

DECEMBER 2014

Sundays

Worship Service (English) 9:00 am 11:00 am 6:00 pm

Worship Service (Spanish) 2:00 pm

> Children's Church 9:00 am 11:00 am 2:00 pm

Blaze Young Adults 7:30 pm

Wednesdays

EMPOWER Discipleship Groups 7:00 pm

Adult Bible Study Ladies Bible Study Spanish Bible Study *Blaze* Young Adults *4 Life* Youth Service Girls Ministries Royal Rangers

Website www.lifechurchsa.com

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"ETERNAL PRIORITIES"

As we enter into the month of December and the Christmas season, we are being bombarded by advertisers and media trying to convince us to spend money on things that we want or desire. It is evident that the message sent out is, "In order to have Christmas, we must buy more." Since October, stores and shopping malls have placed a high premium on purchasing "stuff" in order to celebrate Christmas. If you and I are not careful, we become lost in the massive pull toward consumerism and miss the true message of Christmas.

However, Christmas is not about shopping, gifts, and holiday gatherings. While those are things we enjoy about Christmas, the real meaning behind **Christmas is celebrating the birth of God's Son** and remembering the reason He came to this earth.

You see, Christmas is about simplicity. God chose to bring His Son into this world by very simple means. He could have brought Him into this world with great pomp and circumstance, but He chose to bring Him into this world another way. God has a way of using simple, ordinary means to accomplish great and mighty things. Jesus was not born in a palace, but in a manger. A feeding trough was his cradle. He was not born of royalty, but of humble, poor parents. It was in this simplicity that lay the destiny of mankind.

It is in this simplicity that we must keep our priorities focused on eternal things. During this Christmas let us focus on:

• Praise and Worship

The shepherds came from the hills leading their flocks to worship Jesus. Later, the wise men brought gifts and worshiped. Christmas is about worshipping and loving Jesus. Those who have been touched by His love and grace will desire to worship Him. They won't become distracted by the "happenings" of Christmas that they miss worshipping Him. We praise and worship Him for who He is and all that He has done for us.

• PREACHING AND LIVING

Christmas is a reminder to the world of the coming of God's Son to this world to redeem man from sin. When the shepherds saw the Christ child, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child. Christmas gives us another opportunity to share the good news of God's love. Not only must we share the message, but we must live the life. Our lives are living epistles known and read by all men.

• Serving and Giving

The wise men brought gold, frankincense, and myrrh. These were gifts fit for a prophet, priest, and king. Most of us are aware of the matter of giving gifts at Christmas. This is the way most people have celebrated for centuries. When we think of giving, we give to family members, friends, and those who have touched our lives in some manner. However, we do not normally think of giving gifts to the Lord. You might be wondering— "What is the greatest gift I could offer to the Lord this Christmas?" The greatest gift you could give yourself –through serving and giving. You see, the reason we give is because God first gave to us. Of course, His giving far out shadows anything we could ever give.

During this Christmas season, let us keep our priorities centered on the eternal. Have a Merry Christmas and blessed New Year!

With Love,

Pastor Terry & Tina Richardson



COMING SUNDAYS IN DECEMBER

December 7th: 9 & 11 am Services "Can God Trust You With Trouble"



We plan and prepare for the future, but trouble has the unsettling quality of coming when you least expect it. We see from the life of Mary, how the unexpected found her wondering what God was working out in her life. In this message, Pastor will challenge you to be

consistent when everything is confusing. Like Mary, you can be highly favored and experience God's destiny for your life.

<u>6 PM:</u> Pastor Paul Watson



A product of Teen Challenge, Paul has served in youth/young adult ministry for 24 years. He and his family have attended Life Church since November 2008. Paul has served as our young Adult Ministries Coordinator for the past 4 years. Pastor Paul's hope and

prayer is to reach young people with the gospel of Jesus Christ and to see them delivered at the Cross and disciple into their God given destinies.

December 14th: 9, 11 am & 6 pm Services "Christmas Makes Everything New"



Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year, and there are so many reasons that we can call it that. Christmas makes us think of the most wonderful gift ever given— when God gave us His one and only Son as a baby on that first Christmas. There is hope, joy, and peace that can only be found in Jesus Christ,

and it's because of Him that we can be saved, set free, and can celebrate this special time of the year. We will have a special Creative Arts Christmas Production, with powerful music and media. We invite you to come on December 14th and celebrate Christmas with us.

Because Christmas Makes Everything New!

<u>6PM:</u>

The Evening Service is Dismissed!

ife Church

Evening Service Dismissed

December 21st: 9 & 11 am Services "Devine Demotion"



The majesty of Christmas is in the birth of Christ. It is the journey He chose to be demoted from the presence of God– equal to God– to become a man. He faced demotion here on earth: as an alien in a foreign land, as a servant washing feet, as a criminal betrayed and

beaten. In this message you will see Christ's love and sacrifice for us as he stepped down from heavenly places and chose to be "Immanuel-God with Us."

