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gather
Winter 2023



LEARNING TO HAVE A *Vertical Marriage*

Welcome Dave & Ann Wilson for the 2024 Marriage Conference

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WELCOME

Pastor Grey shares his heart as we head into the winter season.

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WELCOME DEZMOND

Get to know our new Pipeline Coordinator, Desmond Cordova.

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WINTER KIDS SCHEDULE

Mark your calendars for kids' activities through the holidays and beyond.

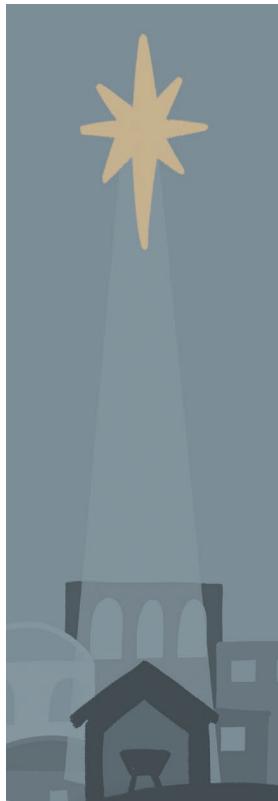
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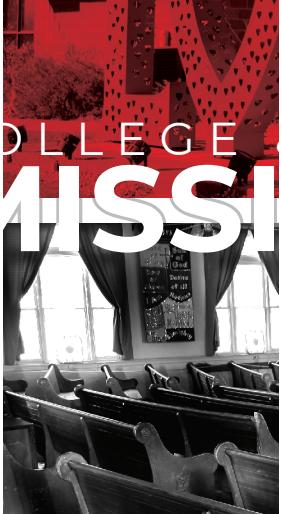


CALENDAR

Everything you need to know for December through March. Take it out to hang up at home!

09





SPRING BREAK MISSIONS

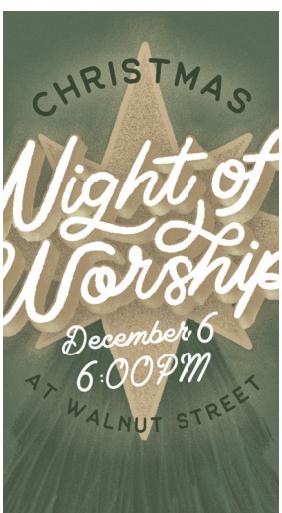
Find information for how you can pray for or join in on college and youth mission trips.

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CHRISTMAS NIGHT OF WORSHIP

Set your heart towards Christ as we kick off the Christmas season with a night of worship.

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FAMILY COOKIE NIGHT

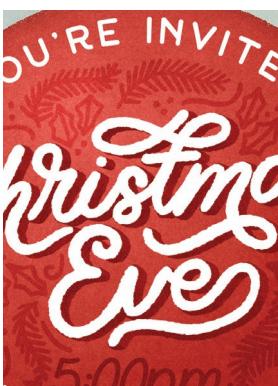
Bring the whole family for a night of Christmas fun.

18

CHRISTMAS EVE

Our annual tradition continues as we gather in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve night.

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ON THE COVER

VERTICAL MARRIAGE

Welcome Dave and Ann Wilson as they lead this year's community-wide Marriage Conference and teach us how to have a marriage centered around Christ.

14







What a day and time that God has called us to be His ambassadors, each of us realizing our own “Esther moment” for such a time as this! Let us remember the words of God to Ezekiel during these days. When the busyness of life hits a fever pitch, running from rehearsals to our Amazon list to errands for food and plans with family and friends, let us remember that our days are to be lived for the Lord.

His words to Ezekiel over and over again, “do you see...” as though those in Israel did not think the Lord could see what they were doing, what they had engaged in, and that He had forgotten them or gotten as busy as they were and was unwilling to look at their actions. ‘The Lord does not see us,’ they would say both in their hearts and their actions, yet not only did the Lord see, but He brought Ezekiel with Him to see as well.

