



Heritage United Methodist Church



4322 Popps Ferry Road
D'Iberville, MS 39540
(www.heritageumc2.org)



December 2011 Newsletter

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Pastor Ponderings

Are you having fun yet? We are in a posture of waiting. Waiting to get out of school, waiting to get out of college, waiting to get out of this job, waiting to get that job, waiting to get our chance, waiting can seem absent of fun. Waiting seems to be our occupation. Waiting is not fun!

I think about Tom Sawyer and the fence painting episode. How can we transform this waiting until it becomes so enticing that we are over-run with those wanting to wait with us? We have the “means of grace” Mr. Wesley would say and we need nothing else. Oh yes but he didn’t and he didn’t on and on we can go with all of the things and responsibilities that we have now that those before us didn’t have. We all have the “means of grace.” Are you praying? Are you

reading your bible? Are you hearing the bible read? Are you worshiping at home? Are you participating in public worship? Are you participating in Holy Communion? John Wesley had this to say in his sermon on the means of grace.

By “means of grace” I understand outward signs, words, or actions, ordained of God, and appointed for this end, to be the ordinary channels whereby he might convey to men, preventing, justifying, or sanctifying grace.

I use this expression, means of grace, because I know none better, and because it has been generally used in the Christian church for many ages - in particular by our own Church, which directs us to bless God both for the means of grace, and hope of glory, and teaches us, that a sacrament is “an outward sign of inward grace, and a means whereby we receive the same.”

The chief of these means are prayer, whether in secret or with the rest congregation, searching the Scriptures (which implies reading, hearing, and meditating thereon), and receiving the Lord’s Supper, eating bread and drinking wine in remembrance of Him. And these we believe to be ordained of God, as the ordinary channels of conveying his grace to the souls of men.

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“At the intersection of God’s Grace, and Your Needs”

I don't bring up the "means of grace" as an alternative to your everyday activities nor is it offered in lieu of all of the preparations for and the hubbub associated around Christmas. I offer you the "means of grace" as just that, in the midst of all a means of grace. A way to turn chore into adventure, work into play and life into fun.

Fun is a matter of the soul, not an activity engaged in. This season drink deeply from the river of grace and be filled with the Spirit of Him who has called you and let's have some fun. Merry Christmas!!! Wayne

December 2011 Calendar of Events

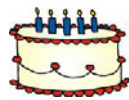
- ◆ Dec. 3 UMM Christmas Party 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Dec. 4 Holy Communion
- ◆ Dec. 9 NACCC Christmas Program 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Dec. 10 Active Adults Christmas Party 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Dec. 12 Shalom Circle 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Dec. 13 Morning Glories Circle 9:30 a.m.
- ◆ Dec. 13 NACCC Board Meeting 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Dec. 17 UMM Breakfast 7:00 a.m.
- ◆ Dec. 18 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 p.m.
- ◆ Dec. 21 Children & Youth program 6:30 p.m.
- ◆ Dec. 24 Christmas Eve service
- ◆ Dec. 25 Merry Christmas
- ◆ Dec. 31 Happy New Year



December Birthdays



1	Barbara Lacoste	13	Terry Hill
2	Aaron Thomas	15	Chelsea Fortenberry
3	Courtney Reid	17	Tyler Schwartz
5	Remington Tucker		Vincent Catalanatto
6	Jason Hendren	19	Norma Allen
	John Reid	23	Vicki Perry
7	Duane Pinkerton	24	Shelly Graham
8	Andy Sabol	26	Dean Mattina II
10	James Gillies	27	Tammy Murden
12	Sheila Gillies	29	Hillary Anseman

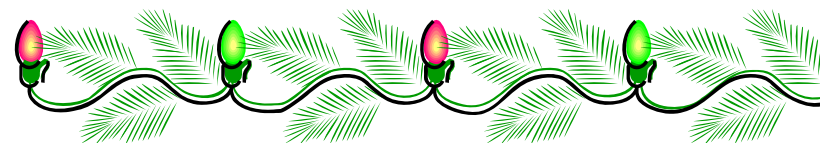


UMM NEWS CONTINUED:



ADULT CHRISTMAS DINNER: If you purchased tickets to the Heritage Adult Christmas Dinner hosted by the UMM on December 3rd, the doors of the Fellowship Hall will open at 6:00 p.m., followed by a time of visiting. Dinner will be from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and will be followed by entertainment. If you have questions, please contact Jack Anderson at 872-3471.

