

Thomas Bridgmon, Pastor	tbridgmon@gmail.com	541.291.3073
Bill Ingram, Music Minister	bfingram@yahoo.com	281.731.4193
Debbie Brooks, Secretary	office@southavenue.org	713.294.9208
Cathy Jones, Financial Secretary	cjones77536@comcast.net	281.479.8906

**Beloved Church Family,**

**How can we ever begin to thank you for our 44 years at South Avenue? We have served together, prayed together, worked together, raised our children together and held each other up during good times and bad. It has all been part of God’s plan.**

**The Retirement Luncheon Sunday was so special. We appreciated all the hugs; the memories; the laughs and the tears. It was all so good. The food was delicious and the fellowship was even better. Your many kind words and thoughtful gifts have touched our hearts. We have been truly blessed to be part of this church family. We love each one of you.**

**May God’s blessing continue to be with you in the years to come.**

**Jim and Linda**

**Sunday School Report**

*\*includes Worship Service and Nursery*

CLASS	Nov 27	Dec 4	Dec 11	Dec 18	Dec 25
Adult	35	29	33	37	
Youth	2	4	5	4	
Children	5	4	5	3	NO
Preschool	5	5	7	7	SUNDAY
<b>SS Total Attendance</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>SCHOOL</b>
<b>Worship Attendance*</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>47</b>

**Budget Report**

	Nov 27	Dec 4	Dec 11	Dec 18	Dec 25
<b>Budget Receipts</b>	\$2,556.00	\$13,327.00	\$4,201.00	\$6,560.00	\$7,555.00
<b>Budget Requirements</b>	\$4,758.00	\$4,758.00	\$4,758.00	\$4,758.00	\$4,758.00
<b>Budget Receipts YTD</b>	\$194,982.49	\$208,309.49	\$212,510.49	\$219,070.49	\$226,625.49
<b>Budget Requirements YTD</b>	\$228,384.00	\$233,142.00	\$237,900.00	\$242,658.00	\$247,416.00
<b>Missions</b>	\$40.00	\$15.00	\$15.00	\$50.00	\$15.00
<b>Lottie Moon Offering</b>		\$250.00	\$5.00		

*Food Pantry Report for November, 2022*

Money Received	Money Disbursed	Families Served	Volunteer Hours	# Lives Committed to Christ	# of New applicants	# of bags distributed
\$417.00	\$1,270.54	49	45	0	0	79

**South Avenue Baptist Church**

**GOD’S LIGHTHOUSE FOR OUR COMMUNITY**



*The Herald*

**January, 2023**  
**Volume XLIV**  
**Issue # 1**

“A burning lighthouse for a coming Savior” is the SABC motto. Since 1953 this church has brought the light of that Savior, Jesus Christ, to hundreds of people in Pasadena and Deer Park. Jesus Christ is still the Way, the Truth and the Life. He is the same yesterday, today and forever. He is still the head of the Church, and we are supremely honored to be His people, His army, His servants. We thank Him for His faithfulness in the past and look forward to His mighty works in and through us in the future.

# Pastor's Note

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

How do we guarantee that this new year will not be like the last two years? Simply put, we must make changes. I learned a quote a long time ago and forget to use it very much. "If you keep doing the same things, you keep getting the same results." Sometimes, this is what you want, but not when it comes to new years, new goals, and new results. Anyone ready to see a Spiritual Revival in our community? This revival must first start with changes in our own spiritual lives. Let's work through this together.

**Step 1:** How is your prayer life? Most Christians would say that it is not what it should be. Well, the scriptures say to pray without ceasing. Let's start with this. Can you pray 5 minutes a day extra? Continue to increase this time to 30 minutes extra, then an hour extra. (PER DAY) After completing step 1, you will begin to see changes in your spiritual life, which will lead to step 2.

**Step 2:** How is your worship? Again, I don't think it is where it should be. You can begin with corporate worship with other believers at church. Then, apply Biblical principals of worship in your everyday life. (Rejoicing, praying, giving thanks: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18). This will then become your true and proper worship according to Romans 12:1; "living sacrifices".

**Step 3:** How is your fellowship with other believers? Is this nonexistent, or is it with the same three or four people as always? Acts chapter 2 says that the disciples broke bread together as believers daily. Do you think this area of your spiritual life needs to see change? It is up to you to start inviting other believers to your home to fellowship.