Brothers and sisters, the Lord sees and has called us to live in these days as His ambassadors, as though He were making His appeal through us, be reconciled to God. Don’t miss this season!! It is God’s, for He alone is King Eternal, and All Power and Glory are His FOREVER. Let us pray for the lost and be a witness to all this Christmas season!

*We love y'all,
Pastor Grey*



Welcome DEZMOND CORDOVA

Pipeline Coordinator

We are pleased to welcome Desmond Cordova as Walnut Street's new Pipeline Coordinator! A native of North Little Rock, Desmond studied Liberal Arts with an emphasis in Christian Ministry and Psychology at Williams Baptist University and graduated in May 2023. During his time there, he accepted Christ and soon began to explore God's calling in his life. Over the summer, he traveled to South Korea to share the gospel of Christ with refugees through Nehemiah Teams, an IMB-affiliated organization founded by Jess and Wendy Jennings. When he arrived home, he knew he had been called into ministry.

Pastor Jeff Dial at Life Line Baptist Church in Little Rock discipled Desmond and helped to develop the role model for his future. The plan included traveling to Walnut Street to learn about its Pipeline Residency Program. The rest is history!

Desmond works with a wide array of people both inside and outside the church. His work includes overall program coordination and administration. He also maintains a specific focus on developing 5th-6th grade students in the program.

"It's important for youth to feel connected in the church environment. The Pipeline is a perfect way to prepare for youth ministry through fellowship, mentoring and interaction, that provides a foundation for their own ministry in life"

-Dez

While his plate is full, Desmond is also involved with other churches, including Family Church in West Palm Beach, FL, and Summit Church in Raleigh, NC, to communicate and share progress in each pipeline program.

DID YOU KNOW?

Desmond loves roller skating, writing poetry, singing, and previously coached 5th and 6th graders in baseball. His dad played baseball for the Cubs. His favorite Bible verses include 1 Thessalonians 2:8, John 15:13, and Psalm 119:105, and he loves reading his Bible.

THE PIPELINE AT A GLANCE

The Pipeline includes a 2-year commitment to intentional training for the next generation of ministers. The residency program focuses on developing, sharing, and helping men and women who are called by God to ministry. Areas of focus include video/communications, music, youth, college, children's administration, lead pastor, missions, pastoral care, and church planting.

Three tracks are available:

- **Undergraduate** – For college juniors and seniors
- **Seminary** – For graduate-level students pursuing a seminary degree
- **Professional** – For working professionals of all ages

A Pipeline graduate will have functioned in and see every aspect of the church from the inside out, and walked with their staff mentor in the 2-year period as a volunteer, member, and ultimately as a leader.

For more information about the Pipeline, visit www.walnutstreetbaptist.org/pipeline or email dezmond@walnutstreetbaptist.org.



winter kids schedule

12/10 *Happy Birthday Jesus Party*
9:30am Nursery and Pre-K Sunday School

12/13 *Family Cookie Decorating*
6:00pm in the Gym (details on page 18)

12/24 *Christmas One Service at 10:30am*
No childcare provided

12/31 *New Year's One Service at 10:30am*
No childcare provided

1/3 *MidWeek Activities Resume*

1/7 *Awana Resumes*

1/21 *Family Dedication*
During both morning services for those
who attended the fall class

2/11 *No Awana*

2/14 *No MidWeek Activities*

Upcoming EVENTS

DECEMBER 2023

Y DECEMBER 3

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY | 6:00PM

W DECEMBER 4

WHILE WE'RE WAITING | 6:00PM

Support Group for Bereaved Moms meets the first Monday of each month in the Point. Contact Carol Duncan for more info at 870-931-8517.

T DECEMBER 5, 12

TABITHA SEWS | 9:00AM

C DECEMBER 6

CHRISTMAS NIGHT OF WORSHIP | 6:00PM

Join us for a multi-generational worship service featuring the Children's Choir, Adult Choir, & Orchestra.

