

# ~ Visions ~

## GLENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH *a caring community of equality and grace*

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Nashville, Tennessee 37204  
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URL: [www.glendalebaptist.org](http://www.glendalebaptist.org) — E-Mail: [GBC@glendalebaptist.org](mailto:GBC@glendalebaptist.org)

### ***“Just Say Cheese. . . !”***

Glendale will be creating a new pictorial directory this summer! Olan Mills will be at Glendale taking pictures of the families of our congregation (a family also = an individual) on Thursday, June 10 and Monday, June 21, 3-9:30 p.m.

Throughout the month of May, the pictorial directly committee will be making appointments and scheduling photography sessions for church members on Sunday mornings following the service and on Wednesday evenings during dinner. Please sign up as soon as possible! Church members who are unable to sign up at one of these Sunday / Wednesday sign-up opportunities will be contacted by a committee member; every effort will be made to reach and include all of our members. **There will be no make up dates for photography sessions—so please make sure that you have your photographs made on June 10 or June 21!**

Just FYI, a photography session will take roughly 10 minutes, and the viewing, choosing, and/or purchasing of photographs will take an additional 20 minutes immediately following the photography session.

In return for having a photograph made for the directory, you will receive a complementary 8 x 10 picture and a free pictorial directory. Purchasing additional photographs is purely optional, and if you would not like to purchase any, simply tell the Olan Mills representative that you do not wish to purchase pictures.

These new pictorial directories will be available by late summer or early fall. If you have questions about the pictorial directory, please contact one of the committee members: Larry Cohen, Jon Lawrence, Deborah Lynn, Anne-Leslie Owen, Rosalyn Ramage, or Annette Sisson.

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### **Spring Cleaning!**

Thanks to all the Sunday School classes who did a little spring cleaning in their rooms. A special thanks is due to Rhonda Pearson, Cathy and David Woods, Jennifer and Kreis White, Chalene Helmuth, and Ella Halbert for a Saturday morning spent working in the preschool area. All the toys were cleaned, repairs were made, and closets were cleaned. David made a trip to Goodwill for us, as well!

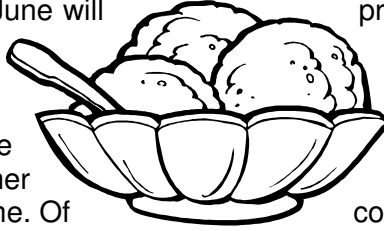


### **New Members Celebrated at Nashville Zoo**

Glendalers young and old joined for a picnic lunch at the Gallery Room of the Nashville Zoo at Grassmere on Sunday, May 2. We celebrated all twenty new members who have joined since last May. Ginger Newman, the "Zany Zookeeper," shared interesting animal facts and quizzed everyone on how well they know our new members. Afterwards, Glendalers watched the animals, took in some exhibits and shows, played on the jungle gym, and enjoyed the rest of the afternoon in fellowship. To all our new members, welcome!!

## Ice Cream Social Planned for June 6

Do you want cicadas with your ice cream? You'll have to go to an adjoining county! The much-anticipated cicada emergence during May and June will probably not affect Davidson County, although there could be some isolated outbreaks. So the Ice Cream Social will go on as planned, on the shady end of the parking lot, on Sunday June 6 at 5:30pm.



Bring your churn of home made Glendale for a feast of summer related items are also welcome. Of course, if it is raining or if it turns out that we are bothered by cicadas, we will enjoy our ice cream in the Fellowship Hall.

ice cream, cookies, cake, fruit, etc. to delight. Ice cream is the main dish, but other course, if it is raining or if it turns out that we are bothered by cicadas, we will enjoy our ice cream in the Fellowship Hall.

Put this fun event on your calendar -- hope to see you there!

