

Notes

“Be Strong and Courageous in 2009”

Vol. 19 No. 51– December 23, 2009

FROM TIM...

2 HOLIDAY WEEKS, AND THEN WE START ALL OVER AGAIN – Only 1 Lord’s Day remaining in what has been another good year for our church family. I hope you will truly enjoy your Christmas and New Year’s holidays in the next two weeks. These weeks can be hectic in their own way, but let’s make time to refresh ourselves spiritually, and as we all settle in to the new year, let’s be ready to work even harder for the kingdom of God in 2010.

SEEKING AND REJOICING IN JESUS – The story of Christ’s birth is sometimes stretched further than it was meant to be – especially this time of year – with some turning the story into either a mandatory religious holiday or a materialism-driven buying season. But as we studied Sunday morning, the fact remains that God had a purpose in giving us some wonderful stories about the arrival of Jesus on earth. Let us be seekers of Jesus, as were so many in the Bible stories, from the shepherds to the people in the temple to the magi. And when we find Jesus, let us follow their example in rejoicing; rejoicing in the difference He makes in our lives and in our eternities. I hope we never the lose the joy in seeing Jesus come to earth for us; let’s embrace that blessing this holiday season, just as we should embrace it every day of our lives.

LOOKING OUT FOR EACH OTHER – As a family of faith, I hope we always make time to check on each other and encourage each other. Have you noticed someone missing services? Call and see if everything is OK, letting them know we’ve missed them. Do you know of someone struggling with a problem of any kind? Send them a card, pray for them, check in to see what you can do to help out. Do you see a fellow Christian not as involved as they could be? Make the effort to invite them to your Bible class or a fellowship activity where relationships can be strengthened. Let’s never get too busy to encourage each other – that’s what the Christian family is for!

FINISHING UP OUR 2009 THEME - Throughout this year, our theme has come from God’s instructions to Joshua in Joshua chapter 1: “Be Strong and Courageous” . This coming Sunday morning, we will put the final ribbon on this theme, exploring its importance for us one more time. I pray that it will be an encouraging study for all of us.

*Have a great Christmas, and I look forward to seeing you Sunday!
Let’s come ready to worship, ready to greet our visitors,
ready to encourage someone else, ready to grow in our faith.*



6565 Dawnhill Rd
Bartlett, TN 38135
388-5071

WELCOME NEW MEMBER!

Hugh Roberts

The elders recently met with Hugh Roberts and he expressed his desire to worship and work with us at Great Oaks. We have several members who count Hugh as a long time friend and brother in Christ. His wife’s name is Betty and they have three grown children, Susan, Becky and Roy. At this time Betty’s health does not permit her to attend worship services. Hugh taught mathematics at Harding Academy-Memphis and is now retired. We are thankful that he has chosen Great Oaks as his church family!

Sick/Prayer Updates

Please be sure to pick up a gold copy of the prayer/sick list from the focus table and remember everyone in your thoughts, cards, and prayers. These are updates since the last prayer/sick list was published Sunday.

- **Carolyn Barnett** had her 3rd chemo Dec. 17.
- **Larry Dallas** is undergoing daily rehab. Cards are encouraged to help uplift him.
- **Ken Dean** is awaiting results back from his doctor.
- **Alaina Hubbard**, 2 month old daughter of Nathan and Kristin, has been diagnosed with RSV.
- **Donna Parrish** will have a couple more tests in December before her surgery is scheduled.
- **Jeanette Weaver** has bacteria in the lining of her stomach. She has found a lump in her breast and will have a biopsy on December 28th. In addition to these issues, she was also diagnosed with neuropathy in her feet.
- **Bobby Alston**, father of Brittany, is in St. Francis/Park Ave. with pneumonia and H1N1.
- **Helen Morris**, grandmother of Corinna Wyatt, has terminal cancer and the family is with her.

Please remember these families in your daily prayers.

Sympathy is extended to the family of

Rob and Linda Crossett in the sudden death of her father, **M. J. Reaves**, Dec.18. He was 86 yrs old. Arrangements are incomplete at this time. **Joe Williams**, member at Quail Ridge, who died Dec. 20. The funeral is at 2 PM Dec. 23 at Family Funeral Home on Summer.

**You are Invited to the Wedding of
Kensey Lynne Harris**

And

Jared Alan Hall

January 1st, 2010

Great Oaks church of Christ

Seven o'clock in the evening

Please RSVP if you plan to attend

BIBLE GUIDES ARE AVAILABLE

There are new guides on the foyer tables to help you read the Old Testament, New Testament or the entire Bible. Please pick one up and challenge yourself in the new year.

There are no FOCUS meetings scheduled until some time in January, 2010.

Visitor lists and a prayer/sick list is placed on the FOCUS table each Sunday. Please pick one up and let someone know you are remembering them with a card, visit, or call. New focus groups will begin in January.

