

# ~ Visions ~

**GLENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
*a caring community of equality and grace*

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## Glendale Calls Co-Pastors: April Baker and Amy Mears

After a weekend visit with Amy Mears and her family, the congregation gathered in a special called business meeting on Sunday evening, October 24, and voted 80 to 1, with one abstention, in favor of the following motion from the Discernment and Search Committee:

*We recommend that Glendale Baptist Church call Rev. April Baker and Dr. Amy Mears as our full-time co-pastors and recommend the attached job description and compensation recommendations, as agreed upon by the candidates and the Discernment and Search Committee, be adopted pursuant to the call.*

The weekend included time for Amy to meet with staff, DSC, divisions, Church Council, the personnel committee, and the congregation as a whole in both fellowship and worship. On the trip Amy brought along her husband, David Webb, their four children, ages three to seven, and her parents, Ted and Betty Mears, all of whom will be moving to Nashville in the near future. Amy and April led the worship service Sunday morning, and Amy preached the sermon. Worship was followed by *Celebrate!* (our worship experience for children) and then a question and answer time with Amy and April.

The group who gathered for the business session spent about an hour hearing reports from the visit and asking some questions for clarification. The children of the church in attendance on Sunday night also voted six to zero in favor of the candidates. After tallying the vote of the members present, which was taken by secret ballot, as called for in the by-laws, those present reached April and Amy by phone and invited them to join the group for an ice cream celebration.

Amy's first Sunday will be November 28, the first Sunday in Advent. Her family will make the transition to Nashville as soon as they sell their house in Augusta and find a home to buy in the Nashville area.

The DSC wishes to thank the entire congregation and staff for a wonderful turn out, great questions, and tremendous support to the overall process for calling April and Amy as our new co-pastors!

**10 GREAT REASONS THE "HUGE YARD SALE" WAS A SUCCESS**

- 10. Great inter-generational volunteers.
- 9. Great stuff to sell.
- 8. Great advertising.
- 7. Great committee planning.
- 6. Great shoppers who bought a lot.
- 5. Great goodies to sell and eat.
- 4. Great background music from Anne-Leslie's Dad.
- 3. Great backs for lifting pianos (and many other things).
- 2. Great weather – no rain.

**THE NUMBER 1 REASON THE "HUGE YARD SALE" WAS A SUCCESS?**

- 1. Great kids (who will benefit from the \$3,392.05 for many years!)

Deacon groups this year are being based in Sunday School classes, but do not follow the Sunday School class membership exactly. Family members are in different Sunday School classes, and some folks do not attend Sunday School. As usual, we are not trying to prevent you from socializing with folks in several deacon groups! The assignments are for the purpose of trying to make the groups equitable. Your deacon or deacons will be contacting you within the next month if you are not in a Sunday School class.

Deacons are :

**Young Adult Class**

David and Pat Elkins,  
Chris Ferrell and Molly Boyd

**Special Studies Class**

Joy and Richard Smith,  
Elise and Joni Elrod  
(mostly Joy and Elise)

**Reflections Class**

Ginger Newman and Lee Miller

**BibleStudy@Glendale.etc**

John Weatherly

**Menz Class**

Don and Rosalyn Ramage

**Companions in Christ**

Rebecca Way

**Children's Class**

Linda Ray Miller

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**TNT Update**

Remember those fuzzy lemons on Channel 5 following the TNT food store audit? Data has been compiled. Troublesome stores have been revisited. In some cases, store managers have been confronted about poor food quality, selection or safety.

So is TNT's food audit over? Nope. A TNT food audit assembly is set for November 11, 2004 from 7:00 to 8:30 nearly in our back yard--at Cater-Lawrence School at 1110 12th Avenue South. Information about food quality and availability will be discussed. Also, TNT hopes to highlight three "food deserts" where poor transportation options and sparse access to grocery stores impair good food shopping options for many in our city.

Please plan to attend this informative and important assembly.

