

8:20 & 10:30 AM SERVICES

Song: God Of Wonders
 Welcome
 Song: Anywhere With Jesus.....
 Song: Living By Faith
 Scripture: Hebrews 10:37-39Justin Lacey/Ashley Kuehn
 Prayer: Mike Duhig/Alec King
 Song: Holy Forever (2nd Service).....
 Song: Our God He Is Alive
 Communion/Contribution: Kendrick McKleskey/David Penninger
 Song: We'll Work Til Jesus Comes.....
 Sermon: "Today" David Duncan
 Song: Will You Not Tell It Today?
 Shepherd's Prayer:Daron Cathey
 Song: All To Us
 Song Leaders: Clayton Hamby/Tucker Harding

6:00 PM SERVICE

Song: Count Your Blessings
 Welcome
 Ecclesiastes 3; Philippians 3:12
 Song: I Know Whom I Have Believed
 Song: 10,000 Reasons
 Prayer: Curtis Burton
 Song: Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me
 Sermon: "Tidings Of Comfort And Joy: Life" David Duncan
 Song: Til My Faith Becomes Sight
 Prayer:Dustin Devine
 Song: Sing And Be Happy
 Song Leader: Craig Schuster

SERMON NOTES

TODAY

The most important thing I can do today ...
 _____ Jesus.
 Hebrews 3:12
 Our responsibility is to _____ each other.
 _____ for Jesus today.
 _____ others today.
 We often _____ doing good.
 We delay getting our _____ together.
 James 4:13-14
 God wants us to depend on Him _____ day.
 Matthew 6:9-13
 Daily dependence keeps me _____.
 Make a _____ today.
 _____ today. _____ today.
 Be _____ today.
 What will I _____ today?

TIDINGS OF COMFORT AND JOY

Life

Know what it's like to feel _____?
 _____ life
 Genesis 2:7
 There is no life without _____ giving it.
 God made a _____.
 Genesis 2:9; 3:22, 24
 The world was without hope, but God gives life.
 John 10:10
 Unless we _____, we can't enjoy it.
 John 6:47-51
 We must lose our life to get _____.
 Luke 9:23
 The good tidings of the _____ Jesus offers must
 become like the _____ we breathe.
 Where do I find life?

Love.Lead.Live.Jesus.

Ministry Staff David Duncan Preaching, Mike Avery Youth & Family, Shawn Freeman Youth & Bridge, Quincey Spurlock Resident Intern, Laura Norwood Elementary, Spencer Prather Preschool, Jack Prather Technology, Wayne Roberts Connection, Jessica Fuller Friendship School

Family Shepherds Bill Burdette, Daron Cathey, Frank Devine, Jerry Gerlich, Greg Hughes, Tom Messick, Terry Montgomery, Alan Pence, Robby Robinson, Jr., Craig Schuster, Chris Shanks



December 8, 2024

UNAPOLOGETICALLY CHRISTIAN

Recently, while visiting family, the host announced that they had arranged a babysitter for all the kids so that the adults could have a nice dinner out. My immediate reaction was to ask "Who is this person? How do you know them? What do you know about them and how they are around children?" And then I realized that asking questions was me trying to justify mine and Jack's rules, which are "No one we don't know watches our kids." And so, I said "No, but thank you." Though I felt guilty at first for having them change and eventually cancel some plans, I decided to be unapologetically me. These are our rules for our children, and we will not apologize.

The same approach should be taken to our faith. Here in what is deemed the holiday season, we hit a multitude of different religious holidays. There's Christmas, Hannukah, Kwanzaa, a multitude of Saint's days, and I'm sure many more. And we should absolutely respect one another's rights to have different beliefs and practice those beliefs as we see fit. But that means that we should respect our own rights and unapologetically embrace our own faith during the holiday season and beyond.

Many find no issue with being unapologetically Christian during the Christmas season. But what about beyond Christmas? What about when we are out of the cocoon of the songs, movie, shopping, decorations, and general spirit of the season being dubbed "Christmas," whether they be Christocentric or not? What about when it is not "our time" of the year?

I will tell you one thing, it is always our time of the year. Christ did not come down for one day, but he came to save us for all of eternity. Christ was born, lived a perfect life, died, and rose again to save us for all time. He endured heartache (Jn 11), betrayal (Lk 22), excruciating pain (Mk 15), and death (Mt 27), knowingly and refusing to turn away from it (Mt 26) all for our salvation. Christ deserves more from us than just recognition at Christmas, He deserves us to be unapologetic followers and proclaimers all year long. So unapologetically celebrate and proclaim Christ not just this Christmas, but each and every day.

