



2025

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# Guiding Principles

**FIRST WEST**

**GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

**C** - COLLABORATE  
WE WORK TOGETHER TO ACCOMPLISH OUR VISION.

**R** - REACH  
WE STRETCH BEYOND WHAT IS COMFORTABLE.

**E** - EMPOWER  
WE GIVE YOU THE RESOURCES AND FREEDOM TO DO  
WHAT YOU WERE CALLED TO DO.

**A** - ALIGN  
WE MOVE FORWARD IN UNITY.

**T** - TRUST  
WE BELIEVE THE BEST ABOUT ONE ANOTHER.

**E** - ENCOURAGE  
WE BUILD UP ONE ANOTHER.

**D** - DEPEND  
WE NEED EACH OTHER!

# Retreat Outcomes

## Tuesday, 7/15 – **OUTWARD**

- Pray for our church and each other.
- Recognize the ways we are called to create daily rhythms of evangelism in our homes and neighborhoods.
- Unify around our TOGETHER reaching and multiplying strategy and goals.
- Learn more about a new tool for churchwide evangelism.
- Leverage the Fall 2025 Growth Cycle for maximum impact.

## Wednesday, 7/16 – **UPWARD**

- Pray for our church and each other.
- Consider the spiritual priority of prayer and worship.
- Unify around our TOGETHER worshipping strategy and goals.
- Leverage the Spring 2026 Growth Cycle for maximum impact.

## Thursday, 7/17 – **INWARD**

- Pray for our church and each other.
- Outline next steps in our disciple-making vision.
- Unify around our TOGETHER equipping strategy and goals.
- Reaffirm our shared commitment to LIFE Groups and D-Groups as the primary discipleship tools for member spiritual growth.
- Worship together and celebrate God's goodness and faithfulness to our church and to our team

**2026 LEADERSHIP RETREAT | JULY 13-16, 2026**  
For schedules, digital docs and archived retreats:  
[www.FirstWestRetreat.com](http://www.FirstWestRetreat.com)



# Schedule

## Monday, 7/14

3:00pm Check in at Drury Inn & Suites  
2880 Dallas Parkway, Frisco  
214-705-9300

6:00pm Opening Dinner with Spouses  
at Drury Inn & Suites, Gaylord Ballroom (9th Floor)  
Dinner by Creative Cuisine  
Sponsored by GuideStone Financial Resources  
South of the Border Buffet  
Beef and Chicken Fajitas, Refried Beans, Spanish Rice, Cheesecake/Chocolate Cake

**Session 1 with Hance Dilbeck**  
**President/CEO, GuideStone Financial Resources, Dallas**

Late Night Ideas:

- AMC Dine-In Stonebriar 24, Stonebriar Centre  
2601 Preston Boulevard, Frisco  
972-377-0144
- Dave & Buster's, Stonebriar Centre  
2601 Preston Boulevard, Frisco  
214-387-0915
- In-N-Out Burger  
2800 Preston Road, Frisco

## Tuesday, 7/15

7:30am Hot Breakfast at Drury Inn & Suites (1st Floor)  
Scrambled eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, oatmeal, biscuits and gravy,  
KELSO+BROS® coffee and more. Breakfast is served daily from 6–9:30am.

9:00am **Devotional & Prayer Time, Session 2 — OUTWARD**  
**Michael Criner, Lead Pastor, FBC Rockwall**  
at Cottonwood Creek Church (9.2 miles/11 minutes)  
1015 Sam Rayburn Tollway, Allen  
972-359-7777

10:00am Break



## Tuesday, 7/15 (continued)

10:30am **Session 3 — Evangelism Strategy**  
**TOGETHER We Reach, TOGETHER We Multiply**  
Jason McGuffie & Strategy Team

### 2025-2027 Evangelism Initiative

- A New Evangelism Tool
- Group Discussion

### Fall 2025 Growth Cycle

### See To It Initiative & Schedule

11:30am Boxed Lunch at Cottonwood Creek Church by Jason's Deli  
Turkey on Croissant, Chips, Pickle, Cookie

12:30pm Travel to Game Show Battle Rooms (12 miles/15 minutes)  
**SPOUSES JOIN FOR THIS ACTIVITY**  
4887 Alpha Road, Suite 250, Farmers Branch  
214-295-6533

1:00pm Team Building Competition  
at Game Show Battle Rooms

2:15pm Free Time

6:00pm Team Dinner with Spouses at Hard Eight Pit BBQ  
5300 State Highway 121, The Colony  
972-625-8888  
Sliced Brisket, Roasted Half Chicken, Coleslaw, Twice-Baked Potato Casserole,  
Mac & Cheese, Banana Pudding

## Wednesday, 7/16

7:30am Hot Breakfast at Drury Inn & Suites (1st Floor)  
Scrambled eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, oatmeal, biscuits and gravy,  
KELSO+BROS® coffee and more. Breakfast is served daily from 6–9:30am.

