

December 2016

The View



Special events this month:

- Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Dec 4th at 6:30 pm. Bring a dessert to share.
- All Things Women meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 6:30 pm.
- Refuge Christmas party for 6th-12th youth Wednesday, Dec 15th
- Refuge Food Pantry the third Saturday of the month Dec 17th
- Christmas Eve services at 5:00 & 7:00 pm
- Christmas Morning services at 10:00 am
- No Awana on Wednesday, Dec 21st, Dec 28th or Jan 4th. Christmas Break
- No 6th-12th youth group on Wednesday, Dec 21st, Dec 28th.

*message series beginning
december 4th 9:15 & 11:00*

presence

**Congregational Gathering Sunday Evening
December 4th at 6:30 pm**

Join us for:

- Fellowship,
- Worship & Prayer
- Welcome New Members
- 2017 Budget presentation and Nominating Report.
- Bring a dessert to share!

**Christmas
WORSHIP
SCHEDULE**

**Christmas Eve
5:00 & 7:00 pm**

**Christmas Morning
10:00am**

Student Ministries Update December 2016

Christmas at the Refuge

Wed., December 14th @ 7:00 we'll be hosting our 4th annual Christmas @ the Refuge. We're excited to do it again this year, and you won't want to miss out on the fun!

Kids on a Mission

Few things excite me more than seeing students taking steps in their faith and living their lives on mission to reach people for Jesus. That's exactly what I've seen in the past few months and weeks. A big shout out to all three ladies in this picture! Ivey, Molly, and Brittany, thanks so much for your passion for Jesus and passion to reach people who don't know him!

There's still time to get involved and make a difference this Christmas season. Check out what's going on with Kid's on a Mission!



Holiday Schedule Changes

With December being flooded with all sorts of holiday events and school breaks we like to take a break from our regularly schedule activities to allow for these events and time with family over that time, so below are listed a few dates

December 21st & 28th – No Refuge

December 25th – No Sunday Morning Groups

In Christ
Brent

Snow Day
POLICY



As the winter weather season comes upon us we would like to inform you as to where you can check to see any closing information for Sunday mornings or Wednesday nights.

In Case of Closings due to weather check our website at www.parkviewfamily.com or KRVN Radio!

Attendance Record

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| YTD Small Group Average: | 97 |
| November Small Group Average: | 157 |
| YTD Worship Average: | 260 |
| November Worship Average: | 255 |

Parkview's Financial Report

(Figures as of 11/25/16)

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| YTD Ministry Fund Rec.: | 465,512.07 |
| YTD Min. Fund Needed: | 523,273.85 |
| Weekly Average Needed: | 10,977.73 |
| Weekly Average This Mo.: | 11,924.38 |
| YTD Ministry Fund Spent: | 461,741.06 |
| Building Fund Balance | 1,031,562.67 |



"How many million more souls are to pass into eternity without having heard the name of Jesus?" - Lottie Moon

At the age of 32, Lottie left behind a job, home family and proposal to follow God's calling to China. For 39 years Lottie worked in the Tengchow and P'ingtu areas. She adopted Chinese traditions, dress, language and customs. She didn't just serve the people of China, she identified with them. She drew people in with fresh baked cookies, where she would then share the gospel with them. She was rejected on many occasions but never gave up or left.

While serving in China, she began writing letters about the Chinese culture, missionary life and physical and spiritual needs of the Chinese people. She challenged the Southern Baptist to send and support more workers to the field. In 1918, the Women's Missionary Union named the annual Christmas offering for international missions after Lottie, the woman who urged them to start it.

God might not be calling you to China, but He could be calling you to give and support. Lottie Moon set a great example of how we are to serve others, whether that be in a different country and culture or in our own neighborhoods. Go ahead and draw people into your home with cookies to share the gospel but also challenge yourself to give this season!

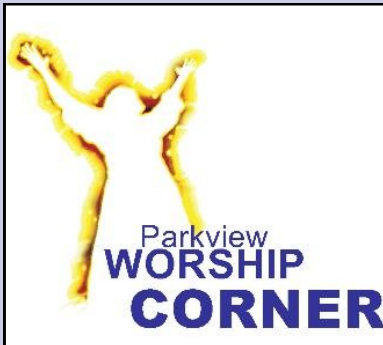


CORE VALUES

Core Values Glorify God

Though there is great variety in how God has made us, we are united in our faith relationship with Him as Christians. We also share some core biblical values as his followers in the Parkview family. These values help us promote and pursue unity with each other as we follow Jesus together.

One of our core values in the Parkview family is Glorifying God. *We are determined to live for God's glory.* 1Corinthians 10:31 says "Whether then you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God." A good question to ask ourselves both as individuals and ministry teams is "What would bring honor to God in this situation?" another way to ask this is "What would make Jesus smile?" This question goes a long way to helping us stay together and on track in our lives with God.