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## Discernment and Search Committee Update

***The following guidelines for putting together a compensation package have been accepted by the DSC and the Personnel Committee:***

- \* We plan to cover: salary, housing, health insurance for pastor, disability insurance, retirement contribution, self-employment tax offset, and ministry expenses;
- \* Our goal is not to exceed the total cost to the budget that we would be paying if Mark had not retired and we were currently paying two full-time staff;
- \* While complete dollar-for-dollar equality may not be possible, due to the potential differences in education, experience, and skill sets, we do hold up a goal of equity, meaning fairness that takes into account differences, but strives for parity; in order to maintain this over time, the DSC has asked the personnel committee to consider block increases annually instead of percentage raises, which result, over time, in growing disparity;
- \* We value past experience and education and ministry skills, and we are working to develop a method for appropriately valuing each of these competencies;
- \* Our recommendation will include an increase in compensation for April, who will take on new title, role, and responsibilities;
- \* We would like to stay in the range of the appropriate pay when compared with average salaries of other pastors by region, experience, education, and church size (membership and budget)—and we have been doing this research;
- \* We will also specify church approved guidelines for the following: vacation time, conference and convention leave, sabbatical, sick leave, holidays, etc.

***The following guidelines for short-term changes to our physical space are under discussion with the DSC and Properties Committee:***

- \* Reconfiguring the current office suite on the north side of the building to include two pastor's offices of approximately the same size;
- \* Moving the office manager to the current associate pastor's office;
- \* Bringing a plan and cost (to be paid from the DSC budget) to the church before making any changes.

***Call and Compensation Votes:***

- \* We will present separate recommendations on which the church will vote for the purpose of calling April Baker and our new pastor, as well as the arrangements for compensating each one of them;
- \* The Ordination Committee has recommended that an installation service of a new pastor be a joint service for both new pastors

Questions? Comments? Please see a member of the Discernment and Search Committee:

Eileen Campbell-Reed, Louise Clifton, Jimmy Davis, Christy Halbert, Jim Hiatt, Nell Magee, Dave Shepherd—or e-mail us at [search@glendalebaptist.org](mailto:search@glendalebaptist.org)

## QUARTERLY BUSINESS MEETING

The Quarterly Business Meeting of Glendale Baptist Church was held on Sunday, May 15, 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, facilitated by Jimmy Davis, Church Moderator.

At this meeting, the minutes from the February Quarterly Business Meeting and the Special-Called Business Meetings of April 28 and May 5 were approved. Reports were heard from the Treasurer's Office, the Church Council, the Interim Committee, and the Discernment and Search Committee. It was acknowledged that, at this time, Glendale has heard nothing further from the "Reconciliation Team" from Belmont Heights Baptist church.

A motion was made by David Gooch to authorize the Treasurer's Office to borrow up to \$45,000 on the line of credit in order to manage cash flow issues for the church. It was acknowledged that the Treasurer's Office has been authorized to borrow this much on the line of credit at least once before. This motion was approved.

The Church Council brought a recommendation to the church regarding the formation of a standing committee called the Stewardship Committee—to be piloted for one year and then re-evaluated. The purpose of this committee would be to help the church focus on stewardship as a spiritual discipline that affects how we give of our gifts, talents, and finances to the church, and the chair of this committee would attend Church council meetings as a non-voting member. This recommendation included the dissolution of the Budget and Finance committee, making the Treasurer's Office responsible for the independent review of the budget and report to the church.

After some discussion of various aspects of this recommendation, with particular attention to the issue of the independent review of the budget, David Gooch made a motion to amend the recommendation. This motion proposed that:

- the Budget and Finance committee would not be disbanded;
- the Budget and Finance committee's sole responsibility would be to conduct the independent review of the Church Council's proposed budget and to bring a report about that proposed budget to the church.

This motion was approved, and the Church Council's original recommendation was amended accordingly.

With business accomplished, everyone joined in to create an eight-foot long banana split. It was devoured within minutes!

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### Summer Sunday Songs

#### Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam

For the summer, children (and others) will have the opportunity to learn and sing some of the old songs that many grew up with in the Baptist tradition. **We will meet at the front of the sanctuary like we have for Celebrate!** The Celebrate! crew will be taking a break, so if you have fond memories of songs you sang as a child or youth, you can volunteer to teach a song or two to the children. Glendalers are invited to sign up to spend 5-10 minutes with the children for 2-3 consecutive Sundays during the summer. An instrumental accompaniment is not necessary, but you can have children gather around a guitar or the piano if you like. Please see Julie Coulter if you would like to share some of your childhood memories with the children.