9:00am **Devotional & Prayer Time, Session 4 — UPWARD**  
**Nathan Lino, Lead Pastor, FBC Forney**  
at Cottonwood Creek Church (9.2 miles/11 minutes)



## Wednesday, 7/16 (continued)

10:00am Break

10:30am **Session 5 — Prayer Strategy**  
**TOGETHER We Worship**  
Casey Harold, Michael Wood & Woods Watson

### Spring 2026 Growth Cycle

### Special Projects

11:30am Travel to Babe's Chicken Dinner House (10 miles/16 minutes)  
**SPOUSES JOIN FOR THIS ACTIVITY**  
6475 Page Street, Frisco  
214-387-9500

12:00pm Team Lunch at Babe's Chicken Dinner House

2:00pm Free Time

6:00pm Dinner with Spouses at Grandscape (4 miles/10 minutes)  
5752 Grandscape Boulevard, The Colony  
972-668-2222  
[www.grandscape.com](http://www.grandscape.com)

#### Dinner in Groups:

- P.F. Chang's
- Walk On's Sports Bistreaux
- Davio's Northern Italian Steakhouse
- LSA Burger Co.
- Parry's Pizzeria
- Popstroke
- Andretti Indoor Karting & Games

#### Activity Options:

- PopStroke (Extreme Putt Putt Golf with Restaurant) — SIGN UP
- Andretti Indoor Karting & Games — SIGN UP
- Grandscape Wheel
- The Escape Game
- Fritz's Adventure
- Immersive Gamebox
- Scheel's
- The Baked Bear (Custom Ice Cream Sandwiches)



## Thursday, 7/17

7:30am Hot Breakfast at Drury Inn & Suites (1st Floor)  
Scrambled eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, oatmeal, biscuits and gravy,  
KELSO+BROS® coffee and more. Breakfast is served daily from 6–9:30am.

9:00am **Devotional & Prayer Time, Session 6 — INWARD**  
at Cottonwood Creek Church (9.2 miles/11 minutes)  
Travis White

### Discipleship Strategy TOGETHER We Equip

Mark Fenn, Travis White & Strategy Team

### LIFE Group Multiplication

- The 4-1-1 Plan

### D-Groups

- Discipleship Definition
- D-Group Changes
- Schedule
- Group Discussion

### Fall 2026 Growth Cycle

10:00am Break

10:30am **Closing Worship, Session 7 — INWARD & UPWARD**  
**Michael Wood, Lead Pastor**  
**Worship by Greg & Jana Long, Cottonwood Creek Church**  
**SPOUSES JOIN FOR THIS ACTIVITY**

11:30am Dismiss

NOTE: Extra night room rate of \$117 locked in for those who want to stay an additional night in DFW. Please see the front desk to make arrangements and provide a payment option.



# Spouses' Schedule

## Monday, 7/14

- 3:00pm Check in at Drury Inn & Suites  
2880 Dallas Parkway, Frisco  
214-705-9300
- 6:00pm Opening Dinner with Spouses  
at Drury Inn & Suites, Gaylord Ballroom (9th Floor)  
Dinner by Creative Cuisine  
Sponsored by GuideStone Financial Resources

## Tuesday, 7/15

- 7:30am Hot Breakfast at Drury Inn & Suites (1st Floor)  
Scrambled eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, oatmeal, biscuits and gravy,  
KELSO+BROS® coffee and more. Breakfast is served daily from 6–9:30am.
- 10:00am Staff Wives' Brunch with Abby Criner  
at Drury Inn & Suites, Gaylord I Ballroom (9th Floor)  
Brunch by Creative Cuisine  
Mini Yogurt Parfait, Mini Chicken & Waffles, Biscuit Board Buffet
- 12:30pm Travel to Game Show Battle Rooms (12 miles/15 minutes)  
**SPOUSES JOIN FOR THIS ACTIVITY**  
4887 Alpha Road, Suite 250, Farmers Branch  
(214) 295-6533
- 1:00pm Team Building Competition  
at Game Show Battle Rooms
- 2:15pm Free Time
- 6:00pm Team Dinner with Spouses at Hard Eight Pit BBQ  
5300 State Highway 121, The Colony  
972-625-8888



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**SPOUSES JOIN FOR THIS ACTIVITY**  
6475 Page Street, Frisco  
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- 2:00pm Free Time
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5752 Grandscape Boulevard, The Colony  
972-668-2222  
[www.grandscape.com](http://www.grandscape.com)

## Thursday, 7/17

- 7:30am Hot Breakfast at Drury Inn & Suites (1st Floor)  
Scrambled eggs, sausage, fresh fruit, oatmeal, biscuits and gravy,  
KELSO+BROS® coffee and more. Breakfast is served daily from 6–9:30am.
- 10:30am **Closing Worship, Session 7 — INWARD & UPWARD**  
**Michael Wood, Lead Pastor**  
**Worship by Greg & Jana Long, Cottonwood Creek Church**  
**SPOUSES JOIN FOR THIS ACTIVITY**
- 11:30am Dismiss



# Downtown Frisco Map





# MONDAY

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**TOGETHER WE**



**WORSHIP**



**EQUIP**



**REACH**



**MULTIPLY**

# Opening Dinner & Worship

MONDAY EVENING



**Dr. Hance Dilbeck**  
**President/CEO**  
**GuideStone Financial Resources**  
**Dallas**

Dr. Dilbeck came to GuideStone from the position of executive director-treasurer of Oklahoma Baptists in 2018. Prior to that, he had served as a pastor in Oklahoma churches for 30 years, 15 of which were at the Quail Springs Baptist Church in Oklahoma City. During that time, the church tripled in size even as it took part in planting 32 churches.

