

# GOD AT WORK

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Church Annual Report  
September 2019 - August 2020





It's September 1, 2019.

With our mission, purposes, and strategies  
firmly in hand and a new budget approved,  
we step into the new fiscal year.

(Blink twice)

Now it's August 31, 2020.

It's over -- but what a ride!

Come journey back with us and recount  
just *a few* of the blessings and opportunities

God entrusted to us.

# September

- God arranged for PPBC to become the church home for about 30 ladies who reside at the **Dorcas House**. We ministered together in Bible study, fellowships, serving, and knowing and growing in God. It was our privilege to be their church family and celebrate with them as 9 came forward professing Christ and being baptized this year. It's bittersweet because it's a changing population. They return to their homes and lives and we may never see some of them again. But as some leave, new ones come and the process of pouring God's healing love into their hearts continues on.
- What used to be the Boys Ranch in Harrison, AR, has become the **Arkansas Baptist Ranch**, which is home for up to 32 children and teens who simply need a place to live, have family conflict issues and/or need guidance. A bunch of our men and students spent a day rebuilding a deck and just hanging out with the kids.



- Our church is blessed with EMTs, Firefighters, Sheriff Deputies, and Police who keep us safe and sound. This year, some of that group, along with some organizers and behind the scene workers, offered a free **safety training** class. Registration overflowed. The curriculum included:
  - ◇ Responding to an Active Shooter Incident
  - ◇ Stop the Bleed kit procedures
  - ◇ CPR and using an AED

Even lunch was provided! And did we mention it was all free?!

# October

Reaching into our community is a priority at PPBC. As a bullet point for discussion in our Listening Groups, **Trunk 'r Treat** was mentioned many times. You said it had an impact and wanted to bring it back. So...Ready, Set, Let's (All) Go!

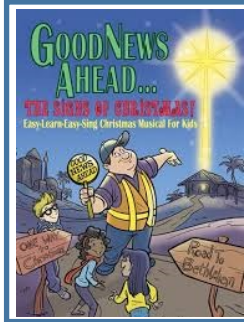
Our purpose was not to offer our community a fun, free place to take their kids on Halloween. Yes, we did that, but when they came, our purpose was to welcome and meet and treat them to God's love -- no strings attached; to pray, invite, reach and connect; to be on mission.

We built it and they came! Our members stepped up with over 40 trunks, we had a great turnout, we planted seeds, and left the rest to God.





# November & December



Children's Ministry  
brings the  
"Good News"  
of Christmas,  
Dec 8, 10:30



## Special Thanksgiving Sunday

November 24, 2019

Bible Study 9:15; Worship 10:30



Holiday Open House *for Ladies*



## Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



## A Christmas Celebration

Sunday, Dec 15, 10:30 pm  
Worship service led by our Praise Team

## Cocoa & Carols Warm & Toasty Fellowship



Dec 18, 6 pm

Today, there is someone that needs to see the love of Christ in a very real way. In showing others the true meaning of CHRISTmas, you'll discover more of Him, too.

This guide lists our ministry partners and how you can serve those in their care.

- ◇ Dorcas House
- ◇ Nehemiah House
- ◇ Salvation Army
- ◇ Terry Elementary
- ◇ PPBC Food Pantry
- ◇ ABC Family Care Home, LR
- ◇ Our homebound friends

*Merry Christmas*



## PPBC Christmas Serving Guide 2019

# February

**Foster Care/Adoption Awareness Sunday.** Oh, yeah, this was also Super Bowl Sunday. So we played defense in support of our ministry partner, the CALL. To help foster families, we brought frozen meals -- a real lifesaver when the day's plans take a sharp left turn; time gets short and there are hungry kids.



Thanks, Church -- you totally filled the freezer -- pressed down, shaken together, and running over!

## The Picture of Retirement?



February 16, 2020

Over the last 16 years, Steve Parker has been devoted to ministry with experienced adults at Parkway Place. As our Senior Adult Pastor, we have been blessed by his over 50 years in pastoral ministry and his great love for all people both young and old.

Steve has decided to retire from "official" duties. This is a big milestone in his life of ministry and in the life of our church family.

Are You Sitting Down?



