

February News

A NOTE FROM THE PASTOR



We enter 2014 with high hopes, and confidence in the Lord's power to change lives and build His Church. We have had newcomers every Sunday since the first of the year. In the Wednesday night adult Bible study group, we are focusing during Epiphany on the idea of WELCOME. From Genesis to Revelation, God shows us that he desires to enlarge the number of those who know him, love him, serve him, and find his grace empowering their lives. We want to learn how to welcome more kinds of people, and to welcome people by families and groups, not just one-by-one. If you are already an active member of our church, think about how you can help with welcoming someone new in the next few weeks. If you haven't been with us for any services or activities recently, give us a try, and see if we can help you feel at home!

Speaking of welcome, on the first Sunday of 2014, after four weeks of classes and personal interviews, we welcomed four new people into full membership. Some have been here a long time, but now they are making it official: **Laura Bosse, Cullen Eldridge, Joseph Erskine, and Alexis Sandlin.**

The final five weeks of 2013 were a difficult time for a number of our families, and for the church as a whole, with the death of two of our members, Oliver Sweet and Orpha Davis, as well as Deborah Eyster's son and Duana Newcomb's mother. The church has shown love to these families in many ways during a difficult time, and the coming weeks offer more opportunities to help bring some brightness and lift some of the burdens.

I appreciate your prayers as we work together to see this church make a deeper impact on our community this year--with more ministry options, better facilities, and the welcoming that gets warmer every week!

In the Love of Christ,
Pastor Dwight T Gregory

Kid's CORNER

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. ~ Galatians 5:22-23.

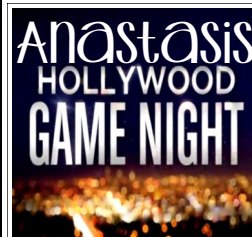
For the months of January and February we will learn about the character trait of joy, not just enjoying joyful people but practicing being joyful, too! Come join us as we sing, play games, enjoy snacks and learn about Jesus and how to be joyful!

For more information contact
Anita Baird at 659.3322.



TRUSTEES MEETING

On Monday, February 3rd at 7PM the Board of Trustees will meet for the first time in 2014. If you have questions regarding property maintenance issues contact Ron Simon at 202.9679. The Trustees Board consists of **Ron Simon, Nina Gregory, Mike Biddie, Divine Atakli, Stephen Newnam, Cullen Eldridge.**



Have you seen the new hit game show HOLLYWOOD Game Night? Well we are having a HOLLYWOOD Game Night of our own Saturday, February 16 @ 6PM in the Fellowship hall.

For more info, contact Pastor Jeremy 821.8575.



There are only two more weeks of Kidmo February 9 and 16. We are having a good time learning about prayer.

Kidmo and Children's Church are for ages 4 years old to 5th grade.



Children's Church will begin on Feb. 23. This is similar to the adult service and is geared towards kids.

CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE

A Candlelight Memorial Service will be held on Saturday, February 22nd at 11AM. This is a time in which we remember and celebrate the lives of our loved ones who passed away during the previous calendar year. If you lost a loved one in 2013, we would like to honor him or her. Please RSVP and send a photograph with the name of your loved one to the church office Attention: Pastor Paula or email her at pastor.paulai@yahoo.com by Wednesday, February 12th. There will be a reception following the ceremony. You may RSVP to Pastor Pete Miller 570.2322 or Pastor Paula Farley 618.9595.



CHURCH NEWS



A new calendar year has begun and our Community Life Groups are underway. Presently, each of our groups has either met once or has scheduled their second meeting for 2014.

If you are currently a part of our CLG Ministry then you know about its potential for fellowship, community building and spiritual growth. If you have not yet joined one or are considering joining a group, now is the time. There are 7 groups meeting around the Metro and certainly one for you to take part in.

For more information contact Pastor Jeremy @ 821.8575.

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Come one, come all and join us for a (Pre-Groundhog Day) Punxsutawney Phil Pancake Breakfast on Saturday, Feb 1st at 8:00am. The cost is \$5.00 per adult and \$3.00 per child (10yrs and under). This is a fundraiser for our Mission Project both local and foreign **sponsored by "Seasons" Women's Ministries**. For more information contact Lori Schroyer @361.0734.

BECKY BAER'S MISSIONS REPORT

What a joy and blessing to serve the Mexican people on my recent mission trip. The team, including three Mexican doctors, conducted two medical clinics, delivered supplies to a local nursing home, and distributed toys, food, clothes, and hygiene items in the Reynosa, Rio Bravo, and Nuevo Progreso areas. Continued construction work was accomplished at the clinic in Reynosa. We also hosted a cook-out for the clinic neighborhood. No violence was noted in any of the areas in which we worked. God really blessed us and the trip. I appreciate the continued support and prayers of the church. Without people who give so generously, we would not be able to accomplish what we do. One of my favorite activities is distributing costume jewelry, which you have provided, to the nursing home residents. The next trip is scheduled for July 2014. Please continue to collect sample size toiletry items and costume jewelry for us to take. Information concerning the activities of People Caring for People can be found on the following web site: peoplecaringforpeople.org.

Mid America Conference Women's Retreat

On May 2-4, 2014, at Fin and Feather Resort. Hope all ladies will plan to attend. \$120.00 covers six meals and two nights lodging. Dynamic Speaker, Sabra Dyas. You won't want to miss it. All details and registration form are in our Brochure. If you have not received a form see Lori Schroyer or Tamara Bingham.

Youth events

ALL ARE INVITED

If you would like to attend Winter Jam, February 1st contact Sarah Baird @ 640.8228.



SUPER BOWL PARTY

TODAY, YOUTH WILL MEET AT THE CHURCH AT 4:30 TO HEAD TO THE BAIRD HOUSE IN ARCADIA TO WATCH THE SEAHAWKS VS. BRONCOS. PLEASE BRING A SNACK TO SHARE. FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT SARAH BAIRD.

Along with high school students going to FMYC this summer, the middle school students will be attending Durley Young Teen Camp in Greenville, Illinois. Young Teen Camp is a week for middle schoolers from across the Midwest to come together for fun activities, late night games, making new friends and an opportunity to encounter the living God and learn what it means to truly LIVE! We are attending this camp along with the middle school students from the McPherson Free Methodist Church June 16-20. If you are interested in attending please let Sarah Baird know and she will get you more information.

