



OBEDIENT

HIS HEART / HIS HANDS / HIS VOICE

WORLD MISSION OFFERING

Nov 2012–Jan 2013

As of November 2012, there are 7 billion people on planet Earth – and an estimated 1.7 billion have little or no access to the Gospel. Collected each year, the World Mission Offering (WMO) supports missionaries serving with the Southern Baptist Convention around the world to share the Gospel.

These funds, given in addition to our regular tithes, will support missionary-sending organizations and are dispersed as follows by Houston's First:

- International Mission Board – 85%
- North American Mission Board – 10%
- Southern Baptists of Texas State Missions – 5%

To give, use a WMO envelope and place it in the offering plate, or make your donation online.

- HoustonsFirst.org/WorldMissionOffering
- Hannah.Bullard@HoustonsFirst.org

POINSETTIA DONATIONS

Help decorate our church this Christmas by donating a poinsettia in honor or memory of a loved one. Poinsettias are \$12 each.

- HoustonsFirst.org/Poinsettias

LIFE BIBLE STUDIES

To find a Life Bible Study on Sundays, visit the Welcome Center or go to HoustonsFirst.org/BibleStudies. Here are some to consider:

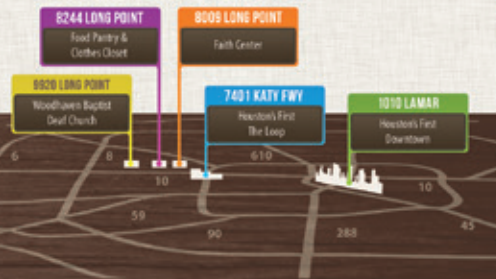
- **Chairs** @ 9:15a, Rm 330, single adults with children
- **Kingdom Service** @ 9:15a, Rm 262, adults 50–60
- **Cornerstone** @ 10:45a, Rm 145, adults 64+
- **Newlywed or Close 6:45** @ 6:45p, Rm 364, couples engaged/married 1 year or less

HIGHPOINT BIBLE STUDY

Wed, Nov 28 @ 11:30a — 1010 Lamar (tunnel level)
Executive Pastor David Self speaks at this week's Downtown Bible study at the location of our Downtown Campus. Lunch begins at 11:30a for \$8, and Bible study takes place from 12:10-12:40p.

- HoustonsFirst.org/HighPoint
- Diane.Bagby@HoustonsFirst.org

TIMES, LOCATIONS & CONNECTIONS

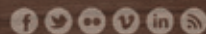


SUNDAYS AT THE LOOP

Worship 9:15a • 11a • 5:30p
Life Bible Study 8a • 9:15a • 10:45a • 4:15p • 6:45p
Kids' Worship 9:15a • 11a • 5:30p

SUNDAYS DOWNTOWN

Worship 11a
Life Bible Study 9:30a



A CALL TO PRAYER

Houston's First is intentionally praying for our city, nation and world from Sep–Dec 2012. Visit HoustonsFirst.org/Prayer for additional resources to guide your time of prayer.

CURRENT THEME: World **THIS WEEK'S FOCUS:** Thankfulness
Pray for a grateful heart and compassion toward others

RELATED VERSES: Ephesians 5:20, Psalm 107:1, Psalm 79:8

OUR CITY (Sep 9–30) | OUR NATION (Oct 7–Nov 4) | OUR WORLD (Nov 11–Dec 30)



THE CHRISTMAS STORE

Sat, Dec 1 @ 10a-4:30p — Faith Center (8009 Long Point)

This annual ministry provides over 3,000 gifts for families in need, with a team of 500 volunteers making it happen. Volunteers are needed to sort, decorate, evangelize, pray, wrap gifts, and more! Sign up online to volunteer.

HoustonsFirst.org/TheChristmasStore



CELEBRATION TICKETS ON SALE

Dec 6-9

Come experience the spirit, songs, and story of Christmas! Tickets can be purchased at TheFirstChristmas.org, in Corner Books during normal business hours, at the self-serve kiosk at The Loop (Main Foyer), and at 1.888.338.5338.

TheFirstChristmas.org

2013 MISSION TRIPS

Where will God send you?

Where might God be leading you to give your life away in 2013? Mission trips are planned for East Asia, Haiti, Costa Rica, Brazil, New York and more! Go online to learn more and complete an interest form.

HoustonsFirst.org/Missions



CHURCHWIDE

CHRISTMAS CARDS IN CORNER BOOKS

Available today!

Christmas cards with artwork from Thru The Roof (our Special Needs Ministry) and IMAGO (our artist community) are now available in Corner Books! Proceeds benefit Thru The Roof and their service to children and adults with special needs.