UMM MEETING: The December UMM breakfast meeting is scheduled for Saturday, December 17th at 7 a.m. Any questions, contact Jack Anderson at 872-3471.



UMW NEWS

CIRCLE MEETINGS:

- Shalom Circle Monday, December 12th at 7:00 p.m.
- Morning Glories Circle Tuesday, December 13th at 9:30 a.m.

CHRISTMAS CARD DELIVERY: The Shalom Circle's Christmas Card Delivery Service will be accepting cards through December 11th ONLY. Cost is \$.25 per card and drop off will be set up in the foyer of the church. Proceeds from this will go to the D'Iberville Free Clinic. If you have questions, please see a Shalom member.



MORNING GLORIES CIRCLE: The Morning Glories Circle will be meeting on Tuesday, December 13th at 9:30 a.m. for the monthly meeting. They will go to Salute' restaurant in Gulfport for lunch and gift exchange. The bus will leave Heritage UMC at 11:00 a.m. It's an open invitation, so we hope to see you there.

"The smart charitable person gives 'til it hurts, except for advice."

-Mary Ann Herman



NOAH'S ARK CHILD CARE CENTER

We are asking for donations of the required children's books which will be published in our church newsletter and bulletins monthly. These are books that you may have at home, that are outgrown by your children or grandchildren. They would be appreciated for use in our program.

The books for December are:



1 2 3: A Child's First Counting Book A. Jay
 Animal Homes A. Wilkes
 The Castle on Hester Street L. Heller
 The Cat in the Hat Dr. Seuss
 The Color of Home M. Hoffman
 The Garden of Abdul Gasazi C. Van Allsburg
 Home Sweet Home C. Tagg
 House (Home for Me) L. Schaefer
 Is It Red? Is It Yellow? Is It Green? T. Hoban
 King Bidgood's in the Bathtub A. Woods
 Look-it-Up: Animal Homes G. Jeunesse
 Noah's Ark P. Spier
 Ten Naughty Little Monkeys S. Williams

Alphabet Under Construction L. Ehlert
 At Home in the Rainforest D. Willow
 Castles, Caves, and Honeycombs Ashman
 A Chair for My Mother V.B. Williams
 Color Zoo L. Ehlert
 Homes Around the World B. Kalman
 Horton Hears a Who Dr. Seuss
 Houses and Homes A. Morris
 Jump, Frog, Jump A. Woods
 The Knight and the Dragon T. DePaola
 The Napping House A. Woods
 Old MacDonald Had a Farm J. Cabrera
 The Village of Round and Square Houses
 A. Grifalconi

NOAH'S ARK CCC BOARD MEETING: The next Noah's Ark CCC board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m. If you are a member, please plan to attend.



NOAH'S ARK CHILD CARE CENTER CHRISTMAS PROGRAM: Please come and join us on Friday, December 9th at 6:00 p.m. for the Noah's Ark Christmas Program. It will be held in the sanctuary with a reception in the Fellowship Hall to follow.



"When it comes to giving, some folks stop at nothing." -Mary Ann Herman



Youth Schedule for December

Dec 1	Happy Birthday, Tyler Lollis
Dec 3/9:00 a.m.	Children/Youth Christmas program rehearsal
Dec 3/4:00 p.m.	Set up for UMM Christmas Party
Dec 4	Holy Communion
Dec 4/4:00 p.m.	UMYF
Dec 10/9:00 a.m.	Children/Youth Christmas program rehearsal
Dec 11/4:00 p.m.	UMYF
Dec 15	Happy Birthday, Victoria Gonzalez
Dec 17/9:00 a.m.	Children/Youth Christmas program rehearsal
Dec 17/6:00 p.m.	Youth Christmas Party
Dec 18/4:00 p.m.	UMYF
Dec 19 – Jan 2	Schools are out for Christmas Break
Dec 20/6:00 p.m.	Children/Youth Christmas Full Dress rehearsal
Dec 21/6:30 p.m.	Children/Youth Christmas Program
Dec 24/	Christmas Eve Service
Dec 25	Merry Christmas
Dec 31	New Year's Eve



YOUTH NEWS:



CHRISTIAN ROCK CONCERT: The Youth will travel to First Baptist Church of Pascagoula at 5:30 p.m. on Friday, December 15th. NewSong's Very Merry Christmas Tour features the bands NewSong, Kutless, Chris August, and Jamie Grace. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mr. Brian.

