

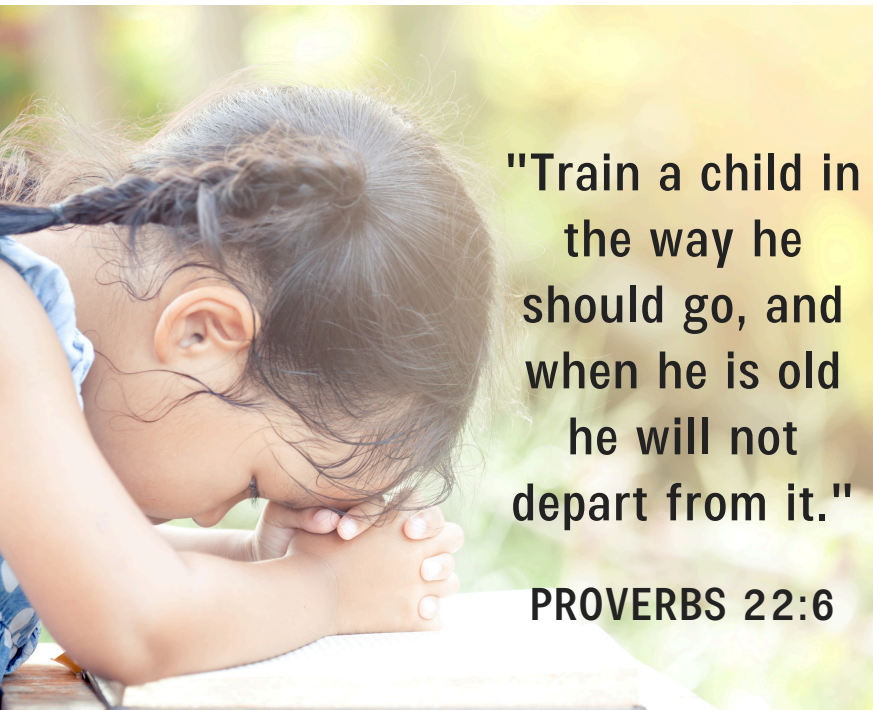
LIFTED ACADEMY

# NEWSLETTER

AUGUST / SEPTEMBER 2024



## WELCOME BACK!



"Train a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it."

PROVERBS 22:6

## SAVE THE DATE!



### BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Tuesday, Aug. 27th @ 7 PM

Parents are invited to a meeting with your child's teacher about classroom expectations for the new school year.



### AWANA SCOUTS CLUBS

Christian Scouts for kids Ages 3 - 5th Grade.

Parent Orientation: Aug. 21st @ 7 PM  
Awana Clubs begins Aug. 28th @ 7 PM



### LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Monday, Sept. 2nd: Church & School closed due to the holiday.



### GRANDPARENTS' DAY!

Friday, Sept. 6th @ 10 AM

A special celebration inviting all grandparents to come spend the day with their grandkids.

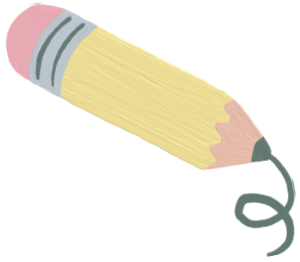
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# AUGUST

&

# SEPTEMBER



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Aug. 25 Staff Inauguration Service 11 AM	Aug. 26 Men's & Women's Discipleship @ 7 PM	Aug. 27 Firetrucks on Campus 9:30 AM  Night 7 PM	Aug. 28  BEGINS! Scouts Clubs 7 PM	Aug. 29	Aug. 30	Aug. 31
1	2  Labor Day Holiday	3	4  Christian Scouts Clubs 7 PM	5  PTF Parent Teacher Fellowship Zoom Meeting 6:30 PM	6  Grandparents' Day 10 AM	7
8	9 Men's & Women's Discipleship @ 7 PM	10	11  Christian Scouts Clubs 7 PM	12	13  Thirdmill Seminary Conference (Fri 7 PM / Sat 8 AM - 4 PM)	14 
15	16	17	18  Christian Scouts Clubs 7 PM	19	20	21  Men's & Women's Breakfast 9:30 AM
22	23 Men's & Women's Discipleship @ 7 PM	24	25  Parent Seminar 7 PM "Principles of Parenting" w/ Dr. Estelle Myers	26	27	28



## THE PRINCIPLES OF THE PRINCIPAL DR. ESTELLE C. MYERS

Dear Parents,

Welcome back to another exciting school year. We feel privileged that you have chosen Lifted Academy to oversee the education of your most treasured possessions. We are grateful for your trust and feel confident that you too will be pleased with the end result of students with a well developed character who love the Lord, as well as a solid education that is centered on God's truth, producing emotionally sound and responsible children.

