



GRAHAM STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rooted - Growing - Reaching

August 16, 2026

Back to School Hamburger Cookout
Sunday, 8/16/2026 in Family Center
Immediately following worship service

Bring Chips, Sides, Desserts



Deuteronomy 31:9-13
There are a lot of moving
parts to EDUCATION
Pray for all of them!

welcome
**BACK
TO
SCHOOL**



The Very Last Community Pantry
Thursday, August 20th
5:00 to 6:30

First Baptist Church Parking Lot
(The volunteer workers will be
honored at the Ministerial
Alliance lunch on Thursday, 8/20
at the Family Center.)



David's Announcement to the Graham Street Church Family

How long should a ministry last? Paul himself received directions from the Holy Spirit of where to go, and when to go, and for how long to stay as was the best timing for the kingdom advancement. Brothers and Sister, my Church Family, it has come time for me to consider this question about my ministry here at Graham Street Church. How long should I stay? When should I leave? This has been one of the most difficult decisions I've ever made in my life.

It has been my honor to serve God here and be a part of the Graham Street Church Family and the Stephenville Community. February 2027 will mark the 10th anniversary of our being asked to join the ministry of the Graham Street Church of Christ. We feel it was God's leading that brought us here, and we feel it is God's leading that brings us to the time of our transition. I have told the Elders that I will retire as the full-time lead minister at the Graham Street Church of Christ at the end of this 2026 year.

I am making this decision free from any negative feelings towards anyone over anything, and it is of my own choice without any pressure from the leadership.

We certainly desire to coordinate a strategy with the Elders for doing what is best for the Lord's work here at the Graham Street Church of Christ during the transition in the remaining months of this year and into next year.

If the Graham Street Elders would like me to work with the church during the interim period while searching for the new minister in 2027, I would be honored to help, but it would be as a consultant, not as the Lead Minister of this church. We would form a contract for the specific services I would provide, for example interim preaching, teaching on transition topics, congregational communication and leadership training. But for now, we have about 5 months left to the end of the year, so let's finish well and do what we can to set things in place for the next generation to be "rooted, growing and reaching" to the glory of God!

After retirement, we plan on staying here in Stephenville and will continue to work in the community service organizations that we are currently involved in, but not as a minister of the Graham Street church. As many of you know I am very involved in our community. I serve as a volunteer Community Chaplain for WIN which allows me to work with several of our community partners like the food pantries, Homelessness HELP, the Hospital, and Foster's Home. I am also a volunteer chaplain for the police department. I also began training Friday to develop a campus chaplaincy program at Tarleton State University. I have also agreed to help the Siburt Institute for Church Growth at ACU with the "Empower and Equip Initiative" to help provide resources for rural churches of Christ throughout the United States. All of these are commitments I have made as a volunteer without pay. The demand for my time by these projects has increased as the successes of the programs have grown. Graham Street church needs a lead minister that can devote more time than I can give, if I am to continue to give my time and skills to these community agencies and nationwide church projects.

(Continued on next page)



David's Announcement to the Graham Street Church Family (continued)

Vicki and I approach this transition knowing that, as was in our coming here, so in our transition, there are many unknowns, but we know God is with us, and to Him be the glory. We humbly request that we all join together in prayer for each other, and for the whole church, as we go through this transition.

Let us pray:

Dear Lord, our Heavenly Father, it is with humility that we come before you, not to assert our will, but to surrender our will to yours. We know that you have plans for this church, and believe that in your grace, you will lead us through the transitions ahead of us. Help us in the coming months that remain in 2026 to chart a course that will endow the generations to come with the encouragement to meet the challenges they will face as they work to expand the Kingdom of God in Stephenville, throughout Erath County, and to even have an impact on this nation and throughout the world, to your glory, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.



*Tuesday Sept. 1 (also, Single Ladies)
Noon at the Family Center
Special Speaker: Gary Williams
(Bring a covered dish to share)*

*Widows
and
Widowers
Luncheon*



Matthew Stroup received a call from LST asking if he would go on another mission, this time to Seoul, South Korea.

He said "Yes" and the trip is October 23—November 7th.

Matthew has requested our prayers, both for him and also for the Readers.



I Love to Read

I love to read. Of course, Scripture is my #1. When I am with church leaders, particularly ministers, we share what we have been reading lately, series we are preaching and why, etc.

Here are three books of late.

1) Theo of Golden by Allen Levi. A delightful story so well written with messages for life and faith woven into the main character and in his interactions with others. Tender, interesting, and mysterious. I won't spoil the ending. Reading fiction helps my own journey of writing.

2) The Book of Love: A Better Way to Read the Bible by Richard Beck. Becks' own journey of faith, a sweep through the Biblical narrative dealing with questions related to violence, sin, suffering and salvation. His faith heritage in Churches of Christ coupled with what does it mean to be human is very honest, helpful and significant. One of the best theological works I have read in a long time.

3) The Honor of God: More about Character than Reputation or Radiance of Glory, Evertt Huffard. A very good friend and HOPE Network partner whose commitment to good scholarship, God's mission, ministry and the church is deeply rooted and long lived. Here's a teaser:

"The mission of God and the mission of the church involve much more than being saved from breaking God's law and doing what is necessary to "make it to heaven." A theology of the honor of God brings more attention to reclaiming the image of God and the relationship between the Creator and all people. Rather than limiting our view of sin to legal terms, honor-shame perspectives will expand our understanding of sin in relational terms with ourselves, our community, and our Creator."

