

# HERITAGE HAPPENINGS

## Weekly News & Updates

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### FROM YOUR PASTOR'S HEART . . . Family Reunion in Costa Rica!

Let me introduce you to some of your brothers and sisters. This past week I had the privilege of meeting many of our brothers and sisters in Christ in the Global Methodist Church from around the world. I met people from every state in the union and from Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru, Brazil, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa, Romania, Bulgaria, Russia, Kyrgyzstan, Tanzania, Nigeria, Korea and many other countries. It is hard to describe the feeling of kinship and family that we felt . . . These are “my people, my tribe.”

Anbessu (Lion) Tolla planted 173 churches in Ethiopia, and he oversees 269 congregations. I'll tell you more of his story on Sunday. We are making plans for him to come preach at Heritage (He has family in Olathe, KS), and for us to take the College of Prayer to his church leaders. Dinu was a Romanian rock star touring the world who got arrested in Costa Rica. He read a Gideon Bible in prison and gave his life to Jesus. He made his way to the Methodist school and seminary in San Jose, became a pastor and was sent by the Costa Rican Methodist Church back to Romania to plant Methodist churches there. It was so moving to see his reunion with his Costa Rican brothers and sisters. Sergei is a Korean-Russian who was led to the LORD while he was a university student in Moscow in 1992. Dmitri looks like a big, bearded lumberjack from the American Northwest, but he's a young pastor and district superintendent in Kyrgyzstan.



Pastor Anbessu Tolla from Ethiopia.

We came together to worship, to praise the LORD, to pray, and to organize for our future life together. It was an inspiring week. We want to get it right from the ground up.



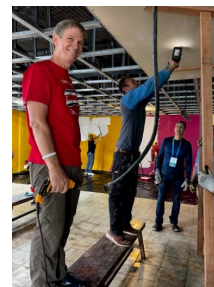
The six bishops elected for the Global Methodist Church. You may recognize Kenneth Levingston in the middle. He preached at Heritage in 2018.

Wednesday night, the conference elected six bishops (see picture) one from Nigeria, one from the Democratic Republic of Congo, a woman from Texas with ties to Arkansas, a woman from Georgia, Kenneth Levingston from Houston (who has preached at Heritage), and a man from Ohio. It is a very diverse group who will lead us. They will serve as the guardians of our doctrine and keep us on mission. They will also serve as evangelists and revivalists. One will be at our church on Sunday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. They will not be the heavy-handed authoritarian

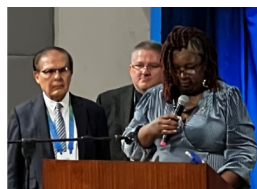
rulers of our past. They will be bi-vocational — serving a local church and serving the Global

Church.

In addition to our worship and planning meetings, we got to spend time doing missions and evangelism with the Costa Ricans. It was a joy. I got to be a part of a team serving a congregation in a low-income neighborhood with a young pastor couple. Their congregation has doubled in size since they came six months ago. We put a new roof and ceiling on their children's building. A young rancher named Will from San Angelo, Texas led our project. You would be so inspired by the enthusiasm of the young adult leaders of the church in Costa Rica.



Dr. Sky Forrester helping to install a new ceiling for a children's building.



The President of the Costa Rican Congress addresses the conference. Bishop Paloma of the Costa Rican Methodist Church is on the far left.

Tuesday evening we had a joint worship service with over 1,000 Costa Rican leaders who came from all over the country for the event. Some travelled over six hours to be there. We were addressed by the president of the Costa Rican congress. It was amazing to see what God had done in that country through the service of faithful Christian leaders. God moved powerfully that night.

Thank you for sending me. I wish you could have all been there with me. It was my honor to get to represent you and the people of our Trinity Conference from Arkansas, Louisiana, and East Texas. Our next General Conference will be in two years in West Africa. After that, the General Conference will meet every six years.



Pastors serving Los Guido Church in San Miguel, Costa Rica.

Jake Simmons preached a great message last Sunday. I can't wait to be back with you Sunday to pick up where he left off in Mark, chapter 2, to proclaim "The BEST NEWS Ever!!"

See you Sunday!

Wes

[whilliard@heritage.church](mailto:whilliard@heritage.church)

P.S. I also got to reconnect in Costa Rica with old friends, Drs. Sky and Louise Forrester from Llano, TX. Allison and I started a Sunday School class with them in Tulsa back in 1987, and they helped cover the hospital and emergency room for Allison's dad in Siloam Springs in the late 1980's. They take mission teams to Costa Rica twice a year. They invited Heritage to join them for their trip in June. They'll be doing two projects: 1) repair work at a children's home and 2) manning a medical clinic serving Nicaraguan immigrants in northern Costa Rica.