Einstein said that knowledge for the sake of knowledge is useless. What good is an educated child or adult that cannot discern good from evil? Many a tyrant in this world has been well educated and written many a book: Adolph Hitler, Carl Marx, Benito Mussolini, just to name a few. But in the words of Jesus Christ,

**“What does it profit a man to gain the whole world, but lose his soul?” (Mark 8:36)**

Here at Lifted Academy we believe that if we follow the principles found in God's Word, the Bible, not only will we be able to properly educate your children in reading, writing and arithmetic, but also educate them in regard to their character in learning how to make good choices in their lives. Research has shown us that unless an individual has a decision making process that he follows religiously, he will tend to make life choices based on feelings, not facts, which can lead him down a path that they may negatively alter the course of his life, simply because of one foolish choice.

Here at Lifted Academy, our students will learn how to make choices based on the standards and principles that Jesus sets for us, not on what the world teaches or what a person “feels” to be true, but rather on the solid truth of God's Word. This is why you will see the words “Veritas Dei” above our emblem on our logo, it means “God's Truth” in Latin. This is our north star, for the scriptures state that those who put their hope and trust in God will never be disappointed or put to shame. (I Peter 2:6)



Here at Lifted Academy we will focus on the 4 R's: Reverence, Respect, Responsibility and Rewards. I will be holding a Parent Seminar later in September where I will be sharing the importance of developing the character of a child from a very young age. The title of the seminar is the "A,B,C's of Parenting". There I will dive further into the importance of developing within children a healthy Reverence for God, an intentional Respect for others, the importance of personal Responsibility for everyone, and the ultimate Rewards that God gives to those who obey His Word. I do hope you will try to join us on Wednesday, September 25th at 7 PM; childcare will be provided.

Our Back-To-School Night will be on Tuesday, August 27th at 7 PM, and is a wonderful opportunity to view your child's curriculum, hear the expectations of your child's teacher, and learn more about how you can be more involved in your child's overall education this year. Remember, we are only as good as our parent's involvement. We believe in partnering with our parents in raising your little ones. So please, come on campus and be an integral part of your child's educational process this year. They grow up so fast, you will never regret the time spent on campus or on field trips with them.

Each month, all of our students will be attending chapel services on Thursday mornings. On the second chapel of each month the staff will be recognizing and rewarding students who are excelling in their Character Development each month by choosing a Star Student as well as a Student of the Month who will be highlighted in the upcoming newsletters and recognized at the Awards Chapel. The first Awards Chapel will be held on September 12th. Parents are invited to attend.

We are all looking forward to an exciting year. God is blessing Lifted Academy and we are blessed to have you as part of our family. We would like to invite you this Sunday, August 25th to our Teacher Inauguration Service, where we will be dedicating all of our staff to the Lord for the coming school year. If you ever have any comments, suggestions, or concerns, please do not hesitate to stop by or call, as my door is always open.

In His Service and Love,  
*Dr. Estelle C. Myers*  
 Dr. Estelle C. Myers  
 School Principal



*"Train up a child in the way he should go  
 and when he is old he will not depart from it."  
 PROVERBS 22:6*



# MIGHTY 2'S

MRS. MYRIAM ROJAS &

MS. JANA E SANTIAGO



Hello parents,

We are pleased to extend a warm welcome to the youngest class at Lifted Academy. This will be a year full of learning, discoveries, and meaningful experiences for your children, and we are excited to be part of this beautiful journey with you.

In our class, we understand that the growth and development of our little ones is a continuous process and not a single event. As we progress throughout the year, our focus will be on guiding and accompanying them in this process of physical and spiritual growth, following the example of Jesus. As written in Luke 2:52, our goal is to teach them to grow **“in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men.”**

In each unit, your children will participate in projects and activities designed to stimulate their curiosity, creativity, and love for learning. These activities will not only promote cognitive, fine, and gross motor skills, but also fundamental values such as kindness, respect, and cooperation. Everything we do in class is inspired by the desire to help children discover the world around them and learn from it with joy and reverence.