*March*

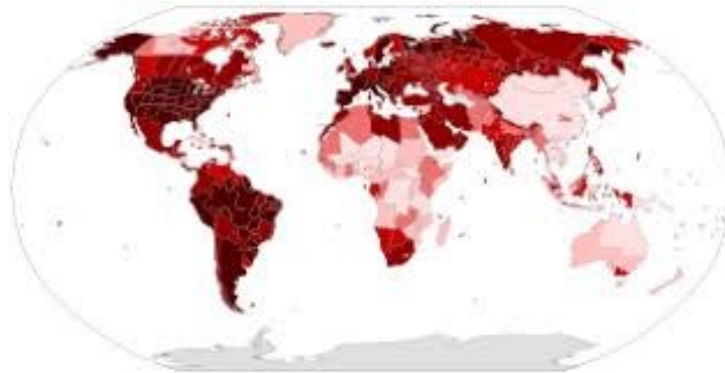


## Message the Same But Methods Have to Change!

There was a global pandemic of a virus called **COVID19**. By March 15, 2020 everything had shut down -- retail stores, restaurants, schools, theaters, and yes, even churches! Only hospitals, grocery stores and pharmacies stayed open. People were to stay home, sanitize everything, wash their hands frequently, wear masks if you had to go out, and stay 6 feet away from others.

Everyone had been knocked off their hamster wheel. Everything we had always done had to be scrapped. And while there was much confusion regarding COVID-19, there is always clarity in God's will: God desires for His lost children to be found.

So we had the incredible privilege of being the generation that shares the Gospel, even during a pandemic. God's mission can't be contained by a building. There was no exemption in the Great Commission for pandemics. So, now how do you make disciples?



### Staying Connected

- **Care Calls** was an immediate next step. Armed with a list of all members, volunteers and staff began making weekly calls. How can we pray for you? What needs can we help with?
- The **church office** closed but the calls were forwarded to the admin staff so that all calls were still answered and handled as if we were there. The pastoral staff worked remotely. Initially we had staff meetings on Zoom, and later met in the office -- socially distanced and masked up.
- Allan began sending **letters** to the members (on the web and regular mail) keeping them apprised of the current status of the Church during COVID.
- The **Prayer** Team began sending a weekly email to engage and focus the church in prayer.
- We daily monitored government and CDC information and requirements, but relied heavily on prayer to hear what God was saying about what we should be doing.

***This will be over in a few months at most, right? Keep reading...***

- **Small Groups.** Given a quick orientation for class leaders, the **Sunday morning adult Bible Study** classes were connecting over Zoom within a couple of weeks of shut-down. Our average adult attendance over the summer was 115. Our pre-COVID average adult attendance had been 144 -- not bad!)

Not all classes met on Sunday morning at 9:15, but flexed to other days/times. The cool part was that class members who had moved away could still join in with their old class. And members who had not attended in some time, joined us on Zoom!



*Even our Experienced Adult class Zoom'd. Their new class time became Wednesday nights at 6 pm.*

**Teleconferencing**, which had been used for years with a homebound Sunday school class, became the way to reach those not online. People could call in to participate in a class or listen to the Sunday morning worship service.

- **Technology.** Connecting became synonymous with technology. COVID drove people to their digital devices. Our media team went into overdrive and did a great job. Looking back we can see how God got us over some setbacks and prepared us for this very time!

- \* **Livestreaming.** In early 2019 Parkway had begun to experiment with livestreaming, work on a new website and create a presence on social media. So by the time COVID hit, we were able to hit the ground running.
- \* **Website.** Our website became an even more critical piece for reaching. We know from experience that people looking for a church turn to the web. Luckily, our website had been completely overhauled and was re-launched in November 2019. The website became the front door of the church. Visitors or members could --