He has been an active participant in denominational life, having served as Chairman of the Board of Trustees at Oklahoma Baptist University, Southwestern Seminary, and the International Mission Board through the years. He is a prior Second Vice President of the Southern Baptist Convention.

Dr. Dilbeck holds his undergraduate degree from Oklahoma Baptist University and both his Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

He and his wife Julie have three married sons and eight grandchildren.





# Ministry Impact

## MONDAY EVENING

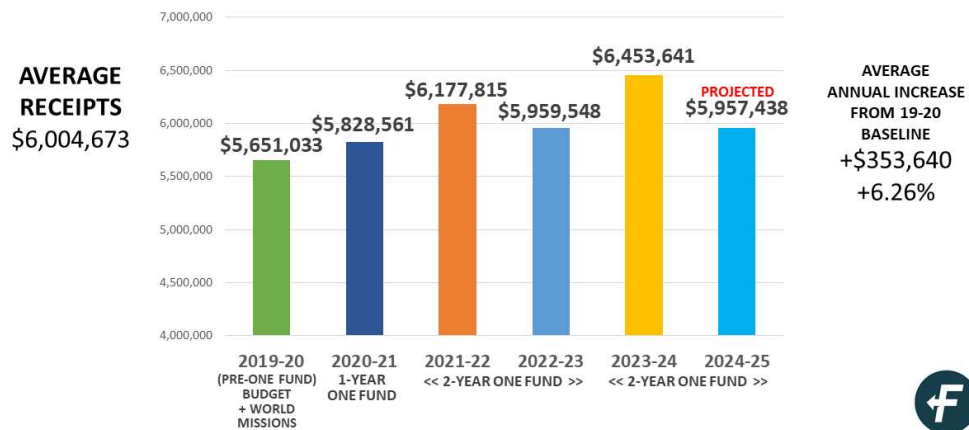
### Ministry Impact

2023-2025*	2021-2023
176 Baptisms	153 Baptisms
277 Additions	325 Additions
236 On Mission	45 On Mission
324/2,667 CH/WM Easter	307/2,614 CH/WM Easter
1,481 in LIFE Groups	1,436 in LIFE Groups
\$2,148,560 Missions Giving	\$1,962,209 Missions Giving
\$12,411,079 Total Giving	\$12,137,363 Total Giving

\* PARTIAL YEAR STATISTICS



### See To It Fund Receipts



# TUESDAY

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**REACH**



**MULTIPLY**

## Session 2 – **OUTWARD**

### TUESDAY MORNING



**Michael Criner**  
**Lead Pastor**  
**FBC Rockwall**  
**Rockwall, Texas**

Dr. Michael Criner grew up in Texas and became a follower of Jesus at the age of 7, baptized soon after. Michael's grandfather, Ed Hecht, led him to Jesus; disciplined him in Jesus; and was with him when he surrendered to the call of vocational ministry at the age of 12.

God led him to work with children and youth, with much of his time spent working with college students. Michael is passionate about Jesus and His church. One of the great joys for him is to see others come to know Jesus, learn to walk with Jesus, and begin to serve Jesus in the life of the church. His conviction is that there must be a pathway for people to hear the gospel, grow in the gospel, and share the gospel in the world.

He is married to Abby, and together they have three daughters. His hobbies include training and running ultramarathons, reading, and drinking cold-brew coffee.



**Session 3 – OUTWARD**

**TUESDAY MORNING**

**TOGETHER WE**



**REACH**

**INITIATE GOSPEL  
CONVERSATIONS**

**SEE LIVES  
CHANGED**

**SERVE OUR  
COMMUNITY**

**INCREASE NOLA  
IMPACT & WORLD  
MISSIONS**

**TOGETHER WE**



**MULTIPLY**

**PLANT NEW  
CHURCHES**

**REVITALIZE  
CHURCHES**

**SEND OUT  
LEADERS**

**ACHIEVE CAMPUS  
SELF-SUFFICIENCY**

# Evangelism Strategy

Our TOGETHER values and goals unify the church around shared objectives and strategy to see to it that no one misses the grace of God!

