



VISIONS

September 2006
Volume XV, Issue 9

1021 Glendale Lane • Nashville, TN 37204 • 615.269.0926
www.glendalebaptist.org • gbc@glendalebaptist.org

One Pastor's Opinion

Any time you get Glendalers to talking, it's going to be an interesting conversation. And the more important the topic, the more interesting the conversation is likely to be. So it's no surprise that the buzz in meetings, in the hallways, in Sunday School classes and over coffee or lunch these days is worth overhearing, because much of it is about the transitions in our sanctuary space. We are in the midst of "trying on" new configurations and new ideas. Everybody has an opinion about them. And we enjoy sharing those ideas with each other.

Lest we lose sight of why the conversation is occurring, let's remember for a moment the priorities that we stated for ourselves in our most recent major visioning process, almost 5 years ago. We said then that in the 5 years to come, we hoped to see:

- new worship space
- cushioned pews
- new paint in the sanctuary and ceiling
- more open worship space
- more functionality in the sanctuary
- some short pews for wheelchairs

Clearly, the church family has placed a high priority on enhancing our worship space.

This is work that we are undertaking, under the leadership of the Worship Division and the Worship Space Enhancement Task Force. We do not choose to alter our worship environment according to arbitrary motivators: "it has been a long time since we've painted," or, "we don't like the way this area looks." Instead, we use our values statement: "Glendale Baptist Church is a caring community of equality and grace" guides any changes that occur.

We value intimacy and community; we value accessibility for all; we value holy manners; we value being warmly welcoming. The Worship Space Enhancement Task Force has been envisioning the kind of place that makes it natural for us to be together in the presence of God. We honor our history and tradition while adapting for our growth and the development of our theology, liturgical awareness, and ecclesiology.

It's a continuing adventure! Do not miss the opportunity to join the conversation.

April

A Word from the Church Council Chair

The 2006-2007 council has already begun its work! Our first gathering was an overnight retreat at Henry Horton State Park on July 28 and 29. Division chairs were joined by Martha Jo Berry (treasurer) as well Amy Mears and April Baker, our pastors, Liz Zagatta, children and youth activities coordinator and Marjorie Halbert, minister of music. Our gathering was a nice balance of sharing, fellowshiping and planning for the new church year that begins on September 1.

Continued next page

Glendalers Invited to Celebrate PeaceJam with Youth

On **Saturday, September 9**, Glendale will host an evening of dinner and entertainment as a way of celebrating and sending off the youth to PeaceJam. The meal will be a familiar dish—a **Mexican Stack-up**—and the entertainment will be provided by Glendale's own talent. Guests may call the church office to make a reservation or contact Frenchie Fortenberry at pfort@comcast.net.

Deadline for reservations is September 6.

Have you seen the **mini-peace poles** and the **peace note cards** featuring drawing by Glendale kids? A limited number of each are still available. See Anne-Leslie to purchase.

As their PeaceJam project, Glendale Youth designed, constructed, and planted this Peace Pole and dedicated it on August 6, 2006. Read more about Youth activities on page 5.



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

1021 Glendale Lane
Nashville, TN 37204
Phone 615.269.0926
www.glendalebaptist.org
GBC@glendalebaptist.org

April Baker Amy Mears
Pastor Pastor

Marjorie Halbert
Minister of Music

Karen Lee Turner
Pianist

Alan Green
Secretary

Elizabeth Zagatta
Youth and Children Ministry
Coordinator

—

Thomas Conner
Church Council Chair

Liz Allen Fey and Jimmy Davis
Administration

Beverly Feinstein and Anne-Leslie Owens
Communications

Linda Ray Miller
Education

Sue Kinzer and Rosalyn Ramage
Membership

Laura Kendall
Ministry

Julie Coulter and Louise Clifton
Missions

Dave Shepherd
Stewardship

Beth Walker
Worship

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.

We invite you to come and experience the Glendale that studies the scriptures and worships God together each Sunday morning-and the Glendale that gathers on Wednesday evenings for dinner, prayer, and genuine caring for one another.

Following an Appreciative Inquiry approach, we established some "provocative propositions" for the upcoming year. Provocative propositions are stated in the present as if we are already doing these things but are intended to be goals that stretch us. Provocative propositions are also built on the good things that we are already doing as a church and are therefore based on what we have already successfully practiced.

I invite you to read these provocative propositions and contemplate how we can serve together and to live into the reality that we envision as a caring community:

- We have 150 average attendance on Sunday mornings.
- Every "Glendaler" feels included and important.
- We articulate our history of shared leadership and we speak and act in ways that continue to develop it in a new context.
- We continue moving towards consensus building.
- We practice creative, inclusive, stimulating and meaningful worship of God.
- We are reducing our debt.

