



# Heritage United Methodist Church

4322 Popps Ferry Road  
D'Iberville, MS 39540

*February 2010 Newsletter*

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## **Pastor Doodles February 2010**

The news of the earthquake that shook Port Au Prince Haiti shook loose many memories for me.

I remember the crowds of people who would stand patiently in line in the sweltering heat waiting for a chance to see the doctor or to get a handful of vitamins and aspirins.

I remember the leaky hose outside the house we were staying in, that Pastor Bob would not fix because on the days the city pumped water into the cistern, the neighbors would stand in line with jugs to get the water they needed for their own homes.

I remember the little boy that every time he saw me asked, "Can I have your choos (shoes)," even though he could have put both feet into one of my size elevens.

I remember the hope and excitement in the crowds of children who would ask for a "Chicklet", a piece of gum. I have seen iPods, etc. received with much less appreciation.

I remember that the crowd at the church in City Soleil, the slums of Port Au Prince, was bigger on communion Sunday than it was the next day when we came back and set up the clinic there. I also remember the hospitality of our host pastor when he made us shut down the clinic for a break and served iced down Cokes.

I remember the worm medicine fountains that spewed up from the mouths of the babies the first day of the clinic. You would know it was an ugly brownish green and the mothers had dressed their babies in the best they had. I remember how I learned after a few attempts that if I took the baby from the mother and talked and played with it a minute, it was much easier to get the baby to accept the medicine. We also asked the doctor and found out we could mix in a little of the liquid vitamins to help cut the taste. Leave it to babies to teach you that efficient completion of a task comes second to caring human relationships.

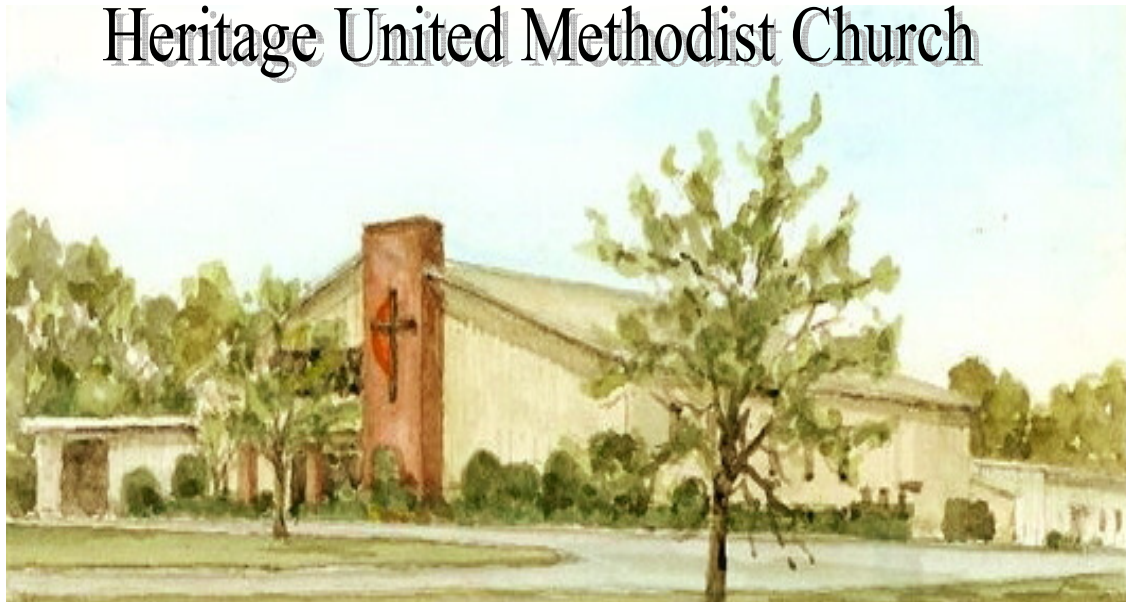
I remember passing the baseball factory and shaking my head to think that the people who wrapped all the string and tied the leather for these baseballs were barely

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*"At the intersection of God's Grace, and Your Needs"*

making enough to feed their family, while on the other end of the baseballs' existence, someone may get paid millions to chase, throw or hit it in a game.