<u>6 PM:</u>

Christmas Candlelight and Communion Service



God sent His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ, to bring hope, peace, joy, love, and light into this dark world. He is "Christmas - Christ with us!" Bring the whole family to this candlelight service as we worship and thank God for His perfect Christmas gift.

December 28th: 9 & 11 am Services "Expect the Unexpected"



"A Dream That Drives You"

Whoever you are, wherever you are, God has a dream for your life. God can open your eyes to that dream and allow you to see who you could be and what you could do. When that happens, it

changes you. It affects how you talk, how you think and how you live. In this message, *Expect the Unexpected* as God unfolds His dream for you for 2015.

6 PM:



Evening Service Dismissed

Expect the Internet the Interne

REVIVAL SERVICES JANUARY 4 - 7, 2015

SPECIAL GUEST: PAT SCHATZLINE



Pat Schatzline is one of America's leading communicators, authors and evangelists to students and adults. Pat and his wife, Karen, co-founded Mercy Seat Ministries in 1997. He has ministered to over 2 million people as he has traveled the globe ministering at churches, conferences, camps, retreats, and universities. An author and contributor to many books and articles, Pat is known as a mentor of many of America's top leaders. The Schatzlines founded the Forerunner School of Ministry in 2001, and have witnessed many people begin full time ministry. Pat has been the keynote speaker at some of the largest youth conferences in the world. He is known

for his crazy humor, unique ability to communicate God's Word with passion and illustrations, and most of all, for his deep desire to see a generation of adults and youth experience God's amazing love and power.

"and they were all waiting expectantly..."



Domingo 2:00 pm <u>Servicios:</u> Mi

Miércoles a las 7 pm

(Estudio de la Biblia en el salón de ministerios Hispanos)



Hechos 3:19 *Así que, arrepentíos y convertíos, para que sean borrados nuestros pecados; para vengan de la*

Del Escritorio del Pastor Ruiz

Que **tiempos** tan **hermosos** en la presencia de Dios. El Retiro de Damas fue un exito

tremendo felicitamos a todas las damas que pudieron hacer posible este campamento. Dios uso a la Pastora Celsy tanto en el retiro como en nuestra Iglesia como también a la hna. Nancy, fue **Glorioso!** Que Dios les siga bendiciendo a estas siervas. Ahora solo nos queda a nosotros guardar sus promesas y seguir pelando la buena batalla de **FE**. Dice **Romanos 8:28** que *Somos mas que Vencedores!* Hnos. firmes y adelante aun **VIENEN COSAS MAS GLORIOSAS!!!**

Pastores Ruiz



Solo para Hombres

Sabemos que todo matrimonio tiene sus desafíos y sus **PRUEBAS** de **FUEGO.** El Amor es una Decisión y no un Sentimiento. Aprendamos amar a nuestras esposas como **Cristo AMÓ** a la Iglesia. **Efesios 5:25**

Maridos, amad a vuestras mujeres, así como Cristo amó a la Iglesia, y se entregó a sí mismo por ella. Será una jornada de 40 lecciones y terminaríamos con la película a **PRUEBA** de **FUEGO.** Este es un llamado a todos los varones. Únete a nosotros todos los Miércoles a las 7pm en el Salón del Coro.



SOLO PARA MUJERES

La Pastora Diana Ruiz ha estado impartiendo sobre: "LAS CARACTERISTICAS DE UNA MUJER DE DIOS" Estas clases impactantes donde serás desafiada por la palabra de Dios y en donde El Espíritu de Dios te trae convicción. Venga y explore esta clase donde Dios formara tú Carácter para ser una mujer de Dios. " Mujer virtuosa, ¿quién la hallará? Porque su estima sobrepasa largamente a la de las piedras preciosas. **Proverbios 31:10** Todos los Miércoles en el Salón Hispano.

El Mejor Regalo



Cada Navidad todos estamos a la expectativa de un regalo o regalos. Tiempo de compañerismo. Tiempo con la familia. Comida, diversión, entusiasmo, alegría, emoción, etc. Pero aveces es posible olvidar el

VERDADERO motivo de la **NAVIDAD**? En esta fecha tan especial **HAY** un **Regalo Maravilloso** que **JESÚS** les quiere dar a tus familiares y amistades. **EL MISMO**— "LA **SALVACIÓN**" Así que el regalo de regalos para esta Navidad es **JESÚS**! Comparte el amor de Dios y regala una

Biblia a tus familiares o a tus amigos, este regalo tiene Bendiciones Eternas!





