



March 1, 2011

Sharing the Fruit of the Spirit
The Grape Vine
Heritage Baptist Newsletter



This publication will keep you an informed member of Heritage Baptist.
hbctx.org



Dates to Remember:



Mar. 2: AWANA Theme: Crazy Shades Night 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Mar. 4-5: Ladies' Retreat - Friday 6:30 p.m. - Saturday 2:00 at
Connie Rutledge's home

Mar. 6: Women's Ministry Meeting 4:00 p.m.



Mar. 6: Men's Ministry Meeting 4:00 p.m.

Mar. 9: AWANA Theme: Missions Night 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Mar. 13: Musician Guest: Paul's Journey 10:45 a.m.

Mar. 16: No AWANA - Spring Break Week



Mar. 23: AWANA Theme: Guess Who I Am Night 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Mar. 24: Deacons' Meeting 7:00 p.m.

Mar. 30: AWANA Theme: Twins Night 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

AWANA Themes for March

March 2: Crazy Shades Night--Wear your craziest sunglasses to club.



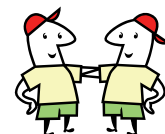
March 9: Missions Night--Bring an offering for missionaries and listen to a guest missionary during Council Time.



March 16: Spring Break--No AWANA tonight.

March 23: Guess Who Night--Guess who's who from baby pictures of our AWANA leaders. Whoever gets the most correct wins a prize.

March 30: Twins Night--Pick a partner and dress alike.





Music Notes



On Sunday morning, March 13, our music worship will be led by Paul's Journey, a gospel quartet based in Magnolia, Texas. I spoke with the group's founding member, Rod Treme, about their upcoming visit to Heritage. Rod is the only original member of the group from almost thirty-four years ago. They were known as the Relations Quartet until 2008, and now take their name from the traveling missionary lifestyle of the Apostle Paul.

And some days after Paul said unto Barnabas, Let us go again and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord, and see how they do. (Acts 15:36) And after he had spent some time there, he departed, and went over all the country of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples. (Acts 18:23)

Rod and I visited about how people and music have changed through the years, some for the positive and some for the negative. He remembers when people would gladly stand outside a crowded church building to hear the singing inside, but it seems that listeners pay much more attention to their own comfort and convenience these days. In decades past, a week-night service could draw a "standing-room only" response but now many Christians will only attend a Christian event on Sunday morning. (What do you think about that, reader? Are Christians shrinking in their appetite for worship and service?) One of the positive observations during our conversation was the greater focus on worship and feeling God's presence in the Southern Gospel music of this generation.

Paul's Journey is a group of four men who want to bless their audiences by bringing the message of salvation and meeting their needs by shining a light on Jesus. I hope you will plan to attend and bring someone with you who also needs the Light.

Brother Dennis Bell, Minister of Music



Ladies Retreat



March 4th and 5th

At the Home of Connie Rutledge

Arrive between 6:30 and 7:00 on Friday for the beginning of a wonderful enrichment on Loving the Christ Way. We will be staying thru the night and beginning bright and early on Saturday to finish around 2:00. If you can't spend the night...no problem, check with Connie on the schedule.

The lessons are from the Beth Moore ministries.

If you haven't signed up, please contact Connie Rutledge for more details.

Hope to see you there! Connie - 281-412-3054

Prayer Ministry

Perseverance in Our Trials

The book of James the brother of Jesus, not the Apostle James, is a letter to saved Jews who were scattered from Rome to Asia Minor after the persecution in Jerusalem, which included the stoning of Stephen. Remember, there were no church buildings, just small groups of people who had accepted Christ. In their hostile surroundings, they were tempted to let intellectual agreement pass for true faith.

In James 1:12, he says, "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him." (NIV)

Webster defines persevere: "To persist (endure) in any purpose of idea; to strive (continue firmly) in spite of difficulties or obstacles."

Matthew, Chapter 4, tells us of the temptation of Jesus by Satan. Not only did our Lord persevere, He triumphed over Satan because He knew the Father and kept in close contact with Him through prayer. Because of Jesus, we can take our temptations and trials to God, also. But, how often do we allow the hostile environment of the "secular world" to interfere with our talks and listening to God. This allows breaches in our perseverance and this causes sin to come into our lives.

Perseverance and prayer are not easy at certain times in our lives, however, they are absolutely necessary in our walk with the Lord if we want to keep peace and joy in our souls. Who doesn't want that indescribable feeling all the time??

I would like to welcome a new member to our Churchwide Prayer Ministry, Sister Edna Smith. It is thrilling to have her join us in praying on behalf of all prayer requests we receive from our church family.

Vivian Hays, Churchwide Prayer Ministry

Ministry Opportunities:



Men's Ministry: The Men's Ministry meets once a month, on the first Sunday of the month at 4:00 PM. There are no dues and no special requirements to be a member. If you are a man who is out of high school and a member of Heritage Baptist Church, you are automatically a member of the Men's Ministry. Take advantage of this membership and come to the meetings to find out about activities and service opportunities.



