

Family News



Several areas of ministry have scheduled *In His Steps* training sessions for January. For a list of training session dates and information, please see page 5.

Christmas at Frazer

Frazer celebrated the birth of Jesus with several events throughout the Christmas season. A sermon series about our longing for Christ helped prepare our hearts. The children's and youth choirs offered praise and worship through music, dance, reading and drama. The adult choir, music and drama departments presented the story of Christmas in a fresh, inviting way with "A Christmas Tale."

Several ministries sponsored their own Christmas events, with a focus on fellowship and serving others. The annual Angel Tree gift drive provided hundreds of local children with the hope of Christmas.

Hundreds of families worshipped at Frazer on Christmas Eve, with a traditional candlelight and communion service. For photos and stories of how the Frazer family celebrated the season, see pages eight and nine and the ministry pages.



PHOTO BY CHRIS THORNTON

The cast of "A Christmas Tale," along with the choir and orchestra, illustrated the true story of Christmas in a fresh, inviting way.



What if you discovered you only had one month to live? How would your life change? What can you learn about your best life now by considering how short this life truly is?

Join Frazer Sunday mornings in January as we explore how to live passionately, love completely, learn humbly and leave boldly through this powerful teaching series based on the book "One Month to Live" by Chris and Kerry Shook.

Personal Life Plan training sessions planned for this month

By Mac McLellan
News Staff Writer

It's a brand new year, and there is no better time to develop a personal plan for your spiritual growth. Remember that notebook you received in November during *In His Steps*? That is where it starts, but there is more to the Personal Life Plan (PLP) than just a notebook!

In January, Shane Segars will lead several one-hour training sessions held at Frazer's Atlanta Highway and Asbury campuses. These sessions will provide guidance on how to develop your own Personal Life Plan, based on Frazer's mission of Worship, Win, Disciple and Serve. PLP materials will be available at the training sessions.

One-hour training sessions will be held in the Fellowship Hall at the Atlanta Highway campus on Sunday, Jan. 18 and 25 at 9:30 and 11 a.m. Training will also be held at the Asbury campus Jan 11 at 9:30 and 11 a.m. Sunday School classes are encouraged to attend class together.

Plan to make 2009 a year of dynamic spiritual growth and attend one of these important training sessions. For more information, please call Diane Klaaren at 495-6332 or e-mail her at dianek@frazerumc.org.

Bible Across America tour stops at Frazer

By Amy Presley
News Editor

People walking through Frazer's Atrium Friday, Dec. 19 had the opportunity to make history by doing a simple, everyday task: writing. Bible Across America made a stop at Frazer as part of its five-month trek across the United States to collect handwritten verses of the Bible from more than 31,000 people. The verses will be compiled into a completely handwritten New International Version of the Bible, in honor of the 30th anniversary of the NIV.

"The Bible started as a handwritten document, traveling from community to community," said Mandy Jones, Bible Across America team member. "We feel like now we are doing a 21st century version of that by bringing the Word back to the people, one verse at a time."

Zondervan Bibles, the exclusive North American publisher of New International Version Bibles, created the Bible Across America project. The goal is to travel throughout the continental United States to collect the 31,173 handwritten verses of the Bible to be compiled into "America's Bible." According to Zondervan's Web site, the company believes that an entirely handwritten version of the NIV Bible, written by people from all parts of the United States "will help America rediscover the Bible in a fresh, new way." By the end of the 15,000-mile tour, scheduled to wrap up in February, the RV team will have stopped at churches, universities, landmarks and other locations in 90 cities and 44 states.

The RV was originally scheduled to arrive at Frazer around noon Dec. 19



PHOTO BY AMY PRESLEY

Allan Gulley and Joy Gulley each write a Bible verse as part of the Bible Across America project Dec. 19. The project is part of a five-month, nationwide tour to collect handwritten verses of the Bible for the 30th anniversary of the New International Version translation.

but some mechanical issues resulted in an early morning arrival. Many people walking through the Atrium that morning were not previously aware of the project but after spending a few minutes talking with Mandy, her husband Jon and the Frazer volunteers manning the Bible Across America booth, they were eager to take part.