21 de Diciembre

Sueño de Navidad



Vengase este 21 de Diciembre y sienta la emoción con la Producción Navideña de "Un Sueño de Navidad". Dirijida por nuestra hna. Marivel Sánchez y su Elenco. Trata de un Hombre que callo en el alcoholismo pero Dios lo rescata llevándolo en un sueño a la época del nacimiento de Jesús. No se pierda este drama que le bendecirá a usted y a los suyos. Invite a sus amistades y familiares. Este es un buen tiempo para compartir el amor de Jesús. Experimentemos La Poderosa Mano de Dios. Transformando Vidas por la Eternidad!





Christmas & New Year's Schedule

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 24TH

Church and Development Center Offices Closed EMPOWER Discipleship Groups Dismissed

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25TH

MERRY CHRISTMAS! Church and Development Center Offices Closed

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28TH

Evening Service Dismissed

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31ST

Development Center Office Closed EMPOWER Discipleship Groups Dismissed

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1ST

HAPPY NEW YEAR! Church and Development Center Offices Closed

Have a Merry Christmas & a Blessed New Year!



Outreach Ministries



Life Light Ministries Saturdays, 9:00 am, in the Sanctuary

As believers, we are charged with the duty to spread the Good News in our community. Each Saturday morning we gather to be witnesses of His love and mercy. Just as Jesus received sinners, we should receive people as they are and invite them to know Christ. Let's step out of our comfort zones and make new friends. It is through making new friends that we will be able to lead them to Christ Jesus. We are seeing lives changed on a weekly basis. If you would like more information, contact Gordon or Margaret Majors at (210) 857-0635 or (210) 857-0563.



Nursing Home Ministry

Fridays at 10:00 am at Lakeside Inn

God is moving through Life Church's Nursing Home Ministry. Volunteers meet every Friday and minister in music and the Word of God to the residents of the Lakeside Inn Nursing Home. We are Jesus' hands extended by befriending, loving and praying for their needs. We want everyone to have the opportunity to receive Jesus as their Lord and Savior before their eternity begins. We are seeing lives changed for eternity. If you would like to be part of this life changing ministry, contact Eva Hizon at 210-209-1112.

Creative Arts Christmas Bake Sale Sunday, December 7th Fellowship Hall

All proceeds go towards the Creative Arts Ministries, so please be sure to visit the Bake Sale table in the Fellowship Hall!



Connect With Life Church on the Web at <u>lifechurchsa.com</u> and <u>iglesiavidasa.com</u>





This December in Spark Kids, our lessons will be centered on that Jesus was born to melt away the old, and bring new life and a new kingdom. We pray that this series will help your child understand the true meaning of Christmas.

- * December 7th "Frozen Hearts"
- * December 14th "Let Us Go"
- * December 21st "Do You Want to Meet a Savior?"
- * December 28th "Love's Open Door



BGMC Mission Fundraiser

Now until December 14th

- * 2015 Chick-Fil-A Calendars now on Sale.
- * Just in time for the holidays.
- * The calendar is your ticket to special offers throughout the year.
- * Cost is only \$6.00.
- * All proceeds will go to missions.
- * Stop by the BGMC table in the Fellowship Hall.



Children's Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 17th 6:30-8:30pm

Please join us for the Children's Christmas Party on Wednesday Night, Dec. 17th at Skateland West. It will be a private party with Christian music. Invite your friends and families. Cost is \$4.00 per skater. (Bring extra money for drinks, snacks, & games)



Ladies Day Out Saturday, December 6th, 8:45am-4:45pm

Before you head out to the mall for more Christmas shopping, join with your Life Church girlfriends for a time of fun, food, and fellowship - holiday style shopping in Gruene, Texas. Vendors will have handmade items, also including uniquely made crafted item and foods. Plan to eat lunch while we are there. We will leave the church by 8:45 am and return by 4:45 pm. Contact Teresa Punches (210) 544-3262 for more information.





at the Home of **David & Lyn Thomason** 1339 South Flores Street # 202 210.317.3403

Designed specifically for married couples, Rated M is a group that meets monthly to discuss the tough issues in

marriage. From communication to addictions, this study will dive into God's Word to see what He has to say about marriage's most difficult subjects. Because of the subject matter of this study, we ask that only married couples (without the kiddos) attend.

Men's Breakfast Saturday, December 13th 9:00 am Fellowship Hall



Grab a buddy and join us for breakfast, a devotional, while enjoying a time of manly fellowship. For information, contact Steve Colman at 210-316-8659.

"For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." Isaiah 9:6-7

Pastor A ppreciation / Thanksgiving Dinner





Sunday, December 14th, 9 & 11 am services:

Christmas Makes Everything New

A Christmas Worship Experience with Life Church Creative Arts Team

Christmas is the most wonderful time of the year, and there are so many reasons that we can call it that. Christmas makes us think of the most wonderful gift ever given– when God gave us His one and only Son as a baby on that first Christmas. There is hope, joy, and peace that can only be found in Jesus Christ, and it's because of Him that we can be saved, set free, and can celebrate this special time of the year. We invite you to come on December 14th and celebrate Christmas with us.

Because Christmas Makes Everything New!





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