

~ Visions ~

GLENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH

A caring community of equality and grace.

1021 Glendale Lane

Nashville, Tennessee 37204

269-0926 or 269-3149 — Fax. 269-0988

URL: www.glendalebaptist.org — E-Mail: GBC@glendalebaptist.org

View from the Chair

What an exciting and challenging year 2003 promises to be! Your council is hard at work developing programming to fulfill some of the goals we set during our Visioning Weekend. The winter weather has offered its challenges, but "our hill" has also provided many hours of sledding excitement for the children of the church and the neighborhood...as well as for one of our guests at Room in the Inn last Friday night!

As we look forward to the coming weeks, please be considering your pledge to our 2003 budget. We will be carrying some debt from our Line of Credit into this new year. The Budget and Finance Committee will be leading us into the pledging process and offering suggestions as to how we begin to reduce our debt. My sincere thanks goes to this committee as we face this challenge.

On February 2, we begin the process to elect our Nominating Committee for 2003. The council is beginning the process of selecting a Pastor Search Committee to bring to the church for approval. We will also be looking at an Interim/Worship Committee to work on filling our pulpit with a variety of quality speakers. I ask for your prayers for our council and our church as we address these needs.

The ***view from the chair*** is both challenging and exciting

Martha Jo Berry

Council Chair

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

FASHION EXHIBIT

Some of Glendale's most beautiful young women (youth-age girls and their mothers) visited the Tennessee State Museum to see the "Royalty and Elegance" exhibit. It included pieces from the collections of Queen Victoria, Princess Diana, and Hollywood "royalty" Marilyn Monroe. A few months ago, the girls met at Anne-Leslie Owens' house for pizza. We hope to have monthly outings for the youth-age girls, with Julie Coulter and Anne-Leslie Owens coordinating.

SOUPER BOWL PARTY

On Super Bowl Sunday, Glendale Youth assembled at Thomas Conner's house for an afternoon of football, fellowship, and lots of food. A great time was had by all. Glendale Youth raised \$237.10 for the "Souper Bowl of Caring" during the Sunday morning service. Thank you to everyone who supported the youth and their mission efforts.

Defining Glendale

Liz Allen Fey and Annette Sisson, Communication Division Chairs

On Wednesday, January 22, we met to share the plans the Church Divisions had created in-line with our vision and directions. All Divisions had clear plans for moving us forward. Here's a summary of where we are headed in 2003. If you weren't able to attend the meeting and have comments about the plans, please contact the appropriate division chair(s). And if something strikes a chord for you, we are always looking for more help! The following will show us where each division wants to go this next year. Initiative and events are listed in the order in which they are likely to occur. As you will see we have a full year ahead!

Education:

Children: participate in the Room in the Inn (1/18), incorporate a stronger emphasis on mission education, participate in the Crop Walk, identify resources for mission education for 3-4 year olds, include mission education in Sunday School and in Wednesday night programming.

Youth: continue the youth music program begun, meet with other Alliances Churches regarding a youth camp, lead vespers, explore youth mission/ministry focus with hands-on opportunities, lead worship in the fall integrating new 7th graders into the youth group.

Adults: Offer discussions of "Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth," look at creating 3 new small groups, create new topics or ideas for small groups, and continue to offer spiritual development through new "Companions in Christ" groups.

Ministry: Create intentional community through more deacon group gatherings, discuss reprogramming Ministry Division, and look at creating "Dinners of 8."

Worship: Include silent prayer and meditation in Wednesday night programming, begin Sunday morning worship with the chime instead of announcements, include a mission moment once a

month, include more liturgical dancing, plan some services without a sermon, invite Sunday School classes or small groups to plan and lead a vesper's service, provide better services for folks with hearing problems – April will "sign" more and will teach the children to sign.

Missions: Develop an intentional philosophy of Missions – begin by defining church's role and role of members, develop quarterly emphases on missions through Sunday School, worship, Wednesday night programming to educate about missions.

Membership: Offer orientation for new member candidates, create and offer an introduction to Glendale class, create a new text directory and a new pictorial directory, design and provide name tags for church members, include litany as part of new member celebration service, explore having a "concert on the hill."

Administration: Work with Church Council in thinking about staffing needs of the church, survey church for repair needs, ask each division for ideas regarding uses for the building during non-church times and bring a proposal to the church regarding hospitality and outsiders' use of the building.

Communications: Review all materials for church and revise for consistency, present an enhanced logo to the church, align all material with new logo and add materials where and when needed, create a members page on the web-site, work with Membership Division to create new directory, explore advertising opportunities in *Tennessean* and other venues, develop web page links to other church services and other programs in which members may be interested, support the other Divisions in responding to communication needs.

Council: Begin election process for Nominating Committee and Search Committee; create an interim worship committee.

CBF Volunteer Opportunity

*2003 China Bound: Summer English Program
(Tentative Dates: June 30-August 5)*

Program to help Chinese middle and high school English teachers improve their conversational English. Up to 100 volunteers needed.