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Teri Brown captured this great shot of the frozen water in Frazer's courtyard fountain last February.

January



Last January, Abbie Roach celebrated her third birthday by playing in the snow at her grandmother's house in Roanoke. Photo submitted by mom Emily.



Mark Martin submitted this photo of Journey Sunday School class members enjoying fun and fellowship during a ski trip to Gatlinburg, Tenn. last year.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	1 New Year's Day	2	3
Communion - 8, 9:30, 11 a.m. - Chapel Pathway to Membership New Member Orientation - 8 a.m. - 7205	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center Singles Small Groups - 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall lobby Grief Support Group - 5:30 p.m. - 3105 Baptism Orientation - 5:30 p.m. - 3106futura TNT - 6:55 p.m. - Fellowship Hall	Children's Worship Arts, Lifesavers - 6 p.m. - 6200s Adrenaline Jr. High Worship - 6 p.m. - CRAVE Room Elevate Sr. High Worship - 6:30 p.m. - East Sanctuary Orchestra & Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m. - Choir Room, Sanctuary	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center Dementia Daycare - 9:30 a.m. - 3101 Lupus Support Group - 6 p.m. - 3101 Celebrate Recovery - 6:30 p.m. - 7207 S.P.I.R.I.T. - 6 p.m. - Fellowship Hall	9	10
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Baptism Orientation - 8 a.m. - 3106 Personal Life Plan Training - 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. - Asbury campus UMW Annual Tea - 2 p.m. - Parlor Blood Drive - 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. - Fellowship Hall Board of Stewards - 6 p.m. - Fellowship Hall	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center	Noon Salad Luncheon - 12 p.m. - Fellowship Hall Grief Support Group - 5:30 p.m. - 3105 Women of Hope Breast Cancer Support Group - 5:30 p.m. - 8114 Singles Small Groups - 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall lobby MDA/ALS Support Group - 6: p.m. - 3101 Special Needs Support Group - 6:30 p.m. - 3104 TNT - 6:55 p.m. - Fellowship Hall	Children's Worship Arts, Lifesavers - 6 p.m. - 6200s Adrenaline Jr. High Worship - 6 p.m. - CRAVE Room Elevate Sr. High Worship - 6:30 p.m. - East Sanctuary Orchestra & Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m. - Choir Room, Sanctuary	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center Dementia Daycare - 9:30 a.m. - 3101 Friends - 11 a.m. - Alabama Post Adoption Connection - 5:30 p.m. - 8114 Stephen Minister Supervision Groups - 6 p.m. - 3105 Celebrate Recovery - 6:30 p.m. - 7207	16	17
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Personal Life Plan Training - 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. - Fellowship Hall	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center Singles Small Groups - 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall lobby Grief Support Group - 5:30 p.m. - 3105 Sjogren's Support Group - 6:30 p.m. - 3104 TNT - 6:55 p.m. - Fellowship Hall	Children's Worship Arts, Lifesavers - 6 p.m. - 6200s Adrenaline Jr. High Worship - 6 p.m. - CRAVE Room Elevate Sr. High Worship - 6:30 p.m. - East Sanctuary Orchestra & Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m. - Choir Room, Sanctuary	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center 4th Thursday - 9 a.m. - Dementia Daycare - 9:30 a.m. - 3101 Parkinson's Support Group - 6:30 p.m. - 3101 Celebrate Recovery - 6:30 p.m. - 7207	23	24
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Personal Life Plan Training - 9:30 a.m. & 11 a.m. - Fellowship Hall	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center Grief Support Group - 5:30 p.m. - 3105 Singles Small Groups - 5:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall lobby TNT - 6:55 p.m. - Fellowship Hall	Children's Worship Arts, Lifesavers - 6 p.m. - 6200s Adrenaline Jr. High Worship - 6 p.m. - CRAVE Room Elevate Sr. High Worship - 6:30 p.m. - East Sanctuary Orchestra & Choir Rehearsal - 7 p.m. - Choir Room, Sanctuary	Temple Builders - 8 a.m. - Activity Center Dementia Daycare - 9:30 a.m. - 3101 Celebrate Recovery - 6:30 p.m. - 7207	30	31
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