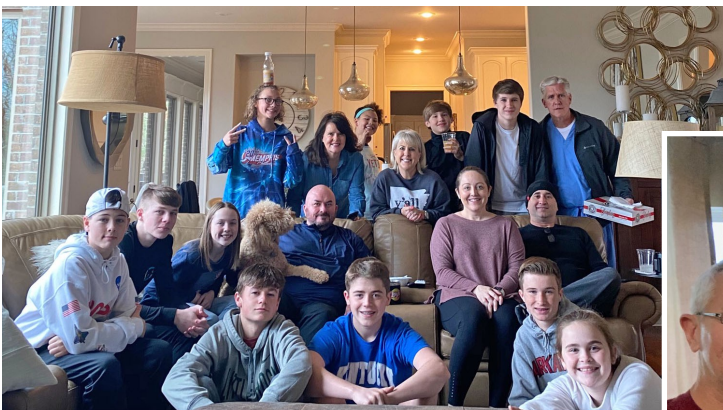


- ♦ Livestream or watch any of our services
- ♦ Get the latest update in our COVID journey
- ♦ Give
- ♦ Receive a weekly bulletin
- ♦ Learn anything and everything about our church

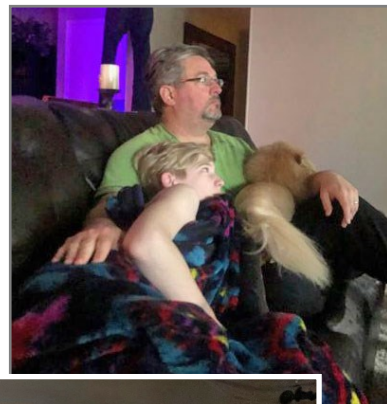
- \* **Social media.** With any like, share or comment on our posts, our mission easily sneaks into our members' friends' news feeds. We have on occasion monetarily boosted posts for special events, but our church family has shared and pushed some of our posts 100% organically past 6,000 views.



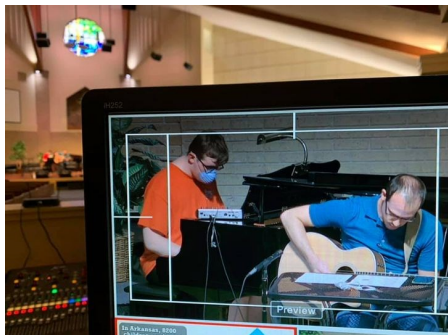
**Sunday Mornings Worship Services.** We never missed a beat. One week we were live and in person on campus and the next week March 15 we were one church meeting on livestream through our PPBC YouTube Channel. Through the first 35 weeks of this year we averaged **192 actual views per Sunday Celebration Service.** Given that the standard household consists of 2.5 persons, we get an overall average livestream attendance of 480 persons, compared to an average 325-350 persons at church pre-COVID. God is using our livestream to reach and connect outside of the Body!



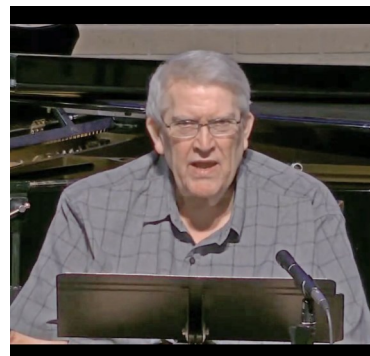
*Part of one of our first virtual congregations*



We rolled out **Midweek Livestream**, our midweek worship time on **Thursday nights** beginning March 26 on our web and YouTube. It was a great time to recharge through music, prayer, and God's Word.



Videos made it possible for members to lead us in prayer in our two worship services, and different members were asked to bring the Thursday night message.

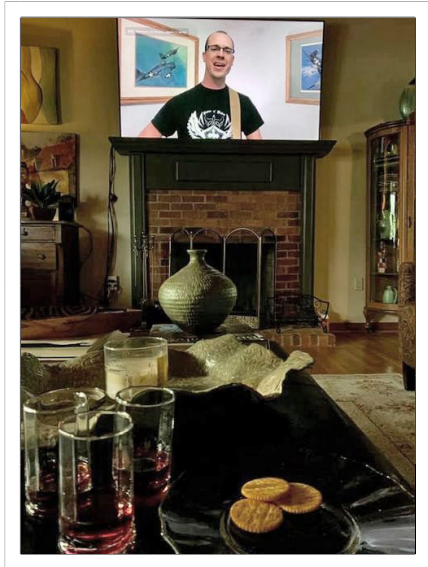


It was great just to see other faces since being quarantined. Everyone agreed that not being together with the PPBC family for worship and fellowship was the hardest part.



## April

How could we possibly not gather together on **Easter**?! Answer: Just as nothing could stop the Resurrection, nothing could stop our celebration of Easter.



