



SOUTH MAIN
BAPTIST CHURCH
ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

Bible Study Teachers

Discover God's Word. Discover God's Family.

Matt Walton

Minister for Discipleship

At South Main we believe disciples are formed in Christ-likeness as we discover God's Word. This ongoing discovery occurs when we cultivate Biblical literacy, practice theological curiosity, and nurture growth in wisdom.

Throughout life, disciples reflect upon, study, and wrestle with the content and context of Scripture. Such cultivation shapes disciples into people who understand life in light of God's story and shapes disciples into people who reflect the heart of God's story, Jesus Messiah. The South Main Teaching Ministry exists to equip South Main members to cultivate Biblical literacy through teaching and facilitating small group Bible studies. South Main teachers are vetted as faithful leaders in our congregation. Each of our teachers carries immense experience. Prior to joining our Teaching Ministry, each new South Main teacher participates in a year-long cohort model intensive training we call Teacher Development Cohorts. Each cohort includes training in group dynamics, mentoring with experienced teachers, roundtable discussion, and an additional two-year Biblical and Theological education through Truett Seminary's online Certificate Program.

I hope this booklet helps you get to know our current group of gifted, thoughtful teachers. You can use this booklet to learn more about our teachers and their backgrounds, their involvement in South Main, their teaching style, and Bible study series they currently have available to teach.





Jim Barkley

Jim grew up in Houston and has attended South Main for more than 45 years. Jim likes to say he received a “Baplic” education, attending Strake Jesuit for high school, Baylor University for undergrad, and then Georgetown University Law School (also Jesuit). He has been an attorney at Bakerbotts, LLP, for his whole career, practicing Texas energy regulatory law. Jim made his profession of faith at South Main when he was eight years old, and his faith was formed in large part by the sermons of Ken Chafin and Bill Turner as well as countless incredibly patient Sunday School teachers, many of whom are still active members. Jim has served in many areas of the life of South Main, including as Chair of

the Deacons, Personnel Committee, and the Worship Task Force in the early 2000s. Jim is married to Jan, who also grew up at South Main, and they have two adult children and one grandson. Jim loves to play disc golf and most weekends can be found playing a round or two with some combination of fellow South Mainers Bill Moore, Anthony Holder, and Nathan Benesh, and anyone else who likes to walk around a park throwing dog toys into baskets.

Jim likes to make his Bible study lessons interactive and encourages questions and discussion. He typically has a PowerPoint presentation to supplement the lesson.

Prepared Series

- Hard Stories of the Bible
- Amazing Awful People in the Bible
- The Book of Revelation

Angela Bell

Angela has been at South Main for 14 years and is an active member of the Agape Community. She is a Mizzou Tiger, having received a bachelor's degree and then a masters and PhD in History all from the University of Missouri. She is a professor of history at Lone Star College in CyFair teaching American history and African American history survey courses. Angela's faith journey began in a small Southern Baptist church in rural Northeast Missouri. She made her profession of faith when she was in fifth grade during a spring revival, yet as her faith has matured she focuses more on Christ's love than following rules. At South Main, she has served on the Missions Committee, the Discipleship Committee, and been a leader for Discovery Weekend. She is also an integral part of South Main's Music Ministry, participating in Sanctuary Choir, Chamber Choir, and the South Main Bronze handbell ensemble. As far as hobbies, she confesses, she "might love football way too much."



Angela's teaching style is conversational and collaborative, and she will sometimes employ small group activities. In addition to conversation and discussion, she will mix in presented material, usually in PowerPoint or other visual format.

Prepared Series

- Ezekiel: God Strengthens in the Midst, Highlights of the Book of Ezekiel
- End of the World: John's Revelation, an Overview
- Race and the Church using Tisby's *Color of Compromise*



Betty Brooks

Betty will tell you right off the bat that she loves South Main, having been a member here since 1961. Betty grew up in Plainview, TX, and moved to Colorado as a sophomore in high school. Church and church friends have always been a big part of Betty's life, and she has participated in a church community since she was born. In addition to teaching at South Main, Betty has served on committees, participated in SMILE and the Sojourn House Apartment Ministry, and been an active member of the PrimeTimers Community for many years. Betty met Bob Brooks at South Main and they were married for 37 years before his death in 2012.

She has two stepdaughters, three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren. Betty received her bachelor's degree from Colorado State University in Foods and Nutrition and also a masters in Administration Education from the University of Houston. In her professional life, Betty worked at Hermann Hospital for 23 years and then at Baylor University Medical Center for 11 years.

Betty's teaching style is to serve more as a discussion leader for the community. She does not use PowerPoint or other similar audio visuals but will refer to Bible maps from time to time.

