SAM LOBELLO



**Men's Prayer Breakfast**  
Saturday, December 12, 7:30 AM  
Conference Room



**Men's Steak Dinner Fellowship**  
Tuesday, January 12, 6:30 PM  
Children's Church Area  
Cost: \$15

**Come Join Us!**

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY BY JEANETTE CLARK &amp; MALLORY WILLIAMS

# Women's *Ministry*

## Women's Gingerbread Fellowship

Monday, December 7th

6:30pm in the FLC



Hey ladies!

We are so excited to announce that we will be hosting a Gingerbread Fellowship on Monday, December 7th at 6:30 PM in the Family Life Center. Childcare will be provided so drop off your little ones and join us for laughter, fellowship and decorating as we discuss and share God's Word. This is a free event. You can sign up on our Live Oak Church Facebook Page, Live Oak App or at the Information Desk.

Be on the lookout for upcoming events! We have a lot of ideas that we are thrilled to be working on and we look forward to seeing each of you as we grow in God's Word together.

- Jeanette & Mallory





SENIOR ADULTS BY LANDRA REED

# SENIOR ADULTS MINISTRY

**A** Christmas Prayer of Good Wishes written by Southern Living...

May you be filled with the wonder of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, the determination of the magi, and the peace of the Christ child. Almighty God, Father, and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever!

This Christmas season is unlike any other we've had in years. There is so much sadness, stress, and anger. But yet, I still feel so much joy at knowing that my Jesus Christ was born to save us from our sins. Thank you God for your most precious gift. I feel hope knowing that Jesus Christ is coming back again. I feel peace, knowing that whatever happens today, tomorrow, and in the near future is preordained by our Heavenly Father. So my wish for all of you is a peaceful, joyful, and hopeful holiday season filled with happy memories spending with your family and friends. The memories we share this Christmas with one another will be the best gift we can give each other.

*But you, oh Bethlehem Ephrathah, who are too little to be among the clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to be ruler in Israel, whose coming forth is from old, from ancient days. - Micah 5:2*

*Merry Christmas*

*Landra*



## ADULT EDUCATION BY SAM LOBELLO



# ADULT education

**A**fter living life my way for 22 years, which included a three plus year marriage that failed, I decided to follow Jesus. To me that was more than a title of a hymn. It involved a change of mind, a change of heart and a commitment to accept Jesus as my Savior and follow Him as Lord of my life.

My mind set changed. God changed my do-wanter. Suddenly I didn't want to go to bars anymore. Instead I wanted to go worship Jesus. After months of worshipping Jesus and attending Bible study faithfully with a sincere and open-heart, God began to change my spirit. Over time He changed my nature. He changed my attitude.

My ex-wife and I had a son. She had custody of him in our hometown of Bryan, Texas. I was living in Baton Rouge. Occasionally I would call her to coordinate custody of our son so I could spend some time with him. My ex (Betty) noticed in our phone conversations that I wasn't the same person anymore. A year and a half after Betty and I were divorced, I drove to Texas and we were remarried.

Here we are four children and six grandchildren later. As of this past June we now been married 47 years, on and off. It has been quite a journey with many ups and downs. I can honestly say for me that it has been fascinating. It has been quite an adventure!

I have at times pondered, *"What motivated me not to be content with just accepting Jesus as Savior, but to follow Him as Lord of my life?"* I believe it goes all the way back to when I first believed. For when I heard the Gospel, the Good News of Jesus', I was deeply moved by the price Jesus paid for my salvation. The excruciating physical pain, the humiliation, the emotional pain of being forsaken by His Father, and the spiritual pain of bearing the judgment and condemnation for my sin that was mine to bear.

As I reflect on the price Jesus paid for my salvation I am filled with gratitude. In spite of how I lived, Jesus loves me. He loves you, too. Regardless of what you've done. Jesus loves you. Let us be grateful and profess Him as our Savior and follow Him as Lord of our life!

- Bro. Sam

## GLOVES BY GREG HOOPER

It is certainly an interesting season to be involved in the Live Oak Church Ministry! Our ramp project for one of our own church family was completed recently, fulfilling an urgent need!

As this is written, the Gloves team has another ramp project roughly twice the usual scale.

So, the Gloves team request:

1. Prayer over the recipient's present health and anticipated physical needs in the future.
2. Operational abilities for the length and scope of this project. Please pray for: scheduling, volunteer, availability and health and the God's protective covering over team members.
3. Our Gloves team personal needs/ concerns met. The scope of this Project will extend into December, making volunteer availability challenging.

