

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

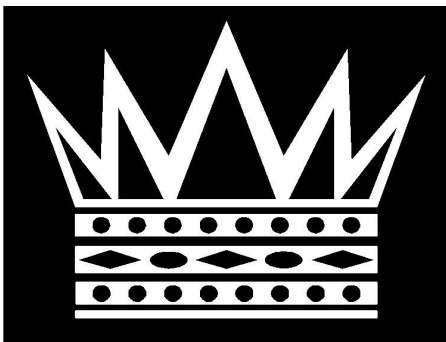


The Evangel

No. 43

November 29, 2024

VOL LIV



“...you know
that the kingdom
of **GOD** is
near.”

LUKE 21:31

The Evangel

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

SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

Sunday Morning	
Continental Breakfast	9:20 a.m.
Worship	10:00 a.m.
Bible Study & Conversation	11:15 a.m.
Wednesday Evening	
The People's Pantry	5:00 p.m.
The Clothes Closet Ministry	
Community Dinner	
Prayer Service	6:30 p.m.

Dr. Darryl DeBorde, Minister
Bill Ess, Music Minister
office@BradenPark.org

PERIODICALS
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PAID
Tulsa, OK
USPS #180-140

Our Church Family

At Home

Kevin Avery	Alice Barrett	Elizabeth Burke	Lydia Ford
Nancy Holdt	Paula McPherson	Georgia Metcalf	
Bonnie Nutting	Annette and Dennis Parker	Margaret VanHorn	

Nursing Centers

Marion Corbett	University Village Health Center #333
Hugh Enos	Broken Arrow Nursing Home

In The Hospital

Lydia Ford	St. Francis Hospital
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Happy Birthday!

December 9	Paula McPherson
11	Katy Cook

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Our Lottie Moon and Global Missions Offering

Help Reach Our World

Our Goal: \$1,000

Spring 2025 Scholarship Applications Due

The Glenn and Joan McKinley Scholarship Fund is available for our students attending colleges other than Oklahoma Baptist University. Applications need to be submitted by **December 5**.

FOR THE CHURCH RECORD

Weekly Budget Need	\$ 2,073.00
General Receipts November 24	\$ 1,437.00

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

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BRADEN PARK BAPTIST CHURCH • 4739 East 5th • Tulsa, OK 74112-2716
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Reflections

Rev. Kevin Avery is our former missionary to China. Through his on-line ministry with ITEEG Global, he encourages and prays with pastors in Asia, Africa and the US. (iteeg.org)

When following Jesus, there are no shortcuts. Life doesn't become easier simply because we love Him and trust Him—Jesus is not a genie in a bottle. Neither does it mean life will always become harder just for believing in Jesus, though persecution certainly happens when we follow Him with all our heart. We oversimplify to assume Jesus will make our life easier or harder. Either perspective needs to be transformed because the truth is: Life is Jesus. Truth is Jesus. The same thinking applies to the journey we are taking. The journey is—at least should be—Jesus. I do not mean this in a philosophical way like when Pilot asked Jesus, “What is truth?” (John 18:38). I mean it in a transformative way.

In John 14:6, Jesus says, *I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.* When John wrote this verse, he was using Greek. Often, the Greek term ὁδός (*hodos*) is translated as **way**, as when Jesus says, *I am the way and the truth and the life.* However, it can be translated literally as road, path, or journey, or figuratively as *way* (or manner) of thinking, feeling, or deciding. Most English translations of John 14:6 use the figurative *way*. However, I believe all these possible translations have much merit. Everything about a believer's life, whether literal or figurative, should point to Jesus and be about Him.

In this manner of thinking, I understand that whether we are blessed with treasure—like being married to an amazing wife—or afflicted with adversity—like dealing with an autoimmune disease—everything is a part of our journey to know our Heavenly Father through Jesus. Each day as Hebrews 12:2 tells us, *we are to fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.* Every difficulty or joy we encounter is a chance to know Jesus better. In addition, we are on this journey together, even if some members, like me, are homebound. Thankfully, at Braden Park, homebound members are just a phone call away, and prayer is not limited to a location. As Jesus taught his disciples how to pray, it begins: *Our Father who is in heaven ...* and what a blessing it is to pray for and pray with other disciples of Christ Jesus. *Kevin*

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SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

First Sunday in Advent

10:00 a.m. We Eagerly Await
Luke 21:5-11, 25-28