

The Inside Track

Life Church of North Alabama

The purpose of The Inside Track is to inform you about Life Church and to give you an opportunity to discover and use the gifts that God has placed inside of you, through serving His church here at Life Church.

Though we realize we can't effectively answer every question here, we hope this will be a good starting place! We are always happy to meet with you in person to answer any additional questions that you might have on Life Church, who we are, what we believe and how you can become a part of our family!

Life Church Corporate is 12 years old. Pastor Brad Sheats planted our first campus in the Cullman, Alabama area beginning at a local Movie Theatre and shortly moving to its current location in Dodge City. This campus is still a vibrant and active church body, continuing to grow and reach its community for the Kingdom! After four years in Dodge City, Pastor Brad was led to plant a second campus in the Hartselle, Alabama area which is a thriving and growing community of believers! Life Church is a Non-Denominational church choosing to focus on the Banner of Jesus Christ rather than a Denomination.

The Life Church Motto: "Live Life Forward". We find this in John 10:10 which is also the verse we take our name from:

John 10:10

The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

Christ calls us to move beyond our past into the great plans that God has for us!

The 4 B's: Believe, Belong, Become and Build

Believe=Sunday Morning Worship Experience

Our Sunday morning experience is designed to lead you and the people you bring with you into a deeper experience with God. The more you experience God, the more you will believe in Him!

1 John 5:13 "I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."

Belong=Life Groups

Life Groups are where Church becomes FAMILY. You weren't meant to do life alone, so don't! You can learn more about Life Groups by going to the Life Church of Alabama App available for IOS or Android devices. Simply open the app and click on the Life Groups tab or you can contact emma.reeves@livelifefwd.com.

Acts 2:46 "Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts"

Become=Wednesday Night Disciple Classes & Acorn to Oaks

To do what God has created you to do, you'll have to become all that He has called to become. Our Wednesday night disciple classes do just that! Acorn to Oaks has been called a "New Believers" class but the truth is, it's a class for ANYONE who wants to deepen their understanding of Salvation and what it means to live a victorious life as a Born Again Believer of Christ! You can find more information on each of these on the Life Church of Alabama APP or by contacting Pastor Chris at:

chris.shumake@livelifefwd.com.

Luke 2:52 "And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and man."

Build= "Building the Kingdom of God": 4 Ways of Reaching Others

1)BRING Someone to church with you! Though our Sunday morning s are designed to help people believe, they can only help the people who come.

2)Serve others inside *and* outside the Church. A random act of kindness goes a long way! When you show kindness and love to a stranger on behalf of Christ's Church you are being His "Hands and Feet"! We offer many ways to serve *inside* the church from our Frontline Ministry to serving in our Children's, Youth and Young Adult or Worship Ministries! Serving *outside* the Church can happen in many ways from our annual Community wide SERVE Day and various community projects to local and foreign mission trips! For more information on any of these ways to Serve contact our offices at: info@livelifefwd.com!

3)Reach out to others through outreach events such as our Thanksgiving Blessing Boxes, our Christmas Shoebox ministry or any of the other opportunities we will have throughout the year. When you serve at an outreach event you are connecting with others who might not normally come to Church and this could possibly change their lives forever! For more information on any of our outreach opportunities contact the church offices at info@livelifefwd.com.

4) Give to Missions. The Bible tells us that we will "reap what we sow". When we sow into communities around the world, God reaps a harvest here in our own community! We have several ministries, missionaries and church plants that we support through your giving as well as through our Kingdom Builders Initiative. If you would like more

information on how to give to Missions or on our Kingdom Builders Initiative contact the church office at info@lifelifevwd.com.

Through our **4 B's** we hope to grow you from a *Consumer* into a *Contributor*! A *Consumer* is a person who purchases goods and services for personal use; a *Contributor* is a person that, well, that contributes, that participates!

Church Organizational Structure

Here are the people who help lead the way at Life Church:

Lead Pastor: Pastor Brad Sheats

Pastor Brad leads both campuses by casting vision, overseeing the day-to-day operations and by choosing the direction of our sermon series.

Executive Pastor: Pastor Chris Shumake

Pastor Chris helps to oversee the different aspects of both campuses and helps to make both campuses One Family in Two Locations. Pastor Chris also aids in leading and overseeing the ministries and day-to-day operations of both campuses.

Campus Pastor: Pastor Jay Terry

Pastor Jay over sees the Cullman campus leadership team, provides pastoral care for our Cullman Church family, teaches and preaches each Sunday.

Campus Leadership Team:

These volunteers lead the various ministries at each campus in our Frontline Ministry such as Security team, Parking team, First Time Guest team to name a few.

Overseers:

Our board of Overseers is a group of Pastors from other Churches that help manage the health of our Lead Pastor. A list of these Pastors can be provided upon request.

Trustees:

The Board of Trustees is a team made up of men and women from each campus who are responsible for making sure we steward God's money wisely.

Deacons:

Each campus has an Elder team of mature Christian men that help the Campus Pastor spiritually lead and minister to the people at each campus.

Our Beliefs

If you have specific questions about what we believe, then you've come to the right place. The statements below aren't meant to encompass all Biblical truth, but instead to clearly outline our primary beliefs.

