

~ Visions ~

GLENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH
a caring community of equality and grace

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One Pastor's Opinion

Relationships are much on my mind as the month of April begins. The Lenten season offered us many opportunities to consider the journey of our relatedness together as a congregation. The Lenten Luncheons, in particular, provided a forum for many engaging discussions about the ways in which we are related to God and to each other, as God's partners and children.

The springtime will allow many more opportunities to explore our relationships with those groups and agencies with which we are aligned. We have completed our Fridays as hosts of Room in the Inn, having provided good meals and warm beds for brothers of our city who were without those resources. In turn, they provided for us challenging conversations and pleasant evenings, as well as an opportunity to live out our calling.

We were honored to have as our speaker for Wednesday night, March 16, Dr. Henry Mugabe, the Principal of the Baptist Theological Seminary of Zimbabwe. The Seminary and the Baptist Convention of Zimbabwe are among the receiving partners included in the Alliance of Baptists' "Bridges of Hope" missions offering. Dr. Mugabe brought a great deal of light to our learning processes concerning the needs of our Baptist sisters and brothers in Zimbabwe.

Plans for our next venture to Cuba continue to unfold. Our partner church in Santa Clara is eager to host the next group of Glendalers — this time, younger youth and their parents — as our congregations learn how to work, learn, and serve together.

The opportunities are myriad—the ones listed here are but a few. A group will travel April 1-3 to Greenville, SC for "Coming Together: By God's Surprising Grace," the national Alliance of Baptists Convocation. A group will travel April 22-23 to Jefferson City for "TOGETHER: Celebrating Unity, Honoring Diversity," the Tennessee Cooperative Baptist Fellowship state meeting.

Here's the point: being involved in relationship is important. We accomplish together more work than we do separately. True, we need a hermit or two out on the edges to keep us honest, but it is by our ability to live in community that we are best known. Have you found where you belong? Where is your niche? What is the task to which your heart pulls? This Spring is a great time to find out.

Amy

From the Membership Division:

A warm welcome to the ten people who are now attending New Members Orientation Classes. One of these candidates, Katie Rhodes, will be baptized on Easter Sunday, March 27. The others will be celebrated during the worship service on April 10.

Names and addresses of our newest members are as follows:

Beverly and Frank Feinstein

Joe O'Cain

Betty and Ted Mears

Michael Rahm

Amy Mears and David Webb

Karen and Katie Rhodes

PLEASE NOTE:

The annual dinner event honoring all new members who have joined Glendale within the past year is coming soon. The **NEW MEMBERS' CELEBRATION** will take place on Sunday, MAY 15, 2005. Mark your calendars now; then watch for more details!

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Glendale Easter Breakfast

Easter breakfast on Sunday morning, March 27 at 8:30 will be a shared endeavor. Part of the meal will be prepared at church and some dishes will need to be prepared at home and brought to the breakfast. The menu is as follows:

Egg Casserole to serve 12 people – Need 8 — (Choose one of three suggested recipes or your own recipe) — Prepare at home and bring to church.

Grits — Prepared at church.

Fresh cut-up fruit to serve 12 people — Need 8 — Prepare at home and bring to church.

Biscuits — Prepared at church.

Assorted Dessert breads — Need 8 recipes — (choose one of three suggested recipes or your own recipe) — Prepare at home and bring to church.

Coffee, milk, juice

If you plan to bring something, please call Frenchie at 298.4602.

If your family is not preparing a dish to bring, please make a donation to defray additional cost.

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The Sunday Lunch Bunch Has a Place for You

You can be a part of this group which will invite visitors to go to Sunday lunch (at your home or in a restaurant, a picnic in the park or the zoo, or another idea you may have). This is a great way to get to know folks who are looking for a church home like Glendale and help them hear the good news of what it's like to be in a church like Glendale. Find the sign-up chart and choose your Sunday to be an "inviter"!

