



The Beacon

First United Methodist Church

A light for Christ in Cleburne County and the World!

Volume 45, Issue 4

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

January 29-February 4, 2012



PASTOR'S MOMENT

“Preparing for Worship is Vital”

You hear me talk a lot about the church being intentional about doing ministry. I believe that applies to each of us as we prepare for worship. Should we expect a rich spiritual experience on Sunday if we're not willing to prepare our hearts and minds?

Think about other parts of life; before we play sports, we warm up. Before a big presentation at work, we review our notes. Before we take a major test, we study. Why should we assume that we can show up on Sunday with no spiritual preparation?

Preparing for Sunday involves making spiritual and practical decisions. On the practical side, a great Sunday starts on Saturday night. It begins with carefully deciding what you do and don't do the night before. One of the wisest decisions we make is to get to bed on time so we're rested and ready for the next morning. Besides getting enough sleep, we should ask ourselves what activities will put us in a God-focused state of mind. What's going to draw us closer to a spirit of prayer and worship?

I encourage you to make your heart ready to receive God's Word

not only by avoiding worldly entertainment but by carving out time Saturday night to read God's Word and pray. (Don't forget the lectionary scripture passages are printed in the bulletin every week for the next Sunday.) This gives us all a chance to search our hearts for any sin against God or others. Is this too much to ask? Psalm 24:3-5 asks: "Who may ascend the hill of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to an idol or swear by what is false. He will receive blessing from the LORD and vindication for God his Savior." (NIV) Just a few thoughts.

See you Sunday, Tommy

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Morning Worship, January 29

Scripture: Mark 1:21-28

Sermon: "A New Teaching"

Evening Worship, January 29

Sermon:

"Follow Me – And There Will Be a Test"

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Sunshine Circle will meet on Thursday, February 2, at 9:30 AM in Fellowship Hall. Dr. Sam Haley, a chiropractor from Quitman, will be the guest speaker. All women of the church are invited to join us for his presentation.

DANIEL BIBLE STUDY

The Daniel Bible Study, which began last Thursday, is moving to Room 207 this week. For those that need the elevator, the church office will be open. Class starts at 6:30 PM.

BREAKFAST & BUBBLY

Please join us Saturday, January 28, from 7:00-10:30 AM at the Senior Center for all-you-can-eat eggs, bacon, sausage, hash browns, and biscuits and gravy. There will also be all of the Bubbly Stuff you can drink. Cost is \$5.00 per person.



WEDNESDAY MEAL

The meal for Wednesday, February 1, will be Pit Master Greg's pulled pork BBQ, homemade baked beans, cole slaw, and dessert. You may sign up on the registration pad each Sunday morning, or by calling the church office by noon, January 31.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

United Methodist Men will meet Wednesday, February 8, at 6:00 PM in Room 202. All men of the church are invited to eat at the Wednesday Fellowship Meal and join us for the meeting.



CHILDREN'S NEWS

FaithWeaver Friends Service Project

Please remember to turn in your items for the valentine gift bags in the large valentine box in the Fellowship Hall. We are collecting: stationary or notepad and pen, sugar-free candy, hand lotion and lip balm.

On Wednesday, February 8, we will assemble the gift bags and make valentine cards to go with them. They will be given to residents of a local nursing home. Thank you for helping. If we all give a little, we can bless others a lot!



Mark Your Calendars!

Daddy Daughter Spring Fling Dance which will be held on Saturday, March 10, 2012, from 6:00 to 8:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Moms who would like to help please sign up by e-mail, reddingdonna@yahoo.com or call me at (501) 951-3605.