L DECEMBER 7

LOOKING FORWARD LUNCH

N DECEMBER 10

NEXT STEPS CLASS | 9:00AM

Learn more about Walnut Street and what we believe, as well as how to take the next step towards membership. Open to prospective, new, and current members. Room 126 on the North Hall.

H DECEMBER 10

HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS PARTY | 9:30AM

Nursery & Preschool classes will celebrate Jesus's birth with a birthday party during Sunday School.

L DECEMBER 11

LOOKING FORWARD TOUR OF HOMES

F DECEMBER 13

FAMILY COOKIE DECORATING | 6:00PM

Cookie-lovers of all ages, meet in the Gym for a night of Christmas Cookie Decorating. More details on page 18.

O DECEMBER 24

ONE SERVICE | 10:30AM

No childcare. Large group Sunday School in the Gym at 9:30am for all who wish to attend.

C DECEMBER 24

CHRISTMAS EVE WORSHIP | 5:00PM

Meet in the sanctuary to hear the Christmas story and sing carols together in one of our favorite traditions.

O DECEMBER 31

NEW YEAR'S ONE SERVICE | 10:30AM

No childcare. Large group Sunday School in the Gym at 9:30am for all who wish to attend.

JANUARY 2024

T EVERY TUESDAY

TABITHA SEWS | 9:00AM

Open to individuals interested in sewing/crafting for ministry purposes.

M JANUARY 3

MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES RESUME

Join us for the MidWeek Meal at 5:00pm and classes for all ages at 6:00pm. To learn more and RSVP for the meal, check out walnutstreetbaptist.org/midweek.

L JANUARY 4

LOOKING FORWARD LUNCH | 12:00PM

Join us in the Gym for a guest speaker and potluck.

A JANUARY 7

AWANA RESUMES | 6:00PM

N JANUARY 14

NEXT STEPS CLASS | 9:00AM

Learn more about Walnut Street and what we believe, as well as how to take the next step towards membership. Open to prospective, new, and current members. Room 126 on the North Hall.

F JANUARY 21

FAMILY DEDICATION | 9:30 & 11:00AM

Celebrate Sanctity of Life Sunday with us as we highlight families with new additions and come alongside them in their commitment to pointing their kids toward Christ.

MIDWEEK MENU: JANUARY

3: Mexican Chicken Casserole

10: Meatloaf & Mashed Potatoes

17: Soup & Sandwich

24: Spaghetti

31: Chili & Hot Dogs

*She will bear a son,
and you shall call His name*

Jesus

DECEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	Y	4	W	5	T	6
				C	7	L
10	N H	11	L	12	T	13
				F	14	15
17		18	19	20	21	22
24	O C		25	26	27	28
	O 31				29	30

JANUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
	1	2	T	3	M	4
7	A	8	9	T	10	11
					L	12
14	N	15	16	T	17	18
						19
21	F	22	23	T	24	25
						26
28	29	30	T	31		

*for He will
save His people
from their sins*

MATTHEW 1:21

FEBRUARY 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1 K L	2	3
4	5 W	6	7	8	9	10
11 N A	12	13 T	14 M	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27 T	28	29		

MARCH 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4 W	5 T	6	7 L	8	9
10 N	11	12 T	13	14	15	16
17 SPRING BREAK	18	19	20	21	22	23
YOUTH MISSION TRIP						
COLLEGE MISSION TRIP						
24 E	25	26 T	27	28 L	29	30
E 31						

Upcoming EVENTS

FEBRUARY 2024

K FEBRUARY 1-25

KIDS' CAMP BEDSHEET FUNDRAISER
Help send our kids to Camp Siloam this summer by purchasing bedsheets during the month of February. Cost: \$35 per sheet set (Twin-Cal King), \$10 for two extra pillowcases. Available in 16 colors. See Mary Alldread or a camper for more details.

L FEBRUARY 1

LOOKING FORWARD LUNCH | 12:00PM
Join us in the Gym for a guest speaker and potluck.