**Step 4:** How is your fellowship with non-believers? Unfortunately, this area of fellowship for most Christians is pretty strong, but we have failed too often to carry out the great commission to those non-believers. Matthew 28:19-20

**Conclusion:** I believe that most Christians really want to see a revival in our community but have been waiting on someone else to start it. Revival starts in the heart of the individual and begins to grow like fire as it spreads to others.

So, if you are truly looking for something different to happen this new year, then do something different, (or more), if you are already doing these things. Don't be satisfied with the same old results. Seek God for His Work to be done.

Have a Blessed and Happy New Year!  
Pastor Thomas Bridgmon

## Letter read on December 4, 2022:

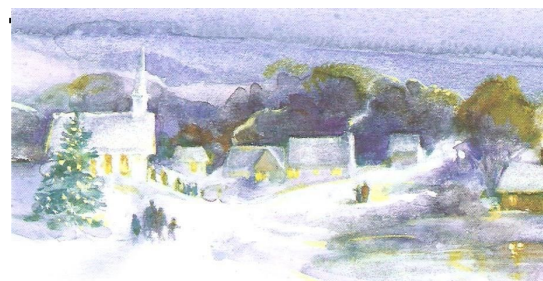
Dear Church Family,

Today, after 44 years of serving as Minister of Education and Associate Pastor at South Avenue Baptist Church, I am announcing my retirement as of December 31, 2022.

What a privilege and honor it has been to have served the Lord together with you through these years. Linda and I are thankful to God for leading us here in 1978. We are also thankful to you for the way you have loved and cared for our family since then.

We love you and this church and pray that God's richest blessings will be in all that you do in the future under the leadership of Bro. Thomas and Bro. Bill. We pray for God's very best for each one of you.

With love and gratitude,  
Jim Overton



## Prayer for the New Year

Give us the kindness to hear with compassion,  
to offer support,  
loving comfort, and care.  
Give us the courage to do what is needed,  
the wisdom to choose  
what is right and most fair.  
Give us the vision to see what is possible.  
Give us the faith  
that will help pave the way  
for a present that's hopeful,  
a future that's peaceful--  
give us the heart to bring joy to each day.

# January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 AM—Celebration Singers Rehearsal; 10 AM—Sunday School; 11 AM—Worship Service <i>Alex Rasmijn birthday</i>	2 SABC Office Closed in observance of New Year's Day	3 <i>Michael Crandall, Delia Alexander birthdays</i>	4 6 PM—Prayer Service and Bible Study <i>Sam Robinson, Jonathan Abner birthdays</i>	5 <i>Billie Mills, Lily Garcia birthdays</i>	6	7
8 10 AM—Sunday School 11 AM— <i>The Old Paths Quartet in concert</i>	9 <i>Judy Cabrero birthday</i>	10 9—11:45 AM—Food Pantry Distribution <i>Zachery Rasmijn, Flo Ornelas birthdays</i>	11 6 PM—Prayer Service and Bible Study <i>Ricky Holland, Randy Harrison birthdays</i>	12 <i>Meagan Clotfelter birthday</i>	13 <i>Jesse Araujo, Audri Rasmijn birthdays</i>	14 <i>Sue Hough birthday</i>
15 8:30 AM—Celebration Singers Rehearsal; 10 AM—Sunday School; 11 AM—Worship Service <i>Cindy Sirles birthday</i>	16 <i>Cathy Jones birthday</i>	17	18 6 PM—Prayer Service and Bible Study <i>Nikki McElroy birthday</i>	19	20 <i>Rosalyn Albanese, Raegan Higgins birthdays</i>	21
22 8:30 AM—Celebration Singers Rehearsal; 10 AM—Sunday School; 11 AM—Worship Service <i>Jimmy Anderson birthday</i>	23	24 9—11:45 AM—Food Pantry Distribution <i>Elvia Tellez birthday</i>	25 6 PM—Prayer Service and Bible Study	26	27 <i>Emily Wilbanks birthday</i>	28 10 AM—Men's Bible Study <i>Elizabeth Arriaga, Beth Wilson birthdays</i>
29 8:30 AM—Celebration Singers Rehearsal; 10 AM—Sunday School; 11 AM—Worship Service	30	31				