

Local Missions

Willowcreek Apts
Sharing God's Love in Vacation Bible School

Power Church Baptisms

Let's pray for our local mission sites as they share Christ weekly in churches, apartment complexes, and more.

Pray for the leaders as they minister each week, and that their spiritual and physical needs will be met.

MAIN EVENTS

**Celebrating 250 Years:
What Are We Doing with Our Freedom?**

This month our nation marks 250 years since declaring its independence, and one of the great gifts many of us have known our whole lives is the freedom to gather, worship, pray, preach, read Scripture, and speak the name of Jesus openly. We should thank God for that. But gratitude should do more than make us sentimental. It should make us faithful.

Because while we worship with open doors, bright signs, livestreams, Bibles in our laps, and very little fear of consequence, many of our brothers and sisters around the world follow Jesus at great cost. They are not distant headlines. They are members of the same global body of Christ.

To help us understand this connection, a friend who leads 21Wilberforce recently shared several urgent prayer concerns from Nigeria. I am thrilled to share that he has agreed to join us live at South Main on a Sunday this September to speak more about this firsthand.

Until he arrives, he has asked us to carry these specific needs in our prayers:

- **Leah Sharibu:** Kidnapped in 2018 alongside 109 of her classmates, Leah is the only Christian schoolgirl still held captive today after bravely refusing to renounce Christ and convert to Islam, even as the other girls were released or died. Pray that Leah, and so many women and girls like her, will not be forgotten.
- **Love and Miracle:** Love, a pregnant Christian woman, was kidnapped by armed bandits and gave birth in captivity to a daughter named Miracle. Their survival is a testimony of mercy in the middle of terror. Pray for Love, Miracle, their family, and the local partners ministering to survivors in places too dangerous for outsiders to go.
- **Justice and Security:** Nigeria is considering structural reforms to allow states to establish their own police forces, potentially protecting vulnerable communities from ongoing violence. Pray for wisdom, integrity, accountability, and justice among Nigeria's leaders, and for Christian leaders to have courage as they seek to influence this new phase.

Their faithfulness should ask something of us.

In America, we may not face what they face. But that does not mean following Jesus should cost us nothing. Jesus never called us to comfort first. He called us to take up our cross. So in this year when our country celebrates freedom, perhaps we should ask: What are we doing with ours?

Are we using our freedom to worship faithfully, pray urgently, speak truthfully, love sacrificially, and stand with those who suffer? Or have we become so accustomed to freedom that we mostly use it to preserve our preferences?

May gratitude replace our griping. May prayer replace our forgetfulness. And may the courage of persecuted believers awaken in us a deeper faithfulness to Christ.

Pastor Daniel

**ENGAGING and EQUIPPING others to EXPERIENCE and SHARE
God's Transforming Love**

Main Events is a publication of South Main Baptist Church, Pasadena, TX.
For more information about the ministries of this church, please call 281-487-8200 • southmain.org •



John 8:36

"So if the Son
sets you free,
you will be
free indeed."

4TH OF
JULY
Happy

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 160
PASADENA, TX





Introducing Jana Post as our Family Discipleship Coordinator

I (Pastor Daniel) am excited to share some wonderful news about the future of our family ministries here at South Main.

Beginning August 3, Jana Post will step into a brand-new, full-time ministry role as our Family Discipleship Coordinator, serving as our Birth-through-Graduation Ministry Team Leader. This position has been formed to bring cohesive leadership, vision, and alignment across our entire family department.

Why This Role Matters to Our Church

Rather than allowing children's, youth, and parent ministries to function as isolated programs, Jana will help us build a continuous, faithful discipleship pathway from the earliest years of childhood through teenage graduation. In this role, Jana will focus on:

- **Leading Vision & Team Alignment:** Jana will meet regularly with our youth and children's staff for prayer, planning, and strategic alignment.
- **Protecting the Discipleship Pathway:** She will help clarify spiritual milestones and transition points as kids grow.
- **Equipping Parents & Volunteers:** She will develop resources to help parents grow as spiritual leaders at home, while shaping a shared culture where volunteers are equipped as true disciple-makers.
- **Strengthening the Learning Center Connection:** To build natural bridges with our campus preschool, Jana will serve on the forthcoming board of the Learning Center, partnering closely with their leadership, teachers, and families.

It is important to note that this role does not change the day-to-day ownership of the ministries your kids love. Our Youth Minister and our future Children's Minister will continue to passionately direct their specific programs. Jana is here to champion the big-picture vision and support our staff so no family walks alone.

Why Jana is Uniquely Called

Many of you already know Jana, as she and her family have been active members of South Main since 2007. She earned her bachelor's degree from Baylor University in Early Childhood Interdisciplinary Studies, followed by a master's degree in Deaf Education and a second master's degree in Counseling.

Over a 27-year professional path, her background includes child development, family education, educational counseling, parent advising, behavior management, inclusion, and neurodiverse learning.