Prepared Series

- Betty teaches from the Smyth and Helwys *Formations* curriculum.

Hart Brupbacher

Hart has been at South Main for 18 years. He was raised in a Methodist church in Louisiana that was similar in theology to South Main, and since he has been involved in the ministries in our congregation, his faith has grown and matured significantly. In addition to teaching, he has served in the Sanctuary Choir, the Manna Ministry, the Family Ministry, and South Main at Home. Hart has a BS and MS in mechanical engineering, and he works as a mechanical engineer specializing in the design and manufacture of equipment for specialized application. Hart is married to Linda, his best friend and soulmate, and they have six grandchildren, three of whom attend South Main with them. Hart enjoys woodworking, bike riding, reading, and cooking.



Hart tries to challenge the classes he teaches with questions that relate to our lives today. He uses PowerPoint and often uses the voice translation to present Biblical dialogue. He also uses videos, when available, to present lessons.

Prepared Series

- Moses
- Abraham
- Psalms
- 1 Corinthians
- Ephesians
- The Epistles of John
- The Epistles of Peter
- *Free of Charge* by Miroslav Volf



Linda Brupbacher

A retired HBU (now HCU) education professor and department chair, Linda has been teaching adult Bible studies and book studies for more than 25 years and at South Main since 2006. During her 36 years at HCU, she won numerous teaching awards including the Opal Goolsby Teaching Excellence Award (the university's outstanding professor award that is determined by the students). At South Main, in addition to teaching, Linda is a deacon and an active member of two different South Main at Home groups (Pearland and Pasadena). She was part of the first South Main Teacher Development Cohort and successfully completed the Truett Certification program. Linda is Hart's

wife, Lee and Lori's mom, and William, Nicholas, and Carl's Nana. She spends lots of time with these three boys and brings them to South Main on Sunday mornings. She loves spending time with friends and family, going to the theater, laughing, learning, teaching, listening to music and audiobooks, and exploring the outdoors—particularly the beach, forests, and the creek by her home.

Linda's teaching style is discussion-oriented with PowerPoint presentations.

Prepared Series

- *The Journey* by Adam Hamilton
- *The Way* by Adam Hamilton
- *The Last 24 Hours* by Adam Hamilton
- *Half Truths* by Adam Hamilton
- *The First to Follow: The Apostles of Jesus* by John Claypool
- *Glad Reunion* by John Claypool
- Acts
- Ephesians
- Esther
- Exodus
- John
- Luke
- Mark
- Peter

Tiffany Cate

Tiffany has been a member at South Main for about five years, and she has served on the Discipleship Committee and currently on the Coordinating Committee. She has a bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University and a masters in Biblical and theological studies from Dallas Theological Seminary. Tiffany and her husband, John, have two boys, Jack (2) and Ben (5 months), and they have been active members of the Koinonia Community. She and John both work for Camp Ozark. Tiffany grew up in a military family and did not spend much time in church. As a middle schooler, though, she was introduced to the Lord, and eventually developed a deep faith foundation with help from a strong group of friends in college who showed her what it really looks like to walk in faith. In her free time, Tiffany enjoys singing and embroidery.



Tiffany is comfortable using a variety of teaching techniques, including lecture, conversation, and Q&A. She encourages curiosity and loves working to explain the “why” behind things.

Prepared Series

- The Story of Scripture
- Fruits of the Spirit



David Cole

Dave has been a member at South Main for 15 years. He received his bachelor of science in nursing from the University of Oklahoma and a PhD in clinical psychology from Oklahoma State University. He is a licensed psychologist in the state of Texas and specializes in chemical dependency, employee assistance, and mental health disorders. He is passionate about helping his clients. “I attempt to help my clients to overcome pain when life hurts. Life will present a number of challenges for my clients and I am there to assist them with these challenges.” Dave is married to Penny; they are active members of the Power and Light Community and enjoy traveling together. Dave also

participated in the Pilot Teacher Development Cohort.

Dave’s teaching style is interactive and discussion-oriented.

Prepared Series

- Even Me—a review of Biblical characters and their involvement in the mission of God.

David Corban

David is a deacon at South Main and has been a member for 34 years. He and his wife, Mary, were married at South Main by Bill Turner and raised their two sons, Andrew and Ethan, in the church. David received his undergraduate degree from the University of Tennessee and later a law degree from UC Berkeley. He has practiced law since 1986 at Norton Rose Fulbright, formerly Fulbright and Jaworski, first as a civil trial lawyer and most recently as Head of Compliance. David grew up in a rural Tennessee Baptist church that was progressive by 1950s and 60s standards and made his profession of faith when he was 10 years old. He found South Main through the broadcast ministry when he moved to Houston in 1986. David has served South Main in many capacities, including as chair of the Deacons and chair of the Personnel Committee. He has also found fulfilling service through the hospital visitation ministry.



