

Mission Statement: To Love and to Lead
The Mission of Heritage United Methodist Church is to Love God and people passionately and to Lead people into a passionate relationship with Jesus Christ.

Heritage Happenings is published weekly
 Office Hours: Mon - Thurs: 8 am - 5 pm; Fri: 8 am - 12 pm
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WORSHIP WITH US EVERY SUNDAY!

8:05 AM
Awakening Service

9:30 AM
Traditional Service

11:00 AM
Contemporary Worship

Nursery provided for all services.

Sunday School for All Ages
9:30 & 11:00 AM

Heritage United Methodist Church
 1604 East Pointer Trail
 Van Buren, AR 72956-2326

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Heritage Happenings

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A THANKFUL HEART
 by Francis Frangipane

The very quality of your life, whether you love it or hate it, is based upon how thankful you are toward God. It is one's attitude that determines whether life unfolds into a place of blessedness or wretchedness. Indeed, looking at the same rose bush, some people complain that the roses

have thorns while others rejoice that some thorns come with roses. It all depends on your perspective.

This is the only life you will have before you enter eternity. If you want to find joy, you must first find thankfulness. Indeed, the one who is thankful for even a little enjoys much. But the unappreciative soul is always miserable, always complaining. He lives outside the shelter of the Most High God.

Perhaps the worst enemy we have is not the devil but our own tongue. James tells us, *"The tongue is set among our members as that which . . . sets on fire the course of our life"* (James 3:6). He goes on to say this fire is ignited by hell. Consider: with our own words we can enter the spirit of Heaven or the agonies of hell!

It is hell with its punishments, torments and misery that controls the life of the grumbler and complainer! Paul expands this thought in 1 Corinthians 10:10, where he reminds us of the Jews who *"grumble[d] . . . and were destroyed by the destroyer."* The fact is, every time we open up to grumbling and complaining, the quality of our life is reduced proportionally -- a destroyer is bringing our life to ruin!

People often ask me, "What is the ruling demon over our church or city?" They expect me to answer with the ancient Aramaic or Phoenician name of a fallen angel. What I usually tell them is a lot more practical: one of the most pervasive evil influences over our nation is ingratitude! Do not minimize the strength and cunning of this enemy! Paul said that the Jews who grumbled and complained during their difficult circumstances were *"destroyed by the destroyer."*

Who was this destroyer? If you insist on discerning an ancient world ruler, one of the most powerful spirits mentioned in the Bible is Abaddon, whose Greek name is Apollyon. It means *"destroyer"* (Rev. 9:11). Paul said the Jews were destroyed by this spirit. In other words, when we are complaining or unthankful, we open the door to the destroyer, Abaddon, the demon king over the abyss of hell!

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May we all walk with hearts of gratitude this week and every week!
 We serve an amazing God of grace and glory!

Pastor Wes

In Our Thoughts & Prayers

In Hospital:
Linda Seubold (UAMS)
Elmo Evans (Pointer Trail H & R)

At Home:
Barbara Blythe, Margene Bules, Gerlinda Dibble, Roy and Fae Dyer, Jeanette Elkins, , Jeri Nash, Judy Spencer, Alan Swaim

All Military Personnel all around the world

Nursing Home:
Jean Stratton (Legacy Lodge)
Assisted Living:

Billie Jacks (Alma Health Care)
Maxine Fahrner (Hope's Creek)
Mattie Lindsey (Alma H & R)
Mary Coble (Crawford H & R)
Mary Friday (Crawford H & R)
Lena Mae Smith (Crawford H & R)

In Thanksgiving:
Shane and Tonya Hubbard and Family in the birth of their son, *Austin Shane*.

In Sympathy:
Charles Frey and Family in the death of his wife, *Sue Frey*.

November Volunteers

Ushers

8:05 am John Poole Christina Fontaine Buster Colbert Bruce Brown	9:30 am Goodson Life Group	11:00 am Drew Cone Chad Sharbono Greg McClure John Poole
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Greeters

8:05 am:
Darlene Craft
Max Goins
9:30 am:
Goodson Life Group
11:00 am:
Kris Tutwiler

Upcoming Events

December 9:
 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT
 9:30 AM

December 16:
 TREE OF REMEMBRANCE SERVICE
 3:00 PM

Have an Announcement for the Bulletin or Newsletter? Email it to office@heritagevb.org.

MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

In memory of **Violet Hesslen** (Mother of Cecilia Peer and Buddy Hesslen) by:

M/M Bill Thomas (FP)

In honor of **Alan Swaim's Birthday** by:

M/M Johnny Parker (FP)

In honor of **Darrell Shook's Birthdays** by:

M/M Johnny Parker (FP)

In honor of **Debbie Thomas' Birthday** by:

M/M Johnny Parker (FP)

FP - Food Pantry

WORSHIP AND PRAYER

You are invited to sit and soak in the Heritage Sanctuary every Thursday from 12 - 1pm as Chuck leads a time of worship and prayer.