HoustonsFirst.org/CornerBooks
MaryEllen.Buchanan@HoustonsFirst.org

CANDY CANE LANE

Sat, Dec 15 @ 10a-1p — The Loop (Fitness & Recreation Ctr)

Kids birth - 5th grade will have a blast celebrating Christmas on Candy Cane Lane, featuring *One Starry Night* - an interactive experience through Bethlehem! Volunteers are needed too. Sign up online to join the team.

HoustonsFirst.org/CandyCaneLane
Hannah.Stovall@HoustonsFirst.org

FAMILY SKI RETREAT

Jan 16-21, 2013 — Copper Mountain, CO

Families of all ages and skill levels are invited to hit the slopes together at the Houston's First Family Ski Retreat. Enjoy 5 nights at one of the top ski in/ski out accommodations in Copper Mountain. Space is limited, so sign up soon!

HoustonsFirst.org/FamilySkiRetreat
Dave.Bundrick@HoustonsFirst.org

STUDENTS

HUB FAMILY CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sun, Dec 2 @ 5:30p — The Loop (Chapel)

Calling all 6th-12th graders! Put on your most wackiest and tackiest Christmas clothes and bring your friends as we celebrate Christmas together. Also, bring canned goods to donate to the Faith Center Food Pantry. Cost is \$10.

HoustonsFirst.org/Students
Susan.Newman@HoustonsFirst.org

YOUNG SINGLE ADULTS

UNDER THE TEXAS SKY HOEDOWN

Mon, Dec 31 @ 7:30p-1a — George Ranch Historical Park

Men, shine up those boots and ladies get your dance card ready for the 15th annual Summit Hoedown! Ring in the new year with a live band, dancing, mechanical bull, calf roping, hayrides, games and more. Sign up online beginning Nov 23.

HoustonsFirst.org/Hoedown
Ryan.McPhetridge@HoustonsFirst.org

SNOW JAM SKI TRIP

Apr 4-8, 2013 — Winter Park, CO

Join other young single adults on this ski trip to Winter Park, CO. Hang out with your friends and stay close to the slopes in the ski in/ski out Zephyr Mountain Lodge. Learn more and sign up online.

HoustonsFirst.org/SnowJam
Ryan.McPhetridge@HoustonsFirst.org

SINGLE PARENT FAMILIES

MERRY & BRIGHT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sun, Dec 9 @ 12:15p — Fellowship Ctr

All single parent families are invited to enjoy fellowship over a complimentary lunch at 12:15p and then attend Celebration together at 2p. Go online for more information and to register.

HoustonsFirst.org/SingleParentFamilies
Amber.Willet@HoustonsFirst.org

MARRIED YOUNG ADULTS

RECREATE DATE NIGHT

Fri, Nov 30 @ 6-10p

You decide where to eat, and we'll provide a kit with discussion questions, games, and goodies for you to take with you! See how God uses the date to inspire conversations and strengthen your marriage. Got kids? We'll take care of them! Register online.

HoustonsFirst.org/RecreateDateNight
Rebecca.Dalton@HoustonsFirst.org

UPCOMING

DEC 9 **Celebration Weekend**
 Regular Sunday morning schedule
 No evening worship service

DEC 23 **Christmas Weekend**
 Regular worship service schedule
 No Life Bible Studies

DEC 24 **Christmas Eve**
 Candlelight services @ 4p & 6p
 The Loop only

DEC 30 **New Year's Weekend**
 Regular Sunday schedule
 Worship services and Life Bible Studies

JAN 9 **Absent Movie Premiere**
 The Loop
HoustonsFirst.org/Absent

JAN 13-27 **Giving Life Away Expo**
 The Loop (Main Foyer)
HoustonsFirst.org/Missions

JAN 16 **MidLink spring semester begins**
 Wed nights at The Loop
HoustonsFirst.org/MidLink

JAN 25 **Midnight Madness**
 5:30p-Midnight - The Loop
 For Life Bible Study leadership & potential leaders



FIRST SUNDAY FOOD PANTRY COLLECTIONS

Sun, Dec 2

Nearly 1,200 people are fed each month by the Faith Center's Food Pantry. Support the ministry by bringing non-perishable items the first Sunday of each month. Look for designated collection tables at The Loop and Downtown. Visit HoustonsFirst.org/FaithCenter.

Need more info? Call 713.681.8000 to get in touch with us. Connect with us online anytime at HoustonsFirst.org or follow us on [f](#) [t](#) [g+](#) [v](#) [in](#) [r](#)