Throughout the year, we will have several educational outings that will allow the children to explore new environments and learn in different settings. These excursions are carefully planned to complement the topics we cover in class, providing the children with rich and varied learning experiences. Your participation and support are essential to help in the discovery of new learning.

At Lifted Academy, we believe that spiritual education is as important as academic education. Each day will begin with a moment of prayer, where we will teach the children to talk to God, to thank Him, and to ask for His guidance in their lives. Through our lessons and activities, we will reinforce love and reverence for Jesus, showing the children how to follow His example in everything they do.

We are confident that this will be a year full of blessings, and we look forward to working closely with you to ensure that your children grow and develop as Jesus did.



It is a privilege to be your child's teachers, and we would like to share a little more about us.

## Myriam Rojas

I have been blessed with a home for 35 years, made up of my husband and a son, now a young adult. My vocation and profession is education, with over 40 years of experience as a teacher in early childhood, primary, secondary, and higher education. I have had the opportunity to coordinate and lead several educational projects as a dean, coordinator, and teacher. I am very happy to lead this beautiful journey with the youngest children at Lifted Academy for the second time, and to have not only Janae on the team, but also each of you as parents.

## Janae Santiago

Assistant teacher, mother of three beautiful children, small business owner, and most importantly, a believer and servant of Jesus Christ! This will be my second year as an assistant teacher at Lifted Academy and I am very excited to have the opportunity to guide, serve, nurture, and love your children this year. We look forward to collaborating and building relationships with each of you to help in the development of your children.

An important recommendation: please bring extra uniforms, underwear, socks, and shoes for the children in case of an accident during bathroom breaks and they need a change of clothes.

Thank you for trusting us to be part of your children's education and spiritual formation.

With gratitude and blessings,  
Mrs. Myriam Rojas and Ms. Janae Medina



# BLESSED 3'S

MS. KATHLYN DIAZ



Dear families,

I hope you have had an amazing summer full of blessings! My name is Kathlyn Diaz, otherwise known as Ms. Kat. This will be my second year teaching the 3's class! I have been a part of the Lifted Academy family since 2022 and there is truly no other school like Lifted. I am excited for this school year and I cannot wait to get to know you and your little ones! Let's continuously pray for an amazing school year. The children have adapted well to their classroom and are excited to learn during the 2024- 2025 school year.

In the two weeks we have left in August we will be on Unit 1: "I Come to Preschool," learning the letter Aa, the number 0, and the color yellow. Our Bible theme is, "God Loves Me." Our key verse for this month is 1 John 4:16, "God Is Love." The character traits we will be going over is respecting and loving God, respect and love of others, respecting God's word, and how the Bible is truth.

Also, we will be studying the stories Matthew 19, Mark 10, and Luke 18. All of these stories show how Jesus treated children with kindness and love. The children will also be learning about the Bible and what is in it. Please reinforce with your children at home the topics reviewed at school, so we can come together as a team and achieve the objectives desired. I will appreciate this greatly.



During the school year, we have many activities, from visits with firefighters to visiting with farm animals. We also celebrate national holidays and family days! Please be attentive to our calendar and feel free to participate in all of these activities.

We are all looking forward to having a great year and I want to "thank-you" in advance for your attention and support in this beautiful journey that we are beginning together. I leave you all with this verse in Romans 15:13:

**"May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit."**

May God bless you,  
Ms. Kat





# VPK

MRS. CATALINA DEL REAL  
& MRS. SHIRLEY SERNA

# BACK TO SCHOOL

Dear Parents,

Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! My name is Catalina del Real and I am one of your child's VPK teacher. Having been a VPK teacher for 18 years, I am excited about getting to know each and every one of your children this year. Originally, I moved from Colombia, S.A. to the United States of America, in 1992. I have actually been working with children in some kind of capacity ever since then. I truly feel this is my calling and I am so blessed to be working here at Lifted Academy for the tenth year.

My name is Shirley Andrea Serna and your second VPK teacher. I am originally from Colombia. I moved to Miami in November, 2017. I have been a Christian for 30 years now. I am married and the mother of a wonderful child. I started working at Lifted Academy in June, 2022. It has been a great experience. I love children, and I like working with them here at Lifted Academy. It is going to be a great school year, and we are here to do our very best for both our students and parents.

The beginning of VPK is composed of reviewing and helping the children understand the rules and procedures of their new environment. We will be focusing this month on social and emotional skills in dealing with new friends and new schedules. Since play is the first language of a child, we will make sure that they are always having fun in the process.

