



# VISIONS

March 2007  
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## Two Pastors' Perspective

We are in the midst of the Church's Lenten season of preparation. For Glendalers who have come from mainline Protestant or Catholic traditions, our hybrid Baptist Lent is probably an unusual liturgical animal. For Glendalers who have been reared in Baptist churches, the season of Lent may still be somewhat unfamiliar. For each of us, the opportunity is present to consider how best to honor the love of God incarnate, how to live with the reality of humanity's ongoing refusal to embody that love, and how we can prepare as individuals and a community to celebrate God's gift of grace among us.

One cultural straw for grasping Lent is the idea that one must give up something—preferably something treasured—in order to observe the season well. While depriving ourselves of treats may indeed remind us to be thinking more pointedly about our lives as followers of Jesus, this is surely not the only way to achieve that goal. Instead of giving up something, believers often add a practice or include a new discipline, in order to focus more clearly on faithful discipleship.

In our worship conversation for the Lenten season, we will be considering the Church's understanding of reconciliation. Justice, mercy, and forgiveness have often been given short shrift in historic understandings of how God and humanity are made one—and specifically around the interpretations of the crucifixion of Jesus. Much of the Church's predominant thought about atonement has included an implicit Divine condoning of violence in the death of the Christ. We will be considering some of the historic and current atonement thought that approach reconciliation in different ways.

*Lenten blessings,  
April and Amy*

## PeaceJammers Meet Peace Prize Winner Betty Williams

Since last year, several Glendale youth have attended PeaceJam, an international education program built around leading Nobel Peace Laureates who work personally with youth to pass on the spirit, skills and wisdom they embody. While at PeaceJam this year in Memphis, our youth participated in workshops, group initiatives and service projects. They enjoyed some very close and personal moments with Betty Williams, the 1977 co-winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for her grassroots efforts in ending violence in Northern Ireland.

All the groups participating in PeaceJam are required to complete a "peace project." (Glendale's peace project last year was to design, create, and plant a peace pole.) This year, the Glendale youth chose to raise awareness and funds for the Invisible Children, the children of Northern Uganda who live in fear of being forced to serve as child soldiers.

Several Glendalers helped prepare the youth for this experience. Thomas Conner and Lyndsey Godwin chaperoned and led the weekly PeaceJam studies. Amy Mears, April Baker, and Anne-Leslie Owens provided support and assisted in many ways.

## A February Farewell Brings in \$9495.60

We have received details of the February Farewell to Fourteen held on Sunday the 25th. The "Farewell" offering was \$9495.60! (This includes early gifts given on previous Sundays.) While not the \$14,000 that we dreamed about, it is an amazing example of the generosity of Glendalers for Our Chosen Place. And we know that there will be gifts coming in over the next weeks, since some members were out of town on February 25th.

Our regular giving Sunday was \$8,386.60...GREAT! That is \$17,881.20 received in all. Again, thank you for this support (and thanks to those who stayed late Sunday to count quarters). God is good.

*Stewardship Committee*

*BELOW: Glendale PeaceJammers share their Invisible Children project poster with Betty Williams, co-winner of the 1977 Nobel Peace Prize.*



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

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Anne-Leslie Owens and Julie Coulter  
 Visions Editors

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.

## Defibrillator In Place and Ready if Needed

In recent months Glendalers have had an opportunity to contribute to the purchase of an external defibrillator. The new defibrillator is located on the bookshelf in the hallway to the pastors' studies. Hopefully, the defibrillator will never have to be used, but, in the event that anyone (infant, child or adult) at Glendale should have such a need (fainting, heart attack, resuscitation), we will be prepared to assess the situation and then respond appropriately.

Ours is a battery Automated External Defibrillator (AED). It is a self-contained defibrillator device designed for portability and ease of use. It contains a battery, a control computer, and electrodes. Upon placing the electrodes on the patient, the control computer in an advanced system will assess the patient determining the type of rhythm or arrhythmia present. It will then set appropriate power levels and signal that a shock is needed. If the patient does not require defibrillation, units will not allow a shock to be administered. Our AED will have speakers which give audible commands when the AED is opened, aiding those who have never used or practiced with such a machine.

Thanks to all who have contributed to this fund, especially to Martha Jo Berry for initiating the idea and overseeing its purchase and installation.

*Ministry Division*

## Communications Surveys Coming to Deacon Groups

The Communications Division was thrilled with the number of completed communication surveys (over 40) and the depth of those responses. Thanks to everyone who submitted a survey.

Some ideas were shared by many people and these recommendations were immediately passed along to the appropriate division. Other ideas, and concerns, could best be addressed in smaller group gatherings. So, during March, representatives from the Communications Division will *meet with deacon groups* to address the responses from the communications survey, explore some concerns further, and invite participation from those who have not previously shared their comments and suggestions.

*Communication Division*

## Nominating Committee Needs Your Support

A nominating committee will be in place in early March. This committee is charged with the responsibility for nominating members of the church council, church moderator, ordination committee, church history committee, clerk, steward, treasurer, and assistant treasurers. Please support this committee's efforts as they look beyond this church year and help plan for our future leadership needs.

## Glendale's Sweetest Tradition

Our annual pie supper on February 19 was slightly altered as we relocated the event to the fellowship hall due to two deaths in the Ramage family. While we missed Rosalyn and Don and their hospitality, we carried on in typical Glendale fashion, with a sweet spirit and an evening of true fellowship. Thanks to all who attended and prepared for the gathering. The pies were delicious!

