

~ Visions ~

GLENDALE BAPTIST CHURCH

A caring community of equality and grace.

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One Pastor's Perspective

Last Sunday, those who were present in worship were given an outstanding gift by the choir, "Sing to the Lord a Marvelous Song." Their voices blended beautifully and the strains of "a marvelous new song" echoed through our worship space for long moments after the piece had ended. What a wealth of gifts have been given to Glendale members: what voices, what talents, what a lovely choral blend! And how generously these gifts are shared!

And it's not just the choir. The rest of the congregation is singing a marvelous new song these days, too. Summer is approaching and virtually here—and Glendalers are gathering to play together, heeding our sacred call to holy play. (See next page for details.)

- The grounds have been prepared for new play and living space—a veritable "Glendale Park" will need to be enjoyed and dedicated to God's service this summer.
- Twenty-two new members were welcomed and celebrated in a warm and festive, if somewhat unusual style at the New Members' Dinner and 60's Love-In on Sunday evening.
- The PrimeTimers have organized themselves into a group that plays and serves the church, usually at the same time.
- A group of our youth and their parents will soon be singing marvelous songs in Cuba, and in several languages!
- The Summer calendar is in place with baby dedications, days at the lake, storytelling, and lots of fun music.

The playful Spirit will follow us into the sanctuary, as well, as we incorporate an attitude of holy whimsy into our relationships with God and one another. It is, definitely, a marvelous new song. Come and sing!

Playfully yours,
Amy Mears

The Children's Playground Will Be Finished Soon!

The new playground is well on its way —colorful new play equipment has been installed; several Glendale children and their parents helped distribute the rubber mulch; the ground is being prepared for sowing new grass (which David Webb will sow; and the new aluminum fence is scheduled go up before the end of the week. Two porch swings will be added, as well as two picnic tables for the playground and two picnic tables for the youth area on the other end of the church. And, soon, a great time will be had by all!

HOLY PLAY

Amy Mears

It is likely that you have noticed the “play” theme in Visions and in other segments of the church in recent days. In case you’ve missed the rationale for this idea, or the ways it may “play” out, here’s an update.

A Sacred Call to Holy Play emerged as a theme for this Summer when the co-pastors sat down with Glendale’s visioning documents from 2 ½ years ago. The area of vision which has received the least amount of intentional direction has been the one labeled “Nurture Community Through Relationships.” The congregation expressed an interest and a need to have more opportunities to be together—just for the sake of being together, playing, and getting to know one another better in casual settings.

As a result, much of our Wednesday activity this summer will be intergenerational fun. There will be cookouts at Percy Priest Lake, watermelon-related activities, games, storytelling, and lots of music. And we will experience a more light-hearted spirit in Sunday worship, as well. Since Pentecost, we have focused on Spirit, breath, a fresh breeze. In June, our attention will be drawn to color, particularly “the God-colors of the world,” as Eugene Peterson writes. Our time together in July will be devoted to the goodness of the Earth, the wonders of it, and our responsibility for it. And in August, we’ll dance.

The Summer is certain to be an interesting one, even if you choose to be mostly an interested observer. But do come and play. It’s a holy thing.

Gelato! Helado! We All Scream for Holy Ice Cream!

It’s Ice Cream Social time! Get your ice cream churn cranked up and bring your favorite recipe to Glendale on Sunday, June 5, at 6:00 p.m. You may also bring fruit or baked goodies, but the main items are ICE CREAM and lots of fun!

New Members Feted in Style — 60’s Style, That Is!

Whether you were dressed as one of the children from the 1860’s “Little House on the Prairie” (the Mears/Webb children!) or as a flower child, a hippie, a conservative person from “the establishment,” or any number of celebrities (Goldie Hawn (Stephanie Wyatt), Austin Powers (John Hill), Johnny Carson & Karnack (Don Ramage), Ed McMahon (Mike Awalt), Nancy Sinatra (Rosalyn Ramage), Richard Petty, etc.) from the 1960’s, you were in for a fun-filled celebration last Sunday night.

During the course of the evening, the 22 members who have joined our ranks at Glendale during the past year were acknowledged and/or introduced. These introductions were interspersed with music by Peter (John Laney, who had always wanted to be Peter), Paul (John Halbert), and Mary (Linda Ray Miller) as well as some of the other above-mentioned “celebrities.”