*The Lord's Supper online.*

**Food Pantry.** We saw a large increase in the number of people needing food and started operating on a **bi-weekly basis**. Since COVID the average attendance has been around 30 families coming to pick up food for their families, totaling 100 individuals. The new method of delivery? **Drive-through!** The food was sacked and moved to the front entrance. As people drove up, food was taken to the car by masked volunteers who also prayed with them on the spot.

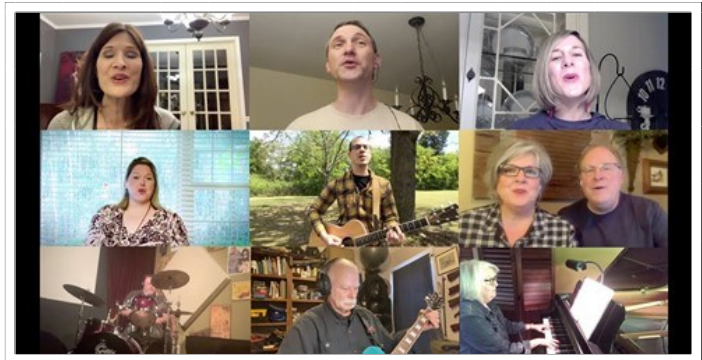
**Special Delivery.** The Children's materials and activities that would have been used during Sunday morning classes were made into **Family Kits** that were initially delivered and later on, picked up at a drive-through where they could also see their teachers. Quarterlies for the Experienced Adult class were also hand delivered.

A **Regathering Team** was assembled as an additional resource as we traveled this uncharted path. From this also came **surveys** to help us know how our people were doing and to be receptive to needs. Surveys were sent again later as regathering on campus became a topic of discussion.

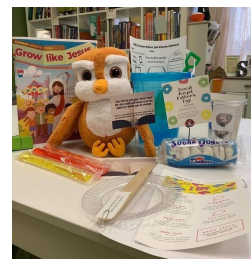


We observed the Lord's Supper the Wednesday before Easter Sunday. Members prepared their own elements and followed online as Allan led us through the observance.

**"Easter Unwind"** was a series of 9 short videos shown on Facebook leading up to Easter Sunday. In each, one of our members read a portion of the scripture retelling the story of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus. Each ended with a prayer and discussion questions for the family. It was a beautiful way to prepare our hearts for Resurrection Sunday.



*Our first PPBC virtual worship team*





## *A little more April...*

Our members were quick to serve neighbors and family by picking up groceries or prescriptions. And now that masks had become a huge item several members began turning out homemade, free masks as fast as they could for others. Family, friends, and even Terry Elementary School were some of the recipients that we know of.

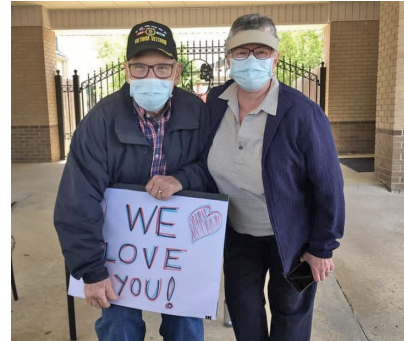
And speaking of masks, how do you say goodbye to members moving off during a pandemic? With a drive-by, of course!

## *May*

Helping to meet needs, the church began a monthly **Stop Drop & Roll** to subsidize the food shortages at the Arkansas Food Bank. On a Sunday afternoon, without getting out of their cars, our members would drop off designated items, such as milk, bread, cereal and/or peanut butter. Because we posted the Pantry and Stop Drop & Roll events on a neighborhood Facebook site, some of our neighbors started bringing stuff for the Food Pantry! Since community involvement is at the top of our priority list, we were so excited to see God at work in this way.

*Our first SDR was on May 17. People dropped off --*

- 162 - boxes of cereal
- 137 - gallons of milk
- 22 - 1/2 gallons of milk



*PPBC Prayer Team meeting to plan 5 Days of Prayer focus leading up to regathering.*

# June

## We had a regathering date: June 7!

It was made clear that people needed to choose what worked best for their circumstances. Whether online, on the phone, or on campus, we were still one church.

