

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

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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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NOVEMBER VOLUNTEERS

Ushers

8:05 am

Nolan Broyles
 Myron Kirksey
 Scott Treece

9:30 am

John Symonds
 Merle Katz
 Rob Thomas
 Michael Schelm

11:00 am

Ryan, Cyndi Breeze, and Family

Greeters

8:05 am

Nancy Broyles and Teresa Kirksey
 Pamm Treece

9:30 am

Margo Symonds
 Carolyn Loyd

11:00 am

Curtis and Tammy Gardner



In Hospital:

Linda Seubold (UAMS)

At Home:

Joanne Barbee, Tom Gipson, Georgia Hutton, Katy Marsh, Gary Pittman, Debbie Stewart, Anna Utz, Connie Warren, Saylor Wilkinson

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)

Pike Robinson (Alma Rehab)

Irene Oxford (Alma Rehab)

Sherry Fedric (Covington Court)

In Thanksgiving:

Marty, Amanda, Dalton and Brielle

Anderson in the birth of their brother, **Sutton Paul**. Proud grandparents are Ron and Rebecca Kaszubowski.



November 24-25

OFFICE CLOSED FOR
 THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY

December 1-4

THE CHRISTMAS MIRACLE
 OF JONATHAN TOOMEY
 AT KING OPERA HOUSE

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

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S HEART ... SERMONS YOU CAN SING!

I am really excited about the ADVENT season this year. If you are new to Heritage, Advent means "coming." It is the four Sundays leading up to Christmas where we celebrate Jesus the Messiah's FIRST coming and long for His SECOND coming. It is a wondrous and miraculous season, and we have a glorious month planned!

Our series this month is "Sing We Now of Christmas!" Each Sunday we will feature a favorite Christmas carol. We will talk about its author, its composition, its message, and its meaning for us. Devon Parks has put together a beautiful intro video from our **God With Us** production which we will use each week. Here are the carols and themes for each Sunday:

- | | |
|--|--------------|
| November 27: "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus." | Theme: HOPE |
| December 04: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" | Theme: LOVE |
| December 11: "Joy to the World!" | Theme: JOY |
| December 18: "Go Tell It On the Mountain!" | Theme: PEACE |
| December 24: "Hark, the Herald Angels Sing!" | Theme: LIGHT |

December 1-4th the Heritage Worship Arts Ministry will present **The Christmas Miracle of Jonathan Toomey** at the King Opera House. This is an original musical written by Chuck King based on the children's short story by Susan Wojciechowski. Tickets are \$10 each. Each performance is at 7 p.m. with matinees on the 3rd and 4th at 4 p.m.



Thanking Jesus for a miraculous Christmas! See you Sunday!

Wes



HONORARIUM AND MEMORIALS

In honor of **DARRELL SHOOK'S BIRTHDAY** by:

Donna Parker (BF)

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

Donna Parker (BF)

In honor of **ALAN SWAIM'S BIRTHDAY** by:

Donna Parker (BF)

In memory of **JOHNNY PARKER** by:

Donna Parker (BF)

In memory of **ROBERT M. BRETCH** (father of Bob Bretch) by:

Seekers' Life Group

In memory of **CHARLES FREY** by:

Kitty Holohan
Stephen Williams Trucking
Harvey and Martha Styles (FP)

BF-Building Fund FP-Food Pantry

BLANKET CREW

The Blanket Crew will meet again Monday, December 5th at 9 am in room 134 to continue making blankets for the homeless camp along the river and for local schools to give to children with no permanent home. Any questions, you may contact Sue Weege, 474-8627 or sueweege@cox.net

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 by Sunday, December 13th.

Placed in (circle one)

In Memory of _____ In Honor of _____

By: _____

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS

Wednesday nights activities will resume on next week, November 30th. Dinner is served from 4:30-5:35 pm followed by the Moses Bible study (TT, Tiny Tim's, Youth & Adults) from 5:45-7:15 pm. Suggested donation for dinner: family \$10 maximum, adults \$4, seniors \$3, children \$2. Check the Heritage calendar online for the weekly menu. Please join us!

KINDERGARTEN/1ST GRADE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS

We are sponsoring a DHS angel and we need to begin collecting donations now. The children, their parents, or anyone else may contribute by bringing the items to our classroom in the Backyard by Sunday, December 11th.