- Spencer

Holiday Schedule

Sunday
 December 22 & 29
 8:20 am Worship
 9:30 am coffee/donuts
 10:30 am Worship
 No Bible Classes, Nursery, Toddler Time, or Bible Hour. Unattended nursery open.
Note: No PM service

Christmas Eve Service
Tuesday
 December 24 | 7 PM
 No class or small groups

Christmas Day
Wednesday
 December 25
 No services

New Year's Day
Wednesday
 January 1
 No services

WiFi: MCoC Guest
 Password: mcoc1234

Members:
 Check in via your Elexio app

Guests:
 We are so glad that you are here.

We'd love to stay in touch with you.

Check in here.



Spencer Prather
 Preschool
 Children's Minister

UPCOMING EVENTS

YEAR END GIVING NOTE

When making your year-end charitable contribution, checks are considered to be received on the date given, regardless of the date on the check. Checks mailed to the church office are considered given on the date of the postmark. Postdated checks mailed & postmarked in 2024 will be considered given in 2024. Online giving is available at mccoc.org and in the Elexio app.

HOLIDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Sunday, December 22/29

8:20 am Worship/10:30 am Worship/9:30 am coffee/donuts
No Bible Classes, Nursery, Toddler Time, or Bible Hour
Unattended nursery open. Note: No PM service.

Christmas Eve Service

Tuesday, December 24; 7 pm

No class or small groups.

Note: No meeting on Wednesday, 12/25.

Christmas Day; Wednesday, December 25

No services

New Year's Day; Wednesday, January 1

No services

BOOKING NOW

The Ark Encounter & Creation Museum Trip

March 29-April 6, 2025

\$1150 per person/double occupancy, 9 days, 8 nights

Add \$319 for single occupancy.

Deposit: \$75/Final payment due January 22.

Contact **Amy LaMore** for more information including itinerary.

DECEMBER

December 19; 11:30 am; Oak View Room

Young At Heart Christmas Luncheon

Open to all 55+. Catered by Natalitas. Santa will be there and seasonal songs will be sung. No cost to attend but please let **Amy LaMore** know by 12/15 if you will be there.

Tuesday, December 24; 7:00 pm; Chapel

Christmas Eve Service; No classes or small groups.

See front of the bulletin for a full holiday worship schedule.

No Wednesday service on 12/25.

JANUARY

January 12; Baby Blessing; We will honor all of

our 2024 babies! Contact: **Spencer Prather**

January 12; 11:30 am; Family Center

Leadership Training for Christ Kick-Off

Informational luncheon with sign-ups for students (ages 3rd grade and up) and volunteer coaches for puppets, drama, speech, chorus, Bible reading, and more! LTC will be held April 18-20, 2025 in Dallas and practices will take place from January-April. Contact: **April Sprott**

January 15; 6:00 pm; Family Center

Family Fellowship Meal

Adults: \$5/Kids: \$3; Sign-up requested.

Contact: **Shawn Freeman**

FEBRUARY

February 7-9, 2025

"Called Up" - Men's Retreat

Trinity Pines Conference Center, Trinity, TX


Open to Men 18+; Cost: \$100/person

Registration deadline: January 22, 2025

Contact: **Jeremy Sprott/Jake Hicks**



BIBLE CLASSES; Sun. - 9:30 am; Wed. - 7:00 pm

 **December 18; 5:00-7:00 pm**
Movie In The Pews - *The Star*; Open to ages 2-4th grade. Bring your child's dinner.

December 18; 7:00 pm

New! Preschool Pajama Party

Wear your pajamas to Bible Class!

January 12, 2025; New! Baby Blessing

If you have had a baby in 2024 and would like to participate in Baby Blessing Sunday, please contact **Spencer Prather** at spencer@mccoc.org or look out for an email for her for more information.



7th-12th



5th-6th

BIBLE CLASSES Sun. - 9:30 a.m. Wed. - 7:00 pm

Small Groups; Every Wednesday night; 7:00 pm

Open to grades 7-12!

December 15; 4:30-7:00 pm

Home of Alice Kate & Gibson Allison

New! Bridge Christmas Party

Bus will leave MCCOC at 4:00 and return at 7:30 pm.

Bring a \$10 White Elephant gift.

January 31-February 1, 2025; Bridge Retreat



FOCAS

College Age Singles

Sundays - Family Center 309

Single Adults (20's/30's)

Tonight; 6:00 pm; Christmas Party

home of **Craig & Susan Schuster**

December 14; 7:00 pm

Movie On The Rooftop

 Scan QR code to register!

New! December 31; 7:00-10:00 pm

New Year's Eve Party

home of **Tim & Brittany Spurlock**

Please stop by the Doorposts Resource Center to pick up a complimentary copy of Everyday Gospel, a Christmas Devotional. This book contains daily devotionals counting down to Christmas. There are a limited number available.