SPREADING THE CHEER: On Saturday, December 17th at 1:30 p.m. the Youth will visit Greenbriar Nursing Center. The Youth will sing Christmas and Praise songs for the residents. Everyone is invited to come and help spread the cheer!

YOUTH STOCK: Your Heritage Youth wish to thank all who have already shown your support with your pledge of purchasing stock in members of our Youth Group. We are still in need of approximately 100 shares of stock to fulfill our budget through August 2012. If you are interested in becoming an investor, just ask any Youth member or leader. Remember if you purchase two or more shares, you are eligible for a service project and lots more. We thank you so very much.



YOUTH NEWS CONTINUED:

YOUTH CHRISTMAS PARTY: This year's Youth Christmas Party will be on Saturday, December 17th at 6:00 p.m. at Tom and Susan Butler's home. Anyone 7th-12th grade is invited to attend. If you have any questions, contact Brian Sims at 392-6167.



THANKSGIVING AT SAFE SPACE: A HUGH "atta boy" to all from Heritage UMC who helped make the Thanksgiving dinner and worship at Safe Space in Biloxi a blessed event. Poplar Head UMC, First United Methodist Church of Biloxi, Heritage United Methodist Church and lots of other volunteers came together as one. You all can be extremely proud of YOUR Youth as they made us all very proud. What a great day. God is amazing.



WINTER RETREAT: The youth will be attending a winter retreat with Christ UMC Youth from Mobile, AL on January 13-15 at Blue Lake in Andalusia, AL. For more info – www.ChristUMCYouth.com. Registration forms must be completed and returned to Mr. Brian or Ms. Cindy. If you have any questions, contact Brian Sims at 392-6167.



NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

FAMILY IN NEED: Amy Hopkins, great niece to Pat Agregard, lost all her household goods to a fire. She has three children, ages 5, 9, and 10. Anything that you are able to donate will be greatly appreciated. If you would like more information, please contact Pat at 228-396-5993.



TREE OF LIGHTS: This year Heritage will have a Tree of Lights on the front lawn in honor and memory of our loved ones. The cost to sponsor one name per light is \$2.00. Be on the look-out for the flyers that will be in the Sunday bulletins. A list will be published in the Christmas Day bulletin.



"If one first gives himself to the Lord, all other giving is easy."

-Robert E. Harris

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS CONTINUED:

ACTIVE ADULTS CHRISTMAS PARTY: The 2011 Active Adult's Christmas Party/White Elephant gift exchange will be held on Saturday, December 10th at Lucille Matta's house. Bring a dish and a beverage to share, and be ready to have a great time! Call the church office for more information.



ACTIVE ADULTS: The Active Adults have been relatively inactive, but we hope to change that for 2012. We are planning a progressive dinner for January. We need three host couples to provide the three stops for the dinner. First stop will be appetizers/salads, second stop will be main course, and third stop will be desserts. Each host couple will determine the exact menu. We are also planning a Saturday afternoon/early evening cook-out in April at Jack and Julene's house. The Active Adults fellowship is open to all adults of Heritage (members, friends, attendees, and relatives). If you want to have a great fellowship experience and you want to get to know other members of this family we call Heritage, please attend some or all of our activities. If you would like to host an event in February or March or if you would like to be part of the progressive dinner, or if you have any questions, contact Jack Anderson at 872-3471.



YOUTH/CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PLAY: Make plans now to attend the Youth/Children's Christmas Play this month; you won't want to miss it! A combination of youth group members and the children of the church will be presenting "This Isn't Carnegie Hall, You Know" on Wednesday, December 21st at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. It's the heartwarming story of a woman putting on a children's Christmas program at her church. Not everyone involved has the right attitude, and everything that can go wrong, does. By the end of the play, however, hearts have been touched, and the audience comes away with a reminder of what Christmas is really about. Be sure to come join us, and support our children and youth!

