

8:20 & 10:30 AM SERVICES

Song: Hark, The Herald Angels Sing .....  
Song: O Come Let Us Adore Him .....  
Welcome  
Song: Taste And See .....  
Scripture: Psalm 27:1-3 .....Ronald Arrington/Chris Miller  
Prayer: ..... Ben Johnson/Bradley Lowry  
Song: Holy, Holy, Holy.....  
Song: In Christ Alone .....  
Communion/Contribution: ... Justin Robertson/Shawn Freeman  
Song: Praise .....  
Sermon: "Hidden Kingdom Work" ..... David Duncan  
Song: Shine On Us .....  
Shepherd's Prayer: ..... Bill Burdette  
Song: Heavenly Sunlight .....  
Song Leader: Andy Midkiff/Tucker Harding

SERMON NOTES

VISIONS OF VICTORY  
Light Piercing Darkness

Genesis 1:1-4  
\_\_\_\_\_ was critical to all of creation.  
John 1:1-5  
Figuratively, \_\_\_\_\_ was the light that entered the world.  
John 8:12  
He makes us a new \_\_\_\_\_.  
2 Corinthians 5:17  
If the light of Jesus is in me, there are \_\_\_\_\_.  
Matthew 5:14-16  
How do I \_\_\_\_\_ this?  
Philippians 2:14-16a  
The \_\_\_\_\_ is crooked & twisted.  
These things are darkness.  
\_\_\_\_\_ of God.  
We were called to be \_\_\_\_\_.  
2 Monumental Events  
The \_\_\_\_\_ in Bethlehem.  
The \_\_\_\_\_ at Golgotha.  
The \_\_\_\_\_ in the garden.  
The \_\_\_\_\_ has changed the world.  
He \_\_\_\_\_ changed me?

6:00 PM SERVICE

Song: A Beautiful Life .....  
Welcome  
Song: Where Could I Go? .....  
Song: Had It Not Been The Lord .....  
Prayer: ..... Jimmy McClung  
Song: Man Of Sorrows/In The Hour Of Trial .....  
Sermon: "God Is With Us" .....David Duncan  
Song: Boundless Love .....  
Prayer: .....Ashley Kuehn  
Song: Savior, Lead Me.....  
Song: Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me .....  
Song Leader: Craig Schuster

GOD IS WITH US

Matthew 18:15-17  
We all have \_\_\_\_\_.  
It is often just a \_\_\_\_\_.  
Getting \_\_\_\_\_ is vital.  
Go \_\_\_\_\_.  
If it still sticky, take a few \_\_\_\_\_  
to hear both sides.  
Finally, go to the \_\_\_\_\_.  
The passage does not say to \_\_\_\_\_.  
Matthew 18:18-20  
God goes with us when we address the \_\_\_\_\_.  
He blesses the \_\_\_\_\_ decision.  
Wait! There's more!  
Matthew 18:21-22  
Matthew 18:23-35  
What's the point?  
Accuse \_\_\_\_\_  
Forgive \_\_\_\_\_  
Remember grace \_\_\_\_\_ shown to us.  
How will I apply \_\_\_\_\_?

Love.Lead.Live.Jesus.

Ministry Team

David Duncan Preaching	Mike Avery Youth & Family	Shawn Freeman Youth & Bridge	Quincey Spurlock Bridge + Girls' Youth	Laura Norwood Elementary
Spencer Prather Preschool	Jack Prather Technology	Wayne Roberts Connection	Jessica Fuller Friendship School	Brooke Johnson Counselor
Donna Fore Finance	Amber Aubrey Office	Jacinda Shanks Office		

Family Shepherds

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



END OF AN ERA

Do you remember the last time you used a phone book? I think for me it was in the early 2000's, and I was using it as a door stop / step stool for my toddler. I remember using the yellow pages almost weekly at one point, but we eventually began using Yahoo and Google to search for everything. Now, AI answers all our questions. I recently read an article listing mainstream items that will soon be obsolete including physical money and credit cards, television channels, passwords, charging cables, and MRI machines. Sometimes I wonder if a moment I'm currently experiencing will be a "last". I remember the last time I drove my daughter to school before she began driving herself. I knew the day would come, but it still caught me by surprise. My wife and I recently became empty nesters. We knew this time would come, and we prepared as best we could. Even though it has only been a few months, we have already adjusted to new "normals."

