

~ Visions ~

LENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH

A caring community of equality and grace.

1021 Glendale Lane

Nashville, Tennessee 37204

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*Please don't forget to make reservations for the
Retirement Luncheon and Reception,
next Sunday, March 16th,
immediately following the worship service
for Dr. Mark C. Caldwell, Pastor
Glendale Baptist Church*

Please call or e-mail Rita

ASAP

at the church

to let her know how many reservations you need.

*If you'd like to make a donation for Mark's retirement gift,
please let Rita know that, as well.*

April's Thoughts on Comings and Goings

Sunday, March 16 is one of those bittersweet times in life when leaving and letting go mingle with dreaming and moving on. Many of you could tell the stories of Mark's ministry here over the past 13 years, the changes that Glendale has experienced, the challenges and the dreams that have been a part of this church. I don't have that history yet, but I do have several months of serving with a wise and caring colleague whom I have come to know also as friend.

When Mark announced his plans to retire, it did not come as a surprise to me. He had been discussing it with me almost since the first day I was here. However, as the months have dwindled to weeks and the weeks now to days, I am increasingly aware of many losses and voids that come with Mark's leaving. It will be odd to be in worship and not hear Mark's voice preaching, praying, and reading scripture, or hear his soft humming as he is drawn into some beautiful offertory or prelude as Karen plays. Personally I'll

miss his insights on questions and observations I have and I'll miss his humor and cynical wit. Mark's teaching and preaching have challenged us and called us to search for a life of faith that digs deep into our ways of being and refuses to accept easy answers and do things halfway. His passion for theology and the Bible will continue to help us fine tune the lenses through which we view our ministry and our mission.

To go along with those losses and voids, though, are dreams and hopes. Glendale has a new path to map in the coming weeks and months. The hope that we live toward is created from our past and from all who have been a part of shaping this congregation. The Caldwell's are certainly part of the spirit that inhabits this place and these people called Glendale. Mark and Cecelia embark on a new phase of life with our hopes of fulfillment and joy for them. They have new dreams to dream and new adventures to seek out. They go with our blessings and our love.

WORSHIP DIVISION

Interim Information

The church council is in the process of putting together an Interim Committee which will lead us through the interim period. First, they will help us decide what kind of interim arrangement we want and then will lead us in putting that plan in place.

Plans for the Season of Lent

Mark will lead us in Lenten worship on March 16. April will preach on March 23 and April 20 (Easter). For the other three Sundays in Lent and the Sunday after Easter, we will use local people to fill the pulpit. Hopefully the interim will be in place by May 1.

“Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth” *Month of March, 2003*

- The Sunday morning sessions all begin at 9:15 a.m.—and this study includes all Youth and Adult Sunday School classes. (Children’s SS classes will also begin early.
- During the large-group sessions, there will be paper, pens, and a comment box if you’d like to offer your questions, concerns, comments, etc. The planning committee will read these each week and try to find ways for future discussions to be responsive to them.
- If you don’t already have a Sunday School class, you may do one of two things: affiliate with a regular Sunday school class (see the class’s teacher); or join a “month-of-March” class for people without classes who would like to discuss RDWT (come to Fellowship Hall).
- 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 of the current literature they are using.
- On Wednesday nights, children will have choir immediately following the birthday and anniversary announcements. Choir will end at 7:00 at which time the children can come and join you or go to child care. If you want them to join you, please let Linda Ray know so they can come with her to the meeting.

Program Schedule:

Wednesday, March 12

Large-group discussion
6:30-7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 16

Small-group discussion
9:15-10:15 a.m., SS classes

Wednesday, March 19

Large-group discussion
6:30-7:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 23

Large-group discussion
9:15-10:15 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Sunday, March 30: Double Session

Small-group discussion
9:15-10:15 a.m., SS classes
Then: Worship Serv., 10:30-11:45 a.m.
Then: Potluck Lunch/large-group discussion
12 noon – 2 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Sunday School Time Change for March

In order to allow a bit more time for Sunday morning discussions around "Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth," Sunday School will begin at 9:15 for all classes. The first Sunday breakfast will occur as scheduled.

Crop Walk

Children of all ages will begin collecting money in late March for the Crop Walk, a wonderful fundraiser for local and global hunger organizations such as Luke 14:12, MANNA, Safe Haven, Martha O'Brien Center, Nashville Table, and the Campus for Human Development. The walk will be on **Sunday afternoon, April 6** at Centennial Park. Though children will be collecting money, everyone is invited to participate. Please put this on your calendar. Details will follow.

Kid's Corner



And a little child shall lead them...

(quotes from children around the world)

Why on earth, do we have war! Money for war but none to feed the poor.

Cheryl Workell, 17, Barbados

Children's Choir and Just Us Kids

Elementary children, grades 1-6, are invited to sing in the children's choir directed by Linda Ray Miller. Rehearsals are **Wednesday evenings**, in the K-1st grade Sunday School classroom. Just Us Kids meets immediately after choir.

For the month of March, Just Us Kids will meet only on March 26. For the other Wednesdays in March, the children will go to paid child care after choir unless parents indicate specifically to Linda Ray to bring them to the "Rightly Dividing the Word of Truth" program.

Faithful Friends

On **Sunday, March 23**, we will talk about local and global hunger concerns in our world. We will learn about the Crop Walk, a special fundraiser for hunger organizations. Children of all ages, their families, and other Glendaleers are invited to participate in the walk. During Faithful Friends, we will receive sponsor sheets to begin collecting money from our Glendale friends for the **Crop Walk**, which will be Sunday afternoon, **April 6**.