

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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MARCH VOLUNTEERS

Ushers

8:05 am
 Nolan Broyles
 Myron Kirksey
 Scott Treece
 Eddie Prince
9:30 am
 Ed Buckalew
 Harry Sher
 Joe Johns
 Ron Hall
11:00 am
 Roger Burkert
 Jon Harper
 Matt Harper
 David Harper
Acolytes
 3/5 - Madelyn Elliott
 Jaylin Woodard
 3/12 - Evelyn Ball
 Audrey Davis
 3/19 - Bryson Arellanes
 Kyle Franklin
 3/26 - Kennedy Black
 Brooks McGill



In Hospital:

Georgia Hutton (Chicago)

At Home:

Mark Anders, Ron Hall, David Hendrickson, Tom Gipson, Pat Lenzini, Katy Marsh, Terry McGonigle, Gary Nishmuta, Mary Nunnery, Irene Oxford, Gary Pittman, Linda Seubold, Carolyn Silva, Debbie Stewart, Velta Thomas, Connie Warren, Becky Whitley, Saylor Wilkinson, Dawn Yates

Assisted Living:

Don Aspedon (Valley Springs H&R)
Mary Coble (Crawford H & R)
Gerlinda Dibble (Willowbrook)
Geraldine Hurst (Pink Bud Home)
Jean Stratton (Crawford H & R)
Warren Taylor (Methodist)
Pike Robinson (Alma Rehab)

In Thanksgiving:

Darrell and Alice Goodlin in the birth of their second great grandson, **Mark Bennett Goodlin**. Parents are Ryan and Marianne Goodlin. Brother to Thomas.



March 1 ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 7 PM	March 12 LENTEN SERVICES AT ALMA UMC 6 PM REV. MAX GOINS	April 14 GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNION SERVICE 7 PM	April 22 COMMUNITY SERVE DAY WITH AREA CHURCHES
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Have an Announcement for the Bulletin or Newsletter?
 Email it to office@heritage.church.

FROM YOUR PASTOR'S HEART ... THINKING BIG BUT STARTING SMALL!

We are in a season at Heritage where the LORD has said basically, "My dreams for you are so big, you need to go back to square one to put in place the processes and structure to support the new growth I will give you." So, that is what we are doing at Heritage. We are dreaming God's big dreams for Heritage but know that without raising up a whole church of disciples who **come alongside** others to help them become disciples and to train them to help others become disciples, we will never be able to support the spiritual growth of the people the LORD will send us. So, we are thinking big, but starting small.

With the help of Mr. John Wallace from Navigators Church Ministries, we have embarked on a three to six year journey of training our whole congregation to be disciples who make disciples for Jesus who make disciples for the transformation of the world. It is about an intentional commitment to learn from Jesus **how to follow Him and imitate His way of life!** We do this one-on-one and in small groups. John is now taking our staff and a group of lay leaders through this training. Are you ready to be next?

Are you ready to get equipped to fulfill Jesus' command to you to "go and make disciples?" Are you ready to discover the joy of fulfilling the LORD's call upon your life in **coming alongside** others to help them discover in Jesus, the Way, the Truth, and the Life that the LORD has for them? It is part of the purpose God put you here in the River Valley at Heritage Church for such a time as this.

The LORD is going to send waves/floods of people. Will you be equipped and ready to do your part? Become an **"Alongsider!"** Sign up to be in our next class studying The Ways of the Alongsider: Growing Disciples Life to Life. Make yourself available to Jesus for disciple-making and world changing, one life at a time! Let Pam James in the church office know your interest: pjames@heritage.church or 479-474-6424.

This Sunday I will be speaking on an incredibly important subject called, "When You Blow It! How to Receive Comfort from the LORD." This is going to be a landmark Sunday for some of you! See you then!



Blessed to follow Jesus with You!

Wes

"You shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and you shall be my witnesses ...!" Acts 1:8.

MEMORIALS

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

The Bunco Gals

In memory of **VERTA MAE GUIDRY** (grandmother of Rachal Pendergrass) by:

Bruce and Janet Johnson (BF)

In memory of **WILBERTA SPEARS** by:

Sue Stranathan (BF)

BF-Building Fund

BIRTHDAY LIST

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

WRITING MINISTRY

Expressions' will meet Thursday, March 2nd 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.

ALTAR PRAYER TEAM MEETING

The altar prayer team will meet Sunday, March 5th at 1:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall. If you are not a current team member and would like to join, please come.

MISSIONARY OFFERING

If you have a birthday in March, you are invited to place an offering in our little, white church on the chancel rail during the announcements this Sunday, March 5th. Currently, birthday offerings go to support the Rupp family ministering in East Asia and Jake Hawthorne ministering in Canada.

GRIEF SHARE

Shirley Touchstone is looking for someone to assist her with Grief-Share. If you are interested and ready to be blessed, contact Shirley at 629-7901.

FROM DANIEL AND KAYLA

Pastor Wes, Roger and Heritage Church:

I miss you guys so much! I'm travelling and away from home and it kind of helps you get an outside perspective on what becomes normal. My neighbor is texting me saying he's bought a bunch of books about the Bible and he's ready for me to get back so we can read together. My wife is telling me about our co-laborers and how much they've been coming over needing to talk, and needing to laugh. You know God's at work when you leave and you call your wife who is alone caring for your four kids and ministering to everyone and there's joy in her voice because He is moving in hearts around us.

