

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

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

Periodical
 Postage
 Paid
 At Van Buren,
 Arkansas 72956
 Permit 24448



Heritage Happenings is published weekly
 Office Hours: Mon - Thurs: 8 am - 5 pm; Fri: 8 am - 12 pm
 Phone: 479-474-6424
 FAX & E-mail Address: 474-8549; office@heritagevb.org
 Church Web Page: www.heritagevb.org
 Arkansas Area Bishop: Rev. Gary Mueller
 District Superintendent: Rev. William Bud Reeves
 Lead Pastor: J. Wesley Hilliard, wes@heritagevb.org
 Pastor Emeritus: Bill Kelton, bekelton@sbcglobal.net
 Director of Ministries: Roger Goins, rgoins@heritagevb.org
 Congregational Care Pastor: Max Goins, max@heritagevb.org
 Worship Arts Minister: Chuck King, cking@heritagevb.org
 Organist: Renee Baldwin, rbaldwin@heritagevb.org
 Accompanist: Rick Endel, rendel@heritagevb.org
 Youth Minister: Brian Seewald, brian@heritagevb.org
 Associate Youth Minister: Brad Martin, brad@heritagevb.org
 Middle School Minister: Bob Odiome, BobO@heritagevb.org
 Children's Minister: Debbie Marsh, dmarsh@heritagevb.org
 Early Childhood Coordinator: Anna Utz, autz@heritagevb.org
 Preschool Director: Erin Reeves, ereeves@heritagevb.org
 Newcomer Coordinator: Becki Kneeland, bkneeland@heritagevb.org
 Financial Secretary: Ruth Ottinger, rottinger@heritagevb.org
 Publications Secretary: Kathy Goins, kgoins@heritagevb.org
 Staff Secretary: Pam James, pjames@heritagevb.org
 Newsletter/Bulletin Announcements: office@heritagevb.org
 Maintenance Superintendent: Wayne Weege, maintenance@heritagevb.org



Heritage Happenings (USPS Periodical Permit 24448) is published weekly (except Christmas) by Heritage United Methodist Church, 1604 Pointer Trail, Van Buren AR 72956-2326.
 POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Heritage United Methodist Church, 1604 Pointer Trail, Van Buren, AR 72956-2326 PH 479-474-6424

**FROM YOUR PASTOR'S HEART...
 ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS IS...THE BLESSED LIFE!**

It has been a wonderful Thanksgiving Season! Sunday morning was powerful in all services. God moved! It is a joyful thing to join God in the beautiful, wonderful, and messy work of healing ministry. In many ways, we are just getting started! Hallelujah!

Monday, we celebrated the life of our dear friend and brother, Johnny Parker! He has had a great impact on this city and the Heritage family! We will miss his presence dearly! Johnny and Donna led our 2007 Capital Campaign to build the Student Life Center. He received his ultimate healing! Our love and prayers are with Donna.

This Sunday is the first Sunday in Advent! Our theme for the morning as we light the first candle on the Advent wreath is **Waiting!** Eww, we don't like to wait. But Jesus tells us that THE BLESSED LIFE –the life of unshakable joy -- is for those who know how to wait. It is for those who joyfully endure hardships now "For the Son of Man's sake," knowing it will be worth it all! Christmas, the birth of Jesus the Messiah is worth the wait! Overcoming and enduring and sharing the Gospel with others in spite of opposition and until Jesus returns in all His glory will be worth the wait!

All I Want for Christmas is our message series for December. Join us Sunday as we learn how to receive from Y'shua/Jesus **The Blessed Life** He continually proclaimed in His sermons!



Come see the beautifully decorated Heritage sanctuary! It will be a glorious season! What do you *REALLY* want for Christmas?

See you Sunday as we anticipate what is coming ...