W FEBRUARY 5

WHILE WE'RE WAITING | 6:00PM
Contact Carol Duncan for more info at 870-931-8517.

T EVERY TUESDAY

TABITHA SEWS | 9:00AM
Open to individuals interested in sewing/crafting for ministry purposes.

N FEBRUARY 11

NEXT STEPS CLASS | 9:00AM
Learn more about Walnut Street and what we believe, as well as how to take the next step towards membership. Room 126 on the North Hall.

A FEBRUARY 11

NO AWANA

M FEBRUARY 14

NO MIDWEEK ACTIVITIES

V FEBRUARY 16-17

VERTICAL MARRIAGE CONFERENCE
Dave and Ann Wilson from Family Life Today will lead us in learning more about how to have a marriage that centers a relationship with Christ. This year's conference will be held at the Fowler Center. More details on page 17.

Y FEBRUARY 23-24

YOUTH ONE LIFE CONFERENCE
Location: Central Baptist Church | Cost: \$30
See Cory Cartwright for more details.

MIDWEEK MENU: FEBRUARY

- 7: Ham & Baby Baked Potatoes
- 14: No MidWeek Activities
- 21: Soup & Sandwich
- 28: Spaghetti

MARCH 2024

W MARCH 4

WHILE WE'RE WAITING | 6:00PM
Contact Carol Duncan for more info at 870-931-8517.

T MARCH 5, 12, 26

TABITHA SEWS | 9:00AM
Open to individuals interested in sewing/crafting for ministry purposes.

L MARCH 7

LOOKING FORWARD LUNCH | 12:00PM
Join us in the Gym for a guest speaker and potluck.

N MARCH 10

NEXT STEPS CLASS | 9:00AM
Learn more about Walnut Street and what we believe, as well as how to take the next step towards membership. Room 126 on the North Hall.

Y MARCH 16-21

YOUTH SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIP
Beautiful Feet Ministries, Fort Worth, TX
More info on page 13.

C MARCH 16-21

COLLEGE SPRING BREAK MISSION TRIP
River Church in Loveland, CO
More info on page 13.

S MARCH 17-22

SPRING BREAK
No Sunday night or Midweek activities.

E MARCH 24

EASTER EGG HUNT | 5:00PM
Invite your neighbors and friends to come have fun with us as we celebrate Easter in a kid-friendly way! Everyone goes home with candy.

L MARCH 28

LORD'S SUPPER | 7:00PM

E MARCH 31

EASTER SUNDAY
Join us as we celebrate the Risen Savior during regular worship and Sunday School Hours.

MIDWEEK MENU: MARCH

- 6: Meatloaf & Mashed Potatoes
- 13: Taco Salad
- 20: No MidWeek Activities
- 27: Mexican Chicken Casserole

COLLEGE | RIVER CHURCH
LOVELAND, CO

COLLEGE & YOUTH **MISSIONS** 3.16-3.21

YOUTH | BEAUTIFUL FEET MINISTRIES
FORT WORTH, TX

STUDENTS SPRING INTO ACTION

Pray for our students and adults who will be serving during the week of Spring Break. Pray for the hearts of those we will meet, that they will be receptive to the Gospel and get the help they need. Pray that we can be the "hands and feet of Christ" as we serve the least of these and that our eyes may be opened to the needs all around us.

COLLEGE

- COST: \$800
- SEE WILL NICHOLS TO SIGN UP.

YOUTH

- COST: \$110 FOR MEMBERS
- SEE CORY CARTWRIGHT TO SIGN UP.