David's teaching style is some lecture and Q&A. He enjoys wrestling with the tough questions.

Prepared Series

- The Life of David
- The Gospel of John
- Acts of the Apostles
- Ephesians
- Colossians
- I, II, III John
- The Psalms



Chris Dove

Chris has been at South Main for about a dozen years and has served on the Finance Committee and Personnel Committee. Chris and his wife, Shannon, are active in the FYF Community, and they have two sons, Jonah, who is a college student, and Sam, who is a senior in high school. Chris received degrees in and was involved in theater in his twenties, but eventually he went to law school at UT Austin to turn his theater training into a skill that he says could actually lead to a paycheck. He is now a litigator for Locke Lord, LLP, and also teaches legal education classes. Chris made a profession of faith as a child in the Southern Baptist church he attended in Florida but later rejected

that church's fiercely politicized version of evangelical faith. He journeyed through Episcopal and Presbyterian churches before finding South Main. Aside from his theatrical background, Chris' primary hobby these days is running. He ran his first 5K in 2019 (as part of a midlife crisis, he says) and has worked his way up to his first 50 mile trail race in 2024.

Chris's teaching style is to go verse by verse in books or parts of books of the Bible, exploring the meaning of the text, the importance of its story, and its broader implications for our lives. He prefers not to use PowerPoint but rather give a presentation followed by a Q&A. He would also describe himself as energetic and maybe a little loud!

Prepared Series

- Jonah
- Ruth
- Judges
- Daniel
- The Joseph Story
- The Jacob Story
- The Nativity Story
- Romans
- 1 Peter
- Phillipians
- Philemon
- 1 Thessalonians
- How "The Law" Developed from Moses to Paul
- Unlikely Heroes of the Bible
- What the Bible Says about Satan

Erin DuBroc

Erin is a deacon at South Main and has been a member for 11 years. She and her husband, Matt, are active members of the Journey Community and are parents to Everett (15) and Bryce (11). Erin has a degree in nutrition from Texas A&M University and a master's in public health from the UT School of Public Health, and she currently works on the administrative team at Gracewood. Erin attended a Methodist church as a child until 6th grade, when she started going to Tallowood Baptist Church with a friend. Erin has been involved in many areas at South Main, including M2M (the Mom to Mom Fellowship Group), the Discipleship Committee, the Greeter team, as a contributor to Advent and Lenten devotion books, and chair of the Outreach Committee. In 2022, she completed the Certificate of Christian Foundation from Truett Seminary. In her spare time, Erin enjoys knitting, sewing, reading, gardening, and thrifting.



Erin's teaching style is to encourage group discussion and to include creative visuals like photos, video clips, and tactile media. "I want our time together," she says, "to provide safe opportunities for asking questions, thinking anew, and ultimately serve as a launching pad for doing the dynamic work of tending our individual and evolving faith journeys between Sunday mornings."

Prepared Series

- Life in the Spirit: the Witness and Legacy of Mister Rogers (Galatians)

Future Series

- Job
- Baptist History and Hallmarks



Ethan Gwaltney

Ethan has been at South Main for seven years, and he recently participated in the Teacher Development Cohort. He received his undergraduate degree from Baylor University in 2017 and then his PhD from Rice University in 2023. He is a lecturer in the Math Department at Rice University. He is married to Emily, and they are leaders in the Koinonia Community. He has also been part of the Greeter Team, participated at Manna Chess, played basketball with the Youth, and served on the Nominating and Finance Committees. Ethan's hobbies include reading modern literature, especially Dostoevsky.

Ethan's teaching style is adaptive to the needs of the group, and he prefers methods that permit dialogue in small groups of class members as opposed to a lecture style. A protégé of Dave Shattuck, Ethan favors acting as a "facilitator" rather than a "teacher."

Prepared Series

- Stories Unique to John's Gospel

Future Series

- Scripture in Fiction including explorations of *The Grand Inquisitor*, *Barabbas*, *East of Eden*, works by C.S. Lewis
- A sequel to his current John series
- A Deutero-Isaiah series

Claire Hein Blanton

Claire has been at South Main almost 20 years, starting out in the College Ministry. She is a deacon and was ordained at South Main in 2016 to the teaching ministry. She has a BA in History from Rice University, an MDiv from Truett Seminary with a focus on theology, and a PhD in Systemic Theology and Ethics from the University of Aberdeen. She is currently an adjunct lecturer in theology at Truett Seminary in Houston. She has been involved in many areas of South Main throughout her time as a member, including participating in Watershed and Book Club, being on the Usher Team, and serving on the Missions Committee, Nominating Committee, and Coordinating Committee. Claire and her husband, Jack III, have two children, Jack IV and Joy, both of whom love participating in Music Ministry and Family Ministry programming. Claire has varied interests and enjoys needlepoint, Formula One racing, reading, learning German, and watching documentaries about medicine.



