



# ROOSTER TRACKS

NEW ST. PETER'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

VOLUME 26 – FALL 2021

## School of Life and Doctrine Returns!

The Covid landscape is ever changing, granted, but we are proceeding with plans to reboot the School of Life and Doctrine (SoLD) this fall at *Scofield Memorial Church*. SoLD is our ministry of Christian education for all ages on select Sunday evenings in the fall and spring semesters (see fall dates on next page). Our ministry staff has put together some encouraging and edifying classes for all ages. Here are the highlights:

**NsP Kids (0 years-5th grade):** We are excited about our Children's SoLD classes starting this fall. While parents attend the adult classes, we will provide childcare for ages 0-3. In addition, our Discipleship Groups will start back again as the Preschool-Kindergarten class will be studying through the *Jesus Storybook Bible* and our 1st-5th graders will continue their study of the *New City Catechism*. We hope to see your children there!



**RYF (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades):** "Can I trust the bible?", "Can Christianity be true for you and not for me?", "Can't we just agree that love is love?", "Hasn't Science disproved Christianity?"... These are just a few of the many questions floating around today, and on the surface it may seem like asking these questions (let alone their answers!) might lead us away from our faith. But when we look deeper, when we are unafraid to really tackle the tough questions, we will see that the only true and satisfying answers to all these questions and more is Christianity. So come join us at RYF this year as we tackle "*The Big Questions*"!

There will be two adult classes offered this fall:

**Biblical Friendship:** Friendlessness is an epidemic in our society. That's right. We may be more socially "connected" than ever before, but we lack the ability to see, seek, and maintain deep, biblical friendships. This is nothing new. Modern people have long rejected this necessary relationship as superfluous and inefficient. In the church, too, we struggle to move from acquaintance to deep and vulnerable friendship. Join us as we unpack what Scripture and the Christian tradition have to say about Christian friendship and its value on the journey of faith. (*Taught by Alex Dean and Carly Hallman*)



**The Authority of Scripture in an Autonomous Age:** As C.S. Lewis has wisely pointed out, modern man has reversed the fundamental relationship between humanity and deity, placing God on the “dock,” in



the place of the accused, while we sit on the judge’s bench to condemn or acquit based on our own standard. Nowhere is this kind of autonomy more pervasive in the modern world than in the study of what God has said...the study of Scripture. Yet as Reformed folks, we continue to hold to Scripture’s authority, sufficiency, necessity, and clarity. Scholars and warm churchmen Joseph Minich and John Mark Hallman, members at NsP, will walk through some of modernity’s questions about and objections to Scripture as they unpack the historic Reformed doctrine of its authority from several angles. *(Taught by Dr. Joseph Minich, Teaching Fellow, The Davenant Institute and John Mark Hallman, PhD student at Dallas Theological Seminary).*

Also, this year we will KICK OFF our SoLD semester with a church-wide BBQ feast and fellowship! Some of our own will smoke meats, and we’ll order up sides from Baker’s Ribs to celebrate the reboot of many of our ministries after a long and hard season. So, mark your calendars for the following dates. ***Meals will begin at 5:00 pm. Youth group will start at 5:30 pm. Children’s and Adult classes will start at 6:00 pm.***

***August 22:*** BBQ Kickoff, kids & youth programs, adult hymn sing and class introductions.

***August 29:*** Potluck Dinner; A-L bring a main dish, M-Z bring a side or dessert...followed by classes for all.

***September 12:*** Potluck Dinner; M-Z bring a main dish, A-L bring a side or dessert ...followed by classes for all.

***September 26:*** Sandwiches and Pizza provided by NsP... followed by classes for all.

***October 10:*** Potluck Dinner; A-L bring a main dish, M-Z bring a side or dessert...followed by classes for all.

***October 24:*** Sandwiches and Pizza provided by NsP...followed by classes for all.

***November 14:*** Potluck Dinner; M-Z bring a main dish, A-L bring a side or dessert...followed by classes for all.



As in pre-Covid days, our meeting place is ***Scofield Memorial Church*** at ***7730 Abrams Road***. Go behind the building to the parking lot in back. As always, if the Covid situation requires an adjustment to this plan we will let you know. We recognize that there’s a variety of sensitivities and needs in that regard.