It's Monday, again



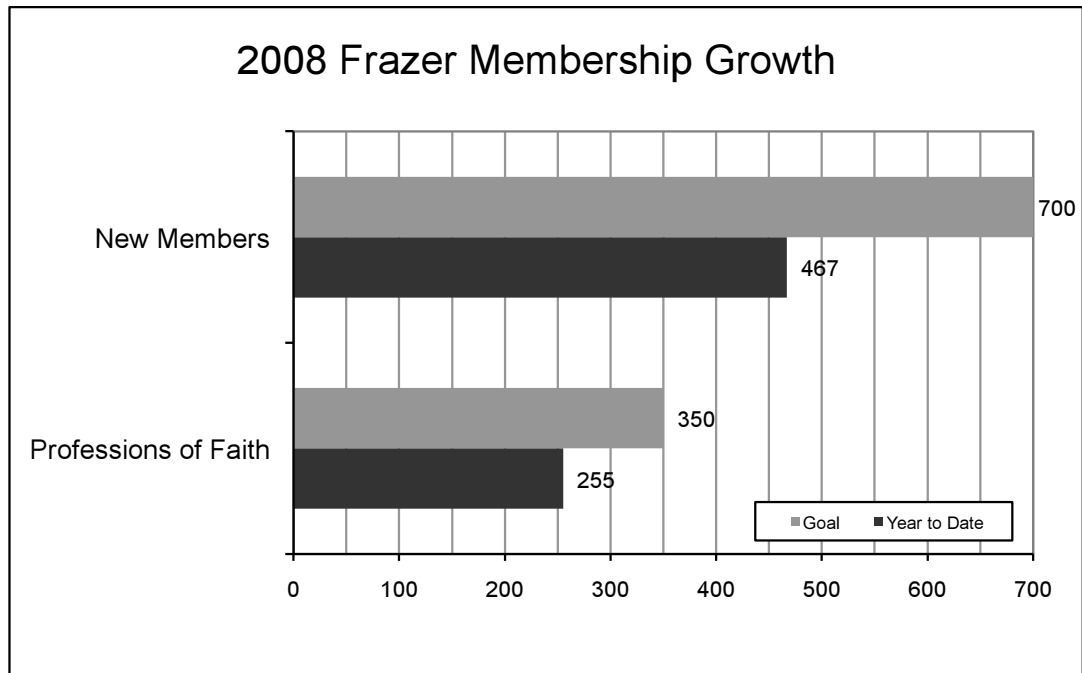
LIFE AT OUR HOUSE
DEBBIE SCHMIDT

It is Monday and I am overwhelmed again. How is it possible for one family to create so much dirty laundry? I could realistically wash five or six loads and still not finish. Did I mention that I need to get a basketball uniform washed and up to the school before the team leaves for the game? I promised my middle son Evan that I would remember to put his uniform in the dryer before school but I got distracted. Instead, I quizzed my youngest son Graham on his Spanish words because he has a test today. Therefore, Evan left for school without his uniform. The breakfast dishes are piled in the sink. I should have gotten them into the dishwasher but it was clean and needs to be unloaded first. The good news is that we had enough milk left for breakfast. I thought we'd even get to have orange juice but unfortunately someone had put an empty container back into the refrigerator. After the weekend we are usually out of everything eatable. If I don't get to the grocery store soon and restock the fridge, I will be in the doghouse! Speaking of the dog, he is due to go to the vet again. John likes to help me out by taking him, especially since I refuse to drive with that hairy creature in my car. Where do I start? Better yet, why do I have to start? I don't remember signing up for this!

Do you know what is so hard about life? It's so daily. I can work myself to death to get the laundry done but then my boys keep wearing clothes! I can fix a nice meal and within a few minutes it disappears. Usually in about an hour they are hungry once more. The next day the cycle starts all over again. Is my life unusual? Hardly. Most everyone has to do chores that they don't enjoy. Our "to do" list often includes dreaded tasks that simply must be done whether we want to do them or not. So what helps us do hard things? Accountability. I accomplish a number of tasks each week because my family holds me accountable. It matters that they have clothes to wear and food to eat. If it didn't matter, I would probably waste a lot of time.