## TOGETHER We REACH...

- **Gospel Conversations** | Prioritize Gospel Conversations
- **Life Change** | Celebrate Baptisms/Life Change
- **Community Service** | Increase NELA Neighborhood Reach
- **NOLA Reach & World Missions** | Increase NOLA and World Missions Reach

## TOGETHER We MULTIPLY...

- **Church Planting** | Plant NELA, NOLA, World Churches
- **Church Revitalization** | Relaunch Multiply Network
- **Sending Out** | Send Out God-Called Leaders
- **Campus Growth** | Grow Every First West Campus

## 2025-2027 Evangelism Initiative

Our 2025-2027 strategic push is designed with a complementary twofold purpose:

**Our heart is to offer a holistic tool** that can be used in daily and personal evangelism as well as long-term church wide equipping and training.

**Our approach is based on symbols—a tool for gospel conversations and a tool for training.**

Below is a brief description of how that can be accomplished. Each of these symbols have an opposite reality, and in both the training and sharing aspect of this tool one can leverage that in order to confirm the need for the Gospel.



# A New Evangelism Tool

## Light Bulb



**This serves as a reminder that darkness exists in this world, and the church is called to be the light.** There is not a day that goes by that light is not needed and/or used in daily life. Light matters because darkness does in fact exist. For believers walking in the light is their reality, and they should have a desire for those around them to know that same reality. Darkness came into the world when sin entered, but God in his love sent his son to deliver man from this darkness.

## Heart



**This serves as a reminder that brokenness and hurt exist.** The broken nature of man is a harsh truth. The heart here represents the love of God. Where man miserably fails, God's faithfulness prevails. Heartache and hurt is a reality for so many, but the joy and hope of the Lord is there for those who receive that truth. The Love of God is on display through him sending his son to be in the place of man taking the punishment upon himself that humanity deserved. When that becomes personal it changes one's life. In a world of brokenness, love does exist in the Lord.

## Cross



**This serves as a reminder of truth.** The opposite of a truth is a lie. The cross represents the truth that Jesus is the only way to know salvation on a personal level. Many believe that there are options when it comes to eternity, heaven, God, and living a "good" life, but the truth of scripture is clear in revealing Jesus is the only way for these things to be a reality. The truth of the cross exists so that man can have not only abundant life, but also life eternal.

## Feet



**This serves as a reminder of response.** Any time a truth is presented a response is warranted. One can either embrace the truth as presented or reject the truth that is presented. This response can be the moment a lost person surrenders their life to Jesus, or walks away from that truth insisting they know best. It can also be a response from believers to embrace the call from the Lord to be witnesses for the Gospel in their daily lives. This moment offers two different responses. Walking in the truth of what the Gospel is or walking away from the truth of what the Gospel is.

## Group Discussion

**In your group, consider the four symbols in this new evangelism tool.  
How can this tool help you start gospel conversations?**

**Provide 1-2 anchor Scriptures for each symbol.**

(As we begin to equip the church, we will use an anchor Scripture verse for each part of the presentation. Maybe your Scripture verse suggestion will be the one!)

**How can you use this tool to equip others?**

**Brainstorm some first steps for using this in your ministry area.**

# Fall 2025 Growth Cycle

	<b>TIER 1-2</b> Churchwide Internal and/or Community External	<b>TIER 3</b> Ministry Specific
<b>AUGUST</b>	<p><b>WM STI Senior Lunch (8/3)*</b>            NELBA Worship Night @ NMBC (8/3)*  <b>Marriage Night w/ Gary Chapman (8/10)*</b>  <b>WM STI Young Adults/Young Married Adults Dinner (8/13)*</b>  <b>Big Sunday (8/17)*</b>  <b>CH See To It Fellowship (8/17)*</b>  <b>WM STI Median Adult Lunch (8/24)*</b></p>	<p>Deacon Nominations Begin (8/10)*            Worship Ministry Kickoff (8/6 &amp; 8/13)            Back to School Events (8/13)            Lunch with the Pastor (8/17)*            Midweek Kickoff (8/20)            Deacon Nominations Conclude (8/31)*</p>
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	<p>Family Dedication (9/7)*  <b>D-Groups Kickoff (9/7)*</b>  <b>Hero Sunday (9/14)*</b>  <b>TOGETHER Member Gathering &amp; Fellowship (9/21)*</b>            Student IMPACT @ FW (9/24)  <b>See To It Commitment Sunday (9/28)*</b></p>	<p>FW Kids Mom &amp; Son Night (9/14)*            SA Progressive Revival (9/15-17)            See You at the Pole (9/24)            1<sup>st</sup> Grade Bible Presentation (9/28)*</p>
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<p><b>Tim Hawkins in Concert (10/9)</b>  <b>Picnic in the Park @ Kiroli Park (10/19)*</b>  <b>Friend Day (10/26)*</b></p>	<p>Missions 101 Begins (10/12)*            OPSB Fall Break (10/13-17)*            Deacon Election (10/19, 10/26)*  <b>Pumpkin Patch Parade (10/26)*</b></p>
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<p><b>Foster Care Sunday (11/2)*</b>  <b>Beloved Women's Retreat (11/6-9)*</b>  <b>Thanksgiving Weekend (11/27-30)*</b></p>	<p>Lunch with the Pastor (11/2)*            Deacon Banquet (11/13)  <b>Children's Friendsgiving (11/23)*</b></p>
<b>DECEMBER</b>	<p><b>Live Nativity (12/7)</b>  <b>Women's Christmas Event (12/7)*</b>  <b>Search for Baby Jesus (12/14)*</b>  <b>NELA Christmas (12/19-21)*</b>            Christmas Eve Services @ 4pm (12/24)</p>	<p>WM Christmas Parade (12/6)            Dome Weekend (12/12-14)*            CH Christmas Parade (12/13)            No LIFE Groups (12/21, 12/28)*            Church Offices Closed (12/22-26) (12/31, 1/1)</p>