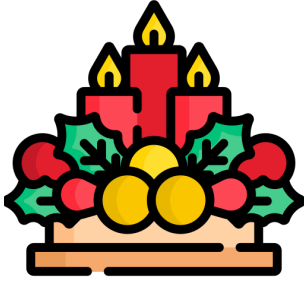
Thank you for supporting Live Oak Church Gloves Ministry!



***"Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others."***

*Philippians 2:4, KJV*

# THRIFT STORE BY SAM LOBELLO



write this article with mixed emotions.

First, I have an abundance of joy over the decades of ministry that has occurred through our faithful Thrift Store volunteers. They have touched many lives. Many of those were the less fortunate of our community providing clothes and a variety of other items. Early on, the Thrift Store provided much needed funds to support Live Oak Church during difficult times. As the church began to grow the Thrift Store continued to support various ministries of our church including the Benevolence Ministry and Funeral Food Ministry, just to name a couple. Over the years our Thrift Store Ministry has supported Pregnancy Centers, Addiction Recovery Centers, Women's Shelters, Toy Drives and much more. What an awesome ministry of giving this ministry has been through the years! How appropriate to recognize this ministry during this season of giving, Christmas, the time when we celebrate God giving us His Son in Bethlehem's manger.

Second, I feel deep sorrow over the need to close our Thrift Store. Initially, I closed the Thrift Store due to the COVID-19 virus. Many of our volunteers are in the target age of the most vulnerable. Once there was inactivity in the facility a list was provided by our volunteers of items that needed repair. In the process of getting things repaired it was discovered that the building had some issues that made it unsafe. As a result, our Trustees, who are responsible for oversight of our property and facilities researched the situation and closed the building until a solution can be found. My sorrow over the necessary closure of this building is for our community who became accustomed to looking to us. My sorrow is also for our volunteers, who for years have selflessly given of their time to this ministry and now, due to circumstances beyond our control, must be closed because it is the responsible thing to do to protect our volunteers and our community.

I am grateful to Peggy Langois, who directed our Thrift Store for 25 years and all the volunteers who served with her. May God richly bless you as we celebrate Jesus this Christmas season and seek His direction for the future of this ministry and His future purpose for our lives.

- Bro. Sam



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE BORN IN DECEMBER

## **December 1st**

Roy Soileau  
Krystal Lynn Williamson  
Monica Troxclair  
Boo Foster  
Peyton Normand  
Danielle Bunch

## **December 2nd**

Jessica Michgelsen  
Donna Allen  
Layvin Larue  
Beverly Albin  
Lauren Guidry  
Aubrey Mixon  
Grace Mizell  
Curt Delee  
Sandy Starks

## **December 3rd**

Cynthia Creel  
Jarrod Hegwood  
Jonathon Bordelon  
Christian Allen  
Gerald Brown  
Vicki Prescott  
Fisher Fontenot  
Janice Sandefer

## **December 4th**

Gaynell Rhodes  
Travis Parker  
John Hay  
Rose Madar  
Joanie Veenendaal  
Jody Shilling  
Arlene Valenti

## **December 5th**

Stacey Oxley  
Vicki Linder  
Lynne Jones  
Jenna Holman  
Aubree Harris  
Mark Robertson  
Jamie Alello  
Justin Goins

## **December 6th**

Kingston Shaidae

Max Rabalais  
Ava Attaway  
Carson Jones  
David Wallace  
Sophia Duplantis  
Greg Lindsey

## **December 7th**

Daryl Stevens  
Sadie McGowan  
Patti Campbell  
Betty Dupuy  
Kate Leonard

## **December 8th**

Dwight Thibodeaux  
Stacy Drennan  
Darryl Curtis  
Chase Lindsey  
Brody Landry  
Carl Plitt

## **December 9th**

Kristi Ladut  
Ruth O'neal  
Jayden Turner  
Dorothy Morrison  
Karen Berthelot  
Shirley Judge  
Raymond Easterly  
Gwen Achord

## **December 10th**

Ryan Jones  
Nicole Perkins  
Madison Lovette  
Brennon Rogers  
Brent Charlet  
Bonnie Perkins  
Perry Rushing  
Pam Coleman

## **December 11th**

Chris Lacara  
J Moore  
Sarah Campbell  
Meghan Smith  
Linda Compau  
Noah Rodriguez  
Sue Lancon