More on these provocative propositions as we enter the new church year. I'll see you at Glendale!

Thomas

Stewardship Committee

The 2005-2006 Stewardship Committee wrapped up our year and evaluated what we did and made suggestions for next year's division. We met with David Shepherd, the in-coming chair of the new Stewardship Division and passed on the documents from our work.

The compiled gifts and talents surveys are available in the office for new council members as they put together their divisions; they are also available to Sunday School teachers, committee chairs, and the congregation at large.

A word to the new members of the congregation: During your new member orientation, you received a survey created by last year's Stewardship Committee. We invite you to spend some time reflecting on your gifts and talents and how you would like to utilize them in the life of the church. Fill out the survey and give it to Rosalyn Ramage. Thank you and welcome to Glendale!

Raye Nell Dyer

On behalf of the 2005-2006 Stewardship Committee

Emergency Situation???

What would happen if a person attending a worship service at Glendale passed out? How would we determine the nature of the problem and what procedures need to be followed prior to the arrival of EMT's? The answers to these questions could probably be provided immediately if there were a defibrillator machine located on the church premises. The machine would be equipped with audio/video tapes that would describe when and how to use it so that *anyone* could follow the procedure.

The Ministry Division hopes that Glendale will be prepared with a defibrillator machine if an emergency situation ever arose. Glendalers may contribute towards this purchase. We are one-third of the way towards financing the \$1,700 that is needed. **Please place your check in the offering plate and indicate the purpose.**

Don Ramage



Needle Nuts

Needle Nuts will be at the home of Julie Coulter on **Saturday, September 16, 10:00am**. Novice and experienced knitters (quilters, crocheters, etc.) are welcome to join this group for needlework, fellowship, and lunch. Please let Julie know if you plan to attend so lunch can be planned accordingly.

Attention Primetimers

A September event for Primetimers will be a happening "For the Ladies." It will be in the form of a salad luncheon on the first Tuesday in September at the home of Rosalyn Ramage, 3312 Lealand Lane.

All Glendale Primetimers and/or friends of Glendale Primetimers of the female gender are invited to come to lunch at 12:00 noon on September 5, the day after Labor Day. All you have to bring is a favorite salad for the salad bar. Beverage and dessert will be provided. Questions? Call 383-7696.

Pictorial Directories

Thanks to Jen Strange for snapping photographs to be included as addendums to our Glendale Pictorial Directories. Watch for an announcement regarding the distribution of the updates soon.

New Member Celebration

The Glendale 101 class, which was held during the month of August, provided an opportunity for our new member candidates and other interested persons to learn more about Glendale--both who we are, where we have been, where we continue to move in our journey towards being church.

As the class concluded, the following persons were celebrated as new members of Glendale Baptist Church during the worship service on August 27. More detailed information about our new members is available on a table in the vestibule.

Fred Frisch

Sponsors: David and Pat Elkins

David Mears

Sponsor: Kris and Thom Elsberry

Poli Polidoro

Sponsor: Thomas Conner

Monica Cantrell

Brooke Coley

Sponsors: Don and Rosalyn Ramage

Marcy Thomas

Sponsor: Sue Kinzer

Geoffrey Calaway

Tracey Fisher

Sponsor: Lane Simpson

Kylene Dibble

Sponsor: Anne-Leslie Owens

Betsy Jones

Sponsor: TBA

Name Tags for All

Have you been in a situation at Glendale lately when you recognized the face of a new member, but couldn't come up with a name? Well, put yourself in the place of our newest members and our many repeat visitors. They have a church *full* of people's names to learn. This situation can be greatly improved if we all wear name tags.

For this reason, new bulletin boards are being placed in the stairwell just off the vestibule. Soon they will be filled with name tags hanging from colorful pegs. The name tags are to be arranged by sections of the alphabet for easy retrieval and replacement each Sunday you are present. It will be important for each of us to be conscientious about leaving our name tag in its place each week. If you forget and wear it home, please try to remember to bring it back. Thanks in advance for helping make our church home a welcoming place for all who come to worship here.

Lou's Psalm

One year ago, I was diagnosed with breast cancer. It has been a long year. During a vespers, April and Amy gave us a template to write our own psalm. I discovered I have much to sing about—and still do!

**Thanks,
Lou Clifton**

I took my life, health and safety for granted.

I was busy doing good things with no time for reflection or thought.

In the blink of an eye, I was laid low.

My good activities dissolved into nothingness.

My importance evaporated.

I was sucked down, barely able to sit up or think.

Then I cried to God in my trouble, and God saved me in my distress.

God comforted me through your hugs, tears, laughter and prayers.

God gave me strength through your food, gifts and flowers.

God helped me face each day through your cards, calls, reiki and back porch sitting.

I thank God for God's steadfast love, for God's wonderful works to humankind.