\*Sunday or Sunday Impact (Theme Sundays in BLUE)



# See To It Initiative & Schedule

## See To It—One Fund for One Mission

The TOGETHER See To It Fund is the way we fund and fulfill our mission and vision at First West. Instead of asking our church to give to different causes throughout the year, we invite you to support gospel impact at First West with ONE fund for ONE mission. Your tithes and offerings through our See To It Fund support significant local ministry, missions and other strategic priorities to impact lostness in our community and around the world.

## TOGETHER WE



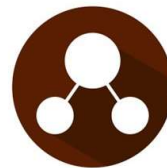
WORSHIP



EQUIP



REACH



MULTIPLY

### What's New in 2025-2027?

- Increased Funding for Global Missions
- Potential Calhoun Land or Facility Purchase
- West Monroe Children's Area Renovations
- West Monroe Young Married Adult LIFE Groups Area Renovations
- Forged Men's Conference Returns in February 2026
- New Evangelism Tools to Facilitate Gospel Conversations
- Discipleship and Growth Initiatives for LIFE Groups and D-Groups
- Prayer Ministry and Personal Spiritual Growth Emphasis

### 2025-2027 See To It Meeting Schedule

- WM See To It Senior Adults Lunch – Sunday, 8/3 @ 10:30 & 11:45am
- See To It Young Adults/Young Married Adults Dinner – Wednesday, 8/13 @ 6pm
- CH See To It Fellowship – Sunday, 8/17 @ 5pm
- WM See To It Median Adults Lunch – Sunday, 8/24 @ 11:45am
- Fall TOGETHER Member Gathering – Sunday, 9/21
- Global See To It Commitment Sunday – Sunday, 9/28

# WEDNESDAY

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**WORSHIP**

## Session 4 - **UPWARD**

### WEDNESDAY MORNING



**Nathan Lino**  
**Lead Pastor**  
**FBC Forney**  
**Forney, Texas**

A 4th generation African, Nathan Lino founded Northeast Houston Baptist Church in 2002 and served as their Senior Pastor until June 1, 2022 when he began his tenure as First Baptist Church Forney's Senior Pastor.

His ministry opportunities have taken him to more than 25 countries around the world. Nathan has served as President of the Southern Baptist of Texas Convention 2015-2017, First Vice President of the Southern Baptist Convention and on the board of the International Mission Board.

Nathan became a Christian while attending Pinetown Baptist Church, in Pinetown, South Africa, and was baptized and ordained at Forest Cove Baptist Church in Kingwood, TX. He graduated from Texas A&M University, and graduate school at Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary in Wake Forest, NC (M.Div.).

Nathan and Nicole have been married since 1999 and have four children, Colton, Campbell, Cassidy and Chloe.



**Session 5 – UPWARD**  
WEDNESDAY MORNING

**TOGETHER WE**



**WORSHIP**

**BUILD AN  
INVITE CULTURE**

**EXPAND WORSHIP  
SERVICES**

**MOBILIZE  
WORSHIP LEADERS**

**COMMUNICATE  
CLEAR  
WORSHIP VISION**



## Spring 2026 Growth Cycle

	<b>TIER 1-2</b> Churchwide Internal and/or Community External	<b>TIER 3</b> Ministry Specific
<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>Welcome Back Sunday (1/4)*</b> <b>Compassion Sunday (1/11)*</b> <b>SPIN Weekend (1/21-25)*</b> <b>Evangelism Strategy Kickoff*</b>	Young Adult/YMA Vision Night (1/11)* Missions 101 Begins (1/11)* Golden Years Event (1/15) NELA March for Life (1/25)*
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	<b>Forged Men's Conference (2/7)</b> <b>Gameday Sunday (2/8)*</b>	Lunch with the Pastor (2/1)* Widow-Widowers Lunch (2/10) Missions 101 Begins (2/15)* FW Kids FREEZ-IN (2/15)*
<b>MARCH</b>	<b>Hope for the Nations (3/1)*</b> <b>Daddy Daughter 2025 (3/13-14)</b>	OPSB Spring Break (3/23-27)*
<b>APRIL</b>	<b>Easter Sunday (4/5)*</b> 8, 9 & 10:30am Worship (WM) 9 & 10:30am Worship (CH) <b>TOGETHER Member Gathering            (4/19)*</b> <b>Beloved Women's Retreat (4/23-26)*</b> <b>First West Men's Retreat (4/30-5/3)*</b>	Lunch with the Pastor (4/19)*
<b>MAY</b>	Graduate Recognition (5/3)* Mother's Day/Family Dedication (5/10)* Memorial Day Weekend (5/22-25)*	National Day of Prayer (5/7) OPSB Graduation Week (5/11-16)

