

~ Visions ~

GLENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH
a caring community of equality and grace

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Installation Service Set for Sunday, February 6
Worship at 10:30 a.m. followed by a church-wide potluck lunch
Mark your Calendars Now!

Now that April and Amy are in place as our co-pastors, we want to take up one of the traditions of Christian practice: We will hold an Installation Service in a few weeks in which we will acknowledge and celebrate a new beginning for our pastors, by ritualizing through worship our commitments as pastors and people to one another and to God. It is important to mark significant changes to our community of faith, and the changes of the last 20 months are no exception. In the service we will celebrate communion, and introduce our new communion cloth that Julie O'Neal and Beth Walker are designing from fabric donated by members of the congregation. It will be a symbol to us of our completion of one part of our journey – through the interim time – and the beginning of a new time together as fellow pilgrims. As with all services of worship, we will celebrate the notion that there is still some good news in the world! And in some rare moments it is embodied in God's people, the church.

The worship service will be followed by a potluck luncheon in fellowship hall. Please plan to join us on February 6 for worship, lunch and a wonderful time of fellowship!

Good Bye and Thanks from the Discernment and Search Committee

By the time you read this, we will have had our final meeting for closure and to celebrate our task being completed. Although a few of you wondered aloud if we could have disbanded the night after our vote to call April and Amy, we knew that we still had the responsibility of seeing that a good transition was made. We feel confident that the task of transition for our part has finally come to a close.

Transitions themselves, however, are ongoing, so we will let you know who has taken up seeing through several important tasks. The Administration Division will oversee the completion of the office renovations, getting the front window and one additional storage cabinet in Amy's office installed. (As you may recall the first window was damaged in transit and had to be rebuilt.) They will also take the lead in helping the church decide what we will do with the church sign on the front lawn, related to listing our pastors' names. The Stewardship Committee will continue to follow up on "Bountiful Feast" fundraising for the renovations. Thanks to all who have contributed generously thus far, bringing the total to \$15, ____???. The Personnel Committee of course has been hard at work for more than a year now to be ready for continuing

oversight of the work of our paid staff, including regular feedback about how the co-pastorate is going. The Worship Division will be taking the lead on the Installation Service scheduled for February 6, 2005. A couple of members of the DSC will be assisting them. And the Church Council is aware that by-law changes need to be made, which reflect the changes to our staff structure with the calling of co-pastors.

We depart by expressing our gratitude . . . to the two Church Councils, chaired by Martha Jo Berry, who have capably and graciously led the congregation during the interim time . . . to the Interim Committee who brought to the congregation the right people to lead in worship, preaching and pastoral care for many months . . . to Margie, Karen, Rita, Stephanie and April for continuing to be steady during the many transitions of these months . . . to Amy and April and their families for agreeing to be our pastors . . . to our spouses, families and pets who generously and unbegrudgingly shared us for meetings and much work over the last 20 months . . . and to the entire congregation for your support, prayers, encouragement and patience. Thanks be to God for all of you!

Highlights from the November QBM

*** Our 2005 Budget was adopted with two amendments from the floor

- 1) retain Dartmouth University BSU at \$600
- 2) retain YANA at \$400

The 2005 Budget totaled \$335,860.47

*** Jimmy Davis moved to charge the church council and communications and membership divisions to present to the church, no later than the Feb. QBM, a marketing plan for Glendale which assumes a budget of at least \$10,000.

Motion passed.

*** There are Capital Improvement Account items needed by the church but not included in the Operating Budget. The church council has suggested that the Stewardship Committee ask the church members to make two pledges, one for the operating budget and the other for capital improvements. Jim Berry made this motion and it passed.

*** Kreis White moved that the church refer payment in lieu of taxes to the Stewardship Committee and that they report back to the council in sufficient time for discussion at the May QBM. The motion passed.

Needle Nuts will meet Saturday, January 22, at 10:00 a.m. Margaret McGill will host the group at her home.

TNT Update

Preparations are underway for a big beginning for Nashville and TNT in January. A new organizer, Deidra Reed, will begin January 3. Deidra has displayed a long vocational commitment to public advocacy — most recently with Stand for Children in Greenville, South Carolina. The 2005 leadership team will take on a bit more of a Baptist tone with the selection of Rev. Sylvester Bennett of Westwood Baptist Church and Glendale's Kreis White as Strategy Team representatives on the TNT Leadership Team.

