

**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.

**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



**FROM YOUR LEAD PASTOR'S HEART ... A SEASON OF MIRACLES!**

This week we celebrate **Thanksgiving** on Thursday and begin **Advent** on Sunday! All Americans know what Thanksgiving is – the holiday we give thanks to God for the blessings of living in the United States of America! We thank the Lord for His provision, protection and prosperity and for those who have gone before us to make these blessings possible. It is so important that we never forget that all we have is a gift from the Lord. May we never take Him for granted!

Now, while everyone knows what Thanksgiving is, many people new to Heritage don't know what **Advent** is. The word *Advent* simply means "coming." Traditionally, Christians have marked the four weeks leading up to Christmas day as the Advent season. During those days, we celebrate the first **coming/advent** of the Son of God (Christmas) and look forward in faith to His **SECOND COMING!** Each Sunday, we light a candle on our Advent Wreath and each candle represents a theme for the week. This year our weekly themes are Hope (11/29), Love (12/6), Joy (12/13), Peace (12/20), and Light (Christmas Eve)!

Our overall theme for **Advent 2015** is "**A Season of Miracles!**" We are taking this from a devotional by the same title by Janet Denison. We have ordered enough of these devotionals for every family at Heritage. The devotionals are free, but if you would like to reimburse the church for them, they cost us \$4 each. You may get yours in the church office during the week or in the Fellowship Hall on Sundays.

I am very excited about our theme this year. I believe you will really love the daily devotionals, and you won't want to miss a single Sunday:

1. 11/29: HOPE: The Miracle of Fulfilled Prophecies! Pastor Wes
2. 12/06: LOVE: The Miracle of Salvation! Hazem Farraj
3. 12/13: JOY: Miracles – Nothing is Impossible! Pastor Wes
4. 12/20: PEACE: Pastor Daniel
5. 12/24: LIGHT: How To Let God Birth Miracles Through You! Pastor Wes

I agree with the Christmas song, "It's the most wonderful time of the year!" I, for one, am so glad it is here, and I look forward to celebrating every week with you! It is time to celebrate JESUS – The LIGHT OF THE WORLD! Let us receive and proclaim to our world the **hope, love, joy, and peace** He brings!



See you Sunday! Jesus is coming!

*Pastor Wes*

**NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS**

**Ushers**

**8:05 am**  
John Poole  
Mike Kneeland  
Drew Cone  
Max Garrett

**9:30 am**  
Seeker's Life Group

**11:00 am**  
Chris Christensen  
Justin Lovett

**Greeters**

**8:05 am**  
Bruce Brown  
Darlene Craft  
Pamm Treece  
Pat Poole

**9:30 am**  
Seeker's Life Group

**11:00 am**  
Jena Harper  
Kris Ailes  
Laura Christensen



**In Hospital:**

**Saylor Ables** (Children's Hospital)  
**Jamie Hartley** (WRMC)

**At Home:**

**Mary Ellen Weidman-Burris, Marilyn Goins, Lee James, Jeri Nash, Gary Pittman, Carolyn Scott, Linda Seubold, Judy Spencer, Maria Sullivan, Stacey Walker, Mary Wrisinger**

**Assisted Living:**

**Mary Coble** (Crawford H & R)  
**Gerlinda Dibble** (Willowbrook)

**Geraldine Hurst** (Pink Bud Home)  
**Jean Stratton** (Crawford H & R)  
**Maxine Fahrner** (Ashton Place)  
**Warren Taylor** (Methodist Village)  
**Vi Herring** (CC Rehab)

**In Thanksgiving:**

**Ben and Sarah Kaminar** in the birth of their daughter, *Zoe Catherine*. Proud grandparents are Bob and Terry Freeman.

**In Sympathy:**

**Michael Canon and Family** in the death of his grandmother, *Barbara Canon*.



**Saturday, December 5**

LIVING WINDOWS AND LIGHTING  
OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE  
AT THE COURTHOUSE  
5:00 PM

**Sunday, December 6**

SPECIAL GUEST,  
HAZEM HARRAJ  
8:05, 9:30, 11 AM & 6:30 PM  
*\*5:30 PM - SOUP, SALAD & SANDWICH DINNER \$5 PER PERSON*

**Monday, December 7**

COMMUNITY PRAYER  
AT VIETNAMESE BAPTIST CHURCH  
7:00 PM

Have an Announcement for the Bulletin or Newsletter?  
Email it to [office@heritage.church](mailto:office@heritage.church).



**HONORARIUMS  
AND MEMORIALS**

In honor of **ZOE CATHERINE KAMINAR** (daughter of Ben and Sarah Kaminar) by:

Bob and Terry Freeman (CM)

In honor of **DEBBIE THOMAS' BIRTHDAY** by:

Dorvan and Mikie Wiley (BF)

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

Ron and Smokey McPhail (BF)

In honor of **VESTA EVERITT'S BIRTHDAY** by:

Ron and Smokey McPhail (BF)

In memory of **CALVIN GARRETSON** (father of Debbie Carter) by:

Doris Wortham (VF)

In memory of **CARROLL CARTER** (brother of Burl Carter) by:

Doris Wortham (VF)

BF - Building Fund CM - Children's Ministry  
VF - Van Fund

**BIRTHDAY LIST**

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

**ORDER YOUR  
POINSETTIAS**

If you would like to place a poinsettia in the Sanctuary during the month of December in honor or in memory of someone, please complete this form and return it to the church office with payment of \$10 per poinsettia.