Thanks to the Membership Division (especially Lyndi Hewitt, Anne-Leslie Owens, and Rosalyn Ramage) for spearheading the event, to Beth Miller for making all the smiley faces, peace symbols and flowers, to Joan Yarborough and John Laney for picking the daisies (as well as Anne and Floyd Craig, whose farm provided them), and to ALL who contributed to the decorations and memorabilia that were obvious in the room. (There was even a “sho-nuff” framed photograph of the Beatles, obtained by Frank Feinstein in 1967!)

New members are always welcome at Glendale, and we are glad to have an occasion to celebrate the ones who have come to join us in our journey together in this place. How many people does it take to make this journey complete? “The answer, my friend, is blowing in the wind. The answer is blowing in the wind.”

Summer College Sunday School Class

Sue Kinzer and **John Halbert** will lead a Sunday School class for college students this summer. The class is slated to begin on June 5 and will continue through mid-August.

See Sue or John for more details.

Wednesday Childcare

Thanks to **Jenny Strange** for many years of caring for our preschoolers on Wednesday nights! She has loved our children over the years, but now she is looking forward to Wednesday evenings with Lou and Jake (2). While we'll all miss seeing Jenny on Wednesdays, there are some small Glendalers who will particularly miss her.

Claire Richardson is caring for our preschoolers this summer before she heads to college. Thank you, Claire!

Molly Boyd, our paid childcare coordinator, is working on finding a permanent replacement for the fall. If you know of an adult who would enjoy spending 2+ hours with preschoolers each Wednesday night, let Molly know.

Sixth Cuba Trip to Witness Ordination of Partner Church's Pastor

The 11 Glendalers who comprise the travel team for Glendale's Sixth official Trip to visit our partner church will witness the ordination of Niubes Montes de Oca, the lay pastor of our partner church. The travelers are April, Daniel, Corey, Jim, Gooch, Davis, John Hill, Jonas, Amy Mears, Kreis and Rachel. They will depart Nashville at 6:30 a.m., Wednesday, June 8 and return at 7:18 p.m., Wednesday, June 15.

Our pastors will participate in the Ordination Council which examines Niubes for ordination. She will be ordained in a worship service on Saturday evening, June 11.

The group will also worship with our partner church on Sunday morning. On Sunday afternoon, our travel group will share a trip into the mountains south of Santa Clara for a hike with the youth from our partner church. On Monday afternoon, the travelers will participate in the baptism of new church members. Our youth will also share a time of fellowship with the Cuban youth and have an opportunity for a group discussion with them about the similarities and differences in their lives.

Upon arriving in Havana, the group will visit the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Center (a peace center) and stay at the hostel there.

The Glendalers will carry prescription pharmaceuticals for use in Santa Clara, as well as vitamins, over-the-counter pain relievers and children's vitamins and other medications like Neosporin. These items are in very short supply in Cuba.

If you would like to donate items such as these listed above, please bring them by Sunday, June 5, for the group to take to Cuba.

Please pray for:

- the trip that it will strengthen our partnership.
- safe travel and good health on the trip.
- Niubes as she prepares for the Ordination Council examination.
- our partner church, particularly as they prepare to host our delegation and celebrate the ordination of their pastor.

--David Gooch, Cuba Church Partnership Coordinator

HAPPY BIRTHDAY: **JUNE 1 Emmie**
 2 Celia
 3 Ginger
 6 Anne-Leslie
 7 Alexis
 9 Carson
 10 Don

12 Benjamin
16 Rosalyn
 Joshua
17 Jim
21 Will (Elisha)
22 Nell
30 Karen

YOUTH HAPPENINGS

Past Events . . .

Five youth attended the **Spring Retreat at Penuel Ridge Retreat Center, Ashland City, April 29-May 1**. We had a wonderful time talking about relationships and sexuality as well as taking a hike, playing Nertz, and simply hanging out.

Parents can feel good that your kids already are thinking about who they are in relationship with others. These youth are very conscious of the fact that they want to relate to others in an authentic and loving way. Glendalers should feel good that you have created a space where youth understand that sexuality is part of who they are and how they express themselves in this world and that expressing themselves in a loving and thoughtful manner is part of being a child of God.

A small group went to see our own Dave Berry in **Bambi, Saturday May 14**. After the short play we went to Maggie Moo's for a post-play treat.

Upcoming Events . . .

