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Chris Johnson  
pastor  
pastor@chalkbluff.org

### Save the Date

We have completed another great year at Chalk Bluff Baptist Church, and I am very excited for what is coming in 2015. I hope in this new year you will make a commitment to spend time with your church family. Together we need to make a concerted effort to prioritize our lives correctly. There must days on our weekly and monthly calendars that are set aside for time with church family. I am going to give you two dates in the next month that I hope you will go ahead and set aside now as "church time" making it a point to be here no matter what.

The first date is Sunday morning January 11th. During our service that morning we are going to be blessed with the Homestead Heritage Youth Choir. I'm sure you know they are an excellent choir that will be an incredible addition to our worship that day. I hope we can show up in full force to support them in their ministry. When our church choir sang last month we had an incredible morning and filled the sanctuary. We need to do that again for the Homestead Heritage youth.

The second priority date for you is Sunday morning February 1st. This is an even bigger coup for us. On that Sunday Dr. David Hardage will be preaching. I'm sure you probably do not know who he is, but it is a big deal that he is making the time to come to Chalk Bluff Baptist Church. Dr. Hardage is the current Executive Director of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, and former pastor of the First Baptist Church of Sulphur Springs. As the director of the BGCT he oversees the cooperation of some 5500 Texas Baptist churches in missions, evangelism, and ministry. He could be preaching in any one of those churches that day and has chosen to come to Chalk Bluff to see our ministries and share with us a vision for the future of Texas Baptists.

Right now, get out your calendar or get out your phone, and note that you are busy on January 11th and February 1st. You have plans to be at Chalk Bluff Baptist Church for worship, and it is going to be good. I cannot wait to see what God is going to do through these services and how he is going to springboard us into 2015. I hope you are as excited as I am to worship with your church family in 2015.

***"Live as free people, but do not use your freedom as a cover-up for evil; live as God's slaves. Show proper respect to everyone, love the family of believers, fear God, honor the emperor."***

1 Peter 2:16-17 (NIV)

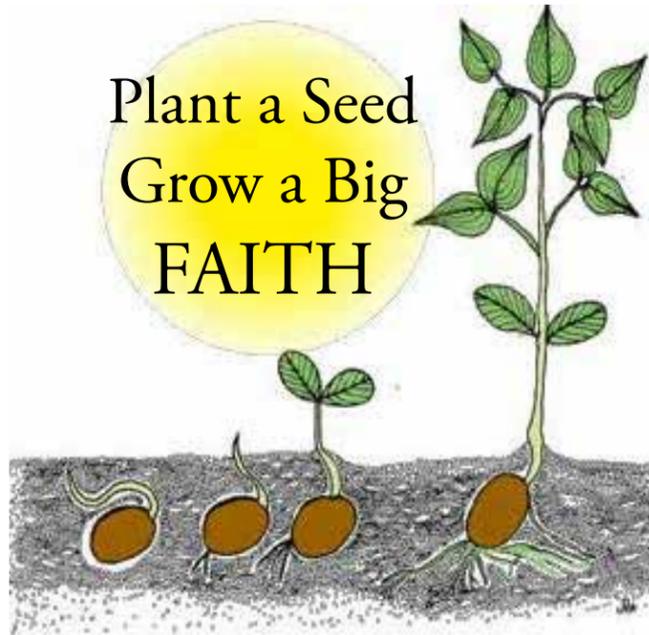
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Chris Johnson  
pastor  
Ryan Hodges  
minister of youth  
Zach Johnigan  
minister of music  
Jonathan Pinto  
pianist  
Travis Worsham  
organist  
Anita Frost  
secretary

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**Women's Ministry Bible Study**  
*By Priscilla Shirer*  
*This is a four week bible study to begin*  
**January 12th - February 2nd**  
*It will be at 6:30pm*  
*each Monday evening*  
**at the Chalk Bluff Baptist Church**



Ryan Hodges  
 minister of youth  
 ryan\_hodges@baylor.edu.



If you haven't yet heard, I will be taking a semester-long leave starting this January to complete an internship in Washington D.C. If everything goes according to plan and I don't get in too much trouble, I will come back to Chalk Bluff in May to be the Associate Pastor, of which I am very thankful.

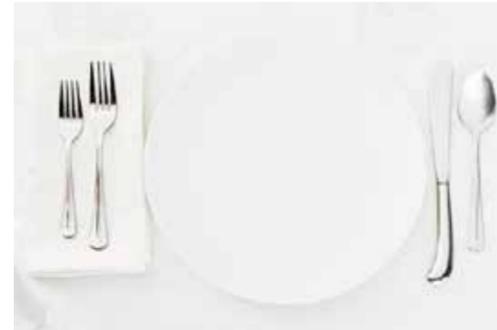
Two years ago, I remember walking into the youth room for the first time with trepidation. I didn't know these youths who were staring at me, and I'm pretty sure they were judging me. In reflection, they were definitely judging me. After all, I was the new youth minister. I remember thinking to myself I had no idea what I was doing. I tried to quickly brainstorm how to make these kids like me so the situation would be less awkward. It was awkward for a little bit, but I hope I will never forget the love the youth and the rest of Chalk Bluff gave me when I first walked in. I was given so much love, and so much confidence and faith in the youth ministry and in myself that it ultimately seemed strange to think most of these people had no idea who I was. I do not believe I made an absolutely perfect run as youth minister, although I may have made it sound that way when I talked to you about it in person. I remember mistakes that I made, but those added to the relationships built up, and the relationships I hope to sustain while I am gone. There is a lot of life and humor in in the youth ministry, and warmth in the friendships that sustain it. But mostly the youth and the adults who made the Wednesday nights, D-nows, and camps possible have better influenced my life with Christ, despite everything. I wish there was one specific moment I can point to and show why this is the case, but true formation doesn't happen in a moment. The days are long and the years are short. In this quick whirlwind of working as the youth minister of Chalk Bluff, I am very proud to say that this youth ministry formed me to better reflect my identity as a Christian. To that I say thank you.

I look forward to seeing you in a couple months.

*RyH*

America's # 1 Gospel Trio  
**GREATER VISION**

In Concert at  
 Parkview Baptist Church  
 January 30, 2015--7:00PM  
 Call Barbara Collier for Info &  
 Tickets @ 254-744-6832



**3rd Sunday Lunch**  
**January 18th --12 Noon**

**Church Council Meeting**  
 Sunday, January 4th-5:00 pm

**Deacon's Meeting**  
 Sunday, January 11th-4:00PM

**Quarterly Business Meeting**  
 Sunday, January 18th -- 7:00 PM  
**Committee Fair to follow**



**January 25 --6:00 pm**

**Memory Scriptures:**  
**Romans 10:9**  
**Matthew 22:37-40**  
**John 6:28-29**  
**John 3:16**

Please bring your favorite snacks and come to play.

Wednesday Night Menus

Menu Can Change Without Notice

- Jan. 7th---Grilled Cheese
- Jan. 14th--Pancakes
- Jan. 21st--Chili Dogs
- Jan. 28th-- Spaghetti

Sign-up sheet for meals donations in fellowship hallway.



Thank you to everyone who helps us get this together each week. We couldn't do it without you.