Mrs. Donna

Mother's Day Out OPENINGS

Mother's Day out has openings! We accept children ages 6 weeks to 4 years old and are open on Mondays and Wednesdays. We provide a fun, safe, loving environment and are licensed by DHS. For more information, call the church office, 362-2696.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, January 29

8:25 Morning Worship*
9:35 "Come As You Are" Service*
9:45 Sunday School*
9:50 Wiggle Worship*
10:50 Promiseland, FH*
10:55 Morning Worship*
10:55 Sunday School*
2:00 GriefShare, FH
3:00 Disciple I, 104
3:45 SPAM Band, FLC
5:00 Worship, 109
5:30 Youth Small Groups
7:00 Godpleasers, FLC

Monday, January 30

8:00 Mother's Day Out, Nursery
8:30 Staff Meeting, 104
8:45 Gentle Fitness, FLC
5:30 Holy Tollers, 203
7:00 Boy Scouts
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous, 208

Tuesday, January 31

7:00 Men's Prayer Breakfast, FH
9:00 Disciple I, 104
9:00 Explorer's Bible Study
12:00 Newsletter Deadline
1:00 Prayer Shawl Ministry, Parlor
6:00 Disciple I, 104
6:30 Invitation to New Testament, 207

Wednesday, February 1

8:00 Mother's Day Out, Nursery
8:45 Gentle Fitness, FLC
9:00 Invitation to New Testament, 207
9:00 Disciple I, 104
3:30 Lighthouse, FH
5:00 Fellowship Meal, FLC
5:30 Joyous Carillons, 203
6:00 Intercessory Prayer Group, 210
6:00 SPAM, FLC
6:00 FaithWeaver Friends, FH
7:00 Praise Team, FLC
7:00 Chancel Choir, Sanctuary

Thursday, February 2

9:30 Sunshine Circle, FH
10:30 Stephen Ministry Leaders, 104
3:30 Daisy Scouts, 208
6:00 Jesus in the Gospels, FH
6:00 Disciple II, 104
6:30 Daniel Study, 207
6:30 Gideons, FLC
8:00 Narcotics Anonymous, 208

Friday, February 3

8:45 Gentle Fitness, FLC

Saturday, February 4

2:00 Slavik Wedding Shower, FH
4:00 Scouts Blue/Gold Banquet, FLC

* **Nursery Provided**



YOUTH NEWS

Attention 2012 Seniors

Seniors: remember to get one baby picture and one senior picture to Mrs. Alesha by April 15. Parents: make sure your Senior is a part of our Senior Sunday. If they are members of our church but do not attend Sunday School or SPAM, please contact Mrs. Alesha.

D-Now Weekend

Don't forget we need 15 host families for the Youth D-Now Weekend. Host families will provide: a place to sleep in their home, hospitality and meals to our teenagers, but will also participate in the entire weekend's events of worship, fellowship, a service project, and leading the devotions provided for your small group of teenagers. Each home will host no more than 6 teenagers. The D-Now weekend will be from 5:00 PM on Friday, March 9, thru noon on Sunday, March 11.

THANKS TO SECOND-MILE GIVERS

A year ago the Church Council was looking at a building renovation expected to cost \$240,000. It could have put a real strain on our finances, but things have worked out very well. We have \$300,000 in the bank - \$100,000 less than last year, but outstanding after spending \$220,000 on the church facilities. The biggest difference was made by those who made special gifts to the Building Fund to the tune of \$80,000! The next big help was exceeding budget giving in 2011 by \$22,000, which, coupled with savings in expenses, netted \$42,000 extra dollars. Without this generosity and positive results, we would have \$180,000 in the bank with 2/3 of that in Memorial Funds - a low figure in relation to our operating expenses. And it's easy to quickly forget what the church looked like one short year ago - the Family Life Center, the Fellowship Hall, the Children's Department, and more. A lot of people stepped up with special gifts and extra effort to bring the church and her finances to the current good place. And, of course, thanks to God for his many blessings during this past year! - David Jones