Our curriculum is focused around three major areas: Bible, Language Arts, and Math. We include Art, Social Studies and Science along the way in our learning centers and during outdoor play, but our primary focus is the character and overall development of your child's critical thinking skills with a Biblical perspective.

Immediately, your child will begin to recognize his/her name and various sight words around the room, as well as master the phonetic sounds of each letter of the alphabet.

In Math, they will begin to visually recognize the numbers 1-30, and be able to count, one-to-one correspondence, with those numbers as well. They will also be learning about graphs, sorting, simple addition and subtraction with objects. Kids love Math!

In regard to their Character Development, we will begin this month by learning about how much God loves us and how we need to respect and obey Him and our parents, as that is what God desires in our lives.

Next month you will see the "Star Student" who clearly exhibits the character traits that we have been working on throughout August and September. Also you will see a "Student of the Month" emerge as one who has greatly improved in his/her academic studies. So, stay tuned to see if your child is the one to be highlighted in next month's newsletter.

We are looking forward to a very wonderful and enlightening year.

God bless you always,  
Ms. Catalina del Real and Ms. Shirley Serna



# KINDERGARTEN

MRS. MABYS GONZALEZ & MRS. ALESSANDRA MYERS

Hello Parents,



Welcome back to school! My name is Alessandra Myers and I am thrilled to be teaching Kindergarten this year. I have been in the field of Education for over 10 years, teaching various age groups along the way. My passion for education led me to pursue a Master's degree in this field. It has been an exciting journey so far, and I have loved working and serving here at Lifted Academy.

This is my third year teaching Kindergarten, a grade I truly enjoy and love. In Kindergarten, children are formally introduced to elementary school and they are so eager to learn! Everything is still new to them, and they develop numerous skills throughout the year. It is truly incredible to witness their growth!

I am married to Pastor Mike Myers, our Senior Pastor at Lifted Church, and together we have four beautiful children. My oldest daughter is Rebecca, followed by my first son, Benjamin, and a set of twins, who were a true miracle and surprise. Being a mom has taught me some of the greatest lessons in my life, and I am deeply grateful to God.

My name is Mabys Gonzalez. I graduated from the College of Education in 2002. In 2012, I began working in Miami-Dade County Public Schools as a paraprofessional, a role I held until 2021. In 2021, I joined My Little World, a private school, where I taught kindergarten, 1st, and 2nd grade until 2024. As a Christian teacher, I am very proud of my service in these fields. I am thrilled, grateful, and thankful for the opportunity to start teaching at Lifted Academy, where I can grow my mission of Faith, Family, and Future and make a positive impact on my students' lives with love, kindness, and compassion through our academic process.

We love to teach and are excited that you have entrusted us with your little ones this school year. We are here to partner with you, guiding and teaching your children. We will be working with the Bob Jones Curriculum is a Biblically integrated curriculum.

We hope you can make it to the Back-To-School Night on August 27th @ 7pm, so you can familiarize yourself with our Kindergarten curriculum and the expectations of our class.

Have a Blessed Month,  
Ms. Aly and Ms. Gonzalez





# 1ST GRADE

MRS. MARIA JOSE GROSSY



Hello parents,

Even though I have had the chance to meet most of you, I would like to introduce myself to those whom I haven't met yet. My name is Maria Jose Grossy. I am originally from Chile and have been living in Miami since 2013, where I also began attending this church. I studied language education and have had the opportunity to work with different age levels throughout my career. Each group presents its own challenges, and as a teacher, we always have much to learn from them.

I started working at Miami Baptist School in 2017 and took a break when my baby girl was born. She is currently 4 years old and will be joining the VPK class with Ms. Catalina del Real and Ms. Shirley Serna.

I am very excited about this new school year. I know that we have an amazing group of students that are so eager to learn, and I am confident that their wonderful parents will guide and support them as much as possible. You all not only support your children, but also collaborate with and support the class and school as well. I am positive that with the love and support of all of our parents and, most importantly, with God's help we will have an amazing school year.

We are starting an exciting month filled with surprises and new activities for the students. They will discover their new classroom, books, and new ways of using materials to explore the beautiful world God created. They will also get to know their classmates better and continue learning about themselves and God every day.

The purpose of the first unit is to help children develop a better understanding of their surroundings and what they can see around town. In this unit, they will meet many new friends who will help introduce letters, handwriting strokes, word families, and high-frequency words.

