

Privileged To Serve In Public Worship

Announcements: Bo Graham

Scripture Reading: AM- Seth Bolstad PM- Jess Leonard

Song Leader: Jim Gammon

Opening Prayer: AM- Robert Osborne PM- Bob Patterson

Closing Prayer: AM- Adam Dyer PM- Larry Clamon

To Serve Communion:	Terry Littlejohn	Doug Guinn
	Charlie Thomas	Larry Calvin
	J. J. Marcum	Landry Gammon

Sermons: Anthony Scherffius

AM- Fountains of Wisdom – Proverbs 5

PM- Melchizedec – The King of Righteousness

Sound: Tyler Thomas

Greet Visitors: John Dyer

Count Contribution: Colt Rollins Caden Thomas

Attendance Cards: Brody Lovelady Lucas Thomas

Wednesday, July 15, 2026

Scripture Reading: Scott Samford/II Corinthians 8:16-24

Devotional: Tom Trull

Bible Class: Hebrews – “Lest We Come Short of the Rest” – Chris Lowry

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### **Records for week of July 5, 2026:**

|                    |                 |                |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| <b>Attendance:</b> | Bible Class: 83 | Worship PM: 72 |
|                    | Worship AM: 115 | Wed 7/1: 79    |

**Contribution:** \$8105.00



**July 12, 2026**

# **Mabank Church of Christ**

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Email: [churchofchristmabank@gmail.com](mailto:churchofchristmabank@gmail.com)

Elders: Doug Guinn, Chris Lowry, Robert Osborne

Deacons: Seth Bolstad, Jim Gammon, Terry Littlejohn, Charlie Thomas,

Tyler Thomas, Tom Trull

Preacher: Anthony Scherffius

## **Bible Study & Worship**

|                 |             |         |
|-----------------|-------------|---------|
| <b>Sundays:</b> | Bible Class | 9:00am  |
|                 | Worship     | 10:00am |
|                 | Worship     | 5:00pm  |

**Wednesdays:** Bible Class 7:00

## BURNING THE BOATS

By Anthony Scherffius

In 334 BC, Alexander the Great was rising to power. As he invaded Asia Minor, he reportedly ordered his troops to burn their own ships after landing. Astonished and shocked at the command, they obeyed Alexander's orders and burned every vessel they had been on. As they stood there watching the ships sink into the ocean, they knew there would be no way to retreat. The army understood what Alexander was telling them: victory was the only option. Alexander the Great, with a very powerful object lesson, was telling them that commitment deepens when retreat is removed. By keeping their options open, it weakened their resolve.

How often do we try to have a boat ready in case we "need to retreat" from the battle? We have a General who is telling us the same thing Alexander told his army. God tells us to "burn it down." Paul records for us in the book of Ephesians that we are fighting a war (Eph.6:10-12): ***"Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of His might. Put on the full armor of God, so that you will be able to stand firm against the schemes of the devil. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the powers, against the world forces of this darkness, against the spiritual forces of wickedness in the heavenly places."*** God does not sugar-coat what stands before us. There is a spiritual war raging, and Jesus wants us to be ready to stand and fight.

Paul would go on to give us the directions and instructions from our General Jesus: ***"Therefore, take up the full armor of God, so that you will be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand firm therefore, having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness, and having shod your feet with the preparation of the gospel of peace; in addition to all, taking up the shield of faith with which you will be able to extinguish all the flaming arrows of the evil one. And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God"*** (Eph. 6:13-17). If you look at the equipment described, it is very similar to the Roman military attire, something Paul would have been used to seeing during his travels and imprisonments.

If you examine the Roman armor, they had everything they needed for battle. Their head and vital organs were protected, they had the proper foot wear to stand firm against the enemy when they would push back, and their shield and sword were perfected for war. Everything was covered, except the back. The Roman soldier was taught and trained to fight and keep fighting. Their armor was not made for cowards. In the same way, God gives us everything we need but the battle is not for cowards. God expects us to fight and keep fighting to the death (2 Tim. 4:7-8; Rev. 2:10). Our armor is designed to teach us that victory is the only option. If we keep options open, that weakens our resolve. If we trust that the armor will protect our front, God will have our back (Ex. 14:19).

Let us burn the boats that we are holding onto for retreating back into the old life we have left and faithfully follow our General into battle, knowing that victory is the only option before us.

## Remember in Prayer

**Becky Smith** (friend of Scott Samford) is home recuperating from her surgery.

**Donna Roberts** (sister of Bobbi Guinn) is in rehab and progressing well. If you would like to send her a message of encouragement, please send to her home address: 125 County Road 930, Teague, TX 75860.

**Ray Duncan** got an excellent report this week from the pulmonologist.

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## Remember Also:

Joy Tull, Chris Calvin,  
Bob and Luanne Patterson,  
Scott Koehler, Trinity McCarley,  
Jim Milam, Donald Johnson Jr.,  
Nancy Underwood, Rex Parker,  
Sharon McMillan, Steven Coates,  
Roger Leonard, Roger Elam  
Alan Haack, Louis Thomas,  
Tiffany (friend of Sharon McMillan),  
Archie Underwood, Woodard family

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## IMPORTANT DATES

**July 12-** NH Worship Svc./2:00

**July 23-** NH Birthday Party/2:00

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## **Studies in the Book of Hebrews** **Still a few spots available!**

Men: If you would like to participate in the Men's Rotation for Wednesday night Bible study on **Hebrews**, there is a sign-up sheet available. See Chris Lowry. Study books are located on the front pew.



## JULY/AUGUST FOOD COMMITTEE

\*Marie Osborne

\*Linda Gleaves

Kelley Thomas

Jan Davis

Rebecca Littlejohn

Jana Grimes

Neely Lovelady

Rachelle Gammon



If you would like to host a youth devotional, please see Jim Gammon to sign up!



## NEEDED: ITEMS FOR NURSING HOME BIRTHDAY PARTIES

\*hand/body lotion

\*snacks

\*8 count crayons

\*small stuffed animals



## PANTRY ITEMS NEEDED:

**Peanut Butter**

**Green Beans**

**Spaghetti Sauce**



You are invited to a

**Wedding Shower**

honoring

**Mya Paden**

(granddaughter of the Guinns)

Saturday, July 11 10 a.m. to noon

The Graham Home

307 VZCR 2306 Canton TX

Registered: Amazon & Target