FAMILY NEWS

Need something included in the bulletin? Email jshanks@mccoc.org by Wednesdays at noon.

REJOICE

We are thrilled with these recent baptisms at Ramsey!

Mario Arredondo and **Benny Arrellano**

CONGRATULATIONS

Baby girl, **Early James Growcock**, was born December 4 to proud parents, **Zach & Cayley**, weighing 7 lbs. 9 oz., and measuring 20 1/2 in. long.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Connie Allison, mother of **Scott Allison**, is currently in rehab following spine surgery.

Donna Ballard, sister of **Debbie Landes**, remains in ICU after surgery.

Frederica Flowers requests prayers as she recovers from knee surgery.

Jo Gonzales requests prayers as she continues awaiting test results.

Diane Holleman, grandmother of **Stephen Holleman**, has recently been in the hospital with complications.

Charles Lewis, the brother of **Christopher Lewis**, is in need of prayer that he be approved for a heart transplant.

David & Barbara Mahaffey request prayers as David recovers from a broken neck.

Monica McCoy, co-worker of **Richard Ramharack**, has requested complete healing from breast cancer.

John & Paula Pierce remain in need of prayer as Paula faces a difficult recovery and new concerns as well.

Charris Powers received treatment for her foot and will remain in her boot for a couple of weeks. She is thankful for all of your prayers.

Ledger Robertson, 4 year old grandson of **Charlie & Angie Robertson**, underwent surgery last week for a brain tumor. Please pray for **Ledger, Haley**, and all of the medical staff as his journey continues.

Rowan Stokes, young son of **Kyle & Laura**, remains in the hospital but is improving.

John Watkins is scheduled for surgery tomorrow at Methodist West

SYMPATHY

Patricia Berry Jones passed away December 1. We express our deep sympathy to her son, **Donney**, daughter, **Shana**, and all of her friends & family. A memorial service will be held December 10 at 10:00 am at Greenville Ave Church of Christ in Dallas.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

2025 Mission trips to South Africa

April 2-15 and July 30-August 8; Needed: Bible class teachers for all ages, organizers, servants of all kinds. Contact **Kirk Eason**

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

All are invited to find their place at Memorial as we seek to share the love of Jesus and serve others.

Help needed with coffee & donuts. Scan the

 **QR code to volunteer!** Contact: **Justin Robertson**

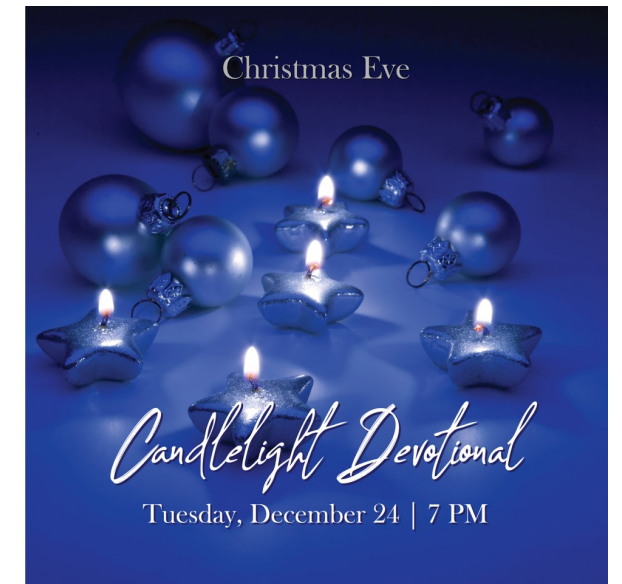
In addition - we need volunteers for coffee on

December 22 & December 29. Contact: Wayne Roberts

 **Diaper Drive for Ukrainian Families** We continue to collect diapers, as well as wipes, for Ukrainian and Russian families. **Current needs include Size 5 diapers and 5-6T**

Pull-Ups. Having them sent directly from Amazon (Gentle Touch) to the church office is the most efficient way -

MCCOC Diapers, 900 Echo Lane Houston 77024. Contact: **Judy Haley**



Called Up

Memorial Men's Retreat 2025

February 7-9

Friday 6 PM - Sunday 1 PM

Trinity Pines Conference Center
Trinity, TX

Register today.

Space is limited | Deadline 1/22

FAMILY RECORDS

CONTRIBUTION

11/24/24 Offering - \$43,513

Weekly Budget - \$62,503

YTD Budget Deficit - **(\$141,994)**

Kids' Contribution - \$95.82



TO GIVE

ATTENDANCE - 11/24/24

8:20 am - 221 10:30 am - 441

AM Total - 662

6:00 pm - 67

2024 BAPTISMS - 33

Follow us



Prayer Requests

Public - jshanks@mccoc.org

Private - prayer@mccoc.org