Lakewood Rehab: Tim Kemp

Baptist-Heber: Mike Norris

Children's Hospital-LR: Cole Elrod

White County-LTACH: Joe Rork

Concerns: Betty Amberson (Jim Bolhuis' sister), Audrey Arnoult, Richard Baumgarten, Ruth Beggs, Joy Braden, Karen Brinley, Tony Burnam (Cheryl Sivertson's brother), Lois Carr, Polly Chandler (Debbie Robus' grandmother), Dallas Clark (Michelle Taylor's dad), Len Clark (Jimmy Clark's father), Jim Clayton, Wilma Crouch (Audrey Arnoult's sister), Elizabeth Dick (Kasey Goddard's mother), Kevin Diffie (Joe & Carolyn Diffie's son), Bob Douglas, Jack Dunlap (Jenise Dunlap's son), Art Dunn, Ann Dye (Sandra Cherry's sister), Bill Faircloth (Brinley's grandson), Kolsen Fleming (Renae Hudspeth's nephew), Jacob Force (Chrissy Tubbs' nephew), Lon Foreman (Lois Rickman's son), Dotty Bea Gish, Annie Harris, Floyd & Jeanie Hayes, Forrest & Ann Hergert, Reba Hicks (Karen VanDyke's mother), Robert Holt, Joan Kelley, Dan Konkle, Chelsea Koop (Mary Kendrick's granddaughter), Patti Ledbetter (friend of Sondra Seaton), Mike Linn (Debbie Robus' brother-in-law), Lee Lustfeldt, Margueritte Madding (JoAnn James' mother), Shannon Martin, Paul McFarland (friend of the Brinleys), Kelly McKenzie, Laurie Morgan (Melba Herring's granddaughter), J. L. & Jody Mullens, Lou Seale Nichols (Freddie Lou Quist's mother), Steve Paski (friend of Greg Luetschwager), Mary Pruett, Josie Rast (Selena Evans' niece), Jack Rhodes, Dustin Roberson (Melba Herring's great-grandson), Lois Robertson (Rebecca Cockrell's mother), Jeff Stanford, Donald Traylor (Linda Tredway's cousin), Judy Taylor (Jerry Bise's sister), Peri Thomas (friend of Lehfeldt Family), U.S. Armed Forces, Jean Bice-Vejovoda (Lynne Brown's mother), Layne Wallace, Eva Warner, Sabrina Wells (Dana Wells' daughter), Rosemary West, Merriam Wiggins, Cherie Williams (Chuck & Bee Buchman's daughter), Opal Williams (John Haugen's mother), Ruth Wilson, The Yeisley family (Bill & Karen Brinley's daughter), Pat Zimmerman (E.J. Devlin's sister)



MEMORIALS

The following gifts have been given to the glory of God and in memory of ...

Children's Fund

Ruby Lee "Doodle" Heinbein by Ollie Fae Jackson
Ruth Garner by Ollie Fae Jackson, Mr. & Mrs. Mike Graham

General Fund

Ruth Garner by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Blair, Mr. & Mrs. Frank Blair, Susan Hestir

Pastor's Emergency Fund

Mary Morgan by Mr. & Mrs. Bill Pierce, Mr. & Mrs. John Pickell
C.A. Smith by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Stuart

Ruth Garner and Kenneth Short by Mr. & Mrs. Wayne Harvey

Youth Fund

Bill Monaghan by Mr. & Mrs. Charles Stuart



HONORARIUMS

The following gifts have been given to the glory of God and in honor of ...

Pastor's Emergency Fund

Anna Moon, Jackie Vance, Kelly McKenzie, Gail McKenzie, Alma Smith, Dottie Johnson, Verdie Daniels and Terri Whitlatch by Mr. & Mrs. James Johnson

LAY SPEAKING CLASS

Lay Speaking Classes will be held March 16-17, at Mount Eagle. There will be a Basic and two Advanced classes (Evangelism and Spiritual Gifts). Cost is \$65 which includes 3 meals, course materials and lodging for one night. Registration for each class is limited. Please contact the church office for registration forms.

LYNNE'S LINES

We are off and running for the New Year – lots of activity in the church. Staff Parish Relations Committee met the 16th, Finance Committee the 17th, and Church Council the 22nd. Our Worship Team met to plan worship for the year. The Board of Trustees will meet this Thursday.

A new Sunday School class met for the first time Sunday morning, with 10 people in attendance. If you are interested in getting in on the ground floor of a new class, please join them this Sunday at 9:30 in the Chapel.

Improvements to our facilities started up again with work to remodel the men's upstairs bathroom in the Sunday School wing getting underway.

If you have not partaken of the wonderful food and fellowship on Wednesday nights in the Family Life Center, you are missing some good times. Our *Kitchen Volunteer Ministry teams (IHS # 127 & 128)* do a wonderful job.

