



# September 1, 2011

Sharing the Fruit of the Spirit

## The Grape Vine

Heritage Baptist Newsletter

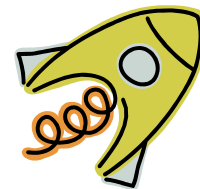


This publication will keep you an informed member of Heritage Baptist.

[hbctx.org](http://hbctx.org)

### Dates to Remember:

- Sept. 7: AWANA Blast Off 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. 3 yr old - 12th grade
- Sept. 11: Women's Ministry Meeting 4:00 p.m.
- Sept. 11: Men's Ministry Meeting 4:00 p.m.
- Sept. 14: AWANA 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
- Sept. 15: Deacon Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- Sept. 16: Family Movie Night at 6:30 p.m. - "Soul Surfer"
- Sept. 18: The Political Imperative - Speaker, Norm Mason 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.
- Sept. 21: AWANA 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.
- Sept. 28: AWANA 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

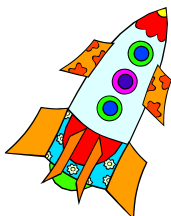


### AWANA Blast-Off

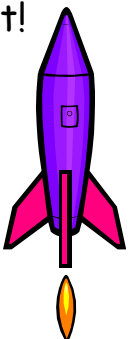
AWANA - There's Nothing Else Like It!



The AWANA program is unique. It spans the age groups from two years old through high school. All those little kids can look at those gigantic kids at flag ceremony and think, "We do the same stuff - cool!" The older ones can look at the younger ones and think, "I remember when I did that - cool!" Yes AWANA is cool, but mostly because it makes God's Word a priority in homes and young lives. This culture is becoming a desert in need of the Water of Life and God's Word has it! Isn't it the least that we adults can do, to give a cup of the water of life in His name? **AWANA clubs resume September 7, bring a kid.**



Dennis Bell, AWANA Comander





# HBI News

## Living in the Fast Lane

Our school break is over. It seems as though we just began our vacation and now it's back to school. Where has all the time gone? The more we long for a slower pace of living the faster time seems to slip away. New and innovative products and services promise to make life easier and give us more time. They don't. Instead, we are exposed to a never ending stream of changes. While we are fascinated by change, we never want to make change personal. We must change our attitude, and clear away the fog of deception surrounding our hurried lifestyles. The fall semester at HBI has begun. It is not too late to join us in Bible study each week. We look forward to your presence. Thanks for your faithful support. Until next time.... B.C.

Bro. Carl Fitzgerald, HBI President



### Prayer Ministry

"In Search of Peace"

Peace, what a beautiful word. It conjures up images of cool breezes on a hot day, a murmuring brook, soft-colored wild flowers by the roadside, a small bird singing on a tree branch or any number of things that seem so lost in today's noisy, tumultuous world. Quiet is usually spoken with peace; they seem to go hand in hand.

God spoke many times about these two words in the Bible, both Old and New Testaments. Job 3:26 says, "I have no peace, no quietness, I have no rest, only turmoil." Paul told the Thessalonians in his first letter, "Make your ambition to lead a quiet life," (4:11). In Psalms 122, David is praying for the peace of Jerusalem; that there be peace within the walls and for the sake of the brothers and sisters that, "there be peace within you," (v. 8). Just as there was chaos and turmoil in the Bible, so there is in our world today. Is it really worse today than it was then? Not to those living during that time! They faced a degenerate way of living and thinking, just as we do today with the secular masses. They lived in the shadow of war, crime, loose morals and Godless ideas just as we do today. They were killed, made fun of and demeaned just as we are now. As Jerusalem was their center for worshipping God and finding peace and quiet, so is our church to the believer today.

All over the world, however, we have the advantage of knowing the Lord is here. We have our Bible to teach us what a handful of men were given to spread throughout the world then. We have Holy Spirit who indwells us and offers to us, through salvation and faith in Jesus Christ, a Peace and Quiet like no other known to man. We can rejoice in God's protection and peace. In Psalms 4:1-4 David said, "Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; be merciful to me and hear my prayer." David knew that God would hear him when he called and would answer him. We, too, can be confident that God listens to our prayers for peace and quiet when we call on Him. Sometimes we think that God will not hear us when we have fallen short of His high standards for holy living, but if we have trusted Christ for salvation God has forgiven us and will listen to us. He hears and answers, although His answers may not be what we expect. Look for peace in the light of God's power instead of looking at God in the shadow of your problems, and Peace and Quiet will be yours.

Vivian Hays, Churchwide Prayer Ministry



September's here and cooler temperatures are on the horizon. Along with those long-awaited 95-degree days, Heritage Baptist Church's Home Groups will be starting back up the week of September 12.

We will be studying the book, *Respectable Sins*, by Jerry Bridges. This book begins by pointing out how few people mention the word "sin" anymore. He spends a few chapters describing sin and how our holy and righteous God hates it. After showing the reader that having Jesus Christ as personal Lord and Savior is the only difference between saved and lost sinners, Bridges then records how Christians like to rank sins.

While Christians easily and loudly point out sins such as murder and theft, they don't like to consider the "respectable sins" in their own lives. These sins include: ungodliness (of which we are guiltier than we realize), unthankfulness, pride, impatience, frustration, judgmentalism and jealousy, to name a few. We often see these topics as part of life, not sin.

