



GRAHAM STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rooted - Growing - Reaching

December 21, 2025

**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**



**May the joy of Jesus's love, the comfort of his presence
and the strength of his faith be with you
on this Christmas and always**

Baptism

Brayden Territo

December 7, 2025

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

Romans 6:3-4 (ESV)

Cards of encouragement can be sent to Brayden at his home address:

3350 County Road 408, Stephenville, TX 76401



ELDERS

God has called them to shepherd and pastor. Anyone involved in church leadership knows the joys and frustrations of leadership. Some of my best friends and men-

tors are elders. Through the years, I have observed three recurring themes.

1. Who are the next elders? More specifically, who is even willing or desires the role? Being qualified is a different issue.

2. The challenge of leading as a group. Congregational leadership is plural. It is challenging work (i.e., personalities, experiences, church voices, theology, conscience, etc.). Yet, Christ-centered leaders filled with the Spirit can and must lead together.

3. A narrow view of the pastoral role. Too often, it is limited to praying, visiting the hospital, being friendly people, etc.). I asked a few elder friends and several ministers the question, "On a 1-5 scale with one being the lowest" to what extent are elders engaged in spiritually oriented conversations with members about growing as a disciple, walking into people's sacred places in life, etc.?" No one answered above. Yet, this is what it means to be a "pastor." Way too many elders default to managing the church as an organization rather than pastoring. And it is the managing and often micromanaging aspect of meetings that is a dreaded reality.

A former elder and good friend says it this way— "We are set to fail because we have unknowingly, but intentionally put our leadership (shepherds) in the position of managing. They are now accountable for managing. There is no getting out of it. They are obligated by law to manage. They have a fiduciary obligation to manage. I feel sorry for the position they are put in. This management position appeals to most of us due to our business backgrounds. It's so easy to migrate into a managing space. The gravitational pull is just too strong, especially if you are already charged with this obligation as a default board member of the non-profit."

Basic Needs Holiday Schedule

Starting Thursday December 18th our donation bin will be closed through January 4th. We will not be accepting any donations.

Thursday December 25th food pantry and clothing room is closed.

Thursday January 1st food pantry and clothing room is closed.

Monday January 5th donation bin will reopen.



Month of October 2025

Individuals	664
Families	179
Clothing	115
New Clients	19

(YTD Numbers increased over same period 2024)

Love Basket News (Dublin)

The Love Basket Served 336 Families (11 new) and 627 Individuals in November—this is 54 more families than were served in Nov. 2024



Fall Garage Sale Results

RESULTS: \$18,300+

Basic Needs has an **URGENT** need for these items:
Boxes of Cereal



Upcoming Events

- Sunday, December 21st—**The Class on the Book of Isaiah** is in the auditorium. Hughbert Collier is the teacher.
- Sunday, December 21st —**The Texans for Christ** will start back meeting in room 109 in January.
- Sunday, December 21st—**The GPS Class** will meet and study how to **“Strengthen Your Marriage.”** David & Vicki Bearden are the teachers.
- Sundays –December 21st—the **“Collision or Convergence: Life, The Christian, and God’s Plan”**, will start back in the Family Center in January.
- Sunday, December 21st —**Worship Service begins at 10:00.** The lesson will be given by David Bearden on **“Like the Angels and the Shepherds”**.
- Wednesday, December 24th—**There will not be a meal served on Christmas Eve**
- Wednesday, December 24th—**6:30 p.m.—There will be a devotional in the Family Center**
- Wednesday, December 31st—**6:30 p.m.—There will be a devotional in the Family Center**



Saturday, January 3rd—7:00 a.m.—There will be the Men’s Prayer Breakfast (B.E.S.T.—Brothers Earnestly Seeking Truth) at the Tri-C

The Church Office will be Closed from Wednesday, 12/24/2025 Until Monday, 1/5/2026





Haley Kittley's mother passed away last week; Tony Territo; Lani Rust; Jessie Teague, daughter of Jim & Cindy Holt;; Fred & Cathey Alvord; Billy & Linda Powell; Mildred Buchanan; Karen Bills; Kenneth Wylie; Theresa Young; Ron Wilhite; Meldeene Elliott; Paul & Marilyn Schulze; Grady King; Gloria Scott; Mary Havens; Vincent Lopez ; Please remember the families who recently lost a loved one and continue to keep them in prayer

Giving Update

Contribution 12/14/2025 \$ 21,458 Budget for 2025 \$ 12,900

YTD Contribution \$ 598,038 YTD Budget for 2025 \$ 632,100

Percentage of YTD Contribution Budget 94.61%

Tri-C Parsonage Remodel Budget = \$75,000 \$18,500 Collected Percentage: 26%

Texans For Christ Campus Ministry

- Sunday evenings—8:00 p.m. Bible Study
- Tuesday evenings—8:00 p.m. Worship Night
- Congratulations to all Graduates!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

February 2026—Campus Encounter



CareFlite Insurance is Still Available -\$75.00 covers your entire family for 5 years
Enrollment Forms are in the Church Office



Celebrate Recovery

If you are New or Visiting? Connect with Us! Use your phone camera to scan this QR Code and fill out a Connection form online!

QR Code to access Connection Form





Heart | Soul | Mind | Strength
Graham Street Youth Group



TEENS

Children's Ministry



For ages 3—1st Grade
*Volunteers See
Courtney McGuire*



Children's Bible Lessons in
their usual locations at
9:00 a.m.



There **WILL BE** Children's Church 12/21/2025

Children's Church Teachers Needed! See Court-
ney McGuire or Whitney Oliver if you can help!





Youth Group News

- Jan 11th—Cross Connect in Early
- Jan 16—Jan 18—Winterfest, Arlington
- Feb 15th—Cross Connect in Brownwood
- Feb 22nd—Jr Cross Connect—Lake Cisco
- March 5th—Cross Connect, Graham St.

Meeting Times Sunday

Classes 9:00 a.m.

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Class 6:30

Church Office Hours

Mon-Thurs. 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Phone 254-965-4510

Basic Needs: 254-965-5552

Website/Email

www.grahamstreetchurch.com

office@grahamstreetchurch.com

WIFI password: john1335

YouTube Channel Graham Street Church of
Christ—Stephenville Tx

Address 312 N. Graham St.

Stephenville, TX 76401

Care News For instant prayer and illness up-
dates: office@grahamstreetchurch.com