For through your love, God has restored my health, energy and enthusiasm.

For through your love, I now look forward to each day with gratitude and awe.

Sanctuary Task Force Update

If you think some changes have been happening in the sanctuary, you are correct! In case you have not been able to be with us lately, there have been some changes, and The Sanctuary Enhancement Task Force would like for everyone to be aware of the changes that have been made to the worship space.

As a result of the approval of the task force's plan of action at the July 26 special called business meeting, we have begun to experiment with better ways to configure our worship space. As a first step toward the development of two pulpits of similar size, the large pulpit was removed. Building on that first step, two temporary lecterns were placed at the front of the sanctuary on slightly-rounded risers that assimilate the look of two pulpits of similar size. Additionally, the side pews have been placed on an angle to experiment with the look and the *feel* of being more "in community with each other." Also, more spaces were created to accommodate wheelchairs or other mobility concerns.

You may also notice a different chair arrangement in the choir loft. The number of rows were changed from three to two with the rows moved forward, eliminating the third row of chairs. This change has moved the choir slightly closer to the congregation and has allowed us to put a slight curve in each row of chairs.

You will see some additional changes in upcoming weeks. We are intentionally making these changes in small, incremental steps because we simply aren't sure what will work best. Some of these changes will, we hope, enhance our worship space. But we know that some will not. We're counting on you to help us. Please let us have your feedback. Thank you.

Sharon Hiatt, Beth Walker, Jimmy Davis, David Webb, Martha Jo Berry, April Baker, Amy Mears, Eileen Campbell Reed, Kreis White, Deborah Lynn, David Gooch, Raye Nell Dyer, Rosalyn Ramage, Margie Halbert

Kid's Corner

Beginning with our new church year in September, **Faithful Friends** will be a worship service for the younger crowd, **kindergarten through second grade**. Once in third grade, children become worship helpers as they acolyte and read the Psalm each Sunday. Third through sixth graders participate in worship leadership in other ways, too, so it is important for them to participate in worship with the larger Glendale community.

Our new friend, **Wendy Wisner joined us for Faithful Friends in August**. Wendy showed us pictures, taught us a song in Creole and helped us learn about children and life in Haiti. We added children in Haiti to our monthly prayer list that already includes the children at the church in Santa Clara, Cuba and the children at Vanderbilt Children's Hospital.

Sunday, August 27 was promotion Sunday! Colin, Owen, and Ellie moved to the toddler class and many others moved to new Sunday School classes with new teachers. Some have the privilege of another year with their current teachers.

Wednesday night programming for children will be exciting and new beginning in September. This year there will be a missions focus with various Glendalers leading the children. Parents and others who are interested in helping with teaching should contact Linda Ray Miller.

Great Glendale Gathering

November 10-11
at Rau-wood Retreat Center
(Youth night November 11).

Uncle Joe at Faithful Friends

Joe O'Cain (Uncle Joe, as known by the children) will share with us in **Faithful Friends on September 17**. Joe is a special friend to Glendale children as he takes time to get to know them each Sunday before and after worship.

Happy Birthday to You September Babies...*(CHA, CHA, CHA)*

Lynn Reed – 1
Paul Wheeler – 3
Sam – 5
Danny – 6
Hope Collins – 7
Jon Neergaard – 8
John Laney – 9
Sarah – 12
John Hill – 12
Chris Ferrell – 12
Jacob – 12
Spencer Thornton – 16
Lisa Lehr – 16
Marjorie Halbert – 17
Lucy Lopez – 17
David Carlisle – 19
Rhonda Finerty – 19
Lee Miller – 23
Mollie Vannoy – 24
Rob Crowell – 25
David Reeves – 25
Sandra Hardaway – 26
Mia – 30



Youth Happenings in late July and August

Visit the youth calendar at http://my.calendars.net/glendale_youth

The end of July planning and the majority of planning for August's events took place on Thursday, July 20, at the July **Youth Council Meeting**. Jonas, Rachel, Daniel, Carson, Thomas, Anne-Leslie and Liz gathered to discuss constructing of the Peace Pole, the Peace Pole dedication service, the BYC youth-led worship service and the Yard Sale fundraiser for the Peace Project.

On Sunday afternoon, July 30, the youth met after service to plan out and begin **Peace Pole Construction**. They split off into groups, taking turns at wood burning the eight selected languages (English, Spanish, Hebrew, Arabic, Georgian, Korean, Creole, and Tamil) into the Peace Pole. Along with David Berry, a group dug out a sign out of the shed for the upcoming Yard Sale, and together they assessed Glendale's grounds for the sale. Anne-Leslie Owens supervised the wood-burning, while Thomas Conner picked up supplies to add the finishing touches to the pole.

