



VISIONS

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From the Church Council Chair

Glendale certainly ended the year with some very positive energy. A special business meeting called by the missions division on December 3 helped us talk through some important matters related to our 2006 financial plan for ministry. Luckily, we didn't just talk. The following Sunday, several Glendalers acted and our giving in 2006 will be the highest in recent memory! As we face a year of tight finances ahead, it is my hope that the same spirit of commitment that we have shared in December 2006 will carry us through 2007 with renewed awareness of our needs as a community to support one another in being a caring and giving church.

One of the expense reductions that I deeply regret in our 2007 financial plan for ministry is the elimination of the youth and children's ministry coordinator. Glendale has contemplated various models for youth and children's ministry over the past years and I have been honored to be part of that evolving model as it pertains to our youth ministry since 2001.

In March 2006, the church decided to try a new model by hiring Liz Zagatta to serve as our first youth and children's ministry coordinator, a position that we knew would require a gifted person to help craft the model for the position. Liz was certainly the right person for this job! Speaking for the youth (they let me do that sometimes), I think we can all agree that 2006 has been a very good year of growing, learning, leading, sharing and ministering. I have heard many Glendalers talk with pride about our youth and the exciting things that are happening in their lives.

As a volunteer minister, I have always enjoyed the time that I have spent with our youth. It's the time NOT spent with them- the planning, emailing, calling and

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Communications Wants to Hear from You

As our church continues to expand and improve its communication offerings, we need to find out more about how our congregation uses the information and publications we provide and how we can create stronger relationships among our written communication pieces: newsletter, listserv, website, Sunday morning bulletin, Wednesday night announcement sheet, and bulletin boards.

Please take a few minutes to answer the survey. It is available online at www.glendalebaptist.org. Click on **Communications Survey** from the menu. If you have received a copy of *Visions* by postal mail or picked up a copy in the foyer, the survey is included as an insert. Place your completed survey form in the **Communication mailbox outside Fellowship Hall**. All surveys are due no later than **Sunday, January 21**. Thank you for your input.

—*The Communications Division*
Beverly Feinstein and Anne-Leslie Owens, Co-Chairs

Youth Continuing to Discern the Path of Peacemaker

Glendale youth are looking at ways to share their peace pole project with other youth groups. On Wednesday, January 31, they will be meeting with the youth from **Vine Street Christian Church**. Then on February 24-25, they will meet Betty Williams of Belfast, Ireland, at **PeaceJam** in Memphis.

Youth Room Getting New Look

Come check out the Youth Room. Its in the midst of a redo and new furniture is already making a dramatic difference. Youth bought two Sumo bean bag chairs using proceeds from bake sales. And thanks to the generous donation from the Mears-Webb Family, the youth have a very comfy sofa as well. **Thank you to the Mears-Webb Family from all the youth!**



Visions is a monthly newsletter of
Glendale Baptist Church
A Caring Community of
Equality and Grace

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For over 50 years, we have worked as a congregation, learning together what this mission of becoming a "caring community of equality and grace" truly means. As a result, we endeavor to celebrate all of God's creation and we welcome all persons to worship with us, regardless of race, gender, or sexual orientation.

At Glendale, we value relationships and partnerships ecumenically as well as within the baptist family. We are officially affiliated with the Alliance of Baptists, the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists, and the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America. Our other relationships include a local ecumenical partnership with the Disciples of Christ churches and the United Church of Christ churches in Nashville and a partnership with Iglesia Bautista Alberto J. Diaz in Santa Clara, Cuba.

From the Church Council Chair *(continued from previous page)*

organizing that can be draining and challenging for a volunteer youth minister. Most every time you see or read about what the youth are doing, Liz has been "behind the scenes" to make sure that everything runs smoothly and that there is some method by which we evaluate the success of a program or activity. Sadly, we must say good-bye to Liz as we have voted to eliminate the position effective January 1, 2007 for budgetary purposes.

I hope that Glendalers will have a chance to express their gratitude to Liz for her service to our youth and children's ministry. She has meant a lot to me personally and allowed me to be part of a flourishing youth ministry in ways that are very affirming for all of us who are part of it. Glendale's challenge in 2007 is to find new ways to remain true to its covenant to nurture our young people as they grow in their faith. I have no doubts that this community will ably and willfully take on this challenge.

Peace, Thomas

An Update from the Discernment & Search Committee

The Discernment & Search Committee are actively working through the process of seeking a new Minister of Music and Pianist for Glendale. The committee has met several times to finalize the job description for the Minister of Music as well as to discuss the placement of advertisements for the position and the process of interviews. The committee had a productive meeting with the Choir to get their input, and the congregation was invited to add input on Wednesday night, December 13. All of these suggestions and concerns are important to the committee and are given full consideration.

The current plan is to continue with interim staff through February. Advertisements for the Minister of Music position will be posted in January, and the committee hopes to begin interviews in late January.

We owe great thanks to David Mears, Ginger Newman, Laura Kendall, Don Schlosser, Kris Elsberry, Lanita Harris, and others who have served in interim music staff positions in the past few months.

Pray in earnest for the Discernment & Search Committee as they go about this difficult and important job. Glendale is a special place and needs a special staff. Pray that God is working now to prepare just the right candidate for us!

