

OUR LEADERSHIP



**JESUS
CHRIST IS
THE HEAD
OF OUR
CHURCH.**



LEAD PASTOR & ELDER, DARRELL KOOP

Before planting Upwards Church in 2000, Darrell was the pastor at a church in Eagle Pass, Texas and a youth pastor in San Antonio. He and Niki have been married since 1995 and have three children. Darrell has a Bachelor of Science from Texas A & M University and a Masters of Divinity with Biblical Languages from Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth, Texas. In addition to loving his family and his church, he also loves turtles and landscaping.



JARRELL CAMPUS PASTOR & ELDER, LEWIS ALEXANDER

Howdy, I'm Lewis Alexander, one of the pastors at Upwards Church! I grew up on a small Central Texas farm with chickens, pigs, goats, cows, rabbits, horses, raccoons, dogs and cats. I never imagined that I would be living part time in Central America on the beach, commuting monthly to work and church. For work, I get paid to teach people how to love each other! As a volunteer, I get to teach people how to love the Lord, His Word, His people and His Mission. Please join me on Sunday mornings at one of our 2 locations.



ROTATING PASTOR & ELDER, BRIAN SHANKLIN

I am a teaching pastor and I travel and speak at both campuses. My father was a pastor and I was the prodigal son. I tried doing life my

way, but God had different plans. I have a passion for God, learning God's Word, and teaching His Word and His Truth to others. God has truly blessed me with an amazing wife Jennifer, and four great kids. I am a full-time HVAC contractor and our greatest ministry is the day-to-day life we share with others. We would love for you to join us at Upwards Church, where Jesus is King and Lord of Lords, God's Word and Truth is spoken and shared, and the people are real! Hope to see you soon!!



ELDER, GERRY CLAGGETT

I grew up in a small New Hampshire town, kicked around at the University of NH, the Peace Corps and the U.S. Army before FINALLY coming to Jesus as my living Lord and Savior in Ireland. Naomi & I have been involved in all kinds of churches seeking to love God, love people & share Jesus. After a career in IT and raising a family of three boys, we've ended up in Texas as a retired couple near our son and his family in Leander. We found a great church home here at Upwards Church. I'm an Elder and involved with the Men's Connect Group, studying the Bible as Upwards makes its way through the entire Bible in five years. Naomi & I serve in kids ministry, music, lawn mowing, and prayer team.

WHO, HOW, WHEN & WHY

Upwards Church is passionate about pastoring the entire family, from the adults in our auditorium to the children in our kid's ministry.

Family

We believe in coming alongside families to equip them for a life of faith.

Our Focus

Upwards Church is a Bible-based and Christ focused church, meeting at two locations in Williamson County: **Leander & Jarrell, Texas.**

We don't take ourselves too seriously, but we do our best to take Jesus and His Word that way. During our services, we dress casually, have inspiring live music, and relevant teaching from the Bible. Our messages are intended to help us live God honoring lives. We love kids and youth; they are the church of today, not tomorrow. We care about reaching and helping hurt people, improving our communities, and the world we live in.

OUR PURPOSE: LOVE GOD, LOVE PEOPLE, AND SHARE JESUS!

Loving God happens through worship, prayer, corporate fellowship, and our giving.

Loving People happens through our Connect Groups, where people engage in living life with one another.

We **share Jesus** through our ministry teams, outreach, and missions.

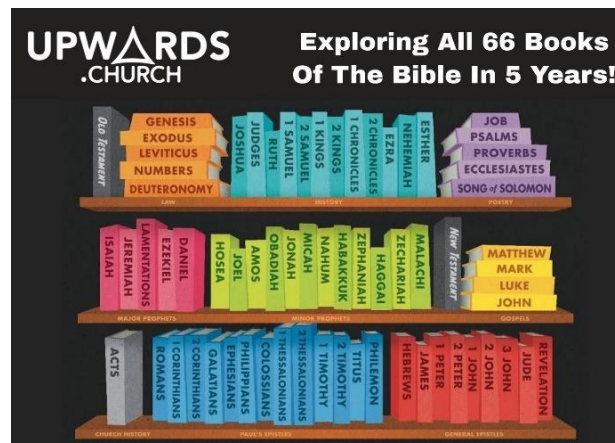
We focus on equipping families for life by:

- Teaching the major biblical truths from all 66 books of the Bible in five years.
- Growing together in adult connect groups and youth groups by learning the same biblical topic at the same time. Connect groups are intended to connect you to others and help you grow your relationship with Christ.
- Our children's curriculum teaches biblical principles and scripture in an age appropriate and loving environment. We emphasize our passion for children to experience loving God, loving others, and sharing Jesus.

WAYS TO GROW IN CHRIST



Attend our Sunday Services at one of our campus locations, Jarrell & Leander, Texas. For more information, go to our website at <https://upwards.church/> or use the QR Code.



UPWARDS .CHURCH

ABOUT US



One Church In Two Locations