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## Upcoming Opportunities and Announcements

### **Disaffiliation Loan**

WE ARE IN THE HOME STRETCH! The finish line is in sight! Our loan balance is \$21,000! Can you believe that less

## DISAFFILIATION LOAN



than two years ago we started paying on a \$367,000 loan, and look where we are now!! God continues to bless Heritage Church through His people, and we cannot thank you enough. If you would like to designate a contribution to help pay off this loan please make a note on the memo line of your check, or if you give online, you can choose UMC Disaffiliation from the dropdown box.

Thank you for your continued faithful giving! **You are an amazing church!!**

Bobby

[bboyakin@heritage.church](mailto:bboyakin@heritage.church)

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### Great Dinner and Fellowship

Welcome Ministries hosted a great night of fellowship with some wonderful people who are new to Heritage. Our newcomer dinners are always

fantastic. If you see these folks around Heritage make them feel welcomed. Pictured: Back row, Left to right: Ariel and Lance Wheeler, Wes and Allison Hilliard, Zack Riordan, Alyssa Seewald, and Jud Tuttle. Front row: Shawna and Brian Seewald, Ransom Dean, Shawntae Cinkosky, Cathy Russell, Nick and Jennifer Remy, Trish and Don Shows, Deb and Dan Bandimere, Janette Hunt, Will Hunt, and Steven and Angela Anders.

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### Blood Mobile: 8:30-12:30 this Sunday

Interested in donating blood? Contact the church office for an available time slot.

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### Pathway to Freedom Prison Ministry Opportunity

Heritage will travel to the Hawkins Unit at Wrightsville Prison on Friday, November 8<sup>th</sup> to host the Pathway to Freedom 540 Event. We are looking for a minimum of 20 men from Heritage to join us in this ministry. You will experience an amazing time of worship and have a great opportunity to share the love of Jesus! Background checks for all men are required by the prison. The deadline for turning in background check forms is **Wednesday, October 16th**. For more information, and to complete a background check form, please contact Bobby Boyakin at [bboyakin@heritage.church](mailto:bboyakin@heritage.church) or 479-474-6424.

Bobby

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### Fall Festival

We will be having our annual Fall Festival on Sunday, October 20<sup>th</sup> from 5-7PM. It takes MANY volunteers to make this event possible. We will have all kinds of fun things for everyone. If you could give an hour of your time to help staff a booth during this event, that would be amazing. Additionally, if you have a group that would like to participate, please contact me! Signups are in the Fellowship Hall.

Madison

[msimmons@heritage.church](mailto:msimmons@heritage.church)

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## Outreach News

### Back to Guatemala

We will be heading back to Sumpango, Guatemala, January 5-11, 2025. We will be partnering with Breaking Cycles once again. We are looking to take a group of people to build homes, do a medical clinic, and/or help with VBS at a local church in Sumpango. If you are interested in going on this trip please contact me for more information. As of right now, the cost will be around \$1600. The price could change depending on the price of plane tickets. A passport is required. The deadline to sign up is October 20th.

### Serving and Outreach Opportunity!

On Saturday, October 5th from 9 am to 11 am we will be doing a cookie delivery in neighborhoods near Heritage to invite them to church. We are looking to give each of the 100 homes 6 cookies so, we'll need 600 cookies total. There will be a sign-up sheet in the great hall starting this Sunday for people who want to bake, help deliver, or do both. You can also email me to sign-up. If you are willing to bake, but cannot deliver, we are asking that you bring the cookies to the church office on Thursday, October 3rd by 5:00 pm. Please package the cookies in a zip lock baggie with 6 cookies in each bag.

On delivery day we will meet on the west side of Heritage at 9:00 am. We will all park our cars at Heritage and use the people mover to shuttle everyone to the neighborhood we are trying to reach. We will give out maps and divide into groups to make sure all the homes get cookies and an invitation to Heritage. If you have any questions about this please feel free to email me.

Jake

[jsimmons@heritage.church](mailto:jsimmons@heritage.church)

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## Prison Ministry Opportunity

Kairos Prison Ministry is an International Prison Ministry whose mission is to help establish and support the Body of Christ in prisons throughout the world. We are in preparation for the Grimes Unit Kairos Weekend #6 which will take place October 24-27 in Newport.

The training dates for this weekend are Saturday 9/28, Saturday 10/5, and Thursday-Saturday 10/10-12. There are other opportunities for involvement such as prayer, cookie donations, and financial support. If you are interested in being involved in this outreach, please contact Eddie Prince at 479-414-4910 or Mike McSpadden at 479-651-2902.