People ask me, "How do you do what you do?" I always think "Well, Jesus. For sure, Jesus. And there's a church in Van Buren that's behind us one zillion percent!" You guys as a Heritage family have shaped me tremendously, helped raise me, raise up my family that changed my whole world. Now I can start to see Him changing the worlds of the people who live around us. From lost souls to pastors, from brief encounters to our next door neighbors - He is so good at changing and restoring life, true life.

Thank you for being used by Him to change my life. Right now, we run hard, but soon the race will be over. How wonderful will it be to get to hear, "Well Done Wes", "Well done Roger", "Well done family after family, man after man, woman after woman - well done Heritage." It's an honor to count myself a part of your family.



Daniel and Kayla

CELEBRATION

Remington Gage Carter was dedicated Sunday. He is the son of Cory and Tiffanee Carter.



EMMAUS REUNION

Please join us this Thursday, March 2nd at 7 pm in room 121 for an Emmaus reunion meeting. Anyone that has been on a walk is invited to attend.

PRAYER MEETING

The River Valley Community Prayer meeting is Monday, March 6th from 7-8 pm at Rye Hill Baptist Church in Fort Smith.

NEED A WORD?

The Upper Room is a great source for a daily devotional. The March/April issue is available in the Great Hall.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Max Goins for doing such a nice service for our mother, Wilberta. Thank you to Pastor Wes for the visits. It brought comfort to us. The food brought to our house from Margo Symonds, Donna Parker and the bereavement committee was wonderful.

The Spears Family

JOY SEEKERS

Ladies, join us for lunch (Dutch treat) at 11 am Friday, March 3rd at the new location of Frank's Italian Restaurant in Van Buren.

WEDDING INVITATION

Rachael Reano and Tyler Wood invite you to join them in their wedding celebration this Saturday, March 4th at 2 pm at Heritage. Reception to follow. *Please NO gifts but they would love for you to share your favorite recipe.

SO WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?



You may have asked yourself this question before, or been asked to join a life group by the staff here at Heritage. What is the big deal? Why do I need to be in a Life Group? These are all good questions that deserve answers. This information from an article written by Rick Warren may provide the information you need.

1. **How do I love like Christ?** Life Groups help us test the waters to practice unselfish, sympathetic love for one another. In Life Groups, we learn to share in each other's victories and sufferings. You receive important feedback on your life's experiences (1 Cor. 12:26). How else will the world "know us by our love" if we are not living out our lives together? Through Life Groups, we learn what it really means to lay down our lives for others (1 John 4:7-11.)

2. **How do I grow to be a mature Christian?** Life Groups help us develop our spiritual muscles. If all you do is come to church, sit on a pew, and never get involved in any activity or group within the church, you are a spectator Christian, a consumer of God's Word. God calls us to be much more than that. We are all called to "go and make disciples of all nations"—to become a productive member of the Body of Christ. In Life Groups, you have a safe environment to learn how to exercise your spiritual muscles around those who already know how to work for God. You can practice working for God where people will help you to find your voice (Mathew 28:18-20.) You may even find you have some spiritual gifts that you were unaware of.

3. **Who am I in Christ?** Life Groups help you confirm your God-given identity. When we come together in love as Life Group members from different walks of life, backgrounds, ethnicities and social statuses, it is a witness to the wonders of what God has and can do in mere mortal's lives. We cannot become the Body of Christ all by ourselves—we have to join forces with those around us to become the Church that God has called us to be. Without your involvement in Life Groups, Heritage will never live up to the



vision God has given us. (John 17:20-23.)

4. **Why do I need someone else?** Even Jesus saw the need to have a Life Group around him on this earth. He walked the earth with His twelve, teaching them and those that would listen, reaching out to the lost and dying world. We are not just to love each other; we are to take that love together to the rest of the world. We are Jesus' hands, feet and heart (Ephesians 2:10.)

5. **What if I just don't have time?** God's Word says "Encourage one another daily...so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness" (Hebrew 3:13.) As Christians, we are instructed to be involved in each other's lives to prevent any member of the Body of Christ from wandering/straying away from the path God has chosen for them. Life Groups are the first best line of defense in a world that is actively looking to ensnare solo "Rambo" Christians. You don't want to spend the rest of eternity wishing you had taken the time to get involved (James 5:19-20.)

6. **What's in it for me?** If you remain detached from the Body of Christ, then you really have no one to blame but yourself when you face troubles alone, and you will. Without a Life Group, you have no one there looking out for you or to help you. Life Groups are the main source for assistance here at Heritage Church. If you are sick or in the hospital, your Life Group is the first line of assistance for you.

Most importantly, the Body of Christ needs you. God has equipped you to do a very specific job. If you have not found out what that job is, Life Groups are the place to learn. Without you, the Body of Christ and Heritage Church is incomplete--the work God has for us cannot be completed without your assistance (1 Corinthians 12:4-7.)

So please, come find your place in the Body of Christ and join the army God has put together to fulfill His purpose in this life. As the old slogan says

.....GOD WANTS YOU!



Max and Leanna Garrett

BLANKET CREW

Our blanket team has made five blankets that Sally Minnick delivered to Cedarville schools to give to children when they see a need. Blankets were made from donated fabric and old jeans and each is an individual design. Each blanket comes with a tote bag which the team also sews and some basic toiletries. Blankets have also been given to the homeless camp, Gospel Rescue Mission, and Alma and Van Buren schools.