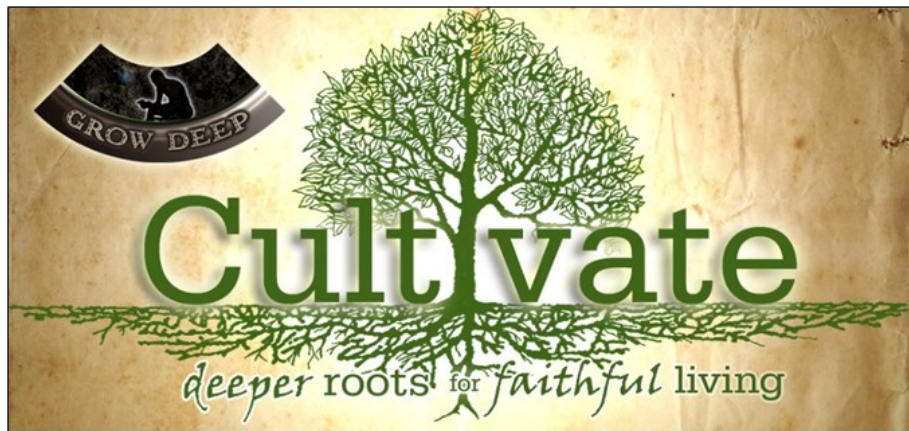




Wednesdays this Fall - 9/2 to 11/18

A REMINDER: what CULTIVATE is all about. This is a primary avenue we use to highlight our “GROW DEEP” priority, a key emphasis for us at Southland (based on Colossians 2:6-7). Cultivate specifically offers a mid-week opportunity to work toward that goal of feeding our faith by planting roots deep into Christ *together*.

The content for our FALL 2026 session: We’re continuing the format we call “Deeper Life Groups” (or “D-Groups”). Here is the plan for these groups:

The content is God’s Word. Within D-Groups, the primary focus is about digging in to Scripture. We want to see how it intersects with our lives so we can be deeply rooted in Christ.

We are going to spend this semester in the Old Testament - specifically, various stories found there (after all, they’re not just for kids’ Sunday School classes!). Our first session will actually focus on Hebrews 11, a chapter that looks back and reflects on those in our ancient family of faith. Through Jesus, we relate to our Heavenly Father by faith; yet, even those who lived before Christ were likewise walking a journey of trusting God. In fact, the writer of Hebrews offers these OT characters as examples to motivate us in our own lives of faith (see Hebrews 12:1ff). That’s why we’re using this language of “Walking in the Footsteps of Faith.” Jesus fundamentally changes so much - and, it’s good for us to filter these stories through the lens of belonging to Him. They can still offer great encouragement and wisdom to us along the way.



After an introductory week in Hebrews 11, we’ll spend the rest of the sessions reflecting on these stories. Some of them may be quite familiar, but it’s good for us to grow our own faith as we consider theirs. Even in Christ, we still “walk by faith” - it’s valuable and encouraging to consider the steps of those who did the same long before us.

The goals are growth & transformation. We want this to be fertile ground for the Holy Spirit to do His work in us. It’s not about information, but about us being shaped and molded by Him to be more like Christ as we walk this faith journey.

As always, the context of D-Groups is about doing this *together* in relationships for better growth, mutual encouragement, accountability and prayer. These are smaller groups of about 6-10 people (the basic target, sometimes more) of the same gender. This type of setting opens the door for beneficial connecting on a deeper level as *together* we strive for growth and transformation in Christ.

We encourage you to join a D-Group. You can RSVP electronically with this link: <https://gosouthland.churchcenter.com/people/forms/1298083> (if viewing this electronically, you can click directly on that) or using the QR-code to the right. You can also use the RSVP sheet at the CULTIVATE display in the foyer. We'd love to have you join us as we GROW DEEP in our faith with others!



DATES/TIMING of this Fall 2026 SESSION. We re-launch CULTIVATE and D-Groups on Wednesday, September 2; this session runs through November 18 (the week before Thanksgiving). After a break, we will then resume in January with a new semester.

Each week, we serve a basic meal from 5:30-6:15 (see below for more details on this) with the actual ministry programming for all ages running from 6:30-7:45.

PROGRAMMING for Kids and Youth for this session.

Kids up through age 3 are in the nursery area for childcare.



“Children of Praise” practice for kids age 4 through 6th grade:

Our younger students up through 6th grade (*older students can also talk to Jessica about being a part of C.O.P.*) are again using Wednesdays to practice and prepare for their annual Christmas production they will put on in early December. This time includes rehearsals for the music and drama, but also involves some other activities along the way (especially for the younger ones). This meets in the auditorium. Be watching “The Vine” for ongoing C.O.P. updates, including important dates to know.

Older students (the rest of middle school & high school) meet in the Fellowship Hall as part of Cultivate. They are taking a more topical approach to this semester - even addressing various questions from those within the group

More re: MEALS. We serve meals each Wednesday for the sake of convenience as well as for an opportunity to fellowship with others in the church family.

Here are some details regarding the meals:

The cost for each meal remains at \$4/person with a max of \$15/family.

You can RSVP for meals at the Cultivate display (the same place where you can also sign-up to join a “D-Group”). Even if you are not able to join us for supper every week, having a basic number certainly helps in our meal preparation.

Again, we also have an electronic RSVP option available. It can be found in the same place mentioned above (using either the link or the QR-code above).

We hope you are able to join us for this CULTIVATE session!