Jan 1	Harris/Hall Wedding
Jan 3	Sr. Devo
Jan 9	Shower for Katherine Champion
Jan 10	Parent Potluck
Jan 10	Jr. Devo
Jan 11	Elders, Deacons, Preachers Mtg.
Jan 15-17	E.U. (9-12th graders)
Jan 17	Kids Devo
Jan. 19	Ladies Planning Meeting
Jan. 31	Worship/Fellowship/Worship

All Ladies of the congregation
are invited to a

Baby Shower Brunch for Katherine Champion

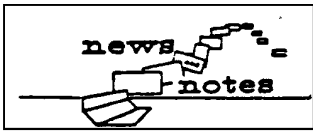
at home of Roberta Pledge
Saturday, January 9th at 10:00 a.m.
More information to follow

THE 3RD ANNUAL SOMA FUNDRAISING DINNER

February 6th, 2010 at 6:00 PM

hosted by the Bartlett Woods Church of Christ.

Tickets for this event can be purchased from Kenny Harris or by calling the Christian Student Center at 901-452-1717. Tickets are \$35 for adults, \$20 for students, and \$10 for children twelve and under. Please join us this year as we update you on the ministry and give two awards: The Ann King Volunteer of the Year Award in honor of Ann King, who gave many years of service to the Christian Student Center and The Soma Student Leadership Award that recognizes a current student who is actively living out Soma's mission.



*From the desk of
Robert L. Brown...*


We are down to our last Sunday in 2009. What a wonderful year it has been with the baptisms and the new members we have gained this year. Our mission work has been expanded. Our contributions have held up despite the poor economy and the loss of jobs by some. Peggy & I are thankful for another year to be with this congregation. We look forward to great things being done for the cause of Christ in 2010. We send our best wishes for a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all of our members and our mission efforts around the world. It is our prayer that we will continue to be faithful to the Bible and work hard to lead others to Christ. Let us continue to be aware of the needs of others, especially our shut-ins. We pray that God will bless our country with the desire to return to old paths of honoring God. We do not have a perfect nation, but it is a wonderful place to live.

Last Sunday was a good day for us even though we had several of our families out of town. We had several visitors and are grateful for that. It was good to see some of our college students back home for the holidays. We know they will enjoy a break from school and to be with the family. **Tim Alsup** had a good lesson about those who searched for and found Jesus. I hope each of us will keep Jesus foremost in our lives. At the morning service **Hugh Roberts** was introduced as a new member. His wife, Betty, is not in good health and cannot attend with him. Make a special point to meet and welcome him to our congregation. I had the opportunity to speak for the evening service. **Mike McBride** did a good job in leading the singing.

Our congregation has made an effort to make this a happier holiday season for some of our members and some other folks. We are thankful that we are able to reach out to others with an act of kindness and appreciation to them. We hope this will brighten their day and strengthen their commitment to the work of the Lord. Also, our special thanks go to those who brought gifts for the residents of Mid-South Rehab & Health Care home. Some of these folks do not get many gifts, so the ones that were given from Great Oaks were really appreciated. ☺

Youth News

- Dec 27-30 **OSG 6-12 grade** The bus will leave the building at 11:40 AM this Sunday & return Wed. at 2 PM. Parents are asked to be sure that the kids eat before they arrive. Fast food is suggested due to time limitations. You must have all of the following completed - OSG form, Great Oaks medical release, and \$50. The list of what to take is on the bottom of the OSG form.
- Jan 2 **Bible Bowl Cookout**
- Jan 3 **Pearls** Classes 11:30-1 PM lunch provided
- Jan 10 **Parent Potluck** after AM
- Jan. 15-17 **E.U. 9-12th grade \$50** signup on youth table



Thank you everyone who attended the baby shower and for your support. I love all the gifts, and appreciate each one, because I didn't have that much for the baby. Special thanks to Mrs. Patty Jackson for all her hard work in hosting the baby shower and making this all possible. I really appreciate it! I love you all! Thank you so much! Love always, **Toni Dismuke**

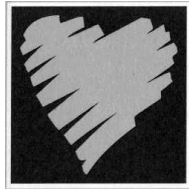
January Birthdays

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 Kalena Baskin 2 Teresa Waller 3 Logan Harrah
Ron Wolfe 5 Angie Brown
Mary Nell Wimbs 7 Hunter Campbell
Larry Dallas 9 Lois Groome
Paula Fuller
Mark Noble 11 Amy Taylor 12 Cindy Campbell
Gary Milam | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 13 Kim Andrews
Gary Green
Wesley Milligan 14 Lois Ballew 15 Codi Kiihnl
Violet Mathews 16 Lacey Knox
Lindsey Knox 17 Sherry Hulen 18 Cindy Marlar 21 Houston Brown
Davis Shumaker 24 John Carey
Wanda Davis | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Elizabeth Scott
Madelyn McDaniel 25 Sherry Thorpe
Taylor Montgomery 26 Mary Kate Higgins 28 Billy Ringold 29 Danielle Ringold 30 Denise Campbell 31 Lois Adams |
|---|--|--|



