

ON THE HORIZON

December

Special Message from Women of the Word Ministry on Pages 6-7

A Letter From The Pastor

BY JOHN STRADER

As December arrives, so does the joy and celebration of the Christmas season! This is a month filled with opportunities to reflect on Christ's preeminence in our lives as we conclude our sermon series on the book of Colossians. Throughout this journey, we've been reminded of the powerful truth that Christ is truly Above All. I pray this theme continues to guide and inspire us as we head into the new year.

This month is also packed with exciting Christmas-related activities! On Sunday, December 8th, our Kids Ministry will be spreading holiday cheer by going caroling after church. It's such a sweet opportunity for our children to share the joy of Christ with others. And as we close out the year, our 5th Sunday Fusion Family service on December 29th will include a fun pajama day for the kids—a lighthearted way to wrap up the season together as a church family.

We're also looking forward to our Church-Wide Progressive Dinner on Saturday December 14th. This unique evening of fellowship will give us a chance to visit two church members' homes for appetizers and salad before gathering together at the church for the main course. It's a wonderful way to strengthen our connections as we celebrate the season together.

My prayer this December is that, amidst the busyness, we continue to fix our hearts on Christ and share His love with those around us. Let's celebrate the joy of His birth and reflect on His place Above All in our lives.

Wishing you and your families a blessed and Christ-filled Christmas!

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- 1** Youth Breakfast Fundraiser
SUN
- 7** Ladies Christmas Ornament and Cookie Exchange
SAT
- 8** Children's Ministry Christmas Caroling
SUN
- 9** Ladies Luncheon
MON
- 13** Men's Prayer Lunch
FRI
- 14** Christmas Progressive Dinner
SAT
- 15** Taco Sunday
Students Christmas Party and Hayride
SUN
- 21** Men's Prayer Breakfast
SAT
- 29** Family Fusion Pajama Sunday
SUN

DID YOU KNOW WE HAVE A CHURCH CALENDAR?

For the most updated information on events, use this QR code to view our church calendar! If you would like to add something on the calendar to share with everyone, contact Rose Bess.





SUNDAY MORNING

Sunday School 9:30 | Worship Service 10:45

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We have childcare for all kids, infant to 5th grade, through Sunday School and Children's Church. Sunday School is at 9:30AM and Children's Church at 10:45AM.

Family Fusion Pajama Sunday



Sunday, December 29th

Join us as we celebrate this fifth Sunday in pajamas! The children are welcome to wear their favorite pajamas and fuzzy socks as we take a casual Sunday to celebrate the holiday season.

Sunday School Toys Update



We are needing to update some of our toys to continue providing a safe, clean environment for our kids to play and learn about Jesus. If you are interested in contributing, follow this QR code for an Amazon wish list of appropriate toys and equipment to be purchased.



STUDENTS MINISTRY

Meeting Room 112

Students in grades 6–12 are invited to join us for Sunday School as we study books of the Bible and discuss together.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Strong Families

Meeting Room 103

This class is led by Chad Bishop. The goal is for each individual to be the best follower of Christ they can be. The group is working through books of the Bible, and their application to each person's role within the family, workplace, and community.

Ladies Sunday School

Meeting Room 114

This class is led by Veronica George and is for women, single, widowed, never married, or married now divorced. Ms. Lela shares "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."

Living Long & Loving It Spiritual Growth

Meets in the Sanctuary

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. Charles Graham. Everyone is welcome and will definitely be made to feel like part of the family!

SUNDAY EVENING

AWANA 5-6:30PM | Students Ministry 5-6:30PM



AWANA

AWANA is a great way to continue the fun, learning, and spiritual growth of our children. There are classes on Sunday evenings for children, ranging from age 1 to 5th grade. Classes for this year began in September. If you are interested in registering your children for AWANA, contact Rose Bess.

Though December is a shorter month for AWANA with only three club nights, we're making each one count as we focus on the true meaning of Christmas!



Silent Night

December 8th

On December 8th, we'll have Silent Night, a reflective evening helping our kids prepare their hearts to celebrate the birth of Jesus.



Birthday Party for Jesus

December 15th

December 15th we will host our annual Birthday Party for Jesus! It's always a joy-filled time as we come together to celebrate the incredible gift of Jesus coming into the world for us.

AWANA and Students Ministry will take a break for the last two Sundays of December so families can enjoy the Christmas and New Year holidays together. We'll be back and ready to jump into the new year on January 5th!

STUDENTS MINISTRY

Students in grades 6-12 meet on Sunday nights from 5-6:30PM during the school year for a time of worship, lessons, small group discussion, and games!



Christmas Party and Hayride

December 15th

On December 15th there will be a youth hayride and Christmas party you will not want to miss! More details coming soon!