Seasons come and go, and our lives are full of firsts and lasts. Some come with great anticipation while others pass without us even realizing it. A line from an old song says, "The only thing that stays the same is ... everything changes, everything changes." It seems that way at times, and that can be unsettling.

"Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today, and forever." - Hebrews 13:8.

"The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the Word of the Lord stands forever." - Isaiah 40:8.

These two passages of Scripture (among others) remind us that while everything around us is changing, God and His Word will never change. As you approach or arrive at the end of an era, the end of 2025 for example, find comfort and hope in these truths above. No matter what we face, God is unchanging. His promises never fail. He is with us, He loves us, and He is preparing a place for us. And that is an era that will never end!

- Mike



Mike Avery  
Youth & Family  
Minister

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December 14, 2025

Upcoming:

Today

Starting Point

HIVE Meeting

December 21

Combined 10:30

AM Worship

December 24

Christmas Eve Devotional

December 28

Combined 10:30

AM Worship

December 31

No service or classes

January 4

LTC Kick-Off Meeting

January 14

Family Fellowship Meal

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.



UPCOMING EVENTS

TODAY

**African Christian College**  
Brad Carter, President of African Christian College, is with us today and has macadamia nuts and oil available for purchase. Proceeds go to support African Christian College.

**Noon; Oak View Room**  
**Starting Point;** Open to new & current members. Find our more about Memorial, our missions, & ministries.

**2:00 pm; Room 221**  
**HIVE Meeting;** Contact: Wayne Roberts

**4:00 pm; Oak View Room; Baby Girl Shower honoring Al & Yidara Wolf;** Registered at babylist.com; Hostess: Lauren Rodgers

DECEMBER

**December 21; near the Welcome Desk Amazon Gift Card Celebration honoring Jonathan & Carlena Rivera;** Between now-12/21, Amazon gift cards will be collected at the Welcome Desk. On 12/21, Jonathan will be here, so stop by to congratulate him in person. Hostess: Sandra Hughes

JANUARY

**January 4; 12:00 pm; Oak View Room LTC Kick-Off Meeting;** Contact: April Sprott

**January 4; 4:00 pm; Oak View Room Baby Boy Shower honoring Ayryonne & Demarcus Matthews;** Registered at Amazon Hostess: Spencer Prather

**January 11; 3:30 pm; Oak View Room Wedding Shower honoring Ty & Olivia Nelson** Registered at Amazon. Hostess: Manya Leach

**January 14; 6:00 pm**  
**Gathering Area; Family Meal**  
Scan event QR code to register.

**January 15; 11:30 am; Oak View Room Young At Heart Lunch 'n Learn;**



memorial  
**MARRIAGE**  
retreat  
January 23-25, 2026

Space is limited.



Use QR code to register.

**January 30-February 1; Trinity Pines Men's Advance; Identity: Intentionality, Integrity, & Intimacy;** \$100/man; Meals & snacks included. *Your identity isn't about who you are, it's about whose you are.* Open to all men. Contact: Jeremy Sprott

 Visit our Event Registration Page  
**Use the QR code to register for any event or to volunteer!**



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

**KIDS!** Don't forget to pick up a coloring book to celebrate the season with a little holiday chuckle. The coloring book has pages with all the Memorial team. Pick them up at the MKids sign-in desk.



**New - Toddler Time/Bible Hour**  
Help is needed in Toddler Time & Bible Hour. Scan QR code to volunteer.

**New - January 11; Baby Blessing**  
If your child was born during 2025, we would love for you to join us for Baby Blessing Sunday. You should have received an email from Spencer with more information. If you did not, please reach out to her as soon as possible. Contact: Spencer Prather

**Summer Save The Dates**  
**May 29-31; Memorial Kids Camp**  
(completed Kinder-completed 4th)

**July 12-15; VBS**  
(3 years-completed 3rd)

**July 29-August 2; Camp Awesome**  
(completed 4th-completed 5th)



7th-12th



5th-6th

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

**Bible Class Locations**  
**Sundays & Wednesdays**  
Bridge (5th-6th) - Room 205

**Sundays**  
Junior High (7th-8th) - Room 211  
High School (9th-12th) - Room 212  
**Wednesdays**  
Youth (7th-12th) - check Youth News

**Tonight; 4:30-7:00 pm; Home of Clara Midkiff; Bridge (5th-6th) Christmas Devo & Party;** Dinner, Devo, & Yankee Swap! Bus will leave MCOC at 4:00 pm & return at 7:30 pm. Check the Bridge news for more details & to sign up for sides.