FOOD PANTRY NEWS

Don't forget to fill up your mason jars with your loose change to help support the food pantry. We will collect them on Sunday, December 9th!

HEALTH KITS

Health Kits need to be turned into the office this week so that we can get them mailed out.

NEW MEMBERS



Ilene Tittle joined Sunday.



Pat Meek joined Sunday. She is the fiancée of John Poole.



Craig and Holly Ballegeer joined Sunday.



Jim Pendergrass joined and was baptized Sunday. He is the husband of Nona Pendergrass.



Lisa Kelly joined Sunday.



Mikal and Andrea Seegars joined Sunday. They have two daughters, Sydney and Ava. Trudy Leding joined Sunday.



John and Betty Farris joined Sunday.



Shawn and Kim Shankle and their daughter, Madison joined Sunday. They also have one son, Grant. Madison was baptized.

ATTENTION: HERITAGE FAMILY

Below is a list of food items that are still needed for our Christmas Sing-n-Supper that we will be hosting for the downtown area of Van Buren on Friday evening, December 21st. It is a great outreach project and a wonderful way to say, "Merry Christmas!" to our community. If you have questions please contact bkneeland@heritagevb.org (Cash donations are also appreciated)

mashed potatoes - 25 boxes of instant

sweet potatoes - large cans - 40 cans

cornbread - packages or small boxes - 15 (non-sweet)

loaves of bread - 8

cranberry sauce - 20 regular cans

rolls - 30 dozen (please purchase no sooner than 12/16)

BE A BARNABAS



"Give generously to him and do so without a grudging heart; then because of this the Lord your God will bless you in all your work and in everything you put your hand to." - Deuteronomy 15:10

As the Barnabas campaign is nearing the end, we are excited to see what great things God is doing in your lives. We hope that you have drawn closer to God, seeking His guidance in creating your Faith Promise for 2013. The Faith Promise cards need to be turned in by Friday, November 30th to be included in the announcement for the total amount of the campaign on December 2nd.

For the giving portion of the card, we are asking for you to pledge an amount of money you will seek to give to Heritage in 2013. The total amount of money you plan to give can be given in weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly pledges. There is also a section for those who wish to give to the principal amount of the new building. A chart on the back of the Faith Promise card can help with you discover what percentage of your income you are giving back to the Lord or help you determine the percentage you want to give. These numbers in the chart are stated as if they are a weekly gift so be mindful of this if you plan to give in a semi-monthly or monthly manner.

We would also like to remind everyone that Heritage is offering Financial Peace University (FPU) in January 2013! "FPU teaches God's ways of handling money. Through video teaching, class discussions and interactive small group activities, FPU presents biblical, practical steps to get from where you are to where you've dreamed you could be. This plan will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more!" - <http://www.daveramsey.com/fpu>

Blake & Haley Bryant, Heritage Stewardship Team

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

Sunday, December 9, 2012

9:30 Worship Service

Come be blessed by the children as they present the story of the birth of Jesus to you!



2's through 5th grade children are invited to participate! The 2 year olds will begin our worship service singing Happy Birthday to Jesus! (2's are practicing in their classrooms on Sunday mornings!) The 3's through 5th grade are rehearsing on Sunday evenings, 6-7:30 pm!

CLOTHES CLOSET NEEDS

The Clothes Closet continues to be a busy place! We are open on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of each month from 9:30 am-12:00 noon. We usually serve 40-50 people on these days, and meet special requests on other occasions when children and/or families are in urgent need of clothing. **We currently have a great need for winter coats, sweatshirts, hoodies, and sweaters.** We always need children's clothes and jeans in any size! There is now a receptacle for your donations at the Mission House (Clothes Closet). **Please take your donations to the receptacle on the back porch of the Clothes Closet.** We need more volunteers! You may either help us during our "open" hours or you may work in the Clothes Closet at any time (sorting and hanging clothes). Call Alice Goodlin at 420-4553 to get started!

BENEFIT GAME TO HELP THE FOOD PANTRY

Come out and support the UAFS Lady Lions Basketball team after Bible Study on Wednesday, December 12th. They will take on the Evangel University Lady Crusaders at 7 pm in the Charles B. Dyer Arena in Alma. Admission is free by bringing two non-perishable food items. **All items will be donated to the Heritage food pantry.**

LIFE GROUPS

We have many Life Groups just waiting for you to join. We encourage you to pick up a brochure in the Great Hall and browse through the different groups and then contact Becki Kneeland, our Welcome Minister to get you plugged in. She can be contacted at 474-6424 or bkneeland@heritagevb.org.