Kate Campbell Concert to Benefit Room in the Inn

Kate Campbell, singer, songwriter, philosopher and storyteller will be in concert at Glendale on Friday, April 29 at 7 p.m. Tickets at the door are \$15, \$10 for children ages 17 and under. Proceeds will benefit the Nashville program for the homeless, Room in the Room. For more details, visit the Glendale Web site: www.glendalebaptist.org.

**Special Called Business Meeting
Sunday April 10, 5:30 p.m.**

The Church Council is calling a special business meeting to decide what we will do about the Capital Budget that was presented at the Quarterly Business Meeting on November 21.

The Capital Improvement needs are:

Roof for Sanctuary, \$10, 000; Paint for Sanctuary, \$5,000; Interior Painting, \$5,000; and Landscaping, \$2,000.

The Assistive Listening system has been eliminated from the list, because it was purchased by an anonymous donor.

The Communication/Marketing Plan has been reduced for the remainder of the year to \$5,000.

One new item has been added: Playground Project. 14,000.00

Come help your church family decide to meet these needs for the future of the church.

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Two new 26-week **Companions in Christ** groups began meeting in March. There is a Tuesday evening group and a Tuesday morning group. In addition, a Sunday morning group is using "The Way of Blessedness," another in the Companion series.

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Needle Nuts will meet Saturday, April 16, at 10:00 a.m. Novice and expert knitters and such will gather at a place yet to be determined.

TNT UPDATE

TNT periodically revisits priorities and areas of action where it and its member churches can be most effective. After a period of reassessment, these short term issues have come to the forefront for short-term action between now and June:

1. Metro schools removed court desegregation restrictions via enactment of the "School Improvement Plan." Now after several years of implementation, is resegregation occurring? What inequalities exist within the system? The Education work group will devise a comprehensive audit format to quantify data on these risks, for public review and for use in future corrective TNT action. Come be a part.
2. The Health care group – like many Tennesseans – has grave concern about restricted TennCare eligibility. Its short term action will be to study in depth the positions of various TennCare advocates, including the State, the Tennessee Justice Center, the National Association of the Mentally Ill, the Tennessee Health Care Coalition, pharmaceutical interests and others, to summarize and distill into a two-page position paper within the next month. Armed with this study – as well as longstanding relationships with both the Tennessee Justice Center and the Governor – TNT will attempt to assist in narrowing areas of disagreement between competing factions. There is a place for your energy and wisdom in this group.
3. The neighborhood workgroup invites your participation in
 - a. seeking to get Mayoral support and funding for two extra restaurant and store health inspectors,
 - b. finalizing objective quantifiable neighborhood livability standards,
 - c. attempting to demonstrate neighborhood support for new grocery stores in two of Nashville's four "food deserts:" and
 - d. auditing promised sidewalk construction and planning.

Each of these areas of focus can use more interested people to become involved. For more information, contact Jennifer or Kreis White or the TNT office at 327-2625 or via email to tnt2gthr@tyingnashvilletogether.org.

AOB, UCC, and DOC Partnership Event

From: Rev. Thomas L. McCracken

I am still feeling a positive spirit about our time together last month at Glendale. What a wonderful evening of fellowship that was!

I look forward to our next event, on April 13 at Vine Street Christian Church. Dinner is at 6:00 p.m. and the program at 5:45. The program will focus on the special relationship between Glendale and the Alberto J. Diaz Baptist church in Santa Clara, Cuba. The program typically takes 45 minutes, but can go to an hour if necessary. *Child care is available for the evening!*

You are invited to join the group for dinner. Please make reservations (\$6.50) with the Vine Street Christian Church, 269-5614 or email: mail@vinestreet.org by noon Monday, April 11, 2005.

And start thinking about our third event in May at Howard Congregational UCC. Unlike the first two hosts, Howard does not typically have a dinner on Wednesday night – just a bible study.