MINISTRIES

NEWS AND UPDATES

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

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

Ladies Luncheon

Monday, December 9th

All Ladies are invited to the ladies luncheon on December 9th at 11:00AM at Benihana's in Sugar Land. There will be a reservation, so contact Connie if you can attend.

Cookies and Ornament Exchange

Saturday, December 7th

A Christmas ornament and cookie exchange will be on Saturday, December 7th from 11AM to 1PM. There will be a light potluck lunch and games! We are asking ladies to bring 2-3 dozen cookies to share, as well as an ornament (limit \$10). Be sure to have your ornament in a gift bag. There will be signup sheets in the lobby if you plan to attend!

WOW Meeting and Officer Elections

Sunday, January 26th

Special information on WOW at the end of this newsletter!



Disciples of God

MEN'S MINISTRY

As we close out the year, December provides us with opportunities to continue growing in prayer and fellowship. As we reflect on all God has done in our lives this year, let's continue lifting one another up and seeking His guidance for the year ahead. We look forward to seeing you at one or both gatherings this month!

Men's Prayer Lunch

Friday, December 13th

Join us for our Men's Prayer Lunch at Red Oak Grill at noon. It's a great way to pause during your day for meaningful fellowship and prayer.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Saturday, December 21st

This month, our Men's Prayer Breakfast is moving to Saturday! We'll meet bright and early at 6AM at Denny's (6131 Hwy 6, Missouri City). It's a perfect time to connect, pray, and start the weekend in the Word.



Intervention Bags for Elijah Rising

Donations accepted until Sunday, December 8th



Elijah Rising is an organization committed to end human trafficking through prayer, awareness, intervention, and restoration. Women of the Word is collecting supplies for gift bags, to be used by Elijah Rising during their Invention nights here in Missouri City. These bags are used to initiate conversations and prayers with the women, continuing to help Elijah Rising volunteers show them the loving kindness of Jesus. Please bring donated items to the church by Sunday, December 8th.

Recommended items include: candies/snacks, individually packaged face wipes or sanitation wipes, chapstick, hair ties, small lotions, face masks, fake eyelashes, nail polish, bath bombs, cute socks, small makeup, and perfume.

Sprightly Stroll and Supplication

Walk and Pray

The next stroll will be Wednesday, December 4th from 8:30-10AM at Lost Creek Park. It is held weekly through the winter, unless otherwise decided due to weather or other conflicts. There will not be a stroll on December 25th. There is a group message on Facebook for anyone interested in joining! Please contact Pastor Jodie to get connected with updates.

HORIZON FAMILY SPOTLIGHT

Faith Promise Giving

We have an encouraging update to share with you all about our Faith Promise Missions Giving commitments so far for the next year: As a church, we have committed to giving over \$18,000 in faith to missions for 2025! This surpasses what our church gave through Faith Promise to missions last year!

We want to thank you all for praying about giving in faith to missions and following through in committing! Let us encourage each other this next year as we follow through on these commitments as God provides!

If you would still like to participate in Faith Promise Missions Giving and haven't filled out a commitment card in the last month, it is never too late! Please just fill out a commitment card and turn it into the office or the black box in the sanctuary. We will update the commitments and progress throughout the year as a way to encourage everyone, including our missionaries!



Christmas Progressive Dinner

Saturday, December 14th

Everyone is invited to a family dinner together to celebrate the Christmas season on Saturday, December 14th. It will be a progressive dinner, from 4:30 to 7:30PM. There will be one home hosting appetizers, the next house will host salads, and everyone will meet at the church for dinner and dessert! Once we know who will be attending, homes will be assigned.

Women of the Word

Letter from the President

What is Women of the Word?

Women of the Word, also known as WOW, is comprised of the adult female members of Horizon Baptist Church. The purpose of WOW is to strengthen relationships within the church by organizing fun events, bible studies, and retreats for ladies.

We are the hands and feet of Jesus by meeting the needs within our community, and beyond, via service projects and need-specific drives. As we serve and fellowship together, we grow closer to each other by sharing our hearts and praying for one another.

Our relationship with the Lord is strengthened as we learn and grow through bible studies and sharing how faithful he has been in our lives! There is nothing more beautiful than creating Christ-Centered relationships with our fellow sisters!

WOW is Not a Select Group

There are no requirements to join. No tests to pass. As a matter of fact, you are already a member! How involved you are and what events you choose to participate in are entirely up to you.

I sincerely hope that as we step into 2025, you will walk alongside us by attending events, participating in meetings, and prayerfully considering serving as an officer.

Stacy Malone

2024 Women of the Word Year In Review



Blessed
Not
Stressed