"Christmas Presence"

"Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people."

This was the announcement from the angel of the Lord about the coming of Jesus, on that first Christmas. Is this how you feel as the season approaches, fearless and filled with great joy? Or does it bring apprehension, tension, and anxiety?

Sure it's a busy time filled with crowds, spending, planning and rushing around, but it doesn't have to be this way. If we choose, Christmas can be about family, friends, and reflection. It can be a wonderful time if we just keep our eyes on what really matters. We can choose to focus on the promise of good news and great joy for all the people, and not to allow the world to steal that joy.

Don't get caught up in all the hype and hustle that the world has turned this season into, instead choose to embrace the promise given by the angel that night. Choose to include Jesus in your plans, pick up your Bible and read the story again, come to church and fellowship with other believers, make it your plan to focus on the real reason for the season and let peace and joy reign in your heart this Christmas.

Parkview kids ministry

**Come join us for
AWANAS!**



Wednesday Nights 6:30-8:00 pm

Cubbies: Ages 3yrs - preschool

Sparks: K-2nd grade

T&T Club: 3rd-5th grade

AWANA Schedule for December

- **Nov 30 - Tell Me About the Birth of Jesus (Crazy Hair Night)**
- **Dec 7th - Tell Me About the Miracles of the Lord Jesus Christ (Double bucks for saying verses)**
- **Dec 14th - Awards Night (Parents please join us for soup supper at 6:30 pm and cookie decorating!)**
- **Dec 21st - No Awana (Merry Christmas)**
- **Dec 28th - No Awana**

Next Gen

We will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the Lord, his power, and the wonders he has done.
-Psalm 78:4

Come Join us on Sunday mornings at 11:00 for ages 3 yrs to 5th grade.

Season's Greetings from Next Generation Kids! Believe it or not, the Christmas season is upon us and so is the time of year we pause and reflect on the wonderful gift we have been given in our Savior Jesus Christ! Contrary to the base materialism of the world's message of Christmas, we as Christians recognize that Jesus humbled Himself, and taking the form of a servant, entered this world to redeem those the Father gave Him. Because there is so much external pressure from society to reduce Christmas to the giving and getting of the latest and greatest toy, we will be shifting gears on Sunday mornings in the month of December to learn about the Christ and His amazing entrance into space and time. We have been steadily progressing through the Old Testament and have spent the month of November focusing on the Major and Minor Prophets. We have seen how God continually pursues His people, despite their proclivity to wander, and in Israel, would raise up people to speak truth on His behalf. For us today we remember that "In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son" (Hebrews 1:1-2).

Kids Helping Kids

The Christmas Season provides many opportunities to love others in the spirit of servitude modeled by Jesus. There are several different ways we are encouraging kids and adults alike to help others both near and afar this Christmas. As always, families are encouraged fill shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child as this is a wonderful outreach ministry to kids less fortunate than ours. Also, you will have noticed in the bulletin and in the foyer the Kids on a Mission outreach which seeks to minister to kids with material needs in our own community. And finally, the Kids Help Kids project for 2016, Water 4 is coming to a close and we are encouraging kids with water bottles to bring in their remaining change for a final push! We have already raised over \$500 dollars online and through cash to provide the means for clean drinking water for others in third-world countries and we hope to finish strong before the New Year! Thank you again for all you do for the kids of Parkview, the community, and all over the world! Christ is honored when we love the "least of these!"

"Kids On A Mission"

2016 Christmas Mission Projects

Purpose

Meet people's basic needs and show them the love of Jesus Christ through our actions and building personal relationships. Through relationship building, we can then share the truth and love of Jesus Christ. Our ultimate goal is to meet their spiritual poverty need, that only Jesus Christ is the answer.

We realize you can't do everything but everyone can do something.

We encourage everyone to pick one way to engage with spreading Christ's love this holiday season.

How Can You Get Involved?

Donate toys for Food Pantry – Dec. 17th

- Empowering parents with the ability to purchase gifts at a reduced rate and able to give their children something for Christmas
- Toys need to be to Parkview by December 15th

Make Christmas Cookies – Dec. 24th

- Goal of 7,000 cookies to be given to local families and jail ministry.
- Bring to the church by December 23rd

Buy a gift for a child from the angel tree – Dec. 24th

- Follow instructions on each tag and return to the church before Christmas Eve

Help deliver Gifts & Cookies to local families Christmas Eve morning – Dec. 24th

- Contact Brittany Hueftle to sign up

If you have questions or would like to help please contact

Brittany Hueftle @ (308) 325-9134

MISSIONS OFFERING

What will you give for Christmas? One of the central features of Christmas is sharing gifts with those we love. Those who give usually experience a greater joy than those who receive. Imagine the joy of knowing that one of your gifts this year will make an eternal difference. This year again we want to challenge every family at Parkview to give to our Global Missions Offering. Our offering will be used entirely for Southern Baptist Missions in North America and around the world. Every penny goes directly to missions. Envelopes will be available in the foyer this month to use for this once a year offering and a special offering will be taken during our Christmas Eve Service for the Global Missions Offering. Let's unite as a church family to give God a gift this year-a gift that will help take His message to people who have not yet heard.