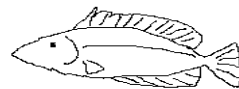
I remember the day we went up into the mountains, we left early and fought rush hour traffic out of the city. If you can imagine the interstate running through Atlanta, Georgia, but take away the lanes and add burros, bicycles and pedestrians you may begin to get a picture of the ride. We packed the whole team, including interpreters and gear, in a VW bus. Up in the mountains the gravel roads were narrow, crooked, and shoulders were non-existent. After a hard long day in the hot clinic we made our way back home just in time to catch rush hour traffic back into Port Au Prince. When we finally turned off Delmas Avenue a block or two away from the mission house, a spontaneous song came from everyone in the bus, "Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below. Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN!"

You hear a lot on the news these days of looting and potential riots around collection sites. We only had one day on the two trips I made when the crowd got even a little out of hand. It was the only day that we set up a clinic that was not in a church. The building we were set up in they called a warehouse, we would have called it a barn. The doctor was in one room and his wife and I were behind a counter in the room where the line began dispensing the worm medicine and vitamins. As the day wore on the crowds began to push closer and closer until I found myself being the door that held the crowd back. Every time I turned to give a dose of medicine I had to push my way back to where I was when I turned back around. A scripture came to mind as we worked that day, "***And I sought for a man among them that should make up the hedge, and stand in the gap before me for the land, that I should not destroy it: but I found none.***" KJV. The need of the people was great, their urgency understandable, but their pressing was impeding our ability to provide what they needed. Had they pushed past me and entered the other room there would have been no way the medical team could have kept working.

We are being called again to stand in the gap, to help build up a hedge of hope and possibility. Sure, it will not be easy. Sure, the need is so great and the urgency so evident. Sure there are people among the Haitians who will try to profit from the effort, but we remember when that happened here as well.

Lord, when the people of Haiti need someone to stand in the gap, to build a hedge of hope. May we be there and be the hope. In Jesus name we pray. Amen.

Bro. David



## FEBRUARY Calendar of Events

Feb 5	Noah's Ark CCC Mardi Gras Parade
Feb 6/2-4 p.m.	Rachel Reeder & Sean Reel Wedding Shower
Feb 7	Souper Bowl of Caring
Feb 8/7 p.m.	Shalom Circle meeting
Feb 9/9:30 a.m.	Morning Glories Circle meeting
Feb 14	Valentine's Day
Feb 15	President's Day
Feb 15/6 p.m.	Noah's Ark CCC Board Meeting
Feb 16	Mardi Gras Day
Feb 17/6:30 p.m.	Ash Wednesday Service
Feb 17/6 p.m.	Genesis Circle meeting
Feb 20/7 a.m.	UMM Meeting & Breakfast
Feb 21/6 p.m.	Family Night Dinner/"Sweetheart Dinner"
Feb 23/6:30 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting
Feb 23	Heritage "U"
Feb 28/12 p.m.	Agape Circle meeting

<u>General Fund</u>		
January Offerings		\$21,000.00 (est)
Spending Rate		<u>-22,800.00</u>
	Balance	-1,800.00
We met 49% of our Apportionments for 2009		

## February Birthdays

3	Melissa Seymour	13	Angel Barnes
5	Matthew Trent	19	John Thomas Goodman
6	Sheila Cruso	25	Jessie Clive Fields
	Scott Fetters	27	Lynda Johnson
8	Jesse Parker		Emilee Ramsey
11	Joe Tucker	28	James Desporte



## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS con't:

**BIBLE STUDY:** A new Efird Bible Study titled "From Genesis to Revelation: A Comprehensive Overview of the Bible" is soon to begin. Sessions will be held on Thursday evenings. Participant workbooks cost \$12. Please register with our church office or Sheila Gillies at 861-6039.



**ALL ABOARD:** A 7 day exotic western Caribbean cruise. The boat will be departing on November 28, 2010 until December 5, 2010 from New Orleans, Louisiana aboard the Norwegian Spirit. Ports of call are: Costa Maya, Mexico, Santo Tomas De Castilla, Guatemala, Belize and Cozumel, Mexico. For additional information, please contact Margaret Roberts at 392-2102.



