

**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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Arkansas 72956
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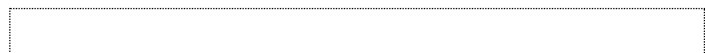
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DECEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Ushers

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

9:30 am
Wayne Stewart
Mark Evans
Mark Stafford
Scott Weege

11:00 am
Daniel Chisolm
Nathan Elliott
Grant Elliott
Justin Sangster

Greeters

8:05 am
Kelly Curd
Bruce and Janet Johnson

9:30 am
Anita Barnett and Carolyn Loyd
Vesta Everitt and Liz McFadden

11:00 am
Janalou Devers and Ruth Ottinger
Tracy Vanderbush and Terry Johnson

In Hospital:

Jim Terry (OKC)
Teenia Stein (Mercy)

At Home:

Saylor Ables, Mary Ellen Weidman-Burris, Amber Fimpel, Lee James, Terry McGonigle, Jeri Nash, Gary Pittman, Lavonna Proctor, Carolyn Scott, Mikal Seegers, Linda Seubold, Maria Sullivan, Alan Swaim, 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)

In Thanksgiving:

Nate, Deanna and Maddox Hobbs on the birth of their daughter and sister, *Avie LaNae*. Proud grandmother is Rhonda Chambers.



Wednesday, January 13
WEDNESDAY ACTIVITIES
RESUME

Sunday, January 17
LEADERSHIP TRAINING
LUNCHEON
12:30 PM

Saturday, February 6
REVIVAL: AN EVENING WITH
DR. JANICE GILBERT
6:30 PM

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

From Your Pastor's Heart ...Accountable, Covenant Discipleship. Are these Scary Words??!

Sunday we saw that prayer and fasting are the keys that **IGNITE** revival but that, historically and Biblically, **ACCOUNTABLE, COVENANT DISCIPLESHIP** is the key to **FUELING** and **Sustaining** Revival and Spiritual Awakening. These can be scary words for some of us. As I referenced in the article by Mike Satjura, "What Veterans Miss Most is What Most Civilians Fear," most Americans are fearful to commit to a group of people who truly get to know them below the surface, who will count on them as spiritual brothers and sisters, and who will "check-up" on them.

I understand that there have been some abuses of accountable discipleship in the recent past. The Shepherding Movement of the 1970s placed too much authority in the small-group leaders to hear from God for the group and to discern God's will and direction for individuals. The leaders of that movement publically acknowledged their error and repented.

So how can we find emotionally, socially, and spiritually healthy ways to engage in accountable, covenant, discipleship in the 21st century in the River Valley? That is what we are going to explore this Sunday. I am so excited. I really feel that we are on the cusp of something really important that the LORD is wanting to do with us. This is a critical step. I believe it will be worth the risks and the effort. I believe you will be blessed tremendously as you risk engaging in accountable, covenant discipleship.

Pastor Bryan Tabakian, Leanna and Max Garrett, and Becki Kneeland are helping me with this. We will make suggestions about what this might look like, but each group/class/ministry will agree upon their own covenant. Each individual will determine that for which he or she wants to be held accountable. We'll talk about this more on Sunday morning in worship. Sunday at 12:30, we ask all current leaders of life-groups/classes/ministries and those who are praying about becoming leaders to join us for lunch where we will share more concretely about this and how you can incorporate this into your life and the life of your groups. Please RSVP to pjames@heritage.church or bkneeland@heritage.church or 479-474-6424 if you will be able to join us!



God has important ministry for you! Let us be ALL IN in 2016! Excited for what God has ahead!

Pastor Wes

P.S. We will have children's ministry for your kids so please let us know those numbers for planning. We hope to get us out as close to 1:30 p.m. as possible.

HONORARIUMS AND MEMORIALS

In honor of **MELISSA HILL TAYLOR** (daughter of Linda Hill) by:
Linda Hill (FP)

In honor of **MIKIE WILEY'S BIRTHDAY** by:
Donna Parker (BF)

In honor of **RICK ENDEL'S BIRTHDAY** by:
Bill and Debbie Thomas (YM)

In honor of **ROGER BURKERT** by:
Bob and Debbie Bretch (FP)

In honor of **WES AND ALLISON HILLIARD** by:
Bob and Debbie Bretch (BF)

In honor of **ROGER AND KATHY GOINS** by:
Bob and Debbie Bretch (BF)

In memory of **J.L. LEWIS** by:
June and Jason Lewis (FP)
Gary and Janice Podgurski (FP)

FP - Food Pantry CM - Children's Ministry
BF - Building Fund YM - Youth Ministry

TAKING DOWN BRICKS

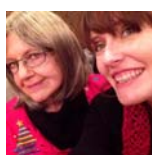


Our current loan balance is \$47,000. Jack and Linda Infield shared how the Student Life Center and giving to the building fund has impacted this congregation and their lives.

GRIEF SHARE

A new GriefShare Support Group has begun! They meet each Monday at 9:30 am at Heritage in Room 122 and 6:30 pm at Legacy Heights. For more information, contact Shirley Touchstone at 479-629-7901. *Due to the upcoming holiday, they won't meet next Monday, January 18th.

WELCOME



Teenia Stein joined last week. She is the mother of Ally Carson.

REMINDER

Our regular Wednesday night of community meal and church-wide Bible studies will resume Wednesday, January 13th.