To meet CDC requirements for regathering safely on campus, we took the following steps:

- We had a team that came each Saturday afternoon to sanitize our building
- We developed a plan for coming in and exiting the building
- We marked off areas of the building that were not open
- A team put up signage and marked 6 feet distancing on the floor and on the pews
- We installed touchless fixtures in restrooms
- We limited restrooms to 2 people at a time
- We strongly encouraged wearing masks

So with everything in place, we regathered with **62** people that first Sunday. Before the end of the fiscal year, we had reached **128**.

# July

## VBS & Camp Siloam

Every year since the “beginning of time” amidst the fun and adventure of Vacation Bible School and Siloam Springs, our kids have grown in their relationship with God



*The Hymn Sing was just another way to worship “together.”*

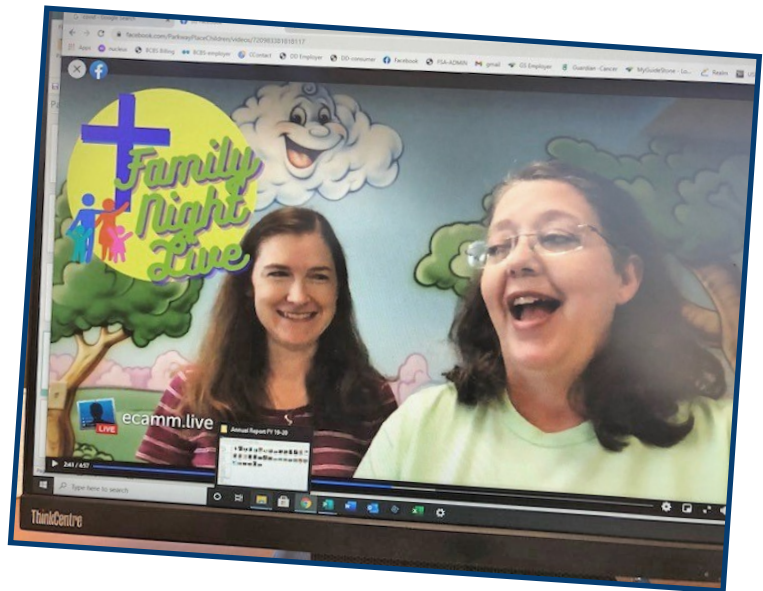
and with each other. But of course... both had to be canceled this year! Not to be outdone by COVID, Ms Stephanie and Ms Lauren combined the favorite parts of each and did our first ever **Virtual VBS**. It was on YouTube and Facebook and included a lot of interaction and activities.

***This will be over in a few months at most, right?  
Keep reading...***

# August

Always wanting to bring parents into their children's spiritual growth, **Children's Ministry** added a "**Family Night Live**", a weekly livestream for families. The first one was August 23.

**Next Stop: Worship Care**, childcare during the worship service, was in the works for September.



## **Student Ministry.**

Joel communicated through videos on YouTube and worship time on Zoom.

**Small groups** became the vehicle for connecting, serving, and growing. The leaders stepped up and became very creative in how they shared the Gospel and their lives with students. They also took on service opportunities like --

- Helping out with Stop Drop & Roll
- Helping out at Salvation Army and Healing Waters
- Serving our fire fighter neighbors and others in our community



Celebrating  
*Next Steps*

We were blessed to add 8 new individuals  
(4 by baptism) and 6 new families to our membership.  
Additionally, 9 of our Dorcas House family  
followed the Lord in baptism.



**CLAIR RUSHING**  
9/15/2019 - Baptism



**CAROLINE JENNERMAN**  
09/29/2019- Baptism



**TYE, CINDY, EMILY  
MONTGOMERY**  
10/08/2019



**MIKE & JACKIE SMITH**  
11/13/2019



**JENNIFER WIGLEY**  
11/16/2019



**VIVIAN WIGLEY**  
11/16/2019



**ANNABELLE ROGERS**  
11/17/2019 - Baptism



**J.B. ROGERS**  
11/17/2019 - Baptism



**MARTY & SHARON WATSON**  
11/19/2019



**KIPP & STEPHANIE,  
DEREK & JOSH STILES**  
11/24/2019



**SAM ANGEL**  
01/26/2020



**GRACE BODRON**  
02/02/2020



**JEREMY, ANGEL & CAIAH DUNLAP**  
06/21/2020



**DREW & GAY TRAVIS CERTAIN**  
08/06/2020

It was a year like no other, but God never left our side. Looking back we can see where God has been at work all along, guiding and directing. We are thankful for the new opportunities and blessings.

