

EXPLORE
VRBC



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About VRBC

Following Jesus

In the beginning, God made the world, and he made it all “very good” (Genesis 1:31). But when people sinned, it ruined God’s good creation and broke our relationship with him. Despite our sin, God didn’t reject humanity. God had a plan all along to rescue the world! At just the right time, God sent his only son, Jesus, to be our Savior. Through Jesus, God is restoring everything that sin ruined. Jesus lived a perfect life and died on the cross to be the sacrifice for our sins. God raised Jesus from the dead, offering us forgiveness and restoring our relationship with him. A Christian is someone who follows Jesus as their Lord and Savior. God’s spirit fills us and changes us, helping us to live the life of thriving that God wants for us and transforming our character to reflect God’s love and holiness to the world. At the end of the story, God will set everything right again. Jesus will return to earth and we will be resurrected, given new bodies, and will live and reign with him forever.

Mission

INVITING
DIVERSE **AND**
DISCONNECTED
PEOPLE **TO**
PASSIONATELY
FOLLOW
JESUS
TOGETHER

Values

BIBLICALLY ROOTED

Shaped and directed by God's Word.

STORY TELLERS

Celebrating God's work in our lives.

UNDER CONSTRUCTION

More like Jesus every day.

HILARIOUSLY GENEROUS

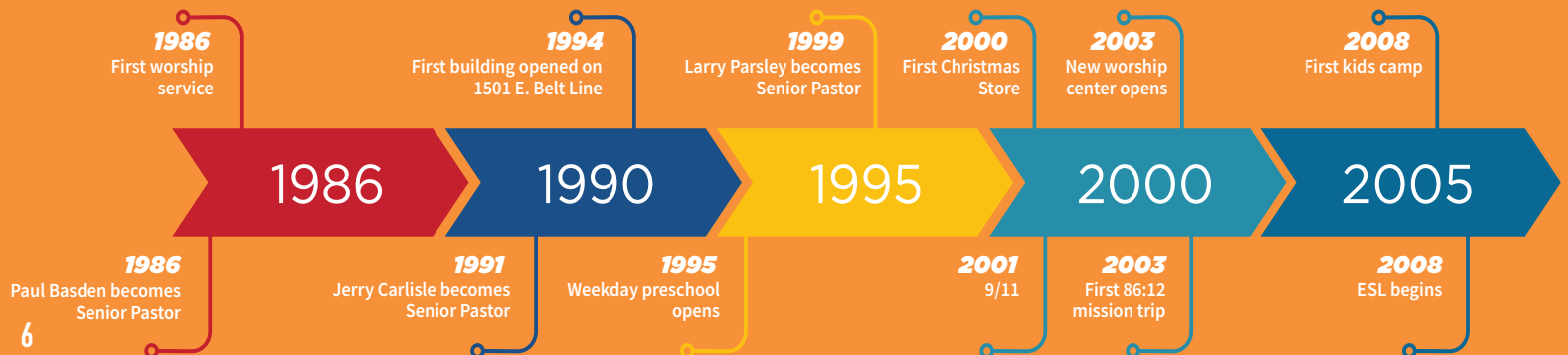
Serving and giving with joy.

HAPPILY THIRD

God first, others second.

DIFFERENT TOGETHER

Unique, yet one.





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How It Began

In 1985, Park Cities Baptist Church planted a mission church in Valley Ranch, with Dr. Paul Basden as the founding pastor. By 1987, the mission became Valley Ranch Baptist Church and grew to over 300 members, moving to a permanent location by the late 1980s and building its current location in 1994. The church expanded further in the 1990s and early 2000s, with new facilities and increasing membership. In 2015, VRBC undertook a revitalization process, reframing its mission and increasingly reflecting the community's diversity. In 2024, John Hewlett was called as VRBC's pastor, only the fourth in the church's history.



Lay Leadership

As Baptists, we are a congregationally governed church. The members of the congregation, through the lay leaders they appoint as well as their own votes, govern the church in collaboration with our staff.

CHURCH COUNCIL

These nine elected leaders assess and shape strategic and long-term direction, evaluate Church doctrine, protect Church unity, and oversee administrative functions of the Church.

MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Church members govern by voting on budget, hiring pastors, church leadership, and bylaws.

DEACONS

The deacons lead in areas such as benevolence, prayer, care, and supporting the administration of the ordinances.

OTHER STANDING COMMITTEES

The HR/Finance Committee oversees all HR needs and reviews and recommends the church's annual budget. A Ministry Placement Committee facilitates nomination and discernment processes to present candidates for elected leadership in the above groups.

STAFF

We are also a staff-led church, with a high level of trust given to them. The staff is empowered to use their gifts and expertise to lead and equip the congregation to fulfill its mission.



Staff



JOHN HEWLETT
Senior Pastor



AMY WILKINS
Associate Pastor



ARTHUR MENDES
Associate Pastor



MEGHAN HENDRICKSON
Discipleship Pastor



KYLER BELTRAN
Worship Pastor



PRISCILA MENDES
Children's Pastor



CALEB WADE
Student Pastor



MELISSA QUINTERO
Senior Adult Ministry Associate



DONNA BLANKENSHIP
Business Administrator



CATHERINE LACEY
Children's Ministry
Associate



ADRIANNA HODGES
Student Ministry
Administrative Assistant



LAURA MATTINGLY
Finance Assistant



MATT WIEDE
Creative Director



ROSIE QUILL
Communications
Director



TERESA BRUNDIGE
Executive Assistant



JIM MOFFETT
Facilities Manager

Core Beliefs

GOD

God is the infinitely perfect creator and sustainer of everyone and everything, eternally existing as one God in three distinct persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. God is sovereign over all of creation and is unchangeable in his power, perfection, goodness, glory, wisdom, justice, truth, and love.

Genesis 1:1; Exodus 3:14; Isaiah 46:9-10; Mark 1:9-11; John 14:9; 1 Corinthians 8:6; 2 Corinthians 13:14; Colossians 1:16-17; 1 Timothy 1:17; James 1:17

The Bible tells the following story of the universe:

CREATION

By his powerful word, God created the universe and everything in it. God created humans male and female in his own image to know, love, and glorify him. We are meant to reflect his goodness and love into the world and to steward and care for his good creation.

Genesis 1:1, 26-30; Psalm 8:4-6, 33:6; Matthew 22:39

CORRUPTION

Through the temptation of Satan, the first humans sinned against God. By choosing their own way over God's, they

fell from their original innocence. As a result, all humans inherited a corrupt nature that is opposed to God. This sinful nature and our own willful rejection of God's commands have corrupted God's good creation, leading to brokenness and death.

Genesis 3:1-24; Psalm 51:5; Romans 3:23

THE BIBLE

The Bible, written by people through divine inspiration, is the record of God's revelation of himself to man. It is completely true and authoritative in all areas of faith and practice and is the supreme standard by which all human conduct and religious belief should be measured.

Psalm 19:7-10; Isaiah 40:8; Matthew 5:17-18; John 5:39; Romans 15:4; 2 Timothy 3:15-17; Hebrews 4:12

COVENANT

Despite our sin, God did not reject humanity. Instead, he made a covenant with Abraham and his family, promising to be their God and to bless the world through them. Even though God's people continually turned their back on him, he was faithful to his covenant and steadfast in his love. Through his holy prophets, he promised to send a Messiah who would save people from their sins.

Genesis 12:1-3, 15:1-6; Isaiah 53:1-12; Jeremiah 31:31-34

CHRIST

In the fullness of time, God sent his Son, Jesus, to earth to fulfill the Law and Prophets and to rescue and redeem his people. Fully God and fully human, Jesus was born of a virgin and lived a sinless life. After his ministry of teaching about the Kingdom of God and manifesting its power through miraculous works, he was crucified, died, and was buried. On the third day, God bodily raised him from the dead, and he appeared to numerous people before he ascended into heaven. Through his death and resurrection, Jesus served as the substitute for all who receive him through faith, demonstrating the love of God, bearing in his

flesh the just penalty for sin, and securing ultimate victory over sin and death.