Estimated cost of trip: \$2,400 by March 15; \$2,600 after March 15, due by May 1. This includes air, lodging, meals, airport exit fees, a Chinese visa, medical insurance, and orientation to China. Passports at volunteers' expense. A non-refundable \$200 deposit is due by April 15.

For more information, contact

Ann & David Wilson,
CBF volunteer
assistants-China,
at
(989) 835-1536

or
cen29529@centurytel.net
or go to

www.cbfinchina.org

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP DIVISION

Winter New Member Candidate Class

Our current new member class will be meeting on Sunday night, February 2, at Mark and Cecilia Caldwell' s house for dinner. The following two Sunday mornings (February 9 and 16), we will have a New Member Candidate Class in the Fellowship Hall from 8:30-10:15. On February 16, our new member candidates will be voted on at the Quarterly Business Meeting, and on February 23, our new members will be celebrated during the Sunday morning service that will include communion and baptism.

Welcome new member candidates!

Bill and Barbara Halbert (Zach)

1334 Otter Creek
Nashville, TN 37215
373-1228

halbert@bellsouth.net

Sponsors: Louise and Stewart
Clifton

Susan Cunningham

2257 N. Berry' s Chapel Rd.
Franklin, TN 37069
790-9026

sudalc1@aol.com

Sponsor: MAT Trotter

Kristie and Ryan Valentine (Shane)

5156 Bay Overlook
Hermitage, TN 37076
883-7384

kristie_valentine@yahoo.com

Sponsors: Patsy and Bill Junker

Evelyn Pearson

130 Woodmont Boulevard
Nashville, TN 37205
298-4188

cutiepiemw85@aol.com

Sponsors: Christy Halbert and
Chalene Helmuth

Paige Holliman

420 Elmington Ave #1023
Nashville, TN 37205
385-0504

jpaigeh@comcast.net

Sponsors: Julie Coulter and
Michelle Tooley

"Intro to Glendale" Class for Visitors

Sunday, February 9 8:30-10:15, Fellowship Hall

If you have been visiting Glendale and would like to learn more, this is your opportunity! You are invited to join the New Member Candidates at their February 9 session. We will be examining the church profile and providing information about our church staff, church council, Sunday School classes, and deacon groups. Breakfast will be provided. If you have questions, please contact Anne-Leslie Owens at 385-1679 or alowens@mtsu.edu.

Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth

During the month of March, education for adults and youth will focus on *Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth*, a resource about churches and homosexuality jointly published by the Alliance of Baptists and the Baptist Peace Fellowship.

Youth and adult Sunday School classes will meet March 2, 16, and 30. Large group meetings will be held in the fellowship hall for adult classes and youth during the Sunday School hour on March 9 and 23. A small team will soon begin working on "lesson plans" for each week. Also, two Wednesday nights, March 12 and 26, will be devoted to this study. We will conclude our discussion on Sunday, March 30, with a potluck lunch after the worship service. All youth and adults are encouraged to participate.

In order for ALL adults to participate, church members are invited to volunteer to teach a children' s class during the month. This will allow Sunday School teachers of children to participate in

the study and discussion of *Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth*. If you are willing to spend a Sunday morning or two with our children, please sign up in the foyer or see Julie Coulter. Regular lesson materials for each class will be provided so children will have continuity with the current literature they are using.

The *RDTW* binder may be ordered for \$25.00. Orders and money must be given to Julie Coulter or placed in the envelope near April' s study by Sunday, February 9. April will pick up the binders when she is in Charlotte the following week, thus saving shipping costs. You do not have to purchase a copy of *RDWT* to participate, but you may find it helpful to have access to the full resource through this study and beyond. If you would like to preview *RDWT*, there is a copy in the church library, and April has a copy in her study. Several church members have copies as well.

Sunday School at Glendale Baptist Church

Spring 2003

Adult Sunday School

Reading the Bible again for the first time is the goal of **BibleStudy@Glendale.etc.** The Bible is considered a fundamental feature of Baptist spirituality. This class, led by Richard Sapp, attempts to reclaim and renew this important Baptist fundamental. In addition to the Bible, the class uses other resources, including the internet. Currently, this group is studying human sexuality as described in the book of Genesis. They meet downstairs in the second room across from the fellowship hall.

David Shepherd leads the **Men's Class**, which meets downstairs in the first room across from the fellowship hall. They are currently discussing the book, *Wild at Heart*, by John Eldridge about men and spirituality.

The **Reflections Class** is co-facilitated by Stuart Harris and Annette Sisson, who encourage a high level of participation from class members. This class reads, discusses, and probes works of contemporary non-fiction, fiction, or poetry that address theology, God's relationship to humanity, humanity's relationship to society and to one another, etc. This class sometimes continues discussions through a listserv. The Reflections Class meets in the classroom to the right at the top of the central stairwell. Currently they are reading Wendell Berry's *In the Presence of Fear* and talking about food production and local and global economies.

