

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

As we enter the blessed month of December, our hearts and minds turn towards the joy and wonder of Christmas. This season, we embark on a special sermon series titled "Encountering Jesus on the Way to Christmas." We'll explore how Christ is revealed throughout the Old Testament, preparing our hearts to celebrate His birth with deeper understanding and reverence.

I'm also delighted to announce that this year, we will hold a special Sunday Morning Candlelight Service on

Christmas Eve. This will be a time of beautiful music, scripture readings, and a message of hope as we celebrate the light Jesus brings into our world.

Furthermore, our 5th Sunday Family Fusion service is set to be a spectacular event. We're planning a special 12 o'clock countdown complete with a festive balloon drop. It's a wonderful opportunity for families to come together, worship, and ring in the new year with joy and thanksgiving.

Let's cherish this season of Advent, as we anticipate and celebrate the greatest gift ever given. Wishing you a December filled with peace, joy, and the love of Christ.

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CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

Sunday Funday

THEME: Deck the Halls— Countdown to Christmas

This December our Sunday School theme will be “Deck the Halls: Countdown to Christmas” The kids will be learning there’s so much to look forward to at Christmas! And the reason we celebrate is because of Jesus, God’s greatest gift.

Their monthly memory verse is ““A child will be born to us. A son will be given to us.” Isaiah 9:6



Soul'd Out Youth

We are so excited to fellowship and worship with our Soul'd Out Youth every Wednesday night from 6:30 - 8:00 PM. On Sunday Morning the youth have bible study at 9:30 AM and are currently studying Genesis. This program is for youth ages 6th to 12th grade! We would love for you to join us!

The youth and kids ministry are looking forward to some Christmas Caroling on Sunday, December 3rd at Park Manor following church!

CHILDREN & YOUTH MINISTRIES

(continued.)

Awana Club Wednesdays!

December at AWANA is looking merry and bright with some special events lined up for our kids!

To start the festive season with fun, our first Wednesday of the month will be "Crazy Sock Night." Encourage your kids to wear their wackiest, most colorful socks. It's a playful way to kick off our holiday celebrations.

The second week of December, we're having a very special event – a Birthday Party for Jesus! This is a beautiful time to help our children understand the true meaning of Christmas and celebrate the birth of our Savior in a fun and memorable way.

Please note, we'll be taking a break for the last two Wednesdays of the month to spend time celebrating the holidays with our families. It's important to cherish these moments and reflect on the blessings of the season. We are wishing all of our AWANA families a joyful and blessed December!

Awana is **every Wednesday night from 6:30 to 8:00 PM**. We have classes ranging from preschool age to 5th grade!



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.

Adult Sunday School

This class is led by Chad Bishop and has the goal for each individual to be the best follower of Christ they can be considering whatever role you are in (husband, wife, servant, master).

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 room 114 and 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."

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

MEN & WOMEN MINISTRIES

Disciples of God Men's Ministry

Men's Ministry has paused meeting for the Fall/ Winter and will pick back up in the Spring, please keep an eye out for updates!

We want to remind you of the invaluable role men play in our church community. Your unique gifts, perspectives, and leadership are essential to the growth and impact of Horizon Baptist Church. If you feel God tugging at your heart to step up and serve in a new capacity, don't hesitate to respond to His call.

Whether you're already engaged in a ministry or looking to get plugged in, reach out to Pastor John or Pastor Jodie to explore the opportunities available to make a real difference. Together, we can strengthen our bonds and become the men God has called us to be, serving Him and our community with passion and purpose.

Women of the Word (W.O.W.) Ministry

Our Women's Ministry enjoyed a Christmas luncheon at Brookwood and some fun shopping the last week of November.

Ladies, we'd love for you to join us for dinner at the church on Friday, December 8th at 6:30 pm for our Ladies Christmas Party. Please bring approximately 6 dozen of your favorite Christmas cookies or a Christmas dessert. Also, please bring your favorite salad fixings for the salad bar and a Christmas kitchen towel for a gift exchange! We are looking forward to some fun and fellowship!

The women of our congregation play a vital role in both the numerical and spiritual growth of Horizon Baptist Church. Your contributions, service, and love have an immeasurable impact on our community. Thank you for all that you do, and may God continue to bless and guide you.

HOME GROUPS

Single Women

Our Single Women home group is at 6:30 pm every Friday evening at Rose's house and they are currently studying *The Daniel Prayer* by Anne Graham Lotz. This home group is for single woman including widows and divorcees for spiritual growth and to develop meaningful friendships. If you have any questions or if you are interested in joining, you can contact Rose Bess.

Young Adults

Our Young Adult Home Group will be hosted by Shane and Palmira Gonzalez and will meet next on Friday, December 1st at 7:00 PM. Parents are welcome to bring your children. We hope you consider joining us one day a month for some fun fellowship. This 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!

New Moms

Mommas, bring your baby or not, each Friday from 11:30 to 12:30 for a lunch and fellowship between other new mommas. We meet at the Loftin's house. This home group is made to be an encouragement to those walking through motherhood for the first time or 6th time and will be a safe space to confide in, share our struggles, and seek advice from one another while pushing each other to lean on and strengthen our relationship with the Lord.

HORIZON FAMILY PHOTOS



Volunteer Spotlight

JAMES POTEET

We are so excited to recognize James as our December volunteer spotlight of the month! James has been coming to HBC since 2018. He got baptized and became a member in 2019. He is currently serving on the AV/Sound system team and has been for as long as he has been a member. He's on the building and grounds committee, a youth leader, and him and his wife, Maggie, will be serving as a couple in the children's ministry on Sunday mornings during service. James recently volunteered and built the pumpkin launching catapult for the 5th Sunday in October for the kids! James likes to collect hats, watch college football, specifically LSU, Geaux Tigers! He enjoys playing pickleball, listening to music/podcasts, & he likes to do anything with building things! His wife, Maggie, shares that he has a huge heart to serve not only for our church but in every part of his life. She also adds that he is hard working and he willing to show up and be there to accomplish anything and do it with a smile on his face! We, his church family, can definitely attest to this being true! We are thankful for your dedication to your church family and always serving wherever is needed, James!



"THEREFORE THE LORD HIMSELF WILL GIVE YOU A SIGN. BEHOLD, THE VIRGIN SHALL CONCEIVE AND BEAR A SON, AND SHALL CALL HIS NAME IMMANUEL." ISAIAH 7:14



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Christmas Caroling
Sunday, December 3
Following Morning Service

Ladies Christmas Party
Friday, December 8
6:30 PM

Family International Christmas Dinner
Saturday, December 9
5:00 PM

Church Clean-Up
Sunday, December 17
Following Morning Service

Christmas Eve Service
Sunday, December 24
10:30 AM

AWANA & Soul'd Out Youth
Wednesday Evenings
6:30 PM

Single Women Home Group
Friday Evenings
6:30 PM

Senior Women Bible Study
Tuesdays
10:00 AM

Momma/Baby Home Group
Fridays
11:30 AM