The students will also enjoy learning about community helpers in their city. We will be meeting some of them with an on-campus local fire station on August 27th.

Our Bible verse of the Month is:

**"God is love" – 1 John 4:16**

Each month there are many exciting activities to get involved in. Here are the upcoming events for Aug./Sept.:

- Sunday, Aug. 25th: "Teacher Inauguration Service" at Lifted Church at 11 AM
- Tuesday, Aug. 27th: "Back to School Night" from 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.
- Monday, Sept. 2nd: School Closed for Labor Day Holiday
- Friday, Sept. 6th: "Grandparents' Day" at 10 AM

We hope you can participate in these wonderful activities. I am looking forward to a great school year!

Best regards,  
Mrs. Maria Jose Grossy

*"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways submit to Him and He will make righteous your path."*

*Proverbs 3: 5-6*

# 2ND GRADE

MS. DANAI PADRON



Dear Parents,

Welcome to 2nd Grade!

I am thrilled to introduce myself as Miss Danai, and I cannot express enough how excited I am to work with you and your children this year! Teaching is not just a profession for me—it is an absolute passion, and I am eager to embark on this new journey with all of you. This marks my second year at Lifted Academy, and it is truly an honor to be part of this wonderful family.

We are in for a year brimming with learning, adventure, and growth. I am excited to see all the incredible things that God will accomplish in the lives of your children throughout the year.

Here's a little more about me: I am 32 years old and was born in Cuba, although I left when I was very young. Some of my favorite activities include attending church and going on road trips.

Even though this is my second year at Lifted Academy, I bring with me over 6 years of teaching experience. I have had the pleasure of teaching various grade levels, including 2nd through 6th grade, as well as a combined 3rd/4th grade class. My primary goal is to instill a genuine love for Christ and to help the children develop Christ-like character, while also fostering a love for learning. I am dedicated to making this a fulfilling and exciting year for them.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out. Keeping communication lines open is crucial, and I am incredibly grateful to work together with you as a team.

I am looking forward to a fantastic year ahead and can't wait to see all the amazing things our students will achieve!

Ward Regards,  
Ms. Danai



# 3RD GRADE **THIRD GRADE VIBES**

MS. LINDSAY RUIZ

Dear Parents,

It is both a pleasure and an honor to have your children in my classroom. I am very excited to begin this journey with the Third Grade students, and I am also very grateful to continue being a part of Lifted Academy.

Let me introduce myself: I am Mrs. Ruiz! I was born in New York and my parents are from Ecuador. I graduated from Florida International University with a Bachelor's Degree in Education. I have been working with children for fourteen years.

I started as a tutor in an after-school program and eventually became the teacher of that program. I've been teaching now for thirteen years. My purpose as a teacher is to challenge my students to meet all their academic requirements for the school year while ensuring they learn in a fun and educational way. I also aim to help students grow closer to the Lord. With our biblical curriculum, your child will be able to reach their full potential, both academically and spiritually.

**Proverbs 22:6 says, "Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it."**

I am very excited to meet all my new students on Thursday. Please feel free to email me if you have any questions or concerns. My email is [mrsruiz@lifted.academy](mailto:mrsruiz@lifted.academy). I am here to help and support both my students and their parents.

God Bless You,  
Ms. Lindsay



# 4TH & 5TH GRADE

MS. BARBARA ARROYO &  
MS. ROSALIE DE ARMAS



Dear Parents,

I am thrilled to welcome you to another exciting year at Lifted Academy! I have taught 1st grade for the past three years here at Lifted but I am excited to now be teaching 4th and 5th grade. For those of you who may not know me, I am Mrs. Barbara Arroyo, though the children know me as Mrs. Barbie. I hold a BA in Education from Florida International University, and teaching is truly my passion. I have been happily married for 14 years, with a 12-year-old daughter in middle school and a 5-year-old son in kindergarten here at Lifted Academy.

The school year is off to a fantastic start, and I anticipate it will only get better from here. The children will continue to enjoy electives, just as they did last year. This year, we will be introducing i-Ready alongside AR for reading. More information about i-Ready will be shared in the coming weeks.

I am excited to share that I won't be working alone this year. Ms. Rosalie and I will be collaborating to make this school year exceptional for your children. Ms. Rosalie is a seasoned educator with over 10 years at Lifted Academy, and she is already beloved by the children, many of whom know her from last year. I am thrilled to be working alongside her.

