



VISIONS

January 2006
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One Church Staff's Perspective

Several weeks ago during a Wednesday evening discussion about who we would like to be as a congregation, Richard Smith stood and made a statement very similar to this: "I would hope that we could become a church that is generous to its staff. I would hope that we would support them in the areas where they are trying to lead us, and that we would show generosity to them financially and personally."

As individuals and as a staff, we are overwhelmed by your generosity to us this Christmas. Your energy and attendance at the many opportunities for gathering during the Advent season, the intentionality with which you have worshipped, your great care and attention

for one another, and your affirmation shown by the generous Christmas gifts to us have all signified that Richard's hopes are intricately woven into the fabric of this caring community of equality and grace.

Thank you for the many ways in which you made 2005 significant for each of us. May our ministry together continue to shine a light of hope in the world.

In joy and gratitude,

Alan Green
Amy Mears
April Baker
Karen Lee Turner
Marjorie Halbert

A Word from the Church Council Chair

On November 29, Glendale hosted a "Gathering at the Table" to bring together local congregations of the Alliance of Baptists, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the United Church of Christ for dinner and special communion service. This was a very special evening of sharing and worship that contributed greatly to the ongoing nurturing of our "Partnership in Mission and Ministry." Members of the Partnership Council, which is comprised of staff and board members of the three organizations at the national level, were with us for the evening and witnessed the many good things that affirm all of the reasons why this partnership was

established. Many thanks to our pastors for their leadership and the many Glendalers who helped organize the meal and worship service. I want to particularly thank Linda Ray Miller for recruiting and organizing her Companions in Christ class for the dinner. Daniel Collins, David Gooch, Ginger Newman and Don Schlosser were most gracious to offer their talents for the worship service.

Peace, Thomas



Room In The Inn: Christmas Eve

Glendale will host 8-10 men for Room In The Inn on **Christmas Eve**. This is a congregation-wide endeavor. Glendalers are asked to provide food for dinner and breakfast, sack lunches, and two people are needed to spend the night.

The potluck dinner will start at 5:30 PM. Lisa Lehr will be roasting a turkey and making stuffing for dinner. Glendalers are asked to provide the rest of the meal. Let Lisa know what you are bringing or volunteer to spend the night by calling her at 831.1299 (h), 902.1428 (w), 517.2779 or 479.3185 (m).

Christmas Weekend Worship Times

Christmas Eve, December 24
4:00 PM
"Carols and Candlelight"

Christmas Day, December 25
10:30 AM
"A Service of Lessons and Carols"
Church will open at 9:30 AM, but there will be no Sunday School on this day.

Vespers is Coming Back

In 2006, look for Vespers to return on the 5th Wednesday. Just as we enjoy the dedication of 1st Sunday and 1st Wednesday for observance of special activities, so we will begin observing Vespers again in 2006 in those months that have a 5th Wednesday. So, on March 29, we will begin this special time of coming together to worship. The remaining dates to mark on your calendar will be May 31, August 30 and November 29.

Quarterly Business Meeting and Pie Supper Sunday, February 19

Please mark your calendars now for Glendale's quarterly business meeting which will be held on February 19 in the fellowship hall at 5:30 PM. Following the meeting, all are invited to attend our annual pie supper at the Ramages (3312 Lealand Lane), a Glendale tradition! What a perfect way to live as a community- a little business and a lot of pie.

What Shall We Bring to the Manger?

We bring the essential items that make up a manger...

The manger itself, straw, and animals.

We bring the Holy Family.

We bring the shepherd and the wisemen and their gifts.

We bring the Guiding Star.

We bring the Christ Child.

We also bring our gifts for ministry.

We bring our dreams for Glendale for 2006 and beyond.

We bring our collected vision for being a beacon of light in this community.

We bring our wants and our desires for fulfilling and faithful living.

We bring our understanding of what it means to be a child of God.

We bring our commitment to God and to this community of faith to become generous people.

We bring our understanding of what it means to be a community of equality and grace.

We bring our desire to be unselfish in the giving of our lives, our money, our time, and our gifts.

We bring our desire to be a congregation of generous people.

For several weeks now, we have been talking about Glendale's Financial Plan for Ministry and now it is time for each of us to make our financial commitment and pledge to support this financial plan for 2006. We invite you to continue to think and pray and plan regarding what your financial gifts to Glendale will be for the next year. There are two ways to make your pledge: on line through the GBC website or on the pledge card which was included in a letter sent to each family last week. We encourage children and teenagers to complete their own card; extras will be available on the table at the back of the sanctuary. You are not being asked to sign the card. We don't want or need to know who is giving what...we just need to know the total pledged.