Also, I want to apologize for not recognizing earlier the *Flower Delivery Ministry (IHS # 124)* who delivered poinsettias to shut-ins and nursing home residents after Christmas. I know they brightened their lives.



PREPARING FOR A DISASTER

It's the season to think about disaster preparedness! Do you have a disaster relief kit ready in the event of a disaster? The North District Disaster Coordinator, Debbie Bodenhamer, has prepared several lists which may be of assistance to you. These lists are in the church office. It pays to be prepared!

SERVING IN HIS STEPS
A light for Christ through
Prayers, Presence, Gifts, Service & Witness
By Our Presence

Attendance – January 22 **497**
 8:25 AM - 81 9:35 AM - 262 10:55 AM - 124 5:00 PM - 30
 Sunday School **270**
 Children: 104 Adults: 166

By Our Gifts

Weekly Budget Needs \$ 20,577.42
 Our Giving Last Week \$ 20,189.05
 Year-to-Date Needs \$ 82,309.69
 Year-to-Date Budget Income \$ 67,866.52

By Our Service

Bus Driver: Ernest Flippo (362-7751)

Pray for Worship during Worship

Jan. 29	Warren Darden	Feb. 5	Betty Daschler
Feb. 12	Joanne Evans	Feb. 19	Jan Awalt

Liturgist	<u>8:25</u>	<u>9:35</u>	<u>10:55</u>
Jan. 29	G. Johnson	Cliff Childers	Charle Cayton
Feb. 5	M. Douglas	Burt Eddington	Barbara Little
Feb. 12	R. Nordskog	Kent Hulsey	Bill Wells
Feb. 19	Sarah Bond	Lary George, Jr.	Kathy DeBusk

A/V Ministry

January 29
 8:25 - Cliff Childers, James Carr
 9:35 - John Goddard, Logan Rolleigh, Warren Darden
 10:55 - Scott Tomlinson, Devin Redding, Rocky Togni
February 5
 8:25 - Charles Stuart, James Carr
 9:35 - John Goddard, Arden Schlicker, Warren Darden
 10:55 - Scott Tomlinson, Devin Redding, Kim Bell
February 12
 8:25 - James Carr, Jared Gifford
 9:35 - Mark Spanel, Sherry Shearer, April Woods
 10:55 - Rick Davis, Kelley McCormick, Greg McCormick

Ushers

January 29
 8:25 - Ira Ashley, Ed Irwin, Rodney Bise, Dottie Johnson
 9:35 - Pat & Kerri Dudeck, Burt Eddington, Mark Evans, Matt & Heather Blanton
 10:55 - Maureen Murray, Ingrid Cleek, Ed & Rhonda Guillotte
February 5
 8:25 - E. J. Devlin, Mary Kendrick, Jerry & Rebecca Cockrell
 9:35 -
 10:55 - Ingrid Cleek, Lucille Davis, Mike & Melissa Graham
February 12
 8:25 - Tom & Audrey Moore, Mary Kendrick, Jack Fowler
 9:35 -
 10:55 - Paul & Jane Bowie, Bud & Barbara Williams

Attendance Slip

Jan. 29 Jim & Peggy Clark
 Feb. 5 Ben & JoAnn Young
 Feb. 12 Jerry & Jan Moon
 Feb. 19 B. Langley, Dot Duncan

Sanctuary Stewards

Jerry Smith, Sandy Phelps
 B. Daschler, Sue Moody
 Ernest & Dona Flippo
 Dick & Nealia Neal

Nursery Volunteer – January 29

9:35 Jammie Jarvis 10:55 Lisa Bly

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www.heberfumc.com

Non-Profit Organization
 Heber Springs, AR 72543
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Church Staff

Rev. Tommy Toombs - Pastor
 Charle Cayton - Minister of Visitation
 Carolyn Strickland - Office Manager/Music Dir.
 Greg Luetschwager - Custodian
 Mike Wagner - Office Assistant
 Donna Redding - Dir. Children's Ministries
 Barbara Little - Pianist
 Alesha Presley - Youth Director

David Jones - Pastoral Assistant
 Lynne Brown - Administrator
 Beth Rork - Administrative Asst.
 Tommy Toombs, Jr. - Custodian
 James Carr - Audio/Visual Coordinator
 Selena Evans - Promiseland Coordinator
 Jo Wells - Organist
 Kasey Goddard - Praise Team Coordinator

OUR PURPOSE STATEMENT

To be a light for Christ in Cleburne County and the world by exalting Christ in worship, encouraging fellowship in the family, enlightening disciples with biblical truths, equipping the saints for service, and evangelizing all in the name of Christ.