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### Needle Nuts

Needle Nuts met at the home of Margaret McGill in May. Experienced and novice knitters (and those doing other types of handiwork) are invited to attend. A new member even came with buttons to sew on a jacket! The group will meet on **Saturday, June 19, at 10:00 a.m.** The location will be announced at a later time.

**The Men's Sunday School Class** recently spent Friday night and Saturday at Ralph Baugh's bed and breakfast in Beersheba Tennessee. Reports differ on the content and focus. Apparently, this group either engaged in intensive spiritual formation discussions along with community-building physical exercises, or else its members lounged around for a day and a half and took a short walk to an overlook before deciding that further walking would be too strenuous.

But seriously, those in attendance found the time together refreshing and renewing and just plain a lot of fun. Thanks to Ralph for his great hospitality and to the class's founder and spiritual guide, Dave Shepherd, for his continued leadership.

The class is beginning to read and discuss *Ishmael*.

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT PROGRAMMING

This summer Wednesday night programming will use the following schedule:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday of the month.....Intergenerational fellowship and committee meetings
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month.....Vespers
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.....Simply Conversation topics
- 4<sup>th</sup> /5<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays.....TBA programming

With so many **committees meeting** at this time, there is a desire for some time to be designated that could be used for this purpose. Those not involved in a committee meeting will be able to enjoy a time of **fellowship** with each other that will include the children. . . . Look for some outdoor fellowship opportunities coming soon!

**Simply Conversation** will be an opportunity for the church to come together and enjoy conversation about a specific topic. We will begin this idea on Wednesday, May 19<sup>th</sup>.

### Simply Conversation

On Wednesday night, May 26, we will continue to enjoy a time of simply conversation about **a master plan for our building and grounds**. Our first conversation was on May 19. Let me emphasize, this is a time simply for conversation. No decisions will be made; a lot of ideas and needs will be presented. I encourage you to think about our building and grounds and to consider what areas are in need of improvement. Liz will help us to identify some needs and prioritize those needs. This should be a fun time to talk together and explore our ideas. It will also be a time when folks can speak up and say, "Hey, I would like to be a part of this planning team!"

### The DaVinci Code

By Dan Brown

Have you read it? Would you like to discuss it? If you are interested, start reading for the first or second time! In July we will have a time of **Simply Conversation** about this most interesting novel!

### Meditation....*On a Journey*

by Tom Ehrich

The following is an excerpt from a meditation called *On a Journey* available on-line by Tom Ehrich. He is a favorite of mine. I shared this with church council this week, and it was suggested that I might share it with all of you. . . . Martha Jo

I am coming to believe that following the future is the heart of faith. Not remembering former days, not getting mired in what Jesus did or didn't say 2,000 years ago, but shedding load and going forward.

Jesus spoke harshly to people in the Temple. He said they didn't believe because they didn't "belong" to his flock. They didn't belong, because they didn't follow.

Belonging has been taken to mean membership, affiliation, some institutional identity. Belonging was linked with making certain faith claims, accepting certain sacraments, aligning oneself with Church and its teachings. Failure to accept or to demonstrate that identity proved faith was absent or invalid.

The key, however, to what Jesus said was "follow," not "belong." To follow Jesus, the people of Jerusalem would have had to discard their past. Know that it happened, know key stories, but understand the future as God's new creation, understand discipleship as being sent out, understand faith as plowing forward.

The people, however, were keepers of an ancient flame, not pioneers following a new torch. They were unable to follow Jesus elsewhere. That new place felt wrong to them. The problem wasn't that they belonged to the wrong tribe – the Jewish tribe, as opposed to the emerging Jesus tribe – but that they interpreted belonging as staying, as opposed to venturing.

Christians have the same problem with following. Most believers want to stay, and they argue about whose staying-place is most authoritative, whose backward glances are most ancient and most accurate, whose rituals are most assiduously grounded in yesterday. Only a few want to move on, and they have little credibility in a movement that values non-movement.

