



Contributed by Jeannette Gist, Tree House Club Director

Hooray! It's finally the Tree House Club's turn to sing the praises of an **unsung hero**. We have been looking forward to affirming this person

publicly for months! So, here goes...

Amazing mom, fantastic wife, innovative small group leader, awesome tennis player, HGTV-worthy decorator... This person seems to experience success in all her endeavors. Around here, (among staff circles) we refer to her, as our "secret weapon." Every staff person wants this dynamic woman serving on their teams, because she is extraordinarily gifted in an absurd number of areas. She has a catalytic effect on any ministry, in which she serves.

She's decisive and action-oriented, and when something needs to be done, she doesn't say, "Let's form a committee and study the problem." She says, "Let's fix that. RIGHT NOW!"

She's a strong, confident administrator. She's a compassionate, loving friend. She claims to lack

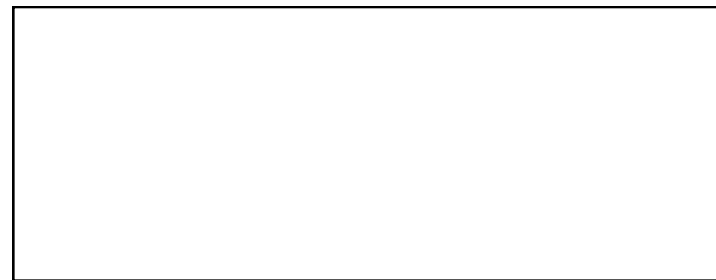
creativity, although, those of us who are blessed to work with her would argue with that. In spite of her rock star status, she remains humble and frequently verbalizes her appreciation for the gifts and talents of all team members. (...and this lady's kindness and encouraging spirit extends to church leaders, as well- an attribute leaders cherish!)

She is my "right-hand-(wo)-man" in our little girl's ministry and the Tree House Club is so much better for her involvement. The next time you see

**DEANN SALSKY** give her a big hug and thank her profusely for the investment she is making in the Tree House Club children's ministry and specifically in the next generation of Godly young women. Then, when you are saying your prayers, remember to thank God for DeAnn & her family. Ask God to bless the Salsky family abundantly - and in ways that will surprise even them!



If you no longer attend Live Oak Community Church and would like to have your name removed from our mailing list, please contact Sherry in our church office. Call 798-5583 or e-mail: [sherrym@live-oak.org](mailto:sherrym@live-oak.org)



Return services requested

10710 S Frankford Ave.  
Lubbock, TX 79424  
Live Oak Community Church  
Phone: 806-798-5583  
Fax: 806-798-5516  
Email: [live-oak@nts-online.net](mailto:live-oak@nts-online.net)  
Website: [www.live-oak.org](http://www.live-oak.org)

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# The Live Oak Branch

NOVEMBER 2011  
"I am the Vine, you are the branches" John 15:5

Live Oak's Fall Festival Committee Proudly Presents...

## Sunday, October 30th 5-7 pm

Live Oak Community Church in the East parking lot.  
**This is going to be a sweet fun-filled evening, themed around the classic family board game- Candy Land!**

There will be **free** activities for all ages of children...

face painting::treats and snacks  
choo choo train rides::hay rides  
and games, games, games!!!

*Hot Dogs, Snow Cones, Cotton Candy & Drinks Available \$2.00 Each*

**Wear your favorite costume & be ready to have a blast!!!** Questions? Contact Jeannette

*(In case of bad weather we will set up in the auditorium.*

*Remember, no scary costumes, please!)*



### Chili Cook Off at CandyLand!

LOCC will be holding its 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Chili Cook Off. The Chili Cook Off will be held in conjunction with the Fall Festival. To participate, please pick up a registration pack at the Connection Center. If you have any questions, contact Jenny Findley @ [nennylee@yahoo.com](mailto:nennylee@yahoo.com) or 781-2572

**YOU & YOUR FAMILY ARE INVITED TO:**  
**Live Oak's ANNUAL All-church Thanksgiving Dinner**  
**Sunday, Nov 20; 5:30-7:30 PM at Live Oak**

Sign-up sheets to bring food & to help will be in the foyer starting on Nov 6, or you can contact Sherry Matthews at: 798-5583 or [sherrym@live-oak.org](mailto:sherrym@live-oak.org)

No childcare provided for this event.