Claire loves to teach and her teaching style is to use PowerPoint to spur on discussion. She says that she is happiest when there is active discussion, and she likes to break the class into small groups to help the entire class feel better about sharing. She can do more or a lecture format.

Prepared Series

- Judges
- Atonement Theology
- Church and State
- Christian Ethics
- Bonhoeffer Theology Studies
- *The Good and Beautiful God* by James Bryan Smith

Future Series

- Baptist Heritage
- Introduction to Theology
- Disability Theology
- Eco Theology



Andrea Hoxie

Andrea is a deacon, an ordained minister, and has been a member at South Main for more than 20 years. At South Main she served on the original Worship Task Force and has been a long-time and active member of both the Sanctuary Choir and the Pilgrimage Community. Andrea has a degree from Texas Southern University and has training as a civil trial paralegal and mediator. She has also done postgraduate studies at Trinity Theological Seminary and completed the Certificate of Christian Foundation from Truett Seminary. Andrea is the owner of Grand Pea, Inc., an independent insurance broker. She loves spending time with her daughter, Vanessa, and granddaughter, Layla, and

in addition, she is a poet and essay writer, and writer and arranger of music. Andrea feels strongly that but for God, she would not be a functioning person. “Life is fraught with challenges. What keeps me going is knowing I’m not alone.”

Prepared Series

- Christianity Refresher Course
- Theological Influences of Hymnists and Gospel Music Composers — this study includes biographies of hymn writers and overviews of related historical background and scripture references

Future Series

- Church History, Christian Experience, and the Holy Spirit

Michelle Hunt

Michelle is relatively new to South Main, having been a member for a little over a year. Michelle has a BA in Christian Ministry from Mary Hardin-Baylor, an MA in Biblical History and Geography from Jerusalem University College, and an MA in Theological Studies from Houston Christian University. She is currently a PhD candidate at Baylor University in Religion, specifically looking at the Old Testament and Hebrew Bible. Michelle has previously taught Bible classes and Biblical languages at a classical Christian school in Cypress.



Michelle's teaching style is a mix of lecture and discussion. She almost always employs a PowerPoint presentation.

Prepared Series

- Biblical Interpretation

Future Series

- Old Testament or New Testament Survey
- Amos (or other prophets)
- Historical Geography of the Bible
- How We Got the Bible



Todd Jurek

Todd has been a member at South Main for more than 14 years. He graduated with a degree in Finance from Illinois State University and owns a full-service commercial real estate firm here in Houston. Todd was the oldest of four children and grew up in the Catholic faith until he had a “Damascus Road” experience in 1992 where God opened his eyes, and he was called into a personal relationship with Jesus. Todd is an ordained deacon, has served on the boards of Operación San Andrés and the South Main Foundation and numerous standing committees, and was chair of the South Main Building Committee that oversaw the major renovations to the Sanctuary Building completed in 2017.

Todd is married to Kristen and they have three children, Ethan (23), Saige (16), and Linden (15). He loves dogs, playing the guitar, exercising, music history, and reading historical fiction novels.

Todd’s teaching style is to facilitate conversations, even controversial ones, and to weave ancient things into modern reality where possible. He rarely uses media in his lessons and prefers to focus on texts and discussions. His goal is “not to get through a study in the allotted time but for the study to get into us! We may or may not finish the series...but that’s OK.”

Prepared Series

- Romans
- Ephesians
- Galatians
- 1 and 2 Timothy
- N.T. Wright Study Guides
- Strange but True Stories in the Old and New Testament

Future Series

- Evidence that Demands a Verdict — A series about apologetics
- Hebrews

Robert Ketchand

Robert has been a member at South Main for more than 50 years. He is a deacon and has served on the Missions Committee and Education Committee. He also was part of the church's prison ministry a number of years ago and has served as the legal counsel for South Main. Robert has a bachelor's degree from Baylor University and a law degree from Harvard. He was a Navy JAG trials lawyer and for many years has had a business litigation practice. Robert was baptized at age seven in Shreveport, LA, and he says that he and his wife of 55 years, Alice, both come from long generations of Baptists. Robert and Alice have two adult children, one of whom is South Mainer Margie Ehlers, and five grandchildren. In his spare time, Robert enjoys reading.