LEARNING TO HAVE A *Vertical Marriage*

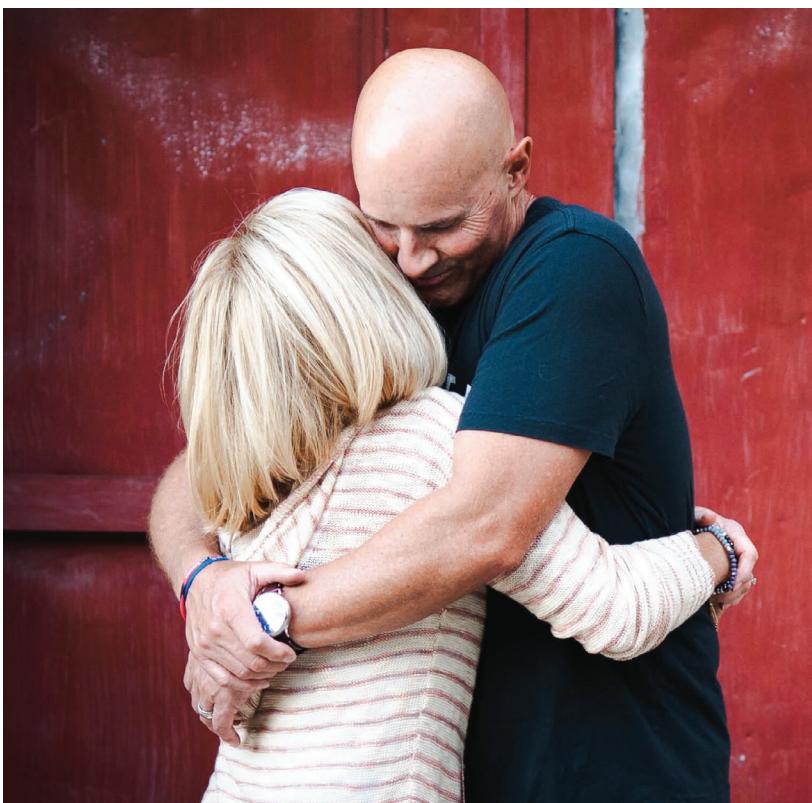
The upcoming 2024 Vertical Marriage Conference is uniquely different from conferences we've had in the past. Walnut Street is sponsoring the conference with multiple Northeast Arkansas churches participating. According to Pastor Grey Falanga, "We are excited to expand the outreach of this Vertical Marriage Conference so others can learn how to be equipped with the Godly tools needed in their marriage and family."

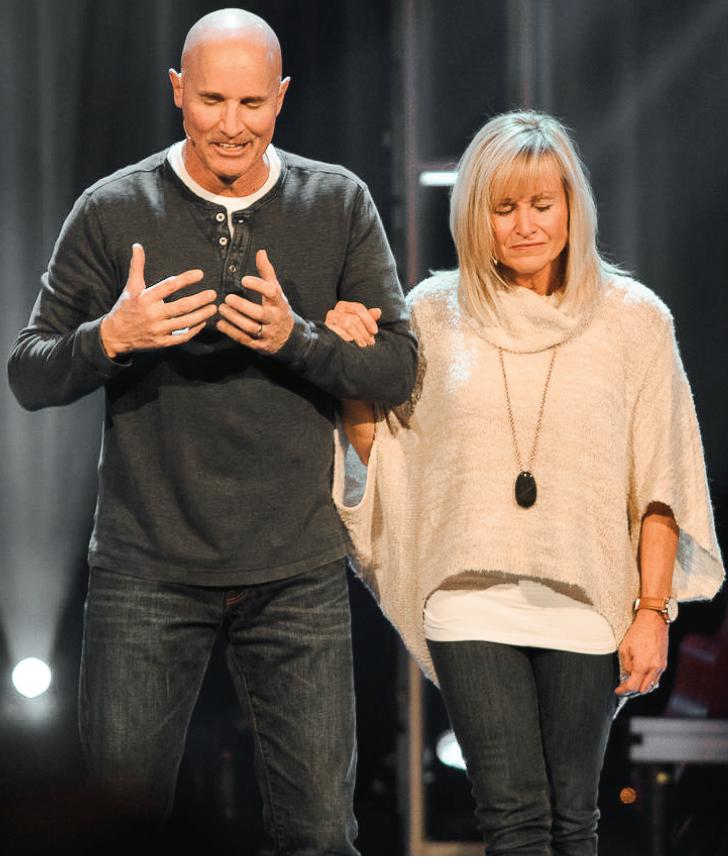
This year's conference will feature Dave and Ann Wilson, hosts of Family Life Today®, Family Life's nationally syndicated radio program. Sessions will include topics like your relationship with Christ and your spouse, God's design for marriage, effective communication, conflict resolution, and intimacy.