SINGLES' FELLOWSHIP

Join us Tuesday, December 6th at 6:30 pm in the Welcome Center.

BIRTHDAY LIST

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

BAPTISM

If you are interested in being baptized at church Sunday, December 18th, please contact the church office at 474-6424.

HERITAGE ANGELS



We support DHS and the foster children in our area by collecting Christmas gifts. After you choose an angel from the Great Hall, return the gifts to the stage in the Fellowship Hall by Monday, December 12th! **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.

MARSH BABY SHOWER

Join us for a baby shower honoring Eric and Shea Marsh this Sunday, December 11th from 12:30 - 2:00 pm in the Backyard. They are expecting a baby girl in January. Eric and Shea are registered at Walmart and Target. Hostesses are the women of the Full House Life Group.

INTERESTED IN BLESSING OTHERS?

The New Mom's Ministry is looking for volunteers to help bless families when they bring a new baby home. This is such an exciting time for families but can be a bit overwhelming. We would like to bless these families with at least three meals so they can spend more time enjoying their new bundle of joy. This is where you come in! We need volunteers to prepare or pick up meals and deliver them to these families. If you would be interested, please contact Alexis Boster at 501-912-1370 or alexisboster@gmail.com. Thank you in advance!

WRITING MINISTRY

Expressions' next meeting is Thursday, December 8th at 6 pm in the Welcome Center. Anyone can submit a writing at anytime to Lu Ann Donahou at 479-259-3861. *Our writings are published in a monthly newsletter that is available in the Great Hall.

MONTHLY PRAYER MEETING

The River Valley Community Prayer meeting is Monday, December 5th from 7-8 pm at New Life Church of God in Christ in Fort Smith.

ALTAR PRAYER TEAM

The Altar Prayer Team will meet Sunday, December 4th at 3 pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you are not a current team member and would like to join, please come.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, many activities have been cancelled or rescheduled. Please be sure to check the church calendar. The office will reopen Monday, November 28th.

ROOTS CLASS

Want to better understand the Hebraic roots of our Christian faith? Join us Monday, December 5th at 6 pm in room 121.

YOU'RE INVITED

Michael and Leticia Schelm are having another girl in January! There will have a baby blessing for them on Wednesday, December 14th at 7pm in the Worship Arts Room. They are registered at Babies R Us and Walmart. They also need Pampers' Swaddlers.

FIRST SUNDAY

Want to belong to a life group or ministry at Heritage? Please join us Sunday, December 4th at 6 pm in the Welcome Center to learn more.

JOY SEEKERS

Ladies, join us for lunch (Dutch treat) at 11 am Friday, December 2nd at Big Jake's, 1702 Fayetteville Road in Van Buren.

CHRISTMAS EVE

Christmas Eve is just around the corner. 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 will need lots of volunteers for Christmas Eve dinner to help serve our guests. Please let us know how you want to volunteer by emailing Becki at bkneeland@heritage.church. Serving times will be from 3-5 pm and again from 5-7 pm. Everyone will serve a two hour shift.

TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW AT OUR WEBSITE

WEEKLY ADVENT DEVOTIONAL Angels Proclaim Great Tidings of Joy Inspired by "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" Lyrics – Charles Wesley, 1739

And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: you will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Luke 8: 8-12

God could have sent his angel to reveal this incredible announcement to the kings and queens and the highest priests in the land. Instead, God sent the angel to speak to humble shepherds. Shepherds were not considered important people; however, they were very important to God. God cares who people are and not what people do. The shepherds had great faith and love in their hearts, and those qualities are what God honors most in people.

The shepherds were prepared to deal with wolves or robbers trying to steal their sheep, but they were shocked and scared by the angel's appearance. The Shekinah light of God shone all around the angel. It must have been a frightening sight because the angel told them not to be afraid.

He tells the shepherds the most joyful news! The birth of the baby Jesus who is the greatest gift that God could ever give us – so great that the heavens burst open and a legion of angels begin to sing and proclaim the Messiah's birth.

Why do you suppose that God chose a few lowly shepherds to be the first human beings on earth to hear this news and to spread the news of Jesus' birth? I believe that God was showing us that there is no one too insignificant for Him to use for the glory of His kingdom. Therefore, how much could He likewise use you to spread the good news that Jesus has come so that we may have everlasting life?

Velta Thomas, 2016
Expressions Writing Ministry