Women's Ministries: The HBC Women's Ministries meets the first Sunday of every month at 4:00 PM. If you are a woman who is out of high school and a member of Heritage Baptist Church, you are automatically a member of the Women's Ministries. Don't hesitate! Come to the meetings and learn about our fun activities as well as our service projects.



Youth Ministry: If you are a teen who only attends Sunday morning worship, you're missing out! The youth have their own Sunday School class as well as Sunday evening activities and Wednesday evening AWANA. Youth Minister, Jared Murphy, also plans other fun activities from time to time, so come and find out what you've been missing!





 Daylight Savings Time
March 13th
Spring 1 Hour Forward!



Second Sunday Night Singing

Come enjoy praising with the talent here at HBC.

If you are interested in participating in this celebration let Bro.

Dennis Bell know in advance so he can plan the order of service.

We have congregational sing-a-long, so pick your favorite hymn.

See you on the 13th of March at 7:00 pm !!



Join in To Sing His Praise !!!



Heritage Baptist Institute

Customer Service Please !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

It has happened to all of us. The convenient service and whirring of the latest gizmo suddenly stop. There is no need to worry, right? All I have to do is call 1-800- happiness and get friendly help. Then it begins. There is no friendly service, no happiness and above all no solution to your problem. Some folks think of heaven as a 1-800 provider. Imagine if contacting God was like operating man's 1-800 help lines. For example, you might find these extensions available:

Dial 1 ----- Robe Alterations (For the maturing Christian, of course)

Dial 2 ----- Holiness Refill (Just no time to read God's Word)

Dial 3 ----- Halo Maintenance (For those who think they do not need to read God's Word)

Dial 4 ----- Angelic Smackdown (For those who know more than God does)

Dial 5 ----- God's Grace (Every one benefits here)

All joking aside, men and women do not need a 1-800 system to speak to God. Consider some basic lessons from Daniel 10.

1. From the time Daniel prayed, God heard his prayer.
2. A messenger of God was dispatched with the appropriate answer.
3. An ongoing spiritual battle delayed Daniel receiving an answer.
4. Daniel did receive God's answer from God's messenger. He did not have to take matters into his own hands.
5. Daniel, like the Psalmists, simply waited patiently on the Lord.
6. Every Christian needs to learn and practice these valuable lessons.
7. Until God's answer comes let each of us continue to do what we know to do. Serve God (Actively).

Please continue to pray for HBI. We are halfway to our financial goal. Thanks for caring.
B.C.

Bro. Carl Fitzgerald, HBI President



Pastor's Corner

Bro. Brian Simmons, Associate Pastor HBC



Small groups are still going strong at Heritage Baptist Church, with seven groups meeting weekly. In late March, we will begin a series on spiritual gifts that has been put together by teachers in our church.

This eight-week-long series is called "Gifted to Serve" and highlights the spiritual gifts about which Paul writes in Romans 12:1-8. Verses 6-8 of this passage name these gifts: prophecy (proclaiming truth), ministry (serving), teaching, exhortation, giving, ruling and mercy."

These gifts are evidence of Holy Spirit's activity in your life. They are a self-check to see Holy Spirit working through you. God provides all these gifts in churches and no one gift is more important than another. All these gifts are necessary in order for a church to work the way it should. Some of us are blessed with the gift of ministry, while others are blessed with giving and so on. Some people display many more than one of these gifts.

We should not take pride in these from a human standpoint because Holy Spirit gives these gifts. We need to be available for God to work through us in these different ways.

Let me be clear on what I mean by spiritual gifts - we will not be discussing the gifts that were done away with upon completion of the Bible (speaking in tongues and prophecy regarding foretelling future events, for example). God no longer works through these methods, as Paul records in I Corinthians. The gifts we are focusing on are just works that are evident in the lives of Holy Spirit-filled people.

As in the past, this will be a DVD-led study. The teachers are men from church who are either on staff or teach Bible Study classes. Each teacher will cover one spiritual gift. The first lesson will be an introduction to the series, and then the next seven weeks will be focused on the individual gifts.

We have added two new teachers to the rotation - Bro. Brad Bonnette and Bro. Jay Porter - both of whom teach Sunday morning Bible study classes. The other five teachers are: senior pastor Dr. Charles Murphy, music minister Bro. Dennis Bell, myself - associate pastor of ministries Bro. Brian Simmons, youth minister Bro. Jared Murphy and Heritage Baptist Institute president Bro. Carl Fitzgerald.

If you have never been in a home group or have not been to yours in a while, I encourage you to join one (we have seven - stretching from Pearland to Katy!) for this study and see what you've been missing. Home groups are a wonderful time of fellowship and digging into God's Word.

Please send me an e-mail at bri3105@yahoo.com and I will give you more information about these groups and when and where they meet.