As a powerful image of support for this church and God's work in our world, we ask that you bring the card to church on January 8th if you can be at church that Sunday. During the worship service, each person and/or family will be invited to take their card and place it in the manger. This will be a physical symbol of bringing our gifts to Christ and to his work in the world.

Thank you again for accepting our invitation to be actively involved in financially supporting Glendale Baptist Church in 2006 and beyond.

Sincerely,

The Stewardship Committee

Frenchie Fortenberry, Jim Fey, Raye Nell Dyer, Molly Boyd, and Ralph Baugh

Kid's Corner

Thirty-five children, parents and others will see the production of *Seussical* at the Nashville Children's Theatre on **Sunday, January 8, at 2:30 p.m.** Our own Shawn Knight is Horton the Elephant.

In **Faithful Friends** on **January 15**, we will share our experiences with Room in the Inn and hear a story about people like our friends we meet at Room in the Inn.

All elementary children and their families are invited to help prepare dinner and sack lunches for **Room In The Inn** guests on **Friday, January 20**. We will eat dinner with our guests and then help clean up. Grades 3-6 may spend the night upstairs with me for a slumber party. (The older children often like to ride in the van to pick up the guests, too.) We won't stay up too late because we'll be up early in the morning for breakfast with our guests. Parents will be needed to help prepare dinner and breakfast. Details to follow.

Children's Wednesday Night Programs during January

6:30 - 7:00 Children's Choir with Kim Sheehan and Susan Compton
7:00 - 7:30 Discipleship Training

Each week will have one of the following programs:

Missions Education with Rosalyn Ramage
Baptist Heritage with Eileen Campbell-Reed
Stewardship of the Earth with Jimmy Davis
Worship Education with one of the pastors
OR an intergenerational activity with the entire group.

Watch e-mail listserv or check the church website for updates.

Children's Council will meet on Sunday, January 22 at 11:45 AM to make plans for Lent and Easter.

Youth Happenings

Whenever you want to know what the youth are doing, visit their **calendar** at http://my.calendars.net/glendale_youth.

The youth had a wonderful **Christmas party** at the Sisson/Davis/Brock home on December 11. Anne-Leslie, Annette, Carson, Corey, Davis, Daniel, Danika, Garrett, Ginger, Holly, Jimmy, Jonas, Margie (her first youth activity), Paul, Peter, Rachel, Thomas and Will (Ramages' grandson) all enjoyed a meal of barbecue sandwiches, sides, and desserts. The annual gift exchanging game was a hit again.

Needle Nuts Saturday, January 21

Needle Nuts will meet on Saturday, January 21, 10:00 AM. Details will follow about the location.

Primetimers

The Primetimers met in early December for a festive time of sharing food, fellowship, and Christmas memories. This age 55-or-over group will not be meeting in January, but have an invitation for a dinner meeting that will be scheduled for sometime in February. Stay tuned for more information.

Happy Birthday to You...

(CHA, CHA, CHA)

- 1 Holly
- 2 Alma May Scarborough
- 4 Mark Wheeler
- 6 Joy Smith
- 8 Jim Fey
- 9 Jennifer Strange-Mills
- 17 Matthew
- 18 Eileen Campbell-Reed
- 28 Martha Jo Berry
- 31 Michelle Tooley
- 31 Elise Elrod
- 31 Molly Grisham
- 31 Corey
- 31 Lanita Harris
- 31 Jon Hines

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
December 25 CHRISTMAS 9:30 Church Open 10:30 "A Service of Lessons and Carols"	12/26	12/27	12/28 NO SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES	12/29	12/30	12/31
JANUARY 1 9:15 First Sunday Breakfast 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Girl Scouts 4-6 PM	1/2	1/3	1/4 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 Division and Committee Meetings or Bible Study w/Ted Mears	1/5	1/6 Room In The Inn	1/7
JANUARY 8 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 2:30 Suessical	1/9	1/10 6:00 Church Council Meeting Luke 14:12	1/11 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 Program	1/12	1/13	1/14 Nashville Family Pride 4-7 PM
JANUARY 15 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Faithful Friends Girl Scouts 4-6 PM	1/16 Deadline to submit Visions info.	1/17	1/18 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:45 Program	1/19	1/20 Room In The Inn	1/21 10:00 Needle Nuts Location TBA
JANUARY 22 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service 11:45 Children's Council	1/23	1/24	1/25 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:45 Program	1/26	1/27	1/28
JANUARY 29 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	1/30	1/31				

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