



Welcome to
The Bridge Community Fellowship
Sunday Worship Service

March 8, 2026

The Bridge Community Fellowship • 7503 E. Parker Rd • Lucas, Tx 75002 • jointhebridge.com
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Abide: Jesus' Parting Promises & Prayer

Week 6 – Prepared for the Pressure: Right Expectations for a Crazy World (John 16:1-33)

Big Idea for This Week: Jesus doesn't recruit us with naive promises of an easy life; He acts as a wise commander preparing us for battle. By setting the right expectations and sending the Holy Spirit to be our Helper, Jesus ensures that when unavoidable trouble hits, we respond with steadiness and peace instead of shock and panic.

Sermon Outline

1. Don't Be Surprised – The Certainty of Persecution (John 16:1–4)

- Jesus prepares His disciples for the reality of suffering so they will not be shocked into unbelief or fall away.
- He explains that persecution stems from spiritual blindness, as those who oppose believers have not known the Father or the Son.

2. Don't Be Discouraged – The Gift of the Helper (John 16:5–15)

- Jesus states that His departure is to our advantage because it secures the coming of the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whose presence will be internal and universal.
- The Holy Spirit works to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment, while guiding believers into all truth and glorifying Jesus Christ.

3. Don't Misinterpret Your Sorrow – The Promise of Joy (John 16:16–24)

- Similar to how the pain of childbirth brings forth new life, the disciples' profound sorrow will give way to eternal joy.
- This resurrection joy is irreversible and permanent, empowering believers to pray with confidence to the Father in Jesus' name.

4. Don't Forget Who Wins – The Victory that Grounds Our Peace (John 16:25–33)

- Even though the disciples will scatter and face crushing pressure, they are deeply loved by the father and never truly abandoned.
- Believers can experience true peace in Jesus because He has overcome the world through the victory of the cross.

Study Questions for Reflection

- **Expecting Persecution:** Jesus warns His disciples about coming trouble to keep them from falling away. How does setting the right expectations about suffering help produce steadiness in your own faith?
- **The Spirit's Advantage:** Jesus makes the counterintuitive claim that His leaving is advantageous because the Helper will come. In what ways is the internal, universal presence of the Holy Spirit an "upgrade" for your daily walk with God?
- **The Work of Conviction:** The Holy Spirit convicts the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment. How does knowing the Spirit is actively working in unbelievers change your approach to difficult conversations or evangelism?
- **Sorrow Turned to Joy:** Jesus uses the illustration of childbirth to show that temporary sorrow leads to new life and eternal joy. How can you trust God's glorious purpose in your current trials, knowing that resurrection joy is permanent?
- **Peace in Victory:** Jesus promises that we can have peace in Him, despite the tribulation we face in the world, because He has overcome it. How does remembering that Christ has already won the victory help you find peace when you feel under crushing weight?

Breakfast and Fellowship at 9:15 AM • Worship Service at 10:00 AM and streamed live every week

Find Faith. Build Friendships. Follow Jesus.

At The Bridge, our desire is to connect people to God and one another through the hope of the Gospel. Whether you are exploring faith, looking for a church home, or just checking things out, we want you to know you're welcome.

Announcements

(If you have announcements to add in the future, please notify Kay Gribbin)

The Bridge Website has been updated! – Have you seen the updates and new content that’s been added to our website, jointhebridge.com? The site includes the link to join our weekly live-stream worship services for those occasions when you’re not able to join us in person.

Getting the House Ready for Easter – It’s been a week of letting the church air out and ensure the moist concrete is fully dry. Following services today, sealer will be applied to the final area of the floor followed by a coat of wax early in the week. The expectation is we’ll be ready to move all furniture back into the building and set up décor Wednesday through Saturday. Your help as we close out this project is greatly appreciated.

A New Day for Game Night – Beginning in March, the monthly Game Night will move to the second Monday of the month at 6:00 PM. This month, the group will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Church-wide Garage Sale – The new dates for the sale are **March 20-21**. Thank you to all who have already contributed items and time to get ready for the garage sale. After we have everything moved back into the Sanctuary following the flooring project, we’ll be ready to use the POD for donations of furniture and larger items. We have a sign-up sheet available for volunteers to help work the garage sale as we welcome the community to our campus and raise funds for our Community and Missions Outreach.

Palm Sunday Service, Lunch and Activities – Plan to join us for Palm Sunday Service, March 29, followed by lunch, activities and fellowship. Additional information will be provided soon.

Prayer Warriors Monthly Meetings – Each month the team adopts a specific prayer focus. The group is using the GroupMe mobile group messaging app as the hub for sharing prayer requests and updates. For more information on the GroupMe App, talk with Leanna Moore.

Monthly Events and Activities – For additional information on meetings, events and activities, please refer to the printed monthly calendar. For the most current information, visit the website, jointhebridge.com/bridge-events.

Connect Cards – Are you a visitor or new to The Bridge? We would welcome the opportunity to connect with you. Please complete one of the Connect Cards and place it in the White Church in the Sanctuary.

LET'S CONNECT

Name

Home Address

How can we contact you?

Phone

Text

Email

DOB (DD/MM)



Leadership at the Bridge

- Kyle Van Tine, Lead Pastor
- Mike Boese, Director
- Dirk van der Woude, Director
- Gregg Wooding, Director
- Kay Gribbin, Church Administration
- Rita Montgomery, Finance Team Leader
- Kerry Krueger, Worship Leader
- Amie Smolka, Hospitality Leader
- Kurt Sadowski, Community Outreach Leader

Ways to Give Your Tithes and Offerings

Thank you for your continued financial support of The Bridge Community Fellowship.

- Cash/check can be placed in the White Church in the Sanctuary
- Zelle through your financial institution to:
thebridgecommunityfellowship@gmail.com
- Mail to The Bridge Community Fellowship, P.O. Box 1762, Wylie, Tx 75098

General Operating Account Monthly/YTD Income vs Expense 2026

	February	YTD
Actual Income	\$10,145.50	\$17,692.12
Actual Expenses	<u>\$10,819.23</u>	<u>\$21,205.77</u>
Difference	-\$ 673.73	-\$ 3,513.65

Jesus Showed Up

The Bridge Community Fellowship Community and Missions Outreach Plan for 2026

We are excited about new partnering opportunities this year and a renewed focus with several of the organizations we’ve supported in the past. Going forward, we’ll be using this space in our weekly announcements to highlight information, opportunities and successes.

- The new date for **Feed My Starving Children** is Wednesday, June 17.
- Save the Date – We’re planning a church-wide garage sale March 20-21, and we’ll be looking for donations and lots of help. Proceeds will benefit our Community and Missions Outreach efforts.