Pastor Wes

*In Our Thoughts
 & Prayers*

In Hospital:
Don Aspedon (Sparks)

At Home:
Margene Bules, Mary Ellen Wiedman-Burris, Jim and Gerlinda Dibble, BJ DuVall, Myron Kirksey, Kay Lockwood, Jeri Nash, Josh Rankin, Linda Seubold, Sandra Thompson

All Military Personnel all around the world

Assisted Living:
Billie Jacks (Alma Health Care)
Mary Coble (Crawford H & R)
Lena Mae Smith (Crawford H & R)
Jean Stratton (Crawford H & R)
Maxine Fahrner (Ashton Place)

In Sympathy:
Donna Parker and Family in the death of her husband, *Johnny Parker*.

December Volunteers

Ushers

8:05 am John Poole Eddie Prince John Vinson Cyndy Rogers	9:30 am Tom Konert John Symonds David Alexander Andy Williams	11:00 am Kip James Craig Ballegeer Terry Furr Scott Neidecker Jon Talley
---	--	--

Greeters

8:05 am:
Christina Fontaine
Mary Dempsey

9:30 am:
Darrell and Rhonda Shook
Burl and Debbie Carter

11:00 am:
Cyndy West
Barry and Shawna Mason

Upcoming Events

Tuesday, December 24:
 CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE
 5 PM & 7:30 PM
 COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS MEAL
 4:00 PM & 6:30 PM

HONORARIUMS

In honor of **EMMA LEE KELTON'S BIRTHDAY** by:

Johnnie Ruth Hammontree (FP)

In honor of **DONNA PARKER** by:

Connie Warren (BF)

In memory of **JOHNNY PARKER**

by: M/M Doyle Autry (BF)

Janie Bittle (BF)

CB & T (BF)

M/M Benton Cone (BF)

F.O. Armstrong Advertizing, Inc.

Ann Fimple (BF)

D. Hefner (BF)

Rosemary Holland (BF)

M/M Glen Hopkins, Jr. (BF)

M/M Joe Lloyd (BF)

Carolyn Loyd (BF)

Malynda McCain (BF)

M/M Mike McSpadden (BF)

M/M Zane Moore (BF)

M/M Paul Ray (BF)

Terry Rothwell (BF)

M/M Maurice Sagely (BF)

M/M Darrell Shook (BF)

M/M Alan Swaim (BF)

M/M John Symonds (BF)

M/M Bill Thomas (BF)

M/M Scott Treece (BF)

M/M Jim Udouj (BF)

M/M Heath Wagner (BF)

M/M Connie Warren (BF)

M/M Dorvan Wiley (BF)

Mr. Gary Briley (FP)

BF - Building Fund FP - Food Pantry

WELCOME OUR NEWEST MEMBERS



Becky Dayberry
and her daughter, Nicole



Bobbie Jo Martin and her
daughter, Jadea

HERITAGE TRAVELERS

The Heritage Travelers' are headed to Branson for "Christmas on the Trail" on December 7th. There are 15 spots left. Call the church office to make your reservation.

IN REMEMBRANCE



Johnny M. Parker, 66, of Van Buren entered heaven on Wednesday, November 20, 2013, following a brief illness. He was born July 30, 1947 in Fort Smith to John Milton Parker and Marie (Leonard) Parker of Van Buren. Johnny was a 1966 graduate of Van Buren High School and attended the University of Arkansas. He was a Navy Veteran; retired from the U.S. Postal Service; and a member of Heritage United Methodist Church.

Johnny's life centered around his faith, family, friends and fun. His favorite pastimes included playing golf with his buddies at Cedars, fishing with his brother-in-law, watching sporting events and cooking for family and friends. He was known for his laid back disposition, positive attitude, quick wit and ever present smile. He was preceded in death by his parents, Milton Parker and Marie Parker Minor; his mother-in-law, Lena Cotton Russell; and nephew, J. Cody Nutt.

Johnny was a member of St. John's and Heritage for thirty-six years. He and Donna led the Stewardship Committee that was instrumental in the building of the Student Life Center. Johnny felt strongly that the building was vital to our future; he loved children and he loved his church.

