



The Branch NewsLETTER

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

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From Your Pastor's Heart

A Day of Sacrificial Giving

Sometimes we have to say things that make us less than joyful. However, if we do not share the truth in all things, we are being less than honest. To that end, on Sunday; July 21, 2024, I made the announcement that our church is no longer financially solvent or that for some time our churches' giving has not kept in pace with our expenses. For the first six months of this year, there has been only one month when our offering exceeded our expenses. This reality requires that immediate action must be taken to resolve this issue.

To that end, as Pastor, I have declared that the first Sunday in August (August 4, 2024) will be "A Day of Sacrificial Giving." This offering will be part of the general offerings of the church to help relieve the immediate financial needs of the church. Second, the Stewardship Committee will review the church budget to reduce expenses wherever possible. For example, we, the members, will take over the yard care and no longer use a lawn service.

Finally, I realize that we are living in economically trying times. Many of us live on fixed incomes and inflation is eating up our financial resources. However, our God is not without resources and I am calling upon you to pray that God will lead us to meet the needs of this hour, and, to both give and economize as God leads us. Nancy and I are praying about what God would have us to give on Sunday, August 4, 2024 and we ask that you do the same, please.

Pas-
tor Cooper

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Dealing with emotions that invade your life
Excerpts from the book “Experiencing Grief”
by H. Norman Wright

“Perhaps the best way to deal with emotions that invade your life is to follow the example of a hiker who had just read the Forest Service Instructions on what to do when encountering wild animals, especially mountain lions. This man was jogging with his dog and came upon a mountain lion. The lion began stalking the man and then ran after him. Fortunately, the man remembered what he had read. He stopped, turned around, and faced the mountain lion. The lion wasn’t expecting this, so it stopped and walked away. Your emotions are like that mountain lion. Face them head-on, listen to their message, and eventually you’ll rise above them.”

Read Lamentations 3:22



“Putting your thoughts and feelings into words gives them shape and meaning. Expressing them to others means you’re not having to carry their weight by yourself. It also gives you a freedom to overcome them.”

Read Matthew 11:28

Coming In September !

Sunday, September 15 is

**This years Homecoming
Theme Is "BRAVO!"**

**This year we will celebrate
with our very own**

Luz Y Vida Iglesia Bautista!

**Plan on attending and bring
your family!**

**Reach out to those who
haven't been able to come in
a while!**

Invite new friends!

**Bi-Lingual Service &
Special Music!**



Fellowship, Food, Fun!

Questions?

Please Call The Church Office

PRAY FOR:

- ◆ Our Church Finances
- ◆ Those Who Are Ill
- ◆ Our Community Outreach
- ◆ Raising Highly Capable Kids Upcoming Classes
- ◆ Those Going Back To School
- ◆ For the Lord To Bring Families With Small Children
- ◆ Those Who Are Traveling
- ◆ Our First Responders
- ◆ Our Up-Coming Elections
- ◆ Our Nation
- ◆ For Spiritual Renewal Here At LOFBC
- ◆ Those Of Our Families Who Need Salvation

AUGUST 2024

Church Life

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 The Lord's Supper Luz Y Vida 1-3	5 Girl Scouts 5:30 Boy Scouts 7:00 pm	6 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm	7 <i>Prayer Service 6:30 pm</i>	8	9	10
//	//	13	14 1st day class NEISD <i>Prayer Service 6:30 pm</i>	15	16 1st day class JudsonISD	17
18 Luz Y Vida 1-3	19 Newsletter Articles Due Girl Scouts 5:30 Boy Scouts	20 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm	21 UC Quilters 10:30 am Stewardship Comm. Meet 5:30 pm Church Conference 6:30 pm <i>Prayer Service 6:30 pm</i>	22	23	24
25 Luz Y Vida 1-3	26 Girl Scouts 5:30 Boy Scouts	27 Cub Scouts 6:30 pm	28 <i>Prayer Service 6:30 pm</i>	29	30	

It's Back To School Time!