Meanwhile, Jesus is moving on. At least, that is what I believe. I find it highly unlikely that Jesus stopped in 30 AD. If he lives, then he lives. And life is on the road, not on the shelf.

As a Christian, I am weary of arguing about old words and old identities. I want to follow God into the future.

## Glendale Missions

### *Your part in **Mission: Appalachian Backpacks***

By now, most of us know that **Mission: Appalachian Backpacks** is about providing backpacks and school supplies for some Jefferson County school children who won't have them otherwise. Jefferson County is an impoverished area northeast of Knoxville in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains.

**Mission: Appalachian Backpacks** is a part of Appalachian Outreach, a ministry headquartered in Jefferson City, Tennessee. A.O. collects and provides food, clothing, furniture, and toys year round, and coordinates home renovations as weather permits. It also operates Samaritan House, a temporary homeless facility for families who need one.

Glendale is helping by providing school backpacks and start-up school supplies for next fall. Jean-Ann Washam, director of A.O., says that 49% of the children in the seven elementary schools in Jefferson County are on free or reduced-cost lunch programs. She estimates that 600 of the 1,500 elementary students won't be able to afford backpacks and many of the required school supplies. We are hoping Glendale will be able to furnish the backpacks and some of the supplies.

Glendale members can sponsor one student for \$20, but we urge you to sign up for more than one. A sample backpack is on display in the library window, complete with all of the separate items that go in it.

On Sunday mornings at worship, you'll find a special **Appalachian Backpack** offering envelope in the pew in front of you. Just put your contribution in one of these envelopes and drop it in an offering plate. On Wednesday nights at dinner, give it to a committee member: Lyndi Hewitt, Sharon Hiatt (ex-officio), Bill Junker, Laura Kendall, Lisa Lehr, or Kreis White, or to assistant treasurer Thom Elsberry.

Thanks for being a part of this project and helping these 600 children have perhaps their best beginning-of-school ever!

The Glendale Missions Division

### **"YOUTH 2 YOUTH" PARTNERSHIP TRIP TO CUBA**

On Thursday, May 27, six Glendale youth leave Nashville for the fifth Glendale trip to visit our partner church in Cuba. This is the first Glendale Cuba trip to include youth. The Glendale youth will meet, have dialogue and fellowship with youth from our partner church in Santa Clara as well as worship with the church on Sunday, May 31. They also hope to get in some sporting activities with the Cuban church youth. The youth travelers are Anna, Carson, Paul, Ben, Holly, and Peter.

Five older Glendalers are also going on this trip—April Baker, Louise Clifton, Thomas Conner, David Gooch, and Deborah Lynn.

The group will fly to Havana and then drive on to Santa Clara to visit with the partner church.

Glendalers have given two special offerings to support the partner church's work. One offering will support the church's general ongoing operations; the other adds to the church's building fund. The travel team will take these gifts to Cuba.

Additionally, Glendalers have provided over-the-counter pain killers, vitamins, children's vitamins, and anti-biotic ointments for the youth travel group to take to Cuba. The Glendale travel group will also transport other prescription medications that are being provided by Crosslink, a Christian medical assistance pharmaceutical program in Vienna, Virginia.

Upon return from Cuba, the travel team will have news to share with the church.

*Joan Yarborough and John Laney*

*Invite you to celebrate with them their ceremony of Christian Marriage*

*Saturday, the Twelfth of June, Two Thousand and Four*

*at Two O'clock in the afternoon at Glendale Baptist Church*

*Your blessings and support are the only gifts we desire*

*Reception to follow at half after Three O'clock*

*RSVP for reception 373.3754*

*Richland County Club*

**The Administration Division** would like to highlight the work of volunteers who perform unsung tasks on a regular basis. Here are two groups who help our community of faith get our work done.

Our kitchen committee keeps the kitchen and Fellowship Hall in good shape. From washing dishes to clearing off and cleaning tables (when some of us sort of forget), the committee makes our Wednesday night activities possible. Many people help, but the main volunteers are Rhonda Pearson, Jennifer White, and Becky Way.

