

**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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Heritage United Methodist Church  
1604 East Pointer Trail  
Van Buren, AR 72956-2326

Periodical  
Postage Paid  
at Van Buren,  
Arkansas 72956  
Permit 24448

**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

**APRIL  
VOLUNTEERS  
Ushers****8:05 am**

Mike Kneeland  
Mike McSpadden  
John Poole  
Benton Cone

**9:30 am**

John Symonds  
Merle Katz  
Tom Konert  
Carol Ray  
Pam Thomas

**11:00 am**

Justin Sangster  
Daniel Chisolm  
Nathan Elliott  
Grant Elliott

**Acolytes**

4/2 - Devin Franklin  
Camden Curd  
4/9 - Will McNeese  
Madeline Lee  
4/16 - J.D. Frederiksen  
Bailey Smith

4/23 - Rebekah Ray  
Jenna Tursky

4/30 - Caroline Teague  
Ayla Elliott

**In Hospital:**

**Charley Hartley** (Sparks)

**At Home:**

**Mary Beth Autry, Jeanette Elkins, Tom Gipson, David Hendrickson, Georgia Hutton, Marilyn Lewis, Katy Marsh, Terry McGonigle, Gary Nishmuta, Dick Pettit, Gary Pittman, Linda Seubold, Debbie Stewart, Connie Warren, Saylor Wilkinson**

**Assisted Living:**

**Don Aspedon** (Valley Springs H&R)  
**Steve Burns** (Fianna Hills NH)

**Mary Coble** (Crawford H & R)

**Gerlinda Dibble** (Willowbrook)

**Geraldine Hurst** (Pink Bud Home)

**Katherine Route** (Crawford H & R)

**Jean Stratton** (Crawford H & R)

**Warren Taylor** (Methodist)

**Pike Robinson** (Alma Rehab)

**In Sympathy:**

**Oline Oxford and Family** in the death of his wife, *Irene Oxford*.

**Darlene Craft and Debra Franklin and Family** in the death of their niece, *Stacy Shearburn*.

**April 2**

SPECIAL GUEST,  
DENNIS JERNIGAN

**April 14**

GOOD FRIDAY COMMUNION AND  
PASSOVER OBSERVANCE

**April 22**

COMMUNITY SERVE DAY  
WITH AREA CHURCHES

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



Heritage Happenings (USPS Periodical Permit 24448) is published weekly (except Christmas) by Heritage United Methodist Church, 1604 Pointer Trail, Van Buren AR 72956-2326. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Heritage United Methodist Church, 1604 Pointer Trail, Van Buren, AR 72956-2326 PH 479-474-6424



DENNIS  
JERNIGAN

OKLAHOMA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY, Ford Music Hall, circa 1979...I find myself waiting once again in the narrow hallway lined on both sides by little rooms equipped only with upright pianos. This is the place where all good music students go to practice their scales, etudes, and recital pieces. The clash of multiple keys and vocalizing leaks through the doors as you wait your turn for a room to open up. I'm drawn to a sound quite distinct from the rest...instead of the usual classical renderings executed in various levels of skill, there's a different thing happening in that room just a few doors down. I take a peek in the little rectangular window...okay, I recognize this guy. Dennis. He's a freshman, I think, but, *what is that music he's playing??* I tap on the door, he looks up from his musical reverie, and signals that I'm welcome to come in.

"Hey, what is that you're playing?" I ask.

He shyly, awkwardly, responds. "Oh, just something I wrote."

"Start over. I want to hear it from the beginning."

Dennis's hands move fluidly across the keyboards, and in an effortless tenor, he weaves a song story he calls "Sheep Song". It's about the shepherd who leaves the flock to rescue the one lost lamb. I'm stunned.

I blurt out, "Man, your music is going to go around the world. One day, thousands will be singing your songs!" (The naivety of that statement can only be fully appreciated when you realize we were on a Baptist campus. They didn't teach us about "words of knowledge" there. But, I had one anyway!)

That brief encounter in Ford Music Hall led to a series of events that resulted not only in musical collaboration, but more importantly, in a lifetime of friendship and support through our parallel ministry journeys. My words indeed came true. Following graduation, Dennis Jernigan and I toured together for 3 years in a vocal band. In that period of time, Dennis experienced devastating brokenness followed by a powerful encounter with the unconditional love of God. From there, his gift of worship and song to broken people was defined, and his world-wide ministry was launched. In the formative years, he was mentored by such people as Anne Herring of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of Acts, and James Robison Ministries. He went on to write literally hundreds of songs and released dozens of original recordings. His songs of freedom have been recorded by some of the top Christian recording artists of our generation, and his classic *You are My All in All*, remains on the CCLI top 100 list. Through it all, his heart remains to help people find true freedom and their identity in Christ, as he has found it.