Matthew 5:17, 17:5, 20:28; Luke 1:26-38, 68-79, 2:1-14, 4:43, 10:9; John 1:1-14; Romans 3:21-26, 5:6-8; 1 Corinthians 15:3-8; Galatians 4:4-5; Colossians 2:13-15; Hebrews 4:15

CHURCH

After Jesus ascended to heaven, God sent the Holy Spirit to permanently fill every person who puts their trust in Christ. The Spirit convicts of sin, guides believers into truth, transforms their character, and bestows the spiritual gifts by which Christians serve God through his Church.

In his wisdom, God created a community of fellow believers called the Church. The Church is the Body of Christ on earth, and its purpose is to continue his work of making disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything he has commanded us. This work

is to be fulfilled by all the members of the Church through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 16:15-19, 28:18-20; John 16:8-14; Acts 1:8, 2:1-4, 42-47; 1 Corinthians 1:2, 12:4-11; Galatians 5:22-23; Ephesians 1:13-14, 22-23, 4:15-16; 1 Peter 4:10-11

COMING

In God's perfect timing, Jesus will physically, visibly, personally, and gloriously return to earth. The dead will be raised, and Jesus will judge all people in righteousness. All those who are not in Christ will be eternally separated from God's presence, while all those who are in Christ will, in their new and glorious bodies, live and reign with him forever in the new heavens and the new earth.

Acts 17:31; Philippians 3:20-21; 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 2 Thessalonians 1:8-9; Hebrews 9:28; 2 Peter 3:13; Revelation 1:7, 22:5

SALVATION

Salvation is a gift freely offered to all who repent (turn from their sins to God) and receive Jesus Christ as their Savior and Lord. It is received by grace alone through faith in the Lord Jesus and his redeeming blood shed for us.

When we are saved, we are justified (forgiven and made right with God), regenerated (born again as a new creation and given a new nature), and adopted (welcomed into God's family). As we follow Jesus, the Holy Spirit sanctifies us (transforms us so that we grow in holiness). When Christ returns, we will be glorified (resurrected, given new bodies, and made to live and reign with Jesus forever).

John 1:12, 3:16; Acts 2:38; Romans 5:1, 10:9-10; 1 Corinthians 15:35-58; 2 Corinthians 3:18, 5:17; Galatians 4:4-5; Ephesians 1:7, 2:8-10; Philippians 3:20-21; 2 Thessalonians 2:13; 1 John 1:9

BAPTISM AND LORD'S SUPPER

We celebrate two ordinances: Believer's Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Baptism is an act of obedience where a follower of Jesus is immersed in water in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. It is an outward picture of an inward reality — the lowering of the person under the water symbolizes the death and burial of their old life, and the raising of the



person out of the water symbolizes their participation in Jesus' resurrection and the new life they have in him.

Matthew 3:16-17, 28:18-20; Acts 16:31-33; Romans 6:3-4; Colossians 2:12

The Lord's Supper, also called Communion, is a symbolic act of obedience where followers of Jesus, through taking the bread and the cup, remember and proclaim his redeeming death, signify their unity with other members of his body, and anticipate his return.

Matthew 26:26-28; Luke 22:19; 1 Corinthians 10:16-17, 11:23-26; Revelation 19:9

Additional Topics

Today's culture raises many questions and challenges to which churches are called to respond with both grace and truth. We acknowledge that people of faith who deeply value Scripture hold different beliefs around certain topics. Through careful study, persistent prayer, and the trustworthy leadership of the Holy Spirit, VRBC has written the following statements that explain the theology we teach and ask our leaders to support on these topics.

Whether or not you agree with these statements or are even just beginning to explore who God is, you are welcome at VRBC! Our desire is to provide a sacred space where all can learn together, be drawn closer to God, and experience transformation to be like Jesus. We aren't perfect, but we seek to treat all people with dignity and respect just as Jesus does.

WOMEN IN MINISTRY

We believe that Scripture teaches that although there are distinct differences between the sexes, men and women



are equally gifted and empowered to lead in the church. As the Bible contains numerous examples of women serving in a variety of pastoral, preaching, and leadership roles, we affirm and encourage women to use the gifts God has given women to lead, including in roles such as pastors, teachers, church council members, deacons, etc.

