

# ON THE HORIZON

***“For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.”***  
**Isaiah 9:6**



## A Letter From The Pastor

BY JOHN STRADER

December is here! Can you believe we have made it to the end of another year? As we think over the past year and look forward to Christmas, it is a great time to slow down and enjoy the special blessings of life. Your spouse, children, and family (plus church family) have all made a big impact on your year. Spend some time with them this holiday season encouraging each other.

When we can come together in love and encouragement, there is nothing in this world that can steal the inner joy we will be filled with.

This December we will take some time to look at the full humanity of Jesus and how Christ gives us our perfect example to model our life after. As we follow Jesus, we will learn never to underestimate what God can do through His willing people.

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# CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

## *Sunday Funday*

THEME: The Big GIVE; Get wrapped up in Christmas

In November, our theme will be “The Big GIVE; Get wrapped up in Christmas.” The children will be learning that a lot of us get wrapped up in a lot of things at Christmas. Up the real reason we celebrate is that God gave us the greatest gift in Jesus. Their monthly memory verse is “Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you. He is the messiah, the Lord.” Luke 2:11.



## *Soul'd Out Youth*

In November, our Youth volunteered in the Missouri City Fire and Police stuff the squad car and fire truck food drive! Our youth continue to be an encouragement to our church and those around them to be the hands and feet of Jesus. We are so thankful for our teens and their heart for the Lord!

December 9th, our youth will be baking Christmas cookies for the Creative Dreams Christmas party on Saturday, December 10th, which our youth will also be volunteering at! December 14th will be the last Soul'd Out Youth night for the year and will end with a game night or party to look forward to!



## *Awana Club Wednesdays!*

Awana Club is every Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:00 PM. Please make note of the new time for this year! We are so excited to have so many children learning about Jesus each week and digging more into God's word together! Some fun upcoming theme nights to remember are December 7th is Crazy Socks Night, December 14th is our Birthday Party for Jesus and Awana Store, and there will be no Awana on December 21st or 28th! We will see you back on January 4th!



# ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Joining a Sunday school class is a wonderful way to create deeper connections with our fellow church family but to also dive deeper into God's word. These smaller, intentional groups allow us to be vulnerable with one another and often turn into strong friendships who encourage us on our walks with Christ. We encourage you, if you are not already plugged into one, please feel free to visit any one of our classes until you find the right fit for you. These classes are huge blessings and allow us to lean on one another for wisdom, Godly fellowship, and friendship as we all strengthen our relationship with the Lord and gain more knowledge of His amazing word.

## ***The Strong Family***

The Strong Family class will start a new series in December called "Identity Crisis: Who Am I?" This study will allow us to learn more and dive deeper into who God has created us to be. This class is lead by Corey Waters and will focus on the challenges and concerns we face in Marriage & Parenting as Christians.

## ***Living Long & Loving It Spiritual Growth***

This is a fun-loving Sunday School Class that believes in spiritual growth with a hint of laughter along the way. It is led by Mr. Jay Porter. They make sure that everyone that walks in the door the class is made to feel at home and feel like part of the family. They even throw in an occasional social along the way. Come early and you may even get a hug to start your morning!

## ***Ladies Sunday School***

This class is lead by Ms. Lela Burgess and she would like to share some insight into her class! "This class is for women, single, widowed, never married, married now divorced, young or not as young as you used to be. We currently meet in the Cafe so there are tables where you can put your coffee and relax. We would love to have you join us. There is a lot that single women can and will do for the cause of Christ and a lot of it comes from being 'single' women. Our experiences are necessarily unique but we have a lot to offer to God and to others. Come try our class and see for yourselves." This class is currently studying the book of Isaiah, reading 3-4 chapters a week.

**All Sunday School classes are every Sunday morning at 9:30 AM**

# MEN & WOMEN MINISTRIES

## *Men's Ministry*

Our men's ministry have started volume 3 of Authentic Manhood and this time we will be looking at the different traps we fall into as men and how God desires for us to handle these common issues. Join us as we take steps toward growing as spiritual leaders in our homes. Men's ministry will meet on Sunday, December 11 at 4:00 PM.

## *Women's Ministry*

The Women's Ministry meeting will be on December 4th at 4:00 PM. The Ladies Luncheon will be at Alex's Kitchen on Tuesday, December 13th, at 11:00 AM. We hope to see you there!

Our Ladies Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 17th at 12:00 PM. Please bring things for a Salad Bar, a wrapped pair of socks, and definitely bring a friend! We are looking forward to lots of fun and fellowship!

# HOME GROUPS

## *Pray & Go*

If anyone is interested in joining us as we continue to visit our local neighborhoods with prayer and invite them to our church, please contact Pastor John to be added to the communications list at [seniorpastor@hbctx.org](mailto:seniorpastor@hbctx.org)!

## *Single Women*

This home group is for single woman including widows and divorcees for spiritual growth and to develop meaningful friendships. They will continue their study on "The Magnificent Obsession" by Anna Graham. This wonderful group of women meet weekly on Friday evenings at 6:30 PM and would love for you to join! If you have any questions, you can contact Rose Bess.

## *Young Adults*

Our Young Adult Home Group is for those married, single, with young kiddos, with old kiddos, with no kiddos, and everyone in between! This group is made to encourage one another on our individual walks with Christ and learn more about God's word together! Mark your calendars for the next night of fellowship on December 8th at 7:00 PM at Keith and Aileen Loftin's house. We will continue The Meaning of Marriage by Timothy Keller. Please note that our new meeting times are on Thursdays! Children are always welcome and there will be games upstairs for them to play!

# Volunteer Spotlight

## HOPE RUTLEDGE

Hope has been a part of Horizon Baptist in some way since she was two years old. She has been working as our Kids Director for a little over 5 years. She shares that kids are her passion and are so important in our future. She graduated in 2002 from Sam Houston State with a degree in Studio Art (painting), went on to teach high school and now teaches in a homeschool co-op. She enjoys helping people and doing anything that allows her to be creative. She shared that she loves cheering her kids on in whatever they are doing. Hope is beyond passionate about the people she loves and the things she commits to. She lives by the motto “Go big or Go home!” Hope is a dedicated servant for Christ and she is a constant encouragement to us all. We are so thankful for our sister in Christ!



## Horizon Family Photos



## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Women's Ministry Meeting  
Sunday, December 4  
4:00 PM

Young Adult Home Group  
Thursday, December 8  
7:00 PM

Awana  
Every Wednesday Evening  
6:30 PM

Men's Ministry Meeting  
Sunday, December 11  
4:00 PM

Ladies Luncheon  
Tuesday, December 13  
11:00 AM

Ladies Christmas Party  
Saturday, December 17  
12:00 PM

Christmas Eve Service  
Saturday, December 24  
2:00 PM