THE CHALLENGE

Today's social norm and cultural changes have resulted in mixed views on marriage and family. Statistics continue to show an increase in separation and divorce. A recent 2023 survey indicated that 40% of Americans said, when thinking about the future, they are very or somewhat pessimistic about the institution of marriage and the family. Only 25% were very or somewhat optimistic.

Are you married, preparing for marriage, or have a desire to improve your relationship? If so, gain hope, strategies and Scripture that really works. Learn the secrets of "Vertical Marriage" that provides Godly insight and inspiration to transform your marriage.





CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

Married for over 38 years, Dave and Ann have spent more than 30 years teaching and mentoring couples across the US. They are co-founders of Kensington Church, a national, multicampus church that hosts over 14,000 visitors every week. The Wilsons have also created the DVD teaching series *Rock Your Marriage* and *The Survival Guide To Parenting*, as well as authors of the book *Vertical Marriage: The One Secret That Will Change Your Marriage*.

Dave is a graduate of the International School of Theology, where he received a Master of Divinity degree. A Ball State University Hall of Fame quarterback, Dave served the Detroit Lions as chaplain for 33 years. Ann attended the University of Kentucky. She has been active alongside Dave in ministry as a speaker, writer, small-group leader, and mentor to countless wives of professional athletes.

The Wilsons live in the Detroit area. They have three grown sons, CJ, Austin, and Cody, three daughters-in-law, and a growing number of grandchildren.

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

The Vertical Marriage Conference will be held Friday, February 16 from 6:30-8:30pm and Saturday, February 17 from 8:30-11:30am at the Fowler Center on A-State's campus in Jonesboro. Cost is \$30 per couple. Childcare is available. Seating is limited. Registration and childcare sign-ups will open December 1. For additional information: call 870-972-0220 or visit walnutstreetbaptist.org.

VERTICAL *marriage* CONFERENCE

*Friday, February 16 &
Saturday, February 17*

CHILDCARE AVAILABLE.
FIND MORE INFORMATION AT
WALNUTSTREETBAPTIST.ORG



*Featuring Dave & Ann Wilson
from Family Life Today®*

Family COOKIE Decorating

DECEMBER 13
6:00PM

Kids, families, and cookie-lovers of all ages, meet in the Gym for a night of Christmas Cookie Decorating! Cookies will be pre-made and ready to decorate. Festive Christmas attire encouraged!

READY TO PUT YOUR SKILLS TO THE TEST?

Sign-up at walnutstreetbaptist.org and pay the \$10 entry fee by 11/29 to participate in the **Gingerbread Nativity Competition!**

Participation in the Gingerbread Nativity Competition is optional and separate from regular cookie decorating. Those not competing do not need to pay an entry fee.

CHRISTMAS

Night of Worship

December 6
6:00PM

AT WALNUT STREET

Come worship with us on December 6th in the Sanctuary! A multigenerational choir will lead us in singing our favorite Christmas hymns from the big Christmas tree. Let's start the season off right and turn our eyes to our Savior as we worship Him. We can't wait to see you and your family there!



Join us for one of our favorite holiday traditions as we gather in the Sanctuary on Christmas Eve at 5:00pm. Invite your family, friends and neighbors to celebrate the season together. We'll sing carols and read the account of Christ's birth from Scripture. The service will last just under an hour and include an activity for little ones and an opportunity for you and your family to take a photo together. Whether you've come every year or this will be your first time, we hope you'll make Walnut Street part of your family's Christmas celebration!