Placed in (circle one)

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**CELEBRATIONS**



Delaine Pinedo

Tabytha  
Daughter of  
Justin and  
Tracy Mankins



**BABY SHOWER**

Join us as we shower Ben and Sarah Kaminar and baby Zoe Catherine with love and baby gifts Sunday, December 13th from 1-3 in the Welcome Center. They are registered at Amazon and Walmart.

**BLOOD DRIVE FOR SAYLOR**



Support Saylor Ables by donating blood **THIS** Sunday, November 29th in the Fellowship Hall.

Each donor receives a Go Hog Wild t-shirt. **Remember to say that you are giving in honor of Saylor.**

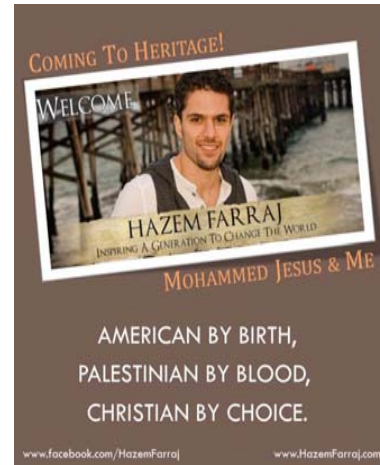


**HERITAGE ANGELS**



We support DHS and the foster children in our area by collecting Christmas gifts. After you choose an angel from the wall by the Children's wing and the office, return the gifts to the stage in the Fellowship Hall by Sunday, December 13th! All gifts must be unwrapped and in a bag with their angel number attached to the bag. If you have any questions, contact Debbie Thomas at 651-0810 or the church.

**SPECIAL GUEST**



Soup, sandwich and salad dinner at 5:30 pm followed by worship and teaching with special guest, Hazem Farraj on Sunday, December 6th. Dinner is \$3 for seniors, \$2 for children, \$4 for adults \$10 max per family. Pay at the door.



**ADVENT DEVOTIONAL**

Remember to pick up your book at church **THIS** Sunday. One per family, please!

**SURVIVING THE HOLIDAYS**

Join us Saturday, December 5th at 3:30 pm at Legacy Heights for an encouraging seminar that will help you survive the holidays and discover new reasons to enjoy them again. Registration begins at 9 am. For more information, contact Shirley Touchstone at 629-7901.

**CHRISTMAS AT CHURCH DOESN'T HAVE TO BE CRAZY** by Tony Morgan

Here it comes. The jam-packed schedule. The impossible deadlines. The pressure to out-perform last year. We go into survival mode almost as soon as the last of the Thanksgiving turkey sandwiches have been consumed.

Why do so many church leaders dread the Christmas season? Shawn Lovejoy wrote a [great article](#) about learning to embrace the rhythms of life, especially around the holidays, instead of working so hard to achieve "balance" at all times.

This is reality. Many things will feel urgent in the next six weeks. And feeling the weight of urgency while being crunched for time is a perfect storm for stress. It is easy to convince ourselves that all of this stress is allowable because we're serving God. During these times it is very important to manage the urgent with grace. Make sure to lead through the season with a focus on what's ultimately important (sharing the love of God).

Remind yourself of these truths now and again in the coming weeks.

The Christmas season celebrates the brilliance and love of *God's* plan to save the world. We can get too focused on celebrating *ours*.

Your production going off without a hitch will not save a single soul.

Your community is celebrating a holiday; you are celebrating God. Don't get the two confused. Help them see the difference.

How you treat others during this time of year communicates volumes about you and your church.

It's easy to neglect prayer when we think we have a solid plan. But it's the Spirit of God that draws people to repentance. Prayer should always be the first part of our plan.

We'll leave you with some encouragement from Scripture. This season may be busy, but it doesn't have to make us crazy.

**Commit your actions to the Lord, and your plans will succeed.** Proverbs 16:3

**Always be full of joy in the Lord. I say it again—rejoice!** Philippians 4:4

**Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.** James 1:2

**I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give is a gift the world cannot give.**

**So don't be troubled or afraid.** John 14:27

**As pressure and stress bear down on me, I find joy in your commands.** Psalm 119:143

**AND THE WALLS CAME  
TUMBLING DOWN**



Another \$237,000 tumbled from our debt this past Sunday. We only have \$177,000 left to take down the wall. As the bricks were removed, Michael Tursky described the impact and the way his family has been blessed through our **Here and Now—Fueling the fire for the future** capital campaign. If you would like to join the campaign, it is not too late! Contact Roger in the office for more information. Or talk to Michael; he would love to share his story!



**BEAT GEAR FOR SALE  
UNTIL THIS SUNDAY**

Long sleeve t-shirts: \$15  
Hooded sweatshirts: \$25

**To Order:**

1. Fill out form found online at [heritage.church/beat](http://heritage.church/beat), [heritage.church/pulse](http://heritage.church/pulse) or at the information center by the Youth Office
2. Money must accompany order
3. Orders will be filled in December (makes great Christmas gifts!!!)

Any proceeds will go to **Giving Away Christmas** Gift Giveaway at Heritage Church on Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>!

**PULSE GEAR FOR SALE  
UNTIL THIS SUNDAY**

Short sleeve t-shirts: \$10  
Hooded sweatshirts: \$25