***And no, it's still not over...***







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Little Rock, AR 72211-3106  
office (501) 224-3003  
www.ppbc.com

August 20, 2019

Dear Parkway Place Members,

The Stewardship Team of PPBC has been working the past several weeks with members of the PPBC staff, Leadership Advisory Team, various committee members and others to prayerfully consider and formulate the 2019-2020 budget.

Our goal during this process was to develop a budget that recognizes good stewardship of the resources of PPBC, glorifies God and helps fulfill our mission of spreading the Good News. With that in mind, the Stewardship Team is presenting a proposed budget for the fiscal year of September 1, 2019 – August 31, 2020 for your prayerful consideration. Attached for your review are a proposed summary budget and a detailed version of the proposed budget. Additionally, the Stewardship Team is recommending a separate capital expenditures budget of \$115,000. A significant amount of work remains to be done to complete needed roof repairs and stop the water intrusion into the church facility. Also one of the vans is in dire need of replacement and we are recommending replacement of the church sign.

This year's proposed operating budget of \$1,114,735 includes \$133,300 to support our mission work at home and abroad. That, coupled with an estimated \$33,900 in designated mission giving to Lottie Moon, Annie Armstrong, Dixie Jackson and other designated mission opportunities, brings the total mission giving from PPBC to \$166,200, nearly 15% of the total budget.

We thank you for your faithfulness and support over the last year. The generosity of the PPBC membership has allowed continued mission work both locally and globally, helping bring people to Christ.

To continue the ministry work of PPBC and to fulfill all that God asks of us, we ask that you prayerfully consider your financial commitment to the church in the coming year. All of us together, supporting these ministry plans, can make a difference in people's lives.

**An Informational Meeting will be held on Wednesday, August 28, 2019 at 5:45 pm in the Conference Room to answer any questions that members might have regarding the proposed budget. Voting will occur at the beginning of the 10:30 am Worship Celebration on Sunday, September 8, 2019. (A sample ballot is enclosed.)**

Thank you for allowing us to serve the church in this area of ministry and thank you for your service, faithfulness and support.

Your Stewardship Team,

Sharilyn Gasaway, Ricky Keen, Amy Pierce, Jonathan Rushing  
Jesse Munn, Treasurer

**Parkway Place Baptist Church  
2019 - 2020 Budget Summary**

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Percent</u>
<b>Ministries</b>		
Membership	\$ 30,200	2.71%
Small Group Ministry	17,000	1.53%
Leadership Training Ministry	1,000	0.09%
Worship Ministry	9,000	0.81%
Student Ministry	34,180	3.07%
Children's Ministry	31,300	2.81%
Senior Adult Ministry	7,950	0.71%
Women's Ministry	4,500	0.40%
Men's Ministry	2,500	0.22%
Assimilation	33,450	3.00%
Staff Ministry	21,700	1.95%
Benevolence	3,000	0.27%
Total Ministries	196,180	17.60%
<b>Missions</b>		
Cooperative Program and Pulaski Bapt Assn	69,800	6.26%
Evangelism Ministry	4,000	0.36%
Global-Cal Mission Emphasis	59,500	5.34%
Total Missions	133,300	11.96%
Staff	530,505	47.59%
Building/Equipment Maintenance	149,750	13.43%
Building/Equipment Development	37,000	3.32%
Administration	68,000	6.10%
Total Budget	<u>\$ 1,114,735</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

**Parkway Place Baptist Church**  
*... A Place to Belong*

## *Our Mission*

To honor God by obediently bringing people to Jesus and equipping them to become **Fully Devoted Followers** of Jesus Christ. The short version is simply **"FDF"**!

## *Our Purposes*

- **Connecting:** experiencing authentic relationships with fellow believers
- **Growing:** learning to become like Christ
- **Serving:** making a difference in the lives of others using our God-given SHAPE
- **Reaching:** taking risks to compassionately reach out to others with the love of Christ...no strings attached
- **Worshipping:** loving God and living life 24/7 for His purposes

*Fully devoted followers of Christ*

# Our Strategy

- **Prime Time Classes**

Sunday mornings, 9:15 - 10:15

- **Sunday Worship Services**

We gather for corporate worship at 10:30 a.m. Children have their own worship service upstairs.