Administration Division

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**NEEDLE NUTS**

Needle Nuts will meet at the home of Rosalyn Ramage on Saturday, November 20, 10:00a.m. Experienced and novice knitters (and those doing other types of handiwork) are invited to attend. The address is 3312 Lealand Lane.

**HABITAT BUILD**

Thanks to Lynn Reed for coordinating Glendale's involvement in a Habitat for Humanity Build again this year. A number of Glendale's helped with the construction and food preparation on October 2. In addition to Lynn, Glendale was represented by Joy Gooch, Sharon Hiatt, Bill Junker, Nell Magee, Anne-Leslie Owens, Rhonda Pearson, Don and Garrett Schlosser. Rhonda also created a scrapbook for Sylvia, the new homeowner, and presented it to her at the home dedication.

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**PAID CHILDCARE DURING ADVENT**

Paid childcare will be provided during worship for Advent. The first Sunday will be the most difficult to staff since it is also Thanksgiving weekend. Every attempt will be made to have paid workers for each Sunday, though **those scheduled should be aware they may need to help** if we don't have enough coverage.

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**Wednesday Night Programming for November**

Nov. 3 Vespers	Nov. 17 Room In The Inn
Nov. 10 Small Groups	Nov. 24 No Dinner or Program due to Holiday

## Baptist Peace Fellowship Trip to Cuba

Glendale has been a partner congregation of the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America (BPFNA) for quite some time. The support that Glendale gives BPFNA comes not only through the gifts of money from our missions budget, but through the use of some of the resources that BPFNA provides, inviting BPFNA leaders to speak or preach, hosting a meeting of the board of directors, and through your support of me in my role as a member of the board. You generously provide me with time away to attend board meetings and participate in some of the activities of the BPFNA. Many of you know that my faith journey has been significantly shaped by BPFNA. I am very grateful for your affirmation of my work with BPFNA and your interest in it.

I want to take this opportunity to share with you one way that BPFNA and Glendale are benefiting from one another in relationship to our partnership with Alberto J. Diaz Baptist Church.

The Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America has a long history of connections with the Fraternity of Baptist Churches of Cuba (FIBAC). In fact, it was through the BPFNA that the Alliance of Baptists and FIBAC were first connected. Over the years, BPFNA has maintained some connection with FIBAC, but much of it has been through Ken Sehested and his personal relationships with leaders of FIBAC. When Ken resigned as Executive Director of BPFNA, a key link was lost. Because of Glendale's partnership with our friends in Santa Clara and our recent trips to visit them, I have been able to renew some of those connections for BPFNA. Now BPFNA has the chance to return the favor.

During the week of November 9-16, BPFNA will send one of our staff members and one of our board members to the annual meeting of FIBAC to further strengthen and renew the relationship between the two organizations. I have the privilege of being the board member to go to Cuba. Since a good part of our time will be spent in Santa Clara and with our partners as we go to the FIBAC meeting, we are taking advantage of the BPFNA trip to have another Glendaler join the delegation. Chalene Helmuth will be traveling with me and Lee McKenna duCharme, the director of the BPFNA World Peace Networks projects. The Missions Division has provided a grant to BPFNA to help defray some of the cost of the trip for Chalene and me.

While in Cuba we will participate in meetings with students and faculty at the Instituto Superior de Estudios Biblicos y Teológicos in Havana. These meetings will center on conflict transformation, peace and justice work, and a cross-cultural conversation about women in ministry. We will travel to Santa Clara to visit with our friends at Alberto J. Diaz Baptist Church and will go with them to the FIBAC meeting. Following the meeting we will return to Santa Clara and celebrate the anniversary of our partner church's constitution before visiting the seminary at Matanzas and returning to Havana.

Please pray with us that our relationships with our friends in Cuba strengthen and that as we travel together, holding the Christ-light for one another, we bring into clearer vision what God's Kingdom can be here among us.