In January, most of us like to set goals and resolutions for the coming year. Accountability is important if we want to be successful. I usually fail when I rely on my willpower. I need others to encourage me and to check up on my resolve, otherwise I get distracted by the business of everyday life. Proverbs 27:17 says, "As iron sharpens iron, so a friend sharpens a friend." This new year invite a friend to help you accomplish your 2009 goals. Together we can succeed! Did I mention that I have laundry to do? I'd better go now.

Debbie Schmidt is the wife of Frazer Teaching Pastor John Schmidt and the mother of three sons. She is the co-teacher of the new adult Sunday School class The Wanderers. She works in the Frazer bookstore, directs weddings and has a home-based invitation business.



Don't let busyness get in the way of enjoying God's creation



THE FAMILY COUNSELOR
DON HILL,
PH.D., LPT,
LMFT

QUESTION: I work with a very close friend who only talks about abstract intellectual issues and does not seem to enjoy music, food, or social gatherings. These things really cut him out from some of the real joys of living. Do you have some suggestions I can give him?

ANSWER: Your friend sounds like an extreme case because we all can add more enjoyment and pleasure to our lives. From your description, it seems to be that perhaps your friend has not really cultivated his senses. Too many people are out of touch with sensory delights, mainly because today's world is so packed with information that we are bombarded by visual and auditory cues. The barrage of sights, sounds and other sensory inputs can end up creating a kind of numbness in us.

Due to our very busy schedules and all of the stimuli that surrounds us, not many find that they can fully relax and thoroughly enjoy the beauty of a sunset or a starry sky, beautiful music, a wonderful meal, or the delightful aroma of a bouquet of flowers. Most of our pleasures, most of the stimuli that make life worth living, are derived from our five senses: what we see, hear, touch, smell and taste. From what you said, your friend seems to be missing these things.

The more we develop and attend to our senses, the greater the potential for enjoying life. Albert Einstein's approach to learning emphasized the integration of our senses. Some data even shows that sense-stimulating activities tend to expand or enrich certain nerve cells in the brain. There is a saying, "try to please the eyeballs." More than half of the body's sense receptors are clustered in the eyes. All of us should really make an effort to drink in the delights of God's creation: the sky, the trees, the flowers, bodies of water, or whatever else we enjoy looking at. God has made these for our enjoyment.

We can also use our senses for pleasant smells: the

aroma of an apple pie baking in the oven or the smell of fresh flowers, herbs and spices, peppermint, oranges and all kinds of wonderful scents.

Listening to music is another sensory enjoyment available to us. Though we all may prefer certain kinds of music, there is enough variety that we can find some that bring us joy and relaxation. Listening to music you really enjoy can soothe the frayed nerves we often develop due to our busy schedules.

The sense of touch also provides enjoyment. Hugging a loved one, petting an animal, relaxing in the shower, and touching different textures can bring about an appreciation we often take for granted but can really acquaint us to another part of our world.

And when it comes to the sense of taste, how many of us are so busy we gulp our food down quickly and don't take the time to savor a great taste?

Perhaps your friend is so involved in the busyness of life that he does not take the time to experience the sensory joys God has provided for us. They are there and we do not have to search diligently for them. There is a vast array of physical and mental health benefits from tuning into and really paying attention to your senses. God gave us our senses to be used in productive ways. Let's not take them for granted, but use them as His gift to us.

Dr. Don Hill, founder of Frazer's counseling ministry, has been a staff member for 21 years. He has a Ph.D in psychology and is a former college professor and dean. He is married with a son and daughter-in-law who are also Frazer members.

Everything old is new again



GINGER'S CORNER
GINGER KOERNER

After a few years of wear and tear, we replaced our bathroom sinks. The old ones showed they had been well used. In fact, one day I dropped something heavy in one of the two sinks we have in the hall bathroom. To my dismay there was a crack, and it couldn't be used until we could replace it. Company was coming and it was an eye-sore, so I placed a large fern in the sink and nobody knew it hid that nasty crack but me. That was the easiest plant to water I've ever had.

