

## CALENDAR

**Wednesday, December 31**

Office Closed

**Thursday, January 1**

Office Closed

**Friday, January 2**

Office Open

**Sunday, January 4**

8:30 A Common Grounds  
Café Open

9:15 A Sunday School

10:30 A Worship Service

**Tuesday, January 6**

9:30 A Yoga

**Wednesday, January 7**

6:30 P Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, January 9**

9:30 A Yoga

**Sunday, January 11**

8:30 A Common Grounds

Café open

9:15 A Sunday School

10:30 A Worship Service,  
communion

**Monday, January 12**

5:30 P Trustee Meeting

**Tuesday, January 13**

9:30 A Yoga

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## Broadmoor Baptist Bulletin

*find your place*

Broadmoor Baptist Church, Baton Rouge, LA

Entire Congregation  
Ministry

Dr. Leonard Ezell  
*Senior Pastor*

Bobby Rayburn  
*Associate Pastor of Young Families*

Dr. Alissa Rowe  
*Director of Music and Worship*

Felicia Mullen  
*Business Manager*

Katie Gilley  
*Administrative Assistant*

Melvin Hale  
*Organist*

H E A F T A H S



## Quarterly Business Meeting January 18

Year End Financial Report and 2026 Committees and Deacons

Lunch will be a youth fundraiser of Pastalaya  
\$10 per plate

Sign up by January 14th

If you need NEW offering envelopes for 2026,  
please contact the church office.

## Affinity Groups

Do you have a hobby you'd love to share with others? Do you have an interest you'd love to pursue with others? Consider turning that into one of our **Affinity Group** options starting in **February**. Give us your idea and we will get the word out!

Virtually anything can become an **Affinity Group**: book group, investing group, genealogy group, fishing group, spirituality in movies group, knitting group, tasting group, baking group, chess group, dinner group, guitar group, history group, foreign language group, underwater basketweaving group, etc.

Contact Church Office by **January 19** to submit your idea. Sign ups for your group happen in **January and February**.



## "Special New Year"

The Nowruz - Persian New Year - (Iran) commemorates New Years Day as a day the world and humanity are re-created. On Nowruz, the world is renewed. The king proclaims: "Here is a new day of a new month of a new year; what time has worn must be renewed." Time had "worn" the human being, society, and cosmos. *Sacred* time had become *profane* time. It had to be destroyed in order to reconnect with the mythical moment the world had come into existence, bathed in a "pure," "strong," and *sacred* time.

The ending of *profane* pastime happens by rituals signifying the "end of the world." On the last day of the year the universe was dissolved in the primordial waters (chaos), a time before re-creation. By repeating their creation story at New Years, participants believed the old world/year was literally re-created. Old grievances and sins disappeared, and everything that soiled the new, good creation (new year) was destroyed. By participating in New Year's rituals, people, too, were considered "newborn."

Every December 31, we participate in New Year rituals. We sing "Auld Lang Syne" asking if old acquaintances should be forgotten with the outgoing old year. We reply with a resounding "No!" Instead, we toast our past experiences, sacred times, places, and faces.

Whereas Nowruz celebrates the world/universe *created anew* every year, we celebrate Christmas every year, and Easter,

*Dr. Ezell*

Independence Day, etc. The purpose of circular rituals is to draw us closer to the sacred, the moment when history/creation was at its purist, unsullied as a newborn baby, before the clutter of sin and ... chaos. Only, our modern, scientific minds (and perhaps beliefs) hinders believing that each year the world is re-made. Still, we commemorate "special time": day we married, day our child was born, day the towers fell. We mark sacred spaces: where we were baptized, had our first kiss, where the towers stood. Is it purely for memory? Or is something now "different" about that time and space? "I had no idea this was holy ground!" (Genesis 28).

A man I know says that, as a child he used to cut through cemeteries on his way to friends. His mother warned him not to step on tombs. "They're sacred." He said, "Mama, I can't see the tombs. How do I know if it's sacred?" She replied, "Just treat it all as sacred space."

Maybe it isn't that space and time *become* special ... maybe they have *always* been, but we are only now waking up to it as such. Whether the world becomes *new* every year, or each time we *remember* God it makes *all* of it special - when we remember, we *treat* it special. As you close the old and begin anew, remember to treat *all of it* as sacred. Happy New Year! New time. New space. New you.

## GET INVOLVED

### 2025 Contributions

Remember, in order for contributions to count for 2025, they must be in the church office or postmarked by **December 31, 2025.**

You can still turn in your 2026 pledge cards.

### New Bible Studies

#### "The Scribal Corruption of Scripture: Who Changed the Bible and Why?"

A video lecture series addressing the changes and alterations of the biblical texts and what they mean now.

Wednesdays 10-11AM in Common Grounds Café

Starting January 14  
(Topic by Request)

#### "God Said What?!"

#### Wrestling with Cruelty, Violence, and Vengeance in the Old Testament"

An honest approach to negative images of God.  
Thursdays 10-11AM in Church Conference Room

Starting January 15  
(Topic by Request)

\*These Bible Studies will repeat on opposite days upon completion

### LLL Trip

#### Thursday, January 22, 9 AM

Konriko Company Store and tour of rice mill built in 1912  
New Iberia- small fee, lunch on your own.

### Did You Know?

Did you know that the Magi (aka: Wise Men) likely arrived weeks, months, or even up to two years after Jesus' birth, and not on the traditional night of? This is based on the fact that Herod's massacre was for boys *up to age two*. If this is the case, then the Magi would have visited a "young child," not an *infant* in a stable. And if this is the case, then the Epiphany event we celebrate the first week of January 2026 is pertaining to the Christmas event of ... 2024! Now you know.

## MINISTRY OUTREACH

### In Loving Memory

Yvonne Clayton *united with this church on December 26, 1965 and departed this life on December 23, 2025.*

### Home from the Hospital

Nona Spence

### Southeast Ministries

During the month of January, we will be collecting Mac and Cheese.

### Trustee Meeting

Monday, January 12, 5:30 PM

### Communion at Home

Sunday, January 11

To best prepare for this special time please contact the church office, by January 6 if you would like communion elements delivered so you may participate from home.

### Can you help?

If you are willing and able to help us spread mulch on the playground please let us know!! Date to be announced.