Robert's teaching style is similar to a college level course, with a mix of lecture and wide open discussion.

Prepared Series

- Isaiah
- The Psalms
- The Book of Acts
- The Letters of Paul
- Church History
- Baptist Theology
- The Civil Rights Movement
- Books by Alister McGrath
- Books by Francis Collis
- Christian Literature
- Reading Through the Bible in One Year

Future Series

- N.T. Wright on Ephesians



Wally Kronzer

Wally grew up in Houston and has been a member at South Main from the Cradle Roll (or since Eisenhower was president!). He has a BA from U of H, a JD from South Texas College of Law, and he is a practicing attorney who will tell you that he is still avoiding retirement. At South Main, Wally is a deacon and a long-time member of the Broadcast Ministry. Wally met his wife, Kathy Steele Kronzer, at South Main, and they have three adult sons who all live in the Houston area with families of their own. Wally and Kathy have a tight-knit group of 2 AM friends who met in the Torn Class at South Main in the 1970s and have remained close to this day. Wally enjoys being active, and his hobbies include

hiking (especially the Grand Canyon), scuba diving, skiing, and traveling.

Wally says that in his faith journey he has always had a questioning attitude that stems from an innate curiosity to learn rather than from doubt, and he feels comfortable wrestling with certain ideas without fear that it will harm his faith. It is this love of curious questioning that he brings to his teaching style. He hopes to educate while inviting discussion. Wally uses PowerPoint and occasional background emails. “I assume I’m not the smartest person in the room,” he elaborates, “but I might have some information others do not have.”

Prepared Series

- Jonah
- Galatians
- *The Myth of Christian America* by Mark Weldon Whitten
- The Ten Least Popular Books of the Bible

Sam Law

Sam has been a member at South Main for more than 50 years. He grew up in Bellaire and became a Christian at Bellaire Presbyterian Church. He joined South Main after marrying his wife, Lydia, and they have a son, Todd, and two grandsons, Luke and Lane. Sam graduated from Rice University and then received his medical degree from Baylor College of Medicine in 1975. He was a practicing Ob/Gyn for more than 45 years before retiring in 2021.

In addition to teaching and serving on the diaconate, Sam has been involved in many programs and committees at South Main, including integral involvement in Operación San Andrés, chair of the Missions Committee, and chair of the Deacons.

Sam likes to teach by leading discussion and encourages all to participate.

Prepared Series

- Sam teaches from the Smyth and Helwys *Formations* curriculum.





Trey Medley

Trey has been at South Main for three years, and he is an ordained minister. He grew up in Midland, TX, and accepted Christ at the age of seven. Trey has degrees in religion and theology, and he has served as a youth pastor, pastor, and supply preacher at numerous Baptist churches in Texas, Oklahoma, and Alabama. In 2009, Trey and his wife, Sarah, moved to London so he could complete his PhD and there became integrated into the life of the Anglican Church. Trey and Sarah have been married for 20 years and have twin 14-year-olds, Eliana and Tate. At South Main he has served on the Discipleship Committee and participated in Sanctuary Choir and the Summer Musical. He and Sarah

are active members of the Journey Community. He is currently a project manager for the Harris County Department of Public Health. Trey enjoys reading, spending time with his family, and leading a group of neighborhood kids and dads in tabletop role-playing games. He says that his love language is coffee—he has no less than five ways to brew coffee at home!

Trey's goal with teaching is not merely the impartation of knowledge—he considers a teaching session successful if participants leave excited to read the Bible again with fresh eyes and with a perspective they had not considered before.

Prepared Series

- A Survey of the Old Testament
- A Survey of the New Testament
- Hebrews
- Public Faith (based on the ideas of Miroslav Volf)
- The Family of God: Biblical metaphors for God's family

Future Series

- 1 Corinthians
- Isaiah
- Mark
- Ezekiel
- Phillipians
- Science and Religion
- Christian Ethics

George Moore

George is a deacon and has been at South Main for seven years. He is an ordained minister and served as pastor at Champion Forest Baptist Church. George accepted Christ when he was 13 and has been a Baptist all his life. George graduated from the University of Texas at Austin and St. Thomas University in Houston. He then completed his doctorate at the Robert E. Webber Institute for Worship Studies in Jacksonville, FL. Upon graduation from UT Austin, he worked for 41 years for KBR from Project Controls to Project Management. For more than 20 years, he has taught Project Management Principles and Leadership at U of H. George became a widower 12 years ago when his wife of 34 years, Lin, passed away from breast cancer. He has four adopted children and 13 grandchildren with another on the way. George enjoys collecting art and rocks, gardening, cooking, traveling, and sharing the love of Jesus to others throughout his travels and as part of his mission work.