Once again this year the Jail Ministry will deliver cookies to the inmates on Christmas morning. This is a great opportunity to show Jesus' love in deed as well as in word. We will make

the plates at the church between Christmas Eve services. Any one wanting to make cookies for this can drop the cookies off at the church anytime before or bring them with you when you come to the first Christmas Eve Service. The Jail Ministry wants to thank you for your support over the many years. You are an awesome church family and we wish you a Merry & Christ centered Christmas.



Men with their plates of cookies

Yours in Christ,
Jack Govier,



Parkview Food Pantry

THANKFUL

The Refuge Food Basket is thankful for so many things. We experience God at work each month as we prepare and work at this food pantry. Here is a list of some of what we are thankful for:

1. A God-centered ministry that our church family has embraced.
2. A building to store our supplies and operate our pantry out of.
3. Food items donated each month.
4. Financial donations to use for purchasing needed food items.
5. Other ministry groups who engage and support this pantry.
6. Volunteers of all ages and backgrounds that work together to make the pantry run smoothly and without judgment.
7. Jesus' love shared with those in need in our community.
8. The pantry guests who share their praises and struggles with the volunteers.
9. Volunteers who love children and share Jesus with the children who come to the pantry each month.
10. Church family that pray for this ministry and for the volunteers.

The November food pantry served 140 families which is the highest number of guests served since the pantry started. Our shelves are bare but we are trusting that what is needed for our December pantry be provided. Our hope is to give each family a turkey or a ham as well as a plate of homemade cookies (and the usual bag/bags of food). In November, we handed out 254 bags of food. If you have any questions about how you can help with the December pantry, please ask any of the pantry volunteers. We plan to use points at Plum Creek Market Place to purchase turkeys, so if you have points you want to donate to the church, just let one of the managers at the store know and they can help you with that.



The Awana's cereal drive with over 50 boxes donated.



The children's room at the pantry.



We welcome Chris Scheef to LIFE Ministry. Her request was to focus on one elderly resident. What a joy because this actually gets the Grandbuddy program started. This is part of LIFE Ministry and the Lord laid it on my heart to share this with the activities' director. She was very receptive. Then just needed to be patient for the Lord to touch hearts that love older residents in the nursing home like we do. Thank you Chris for listening to the Lord and stepping forward to serve.

We will soon be shopping for several of the residents that have no one to remember them at Christmas time. This is the first time for us doing this and a special way to share Christ. It is a joy to see them open their gifts - a new shirt or slippers. The staff knows what they need, so nothing is given to a resident without a purpose just for them. We as volunteers are invited to their Christmas party, sit with someone that does not have family or visitors. Sing Christmas Carols. Help them open their presents. A nice snack table is setup. Fun for everyone, smiles, wrapping paper tears, lots of oohs and aahs. A special time just for them. Thank you for being so faithful in praying for this ministry. May you have a blessed Christmas. Sincerely Barb Chase

The View'

Pastor's log December 2016

It's finally here. The season of hope & faith that is most universally embraced and celebrated around our planet. It is tragically comedic to see so many embrace it's fruit so desperately while deeply misunderstanding it core. Christmas is about the presence of Christ. Christ came to be with us to make it possible for us to be with Him.

This month we are going to focus on the biblical theme, "Christmas Presence." Each week will have a core focus with a present implications. We will look closely at the significance of Jesus as God taking on flesh and what His presence here really means. Then we will consider how He is STILL PRESENT in and through the lives of those who truly follow Him.

What is the best present you could give anyone this season is the presence of Christ? What if your life was so anchored in Him that those who experience you actually experience Him? My hope this season is that together we amplify the presence of Christ in our community by going deeper with him ourselves.

As part of this we are asking you to not only join us each week for worship BUT ALSO to intentionally let the presence Christ in you show Himself in a practical and truthful way to some part of your community. If you are in a small group, we hope you discuss & do this together. If not come and discover some suggestions for what this could look like so you can be part of it as well.

Jesus is the light of the world, the only true source of ultimate hope & joy. The only certain foundation of faith. If His presence is in you, It is the greatest gift you can share with others. Let's come together to make this the best Christmas ever through His presence.

With you in Him,

John

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www.parkviewfamily.com