Sharon King

## **December 12th**

Bill Jackson  
Karley Chaney  
Marilea Spedale  
Kenny Smith

## **December 13th**

Nicole Dixon  
Emma Woolie  
Caroline Schiltz  
Richard Boso  
Sheila Gunthrie  
Adam Dupuy  
Kimber Little  
Martha Story  
Alvaro Santiago  
Kaleb Gibson  
Rene Jarreau  
Mallory Grace

## **December 14th**

Kaleb Bryan Robinson  
Jason McGowan  
Matthew Rayburn  
Nathan Shepherd  
Ben Gonzales  
Will Knippers  
Kaleb Robinson  
Edlena Wattigney  
Cooper Sandifer

## **December 15th**

Isabella Biscotto  
Brittany Tullier  
Randi Martin  
Chris Mycoskie  
Jennessa Desrosiers  
Rhonda McGehee  
Michelle Rabalais

## **December 16th**

Maryssa Corkern  
Tasha Rowe  
Sue Hoge  
Lori Holder  
Blane Roy  
Shelby Antle  
Sara Wilson

Parker Johnson

**December 17th**

Norma Morgan

Christy Bellue

Debra Kennard

Maghen Bell

Brandon Lawley

Heather Kipp

Shelly Fillyaw

Kristopher Easterly

Caleb Day

**December 18th**

Kim Guzzardo

Phoebe Mizell

Travis Johnson

Gazelda Charbonnet

Kailyn Sibley

Hannah Hudnall

Laurie Dauzat

Kimberly Guzzardo

Brian Hall

**December 19th**

Colton Estave

Mark Oxley

Lauryn Prescott

Rachel Burke

Ragen Mullins

Mary Ann Allen

**December 20th**

Joycelyn Russo

Jane Kojeski

Allison Wilson

Brady Butler

Joseph Boutwell

Eva Walker

Devona Foster

Michael Polozola

Brandy Venable

**December 21st**

Brent Cutrer

Zachary Heuvel

Calvin Underwood

Noel Alessi

Kyleigh Spring

Justin Simoneaux

Sue Hickman

**December 22nd**

Sammi Parker

Brett Scivicque

Betty Pique

Claire Barker

Alexandra Poole

Quentin Bermes

Gentry Rogers

Nathaniel Bermes

Andy Davison

**December 23rd**

Rene' Chedraui

Aimee Chavers

Miriam Kierenshi

Laurie Kierenshi

Betty Amacker

Jason Conrad

Bob Griffin

Janna Taylor

Miriam Kieronshi

Bubbie Cowart

Wyndham Pomeroy

**December 24th**

Michael White

Bob Wascom

Steven Petty

Robin Wilson

John Keith Johnson

**December 25th**

Tobin Boyett

L Moore

Skylar Beckham

Jamie Arnold

Jason Vineyard

Tobin Johnson

Tammy Hinds

**December 26th**

Paul Bejeaux

James Griffith

Daniel Sibley

Carrie McKenzie

Kevin Corkern

Morio Solomon

Lacie Thomas

Janelle McInnis

**December 27th**

Cody Reine

Zachary Morgan

Kalaya Lusby

Madison Waldrep

Craig Harris

Piper Horne

Jamie Bueche

Mandy Wilson

**December 28th**

Mike Martin

Reagan Erwin

Sonny Soileau

Lisa Keesler

Robert Poole

Matthew Sandifer

Harleigh Emrick

**December 29th**

Joanne Harthoorn

Rhonda Brown

Vetra Wilson

Brady Gerstein

Alayna Page

Mike McCumsey

Amelia Melancon

Hayes Williams

Roger Guillory

**December 30th**

Knight Lavergne

Artie Lentz

Lee Saucedo

Sarah Campo

Shawn Weishar

Jimmy Manno

Angela Hardin

Roger Bailey

Benny Corkern

Thomas Hodges

Laken Griffin

**December 31st**

Malakai Frawley

Ben Cowart

Beth Jackson



# LIVE OAK COUNSELING CENTER

Schedule Online or Call to Book!  
[loumc.org/book-online](http://loumc.org/book-online)

## Who Do We See?

Individuals  
Married  
Couples

Families  
Adolescents  
Children

## For More Info

Call (225)-664-4801  
Email [counseling@loumc.org](mailto:counseling@loumc.org)

## Located At

34890 LA Hwy 16,  
Denham Springs, LA 70706



Dr. Mark Crosby  
LPC-S, LMFT



Erica Matthews  
MS, PLPC



Joy Jones  
MA, PLPC

*"Where there is no guidance, the people fall, but there is wisdom  
in a multitude of counselors." - Proverbs 11:14*