Families are encouraged to sit & eat together as a family.

**The church will provide the turkey & ham and dressing & gravy. Please sign up in the foyer to bring food: side items, desserts, bread, etc...** We are expecting to feed around 300 people!

Whatever you sign up for, please bring enough of that dish to feed at least 10 people! Please remember to label your utensils and dishes with your name so we can get them back to you.

#### HERE ARE SOME WAYS YOU CAN SIGN UP TO HELP:

- Set up tables & chairs after 2<sup>nd</sup> service on the day of the dinner
- Help decorate the tables at 2 PM on Nov 20
- Serve & food prep team, will meet at 3:30 PM on Nov 20
- Warm/cook the dressing
- CLEAN UP TEAM !!!



# My First Month...

By Associate Pastor, Mark Porter

Technically it has been more like 6 weeks now, but who is counting? I wanted to share some of my thoughts and observations in my short tenure as Associate Pastor.

**First**, it is amazing being part of our Staff team. The folks on our staff are awesome and do so much that you never see or hear about. They are generous with their time and their praise. They have their own personal and professional struggles, but never let it get in the way of serving God and God's people.

**Second**, CCB and the phone system don't like me. I have hung up on several people trying to get the phone after Sherry transfers to me. I am also having trouble accessing my voice mail. A big thanks to Sherry for being patient. For those of you who don't know, CCB is our church member management system. It is giving me fits, but I am now able to send emails and create groups. Gotta give a big shout out to Chris Watson for his excellent tutorials.

**Third**, I have begun visiting Small Groups. As I have made the rounds, it has been so encouraging to see you guys doing life together. I have observed such a desire from you to grow closer to God and to one another. I have seen groups eager to serve one another as well as those outside of our church body. There is such a sincerity and authenticity to "Be the Church," in both word and deed. I am so amazed by you guys!!! Keep it up! Remember, Small Groups is the best place for life-change to happen. If you aren't in a group, talk to me. I would love to get you connected to one.



**Lastly**, I want to thank you for the outpouring of support Mindy and I have experienced since coming on staff. We are so blessed to be part of this church body. The people of Live Oak are such a blessing to us. We have been so humbled by your love and belief in us.

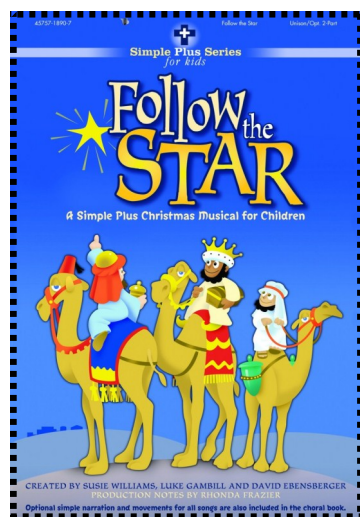
Thanks,  
**Mark**

## Children's Christmas Program Friday, December 16th @ 7PM

Parents of kids in  
"Follow the Star"...

The first rehearsal will be on Sunday Nov 6<sup>th</sup>, & we will rehearse every Sunday evening from 5:45-7:15pm until the week of the program-omitting the Sunday before Thanksgiving Nov 20. That gives us five rehearsals and one dress rehearsal to put together a wonderful program for our Lord! **I will hand out scripts and assign parts during our first rehearsal on Sunday, Nov 6<sup>th</sup>.**

If YOU would like to help out with props, set, or costumes, please contact **Kristy**.