Response to the November Food Audit Assembly has been positive. More than 150 participants volunteered to participate in further food quality actions. Poor audit results have resulted not only in community awareness of food freshness and availability issues, but also has

caused Eddie's CB Market — virtually to only available grocer to citizens at the J. C. Napier Homes — to dispose of dumpsters full of outdated food and to install properly functioning freezer and dairy cases. This reluctant audit target has called TNT to request re-inspection. Food store audits will continue, along with a push to obtain additional Metro Health Department resources allocated to grocery store inspection.

TNT continues to focus in areas of education, health services, housing and neighborhoods. There is a place in TNT for you to share your gifts and knowledge. For further information, see the TNT Web site at www.tyingnashvilletogether.org or by contacting Kreis or Jennifer White.

A message from Marjorie Halbert and Karen Lee Turner, our musicians for 20 years.

Dear Glendale,

As we left the party at the Ramages' house Sunday night, December 12, both of us marveled at the rich blessing we received from each of you. We were not prepared for the lavish outpouring of love, words, songs, gifts, tears, and laughter that was ours that night. You really surprised us! The Ramages (hosts of the century) were warm and inviting, their home was beautifully decorated, the food was sinfully delicious, the friends and family were generous and encompassing, and the program was simply magnificent! Our sincere thanks to so many of you who played such a significant role in pulling all of this together — you far surpassed our expectations for what the evening might have been. Thank you for the celebration and thank you for these past years of service together. As our church family, you have continued to enrich each of our lives by encouraging us to explore creative ways to worship God in a community that practices grace. We are grateful for you.

Blue Like Jazz: An Evening with Donald Miller

The Belcourt Theatre, 2102 Belcourt Ave., Nashville, TN (for directions go to www.belcourt.org)

Wednesday, 7:00 p.m., Jan. 12, 2005

The Public is Invited. Admission is Free. A book signing will follow.

(The Men's Sunday School Class read and discussed this book fairly recently and wanted the church to know of this opportunity.)

Preaching Schedule

January 2: April (Epiphany)
January 9: New Member Celebration and Baptism
January 16: Amy
January 23: Amy
January 30: Amy
February 6: Installation Service
February 13: Amy
February 20: April
February 27: Amy

Wednesday Evening Schedule

January 5: Small Groups
January 12: No Vespers (Donald Davis, storyteller, at John Trotwood Moore Middle School, 7 p.m.)
January 19: Stewardship Forum
January 26: Stewardship Forum continues

Youth

Wednesday December 8 — the youth joined others from the church to sing Christmas carols in the neighborhood surrounding Glendale.

Sunday December 12 — a number of youth gathered to practice for the Youth and Children's Christmas Program. Several youth also helped to create stockings for residents of Dismas House. A big thank you to Anne-Leslie Owens for her help with the stockings! Stephanie delivered the stockings to Dismas during their annual Christmas tree trimming party on Monday December 13. They were very pleased with the final product.

Wednesday December 15 — the youth presented the drama portion of "A Backwards Christmas Pageant." The children provided the music portion of the program. This "campy" telling of the Christmas story led to much laughter on the part of the congregation and the participants. David Berry served as a fantastic director and manager of chaos!

Sunday December 19 — the youth ate lunch together at Chinatown Restaurant in Green Hills followed by Christmas Shopping at Ten Thousand Villages, a non-profit fair-trade organization which seeks to pay artisans a fair wage for their crafts.

Many thanks to all the youth who participated in these activities during a time of busy seasonal activities and studying for exams! Happy end of the semester and Happy New Year.

Blessings, Stephanie

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

Faithful Friends will resume January 23. Please note that this is the fourth Sunday, not the typical third Sunday.

On Sunday, December 12, the children went to **McDonald's and shopping at Target for their 10-year-old angel** adopted through Catholic Charities. Linda Ray accompanied two children to McDonald's for lunch and took them to their piano recital. After lunch, April, Amy and Julie took five children shopping. We spent every penny of the donated \$86! Thanks to Sydney Bailes for this wonderful idea.

David Berry and Linda Ray Miller led the children and youth on December 15 as they presented a unique take on the **Christmas Pageant**. The children sang and the youth had the speaking parts. It was a delightful experience for all!

The children celebrated **Epiphany** during Sunday School on January 2. The children had an Epiphany cake and British crackers, learned the history of Epiphany and "blessed" each adult Sunday School class with the traditional Epiphany blessing.

On **Wednesday evening, January 19**, after dinner, Julie will spend time with the children talking about **Room in the Inn** and what to expect the following Friday when the children host 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 21**. 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.