Bridges writes in the opening session: "A pastor invited the men in his church to join him in a prayer meeting. Rather than praying about the spiritual needs of the church as he expected, all of the men without exception prayed about the sins of the culture, primarily abortion and homosexuality. Finally, the pastor, dismayed over the apparent self-righteousness of the men, closed the prayer meeting with the well-known prayer of the tax collector, 'God be merciful to me, a sinner.'"

As with the book, *Putting a Face on Grace*, which the home groups studied in 2009, individuals are encouraged to read *Respectable Sins* on their own during the week. The book contains 21 chapters, broken up into nine small group sessions, thus the most someone has to read during any given week is three chapters.

At the end of each session of the book, readers will have the opportunity to consider and answer several Personal Study questions. After these are five or six Small Group Discussion questions. The home groups will focus on these questions and anything else that might come up during discussion of the previous week's reading. This particular edition of the book is catered to small groups.

Heritage Baptist Institute used *Respectable Sins* as a chapel book and required all students to read it during the Spring 2011 semester. I got a lot from it personally, and have a different view of many of those "respectable sins" after reading the book.

I hope you join us for this new study. We have seven home groups that meet each week in areas from Pearland to Katy. If you would like more information about small groups, please let me know.



## HERITAGE HAPPENINGS



On August 22 the school bells rang and summer ended for all our school aged children and their parents. A mere 135 days later, we will be hearing the bells on Christmas Day. Our days will quickly fill with assorted activities and responsibilities. HBC is no different. We do not want you to miss out on a single activity here at HBC, so please add the following dates to your calendar. Do not forget to check the HBC calendar on our website ([hbctx.org](http://hbctx.org)) for updates.

**September 16 @ 6:30** --- Family Movie Night --- Hot dogs at 6:30, movie at 7:30. We will watch Soul Surfer. Another movie will be provided for the children.

**September 18 @ 7:00** --- Norm Mason during evening service. Social following service.

**October 1** --- Couples' Night Out (sponsored by Women's Ministry) Watch the bulletin for the hours.

**November 5** --- 50's Theme Fund Raiser --- sponsored by Women's Ministry

**November 20 @ 5:00** --- Church Wide Thanksgiving Dinner - potluck

**December 2 @ 7:00** --- Ladies' Christmas Party --- at the church

**December 10** --- Progressive Dinner --- Adults only! Get your babysitter early.

**December 18 @ 5:00** --- Family Christmas Celebration --- soup, sandwiches, cookies



Don't miss out. See you there!





## **AWANA is BACK... beginning**

**Wednesday, September 7**  
**7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.**

### ***What is AWANA?***

*It's where children gain a clear, consistent presentation of the gospel • Bible memory – Our Cornerstone • Circle games exclusive to AWANA • A fun approach to learning God's Word • Leadership training that is second to none • The church leaders of tomorrow trained to serve today • Evangelistic focus designed to reach unchurched youth and their families*

### ***What are the ages?***

***Puggles:*** 2 year olds

***Cubbies:*** 3, 4 & 5 year olds

***Sparks:*** Kindergarten – 2nd Grade

***T&T Boys and Girls:*** 3rd – 6th Grade • ***TREK:*** 7th – 8th

***Journey:*** 9th – 12th (See reverse side for more details)

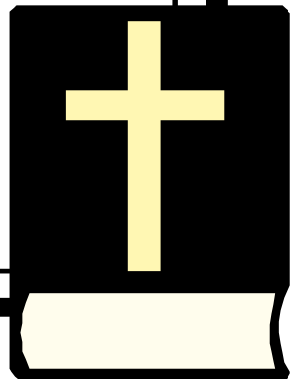
### ***Who is needed? Interested in SERVING?***

*Please see **Dennis Bell, Commander**, and find out where you can be used in this wonderful church outreach!*

*We also need SPONSORS for handbooks and uniforms, costs for AWANA theme nights plus*

*donations to the AWANA Store –*

*please designate your offering to  
"AWANA Love Offering"*





In **Puggles**, children age 2, discover basic Bible principles, and parents get equipped to teach the same lessons at home throughout the week. The success of Puggles reminds us that this is the ideal age to begin instilling respect for God, His awesomeness, authority and creation!

*Lindsey Deramo, Director*



**Cubbies** celebrates the spiritual potential of preschoolers by helping them develop respect for God, His Son and His Word. Kids have a fun, friendly place to learn about God's greatness with exciting games, basic Bible memory and curriculum that encourages parental involvement in children's learning. For Pre-kindergarten children, ages 3–5.

*Mary Bell, Director*



**Sparks** club opens up a rich world of Bible truths for curious kindergarten, first and second graders. In three years, Sparks learn about the Bible from cover to cover through memory verses and exciting biographies.

*Donna Bonnette, Director*



**Truth & Training** teaches kids the truth of God's Word and trains them to follow God and live lives of grace. For 3rd – 6th graders.

*Lavena Deramo, GIRLS Director*  
*Dennis Bell, BOYS Director*



**Trek** is a club with the same great AWANA vision but in a more relaxed framework suited to 7–8th grade students. It's a great place to grow as a disciple of the Lord.

*Donna Wright, Director*



Our high-school program, **Journey**, features an energetic look, enhanced content, life application and an emphasis on Scripture memory.

*Michelle Mondragon, Director*