& Anniversaries

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Johnny & Donnita Craft 3 James & Charlene Parsons 8 Ken & Anna McCorkle 14 Chuck & Carolyn Barnett
Randy & Carol Anderson 16 Gary & Pam Green | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 17 Ken & Ruby Dean 25 Guy & Lavoe Harber
Montreal & Angela Douglas 31 Jeff & Karen Baskin
John & Brenda Beville |
|---|---|



NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U. S. POSTAGE PAID
MEMPHIS, TN
PERMIT NO. 02725

3355 Brunswick Road
 Memphis, TN 38133-4121

SCHEDULE:

Sunday Bible Study 9AM
 Sunday Worship 10AM & 5 PM
 Wednesday Bible Study 7PM

PHONE: (901) 372-4449 FAX: 377-3039

INFO-LINE: (901) 392-0008

MINISTERS/CELL NUMBERS:

Pulpit - Tim Alsup 201-1341
Involvement - Les Bonnett 592-7097
Associate - Robert Brown 619-4469
Youth - Ben McAnally 652-1461

ELDERS: Robert Brown, Kenny Harris,
 Larry Jackson, Lynn Parrish, Mark Pledge

SECRETARIES:

Brenda Amon and Kelly Ward

WEBSITE: www.greatoaks.org

WORKS SUPPORTED:

- ♥ Voice of Truth International
- ♥ Tennessee Children's Home
- ♥ Potter Children's Home
- ♥ Memphis School of Preaching
- ♥ Focus Press/Brad Harrub/Nashville
- ♥ Church in Mezhevaya, Ukraine
- ♥ Church in Zugress, Ukraine
- ♥ Church in Kraz, Ukraine
- ♥ Church in Leguan, Guyana, S.A.
- ♥ Church in Zimbabwe/Noah Gonzo
- ♥ Church in Costa Rica/Joaquin Rojas
- ♥ Church in Cambodia/Andrew Hayes
- ♥ Church in Cusco, Peru/Gary Reaves
- ♥ Church in Brazil/Randy Short
- ♥ Operation Ukraine/Columbus, MS
- ♥ Christian Student Center/Memphis, TN

Dear Great Oaks church of Christ, Thank you so much for the visits, cards, calls, and kind words during my and my son's stay in the hospital. Words cannot express what it has meant to me. Thank you again. God Bless, **Stephanie Cox**

SERVING – December 27, 2009

Song Leaders: AM: Robert Brown PM: Don Hutson
Communion Devotional: André Miller
Prayers: AM Opening: Joseph Keene AM Closing: Steve Grinder
 PM Opening: Bill Petty PM Closing: Joe Gillentine
Scripture Reading AM: Carter Milam PM: Randy Anderson

Nursery Attendants

Babies AM Carolyn Barnett/Dee Ballantine PM Jennie Milligan/Carol Smith
Toddlers AM Carolyn & Kaitlyn Barnett PM Wendy Harrah/Allie Craft

OTHERS TO SERVE MONTH OF DECEMBER

Announcements: Lynn Parrish (Kenny Harris back-up)
Lord's Supper: Don Adams*, Rick Arnett, John Carey, Bryan Gore,
 Nick Jameson*, Kyle Phillips, Joe Gillentine, Mitch Taylor
Ushers: Cliff McKinney, Mike Milligan, Karry Dukes
Greeters: Mickey & Michele Barker-main, Lawrence & Maxine Sisk-main,
 Mike & Jennie Milligan-Ed./Gym, Darrell & Kay Janes - Brunswick,
 Karry Dukes, David Waycaster-back-up
Lock Building: Tom Ross
Sound System: Sun AM: Wesley Hubbard Sun PM/Wed: Peter Welch
Prepare Communion: Don Williams
Monthly Mission Coordinator - Arinne Alsup
Encourage Shut-Ins - Kathy Hubbard **Clean Baptistry Linens** - Lois Adams

YOUTH TO SERVE FOR DECEMBER

Attendance Card Collection

Youth Side	Center	Nursery Side	Back-Up
AM: Pearson Bonnett	Tylin Dismuke	James Carden	Jacob Harrah
PM: Bryan Scott	James Carden	Mason Mescher	Jacob Harrah

AM ONLY - Communion Cup Collection

Youth Section - Macie Mae McAnally	Back Section 1 - Pearson Bonnett
Nursery Section - DeAnna Harrah	Back Section 2 - Nicholas Bonnett
Center Section 1 - Emma Barker	Center Section 2 - Emma Barker

AM & Afternoon: Restock Pencils/Attendance Cards/Straighten Songbooks

Youth Side - Ivy Ward	Nursery Side - Jacob Harrah
Back Section 1 - Aiden Ward	Center Section 1 - Mary Kate Higgins
Back Section 2 - Aiden Ward	Center Section 2 - Mary Kate Higgins

For the Record

	Dec 20 Week	2009 Avg.	2009 Goal
Wed (Dec 16)	257	264	300
Bible Study	237	264	300
Sun AM	375	405	450
Sun PM	234	261	300
Contribution	\$12,773	\$12,959	\$13,000