Sunday, August 6, was a day of celebration, as the youth and Glendale community gathered to dedicate the newly planted **Peace Pole**, which has been erected just to the right of the memorial garden at the front of the church. As the conclusion to a worship service dedicated to peace around the world, the youth were the lead voice in the dedication, explaining the symbolism and significance of the Peace Pole to the Glendale community and other faith communities around the world.

Paul, Daniel, Jonas, Holly, Frank, Liz, and Joy Gooch joined guests at the **Luke 14:12 Edgehill United Methodist Soup Kitchen** on Tuesday afternoon, August 8, to serve a lunch of hot dogs, beans, pasta salad, fixin's, and dessert.

On Wednesday evening, August 9, the youth brought Baptist Youth Camp (BYC) to Glendale with a special **BYC-style Worship Service** in the sanctuary. Inspired by the theme of Exile, Holly, Rachel, Will, Peter, Jonas, Davis, Paul, Daniel, Danika, Corey, and Garrett shared scripture, a short, original skit, and BYC songs with the congregation. Paul gave a meaningful and heartfelt proclamation, and Don Schlosser, the BYC worship director, led the community in song. The service ended with Don and Thomas Conner sharing their own experiences of being ministered to by the youth at BYC. Doug Trotter and Georgia Sims were also acknowledged for their participation with the youth at BYC. Special thanks to David Berry for his dramatic expertise in organizing the drama team for the service!

Friday evening, August 18, served as time for both the August **Youth Council Meeting** and preparation for the **Yard Sale** the following day. The youth and their parents gathered to organize and price items for their concession stand and prep the grounds for the sale. They arrived early on Saturday morning, August 19, to finish preparations, provide breakfasts and lunch items for hungry visitors over the course of the sale, and sell mini-peace poles and peace note cards designed by Glendale children. Proceeds from the sale of the booths, donations, and profits from the concession stand have gone towards the Youth Peace Project.

The youth wrapped up August and said goodbye to summer with a trip to **Nashville Shores** on Saturday, August 26. They welcome both Alexis and Margie to the group and look forward to their presence and participation in youth activities.

Youth in the News

On July 22, Holly Miller was featured on *Wake Up & Live* (radio) to discuss her thoughts on peace and the dedication of our Peace Pole.

Glendale's upcoming PeaceJam trip for September was featured in the Saturday, July 22, edition of Faith & Values in *The Tennessean*.

The PeaceJam Trip was also picked up by TN Independent Media Center: <http://www.tnimc.org/feature/display/16096/index.php>

Alliance of Baptist's Travel License to Cuba

In light of recent actions taken by the Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC) in the U.S. Department of the Treasury against the Alliance of Baptists, the Communications Division convened a task force to address any potential media matters that might arise as a result of the allegations involving Glendale's travel to Cuba during the summer of 2004. This task force will work as needed to handle inquiries and submit recommendations to the church as specific actions are advised. To learn the most current news about the Alliance's actions in response to the OFAC's claims, visit <http://www.allianceofbaptists.org/>.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	WED MENU	THU	FRI	SAT
August 27 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	8/28	8/29	8/30 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 Vespers	Menu Grilled Pork Loin Rice Salad Vegetable	8/31 Yoga Class 6-7:30PM	9/1	9/2
September 3 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	Labor Day — Church Office Closed	9/5 Ladies Primetimers Salad Luncheon at Ramages, 12 noon	9/6 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 Division/Committee Meetings	Menu Grilled Chicken Baked Potato Salad Veggie	9/7 Yoga Class 6-7:30PM	9/8	9/9 PeaceJam Celebration Dinner
September 10 9:15 First Sunday Breakfast on the Second Sunday (hosted by Special Studies Class) 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	9/11	9/12 6:00 Church Council Meeting Luke 14:12	9/13 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 TBD-Education Division coordinating	Menu Meat Loaf Rice Salad Veggie	9/14 Yoga Class 6-7:30PM	9/15 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; width: fit-content; margin: auto;"> Youth at PeaceJam in Denver </div>	9/16 Needle Nuts at home of Julie Coulter, 10AM
September 17 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service Faithful Friends	9/18 Deadline to submit Visions info.	9/19	9/20 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 PeaceJam Report by Youth	Cookout Menu Burgers & Dogs Potato Salad Slaw Chips	9/21 Yoga Class 6-7:30PM	9/22	9/23
September 24 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship Service	9/25	9/26	9/27 5:15 Adult Choir 5:45 Dinner 6:30 Children's Choir 6:45 TBD-Missions Division coordinating	Menu Lasagna Caesar Salad Veggie Garlic Bread	9/28 Yoga Class 6-7:30PM	9/29	9/30

Glendale Baptist Church
1021 Glendale Lane
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

www.glendalebaptist.org