

A decorative border surrounds the text, featuring a double-line brown frame. Inside the frame, there are several red hearts of various sizes and small pink roses on thin brown stems. The background is a light beige color with a subtle floral pattern.

# **Liberty Baptist Church**

# **February Newsletter**

---

**Pages 1 & 2**  
**A Word from Rev. Josh Bowman**

**Pages 3 & 4**  
**Pastor's Paragraph**

**Page 5**  
**Event Calendar**

**Pages 6-8**  
**Liberty News**

**Page 9**  
**Birthday Calendar**

# **A Word from Rev. Josh Bowman**

## **February 2026**

### **“A Transformational Relationship With God”**

**Beloved Liberty Family,**

**As we gather our hearts and minds for this cold and wintery season, I want to encourage you with a warm and necessary word rooted in Romans 12:2—one that speaks to the very core of what it means to have a relationship with our Creator. Our relationships with family, friends, and community matter greatly, but the most important relationship we can ever pursue is our relationship with God. This relationship is not only eternal, forgiving, and necessary; it is the foundation on which all others stand.**

**Deviating From the Pattern of the World:**

**Romans 12:2 (NASB) tells us: “And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.” The world has its patterns, its values, and its priorities, but as followers of Christ, we are called to break the mold. Paul warns us not to let the culture around us shape our thoughts, desires, and actions. Instead, we are to deviate from the world’s ways—fleeing spiritual filth and seeking after the things of God.**

**Consider: Are we letting the world set the standard for our marriages, our parenting, our worship, our church, or our priorities? If so, scripture reminds us that this is our own doing. We conform ourselves by the choices we make, and as a result, we reap what we sow. Let’s ask ourselves honestly: Do we love darkness or light? Are our works guided by the Spirit, or are we simply blending in with the world?**

**The Power of Transformation:**

**Refusing to conform is not just about saying “no” to the world—it is about saying “yes” to God’s transforming power. Paul, in his Greek word choice in Romans 12:2, uses the image of metamorphosis, like a caterpillar becoming a butterfly, to describe the profound change God wants for us. This transformation happens “by the renewing of your mind,” through the truth and wisdom of God’s Word applied by God’s Spirit.**

**Colossians 3:2, 10 (NASB) reminds us to “Set your minds on the things above, not on the things that are on earth,” and “put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge according to the image of the One who created him.” True transformation begins when we hide God’s Word in our hearts, allowing it to reshape our thoughts, desires, and actions. This is not a one-time event, but a daily renewal—a lifelong journey of becoming more like Christ.**

**Confirmation: Living in God’s Will:**

**Why pursue this transformation? Because it enables us to discover and live out “that which is good and acceptable and perfect”—the will of God (Romans 12:2, NASB).**

# A Word from Rev. Josh Bowman February 2026

## “A Transformational Relationship With God”

*(continued)*

God’s will is intrinsically good, pleasing to Him, and complete in every way. Our chief end, as the Westminster Catechism teaches, is to “glorify God and enjoy Him forever.” We do this by knowing and doing His will—not partially, but wholeheartedly.

### Application for Everyday Life:

James 4:4 (NASB) warns us: “You adulteresses, do you not know that friendship with the world is hostility toward God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.” Spiritual “adultery” happens when we become too cozy with the culture and values around us, rather than remaining faithful to Christ, our first love. As believers, we are called to be light in darkness, distinct from the world, and unwavering in our commitment to God’s truth.

Transformation is more than information; it’s about submission to God. This means studying His Word, living it out daily, and sharing it with others. If we desire to draw near to God, resist temptation, and walk in victory, we must saturate our lives with The Word of God. The sad reality is that many Christian families neglect personal and family devotions. Let’s change that—let’s prioritize God’s Word in our homes and hearts! “Now to Him who is able to protect you from stumbling, and to make you stand in the presence of His glory, blameless with great joy, to the only God our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.” (Jude 24–25, NASB)

### Living It Out:

The evidence of a transformed life is a life that aligns with God’s will. Are we doing what is good and acceptable in His sight? Are we following God wholeheartedly, or do we stop short? Each of us must examine ourselves and ask: Am I living in the will of God? As John Calvin said, “I gave up all for Christ—and what have I found? Everything in Christ.”<sup>1</sup>

Church family, let’s examine our hearts: Are we deviating from the world? Are we being transformed daily by God’s Word and Spirit? Are we living in the center of God’s will? May we strive together to be a church marked by genuine transformation, ever seeking to glorify God with our lives.