DID YOU KNOW?

As we get a little older, it becomes a little harder to hear. *Did you know we have portable hearing devices that will help you to hear the worship service better?* Your usher on Sunday morning can help you locate one.

Did you know Charles Stuart, Team Leader, for *IHS# 114, FUMC History & Archives*, has been working diligently to update our Church History? Look for more information soon.

Thank You

We are in our ninth year because of your love and concern for this very unique mission. We have sent 105 people to long-term, faith-based rehabs. Linda and I have also housed 64 people in our home. We hold three weekly meetings: Bible Study on Tuesday, Celebrate Recovery on Friday, and Sunday School and Worship on Sunday. Thank you for your offering. It is especially appreciated this month as we begin a new year.

Thanks, Lloyd & Linda Blanton, FreedomWay

I wish to thank everyone who sent a birthday card to my mother, Ella Mae Baker, who was 100 years old on January 5, 2012. Our goal was for her to receive 100 cards. Last count was 147, and she is still receiving cards. Thank you for helping her have a great birthday.

Thanks, Shirley Ashley

Words cannot express how much we appreciate the prayers, cards, calls, and other expressions of love during C.A.'s illness and death. Our thanks go out to Brother Tommy, Carolyn, and the American Legion Honor Guard for making the graveside service so beautiful. Also, we would like to thank the Pairs and Spares Class for providing the luncheon.

Alma Smith, Kathy, Rachel & Caitlin

HELP A CHURCH MEMBER GO ON A MISSION TRIP?

Rachel Archer will be part of a Mission Team going to May Pen, Jamaica March 3-10. The total cost of the mission trip is \$920. Would you consider helping Rachel go on this trip? Checks should be made payable to "Harding University Spring Break Mission Trip."



MINISTRY MINUTE

Is God calling you to do more in your ministry through the church? If you haven't committed to any of the active ministries in our church, please pray about areas God would want you to serve. There are many areas where you can serve and volunteers ready to train you. For more information, call the church office at 362-2696.



ANNUAL VALENTINE DINNER THEATER FUNDRAISER

Hope Lutheran Church is once again hosting "Love Is In the Air V," This will be the fifth year for this fundraiser benefiting the Christian Health Center. Our fundraiser this year will be on Saturday, February 11, at 6:30 PM. Tickets are \$25, reservations required. We hope you will join us for a fun-filled evening of dinner and entertainment featuring vocalist Carolyn Strickland and local musicians. To reserve your tickets, please call Mary Lu Helm at (501) 362-6161.

VALENTINE'S STEAK DINNER

There will be a fund-raiser for the Tumbling Shoals/Ida Fire Department on Saturday, February 11, from 4:00-7:00 PM at Chastain Chapel General Baptist Church in Tumbling Shoals. The menu includes: 8 oz. New York Strip, vegetable, baked potato, bread, dessert and drink. Cost is \$20 in advance and \$25 at the door. For more information, contact Linda at (501) 250-5350.



HELP FOR HELPING HANDS

Helping Hands is the new "clothes closet" ministry led by Debbie Rutter. It has helped dozens of families in a short time and has quickly outgrown the space we provided in the Storm Shelter. Debbie, with Rick Gardner's help, has leased the back part of the Red River Music building so she can receive more clothes and help more people. Help is needed in a couple of areas to accomplish this move. First, remodeling is needed that includes a new door, ramp, partitions, and more. We will notify the appropriate ministry teams but anyone willing to offer skilled labor is welcome. Funds are also needed to pay for materials (after the move, expenses will be low or nothing). Anyone willing to help is asked to call Debbie (at Subway) or the church office. - David Jones