He is survived by his wife, Donna (Cotton) Parker of the home; one daughter, Stacy Parker Marry and husband, Peter of Commerce, Michigan; one granddaughter, Zoey Marie Marry of Commerce, Michigan; one step-father, James Minor of Van Buren; two brothers-in-law, Jim Cotton and wife, Betsy of Fort Smith, Bill Cotton of Paris; one sister-in-law, Beverly (Cotton) Taylor and husband, Joel of Eureka Springs; one nephew, Jamie Cotton of Fort Smith; two nieces, Taylor Cotton of Fayetteville, Merritt Taylor of Eureka Springs; one aunt, Gladys Ruppert of Lewisville, Texas; cousins and friends. We will all miss J.P.

**FEEL GOOD.
GIVE BLOOD.**

**Heritage United
Methodist Church
Blood Drive**

Wednesday, December 4
Two Shifts: 9:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
3:45 p.m. - 8 p.m.
Bloodmobile in the parking lot

*For questions or to sign-up see
Kathy in the office or call
479-642-3001. Donors can be 16
years old and up. (*16 year olds
must have a signed permission
slip to donate.)*

Each Donor Receives:
• A Hot/Cold Gel Pack
• Health Screenings
• Donor Rewards Points
*While supplies last.

Photo ID Required. Ask how you can support **GBF** GLOBAL BLOOD FUND

Oklahoma Blood Institute
Texas Blood Institute
Arkansas Blood Institute

arkbi.org obi.org txbi.org

CHRISTMAS IS COMING

Are you ready for something a little bit different? Join us in sharing Christmas with our community. We will have Christmas dinner WITH our friends, neighbors, food pantry customers, and others. We will need servers and helpers (Marthas) as well as families willing to share their Christmas experience with others (Marys). Whether you are a Mary or a Martha, it is going to be an amazing time. Contact the church office for more information.

THANK YOU

Wow! Thank you to the Van Buren High School Drama Department and the Heritage Preschool for all of the food items collected and donated to the food pantry. We will be able to feed many families this holiday season.

THANK YOU

A special THANKS to our decorating crew that has made our building so beautiful this season! Sherry Miller, John Poole, Max Garrett, Vesta Everitt, Pam Thomas, Katy Marsh and Laura Moore.

MISSIONARY OFFERING

If you have a birthday in December, you are invited to place an offering in our little white church on the chancel rail during the announcements this Sunday. Currently, all birthday offerings go to support the Rupp family ministering in East Asia.

The First Sunday of Advent: WAITING

As a part of our Advent waiting we celebrate Christ's coming by making an Advent wreath and lighting its candles to remind us of the hope Christ brings to the world. The round shape of the wreath reminds us of the unbroken love of God. The green branches speak of new life, and the candles proclaim the light that came into the world with Jesus Christ.

THE WELCOME CENTER

When you are greeting our guests, don't forget to bring them by the Welcome Center to meet our welcome team. They are there each Sunday to provide ministry, answer questions, give directions.....whatever the need may be. We want the guest of Heritage to know that they are loved.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Brownie Troop 4048 for their generous donation to the Food Pantry.

THE BEAT PARTY

We will have our Christmas Party and Gift Exchange on Sunday, December 1st. Join us for dinner, music, games, and a gift exchange! Please bring a \$5 newly wrapped gift. See you there!

SAVE THE DATE

Rubies' Women's Conference is scheduled for February 28th - March 1st here at Heritage.

BIRTHDAY LIST

A list of December birthdays is available in the Great Hall.

FOOD PANTRY NEEDS

The Food Pantry is in need of plastic sacks from the local stores (ex. Wal Mart, CV's, Dollar General, etc.). Please bring them with you to church and place them in the Food Pantry box in the Adult Sunday School wing. Thank you in advance.

MISSING SOMETHING?

Please call or stop by the church office if you are missing your bible, eye glasses or a multitude of other items. We have a nice collection of items that are ready to go home.

BAPTISM SUNDAY

If you are interested in being baptized at church Sunday, December 15th, please contact the church office at 474-6424.

PULSE PARTY

We will have our annual Christmas Party and Gift Exchange on Sunday, December 1st. There will be dinner, music, games, and two gift exchanges! Please bring a \$5 newly wrapped gift AND a "white elephant gift". See you there!