\*Sunday or Sunday Impact (Theme Sundays in BLUE)



# Special Projects

## Calhoun Campus Growth

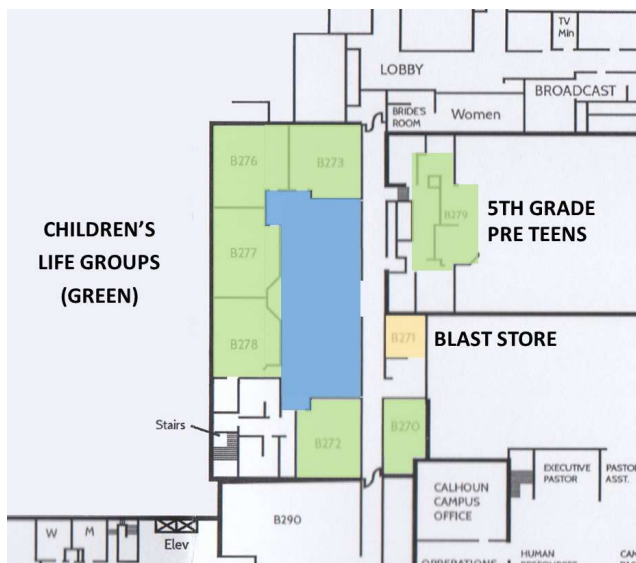
God is moving at our Calhoun Campus! With regular attendance of more than 270, we are doing everything possible to maximize our existing space with dual worship hours at 9:00am and 10:30am. We believe that continued growth at our Calhoun Campus will be sustained by purchasing an existing Calhoun building or through the purchase of real estate and the construction of new facilities. We on the lookout for a 10+ acres of property. Pray with us for God’s perfect plan!

## CH Facilities and/or Real Estate Purchase Timeline

- TBD, but as soon as possible

## West Monroe Projects

We plan to continue facility renovations on our West Monroe Campus with a low-cost, two-phased upgrade plan in 2025-2026. First up is an upgraded and secure space for children’s LIFE Groups. Our plan will purpose build this 2<sup>nd</sup> floor space and provide secure access to Sunday morning areas for grades 1-5.



Our goal is to:

- Purpose build 2<sup>nd</sup> floor space for Sunday Children’s LIFE Groups.
- Secure access to Sunday morning areas for grades 1-5.
- Decrease Sunday morning travel time for parents of children (and locate parents adjacent to their kids in grades 1-5).

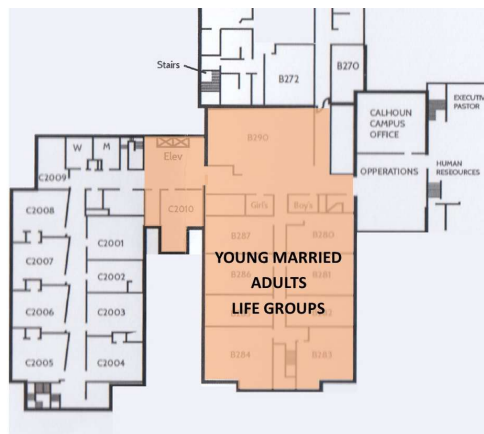


### WM Children's Area Renovations Timeline

- Demo & Renovations – October-December 2025
- Renovations Completed – January 1, 2026 (Sunday, 1/4 Grand Opening)

**Anticipated Cost: \$100,000**

The second phase is a modest renovation of old children's areas for Young Married Adult LIFE Groups. We will paint, refloor and refurnish these areas with the goal of relocating Young Married Adult LIFE Groups in areas adjacent to their children and preschoolers. This will streamline the Sunday morning experience for young families. Median Adult LIFE Groups will be relocated to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Children's Building.



Our goal is to:

- Renovate and repurpose vacated 2<sup>nd</sup> floor children's space for Young Married Adults.
- Relocate Young Married Adult Groups to the most newly renovated spaces.
- Relocate Median Adult groups to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor Children's Building (C3000's).
- Relocate transitioning Young Married Adult Groups to the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Children's Building (C2000's).

### WM Young Married Adult LIFE Groups Area Renovations Timeline

- Demo & Renovations – January-March 2026
- Renovations Completed – April 5, 2026 (Sunday, 4/12 Grand Opening)