By the way, summer is a good time to start coming to Wednesday night supper and related activities. If you have wanted to give it a try but have not yet done so, this would be a good time. Make reservations by calling the church office by noon on Monday. Also, the committee could use a couple of additional regular volunteers. Let Stewart Clifton know if you are interested. Call 305-2946 or e-mail [stewartclifton@comcast.net](mailto:stewartclifton@comcast.net).

Another little-noticed group is our intrepid locker uppers, more formally known as church closers. You may not have noticed, but Glendale does not have a staff position for building and grounds supervisor. So the following folks alternate in turning off lights and locking up Sundays and Wednesdays: Jim Berry, Randy Miller, John Hill, Phil Fortenberry, Jim Fey, Lynn Reed, George O'Neal, David Wood, and Jim Hiett.

Thanks to these two groups, who, along with many others, keep us going in practical and important ways.

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### **Beacon – Bacon Committee**

The “Beacon-Bacon” Committee, which is the public relations/marketing subcommittee of the Communications Division, has been working on “getting the word out” about Glendale.

While metro zoning restrictions have prevented us from moving forward with our plan for directional signs to point the way (literally) to Glendale Baptist Church, we are planning to point the way through other means.

Tee-shirts are being designed to include our logo and the description of Glendale Baptist Church that you have seen displayed in the Fellowship Hall (“At Glendale Baptist Church, you will find” followed by a list of extremely diverse nouns, such as “artist,” “professors,” “lawyers,” “singers,” “students,” etc., etc.). Our plan is for these tee-shirts to be available in time for our Youth to wear them at Youth Camp. Moreover, the proceeds of the sales, we hope to

dedicate to the renovation of the children’s playground.

We are also having coffee mugs produced which will say “Got autonomy? We do. Glendale Baptist Church.” Not only might Glendalers buy these mugs for themselves, or friends and/or families, but we would like to give them as complimentary gifts when we have guests who come to Glendale to speak or perform. We will also offer them to local coffee shops around town, inviting them to add our mugs to their supply of mugs which customers use in their shops.

And finally, we have signs to hang in local coffee shops and other venues around town that echo these messages about Glendale—messages which we hope to reinforce through the placing of similar ads in local publications, such as the *Nashville City Paper* and *The Scene*.

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### **A Note from Mahan Siler**

"Good Glendale people, thank you. First, thanks for all of your warm, prayerful support these last days. The hip replacement surgery has gone very well. I am walking some now, with hope for much more to come. I marvel at this technological advance that is available to me. "Hip, hip away!!!" -- the joyous refrain I keep hearing from my kids and grandkids these days.

More profoundly and abiding is my thanks for my time with you. I regret that the ailing hip kept me away from my last lap with you. But I was with you long enough to feel and see your strengths. You exhibit the power of a living tradition that keeps willing to risk partnering with the new that God seems to be doing in your midst. One aspect of "new" you have collectively discerned is the model of two pastors. I pray with you as the pastor to work alongside of April is found. As I applaud your vision, I can feel my excitement in seeing it worked out.

In a day where so many despair over the church's irrelevance and narrowness, you give me hope for the mercy and justice-making possible in local congregations that place the vital worship of God as the centerpiece. Thank you for the gift of being with you. I will stay in touch and surprise you with a visit someday, along with Janice.

Mahan

**Mark your calendar for two Special Events on the June 23, 2004, prior to this year's CBF General Assembly in Birmingham, Alabama**

**Companions in Christ One-Day Training Event**

Wednesday, June 23, 2004

9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

**Southside Baptist Church  
11th Ave & 19th Street South  
Birmingham, Alabama**

**Registration:** Early Bird Fee (if received by Wednesday, May 26) \$ 75  
Regular fee for first participant from your church \$100  
Additional participants from your church \$ 85

**Registration fees include** a complementary copy of the *Companions in Christ Participant's Book, Leader's Guide, Getting Started Guide, Journal*, and lunch. For more information about *Companions in Christ* or additional training dates, visit [www.companionsinchrist.org](http://www.companionsinchrist.org)

**To register, call: 1 (800) 491-0912**

For more information about this event, visit [www.thefellowship.info](http://www.thefellowship.info) or email [frank@firstbaptistathens.org](mailto:frank@firstbaptistathens.org)

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**Bountiful Feast**

**A Spiritual Formation Network Dinner**

Co-sponsored by CBF's Congregational Life  
and Upper Room Ministries

**Wednesday, June 23, 2004, 6:00 p.m.**

**Cost: \$35 per person**

Sheraton Birmingham Hotel  
2101 Richard Arrington Jr. Blvd. N., \* Birmingham, Alabama

Call 770-220-1654 or Email [tdraper@thefellowship.info](mailto:tdraper@thefellowship.info) to reserve your space.