George says his teaching style is organized (he types out his lessons but does not read them) with many personal stories and class participation. He makes it a habit to finish on time.

Prepared Series

- Paul's Letter to the Philippians
- The Gospel of Mark
- Old Testament Characters



Steve Rader

Steve grew up as a missionary kid in Zambia and South Africa, the middle of five brothers. He received a BS in mechanical engineering from Rice University and has worked as an engineer at NASA's Johnson Space Center since 1989. Steve is married to Dolores (South Main's Minister to Families), and they have three daughters, Anna, Abigail, and Lauren. At South Main, Steve serves as a deacon, has been involved with several committees (Outreach, Coordinating, Discipleship) and task forces (NextWave, Strategic Planning), and currently is on the board of the South Main Foundation. For more than 25 years, he has played bass in the Space City Big Band, and he enjoys puns, pranks, and laughter in all

forms (see earlier information about being the middle of five brothers). He enjoys lively discussions with friends about interesting topics and problems. He also says he enjoys being lazy. Steve is a colon cancer survivor and has experience with mental illness in his family, giving him a certain perspective about life.

Steve's teaching style is a balance of lecture and discussion, and he includes slides with graphic elements to stimulate thought or perspectives on what he is teaching. He focuses on the application of Scripture to our lives, exploring it with the class to inspire curiosity. He also starts his lessons with a short unpacking of that morning's worship service.

Prepared Series

- The Book of Acts
- Advent
- *Parables: Stories Jesus Still Tells* by John Claypool
- *Love Your Enemies* by Arthur Brooks
- *Crucial Conversations* by Kerry Patterson, Joseph Grenny, Ron McMillan, Al Switzler
- Jesus Loves Me, This I Know?

- Prayer
- Balance (transforming one's relationship with money)

Future Series

- Biblical Genre
- A study of Jesus' references to the Old Testament
- *The Awakened Brain* by Dr. Lisa Miller
- *The Anxious Generation* by Jonathan Haidt

Lauren Raimer-Goodman

Lauren has been a member of South Main for 14 years. She was an important voice in the Covid 19 Advisory Task Force and served on the Deacon Nominating Committee. She is a graduate of Wake Forest University and Baylor College of Medicine and is a pediatrician practicing in Friendswood. She is married to Michael, and they have two children, Lilly and Jude. Lauren and Michael are active members of the Journey Community.

Lauren's teaching style is that she prefers to lead discussions and believes we all have something to teach each other.



Prepared Series

- Exodus
- Women of Genesis: Eve, Sarah, Hagar, Rebecca, Leah, and Rachel
- Prophets, Priests and Queens: More women of the Old Testament, including Miriam, Deborah, Abigail, the witch of Endor, Jezebel, and Vashti.



Michael Raimer-Goodman

Michael has been a member at South Main for 14 years. He is a deacon and was ordained as a minister in 2007 at Peachtree Baptist Church in Atlanta, GA. Michael has degrees in religion and philosophy and public health, and he is currently an associate professor at UTMB School of Public and Population Health, as well as the founding president and executive director of Sodzo International, South Main's mission partner in Kenya. Michael and his wife, Lauren, are active members of the Journey Community, and they have two children, Lilly (13) and Jude (11). Michael enjoys spending time with his family, traveling, writing poetry, reading, hiking, dancing, singing, delving into peer-reviewed

science, and dreaming of ways to build and embody systems of compassion with the most marginalized people in the world.

When Michael is teaching, he strives to create safe spaces for people to find God and share themselves—their deepest, perhaps hidden or unexplored parts.

Prepared Series

- The Psalms
- Writings of Kierkegaard
- Mystical Writings of the Christian Tradition
- Contemplative Prayer and Practice
- Various Book Studies

Future Series

- Spirituality and Trauma

Toni Richerson

Toni joined South Main in 1974 and recently celebrated her 50th anniversary as a member of the congregation. She is a deacon and has participated in just about every aspect of South Main including the Discipleship Committee, Stewardship Committee, Youth Ministry Building Committee, Youth Camp Sponsor, Divorce Recovery Group Leader, Discovery Day Leader, College Department teacher, the Sanctuary Choir, and many, many others. Toni is originally from Shamrock, TX, graduating from Texas Tech University and then Texas A&M with a degree in Education Psychology and Counseling. She is retired after years of important work as a teacher, coach, counselor, student services director, and higher education program manager. Toni grew up a Methodist, accepting Christ when she was 13. Dan Yeary was her college minister, and he remains the most important spiritual influence in her life. When she moved to Houston after college, Dan was the associate minister at South Main, so it was natural that she joined here. In addition to being at church, Toni enjoys photography, antiques, and traveling.