## Crop Walk – Sunday, April 1

The Greater Nashville area joins thousands of communities around the country in a 5K fundraising walk to fight hunger and poverty – locally and around the world. Local agencies benefiting from the walk include MANNA, Luke 14:12 and Second Harvest Food Bank. Funds supporting national and international emergency relief will go through the cooperative ministry programs of Church World Service. On Sunday, April 1, the program begins at 2:00 at the pavilion behind the Parthenon in Centennial Park. Our own John Halbert will be the master of ceremonies! The walk will begin at 2:30p.m. Some may want to go to lunch after church; others may simply want to meet us at the park around 1:45.

All walkers (children, youth and adults) will need to complete a registration form which will be available beginning Sunday, March 11. Walkers are encouraged to sponsor themselves and collect money from others. If you won't be able to join us for the walk, there will be plenty of folks looking for sponsors. Join us or support us in this wonderful event that brings awareness to our community about hunger around the corner and around the world!

## Youth Happenings

On February 17, 11 youth and youth leaders ate dinner at Mafioza's and saw the play **Ordinary Heroes** at Fisk Memorial Chapel. This powerful production was about the contributions of "ordinary" Nashvillians who contributed to the civil rights movement in our own town.

Anna, Rachel, Peter, Carson, Davis and Daniel attended the **PeaceJam 2007** conference in Memphis from February 23-25. Nobel Laureate Betty Williams was the weekend leader. Lyndsey Godwin and Thomas Conner chaperoned the trip. Reporting on PeaceJam to the congregation on February 28, the youth will be working on their peace project throughout the year as they did with the peace pole. (See more information on page 1.)

**Room in the Inn/All Night Lock Out** is becoming an annual youth event. On March 2, youth will meet on Friday night to serve our guests and prepare the sack lunches. After a night of games, movies and bowling, they will return to the church at 5:00 a.m. on March 3 to prepare the breakfast and clean up.

Again this year, several youth members will participate in the **Junior Achievement Bowl-a-thon**. They will bowl for Thomas' Sitemason teams on March 10. Thomas and Anne-Leslie will chaperone.

Thomas will be in Georgia for a **Baptist Youth Camp planning retreat** from Sunday March 11 through Tuesday, March 13.

Mark your calendars for **Baptist Youth Camp**, June 30-July 6, and **Peace Camp**, July 23-28.

## Quarterly Business Meeting Brings Minor Change to By-Laws

At the quarterly business meeting on February 18, there was one main item of business—to modify the Church's By-laws. It will allow the nominating committee to call an election for any unfilled positions (after the initial elections) on a day and time other than Sunday morning before worship.



## Happy Birthday to You March Babies *CHA, CHA, CHA*

- 3 – Bill Junker
- 3 – Devin Wells
- 9 – Connie Moore
- 10 – Katie R.
- 11 – Amy Mears
- 12 – Claire Richardson
- 12 – Davis G.
- 14 – Stewart Clifton
- 15 – Matthew White
- 16 – Mark Caldwell
- 16 – Kreis White
- 17 – Patsy Junker
- 17 – Thom Elsberry
- 17 – Ellie H.
- 20 – Kay Musgrove
- 20 – Theodore Lehr
- 21 – April Baker
- 24 – Randy Miller
- 31 – Jack K.

## A Word of Thanks

Words cannot express my thanks for your outpouring of love, concern and support since the time of my sister Paula's stroke. She continues to make a very good recovery. For me, if one good thing has come from this, it has been a blessing for me to discover just how much of a caring congregation Glendale Baptist is! Please continue to keep Paula in your prayers.

*Peace,  
Lawson Patten*

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	WED MENU	THU	FRI	SAT
For the latest calendar listings, go to the GBC website calendar at <a href="http://www.calsnet.net/glendale_baptist">http://www.calsnet.net/glendale_baptist</a> . To add a calendar item, contact Alan Green in the church office at <a href="mailto:gbc@glendalebaptist.org">gbc@glendalebaptist.org</a> or 269-0926.					3/1	3/2 <b>Room In The Inn (Youth hosting)</b>	3/3
<b>March 4</b> <b>9:00 First Sunday Breakfast</b> ( <i>Special Studies Class coordinating</i> ) 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>  <b>4:00 Memorial Service for Cindy Rusek</b>	3/5	3/6	3/7 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir <b>6:45 Division/Committee Meetings</b>  <b>Children: Choir</b>	<b>Menu</b> Cookout: Burgers & Dogs, Potato Salad, Slaw, Chips (all)	3/8	3/9	3/10
<b>March 11</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>	3/12	3/13 <b>Luke 14:12</b>  <b>6:00 Church Council Meeting</b>	3/14 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir <b>6:45 Church Council Reflections/ Appreciative Inquiry</b>  <b>Children: Missions</b>	<b>Menu</b> Lasagna, Caesar Salad, Green Beans, Garlic Bread (all)	3/15	3/16 <b>Room In The Inn-final one this year</b> ( <i>Ramage Deacon Group hosting</i> )	3/17
<b>March 18</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>	3/19 <b>Deadline to submit Visions info.</b>	3/20	3/21 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir <b>6:45 Education Program</b>  <b>Children: Choir</b>	<b>Menu</b> Soup, Salad w/ Chicken Strips, Baked Potato (adults)  Corn Dogs & Fries (kids)	3/22	3/23	3/24
<b>March 25</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service <i>Fifth Sunday of Lent</i>	3/26	3/27	3/28 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir <b>6:45 Missions: Conexion America</b>  <b>Children: Missions</b>	<b>Menu</b> Pasta w/Meat Marinara, Salad, Broccoli, Garlic Bread (all)	3/29	3/30	3/31

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