Over three decades later, Dennis Jernigan and I converge once again. For the next several days, I'll be in Colorado Springs, reprising my role as Simon Peter in *GOD WITH US*. To play Peter authentically, I draw from my own experience of failure and brokenness. In my absence, I'm honored to introduce the ministry of Dennis Jernigan to Heritage this coming Sunday; for like thousands of others,



Dennis has sung songs of deliverance over my life, and I was rescued in part because of his demonstration of God's tenacious love for me. Don't miss the opportunity this Sunday to hear the Lord rejoice over you. (Zephaniah 3:17)

In Him,  
Chuck

## MEMORIALS

In memory of **MARY WRISINGER** (mother of Terry Williams) by:

Charles and Nina Sullivan

In memory of **PAUL SULLIVAN** (brother of Charles Sullivan) by:

Benton and Juanita Cone

Vesta Everitt (BF)

Bruce and Janet Johnson (BF)

Sue Stranathan

Doris Wortham (FP)

In memory of **BILLIE KING** (sister of Connie Warren) by:

Bruce and Janet Johnson (BF)

In memory of **JONATHAN DEES** (grandson of George and Kay Williams) by:

Bruce and Janet Johnson (BF)

In memory of **DR. JOHN I. MOOSE** (father of Allison Hilliard and John Allen Moose) by:

Bruce and Janet Johnson (BF)

Benton and Juanita Cone

Vesta Everitt (BF)

Donna Parker (BF)

Sue Stranathan

Charles and Nina Sullivan

Linda Udouj (FP)

Dorvan and Mikie Wiley (FP)

Doris Wortham (BF)

FP-Food Pantry BF-Building Fund

## HERITAGE RIDERS

The weather makes this a good time to enjoy a nice ride. Join us Saturday, April 15th as we take OK 9 to Oklahoma City. We will leave from Heritage, eat lunch at the Cattleman's Steak House and then return to Van Buren sometime that evening. For more information, contact Max Garrett at 414-7757.

## CREATIVE ARTS ACADEMY

High school students, join others on campus June 11-16 for Creative Arts Academy at Ozark Christian College in Joplin, Missouri. Learn worship and creative arts from staff and professional artists in four tracks:

1. **Musical Arts:** vocal, instrumental, and worship leading
2. **Technical Arts:** audio production, sound design, lighting and stage design
3. **Visual Arts:** photography, filmmaking, graphic design, illustration, and animation
4. **Performing Arts:** theater, dance, and writing

**Plus:** guest speakers, field trips, evening worship, small groups, and more!  
For more information, go to [www.occ.edu/arts/creative-arts-academy](http://www.occ.edu/arts/creative-arts-academy).

## BRIDAL SHOWER

Join us for a bridal shower in honor of **Madison Wagner** this Sunday, April 2nd from 2-4 pm in the Welcome Center. She is registered at Walmart; Bed, Bath and Beyond; and Target.

## CARE MINISTRY

Interested in serving others through our awesome food pantry? Join us this Sunday, April 2nd at 3 pm in the Community Room to learn the different ways in which you can be a blessing to others. Children are welcome to attend. For more information or questions, contact Andelyn Wright at [Andelyn.wright@gmail.com](mailto:Andelyn.wright@gmail.com).

## PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION

All children are invited to participate in waving the palm leaves Sunday, April 9th. They will need to meet in the Fellowship Hall five minutes before the service they attend.

## PRISCILLA SHIRER SIMULCAST

Ladies, you are invited to join North Park Baptist for a global simulcast that focuses on the power of prayer and learning to study God's Word for yourself with Priscilla Shirer on Saturday, April 8th from 8:30 am-4:45 pm! Worship is with Anthony Evans. Tickets are \$25 and can be purchased at Heritage. Lunch will be provided.

## RUBIES BIBLE STUDY

It's not too late to join us every Monday from 9-11 am in the Welcome Center as we study Lysa TerKeurst's *Uninvited*.

## CHILDREN'S CAMP

Register today for children's camp for children entering grades 3-5 is July 23-25 at Pinecrest in Ozone. Forms are available at the check-in stations and in the Great Hall.

## HERITAGE PRESCHOOL

Registration for the 2017-18 school year has begun. Feel free to stop by the church office and pick up an enrollment form or call Shawna Seewald at 479-474-6424 or email at [sseewald@heritage.church](mailto:sseewald@heritage.church).