With much love rooted in Christ,

Rev. Josh Bowman  
Pastor-teacher of Liberty Baptist Church

<sup>1</sup>John Calvin." AZQuotes.com. Wind and Fly LTD, 2026. 15 January 2026. <https://www.azquotes.com/quote/798547>

# Pastor's Paragraph

## February 2026

### “Why Should We Read and Study Scripture?”

This is an important subject to consider at the first of the year or for that matter at any time of year. It is also a subject dear to my heart for many reasons. That's true because God continues to change and enrich my life through the reading and study of Scripture. There is nothing like it. In this article I want to explore some reasons WHY the Bible should be read and studied. In next month's newsletter we will consider HOW to read and study Scripture.

Let's begin with Christ's statement: *You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of me (Jn. 5:39)*. We should read and study Scripture because it leads us to eternal life and reveals the person and work of Christ. That is reason enough! Paul's statement to Timothy sheds additional light on this:

*2 Timothy 3:14-17 But continue thou in the things which thou hast learned and hast been assured of, knowing of whom thou hast learned them; <sup>15</sup> And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: <sup>17</sup> That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.*

The Scriptures should be learned from childhood because they are able to give us wisdom that leads to salvation. They teach us the truth about sin, about God the Father and His Son Jesus Christ, and about our need to believe in Him as the only Lord and Savior. The Scriptures also teach us how to live as faithful followers of Christ (doctrine, reproof, correction, and instruction in righteousness). In short, the Bible teaches us how to be saved and how to live the Christian life. What could be more important? Here is another important text to consider:

*Psalms 19:7-11 The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple. <sup>8</sup> The statutes of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes. <sup>9</sup> The fear of the LORD is clean, enduring for ever: the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether. <sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter also than honey and the honeycomb. <sup>11</sup> Moreover by them is thy servant warned: and in keeping of them there is great reward.*

# Pastor's Paragraph February 2026

## “Why Should We Read and Study Scripture?”

*(continued)*

We should read and study Scripture because it comes from God and with His authority. Notice the repeated phrase “of the LORD.” He is the source of all Scripture, therefore it has the full weight of His authority and ability. Since all Scripture is from God it is perfect and without error and completely accurate and trustworthy in all it teaches. In 1775 John Rippon began serving as Pastor of Carter’s Lane Baptist Church in London and he served in that church for 63 years. That’s a long time to be pastor of the same congregation. How could he serve faithfully for that long? The answer must be that He trusted God for his own needs and the needs of the church and he depended on God’s Word to guide his own life and the life of his church. I say this because he wrote the words to our great hymn, *How Firm a Foundation*:

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!  
What more can He say, than to you He hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

That’s why we read and study Scripture. It is the solid foundation for our lives and families.

With love and appreciation for you all,  
Pastor Stan



# February Events

## CALENDAR

Baptism &  
Lord's Supper  
1st

Food  
Pantry  
2nd

Ladies Bible  
Study  
3rd

Pastors  
Fellowship  
9th

Shut-In  
Outreach  
13th

Sweetheart  
Luncheon  
15th

SS & Ministry  
Lunch  
22nd

Sound Booth  
Training  
27th

*Liberty Baptist Church*

# LIBERTY NEWS

## Choir News

*Let me first say, on behalf of Peggy, Caleb and myself that we love the ministry of Liberty Baptist Church! Everyone has reached out to us in such a warm and Christian loving way during our year and a half with you. Now, as your new Choir Director, I am looking forward to the new paths that God will lead us into for 2026 in the music of the church. As a matter of fact, with Easter being the first Sunday of April, we will begin immediately on preparing our Easter Musical. Books and music have been ordered and practices will be intertwined within regular choir rehearsals beginning the first Sunday in February. I would like to extend a warm invitation for anyone to join the choir in both our regular worship music times as well rehearsals for our Easter music. See you in the choir.*

*In Christ's love,*

*Danny Hill, Worship Leader and Choir Director*

*Psalm 104:33 I will sing to the Lord all my life. I will sing praise to my God while I have my being.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## New Ladies Bible Study

*Wow! We had such a wonderful start to 2026 as we gathered to listen to Susan Heck Daniel walk us through the book of 1 John and to worship the Lord! She gave us scripture references to ask ourselves:*

*1) Are we walking in the Light?- 1 John 1:5-7*

*2) Are we walking in love?- 1 John 2:7-11*

*3) Are we walking according to liberty?- 1 John 2:15-17*

*Have you looked into the mirror with the Lord at His Word?*

*I say a big "Thank You!" to each one who helped in anyway or attended for this amazing time together. It truly was a team effort. All glory to God Alone!*