There are a few important points to keep in mind for this year:

- Homework will be sent home and checked daily.
- Reading logs will also go home daily and will be checked each day. New logs will be provided once a sheet is filled.
- We will communicate regularly via WhatsApp, to keep you updated.
- We will continue using Gradelink for grade tracking and to keep you informed about your child's academic progress. If you have any questions about Gradelink, please don't hesitate to reach out.

We believe that strong communication between parents and teachers is key for a successful school year, so please feel free to message us with any questions or concerns. You can also email me directly at [barbara@lifted.academy](mailto:barbara@lifted.academy).



We want to extend a special "Thank-You" to Ms. Elaine Guimaraes, who has graciously offered to return this year as both the PTF President and our classroom mom. Her support will be invaluable, and we are so grateful for her willingness to help. There will be many opportunities to assist in our classroom throughout the year, and we would greatly appreciate any help you can provide.

Please take note of the following important dates:

- Sunday, August 25th: Staff Inauguration Service at church at 11:00 AM
- Tuesday, August 27th: Back to School Night at 7:00 PM
- Monday, September 2nd: School closed for Labor Day
- Thursday, September 5th: First PTF Meeting at 6:30 PM on Zoom
- Friday, September 6th: Grandparents' Day from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM
- Wednesday, September 25th: Parent Seminar at 7:00 PM

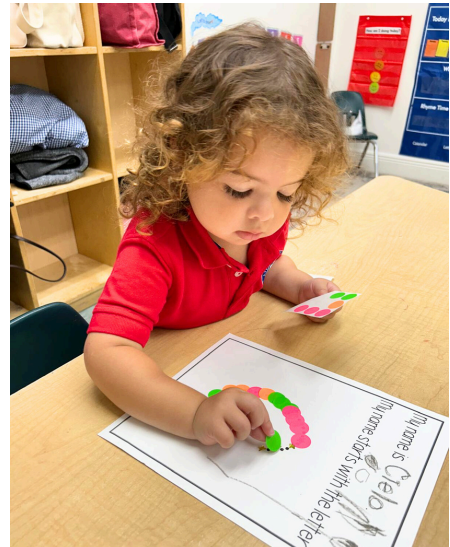
In closing, we want to thank you for entrusting us with your children's education. We are committed to helping them grow, succeed, and become the best versions of themselves. We are here to support you and to ensure that your child has an amazing school year.

God bless you,  
Mrs. Barbie and Ms. Rosalie



**"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. In all your ways submit to Him and He will make righteous your path." Proverbs 3:5-6**

# SCHOOL PICTURES



# SCHOOL PICTURES



# CHURCH MINISTRIES



## LIFTED LIFE GROUPS - Let's do Life Together!

Sign up to join, host, or lead a life group. Scan this QR code and sign up to be a part of a group today!



## MEN'S & WOMEN'S DISCIPLESHIP CLASS

**Mondays @ 7:00 PM (Aug. 26th, Sept. 9, Sept. 23)**

Join us for an in-depth men's and women's discipleship class on the "Experiencing God" book by Henry Blackaby. P. Mike Myers will be leading the men's group and Dr. Estelle Myers will be teaching the women's group. Childcare provided! Order your books now on Amazon.



## AWANA CHRISTIAN CLUBS

**Wed., Aug. 21: Parent Orientation & Ice Cream Social @ 7 PM**

All parents are invited to Awana Orientation night to register your child, purchase uniforms and books, and enjoy a fun ice cream party! Awana Clubs begins Aug. 28th at 7 PM.



Awana Clubs

## THIRDMILL CONFERENCE - September 13th - 14th

Save the date and join us for our Lifted Church and Thirdmill Seminary's Bible conference - "United In Christ." The focus of the conference will be on the pattern of leadership with a biblical message, wisdom, and mission to unite the Church. Spanish translation will be available.



SCAN ME

## LIFTED CHURCH GALA 2024 - SAVE THE DATE

**Friday, October 18th, @ 6:00 PM**

Be sure to "Save the Date" for our Lifted Church Gala 2024 on Friday, October 18th at Villa Toscana. Tickets will be sold at the front desk for \$150 per person. For more info speak to Estelle Myers.



LIFTED GALA 2024

## DNA SUNDAY CLASS

Join us for DNA Class - Discovering Church Membership every Sunday at 9:30 AM with P. Bob Brumley in the back right classroom and DNA Plus - Discovering My Ministry and Mission, with Dr. Estelle Myers in the Office.



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