JOIN US



Join us Saturday, February 6th at 6:30 pm for an evening with Dr. Janice Gilbert. She will bring the word on *Pursuing God!* Dr. Gilbert is an endorsed candidate for bishop by the Black Methodists for Church Renewal. She is the Senior Pastor of St. James United Methodist in Beaumont, TX and has received several awards for evangelism and church growth. She has been a guest speaker at many Annual Conferences and churches. Prior to entering the ministry, she served as a speech pathologist, college instructor, public school administrator, and a consultant for families with special needs children. Dr. Gilbert will also bring the message on Sunday morning February 6th at all three services.

CHURCH CLOSED

The church will be closed next Monday, January 18th for Martin Luther King Day.

BAPTISMS

If you are interested in being baptized at church this Sunday, January 17th, please contact the church office at 474-6424.

WAY TO GO!



Isabella Catron was crowned Miss Arkansas River Valley and Kristen Sharp was crowned Miss Arkansas River Valley Outstanding Teen. We are proud of you. Isabella is the daughter of Kyle and Melissa Catron. Kristen is the daughter of Tawana Sharp.



Out of 21 facilities, Bryan Tabakian was recently selected as *Employee of the Year* by Oklahoma Treatment Services. Way to go, Bryan!

NEW CLASS

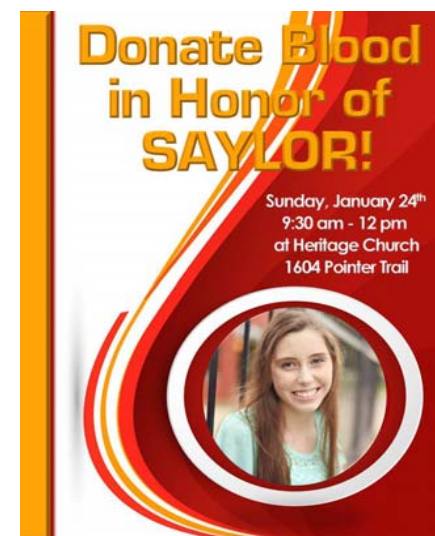
Beginning Sunday, January 24th, a new class will be offered at 9:30 am on Sundays for college and career ages. This class will encourage, equip, and effectively prepare our college students and young adults to defend their faith and grasp why they believe what they believe. It is facilitated by Bryan and Traci Tabakian.

YOUNG AT HEART

If you are 55 and older, please join us for a time of food and fellowship on the fourth Thursday night of every month from 6 - 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall beginning January 28th. Bring a dish to share!

HEALTHY CONGREGATION DAY

Come to the office Sunday, January 17th, between 9 and 11:15 am and have your blood pressure and sugar level checked.



LIMITED SPOTS

Sue Barnes will be facilitating a study of Bill Johnson's, *Hosting the Presence* beginning Sunday, January 24th. Sign up this Sunday in the Fellowship Hall.

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.

DIVORCE CARE

Lisa Sharp will facilitate a new class of Divorce Care beginning Sunday, January 24th at 6 pm in room 130. The first class will be an informational meeting where materials will be distributed.

L.I.G.H.T.

It is not too late to join us for a new study of Isaiah. We meet every Tuesday from 9 am - noon in room 122. All are welcome.

PERSPECTIVES IN THE WORLD CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT

Perspectives helps believers from all walks of life see how they can get threaded into God's story of redeeming people from every tribe, tongue, and nation to Himself. From Genesis to the prophets, Jesus Christ to the early church, and Constantine to today, you will see how God has been moving, how the global Church has responded, and what the greatest needs in world evangelization remain today. It isn't a class about missions, but a course on how every believer can be intimately woven into the story of God using His people to be a blessing to all the peoples of the earth.

Perspectives is a fifteen week course offered on Mondays beginning January 18th from 6:30 - 9:30 pm at City Christian Fellowship, 2203 S. 38th Street, Fort Smith. You can earn college credit or certificate of completion. For more information contact, Scott Ward at scott@grandfamily.net or 479-221-2425. www.perspectives.org

HERITAGE UNIVERSITY SPRING 2016 SEMESTER!

Heritage University returns for Spring 2016, with classes beginning on Sunday, January 24th at 9:30 am. Look for the HU information and sign-up table in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us as we strive to expand the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives through God-based learning! Here are the two classes being offered:

HU 310: Outlive Your Life by Max Lucado
(Leanna & Max Garrett)

On Pentecost, the Spirit came down and ignited the hearts and minds of believers to preach the gospel and live out justice for the forgotten. Max Lucado wonders, Might it happen again? Does God still free hearts, minds, and bodies from the ravages of sin and poverty? The answer is yes! He does it through you, and in Outlive Your Life he challenges you to make a difference that will last beyond your time on earth. Text covers Acts 1-12 and will be taught in a discussion format.

HU 302: Not Merely Christianity - An Introduction To The Life and Works of C.S. Lewis
(Michael Tursky)

This course will introduce the life and works of C.S. Lewis with overviews of his major works and deeper study of representative essays C.S. Lewis will appeal to anyone who has ever felt that their intellect sometimes gets in the way of their faith. A gifted writer, theologian and philosopher, Lewis has addressed many issues of modern Christian thought. His works dating back to the early twentieth century are still fresh and relevant today. The course will be leader-driven discussion over selected works. Participants will be expected to invest a couple of hours each week outside of class, primarily through reading assignments. Join us as we explore our faith through one of the greatest Christian thinkers of the last century.