Missions Update

We were delighted to have Susan Wiltshire share with us on Wednesday, December 13. Susan, author of *Seasons of Grief and Grace: A Sister's Story of AIDS*, and a Vanderbilt faculty member, shared stories of her brother and a trip she made to an AIDS orphanage in South Africa.

The Glendale Green Team is getting organized and you will hear more from them with this new year. If you are interested in helping with recycling and addressing other "green" issues at Glendale, please let one of us know and we will pass your name along.

—The Missions Division

Louise Clifton and Julie Coulter, Co-Chairs

Kid's Corner

All elementary children and their families are invited to help prepare dinner and sack lunches for **Room in the Inn** guests on **Friday, January 19**. 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.

Believe it or not, but reservations have already been made for **Passport Kids! Camp** in 2007! Julie Coulter and Lane Simpson will once again accompany current 3rd-6th graders to camp in Crossville on **July 14-17**. If you have a child interested in going, please let Julie know as we have space for seven children.

Youth Happenings

Visit the youth calendar at http://my.calendars.net/glendale_youth

January 4-6, the youth will have a winter "meditation" retreat at Henry Horton State with Katie Cook, editor of *Seeds*.

Sunday School Teachers Needed

Sunday School at Glendale is still in need of an **additional teacher for the 3-4 year olds and a AND a lead teacher for the 1-2 year olds**. There is also a need for a **younger elementary music leader** two Wednesdays a month. If you are interested in any of these positions or have questions about commitment and responsibilities, please contact Linda Ray Miller at lindaray_miller@yahoo.com.

Wednesday Night Schedule

Jan 3 Division and Committee Meetings
 Jan 10 Education Division Program
 Jan 17 The Glendale Green Team!
 Jan 24 Administration Spring Work Punch List and Scavenger Hunt Extravaganza
 Jan 31 Ecumenical Partnership Dinner and Meeting at Vine Street Christian Church

Wednesday Night Meal Increase

To meet our 2007 Financial Plan for Ministry and retain some level of subsidy for guests and families, we are instituting new pricing for meals. Starting January 1, 2007, the meals on Wednesday night will increase as follows:

Adults:	\$7.00	Youth and Children:	11-17	\$3.50
Students:	\$3.50		6-10	\$2.50
Family Cap:	\$18.00		1-5	\$1.50

There is still "no charge" for first-time visitors to Wednesday night dinner. We will be evaluating the effectiveness of the plan throughout the year. As always, we appreciate your comments and feedback.

—*The Administration Division*
 Liz Allen Fey and Jimmy Davis, Co-Chairs

Happy Birthday to You January Babies



CHA, CHA, CHA)

01 – Holly Miller
 02 – Betsy Jones
 02 – Alma May Scarborough
 04 – Mark Wheeler
 06 – Joy Smith
 08 – Jim Fey
 09 – Jenny Strange-Mills
 17 – Matthew
 18 – Eileen Campbell-Reed
 27 – Selena McCoy-Carpenter
 28 – Martha Jo Berry
 31 – Elise Elrod
 31 – Corey
 31 – Molly Grisham
 31 – Michelle Tooley

Need Consumer Reports?

The library has a yearly subscription to *Consumer Reports* and also gets the yearly summary/index. NEW THIS YEAR, we have a subscription to Consumer Reports online. Check in the library to find how you might use this valuable resource.

New Additions to the Library

The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus by Amy-Jill Levine (a Vanderbilt professor) has been given in memory of Kris Elsberry's dad Fred Beverly by Bev Bernard.

Inside the Red Tent is Sandra Hack Polaski's new book.

A Redbird Christmas by Fannie Flagg

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	WED MENU	THU	FRI	SAT
December 31 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	1/1 Happy New Year CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	1/2	1/3 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 Division/ Committee Meetings	Menu Grilled Pork Loin, Salad, Rice, Veggie (adults) Bagel Bites, Tater Tots (kids)	1/4	1/5 Room In the Inn (Warford Deacon Group hosting)	1/6
January 7 9:00 First Sunday Breakfast (Reflections Class coordinating) 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	1/8	1/9 Luke 14:12 6:00 Church Council Meeting 6:30-9:30 Nashville in Harmony Auditions (Sanctuary)	1/10 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 Education Division Program	Menu Grilled Chicken, Baked Potato, Salad, Veggie (all)	1/11 6:30-9:30 Nashville in Harmony Auditions (Sanctuary)	1/12	1/13
January 14 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	1/15 Deadline to submit Visions info.	1/16	1/17 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 The Glendale Green Team!	Menu Strip Salad, Soup, Baked Potato, Crackers (adults) Chicken Wings, Tater Tots (kids)	1/18	1/19 Room In the Inn (Children's classes hosting)	1/20
January 21 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	1/22	1/23	1/24 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 Administration Spring Work Punch List and Scavenger Hunt Extravaganza	Menu Chicken Fajitas, Spanish Rice, Beans (all)	1/25	1/26	1/27
January 28 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	1/29	1/30	1/31 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 Ecumenical Partnership Dinner and Meeting at Vine Street Christian Church	Menu Spaghetti, Garlic Bread, Salad, Veggie, Dessert (all)			

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