**FOOD PANTRY:** The first Sunday is Communion Sunday. Don't forget to bring your donations for the food pantry. Items needed are: rice, dried beans, oatmeal, canned vegetables and potted meats, peanut butter and jelly. The need is great! Last month (January) Heritage handed out 77 bags of food. The donations are greatly appreciated.



### **UMM News**

**UMM BREAKFAST:** All are invited to attend the UMM Breakfast Saturday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup>, at 7 a.m. Good food, good fellowship, short meeting. Join us.



### **UMW News**

#### **CIRCLE MEETINGS:**

- Shalom Circle Monday, Feb 8<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.
- Morning Glories Circle Tuesday, Feb 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.
- Genesis Circle Wednesday, Feb 17<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.
- Agape Circle Sunday, Feb 28<sup>th</sup> at 12 p.m.

**SWEETHEART DINNER:** The Annual Sweetheart Dinner will be held on Sunday, Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> at 6 p.m. This will be a covered dish dinner and Heritage Sweethearts will be nominated and honored. We invite and encourage everyone to join us for an evening of great food, fellowship and entertainment.



**UMW OFFICER TRAINING:** There will be UMW Officer Training on February 20<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. at the Wesley Foundation, "The Barn", in Perkinston, MS. All unit and circle officers are invited to attend. If you have questions, please contact Sheila Cruso.

## *Youth Schedule for February*

Every Sunday 3-3:55 p.m.	Youth Choir
Every Sunday 4-6 p.m.	UMYF
Every Wednesday 7-8:30 p.m.	Bible Study
(Unless otherwise stated)	

Feb 6	Happy Birthday, Matthew Trent & Sierra Frazier
Feb 7	Children's Church by Youth
Feb 7	Souper Bowl of Caring Collection
Feb 7/6 p.m.	Super Bowl Party at Sara Lerch's
Feb 10/6 p.m.	Youth Administrative Council (YAC)
Feb 10	NO Bible Study
Feb 13-17	Disney Retreat Odyssey
Feb 14	Valentine's Day
Feb 14	NO Choir or UMYF
Feb 15	President's Day
Feb 15-16	School Out D'Iberville
Feb 15-17	School Out St. Martin & Biloxi
Feb 16	Mardi Gras Day
Feb 17	Ash Wednesday
Feb 17	NO Bible Study
Feb 19-21	Happening #60 at Galloway UMC Jackson
Feb 19-21	Jr Hi Spiritual Life Retreat at Camp Wesley Pines
Feb 20	Silver Spatula Dinner
Feb 20/4 p.m.	Service Project – Set-up, serve, & clean-up for Sampling Supper
Feb 21	NO Choir or UMYF
Feb 23/6:30 p.m.	Finance Committee Meeting – Tyler Sanders, Sara Lerch, & Nicole Smith youth reps
Feb 28	Registration due for Jr Hi YIM Summer Mission Trip & for Palmer Creek Spring Retreat

### **YOUTH NEWS:**

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING:** More than 20 years ago, the Souper Bowl of Caring began with a simple prayer from a single youth group. Since that day, more than \$60 million has been raised for local charities across the country. Be a part of this movement

## YOUTH NEWS Cont'd:

on Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> that is sharing God's love with those in need. Please give generously on Souper Bowl Sunday. Every dollar donated goes to Haiti Relief and every food item donated goes to the Food Pantry.

**SUPER BOWL SUNDAY GET-TOGETHER:** All youth are invited to a Super Bowl Get-Together at Sara Lerch's home on Sunday, Feb. 7<sup>th</sup> after UMYF. Bring something good to eat or a 2 liter of soda and join us for fellowship and to watch the Saints win Super Bowl XLIV!!! If you have questions, call Ms. Nancy at 424-0043.