Matthew 28:5-7; Acts 2:17-18, 18:26; Romans 16:1-7; Galatians 3:28

STEWARDSHIP

God is the source of all blessings, and all that we have and all that we are we owe to him. Christians are called to be wise stewards of our time, talents, and material possessions, recognizing that they have been entrusted to us to use for the glory of God and the good of others. According to the Scriptures, Christians should contribute from their resources cheerfully, regularly, proportionately, and generously for the advancement of the Savior's cause on earth.

Genesis 1:28; Leviticus 23:22; Proverbs 3:9-10; Malachi 3:10; Luke 12:48b; Romans 12:1-2; 1 Corinthians 4:2, 16:1-2; 2 Corinthians 9:6-7; Colossians 3:17; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; James 1:17; 1 Peter 4:10

POLITICS

As followers of Jesus, we recognize that although we live in the United States, our true citizenship is in the Kingdom of God. We are called to pray for and submit to our leaders, but our ultimate allegiance is to Christ alone. We are grateful for the wonderful blessing of living in this nation, but our ultimate hope is found in our Savior, not our government.

At VRBC, we will not align ourselves with any particular politician or party. Instead, we will exalt Jesus, celebrate

the gospel, and teach God's Word. At times, this may mean speaking to current events, including political topics, but we will always do this through a biblical lens rather than a political or partisan one.

Additionally, we will welcome all people, regardless of political affiliation, to follow Jesus together with us, and we will promote a spirit of humility, openness, and unity as we discuss challenging topics.

Psalms 146:3; Matthew 6:33; John 18:36; Romans 13:1; Philippians 3:20; Colossians 3:1-2, 4:6; 1 Timothy 2:1-2

SEXUALITY

All people are called to steward their sexuality in a God-honoring way by entering into Christian marriage (a lifelong covenant between one man and one woman) or remaining unmarried and celibate (and experiencing intimate family in the Body of Christ). While marriage and sex are wonderful gifts from God, they are not essential qualities of an abundant life, and people can live full and purpose-filled lives in Christ regardless of whether or not they marry.

As a result of the Fall, all people experience corruption in their sexuality. This is the source of all sexual desires outside of marriage. Sexual temptation does not diminish a person's value in God's eyes or his love for them. However, God's good plan is for all sexual activity to be reserved for marriage.

Genesis 2:24; Matthew 19:4-6; Romans 1:18-27; 1 Corinthians 6:18-20, 7:32-35; Ephesians 4:22-23, 5:3; Hebrews 13:4

Partners

VRBC is a Baptist church. We affiliate with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, Texas Baptists, and the Dallas Baptist Association, as well the ministry partners below.



Missionaries

VRBC supports these missionaries—all current or former VRBC members—who are serving God's Kingdom all over the world.



CLAUDIA ADAME

e3 Partners Ministry
United States



**ETHAN & ABBEY
BIVENS**

Student Mobilization
Texas A&M University



**KJ & JENNISUE
JESSEN**

Compass 31
Thailand, Bangladesh,
Greece, the Middle East,
and the United States



MIKE & BROOKE

Cooperative Baptist
Fellowship
Indonesia
Baylor University



SETH & EMILY

Beyond
Southeast Asia



**LUKE & CLAIRE
BIVENS**

Student Mobilization
Texas A&M University



CHARLOTTE LEE

e3 Partners Ministry
Africa, South America,
Middle East



TOM STICKNEY

African Christian Outreach
East Africa



VISION INDIA

Many of our neighbors are from South India. In order to be part of what God is doing in their home country, and to learn how to best engage with our neighbors, VRBC has launched a partnership in South India. We partner with the following three ministries in Chennai, and we send teams to engage with them and learn from them.

International Justice Mission—global ministry protecting people in poverty from violence, exploitation, and slavery

Lakeview Life Centre—Bible college and seminary training leaders and transforming communities in Chennai and throughout India

Christian Fellowship—our church partner in Chennai that uses innovative ways to reach their community and build relationships with those who don't know Jesus



RIO GRANDE VALLEY

VRBC sends a team to South Texas every year to serve children and families and to build a home for a family in need. Through Building for the Better, we start the home build in our church parking lot during January and February, and then finish it on site during our spring break mission trip.





