



A Monthly Publication of Live Oak First Baptist Church
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The Branch NewsLETTER

"I am the vine, you are the branches" John 15:5

Donald Valenta, Pastor
Paul Reavis, Minister of Music & Education
Rachel Dorchester, Secretary

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National Day of Prayer

66th Annual National Observance

FOR YOUR GREAT
NAME'S SAKE!

"O LORD, LISTEN! O LORD, FORGIVE! O
LORD, HEAR AND ACT! FOR YOUR SAKE,
O MY GOD"...DANIEL 9:19

Thursday, May 4, 2017

Prayer and Praise Gathering

12:00-1:00 pm on the steps of

San Antonio City Hall

Pre-service music begins at 11:30 am.

Join our mayor, student, military,
church, and community leaders.

Welcome New Members

Praise the Lord for These Decisions



Joined by Statement

April 2, 2017

Sam Mitchell

Sharon Mitchell

Deacon of the Week

May 7	Ken Bean
May 14	Lalo Peña
May 21	Donnie Cox
May 28	Danny O'Neil





Memorial Day is when we remember those who paid the ultimate price preserving the peace and freedoms we have in this country. Pray for the Lord's blessing and protection on all our troops and their families.

From Our Pastor

What has God called you to do? Do you have a sense of purpose and direction that envisions the unlimited possibilities? Caleb is one of those individuals in the Old Testament who “wholly followed the Lord God” and demonstrated the characteristics of a possibility person. Caleb was one of the mightiest men of Israel whose name means “capable” or “all heart.” This outstanding man of faith believed the word of the Lord when all around were faint-hearted. Caleb had undaunting courage when others suffered from a “grasshopper complex.” He was a man of perseverance who lived by faith and waited for his mountain for forty-five years. Caleb followed the Lord even in his old age and was still going strong at eighty-five. Caleb was a spiritual man with an all-out commitment to God and His standards.

We need possibility people like Caleb in our church and community today. We are faced with many afflictions that limit our commitment to Christ. Things such as timidity, fear, misplaced priorities, and false assumptions can hinder us from being possibility people. We need a fresh encounter with the living Lord Jesus Christ who will empower us to live as possibility people. Possibility people are well-informed with a definite direction expecting to overcome all obstacles as they cooperate with God.

Will you commit to be God’s possibility people? Will you allow Christ to em-

power you by the Holy Spirit and become a dedicated person of faith, courage, perseverance, and commitment? I look forward to seeing you in Bible study and worship as we learn to be God’s possibility people.

Your Pastor,
Brother Donald

From Our Minister of Music & Education

The April showers came right on time, but unfortunately, they all fell at Sunday School time! So now we can expect May flowers, right? I see some beautiful gardens. If you have one and end up with too many tomatoes, just let me know!

Richard Filleman’s class on Revelation is going well. There are plans for other classes in the future.

Lively Oaks, we are scheduled to eat at the Golden Corral on Pat Booker. Meet us at the church at 11:30 am on the 11th of May to carpool.

Sunday School teachers, please keep tabs on your absentee members so they will know you care!

If you read music and think you would like to try ringing bells, we have some vacancies coming soon. I really appreciate the faithfulness of the folks who have been ringing for several years! Come give us a try!

Paul

May Birthdays

3 Brad Ward	14 Kailyn Carey
4 Geneva Phillips	17 Norman Schell
4 Donnie Cox	19 Leslie Alexander
4 Tracie Hires	21 Diane Linnartz
5 Dorothy Dixon	24 Jennifer Mace
8 Jackie Applewhite	28 Chaem Daniels
10 Jan Young	28 Misty Crawford
13 Billy Rousseau	30 Betty Cox

Women's Ministry Meeting



May 18, Thursday
6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall

**Cultivate Relationships:
Dare to Be Authentic**

One of the best ways to cultivate relationships is to be authentic. People can sense when others mask the truth or live by wearing an exterior facade. Dare to be authentic with us as we cultivate relationships!

Join us for Bible study, dinner, and fellowship with your sisters in Christ. Check the menu on the bulletin board in the foyer.

Lively Oaks Meeting

May 11
11:30 am
Golden Corral
For ages 50+



Join us for lunch and a time of fellowship at The Golden Corral on Pat Booker Road. We will carpool from the church at 11:30 a.m.



Lessons From the Life of Jesus

June 11 thru Sept 17, 2017

Have you ever wished you could study the life of Jesus at a relaxed pace, in chronological order, with plenty of opportunity to voice questions? Join us for this 13-week series, which will take us through the early days of Jesus. By examining the details of the stories, we will discover truths often missed in casual reading.

This series will be led by Sam Mitchell, a graduate of Moody Bible Institute and LeTourneau University. Sam has spent thousands of hours researching the life of Jesus with a view to determining its chronology and meaning, and has been leading Bible studies since 1970.

Lone Star Church Starting Offering

The Church Planting Offering is collected through the year to fund the starting of new churches. The churches receiving financial support use the monies for pastoral support, curriculum, and purchase of sound equipment, office equipment, utilities, and other expenses of starting a new church.

The enormous needs in San Antonio call for generous giving to the Church Planting Offering. By taking the Church Planting Offering during the month of May (our traditional campaign starting emphasis month), the Kingdom expansion through church planting will grow and multiply.

Please Pray and Give!