Thank you!  
**Kristy Barnett**  
Live Oak Drama Director  
[loccddrama@suddenlink.net](mailto:loccddrama@suddenlink.net) or 806-441-0580



This Christmas, you can share the love and hope of Jesus Christ with a needy child in a country like Uganda or El Salvador by using a simple shoe box. Operation Christmas Child, a program of Samaritan's Purse, is an easy outreach project that every member & family can participate in by bringing a gift-filled shoe box to Live Oak on or before Sunday, **Nov 20**. Help spread His love & peace to a world in need by being part of this special Christmas project.



Complete details are outlined in the *Operation Christmas Child brochure in the foyer or online at [samaritanspurse.org/occ](http://samaritanspurse.org/occ)*

DEADLINE TO TURN IN SHOE BOX GIFTS: **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20**

THC Packing Party for Operation Christmas Child is on November 20th! Bring your supplies & shoe boxes to the 11:00 service!

## Coming Next on Sundays:

On Nov 6, we'll finish up the "Hold Fast" series from Hebrews 10:19-39 with a message from Chuck entitled, "Hold Fast to the Mission". No higher or more honorable purpose exists on the planet than to represent Jesus in daily life.

We'll begin a new series on November 13, entitled "Flourish."

We are called to represent our God and do His work in the world in our marriages, our jobs, our families, our church, and wherever He takes us. It is the highest purpose on earth, and we were never meant to do it alone. We are called to do life with God – relating to Him, led by Him, and enjoying His friendship. Life is counterintuitive. The more we represent God by choosing to see and meet the needs of people, the happier we will be. The more we show the world who the Father is, the more significant our lives will become. And the more we serve as channels of His goodness, the closer we will be to Him, and our lives will flourish, just as He intended!

**11/13 Part 1 – Flourish with God**

**Chuck Williams**

God's infinite desire is for you to engage Him every day in such a way that you enjoy a growing companionship and a great adventure and are fundamentally changed from the inside out by His incredible character. This is the life God created you to live with Him, and He is devoted to giving it to you.

**11/20 Part 2 – Flourish with Others**

**Chuck Williams**

Every interaction with another human being is a new opportunity to communicate God's love, kindness, and truth in some way, large or small. God will use us in wonderfully spontaneous ways if we will cultivate and awareness of His presence and thoughtfulness of people's needs. *Isaiah 58:10-12*

**11/27 Part 3 – Flourish at Work**

**Mark Porter**

God doesn't want us to live small lives. One of His greatest gifts is to allow us to partner with Him in His purposes. We are meant to do more than merely survive, make a living, and have a job, a car, and a place to live. We are meant to represent His character to a world desperate to know He is real. We have a high calling and wonderful responsibilities as His children. We are always in uniform, and we represent our King in everything we do. *Ephesians 6:5-8, Philippians 2:14-16*



**SAVE  
THE  
DATE !!!**

When: **Saturday, Dec 10, 2011**

4:00 - 6:00 pm

Where: **Live Oak Community Church**

What: **A celebration honoring the leadership and legacy of Chuck & Ann Williams**

Please feel free to invite to any friends of Chuck and Ann who would want to be a part of this! Questions? Contact [mark.porter@live-oak.org](mailto:mark.porter@live-oak.org)





**Schedule:**  
 5:45-7:00 Family Activities  
 6:30-7:00 Meal served (Pizza for \$2)  
 7:00-7:30 Gather together in auditorium



Please note that **Deck the Oak on Nov 30** replaces our **December 1st Wednesday!**

**Donations needed for Hygiene Kits**

Live Oak is assembling Hygiene Kits to donate to those in need through Lubbock Impact. Between now and Nov 30, you can bring items from the list below to the yellow wagon in the foyer. All sizes of liquids accepted. We'll assemble the kits at Deck the Oak on Nov 30!



**Items needed are:**

soap, deodorant, shampoo, conditioner, lotion, razors, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb, toilet paper, hand sanitizers



Join us on **NOVEMBER 2nd** for 1st Wednesday!

The First Wednesday in November, we will share in a time of communion, prayer, worship and baptism.