**December 17; 7:00 pm; Youth (7th-12th) Small Group White Elephant Gift Exchange**



**FOCAS**

**Sunday; College Age Singles; FC309**  
**Sunday; Singles (20's/30's) Rm. 211**

**Tonight; 6:00 pm; Christmas Party at the home of Scott & Jennifer Allison**

FAMILY NEWS

Welcome to Memorial! Please check in online or grab a card from the pew in front of you. You may place it in the basket on the Welcome Desk or leave it in the pew to be collected later.

Praise

We rejoice in the baptisms of **Miguel Angel Martinez, Irma Barcenas,** and **Domingo Lemus** from the Valencia Apartments!

Welcome

We look forward to having **Faye Gonzales** worshiping & serving with us here at Memorial!

Prayer Requests

**Carol Bowers** is recovering from surgery.

**Katlyn Flowers** continues to wait on test results.

**Jim Railey** has returned home to continue recovery.

**Lila Roley** is scheduled for surgery on December 24.

**Lovee Sherwin** underwent surgery for back fractures.

**Val Slaid** is recovering at home following a fall.

Sympathy

**Billy Fore**, father of **Bron Fore**, passed away December 3. A service will be held Tuesday, December 16 at Brookside Memorial Park. Visitation will begin at 10:00 am with the service beginning at 11:00 am. Our sympathy is extended to Bron, Donna, Cole, and all of Billy's family & friends.

Vision Brochure

Exciting things are on the horizon for us! Vision brochures are available at the Welcome Desk for anyone who missed one last week.

Family Center Closure

The Family Center is closed for renovation and no access will be allowed.

Impact Donations

Please note that our Impact closet is closed to donations at this time due to a back-up on Impact's end. We will let you know when we are able to open it again.



Short-Term Mission Trips 2026

Experience missions firsthand. Take part in one of short term mission trips scheduled for next year to Southern Africa Bible College. Trips are scheduled for April 15-28 and July 15-25. We're seeking workers of all kinds. **Sign-up deadlines are December 31, 2025 (April trip) and March 1, 2026 (July trip).** Scan the QR code for more details

SERVING OPPORTUNITIES

Drivers Needed

Back up drivers are needed to drive our Ukrainian friends to Impact Church food bank twice a month. This would only be an occasional need for when David Hammett is unable to. If you would be willing and able as an "understudy," please contact **David Hammett** or **Brent Simmons**.

Updated Needs - Ukrainian Diaper Ministry

Our need for diapers is ongoing, so please consider ordering in the near future. *Diapers sized 4 & 5 are the only current needs.* Having them sent directly from Amazon (Mama Bear are unisex) to the church office is the most efficient way - MCOC Diapers, 900 Echo Lane, Houston 77024  
Contact: **Judy Haley**

Whose are you?

Memorial  
Men's Advance 2026  
**IDENTITY**

**January 30-February 1**

Trinity Pines Conference Center | Trinity, TX

Special Guest: Roy Wooten,  
Executive Director, The Crucible Project

Intentionality  
Integrity  
Intimacy

**Register Today**

Registration deadline  
**Wednesday, January 14**



FAMILY RECORDS

CONTRIBUTION

12/7/25 Offering - \$68,421  
Weekly Budget - \$62,453  
YTD Budget Deficit - **(\$175,149)**  
Kids' 12/7 Contribution - \$273.90  
**2025 BAPTISMS - 48**



TO GIVE

**New - 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 2025 will be considered given in 2025. Online giving is available at mcoc.org and in the Elexio app.

Follow us



mcoc.org