Toni’s teaching style is a combination of presentation, conversation, and discussion. “Church is home to me,” she says, “and folks are family. Showing up for each other and using our gifts with and for God’s plan for His church and our lives is what I hope to encourage.”

Prepared Series

- The Book of Numbers
- Tabernacle and its New Testament Foundation
- Psalms of Ascent and Advent
- Hebrews
- The Beatitudes
- What Jesus Saw from the Cross
- Advent
- Stewardship
- Spiritual Gifts



Dave Shattuck

Dave is a deacon and has been a member at South Main for almost 40 years. He was raised as a Roman Catholic, was a non-believer for about a decade after college, and is now a Baptist by choice, receiving baptism at South Main in 1985. He finds the principle of Priesthood of the Believer to be invigorating and terrifying at the same time. Dave and his wife, Carol, were married at South Main and raised their children, Kendra and Luke, here, and now their children are raising their children in the congregation. Dave received degrees in Engineering Sciences, including a PhD in 1982 from Duke University. He has taught electrical engineering courses at U of H for more than 40 years and also held a

variety of administrative positions. He enjoys sports, especially soccer and baseball, reading and traveling. At South Main, in addition to service on numerous committees, Dave has volunteered with the Sojourn House Apartment Ministry, the River Ministry, Food Pantry, and he is an integral part of the weekly Sunday morning Manna Ministry at the Trinity Pines Chapel.

Dave's teaching style relies heavily on discussion and setting up the material for all to be able to participate. He views himself as more of a facilitator than a teacher, and he likes to use humor. "The question of whether I am actually funny is one that I would prefer to leave to others. However, it is fair warning to note that I will try to be funny when I teach. I learn best from teachers that laugh and who try to make me laugh."

Prepared Series

- The Psalms and *Reflection on the Psalms* by C.S. Lewis
- The Sermon on the Mount, Matthew 5-7
- The Gospel of Luke
- Parables in the Gospel of Luke
- The Book of James
- The Book of Romans
- *Letters to Malcolm* by C.S. Lewis
- *Reflection on the Psalms* by C.S. Lewis
- *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis
- *Celebration of Discipline* by Richard Foster
- *Prayer* by Richard Foster
- *What's So Amazing About Grace* by Phillip Yancy
- *Divine Conspiracy* by Dallas Willard

Michael Shirl

Michael, a member at South Main for 42 years, is a deacon and an ordained minister. Michael is the first and only person in his family to graduate from college, receiving a bachelor's degree from Oklahoma Baptist University and an MDiv from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. Michael has served in various ministerial roles and worked for non-profits in the Houston area throughout his career, including chaplaincy for the Memorial Healthcare System, different roles at Habitat for Humanity, and as Interim Minister to Adults at South Main. Michael is now officially retired, but for six years and counting, he has been the primary Santa for Houston Zoo Lights. He has been married



to Sharna for almost 50 years, they have two children and three grandchildren, and they are active members of the Compass Community. Some of Michael's areas of service at South Main include the Sanctuary Choir, the Missions Committee, the Discipleship Committee, and the Worship Task force, just to name a few. He and Sharna love the arts, particularly movies. He is a craft beer aficionado, writes poetry primarily for himself, and enjoys a wide range of music.

Michael's lessons usually include 10 to 15 minutes of content with a goal of encouraging conversation and discussion. He typically does not use PowerPoint (although he can, if requested) and always provides a full schedule before the first Sunday that he teaches.

Prepared Series

- Series on most books in the Bible
- The Problem of Suffering
- The Christian Year: Advent to Pentecost
- The Will of God
- *Neglected Voices* by John Indermark
- *Life Together* by Dietrich Bonhoffer
- *Psalms* by Dietrich Bonhoffer
- *The God Named Hallowed* by John Killinger
- *The Prophetic Imagination* by Walter Brueggemann
- *Pilgrim Letters* by Curtis Freeman
- *The Christian Witness* to the State by John Yode



Angela Spoede

Angela and her family joined South Main in 2017, and she and her husband J.T. have three children: Vivian (18), Zane (13), and Phoebe (11). Angela was a history major and music minor at Louisiana State University, and then in 2007 received a law degree from the University of Houston. She currently works as a staff attorney for the First Court of Appeals. Angela accepted Jesus as her Lord and Savior as a college student, and she and J.T. have served in ministerial capacities over the years, from lay leadership to a pastorate and everything in between. At South Main she is a deacon and has served in the Family Ministry and as chair of the Discipleship Committee.