Getting Connected

We live out our church's mission through four main areas: Worship, Grow, Serve, and Invite.

Worship

Worship is central to the communal life of our congregation and gives corporate expression to our priority of loving the Lord our God with our heart, soul, mind, and strength (Mark 12:30). Of course, we are called to worship God with our whole life every moment of the day, not just on Sunday mornings. But gathering to worship is precious to us. It is a significant way in which we passionately follow Jesus together.

During our worship services every Sunday at 9:30 am, we praise God together through singing, prayer, reading Scripture, and a sermon that challenges us to grow deeper in our relationships with God and each other. From time to time, we also hear testimonies of how God is working in the lives of our people, celebrate baptisms, and share together in the Lord's Supper.





Grow

We strongly believe we were created to follow Jesus together!

Grow Groups are foundational to our approach to spiritual formation for adults, believing that we are called to be conformed to the likeness of Jesus so that we may live like Jesus and love like Jesus in every aspect of life.

A Grow Group is a group of 10 to 20 people who meet together each week and focus on 3 things: 1) digging into God's Word, 2) building true friendships, and 3) training for our mission. Of course, all of these include a lot of prayer! We often say that joining a Grow Group is the best way to get connected at VRBC and typically more than 80% of adults regularly attending our church in person also participate in a group. Our Grow Groups meet on Sunday mornings and evenings or at other times throughout the week. Some groups meet at VRBC, and other groups meet in homes and apartments around Coppell and Valley Ranch.



MEN'S MINISTRY

Engage with others through Bible studies and special events



WOMEN'S MINISTRY



SENIOR ADULT MINISTRY

Quarterly hymn sing luncheon, hands-on serving opportunities through Prime Time ministry on Thursday mornings



YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY

Come together with other young adults through Grow Groups and fun events



VRBC EN ESPAÑOL

Join other Spanish speakers for Grow Group on Sundays at 11:00 and for Spanish worship nights throughout the year





Serve

At VRBC, serving is in our DNA! We want our community and the larger world to view us as a church that truly “sees” others and cares about their needs. Through our service, our goal is to share the love of Jesus with them and invite them to follow Jesus with us.



**CHRISTMAS
STORE**



ESL



**CORNERSTONE
KITCHEN**



**BUILDING FOR
THE BETTER**



**SACK SUMMER
HUNGER**



**SHORT-TERM
MISSION TRIPS**



LOCAL PROJECTS



WELCOME TEAM

Invite

“Inviting” is the first word of our mission statement and a big part of who we are at VRBC. We want to regularly invite others into our lives—building relationships with neighbors, coworkers, classmates, and others. As we do so, we naturally and joyfully share about who we are as followers of Jesus and the difference that Jesus makes in our lives. We also invite others into the life of the church so that they might discover the joy we have in Jesus and as a church family.



Family Ministry

VRBC's kids and student ministries are committed to developing their understanding and knowledge of God, fostering a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, spreading God's love to the community in which they live, and building great friendships, while ensuring a welcoming atmosphere and prioritizing their safety. To achieve this, all volunteers and staff undergo a thorough screening process and training, and abide by the policies outlined in VRBC's Good Shepherd Policy. Check out some of these great opportunities for your kids and students to be involved.



VR KIDS

Birth through 5th grade. Helping kids grow in faith, build great friendships, and develop a servant's heart! Learn more at vrbc.net/kids.

Kids Worship! (Sundays at 9:30 am)

Kids Grow! (Sundays at 11:00 am)

Children's Choir (Wednesdays at 6:00 pm)



VALLEY RANCH STUDENT MINISTRIES

6th through 12th grade

Send us a text to connect!

Text VRSM to 972-346-1632

Sunday Mornings

Grow Groups (11 am)

Wednesday Nights

MDWK (6-8 pm)



WEEKDAY PRESCHOOL

Valley Ranch Baptist Preschool has served the Coppell area since 1996. All of our teachers are Christian women who are also moms themselves and have a deep love for children. For more information about our programs, scan the code or visit vrbp.net.