The **Special Studies Class** meets in the conference room on the second floor of the education wing. MATrotter facilitates this group, which shares teaching responsibilities. They are currently reading and discussing *Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths*, by Bruce Feiler.

The **Young Adult Class** meets in the first room on the left at the top of the central stairwell. David Elkins leads this group of college-age, young singles, and young couples. They are using Smyth & Helwys literature.

Youth Sunday School

The youth are co-led by Sarah Neeley and Jim Berry. Currently, they are discussing spiritual truths and real-life applications. They meet in the youth room.

Children's Sunday School

Elementary classes use Bible Quest, a curriculum developed by a consortium of denominations. Linda Ray Miller teaches the Kindergarten and First Grade Class at the end of the hall on the second floor of the education wing. Second, third and fourth graders meet in the next room where they are taught each week by Dot Pearigen. The Fifth and Sixth Grade Class meets in the room at the top of the first stairwell. Chalene Helmuth and Jason Laster teach this group of children.

Preschool Sunday School

The three preschool classes meet on the first floor of the education wing. Babies are loved and cared for by Jennifer and Craig Maynard each Sunday morning. One and two year olds are taught by Pat Elkins and Cathy Wood. They meet in the room at the end of the hall and use Cokesbury's curriculum, Toddlers and Two's. Three and four year olds meet next door. Debra Woods teaches these children. They use Bible Quest curriculum.

Kid's Corner



And a little child shall lead them...
(quotes from children around the world)

Everyone has the right to live, so live and let others live.

Karoon Wata, 12, Fiji

Faithful Friends

Michelle Tooley will lead Faithful Friends on Sunday, February 2. She will talk with us about her travels to Central America, Nagaland, and the work of Witness for Peace.

Children's Choir

Linda Ray Miller, Cecelia Caldwell, and Rosalyn Ramage are working with our Children's Choir. When you see them, give them a big thanks for sharing their gifts with the children and the church in this manner.

Communion Blessing

From time to time people raise questions about children participating in Communion. Children who have not been baptized are invited to come forward during Communion and receive a blessing and a paper dove. When they come forward, they can hold their hands beside them and receive a blessing. Then, the person serving communion will give them each a dove to take with them as a reminder of God's love for them.

Room in the Hearts of Children

On the coldest, snowy night of the winter, ten children and five adults hosted nine homeless guests at Room in the Inn. On this night, guests were greeted by wiggly little bodies adorned with smiles. Jonas Hill opened the door to the clothes closet while Davis Gooch led the way to the restroom. Once all were gathered around the table, Margie Way offered a beautiful blessing. Jonas and JT (Davis' friend) took their posts at the drink table while Evie Davis, Liza Hill, Corey Fey and Lauren (Liza's friend) scurried from table to table asking guests if they would like ice cream with their apple pie.

Plates in hand, the children paired off and sat at tables with our guests. Names were exchanged and lively conversations ensued. There was talk of where folks were from, the cold weather outside, the Titans, kids' adventures on their days off from school, and much more.

With seven inches of snow outside and a perfect hill for sledding in front of the church, the children had sleds lined up outside for a little fun after dinner. April Baker, Kreis White, Julie Coulter, Curtis (one of our guests), and ten children played in the snow. Evie, Liza, and Lauren screamed and giggled as if they are on a huge rollercoaster each time they slid down the hill. They tried one run without screaming and decided it was not much fun that way. All the adults had turns on the sleds, as well. Curtis had a great time. He cheered on the kids, particularly when Davis successfully tried his hand at "snowboarding" on a sled.

Becky Way and Margie—along with the Hill children, Evie, Lauren, and JT—headed home after a few hours outside. The guests settled in for a night's rest, while the children and April and Julie moved upstairs for a "slumber party" in the church library. Bored with watching movie videos, Margie decided to move her sleeping bag into the foyer with Julie to go to sleep. Kreis noted that Margie was in the witness protection plan, as she was safe from pranks with Julie nearby!

Layne, Rachel, Davis, and Corey had adventures together until nearly 3:00a.m. Ask them about paint smocks and black light and dragging Rachel down the hall in her sleeping bag! April has a good account of these events, as well!

Five-forty five comes early when you've been awake most of the night, but being troopers, the children all got up, rolled up their sleeping bags, and groggily walked towards the wonderful smells of breakfast that Jennifer White had made. Corey had toothpaste on the side of his face, evidence of the fact that he fell asleep first. The guests enjoyed hearing of the shenanigans of the night. There's no doubt that nine men left Glendale that morning with a little joy in their hearts, thanks to the love of children.

Glendale's children are indeed special. Their giving hearts made nine men feel at home. Friendships among four sixth graders were deepened as they talked through the night. We should be proud of all of our children and continue to encourage them to share their love with one another and with others.