If you are a youth who is interested in seeing Les Miserables in Louisville, Kentucky the weekend of June 2-3 please speak with Stephanie or Thomas for details. We would leave mid-day on Saturday, attend the Saturday night performance and then return mid-day on Sunday. The cost for tickets is \$61.00 plus the cost of a hotel room.

The final installment of money is due for Baptist Youth Camp. If you have not done so, please have your money (\$250.00) to Stephanie by Sunday, May 22. We will be attending camp July 2-9. Scholarship money is available if needed. Please talk with Stephanie if you would like to access these funds.

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
Age 8, Colorado*

- On May 15, **Elise Elrod** was our special guest in **Faithful Friends**. We learned about the meaning of Pentecost with the help of green beans, potatoes and corn! Faithful Friends is scheduled for June 19.
- **Children's choir** ended for the school year on May 18. Children will be with the rest of the congregation most Wednesdays through the summer, but there are a few weeks when volunteers are needed to lead the children in music, games or a craft activity.
- In order to give our **Celebrate!** team a break, Celebrate! will end in May and begin again in September.
- **Vacation Bible School** will begin Sunday afternoon, July 17 and end on Wednesday evening, July 20. The theme is **Circle G Ranch**.
- **Passport Kids!** camp is July 6-9. Julie Coulter will accompany Alexis, Evie, Jackson, Katie and Margie to camp in Crossville, TN.
- The children will host **Edgehill Soup Kitchen** on Tuesday, July 12. More details will follow.

Needle Nuts and others celebrated Margaret McGill at the Three Sisters Tea Room in Ashland City on May 14. Margaret will be moving to San Antonio later this summer to take a faculty position at the University of Texas.

Needle Nuts will meet Saturday, June 18, at 10:00 a.m. Novice and expert knitters and such will gather at a place yet to be determined.

“Thank You” from Community Shares

Some of you know that Community Shares (a nonprofit federation) held its annual meeting in Glendale's Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 14. Approximately 50 people from around the state of Tennessee came to spend the day with us. Everyone who attended the meeting had nothing but wonderful things to say about the facilities.

On behalf of the staff of Community Shares and our member group reps from all parts of Tennessee, thank you to our fabulous pastors and to the church council for letting us use the building for this event.

Beverly Feinstein
Executive Director

===== **Calendar June 2005** =====

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Menu	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<u>5/30</u> Memorial Day Holiday Office Closed	<u>5/31</u>	<u>6/1</u> 5:15 Sanctuary Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Summer worship Small Groups 6:40 Youth Gathering	Adults Chicken w/Salad Soup Baked Potato Children Chicken Nuggets	<u>6/2</u>	<u>6/3</u>	<u>6/4</u>
June 5 9:15 1st Sunday Fellowship 9:30 SS Classes 10:30 Worship Service led by Cuba Travelers 6:00 Ice Cream Social	<u>6/6</u>	<u>6/7</u>	<u>6/8</u> 5:15 Sanctuary Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children w/ J. Coulter Adult Activity, TBA 6:40 Youth Gathering Cuba Travelers leave	Adults Fajitas Mexican Rice Beans Children Same	<u>6/9</u>	<u>6/10</u>	<u>6/11</u>
June 12 9:30 SS Classes 10:30 Worship Service Stephanie Wyatt preaching	<u>6/13</u>	6/14 Edgehill Soup Kitchen Church Council Meeting	<u>6/15</u> 5:15 Sanctuary Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Primetimes lead entire group in games of the 30's & 40's Cuba Travelers return	Adults Pork Loin Rice Salad Children Chicken Nuggets	<u>6/16</u>	<u>6/17</u>	<u>6/18</u> Needle Nuts TBA
June 19 9:30 SS Classes 10:30 Worship Service Faithful Friends Dedication of Celia Trotter	<u>6/20</u>	<u>6/21</u>	<u>6/22</u> Afternoon-8:00 Glendale By the Lake 6:00 Dinner	Adults Lasagna Green Beans Salad Children Pizza Bagels	<u>6/23</u>	<u>6/24</u>	<u>6/25</u>
June 26 9:30 SS Classes 10:30 Worship Service Cuba-returned-travelers lead worship	<u>6/27</u>	<u>6/28</u>	6/29 5:15 Sanctuary Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Stories and music from Cuba Mango ice cream dessert	Adults Grilled Chicken Baked Potato Salad Children Same	<u>6/30</u>	<u>7/1</u>	<u>7/2</u>