# December 2020 | Calendar of Events

## A TIME AND A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

For more information about groups and events visit [www.loumc.org](http://www.loumc.org) or call (225) 664-4801

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

#### **SUNDAY**

8:00 AM Worship Service  
 8:45 AM Children's Sunday School  
 8:45 AM Co-Ed Sunday School Classes:  
     Pastor Mark Crosby - Chapel  
     Bob Morrison - Conference Room  
     Dickie Davis - FLC  
 8:45 AM Senior Adults Sunday School Classes:  
     Beverly Thames - Room #2  
 9:30 AM Men's Sunday School Class:  
     Robert Poole - Conference Room  
 9:30 AM Children's Church  
 9:30 AM Worship Service - In-person & Livestream  
 11:00 AM Children's Church  
 11:00 AM Worship Service - In-person & Livestream

#### **MONDAY**

Every other Monday afternoon - Worship Team Devotional - Online  
 6:30 PM Women's Deeper Life  
 6:30 PM Men's Deeper Life  
 6:30 PM Men's Home Bible Study - Robert Poole's House

#### **TUESDAY**

12:00p Lunchtime Devotional - Online

#### **WEDNESDAY**

9:30 AM Worship Wednesday - Online  
 6:00 - 7:15 PM Kingdom Kidz - Completed Kindergarten through 3th Grade  
 6:00 - 7:30 PM Axis 456 - 4th, 5th and 6th Grade  
 6:00 - 7:30 PM 78Jump - Junior High  
 6:00 - 7:30 PM FocalPoint912 - High School

#### **THURSDAY**

12:00p Lunchtime Devotional - Online  
 6:00 PM Men's Play and Pray Basketball - FLC  
 7:00 PM Refuge - Room #2  
 7:00 PM Mid Week Worship - Chapel

#### **FRIDAY**

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

### ADULT EVENTS

#### **NEW MEMBER'S CLASS**

8:45 AM in Room #16  
 4 Week class that restarts the first Sunday of every month.  
 For more information email Sam LoBello at [sam@loumc.org](mailto:sam@loumc.org)

#### **MEN'S MINISTRY**

Men's Prayer Breakfast  
 December 12th at 7:30am in the Conference Room.  
 For more information email Sam LoBello at [sam@loumc.org](mailto:sam@loumc.org)

#### **Men's Steak Dinner Fellowship**

Tuesday, January 12th at 6:30pm in Children's Church Area.  
 Cost is \$15. For more information email Sam LoBello at [sam@loumc.org](mailto:sam@loumc.org)

#### **WOMEN'S MINISTRY**

Women's Gingerbread Fellowship will be on Monday, December 7th at 6:30pm in the FLC. This is a free event! Childcare will be provided! Join us for laughter, fun, and decorating as we discuss and share God's Word.

Sign up on our Live Oak Church Facebook page, church app, or at the Information Desk.

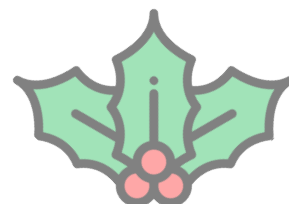
#### **SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY**

Check back next month for upcoming events!

### FAMILY EVENTS

#### **MOTHER DAUGHTER TEA**

The annual Mother Daughter Tea is scheduled for December 12th. This year's theme will be Christmas Around the World! For more information please email [faith@loumc.org](mailto:faith@loumc.org)



# MEET OUR TEAM

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Coming together from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences, our skilled team of pastors and ministry professionals are the backbone of Live Oak. 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. Dickie Davis  
Associate Pastor



Rev. Tommy  
Bergeron  
Director of  
Pastoral Care



Rev. Stephen  
Hebert  
Minister of  
Pastoral Care

## FINANCE



Jim Otken  
Treasurer

## ADULT MINISTRY



Rev. Sam LoBello  
Director of Adult  
Ministries

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



Trish Graves  
Children's  
Ministry Director



Faith Storck  
Children's  
Ministry Assistant

## NURSERY



Ila Clark  
Mother's Day Out  
Director



Austyn Chopin  
Nursery Director

## WORSHIP



Rev. Trent Barnett  
Director of  
Worship Ministries



Seth Doiga  
Music Director



Rev. David Easley  
Assistant Music  
Director



Danny Wilson  
Audio Engineer

## OFFICE



Linda Holdman  
Administrative  
Assistant



Kim Pamplin  
Office  
Professional



Christy Henson  
Office  
Professional

## MAINTENANCE



Chris Lacara  
Maintenance  
Director



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# SOCIAL

# MEDIA

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December 2020 Edition