**HAPPENING #60** will be held Feb 19-21 at Galloway UMC in Jackson, MS. This is a once in a lifetime experience for youth grades 10-12 (and sometimes adults). We are very excited that Corey Sims, Brittini Damrill, Lindsay Dunaway, and Ms. Nancy are serving on staff. The Happening experience is a powerful instrument of renewal in the church. Its aim is to concentrate closely on the person and teachings of Jesus Christ. The Happening hopes to give those that attend the desire to understand and serve the church. It also provides a means to continue the Christian formation which is just begun in the three day program. Please keep the retreat and all those participating in your prayers

**JUNIOR HIGH SPIRITUAL LIFE RETREAT:** Please keep those youth and adults attending in your prayers for safe travel and a spirit filled weekend.

**JUNIOR HIGH SUMMER MISSION TRIP:** The Junior High youth are attending Youth In Missions (YIM) at Lake Junaluska on July 4-8, 2010. Registration must be done now so we can be assured a reservation. Cost for the week is \$350 and includes lodging, all meals at Lake J, transportation, and rafting. Commitment forms have been distributed to all Junior High Youth including details for using stock funds and are due to Ms. Nancy on February 28. If you have questions, please call Ms. Nancy at 424-0043.



**ATTENTION ALL PARENTS AND YOUTH:** The 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Poplar Head UMYF Spring Retreat is scheduled for March 19-21. Cost is \$50. Youth can use stock funds if they have approved number of shares and 18 service projects completed. Registration forms must be completed and turned in no later than Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions, call Ms. Nancy at 424-0043.

**ATTENTION STOCKHOLDERS – SAVE THE DATE:** Annual Stockholder Appreciation Dinner is scheduled for Saturday, March 27, 2010.

## NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### **NOAH'S ARK CHILD CARE CENTER MARDI GRAS PARADE:**

Noah's Ark's Mardi Gras parade will be held on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. They would like for EVERYONE to come out and join in on the fun with the Noah's Ark children. They will be taking any and all bead and throw donations you would like to contribute. Come and cheer the children and make this a wonderful time for all.



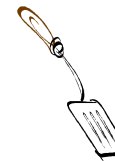
**NOAH'S ARK BOARD MEETING:** There will be a Noah's Ark Child Care Center Board Meeting on Monday, Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. Members are: Bonita Rooker, Bro. David Cumbest, Nancy Gentry, Sam Napier, Wendy Williams, Cathie Ownbey, Kimberly Echte and Bob Ellis.



**HERITAGE "U":** is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> time to be announced. February is Vision Awareness Month. Spokesperson Jane Seymour, along with Prevent Blindness America, the nation's oldest volunteer eye health and safety organization, support "Don't Lose Sight" – a movement to educate adults ages 40-69 about their risk for macular degeneration. Dr. Hogan of Hogan's Eye clinic will present on this topic. Make your plans now to attend.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING:** The next Finance Committee Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. (Note the date change due to Mardi Gras). Members are: Wil Cantrell, Bro. David Cumbest, Rick Murden, Virgil Yeager, Sam Napier, Judy Thomas, Linda Richmond, Lena Loeding, Angel Barnes, Bob Ellis, Ron Barnes, Byron Dennis, Mark Hepler, Richelle Weiland, Nancy Gentry, Tyler Sanders, Sara Lerch, and Nicole Smith.

**ATTENTION EVERYBODY:** It's that time again for Brother David to defend the coveted "Silver Spatula"!! The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Wesley Foundation Sampling Supper will be held on February 20, 2010 at Long Beach FUMC. Tickets will sell for \$10 (Adults) and \$5 (students of all ages); Age 4 & younger are FREE. Tickets will be available for purchase after February 2 from Nancy Gentry. The Praise Dancers will perform as part of the Youth & Children Talent Show!! And there will be a Silent Auction. If you have anything you would like to donate please contact Nancy. Anything can be auctioned off...baked goods, plants, artwork, handmade items, recycled items, etc.



**SEASHORE DISTRICT SPRING LAY SPEAKING SCHOOL:** will be held on Friday, Feb. 26 from 5 – 9 p.m. and continuing on Saturday, Feb. 27 from 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. at Seashore United Methodist Assembly. Registration forms must be turned in no later than Monday, Feb. 15. For more information please contact Sheila Gillies at 392-1688.