

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

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FROM YOUR PASTOR'S HEART ... A SEASON OF MIRACLES: NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD!

This is my favorite theme in scripture. If the miracle of Christmas screams anything, it resounds with the banner, "Nothing is impossible with God!" We should not be too surprised! God enabled Abraham and Sarah to have a child when they were 100 and 90 respectively. He enabled Zachariah and Elizabeth to give birth to John the Baptist in their old age. If God can become one of us, which He proves that He did by the resurrection of Jesus/Y'shua, then our faith in the power of God rests secure! We serve a mighty, all-sufficient, more-than-enough, omnipotent (all powerful), Creator God.

During this **Season of Miracles**, we have studied the miracle of fulfilled prophecy. We showed that Jesus fulfills so many prophecies that He proves beyond any probability otherwise that He is who He says He is – the King of Kings and LORD of LORDS! We witnessed the miracle of a Palestinian Muslim young man, **Hazem Farraj**, who was born again through faith in Jesus, who now loves Israelis, and who now fearlessly shares the Gospel on television and multi-media and rescues Christians and other people groups persecuted by ISIS. This week, we will affirm the universal testimony of the Word of God: **Nothing is impossible if it is conceived by our God!**



Come be in awe and wonder of our magnificent God! Come marvel that God became one of us! Come *build yourself up in your most holy faith* (Jude 1:20)! Hear the angel Gabriel speak into your life, "Nothing is impossible with God!"

So encouraged by your faith and love!

Pastor Wes and Allison

P.S. Hazem sent another box of his books. You may purchase them in the Fellowship Hall this Sunday for \$20 -- knowing that this is the income from which he lives. All other gifts go to support his work with persecuted Christians and other people groups terrorized by ISIS in the Middle East.



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@heritage.church
Church Web Page: www.heritage.church
Arkansas Area Bishop: Rev. Gary Mueller
District Superintendent: Rev. Steve Coburn
Lead Pastor: J. Wesley Hilliard, whilliard@heritage.church
Pastor Emeritus: Bill Kelton, bekelton@sbcglobal.net
Director of Ministries: Roger Goins, rgoins@heritage.church
Welcome Minister: Becki Kneeland, bkneeland@heritage.church
Discipleship Pastor: Bryan Tabakian, btabakian@heritage.church
Congregational Care Pastor: Max Goins, mgoins@heritage.church
Worship Arts Minister: Chuck King, cking@heritage.church
Accompanist: Rick Endel, rendel@heritage.church
Youth and Family Pastor: Brian Seewald, bseewald@heritage.church
Associate Youth Minister: Brad Martin, bmartin@heritage.church
Middle School Pastor: Brad Sneed, bsneed@heritage.church
Children's Minister: Debbie Marsh, dmarsh@heritage.church
Financial Manager: Lisa Willis, lwillis@heritage.church
Publications Secretary: Kathy Goins, kgoins@heritage.church
Staff Secretary: Pam James, pjames@heritage.church
Facility Manager: Steve Kelton, skelton@heritage.church
Newsletter/Bulletin Announcements: office@heritage.church

DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Ushers

8:05 am
John Poole
Gary Podgurski
Eddie Prince
Alexis Booster

9:30 am
John Symonds
Tom Konert
David Alexander
Andy Williams
Carol Ray

11:00 am
Chris Christensen
Justin Lovett

Greeters

8:05 am
Friends for Life Life Group

9:30 am
Margo Symonds
Joe and Patricia Johns

11:00 am
Jason and Tiffany Parks
Barry and Shawna Mason



In Hospital:

At Home:

Saylor Ables, Mary Ellen Weidman-Burris, Lee James, Jeri Nash, Gary Pittman, Carolyn Scott, Linda Seubold, Maria Sullivan, Tim Treece, Stacey Walker, Ken and Sandy Weifenbach, 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)



Sunday, December 13
CHRISTMAS ANGELS DUE

Thursday, December 24
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
3, 5 & 7:30 PM
COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS DINNER
4 & 6:30 PM

Have an Announcement for the Bulletin or Newsletter?
Email it to office@heritage.church.

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

In honor of **DEBBIE BRETCH'S BIRTHDAY** by:
Bob Bretch (BF)

In memory of **DUANE COLLIER**
(brother of Doris Wortham) by:
Vesta Everitt (VF)


In honor of **MAX GOINS** by:
Bob and Debbie Bretch (BF)

In honor of **CHUCK KING** by:
Bob and Debbie Bretch (BF)

In honor of **SOPHIA AND
BRAXTON THOMAS** by:
Becke Symonds (PF)

BF - Building Fund VF - Van Fund
PF - Preschool Fundraiser

THANK YOU



A HUGE 'Thank you' to this wonderful crew of ladies that work their fingers to the bone making sure the newsletters get folded, tabbed and labeled EVERY week!!! If you see them this week, give them a hug!

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: _____

WELCOME



Kara Grill
She has three children, Katelyn, Kristen and Kameron (not pictured.)

