

REFLECTIONS

The future is with us right now. Today is the future, most likely even tomorrow. But tomorrow is not here yet. There is one thing about the future I always hope to see—a new awakening of the Church in America. A sweeping wind of the Spirit, a revival of the church writ large, is always found in generational repentance and humility before God. And it is always led by young people. Every world-shaking, soul-wrenching Great Awakening over the last 600 years has been born out of the tender hearts of teenagers and young adults. The elders are the faithful prayerful. They are also the encouragers and disciplers of children and teens. The rising generation among us is Generation Z (Gen Z).

Gen X: Born 1965-1980
Millennials: Born 1981-1996
Gen Z: Born 1997-2012

Gen Z’ers are the first generation to be totally immersed in digital technology. The i-Phone was released in 2007. Covid disrupted their education and brought social isolation. They feel death and sickness is always near. Generally, they are mostly urban and suburban, following social influencers like ducklings from fad to fad and scam to scam. They long to do things irl (in real life). They would rather shop in a store than online. Yet Snapchat, Whisper and TikTok is where they retreat with their friends. Gen Z’ers have dealt with continuous economic setbacks (the great recession of 2008-2009 and Covid.) Their focus is on economic security and materialism. Gen Z’ers long for good mental health. They want authentic experiences, truthful relationships, and less violence and meanness. I asked an 18-year-old waitress recently what she was thinking about these days. She told me she was terrified of AI. She said she was always stressed out, and she did not understand the world anymore. Religious faith had no place in her life. She just wanted to go skiing in Colorado with her boyfriend.

What does a stressed out, materialistic, digitized future look like? A whole lot like today. *How, then, can they call on the One they have not believed in? And how can they believe in the One of whom they have not heard? And how can they hear without someone teaching them?* (Romans 10:14)

Keep healthy. Pray mightily. Enjoy your life today. Love them to Jesus. And let's experience the love and power of God together.

Bro. Darryl

THE EVANGEL (USPS 180-140) is published weekly except 1st week of July and 4th week of December by the
BRADEN PARK BAPTIST CHURCH • 4739 East 5th • Tulsa, OK 74112-2716
Periodicals postage paid at Tulsa, OK.
POSTMASTER: send address changes to • THE EVANGEL • 4739 East 5th • Tulsa, OK 74112-2716

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE
PAID
Tulsa, OK
USPS #180-140

The Evangel

Braden Park Baptist Church
4739 East Fifth Street (5th & Yale)
Tulsa, OK 74112-2716

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning

Continental Breakfast
Worship
Bible Study & Conversation

9:20 a.m.
10:00 a.m.
11:15 a.m.

Wednesday Evening

The People’s Pantry
The Clothes Closet Ministry
Prayer Service

5:00 p.m.

6:30 p.m.

Dr. Darryl DeBorde, Minister
Bill Ess, Music Minister

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Printing provided by
Imperial Printing



The Evangel

Proclaiming the Good News!
Braden Park Baptist Church
Tulsa, Oklahoma

VOL LIV February 2, 2024 No. 5

“If you obey my voice and
keep my covenant,



you shall be my
treasured possession
out of all the peoples.”

Exodus 19:5, NRSV

Our Church Family

AT HOME

Kevin Avery	Paula McPherson
Alice Barrett	Judy Martin
Elizabeth Burke	Georgia Metcalf
Joe Crotser	Bonnie Nutting
Marion Corbett	Annette Ford Parker
Lydia Ford	Margaret VanHorn

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

February	
8	Harold Gruetzmacher
16	Rodney Epp
21	Russell Ford

CHURCH CONTRIBUTION RECORDS

The Individual Contribution Statements for 2023 have been mailed. Hopefully you have received yours this week. Contact the church office if you have not received your statement by February 9.



Looking Ahead

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

- 9:30 a.m. Continental Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. Vows and Promises Before God**
—Psalm 15; Matthew 5:33-36

This Sunday’s message centers on the pledges, oaths and promises that we make before God. Jesus shows us how seriously we should honor them in our daily walk. Invite your family and friends to church this week and be blessed.

- 11:15 a.m. Conversations with the Pastor
Ladies Bible Study Class
- 11:55 a.m. Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5

- 8:45 a.m. Monday Morning Prayers
Call (712) 832-8330, then access code: 887-7647

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6

- 8:00 p.m. Prayer for the Nations
Kevin Avery’s Facebook Zoom link

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7

- 5:00 p.m. People’s Pantry Ministry
Clothes Closet Ministry
- 6:30 p.m. Prayer Service**

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 10:00 a.m. Promises of Wisdom and Understanding**

Behind the Scenes

CHURCH BUSINESS MEETING REPORT

This past Sunday morning, January 28, the church approved the Proposed 2024 Budget of \$107,793. There was a review of the background concerning the annual church insurance and the White City Baptist Church Foundation, along with a most positive report on our partnership with our sister congregation, Monte Los Olivos.

CHURCH VALENTINE DINNER

Mark your calendar to join us for our annual Valentine Dinner, **February 11**, following the morning worship time. The featured potluck menu includes various pots of home-made chili, salads, fruit and desserts.

LADIES BIBLE CLASS BEGINS NEW SERIES

A new series, *Defined: Who God Says We Are*, by popular teacher *Pricilla Shirer*, begins this Sunday, February 4. This is an eight-week video and discussion study on our uniqueness in God’s creation led by Connie Connely. The author states: *The culture will try to define you, your past may try to label you, the enemy will seek to deceive you, but no one has the authority to give you your name—your identity—except your Father. And He says that your uniqueness is an expression of His creative genius and is designed to reflect His glory.*

FOR THE CHURCH RECORD

Weekly Budget Need	\$ 2,073.00
General Receipts January 28	\$ 2,060.00
Special Offerings.....	\$ 0.00

Thank You to all who are providing sustaining tithes and offerings.