First and foremost, Jana has a deep heart for Jesus. Having accepted Christ at age eight and grown up in a legacy of faithful Christ-followers, she brings both professional expertise and spiritual passion to this calling. Please join me in praying for Jana and our staff as she begins on August 3!

JOY CLUB MEETING
Celebrating the 4th of July
TUESDAY, JULY 7 @ 9 AM
GREAT HALL

GAMES AND FELLOWSHIP
ALL SENIOR ADULTS INVITED!

Lunch follows for \$5

MINISTRY CELEBRATION

JULY 12, 2026 AT 5:30 PM
WORSHIP CENTER

HEAR REPORTS OF GOD'S WORKING THRU:

- CONNECT CAMP
- STUDENT CHOIR MINISTRY TRIP
- PRETEEN CAMP
- YOUTH CAMP

ALONG WITH:

- FINANCIAL REPORT
- VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

FOLLOWED BY:

- CHURCH-WIDE WELCOME RECEPTION FOR BRYAN AND JENNIFER DEVRIES

WELCOME RECEPTION

for Bryan + Jennifer DeVries

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 6:30 PM
IN THE GREAT HALL

follows Ministry Celebration at 5:30 PM in the Worship Center

Let's shower them with gift cards and notes from South Main!

FAMILY PLAY DAYS

FUN ACTIVITIES DESIGNED FOR FAMILIES WITH TODDLERS THRU 5TH GRADE

Tuesday, JULY 21
9-11 AM IN THE FLC GYM **FREE**

RAINFOREST FALLS Exploring the Nature of God

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
July 13-16

Let F.R.O.G. guide your prayers for an amazing week at VBS.

- F Families**
Pray for every family and child who will walk thru our doors
- R Relationships**
Pray for meaningful connections between kids, leaders, and volunteers
- O Outreach**
Pray hearts will be open to the Gospel message and connections will be made with the unchurched.
- G Guides** - Pray for teachers, crew leaders, and volunteers as they serve and lead.

SCHOOL SUPPLY COLLECTION

BENEFITING OUR LOCAL MISSION SITES
NOW - JULY 19

LIST OF THINGS

1. BACKPACKS	12. CRAYONS (24 PACK)
2. WIDE-RULED NOTEBOOK PAPER	13. MARKERS
3. WIDE-RULED SPIRAL NOTEBOOKS	14. NO. 2 PENCILS
4. FOLDERS WITH POCKETS	15. MAP PENCILS
5. FOLDERS WITH BRADS	16. ZIPPER PENCIL POUCH (NO BOXES)
6. HAND SANITIZER (SMALL)	17. RULERS
7. YELLOW HIGHLIGHTERS	18. ERASERS
8. RED, BLUE, & BLACK PENS	
9. SCISSORS	
10. GLUE BOTTLES	
11. GLUE STICKS	

THE FAITH WE CONFESS

A Journey Through the Apostles' & Nicene Creed
 AUXANO Wednesdays, Great Hall, Noon & 6:30 PM

July 1 - Kirk Lewis - On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

July 8 - Daniel Crowther - He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

July 15 VBS Family Night

July 22 - Daniel Crowther - We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

July 29 - Trish Gibb - We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

Let's Connect

Freshman year of high school was probably my least favorite year of school. Six weeks after it began, my family moved, and I had to start over at a new school where I didn't know a single person.

On my first day, I was sent into a class that had already started. The room was silent, and after I handed the teacher my schedule, she pointed me to one of the only empty seats—in the front row. As I sat down with my back to the rest of the class, I felt every bit of the discomfort of being the new kid. I still remember that moment more clearly than almost anything else from that year.

That memory has stayed with me because discomfort is hard to ignore. Comfort, on the other hand, is often invisible until it is gone. We may not think about a room's temperature until the air conditioner stops working, or about an ordinary drive until a flat tire interrupts it. Comfort is easy to overlook when life feels familiar.

The same can happen in church. After a while, we settle into familiar relationships, routines, seats, and service times. What once felt new becomes comfortable.

Visitors often tell me South Main is friendly, and I believe our members sincerely want guests to feel welcomed. But lasting connection takes more than a warm greeting. Helping people engage, grow, and experience God's transforming love requires relationships.

Small group studies and meaningful friendships help people move from being welcomed to belonging. In Ephesians, Paul reminds us that because of Jesus, we are "no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of His household."

Home is where we often feel most comfortable. So look for those who come into our "house" searching for connection. Reach out, invite them in, and help them find a place to belong. You may discover a blessing—or a friendship—you didn't know you were missing.

Erin

Baptism Class
Sunday, July 12
9:30 AM
Main Lobby

- For those getting baptized
- For parents of children getting baptized
- For anyone who has questions regarding baptism

Baptism Sunday
July 26
10:45 AM Worship Service

Contact Kim @ 281-487-8200 to schedule your Baptism