MEETING

Please join us for church conference this Sunday, December 13th at 3 pm. The agenda is to approve the church budget for next year.

ON BEHALF OF SAYLOR

Thank you to everyone who gave blood last Sunday for Saylor. Benita, Shanda, Lee and myself wanted everyone to know that was a beautiful blessing and we are very thankful!!! WHAT A CHURCH!!!

DO YOU KNOW WHERE YOU ARE?

Do you know where you are in your giving this year? There is an easy way to find out! Just go to the Heritage web site: heritage.church, and then click on "member login" at the bottom. This takes you to a secure login page. Put in your email address and password. If this is your first time the system will assign you a password and send it to the email address listed in the church data base. Now the catch is, if the church doesn't have an email address for you, you must contact them (office@heritage.church, or 474-6424) and let them know your email address. Once you are in the members only base, click on the "Giving" tab at the top and then "My Giving History". There you can view your most recent tax statement (left hand side top half), view each week's offering on bottom half of page, or go to "pledge history" to see the amount remaining on the commitment you made for 2015. **If you see any errors please let the office know immediately so corrections can be made before the end of the year.**

And if you need an address or phone number of someone attending our church, just click on the "directory" tab at the top of the page and then choose the name of the person you need. How simple can you get!!!

Just a reminder on end of the year giving. Federal tax law states that for a contribution to be used as a charitable contribution it must be received by the church by the last day of the year or postmarked by December 31st.

BABY SHOWER

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

THANK YOU

Thank you so much to Malinda McSpadden, Mikie Wiley and Debbie Thomas for the lovely Shine luncheon and to Shari Rupp for sharing her heart. All of you are such a blessing!

CLOTHES CLOSET NEEDS

We need clothes and coats for infants and older. Please place them in the bins behind the clothes closet house next to the church.

REMINDER

This Wednesday, December 9th is our last regular Wednesday night of community meal and church-wide Bible studies until Wednesday, January 13th.

SEW FUN CREW

Interested in helping make blankets for the homeless? Sewing skills are great, but even if that isn't one of your skills people are needed to iron, cut out squares and pin squares together. The group meets Monday, December 14th from 9 am to around 2 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Come the whole time or how much time you can. Any of these supplies you can bring will be helpful. Some supplies will be on hand: Sewing machine, cutting mat, cutting rule guide & rotary cutter, seam ripper, scissors, 5 1/2, 6 1/2 and/or 7 inch square templates.

YOUR OLD FLANNEL SHIRTS, PAJAMAS AND SHEETS CAN FIND NEW LIFE!

The blankets for the homeless crew is especially in need of flannel material - old shirts with frayed collars & cuffs are great. Or you may have flannel sheets that have worn places but still good fabric in them. The idea is to take worn out items, cut out the good parts and turn them into something new and beautiful! Donations can be put in the church office.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Help someone experience the presence of Christ at Heritage; join our Welcome team as an usher or greeter (especially for the 11 am service). If you can provide services for one of these positions, please email Becki Kneeland at bkneeland@heritage.church.

GREETER DUTIES:

Arrive on time (20 minutes prior to service)
Commit to serving 1 to 2 months out of the year
Commit to attending one training per year
Greet people with a warm smile
Be familiar with the church
Know where Children's ministry is located
Know where bathrooms are located
Remind our guest of coffee and breakfast in fellowship hall

USHER DUTIES:

Arrive on time (20 minutes prior to service)
Commit to serving 1 to 2 months out of the year
Commit to attending one training per year
Greet people with a warm smile
Pass out bulletins
Be aggressive about finding seats for our guest
Participate in receiving the offering
Participate in serving communion (once a month)

GIVING AWAY CHRISTMAS

We have so much to be thankful for this holiday season and we don't want to forget to give back to our community by serving in some capacity on Christmas Eve. We need lots of volunteers (around 150) for Christmas Eve dinner to help serve our guests. We will need 100 desserts pre-cut into 8 piece slices (we prefer brownies and cookies). Please let us know how you want to volunteer by emailing Becki Kneeland at bkneeland@heritage.church. Serving times will be from 3:00 to 5:00 and then again from 5:00 to 7:00. Everyone will serve a two hour shift.



If you are interested in being baptized at church Sunday, December 20th, please contact the church office at 474-6424.

WRITING MINISTRY

Join us in January for a brand new group, *Expressions*. Expressions will be a way for all to share their writing gifts the Lord has given them. Our first meeting will be Monday, January 7th from 6 - 7 pm in the Welcome Center. For more information, email Lu Ann Donahou or Janice Podgurski at ExpressionsWM@gmail.com.

HERITAGE ANGELS



We have a few angels left on the wall by the Children's wing. Please return the gifts to the stage in the Fellowship Hall by this **Sunday, December 13th!** All gifts must be unwrapped and in a bag with their angel number attached to the bag. If you want to help and don't like to shop, consider giving a donation and someone will shop for you.