We will also highlight some ministries that Live Oakers will have an opportunity to support during the holiday season such as Operation Christmas Child and Lubbock Impact.

**Please make it a priority to join us for First Wednesday is when we do church.**

**FIRST WEDNESDAY:**  
 5:45 pm- Family Meal: (\$2 per person)  
 Taco Soup & Cornbread  
 Fruit & Dessert  
 6:30 pm- Worship Service  
 Communion & Baptism  
 Classes for kids: infant- 5th gr

We invite you & the entire Live Oak family to gather together to launch the Advent season at:

**Deck the Oak!**

**Wednesday, November 30**

**5:30 - 7:30 PM at Live Oak**

Join us as we bring in the Christmas season, Live Oak style.

There will be lots of food & festivity, not to mention several "family" Christmas experiences to choose from, including:

- \*Writing Christmas cards to missionaries
- \*Decorating the tree & hanging garlands
- \*Putting up lights outside      \*Family communion
- \*Special holiday craft for kids/families
- \*Assembling care packages for the poor served at Lubbock Impact
- \*We will top off the evening by plugging in the lights & Celebrating Jesus' birth in song!



**BABY/Child DEDICATION**  
**On Sun, Nov 20**

(both services)

MUST contact Jenny Findley, Acorn Club Director, by Nov 13th to participate.

There is a mandatory prep class for parents on Sunday, Nov 13th, at 10 AM, in Room #103.

Call Jenny if you have any questions: **781-2572 or [nenylee@yahoo.com](mailto:nenylee@yahoo.com)**



**Live Oak Student Ministries**

**Chris Watson**  
 Student Ministries Pastor



**Breakthrough Weekend**  
**Coming Soon!**

LOSM is hosting its annual weekend retreat November 18-20.

This event is for all students in the 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade. This year we are joining with 4 other local churches for an area wide event that is sure to be AMAZING. Cost for each student is \$45 if registered by Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>. After that the cost goes to \$55. Registration forms can be found online at [www.losmonline.com](http://www.losmonline.com) or in room 106 at the church. We will need volunteers to help with meals through out the weekend. If you are interested in helping, please call Chris at 806-281-8775 or e-mail him at [chrisw@live-oak.org](mailto:chrisw@live-oak.org).

**Live Oak Calendar**



- Nov 2 **FIRST WEDNESDAY**
- Sun, Nov 13 **Live Oak 101**
- Nov 18-20 **Breakthrough Weekend (youth)**
- Sun, Nov 20 **Baby Dedication**
- Sun, Nov 20 **All-church Thanksgiving Dinner**
- Last day to turn in Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes**
- Wed, Nov 30 **Deck the Oak (in place of 1st Wed in December)**
- Sat, Dec 10 **Celebration honoring the legacy of Chuck & Ann Williams**
- Fri, Dec 16 **Christmas program - children's musical & Drama Team**
- Sat, Dec 24 **Christmas Eve service at 5:00 & 6:30 pm**
- Sun, Dec 25 **NO services on Christmas (family devotionals provided)**
- Sun, Jan 1 **1 service at 11 AM -Celebration & Sr. Pastor baton pass**

**Live Oak Financial News**

*"Now all of you together are Christ's body, and each one of you is a separate and necessary part of it."  
 1 Corinthians 12:27 (NLT)*

Sept Budget:	\$47,945	Yr to Date Budget	\$ 47,945
Sept Donations:	\$40,234	Yr to Date Donations:	\$ 40,234
Shortage:	\$ 7,711	Shortage:	\$ 7,711

As of October 20, \$17,700 was still required to meet October budget needs.



**LIVE OAK 101**  
**Sunday, Nov 20 9:30 AM**  
**in OC Conference Room**

Have you ever wondered why we do things the way that we do at Live Oak? Ever wanted a chance to ask questions of a staff member? Want to know how to get connected or join the church? You will get all this and a doughnut at our monthly discovery/membership class: Live Oak 101. Childcare