## COMMUNITY LENTEN WORSHIP SERVICE

**Sunday, April 2nd:** Mountain View UMC with the help of Newberry Chapel UMC at 6:00 pm. Guest pastor is Rev. Daniel Thueson. Light Refreshments to follow the Sunday Evening Services. Offerings to go to Shoal Creek Camp.

## UPCOMING SEMINAR

The *Discovering Greater Intimacy* Seminar, taught by *Dr. Clifford and Joyce Penner* is Saturday, April 8th from 9 am-4 pm at Cross Church Student Building in Springdale. The seminar will cover several topics including: pursuing sexual intimacy, difference and difficulties, and fulfilling God's design for sex. The Penner's are internationally recognized sexual therapists, educators and authors of over 10 books about sexual intimacy. The cost is \$30 per person (lunch included.) Register at [crosschurch.com/marriage](http://crosschurch.com/marriage). The Forging Place Counseling Center of Van Buren is a sponsor of this event.

## WHITE AS SNOW



"Abominable" was so much more than a ski trip! "Abominable" was an opportunity to be reminded of the vastness of God's glory and how creation sings out His praises. Psalm 148:1-6 says, "Praise the LORD. Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights above. <sup>2</sup>Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his heavenly hosts. <sup>3</sup>Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars. <sup>4</sup>Praise him, you highest heavens and you waters above the skies. <sup>5</sup>Let them praise the name of the LORD, for at his command they were created, <sup>6</sup>and he established them for ever and ever—He issued a decree that will never pass away." "Abominable" was an opportunity to come face to face with our sin. Isaiah 59:2 claims, "But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear." "Abominable" was an opportunity to experience what God allowed His Son to endure for our sin! "He himself bore our sins" in his body on the cross, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; 'by his wounds you have been healed.'" (1 Peter 2:24). "Abominable" was an opportunity to understand the

depths of God's love for us! Ephesians 3:17-19 says, "And I pray that you, being rooted and established in love, may have power, together with all the Lord's holy people, to grasp how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, and to know this love that surpasses knowledge--that you may be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. And finally, "Abominable" presented us all with the choice to allow God to make a change in us forever; the old must go and the new must come. "You have had enough in the past of the evil things that godless people enjoy...That is why the Good News was preached to those who are now dead--so although they were destined to die like all people, they now live forever with God in the Spirit" (1 Peter 4:3a & 6). Abominable is defined as something detestable. Anything that is not of God is just that. We have this ability to lessen sin and its consequences. Let's not forget what sin's ultimate price is: death! Jesus paid that price! **He paid the price for you and me!** As we saw the beautiful snow fall on our final day of skiing, it was a reminder of what God wants to do in our lives: eradicate anything that is abominable/detestable and replace it with Him and His love. He wants to make us white as snow...this is only done by surrender and the power of God through the work He has done in the life, death and resurrection of His Son. As we enter into the season in which we celebrate this glorious moment in our life story, I hope that the one reading this now, would take the time to "see if there be any wicked way" in you and ask God to lead you in the "way of the everlasting" (Psalm 139:24). Thank you so much to all who supported this trip through your prayers and finances. It is always my joy to journey with our kids on special trips like this. I am grateful for the opportunities Heritage gives us to do such amazing things that will have an eternal impact on our youth!

*Brian Seewald*, Youth and Family Pastor

## PRAYER MEETING

The River Valley Community Prayer meeting is Monday, April 3rd from 7-8 pm at Hearts of Hope in Alma.

## BIRTHDAY LIST

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

## ROOTS CLASS

Want to better understand the Hebraic roots of our Christian faith? Join us Monday, April 3rd at 6 pm at the home of Janice Podgurski.

## BRIDAL SHOWER

Join us for a bridal shower in honor of **Bryce Brown** on Sunday, April 9th from 3-4 pm in the Welcome Center. She is registered at [thankfulregistry.com](http://thankfulregistry.com) and [zola.com](http://zola.com).

## JOY SEEKERS

Ladies, join us for a light lunch at 11 am Friday, April 7th in the Fellowship Hall. Please bring \$5 to cover the cost. Janice Podgurski will show us the ceramics that are available to paint at her studio.

## EASTER LILIES

Lilies will be placed in the sanctuary on Resurrection morning. To place a lily in memory or in honor of someone please complete the form below and place it in the offering plate on Sunday morning or return it to the office with payment of \$10 per lily.

Placed (circle one)  
In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_ In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

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