Angela likes to employ a conversational teaching style, sometimes using PowerPoint and/or videos, to foster connections within the group.

Prepared Series

- The Minor Prophets
- Book Ends of the Bible (Genesis 1-3 & Revelation)
- Red Letters (Jesus' Ministry through the Words He Spoke)
- The Lord's Prayer
- ABCs of Spiritual Disciplines

Future Series

- Leviticus
- Ezekiel
- Couples of the Old Testament
- Stories from the Genealogy of Jesus

Mike Stedham

Mike has been a member of South Main for about five years and in addition has a long-time ministry of teaching, pastoring, and serving Baptist churches. He became a believer in Jesus Christ when he was 14 years old, and later in his teenage years, felt the call to the ministry. He has a BA from Hardin-Simmons University and a Master of Divinity and Doctor of Ministry from Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY. Early in his ministry, he pastored two different churches and then in 1978 was called to be the Minister of Counseling and Family Life at FBC Abilene, where he served for 24 years. There, he started a Christian counseling center and developed programs for marriage and family enrichment. He also served in a similar role at FBC Arlington, TX, until his retirement in 2016. Mike is married to Mary and they have two adult children. They are active members of the Power and Light Community. In his free time, Mike enjoys camping, fishing, and golf.



Mike's teaching style includes interaction with the class and not just strictly lecture. He rarely uses PowerPoint or other presentation technology.

Prepared Series

- Esther
- Ruth
- Ephesians
- James
- The Stuff Talk (our relationship with material possessions)
- Mind the Gap (what do you do when life presents unexpected circumstances)



Sam Swart

Sam is a deacon at South Main and has been a member for 35 years. Sam says he had the “typical Baptist kid faith journey,” being raised in the church and making his profession of faith and being baptized at age eight. He is married to Lisa, and they have two adult children, Grace and Ned. He says, “I married a Baptist girl and have made our faith the central component of our family.” Sam graduated from Texas A&M in 1986; he is an architect and has had his own practice for the past 24 years. He has given generously of his professional expertise to building and renovation projects at South Main, including the recent renovations of the Sanctuary and Music Suite. Sam is on the Usher Team

and also plays trombone with the South Main Brass.

Sam’s teaching style is “fairly old-school lecture style with discussion.” He can use PowerPoint but prefers not to, finding it more of a distraction to his particular teaching style. He has two rules for teaching: 1) Don’t embarrass Lisa, and 2) Don’t be boring. “I have failed occasionally at both of these!”

Prepared Series

- Judges
- Hosea
- 1 & 2 Kings
- Mark
- John
- Acts
- Romans
- 1 Corinthians
- Hebrews
- Philippians
- 1 John
- Rituals of the Church
- Pharisees
- *Death on a Friday* by Richard John Neuhaus
- *Surprised* by Hope by N.T. Wright
- *Bad Religion* by Ross Douthat
- Overview of the Apocrypha

Future Series

- Daniel

Kristy Wade–Carroll

Kristy has been at South Main for 15 years and in 2023, she was ordained by our congregation. She grew up in a small, rural community church and made a profession of faith when she was seven. After receiving degrees in psychology and vocal performance, she spent about 10 years living in the Middle East and Southeast Asia with her first husband Bruce. When he became ill, they moved to Houston and after his death, she realized a half-imagined dream of attending seminary, graduating from Truett in 2018. Her calling and passion involves working with small groups to foster discussion, connection, and healing through shared experiences of grief. At South Main, she met and married Larry Carroll, and they are raising twins Christian and John Wade. She is active in the Sanctuary Choir, Chamber Choir, and Graceland Community, and has served on the Deacon Nominating Committee and Nominating Committee. Kristy enjoys singing, traveling, writing, reading, cooking, and baking. Her top three identified spiritual gifts are encouragement, shepherding, and creative communication.



Kristy says she really doesn't consider herself a teacher as much as a study guide. She likes to study scripture, offer background and contextual information, and facilitate discussion.

Prepared Series

- Philippians—A Call to Koinonia
- Paul's Act 2 (second missionary journey)
- Walking Through Grief
- Close Reading Scripture

Future Series

- James and Job
- *Mudhouse Sabbath: Invitation to a Life of Spiritual Discipline* by Lauren Winner
- *The Lost Letters of Pergamum* by Bruce Longenecker



SOUTH MAIN BAPTIST CHURCH ADULT DISCIPLESHIP

*Disciples at South Main are formed in Christ-likeness as we **discover God's Word** and **discover God's family**.*

Discover God's Word.

Cultivate Biblical literacy
Practice theological curiosity
Nurture growth in wisdom

Discover God's Family.

Build community
Embrace calling
Share gifts and resources

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