

A Word from Your Pastor:

“For you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways...to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.” (Luke 1:76, 79) As I get to know north Pasadena, I am burdened by the darkness and lostness that I see all around us. We have several in our own neighborhood that boast via bumper stickers that they worship “La Santa Muerte”--the patron saint of death. What drives a people to seek help by worshipping death itself? With churches all around Pasadena and one in their own backyard, why don’t they come here for help? Our church’s image is that of a lighthouse. We want to show the glory of God to Deepwater, Berkshire Village, Red Bluff Terrace, Parkwood, and the surrounding neighborhoods. We have wonderful worship on Sundays and warm, friendly Christian fellowship. So why don’t people come? We must realize that it is the exceptional person that decides to come to church because he realizes that his life is not right. Most people prefer to persist in their lives even when they know it’s not going well at all. Why? The bible explains that, on our own, we are lost and blinded by sin and its effects. Lost people don’t know that they are lost. Spiritually blind people do not know that they are spiritually blind. In fact, you could make the argument that if someone decides to come to church because she knows she needs help, then her eyes have already started to open. She can “see” that she needs God. Yes, our job as a lighthouse is to display light of the glory of God for our neighborhood. But that’s only part of our ministry. We also must take that light “to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.” Jesus said we are to be “fishers of men.” Sadly, we often “fish” the way Burt and Ernie did in one of their comical skits on Sesame Street. While they sat in the boat, Ernie would call, “Here, fishy, fishy, fishy!” And the fish would magically jump into the boat. The skit is funny because we know it is ridiculous. If you want to catch fish, you have to go to where the fish are and work at it. We need to burn brightly with the light of the glory of God here in our lighthouse. But we must not stop there. We shouldn’t expect that if we do things well on Sunday that people will just show up. That glory must compel us to go out into our neighborhoods “to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.” How is God calling you to take light to the block where you live? God has placed someone in your life that needs the transforming power of the Gospel. Begin today by praying for that person and for an opportunity to share Jesus.

Go Under the Mercy, John

Congratulations, Jeanette Gray!

On November 3rd, we celebrated her 20th anniversary of ministry at South Avenue. We are so grateful for those years of service. Thank you, Jeanette! As many of you know, Jeanette led us in a beautiful and very meaningful evening of worship. Our church is grateful to her for those years with us. I am personally grateful for her skill and wonderful help in the music ministry through the years. Jeanette, it is a privilege to serve with you.

Bill Ingram

Thank You

Dear Church Family,
Your kindness in sending the lovely plant in memory of my sister, Judy, is so appreciated. Your love and thoughtfulness at this time means so much to me.
Love in Christ, Maureen McDonald

Dear Church Family,
How wonderful the past twenty years have been for me as I served SABC as church pianist! I cannot even begin to express my thanks and appreciation for the reception, the cards, the kind words, and of course, all the wonderful hugs that you gave me as we celebrated those twenty years. I have been honored and blessed to be a part of our wonderfully loving family. Thank you, thank you. I'm looking forward as we start our next twenty years serving and praising God together.
In Christ, Jeanette

NEW MEMBERS

November 3, 2019

Baptism – Minerva Montano
Baptism – Cassandra Chavez
Baptism – Roman Chavez

cell: 281-652-7665
cell: 832-801-6256

2714 Norman
Pasadena, TX 77506

DECEMBER 2019

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 |
| 9:30 AM - Sunday School; 10:45 AM – Morning Worship; 5 PM – Evening Worship / Crossroads of SABC Youth; 6 PM – Celebration Choir | 10 AM – Senior Adult Game Day <i>(Helen McElroy - birthday)</i> | 9-11:45 AM – Food Pantry | 6 PM - Adult Bible Study and Prayer Time / Crossroads of SABC Youth / Mission Friends | | <i>(Bobby Johnson - birthday)</i> | 11 AM – Bethany Class Christmas Luncheon <i>(Linda Smith - birthday)</i> |
| 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 |
| 9:30 AM - Sunday School; 10:45 AM – Morning Worship Noon – Sr. Adult Christmas Luncheon; 4 PM – Deacons’ Meeting; 5 PM – Evening Worship / Crossroads of SABC Youth; 6 PM – Celebration Choir | | 9-11:45 AM – Food Pantry | 6 PM - Adult Bible Study and Prayer Time / Crossroads of SABC Youth / Mission Friends | SJBA Christmas Open House <i>(Shirley Martin - birthday)</i> | 6:30 PM – Celebration Choir dress rehearsal | 11 AM – Women’s Ministry Christmas Luncheon |
| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 9:30 AM - Sunday School; 10:45 AM – Celebration Choir Cantata; 5 PM – SABC Kidz Praise & Youth Christmas Presentation; 6 PM – Snacks with Santa <i>(Maggie Morrison - birthday)</i> | 10 AM – Senior Adult Game Day <i>(Ashley Purvis - birthday)</i> | 9-11:45 AM – Food Pantry <i>(Diana Leal - birthday)</i> | 6 PM - Adult Bible Study and Prayer Time / Crossroads of SABC Youth / Mission Friends <i>(Michelle Tipton, Alan Oliver - birthday)</i> | | <i>(Melba Ordelheide - birthday)</i> | 10 AM – Men’s Bible Study |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 9:30 AM - Sunday School; 10:45 AM – Morning Worship; 5 PM – Evening Worship / Crossroads of SABC Youth; 6 PM – Celebration Choir | <i>(Sheri Porter - birthday)</i> | 6 PM Christmas Eve Candlelight Service <i>SABC Office Closed</i> | <i>No Evening Activities</i> <i>SABC Office Closed</i> | | | |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | Jan 01 | | | |
| 9:30 AM - Sunday School; 10:45 AM – Morning Worship; 5 PM – Evening Worship / Crossroads of SABC Youth; 6 PM – Celebration Choir <i>(Kathleen Crenshaw - birthday)</i> | <i>(Jerry Brooks, Betty Dawley, Morgan Petty - birthday)</i> | 6 PM – New Year’s Eve Celebration | <i>No Evening Activities</i> <i>SABC Office Closed</i> | | | |

| | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| John Spencer, Senior Pastor | musicjohnspencer@gmail.com | 870-866-5033 |
| Jim Overton, Associate Pastor | jim@southavenue.org | 281-998-2957 |
| Bill Ingram, Music Minister | bfingram@yahoo.com | 281-731-4193 |
| Crystal Everding, Youth Minister | cleverding@yahoo.com | 832-247-9317 |
| Debbie Brooks, Secretary | office@southavenue.org | 713-294-9208 |
| Cathy Jones, Financial Secretary | cjones77536@comcast.net | 281-479-8906 |

Food Pantry Report for October, 2019

| Money Received | Money Disbursed | Families Served | Volunteer Hours | # of Lives committed to Christ | # New applicants | # of bags distributed |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| \$455.14 | \$867.40 | 59 | 94.5 | 1 | 10 | 79 |

SUNDAY SCHOOL REPORT

| CLASS | Oct 27 | Nov 3 | Nov 10 | Nov 17 |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| Adult | 57 | 57 | 55 | 58 |
| Youth | 12 | 8 | 12 | 11 |
| Children | 7 | 8 | 9 | 11 |
| Preschool | 8 | 6 | 6 | 9 |
| SS Total Attendance | 84 | 79 | 82 | 89 |
| <i>Worship Attendance*</i> | <i>105</i> | <i>104</i> | <i>98</i> | <i>90</i> |

BUDGET REPORT

| | Oct 27 | Nov 3 | Nov 10 | Nov 17 |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Budget Receipts | \$3,552.00 | \$4,864.00 | \$2,790.00 | \$7,168.00 |
| Budget Requirements | \$5,968.00 | \$5,968.00 | \$5,968.00 | \$5,968.00 |
| Budget Receipts YTD | \$190,219.24 | \$195,083.24 | \$197,873.24 | \$205,041.24 |
| Budget Requirements YTD | \$256,624.00 | \$262,592.00 | \$268,560.00 | \$274,528.00 |
| Missions | \$33.00 | \$25.00 | \$35.00 | \$125.00 |

**includes Worship Service, Children's Church, Nursery, and Money Counters*

Dear South Avenue Baptist Church,
 I would like to inform you that I will be resigning from the position of Youth Minister effective December 1st, 2019. I am so very grateful for the family that I have made here. You welcomed me in as your youth minister with so much love as you watched and helped me grow in this position. I am thankful for each and every person who has hugged me, given me words of encouragement, offered help with the youth and to those who gave me advice over the years. The last four years with these AMAZING kids has been the best blessing I could of ever asked for. Unfortunately, life changes and throws new things at you. This last school year has been stressful for me. I am extremely overwhelmed having two jobs that demand so much emotionally from me. My attitude has changed from being one of joy to being one of pessimism. As I have seeked counsel from God and other Christians, one thing became clear, I had to have rest for my body and mind. So after much prayer I have come to the decision that I need to allow myself time to rest, therefore my resignation from South Avenue. I will miss each and every one of you, but I will miss my youth the most. You kids have changed my life in ways you can't even imagine. This is not goodbye, just talk to you later. Once again thank you for allowing me to fill this position for so many years!!
 Sincerely, Crystal Everding (November 17, 2019)

December Dates to Remember

- Sunday, December 1, 5 PM, Fellowship Hall - Reception for Crystal Everding*
- December 1 thru 8 - Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and week of Prayer*
- Saturday, December 7, 11 AM - Bethany Class Christmas Fellowship*
- Sunday, December 8, noon - Senior Adult Christmas Luncheon*
- Thursday, December 12, 10 AM to 3 PM - SJBA Christmas Open House*
- Saturday, December 14, 11 AM - Women's Ministry Christmas Fellowship*
- Sunday, December 15, 10:45 AM - Celebration Choir Christmas Cantata; 5 PM - Youth and Children's Christmas Program*
- 6 PM - Snacks with Santa*
- Saturday, December 21, 10 AM, Fellowship Hall - Men's Bible Study*
- Tuesday, December 24, 6 PM - Candlelight Service*

South Avenue Baptist Church

GOD'S LIGHTHOUSE FOR OUR COMMUNITY



The Herald

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“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.