God

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has existed eternally in three persons: the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God. He is all-powerful, all-knowing, ever-present, unchanging, completely worthy of our trust, and above all, Holy. It is in Him that we live, move, and exist. He is our Father. He is loving, compassionate, and faithful to His people and His promises.

Genesis 1:1, Genesis 1:26-27, Genesis 3:22, Psalm 90:2, Matthew 28:19, 1 Peter 1:2, 2 Corinthians 13:14

Jesus

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus is completely human but, at the same time, completely, God. He is the only plan for bringing people back into right relationship with God. He lived a perfect life so that He could be a substitution for us in satisfying God's demands for perfection. He defeated sin and death in His resurrection so that we can have life and live it to the fullest.

Matthew 1:22-23, Isaiah 9:6, John 1:1-5, John 14:10-30, Hebrews 4:14-15, 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, Romans 1:3-4, Acts 1:9-11, 1 Timothy 6:14-15, Titus 2:13

The Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is equal with the Father and the Son as God. The Holy Spirit is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit also lives in every believer from the moment of salvation. The Holy Spirit provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. The Christian seeks to live under His control daily.

2 Corinthians 3:17, John 16:7-13, John 14:16-17, Acts 1:8, 1 Corinthians 2:12, 1 Corinthians 3:16, Ephesians 1:13, Galatians 5:25, Ephesians 5:18

The Bible

The Bible is God's Word to all mankind. Human authors wrote it under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. Because it is inspired by God, the Bible is a perfect truth and is completely relevant to our daily lives.

2 Timothy 3:16-17, 2 Peter 1:20-21, 2 Timothy 1:13, Psalm 119:105, Psalm 119:160, Psalm 12:6, Proverbs 30:5

Humanity

Humanity is made in the image of God. Although God designed us to be connected to Him, we became disconnected from God through disobedience. As a result, all human beings are born with a sinful nature and choose to sin against God. We are incapable of regaining a right relationship with God through our own efforts.

Genesis 1:27, Psalm 8:3-6, Isaiah 53:6, Romans 3:23, Colossians 1:21, Isaiah 59:1-2

Salvation

Salvation is God's FREE gift to you if you'll accept it. We can never make up for our sin with self-improvement or good works. It is only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness that you can be saved from sin's penalty. Eternal life begins the moment you receive Jesus Christ into your life by faith.

Romans 6:23, Ephesians 2:8-9, John 14:6, John 1:12, Titus 3:5, Galatians 3:26, Romans 5:1

Eternity

You were created to exist forever. We believe that forever is spent in one of two places: eternally separated from God because of sin or in union with God because of His forgiveness and salvation. When you die, you will either spend eternity in heaven or hell. Eternal separation from God happens in hell. Eternal union with God occurs in heaven.

John 3:16, 1 John 2:25, John 5:11-13, Romans 6:23, Revelation 20:15

I'm Ready To Serve!

There are many ways you can choose to serve at Life Church, here are just a few:

- Media/Tech Team
- Parking Team
- Usher Team
- Children's Ministries
- Youth Ministries
- Security Team
- First Time Guest Team
- Coffee Team
- Greeter Team
- Maintenance Team

To see more ways you can serve or to sign up to serve simply go to the Life Church of Alabama App and click on the Dream Team Sign Up tab!

How Do I Become A Member of Life Church?

Here at Life Church we do things a little bit differently. Our desire is for you and your family to see the bigger picture become Kingdom minded, so instead of having membership we offer a **Membership Covenant**. Many times, church membership simply translates to just the "place you go", where a covenant is deeper and signifies a place you belong, a place you grow, a place to serve. In fact, Webster's Dictionary defines a covenant this way:

"A covenant is a relationship between two partners who make binding promises to each other and work together to reach a common goal."

We would love to have you and your family become a part of the Life Church family! When you feel led to partner with us you can sign the Membership Covenant below!

Life Church Membership and Partnership Covenant

The mission of Life Church is for us to “Live Life Forward” and the way we accomplish this vision is through the generosity of God’s people. The church in itself has no ability to reach the lost, finance the mission of train and disciple believers; however, when each individual invests his or her time, talents and resources into the Kingdom we become a powerful force within our community! Here at Life Church we call this commitment “Membership”.

As a Member of Life Church, we would like you to begin your journey Living Life Forward with us by committing to the following:

- Financially support the mission of Life Church with your tithes and offerings
- Be an active member of a Life Group
- Serve in a ministry monthly

We also offer a “Partnership” here at Life Church for those unsure that this will be their long-term church home or for those in a season that would prevent them from fulfilling the expectations of Membership. Overall, we want everyone to feel welcome, valued and loved at Life Church, so if you decide that Membership simply isn’t where you are currently called, we hope that you’ll Partner with us as we reach our community and the uttermost parts of the World by spreading the Good News of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

We hope that the Lord’s work has been visible to you throughout your time with us! Our church family will continue to pray for you as you make these decisions regarding your involvement with Life Church.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Printed Name: _____

Circle One: Membership / Partnership

I would like to serve on:

Team Option #1: _____

Team Option #2: _____

Team Option #3: _____