Reading is essential for stretching the mind, cultivating imagination and tending to our heart.

Again, Scripture is #1 on the list! Good reading friends!

Basic Needs News

Basic Needs is on their regular schedule on Thursdays. The donation bin is open. The Food and Clothing Pantries are both open on Thursday mornings from 9:00 to noon.

Over **\$19,000** was collected in the Basic Needs Spring Garage Sale!

This would not be possible without the volunteers and countless donations during the year. Thank you to everyone who helped Basic Needs.

Next Garage Sale is Nov. 1-7



Totals for July 2026

Individuals	548
Families	155
Clothing	125
New Clients	19

We Need Your Plastic Bags!

Love Basket News May 2026 (Dublin)
The Love Basket Served 131 Families and 411 Individuals in (11 new families)



Fill The Pantry!

Basic Needs has an **URGENT** need for these items: **Canned Tuna, Canned Chicken**

Your help is very much appreciated!

Let's Fill The Cart



Starting August 16

GPS will host a Fall Semester

**Parent & Family
SUPPORT
Group**

**Building stronger Families through Marriage and
Parenting Support during Sunday Bible Class Time**

9:00 AM in GPS Room Upstairs

A time for prayerful focus on thankfulness, encouragement and mission for your family. David and Vicki Bearden will be your Facilitators.

First Day of Several Local Schools

**Three Way ISD, Monday August 3rd
Bluff Dale ISD, Wednesday, August 5th
Huckabay ISD, Thursday, August 6th
Dublin ISD, Wednesday, August 12th
Stephenville ISD, Wednesday, August 12th
Morgan Mill ISD, Tuesday, August 18th**

**Tarleton State University first day of classes Wednesday,
August 19th
Sunshine Christian Preschool, Wednesday, September 9th**

August 16th

**Back to School/Prayer
Sunday**

**10:00 a.m. Worship Service
(Hamburger Lunch after service
bring chips, sides or dessert)**





Upcoming Events

➤ Sunday, August 16 — **Hughbert Collier** is offering a class in the auditorium, “Isaiah”.
Class starts at 9:00.

➤ Sunday, August 16—**Charlie DeLong** will be offering
a College Class in Room 109 beginning August 16th.

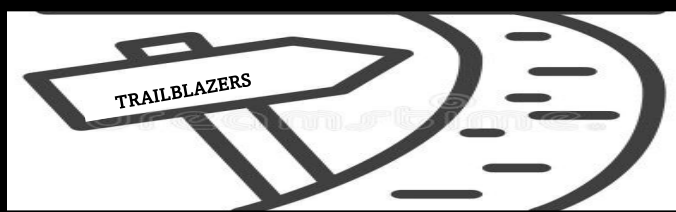


➤ Sunday, August 16 — **Worship Service begins at 10:00**. There will be a Back to School
& Prayer Service this morning.

➤ Wednesday, August 19—**Wednesday Night Meals are on pause until September**

**Volunteers are still needed for Children’s Church, Hall Monitors
during Bible Class time, teachers, and teacher aides.**

**There are many opportunities to serve and your assistance would be
greatly appreciated.**



**Trailblazers meetings are on PAUSE
until September!
See you then!**



**Game Night
Every Tuesday from 6:00 to 8:00 in the
Family Center
See Le Jones**



**Soup Kitchen
This Thursday
From 5:30 to 7:00**



Margie Phillips, who is now on hospice; Mischelle Oliver who had knee surgery; Craig Barnes; Quincy Hough; Marilyn Schulze is in Good Tree Memory Care; Ray Sissom; Darell Belcher; Vincent Lopez; Billy & Linda Powell; Mildred Buchanan; Dwain & Karen Bills; Kenneth Wylie; Theresa Young; Ron Wilhite; Grady King; Mary Havens; Jody Caudle; Ron Powell, whose mother, Frances, passed away; Ronnie Moring; Darrell Tucker;

Giving Update

Contribution 08/09/2026	\$ 15,159	Budget for 2026	\$ 13,500
Contribution YTD	\$366,786	YTD Budget for 2026	\$ 432,000

Percentage of 2026 YTD Contribution Budget 84.90%

Tri-C Parsonage Remodel Budget = \$75,000 \$24,250 Collected Percentage: 33.65%

Texans For Christ Campus Ministry

Charlie DeLong will be leading a college class on Sunday Mornings at 9:00, starting on 8/16 in Room 109

Back to School/Prayer Sunday is 8/16

Tailgate Breakfast for College Students on 8/16

Bible Study at Tri-C on 8/16

Tuesday Worship at Tri-C on 8/18

Tarleton Classes start on Wednesday, August 19th

1st T4C Tuesday Lunch is 9/1



Celebrate Recovery

Monday Evenings, 6:30 p.m.

Family Center

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
Sunday, 8/16/2026



Join us Sunday for Back to School
Prayers.

Stay after church for the
Hamburger Cookout in the Family
Center.

Bring chips, sides or a dessert to
share.

Youth Group News

Back to School/Prayer Sunday is
8/16/2026.

Hosts Needed for Youth Devos
The last Sunday of each month
5:00 to 7:00

Get with Blake or Teryn if you can help

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

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WIFI password: john1335

YouTube Channel Graham Street Church of
Christ—Stephenville Tx

Address 312 N. Graham St.
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Care News For instant prayer and illness
updates: office@grahamstreetchurch.com