New in the Library

Old Turtle and the Broken Truth

by Douglas Wood

Come Worship with Me: A Journey Though the Church Year

by Ruth Boling

Connie & Harold Crowell have given the following in memory of Bill Stephenson, Bev Bernard's father:

The Crippled Lamb

by Max Lucado

The Christmas Story

by Carol Heyer

The Legend of the Christmas Rose

by William H. Hooks

Louise & Stewart Clifton have given in memory of Peggy Steine

Walking the Bible: An Illustrated Journey for Kids Through the Greatest Stories Ever Told

by Bruce Feiler

Mike Sawyers has given the following books:

The Labyrinth: Symbol of Fear, Rebirth, and Liberation

by Helmut Jaskolski

The Sacred World of the Celts: An Illustrated Guide to Celtic Spirituality and Mythology

by Nigel Pennick

Cultivating Sacred Space: Gardening for the Soul

by Elizabeth Murray

Planting a Bible Garden

by F. Nigel Hepper



A Word of Thanks from Richard Smith

While I speak for myself, I am sure I echo the sentiments of other hearing impaired people at Glendale. With much gratitude, my thanks go to the anonymous donor and to the Church for the recently acquired "assisted listening system." For me, it has been super and a Godsend!

For those of you who may be unaware, one of the biggest problems in hearing aids is sufficient volume that does not increase all sounds as well. Because this device sends sound directly from the microphone to the ears, other distracting sounds are avoided, even acoustical echoes in a large space like our sanctuary.



WORSHIP CARE FOR APRIL

<u>Date</u>	<u>Babies</u>	<u>Toddlers</u>	<u>3-4</u>
3	Molly Boyd	Jenny Strange-Mills Stephanie Wyatt	Ben Elsberry David Mears
10	Katie Fey	Connie Brookshire Devin Wells	Liz Allen-Fey Corey Fey
17	Catherine Kelly	Anne-Leslie Owens Deborah Lynn	Pat Elkins David Elkins
24	Molly Grisham	Becky Way Peter Sturdevant	Bev Bernard Anna Bernard

Upcoming Glendale Events

Wed., March 30

Vespers

Wed., April 6	Small Groups Meetings Report from the AOB Convocation
Sun., April 10	Special Called Business Meeting, 5:30 (details in this issue of Visions)
Wed., April 13	Vespers
Wed., April 20	Discerning Our Gifts
Wed., April 27	Ten Thousand Villages (guest speaker)
Fri., April 29	Kate Campbell in Concert, 7 p.m.
Fri., April 29-Sun., May 1	Youth Retreat

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

We will not have Faithful Friends in March since Palm Sunday falls on the third Sunday of the month. **Faithful Friends will resume on April 17.**

Celebrate! will not occur on Easter Sunday, March 27.

The Easter breakfast is a Glendale tradition that begins at 8:30 a.m. followed by the **Easter Egg Hunt**. Preschoolers will hunt eggs in the playground while elementary children will hunt eggs on the front lawn. Sunday School for children will follow. Children should bring their Easter baskets.

Nineteen children and adults had lunch at McDonald's before **bowling on Sunday, March 13**. Ella Halbert, Emmy Webb, and Walden Ferrell may start a Glendale bowling league! A great time was had by all!

Children's choir will not meet on Wednesday, March 23. Instead, school-age children are invited to join their parents for Holy Week Communion and Footwashing. Coming to the Table during Holy Week is a special time of remembrance and ritual. The observance of Footwashing as part of this time of remembrance and worship allows us to symbolize our humility and willingness to live the servant life of Christian discipleship. Participants are invited to have their feet washed and in turn wash the feet of another, or to share in the experience by meditation and prayer as the ritual is observed. There will be childcare for preschoolers, as usual.

Older elementary children, grades 4-6, are invited to join their parents for the Tenebrae Service, service of darkness, at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, March 25. The service includes readings from the story of the crucifixion and the gradual extinguishing of lights. Childcare will be provided for children through 3rd grade.