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**The Stones Will Cry Out**

A week of celebration & inspiration with the  
Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America

July 19-24

Towson University

Towson, Maryland

Program leaders include Jim Wallis from Sojourners,  
Ken Medema, Molly Marshal, Trinette McCray and others.

Our own Stephanie Wyatt will be leading the youth program.

Registration forms are available at the church or online at [www.bpfna.org](http://www.bpfna.org)

## Youth Happenings

### The past month . . .

Carson, Daniel, Thomas, Paul, and Ginger Nvisited the **Phillips Collection at the Frist Center** on April 25 after lunch at Otter's.

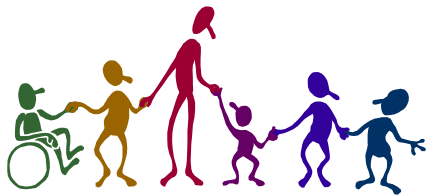
Congratulations to **Evelyn and Josh**, Glendale's high school graduates for 2004. Evelyn will head to Brevard College in the fall, and Josh will go to Emory and Henry College. Both were recognized in the worship service on May 16.

### Things to come . . .

Six youth will be leaving for **Cuba on Thursday, May 27—and will return on Thursday, June 2**. Anna, Carson, Paul, Ben, Holly, and Peter will be going on the trip.

Twelve youth and four adults will be going to the **Baptist Youth Camp at Laurel Ridge, NC**. They will be leaving on Saturday, June 26 and will return on Friday, July 2.

## Kid's Corner



*Keep your heart clean with peace. Don't get it dirty with greed. It is not too late to clean it.*

*—Kaila Spencer*

The **children's choir** played the hand chimes on Sunday, May 23. Thanks to **Linda Ray Miller** for her work with the children during the school year.

**Wednesdays during the summer will be full of fun and games.** The first Sunday of each month, there will be intergenerational sharing and games, so the children will stay in the Fellowship Hall. Julie Coulter and others will play organized games with the children on other evenings. The youth will also spend time with the children once a month.

For the summer, children (and others) will have the opportunity to learn and sing some of the old songs that many grew up with in the Baptist tradition. **We will meet at the front of the sanctuary each Sunday after worship like we have for Celebrate!** The Celebrate! crew will be taking a break, so other Glendalers will lead the children in this brief time of singing each Sunday throughout the summer. Children will learn songs such as "Jesus Wants Me for a Sunbeam," "Deep and Wide," "Zaccheus," and others.

**Faithful Friends** is scheduled for Sunday, June 13. Raye Nell Dyer will lead the children.

**Vacation Bible School** will begin Sunday afternoon, July 25, and conclude on Wednesday evening, July 28. The theme is **Under the Baobab Tree**. Please save these dates on your calendar. A planning meeting will be scheduled soon for adults interested in helping.

**Passport Kids!** is coming soon. Alexis Maynard, Grace Anne Roberts, Margie Way, and April Baker will head to camp in early July for three nights of a mission-oriented camp.

### **Heifer International Read to Feed**

The **children's summer reading club** sponsored by the Glendale library will begin on June 20. Read to Feed is a reading incentive program that offers global education opportunities and fosters a love for reading, a passion to help others and a way to help create a better world. Children get sponsors for each book they read between June 20 and August 8. The goal is to raise money to buy gifts of livestock for struggling families who have few resources and need an ongoing source of income. We will kick this off in Faithful Friends on June 20, though younger children are encouraged to participate by having parents read books to them. Please see Joy Gooch, Lanita Harris or Bev Bernard for details.