



The Branch NewsLETTER

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

A Monthly Publication of Live Oak First Baptist Church
Phone # 210-656-8200 FAX # 210-656-0848
Web Site: <http://www.liveoakfbc.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/LiveOakFirstBaptistChurch>

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

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National Day of Prayer

★ PRAY FOR AMERICA ★



EPHESIANS 4:3

MAKING EVERY EFFORT TO KEEP THE UNITY
OF THE SPIRIT THROUGH THE BOND OF PEACE.

Thursday, May 3, 2018

**Praise and Prayer Gathering
San Antonio City Hall**

12:00 pm–1:00 pm

Pre-service Music at 11:30 am

San Antonio's 33rd annual National Day of Prayer Observance will include a choir, Pastors, Ministry Leaders, City Leaders, Students praying for our nation and praising the Lord for His faithfulness.

Join us as we gather in the center of San Antonio, outside our walls and show Unity in the Spirit, Explicit Agreement and Extraordinary Prayer. Come early.



Memorial Day is when we pause to 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

The contemporary church faces many challenges and circumstances which God desires to address to help them be victorious overcomers. The message to the seven churches in Revelation 2 and 3 provides some basic principles which apply to any church at any time. The common exhortation to the seven churches was to “look at your Lord.” The church needs to fix its eyes on the Lord above and look for ways to please Him. Although the church may have seasons of suffering, hardship, and problems, the church will find more help in looking at their Lord than in focusing on their misery. The Lord Jesus has the only solution for whatever ails the church, as well as the individual believer. Let’s remember He holds us in His hand and is the holy one who has authority over us.

Another common theme to the seven churches is “your Lord is looking at you.” It is great comfort to know that the Lord knows where you are and what you are going through. The Lord sees the church that is sometimes busy, suffering, in a hard place, compromising, dead, on mission or at ease. Jesus not only knows the facts of the situation, but He suffered and died to provide the strength and courage to victoriously overcome in these situations.

Finally, the seven churches in Revelation were exhorted to “look at the promise.” Jesus had a promise for each of these churches and their unique circumstances. God promised the “tree of life,” “paradise of God,” “crown of life,” etc., to the fearful but faithful overcomer in Christ Jesus. God’s promises are innumerable, so let us search for the promises and remember the promises God has for the believer in Christ Jesus. Christ’s message to each is a message to all. “He who has an ear, let him hear what

the Spirit says to the churches” (Revelation 3:22).

I pray that Live Oak First Baptist Church will continue to listen to God and obey Him. Let’s remember to faithfully look at the Lord and His promises, knowing the Lord is looking at you.

Your Pastor,
Brother Donald

From Our Minister of Music & Education

May the Fourth be with you! The primary day in May is Mother’s Day, of course. Say a prayer for your wife, mother, sister, daughter, aunt, niece, cousin, and friends who are moms. They have a special place in our hearts.

May I brag and boast? This month my oldest grand-daughter will graduate from Texas A&M. Her younger sister will graduate from high school and then head to Texas A&M. Who would have thought it? Proud pawpaw!

Pray for all students and teachers as the school year draws to a close.

I am thankful for Linda Bean, for her leadership in Vacation Bible School. All workers are expected at a meeting May 5 at 9 a.m. Be praying for the entire staff as they prepare for VBS July 8-12.

Thanks for your participation in the deacon ordination service for Richard Filleman! The service was very nice. Be praying for Richard and Sheila as they embark on this new journey.

Lively Oaks, we go to Gruene this month to the Grist Mill. Because of the graduation, I will not be able to go with you. Meet at the church at 11:15 am to carpool.

Paul



- 3 Brad Ward
- 4 Geneva Phillips
- 4 Donnie Cox
- 4 Tracie Hires
- 5 Dorothy Dixon
- 10 Jan Young
- 14 Kailyn Carey
- 17 Norman Schell
- 19 Leslie Alexander
- 30 Betty Cox

Deacon of the Week

- May 6 Richard Filleman
- May 13 Ken Bean
- May 20 Danny O'Neil
- May 27 Lalo Peña

Lively Oaks Meeting



May 10
11:15 am
Grist Mill Rest.
Gruene, TX
For ages 50+

The Grist Mill serves a varied menu in an 1878 cotton gin located on the banks of the Guadalupe River. Join us for lunch and a time of fellowship. We will carpool from the church at 11:15 a.m.

Lone Star Church Starting Offering



Sowing, Watering, and Reaping in 2018

I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the increase. So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase. Now he who plants and he who waters are one, and each one will receive his own reward according to his own labor. 1 Cor. 3:6-8, NKJV

San Antonio Baptist Association
Goal: \$40,000

Every church can...(1) sponsor a church, (2) co-sponsor a church, (3) give a "Free-will" offering, (4) buy tickets to the church starting banquet, (5) put "Church Starting" in your church budget, (6) Adopt a people group in San Antonio to pray for and engage.

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.

Women's Ministry Meeting



May 17, Thursday
6:30 pm
Fellowship Hall
Rethink Relationships—
Share Who You Are

Have you formed deep relationships with a praying friend? How does it look and feel to share who you are in prayer? Can you be vulnerable with that person? How do you find someone with whom to entrust sharing your prayer heart? Join us for Bible study, dinner, and fellowship with your sisters in Christ.

Please Note: Our Women's Ministry will not meet in June, July, and August. We are taking a break for the summer. See you in September.