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## **NEW EQUIPPING CLASS: Starting Sunday, October 6th at 9 am**

Do you desire greater **equipping to minister to others**? Do you want to help others encounter the goodness of God? **Heritage School of Ministry** may be the answer. The focus will be on practical ministry equipping and providing a safe atmosphere to practice and grow in ministry. For more



## New Fall 2024 Heritage Gear!!!

New colors for hoodies, crew necks, t-shirts and now HATS are available to order. Our first order deadline will be **THIS** Sunday, September 29th! Get ahead of the holidays or just enjoy some new clothing during the fall season. Order forms are available in the Great Hall!



## GriefShare

Are you grieving the loss of a loved one and need help and healing from this hurt? We can help you find hope. If you are interested in GriefShare, contact Vesta Everitt at 501-230-0427.



## A Night of Worship with Shane and Shane

After meeting in college, Shane Barnard and Shane Everett began writing songs and touring the country leading worship. Over 15 years later, they're writing more music than ever with no intention of slowing down. Their desire has always been to glorify the Lord instead of themselves and they do so by writing music that is Biblically based, lyrically rich, and sonically engaging.

They will perform Wednesday, November 9th at Skokos Performing Arts Center in Alma at 7:30 pm. [CLICK HERE](#) to purchase your ticket.

Here are two of their songs: [You've Already Won](#); [Come Thou Fount \(Above All Else\)](#)

## This Week at Heritage and Prayer Concerns

### Sunday, September 29

Prayer Time, 8 am  
Traditional Service, 9 am  
Children's Ministry, 9 am  
Growth Groups (SS Classes), 9 am  
Contemporary Service, 10:30 am  
Children's Ministry, 10:30 am  
Growth Groups (Adult SS), 10:30 am  
Timothy Tim Teachers' Meeting, 4:30 pm  
Children's Ministry (infant - gr 3), 5:45 pm  
FISH (gr 4-5), 5:45 pm  
Youth (gr 6-12), 5:45 pm  
Inside Out, 5:45 pm  
Gospel of Mark, 6 pm

### Monday, September 30

Food Pantry, 9:30 am  
Cub Scout Leaders, 6:30 pm

### Tuesday, October 1

Band of Brothers, 6:15 am  
Preschool, 9 am  
Staff Prayer/Meeting, 9:30 am  
Keep Moving Exercise Class, 11:30 am

### In the Hospital:

Paul Vinsant (QLI Rehab - Omaha, NE)  
Lu Ann Donahou (Mercy)

### At Home:

Tammy Belk  
Mary Dempsey  
Devin Franklin  
Phyllis George (Danville - mother of Lary George)  
Judy Goodson  
Johnie Ruth Hammontree  
Diane Hays  
Jerry Hunter  
Glenda Jackson  
Mary Beth Keller  
Scott Neal  
Stephan and Carly Norris  
Michael Pitts  
Gary Powell  
Rodney Roberson  
Alan Swaim  
Janice Wargo  
Dorvan Wiley

Girl Scout Troop, 6 pm  
Adonai Tsuru Cowboy Church, 6:30 pm

**Wednesday, October 2**

Community Bible Study, 9 am  
Prayer Team, 10:30 am  
Clothes Closet Work Day, 10:30 am  
Communion/Healing Prayer Service, 12 pm  
Community Meal, 4:30 pm  
Handbells, 5:30 pm  
Timothy Team, 5:45 pm  
Youth Bible Study, 5:45 pm  
Adult Bible Study, 6 pm  
Sanctuary Choir, 6:30 pm

**Thursday, October 3**

Preschool, 9 am  
Experiencing God for Women, 10 am  
Seniors Growing with Christ, 10 am  
Keep Moving Exercise Class, 11:30 am  
Food Pantry, 4 pm  
Clothes Closet, 4 pm

**Friday, October 4**

Office Closed

**Saturday, October 5**

Outreach at The Current (*So. Campus*), 8:30 am  
Outreach at Midland Heights, 11 am

**Assisted Living:**

Mary Coble (*Blossoms*)  
Norma Day (*Methodist Village*)  
Jeanette Elkins *VB H&R*)  
Joyce Greig (*Alma H&R*)  
Mary Nash (*Legacy Heights Memory Lane*)  
Vi Pettit (*Methodist Village*)

**Memorial and Honorarium:**

In honor of **Marilyn Goins** given by:  
Bob and Pam Merchant (*Kitchen Remodel*)

In memory of **Max Goins** given by:  
Bob and Pam Merchant (*Kitchen Remodel*)

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Have a prayer request? Email it  
to: [prayerchain@heritage.church](mailto:prayerchain@heritage.church)

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[Click here](#) to support the ministry of  
Heritage Church.

You can also give through the  
Realm app or by texting  
**HERITAGEVB** to **73256**  
or by scanning the QR code.



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