- **Mid-Week**

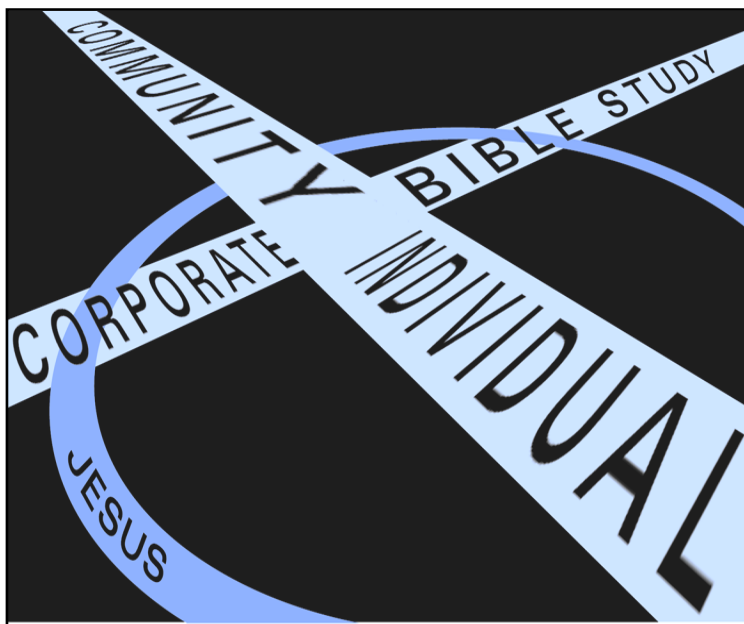
We have classes and activities beginning at 6 pm on Wednesday; an additional ladies Bible Study meets on Thursday mornings.

- **Small Groups**

These small groups generally meet on Sunday evenings, in homes throughout the city. They are intentional in building relationships that last forever and serving God by serving others.

- **Ministry Teams**

God created us to serve and there are many opportunities for “jumping in” and using your God-given SHAPE.



## - Core Classes

We are purposeful in leading people to 4 basic commitments that are essential for spiritual growth as a disciple. Each commitment represents 3 -5 behaviors that we believe are essential in our becoming “fully devoted followers of Christ...FDF.”

### The Membership Commitment

- ◇ I have committed my life to JESUS CHRIST
- ◇ I have committed my life to PPBC
- ◇ I have completed the new members class - “BodyLife 101: Discovering Membership”

*“You are members of God’s very own family...and you belong in God’s household with every other Christian.” Eph 2:19*

### The Spiritual Maturity Commitment

- ◇ I am attending a weekly Bible study where I am learning and applying truth from God’s Word to my life.
- ◇ I am connected to a Small Group that purposefully seeks to provide a biblical community of care, safety, authenticity, growth, and help.
- ◇ I am spending daily time with God.
- ◇ I am giving my financial resources to God.
- ◇ I have completed the class - “BodyLife 201: Growing in Maturity.”

*“Take the time and trouble to keep yourself spiritually fit.” 1 Tim 4:7*

### The Ministry Commitment

- ◇ I am discovering and using my God-given gifts and abilities in a ministry (SHAPE Profile).
- ◇ I am actively involved in one-on-one opportunities of encouraging others and being encouraged toward growth in ministry
- ◇ I have completed the “BodyLife 301: Discovering Ministry” class.

*“God has given each of you some special abilities; be sure to use them to help each other... 1 Peter 4:10*

### The Mission Commitment

- ◇ I am living an authentic Christian life of making disciples.
- ◇ I am building relationships with my unchurched friends, relatives, and associates and bringing them to church.
- ◇ I am telling my “faith story” as I live my life on mission everyday.
- ◇ I have completed the “BodyLife 401: Discovering My Life Mission” class.

*“Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence...” 1 Peter 3:15*

## - Other Discipleship Classes

- ◇ Discipleship Unleashed
- ◇ Contagious Christianity
- ◇ Foundations





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