**Anticipated Cost: \$75,000**

# THURSDAY

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**EQUIP**

**Session 6 – INWARD**  
THURSDAY MORNING

**TOGETHER WE**



**EQUIP**

**LAUNCH NEW  
LIFE GROUPS**

**DISCIPLE-MAKERS  
THROUGH  
D-GROUPS**

**INVEST IN NEXT  
GENERATION**

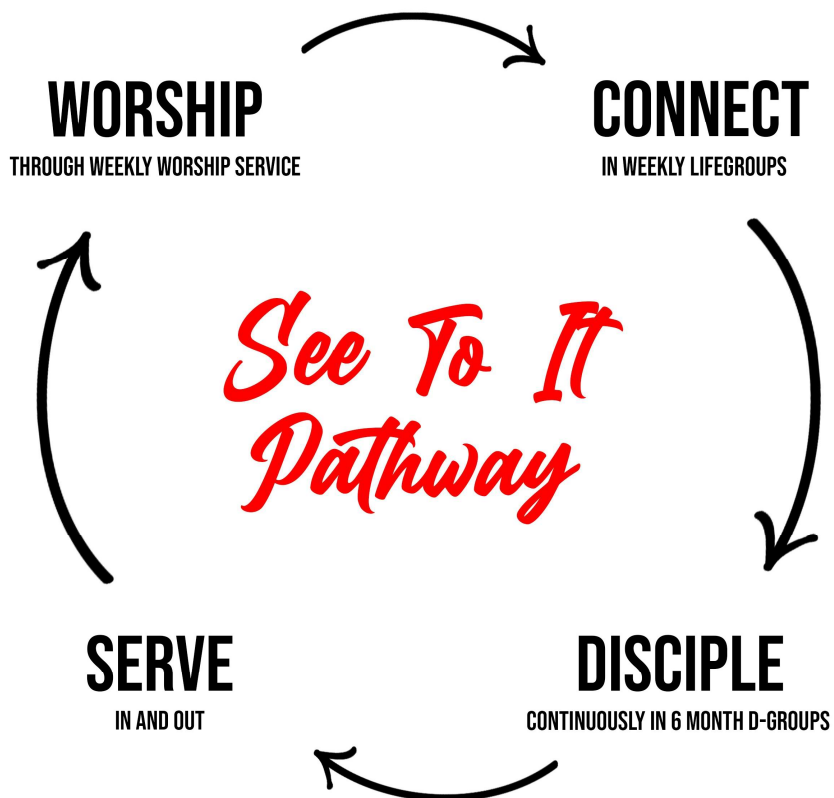
**IDENTIFY  
CHRIST-CENTERED  
PURPOSE**

# Discipleship Strategy

Our TOGETHER values and goals unify the church around shared objectives and strategy to see to it that no one misses the grace of God!

## TOGETHER We Equip...

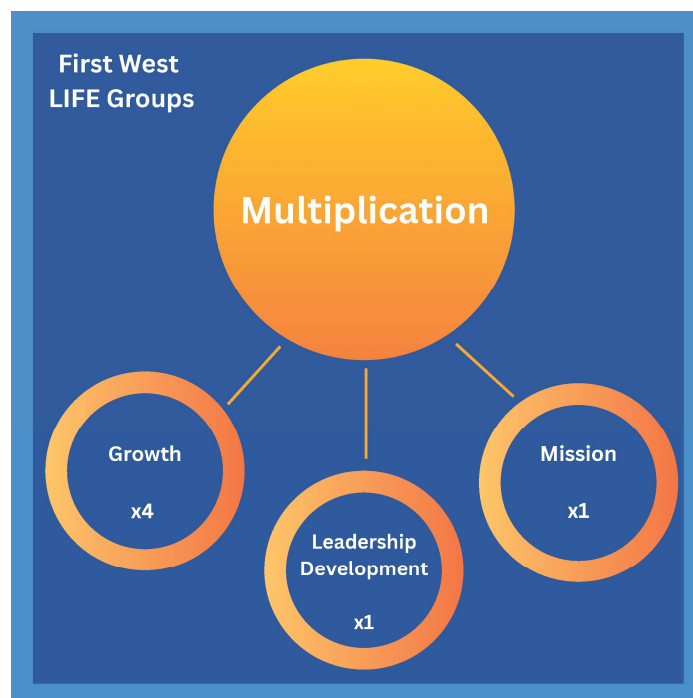
- **Equip Leaders** | Equip New Leaders
- **LIFE Groups** | Launch New LIFE Groups
- **Disciple Makers** | Raise Disciple Makers
- **Next Generation** | Invest/Equip the Next Generation
- **Equipping Vision** | Identify Christ-Centered Purpose



# LIFE Group Multiplication

## The 4-1-1 Plan

- **Growth – “4”**
  - Goal – Grow by *four* (couples or singles)
  - Tool – Prospect List
    - List of one-hour attenders and relationships outside of the church
  - Accountability – Track growth through Unique Attenders
- **Leadership Development – “1”**
  - Goal – Develop *one* leader (couple or single)
  - Tool – D-Groups; One-on-One Mentoring
  - Accountability – Track new leaders through Ministry Platform
- **Mission – “1”**
  - Goal – Engage in *one* service project bi-annually with the Life Group
  - Tool – List of service opportunities outside of the church
  - Accountability – Track where groups are serving



## D-Groups

### DISCIPLESHIP

**Intentionally equipping believers with the Word of God  
through accountable relationships  
empowered by the Holy Spirit  
in order to replicate faithful followers of Jesus Christ.**