## NsP Diaconate Spotlight on Service and Giving

The deacons have been discussing for some time the various ways we can encourage our church family to participate in hands-on acts of service. It's good and appropriate to give alms to those in need, or to support a ministry with regular giving. If you recall, we recently supported New City Church with alms funds to buy a church van. But in addition to sacrificially giving money, Christians are called to love and good deeds:

*"Let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds. Let us not give up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but let us encourage one another – and all the more as you see the Day approaching."* Hebrews 10:24-25

To re-invigorate our outreach, the deacons have endeavored to better acquaint ourselves with local Gospel opportunities, and to zero in on ones we can personally know and where we can volunteer together. Last quarter we focused on opportunities to mentor student Fellows at New City Fellowship. The emphasis this month and next is on **Union Gospel Mission (UGM)**, which serves the homeless a few miles south of Love Field airport. Several NsP members are longtime supporters of UGM with both their money and their time, and we invite you to consider if this might be a place where you can serve as well.



I first became interested in UGM at a deacon meeting when it was suggested as a help for a friend of our church. They were recently released from prison, jobless, and unable to afford temporary accommodations. We realized our own inability as a group to effectively meet this person's diverse needs. Turns out, UGM is perfectly suited to assist someone caught up in this situation.



As you might expect, UGM provides a clean bed and daily bread for the homeless by way of a men's shelter as well as a shelter for women and children. They also offer a free medical clinic supervised by UT-Southwestern School of Medicine. In addition to these immediate needs, there is a Discipleship Program to help people end their struggle with homelessness by first establishing and nurturing a relationship with Jesus Christ and then learning the skills needed to re-enter society. That involves job skills training, transitional living arrangements and involvement in a local church for ongoing nurture.

The staff at UGM are eager for us to visit and volunteer, so notice the weekly emails and announcements as we arrange times for scheduled tours. Additionally, we will dedicate almsgiving for this month to UGM. God willing, we will find meaningful new ways to love and serve the homeless in this effort.

To God be all the Glory,

- Brien Meyer for the Deacons

# Connect and Grow in a Small Group

Assuming the Covid situation permits – and that’s true of everything in this newsletter – there are several ways to connect with fellow NsP folks for growth in grace together this fall. You’ll find them all with pertinent details on our website under the “**Connect**” heading. As always, we encourage you to consider joining a **Home Group** – you are welcome to inquire of a leader and visit.



**Men’s Ministry:** Look for more info on new **Bible studies** and **Reading Groups** soon to come, and as always, mark your calendar for the monthly **Men’s Fellowship** on the third Wednesday night of each month. Currently we’re meeting at Vector Brewing in Lake Highlands.

**Women’s Ministry:** There will be a Tuesday evening study of the **Sermon on the Mount**, a Wednesday morning study of **Genesis**, and a Thursday evening study of **Romans**. You’re also invited to connect by way of a **Multi-Generational Discipleship Group** for encouragement and support. You will find the sign-up link on our website under “Connect/Women’s Ministry” and Carly will help you get connected.

[www.newstpeters.org/connect](http://www.newstpeters.org/connect)

## CALENDAR

### AUGUST

**SoLD Kickoff Celebration** August 22  
Scofield Church (7730 Abrams Rd) 5:00 p.m.

**Visitors’ Cafe** August 29  
Gable’s Room at DCT 11:15 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

**SoLD with Potluck** August 29  
Scofield Church 5:00 p.m.; RYF 5:30; Classes 6:00 p.m.

### SEPTEMBER

**Women’s Fall Bible Studies begin** September 7,8,9  
See website under “Connect” for details

**SoLD with Potluck** September 12  
Scofield Church 5:00 p.m.; RYF 5:30; Classes 6:00 p.m.

**SoLD with Sandwiches & Pizza** September 26  
Scofield Church 5:00 p.m.; RYF 5:30; Classes 6:00 p.m.

### OCTOBER

**SoLD with Potluck** October 10  
Scofield Church 5:00 p.m.; RYF 5:30; Classes 6:00 p.m.

**Roctober Fall Retreat** October 15-16  
Youth group retreat with other North TX churches.

**SoLD with Sandwiches & Pizza** October 24  
Scofield Church 5:00 p.m.; RYF 5:30; Classes 6:00 p.m.

### NOVEMBER

**Harvest Festival** November 7  
Flag Pole Hill 4:00 p.m.

**SoLD with Potluck** November 14  
Scofield Church 5:00 p.m.; RYF 5:30; Classes 6:00 p.m.

### ONGOING

**Session Meetings** First Wednesdays  
Elders gather for shepherding discussion and prayer.

**Deacon Meetings** Second Tuesdays  
Deacons consider needs of mercy and encouragement.

**Men’s Fellowships** Third Wednesdays  
Location TBD 8:00-10:00 p.m.

**Adult Bible Studies** Various days of the week  
See website under “Connect” for details.

**Home Groups** Various times and places  
See website under “Connect” for details.