*We are already here in the second month of this new year already! As I reflect on this year ahead and what it holds, I am thankful I know WHO holds it! 1 John has been a wonderful study and has shown many areas I need to work on (and I'm sure I'm not alone). One area that needs work is prayer. How is your prayer life? As I think on my prayer life, I want to be a prayer warrior for God's kingdom. Do you struggle with prayer too? Elizabeth Elliot once said, "Prayer is irksome. We are reluctant to start and delighted to end" why is that? Why is it that the greatest need in our Christian life is an effective prayer life, and yet we are reluctant to pray?*

*Ladies, join us on Tuesday, February 3, 2026, at 11:00 a.m. as we begin this wonderful study "On Our Knees" by Susan Heck Daniel. We will look at examples of those who prayed in the Bible from selected scriptures. Please contact the church office to sign up. May we seek to walk with the Lord and have HIM as our top priority in our lives and strengthen our prayer life for His glory!*

*Jodi Leonard, Women's Ministry Leader*

\*\*\*\*\*

## Sunday School Ministry

*As we begin the new year, we invite children to join our 1 ½ year old- Kindergarten Sunday School Class. We learn about God's love and who He is through our lessons, songs, and activities. We hope to see you there.*

*Diane Harr & Brenda Stidham, Student Sunday School Teachers*

# LIBERTY NEWS

## *Thank You from Pastor Josh and family*

*We would like to say thank you for the delicious meal, beautiful decorations, generous cards, and gifts given to our family as we begin this next chapter in our lives. We count it a high privilege and an honor to serve The Lord together at Liberty. Thank you most importantly for your love, prayers, and support. We are thankful we can call Liberty our family.*

*With much love and deep appreciation,  
Pastor Josh, Mary, Ethan, and Caylee Bowman*

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Food Pantry News*

*We are so thankful for all our wonderful volunteers and the many donations given for the Food Pantry. It truly is a team effort as we serve our community. If you would like to be involved in helping serve, our next Food Pantry will be on Monday, February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 12:00 p.m. We ask that volunteers please arrive by 11:15 a.m. If you would like to come earlier, that would be wonderful. This gives us enough time to get all our fresh produce packaged up. We truly appreciate each and every one of you. May God continue to bless you as we all serve Him.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Shut-In Ministry*

*The student ministry will go visiting and singing to our shut-in's on Friday, February 13<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-9:00 p.m. We are looking forward to ministering to our shut-in families and bringing them some love and joy. If you would like to participate, please contact the church office. Please bring money for dinner. We are looking forward to a wonderful time of ministry.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Sunday School and Ministry Leaders Luncheon*

*Our quarterly Sunday School Teachers and Ministry Leaders Luncheon will be Sunday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>. The meal will be provided. Please contact the church office to sign up.*

*"Commit your works to the Lord, and your plans will be established." Proverbs 16:3*

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Sound Booth/ Multimedia News*

*We are so thankful for our wonderful sound booth/multimedia teams. If you are considering being a part of the sound booth/ multimedia teams, we are having an informational meeting on Friday, February 27<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:00 p.m. This will be a hands on training. Light refreshments will be served. Please contact the church office to sign up.*

\*\*\*\*\*

## *Vacation Bible School*

*This cold weather has us looking forward to summer. Vacation Bible School will be here before we know it. We pray you will consider helping this year at our "Emerald Crossing" VBS. Our VBS will be on Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup>-Friday, June 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:00-8:30 p.m. If you would like to help in any way, please contact the church office. We are looking forward to a wonderful VBS and we would love for YOU to be with us. (Online registration will open in May)*



*"Sweetheart"*  
*Valentine's Day*  
**LUNCH**

*Sunday, February 15th*

**FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY**

**The meal will be provided free of charge  
and hosted by our Youth Group.**

**Please RSVP to the church office  
[adminasstlbc@btes.tv](mailto:adminasstlbc@btes.tv)**

# February 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2 Adrienne Bowman	3	4	5	Larry Jones Gay Bays	6 7
8	9	10	11	Diane Jenkins Jason York	12 13	14 
15 Nancy Davis	16	17	18	19 Alex Todt	20	21 Conner Trent
22 Todd Smith	23 Paul Batson	24	25	26 Landon Taylor	27	28 Ann Godsey
<b>Happy Birthday!!</b>						

**We love you!!**