#### Fall 2025

- **Kickoff Party – Sunday, 9/7/25**  
We will ask groups to come together and this will serve as their first meeting time. Will allow groups to lay out expectations and work out details. Staff will offer encouragement as we launch them into the fall semester.
- **Reading Plan – Revised to 15 weeks (from 25 weeks)**
  - Presented in semester format
  - Week of 9/7/2025 – 12/14/2025
  - Total of 75 readings  
Luke, Acts, Galatians, 1 & 2 Thessalonians, Philippians, Colossians, and Philemon

#### Spring 2026

- **Kickoff Party – Sunday, 1/4/26**
- **Reading Plan**
  - Week of 1/4/2026 – 4/5/2026
  - Genesis, Joshua, Obadiah



## Group Discussion

List the top 5 sermons that have had the greatest impact on your spiritual formation.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

List the top 5 spiritual experiences that have had the greatest impact on your spiritual formation.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

List the top 5 relationships that have had the greatest impact on your spiritual formation.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

The key is relationships! Who are your disciples?

## Fall 2026 Growth Cycle

	<b>TIER 1-2</b> Churchwide Internal and/or Community External	<b>TIER 3</b> Ministry Specific
<b>AUGUST</b>	<b>NELBA Worship Night @ FW (8/2)*</b> <b>Marriage Night w/ Ted Cunningham (8/9)*</b> <b>Big Sunday (8/16)*</b> <b>WM 9/10:30a Schedule Begins (8/16)*</b>	Back to School Events (8/12) Midweek Kickoff (8/19)
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>	Student IMPACT @ FW (TBD) <b>TOGETHER Member Gathering (9/20)*</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Grade Bible Presentation (TBD)*
<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>See To It Emphasis (TBD)*</b> Picnic in the Park @ Kiroli Park (TBD)*	Deacon Election (10/18, 10/25)*
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	<b>Thanksgiving Weekend (11/22-29)*</b>	Deacon Banquet (11/12) Friendsgiving (TBD)*
<b>DECEMBER</b>	<b>NELA Christmas Celebration (12/18-20)*</b> Christmas Eve Services (12/24)	WM Christmas Parade (12/5) Dome Weekend (12/11-13)* CH Christmas Parade (12/12) No LIFE Groups (12/20, 12/27)* Church Offices Closed (12/21-25) (12/31, 1/1)

\*Sunday or Sunday Impact (Theme Sundays in BLUE)

### WM 9/10:30am Plan

- **Goal** – Maximize West Monroe Campus facilities for growth beyond 2,000
- **Growth Ceilings** – Recognition of capacity ceilings: Worship Service Capacity; Preschool, Children’s & Student Space; and Adult LIFE Group Space (Current Growth Barrier)
- **Parking Analysis** –1,546 parking spaces support a dual Worship/LIFE Group schedule
- **Maximizing Our Facilities**
  - **Two Growth Engines** – Both the 9:00am and 10:30am hours become growth engines to reach and engage increasing numbers of people.



# Theme Sundays

Month	Sunday	Notes	Key Leaders
January	Welcome Back Sunday	TBD	Rhonda Moody
	SPIN WKND	Lobby Decor	Mark Cole
February	Game Day Sunday	Tailgate Grilling	Hope Edwards
March/April	Easter		Volunteer Team
May	Mother's Day	Mom Feature TBD Family Dedication	Volunteer Team
June	VBS	VBS Sunday TBD	Chris Burton
	Father's Day	Dad Feature TBD	Volunteer Team
August	Marriage Night	Anniversary Board?	Adriane White
	Big Sunday	LIFE Group Connection?	Hope Edwards
September	Hero Sunday	First Responder Recognition First Responder Vehicles Hero Characters	Chris Burton
October	See To It Emphasis	NELA, NOLA, World Lobby Decor	Mark Fenn
November	Foster Care Sunday	Pod Exhibits	Rhonda Moody
	Thanksgiving	Friendsgiving/Pumpkin Patch	Chris Burton
December	Search for Baby Jesus	Bible Story Characters	Chris Burton
	Christmas	NELA Christmas Christmas Decor	Volunteer Team

Key Focus Sunday in GREEN



## Session 7 – **INWARD & UPWARD**

### THURSDAY MORNING



**Greg & Janna Long**  
**Lead Worship Pastor**  
**Cottonwood Creek Church**  
**Allen, Texas**

Greg and Janna Long both serve on the worship leadership team at Cottonwood Creek Church.

They are parents to three daughters (Lillian, Julia, Eleanor), two dogs and a cat.

Their days are spent pouring their lives into their family, leading worship as half of the 3 time Grammy nominated and American Music Award winning foursome Avalon, and enjoy leading worship at churches, conferences, and a variety of special events.

For Greg and Janna it's all about family, community, and ministry. They have seen throughout their time in the local church and in touring how music can be used to powerfully encourage and uplift people. Through the ministry of Avalon, they have sung in front of millions and the reach of their music is countless.

Greg and Janna say "We are forever grateful for a God who created us to be in relationship and we love to worship Him."

# APPENDIX

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