April

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## Nominating Committee News

Current appointments are listed below. There is a special called business meeting on November 3 at which time a recommendation will be presented to make additions to two committees. David Gooch and Sharon Hiett have been asked to serve on the Stewardship Committee. Thom Elsberry, Chris Ferrell and Paige Holliman have been asked to serve on the Budget and Finance Committee.

**Church Moderator** – Stewart Clifton  
**Church Steward** – David Gooch  
**Church Clerk** – Randy Miller  
**Treasurer** – Joni Elrod  
**Asst. Treasurers** – Thomas Conner  
and Jon Neergaard

**Ordination Committee**  
Mark Caldwell  
Nell Magee  
Linda Ray Miller  
Bill Northrup  
Charles Warford

**History Committee**  
Mike Awalt  
Connie Crowell  
Phil Fortenberry  
Anne-Leslie Owens  
Dot Pearigen  
John Weatherly

**Budget & Finance Committee**  
Bill Halbert  
John Hill

**Stewardship Committee**  
Bill Halbert  
John Hill  
Lee Miller

## Youth Happenings

### The past month...

**Proceeds from the youth bake sale** during the yard sale were \$289! Thanks especially to Rhonda Pearson for coordinating the effort and all the youth and parents who participated. Great job!

The **new Sunday School classes for youth** began in October. David Gooch, assisted by Jim Berry, is teaching a class focusing on Christian theology. Kreis White's class centers on contemporary issues affecting youth.

The youth had a pizza lunch followed by **volleyball** on Sunday, October 17.

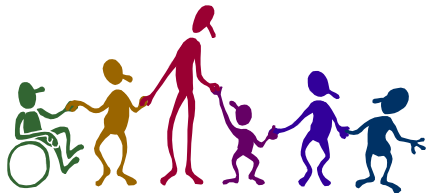
Stephanie is currently accepting nominations for those interested in serving on a **Youth Council**. This group, consisting of two youth, two parents, and two youth supporters, will serve as a planning, thinking, and organizing body for the youth as a whole.

### Things to come...

**Youth band rehearsals** are underway. The group typically meets the first and third Sundays, 3:00-4:30p.m. Upcoming practices are November 7 and 21, and December 5 and 19.

The acclaimed actor, rapper, playwright and educator, **Will Power**, is coming to Vanderbilt to perform his one-man Hip Hop Theatre production "**Flow**" on **Friday, November 12**. Flow "chronicles the lives of seven storytellers and the quest for survival in a world of urban pitfalls." Members of our youth group will be attending the performance. Stephanie has a few more adult and youth tickets.

### Kid's Corner



*Keep your heart clean with peace. Don't get it dirty with greed. It is not too late to clean it.*

*—Kaila Spencer*

Thanks to Linda Ray and April for their work with the children on **Children's Sabbath**, October 10. Alexis Maynard prepared and delivered a wonderful sermon. Evan Sisson Davis and Margie Way shared their gifts of music. Liza Hill, Jackson Ferrell and Evan led in other parts of worship while Sarah and Sydney Bailes and Patrick Ferrell, along with others, helped with the offering. The children's choir sang, as well. The **funds from the yard sale** have been designated to the children's ministry. We will set aside \$400-\$500 for attention to Sunday school classrooms (fun, sturdy chairs for the older elementary, painting four of the five rooms, etc.). The remainder of the money plus funds already in a designated children's account will be used to begin work on our playground. Swings will be replaced on the current swing sets and other items will be purchased. Children, parents, Sunday School teachers, the administration division and others will be involved in the process.

Thanks to Anne-Leslie Owens for leading **Faithful Friends** in October. On November 21, we will have a member of the Discernment and Search Committee as our guest to help us understand the new co-pastor model. We will write letters to Amy Mears and her family.

**Paid childcare will be provided during worship for Advent.** The first Sunday will be the most difficult to staff since it is also Thanksgiving weekend. Every attempt will be made to have paid workers for each Sunday, though **those scheduled should be aware they may need to help** if we don't have enough coverage.