After a few months, our trusty plumber came and two beautiful, clean, white bowls were gleaming in that bathroom. Now the counter and sinks were too pretty to mess up with all the stuff that had been in there before, so I was careful to put everything away in its proper place, hard to do when you're in a hurry.

Then Janet and our grandchildren came for a visit. They weren't

there for a day when 4-year-old Joel came out of the bathroom and said, 'Gigi did you know that hot water comes out of the cold water faucet?' Both Janet and I ran in to check it, and sure enough, the plumber had connected it wrong. Within a few hours the plumber had taken care of the problem.

We face a new year and a new president. Everything is as new and pristine as those bathroom sinks. Yet we know that somewhere in the year we may be facing problems that we may not be able to fix with a beautiful fern that's easy to water. We may not be able to deal with those problems as speedily as the plumber fixed the hot and cold water taps. The diet we began New Year's Day is usually gone by Jan. 31. Our hopes of turning over a new leaf are usually behind us by Valentine's Day. Sometimes we try hard, but make the same mistakes over again.

We are human and prone to mistakes, and we are not the only ones

who do. Paul had issues also, and shares them in Romans 7:14-25. He talks about his good intentions are not necessarily what he does. Paul got annoyed with himself just as we do at times. He gives us hope in Romans 8 when he tells us God doesn't condemn us, and loves us anyway. Job 4:19 reminds us we are made of clay or dust. We can become as clean as my new sinks, thanks to the Grace of God. However, the diet and other changes of the New Year are still up to us.

Ginger Koerner volunteers in the Frazer kitchen and is a substitute Sunday School teacher. She has sung in the choir and directed children's choirs and drama. Ginger is married to Paul Koerner and her hobbies are quilting and reading.

february calendar

Submit your photo for consideration for the calendar page in the next edition of the *Frazer Family News*. E-mail your photos to ffn@frazerumc.org. The theme is "love". The deadline for the February edition is Jan. 16.

E-mail submissions for the **Frazer Family News** to ffn@frazerumc.org



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Continued from Page 1

Project gave people the opportunity to write God's Word in their own handwriting, as part of 30th anniversary of New International Version translation of the Bible

Butch McPherson, Frazer's director of outreach, said even with the short notice of the RV's early arrival, 146 people were able to participate in the event. One woman even drove all the way from Campbellton, Fla. to handwrite a verse.

"One lady, Margaret Bibby, came all the way from Florida to participate, and then turned around and drove back home," Butch said. "We are extremely thrilled with the response, especially for a Friday afternoon."

Anne Gulley said she wanted her children to take part in the historic event.

"We love God's Word and thought this was a great opportunity to write it in our own hand, to be preserved with verses written by people from all over the country," Anne said.

Sarah Bode, 16, said she was excited to be one of thousands of people across the United States who had the opportunity to handwrite a verse of the Bible.

"I think this is pretty cool that my handwriting will be in a book and it is cool to see all of the people's handwriting and know this was the effort of people all across the

nation," Sarah said.

Originally from Santa Rosa, Calif., Mandy and Jon have been traveling in the Bible Across America RV since Sept. 30. The couple became interested in the project after hearing about the opportunity from a friend who works for a subsidiary company of Zondervan. Jon said he and Mandy took a break from their full-time jobs back home to participate in the project. Mandy has worked as a youth ministry coordinator at a church in California and most recently served as manager with a Christian outdoor adventure youth camp. Jon is a firefighter, and a foot injury allowed them the opportunity to take on the Bible Across America adventure while his foot healed, he said. They began their journey at the Zondervan headquarters in Grand Rapids, Mich., and have since traveled the East Coast, Midwest and into the South. After leaving Montgomery, they were headed to New Orleans.

"The reason we initially wanted to do this was because we thought it would be fun and historic," Mandy said. "Now we're seeing how meaningful it has been to people to be able to write God's Word in their

own handwriting."

At each stop on the tour, Mandy and Jon set up a booth with three writing stations- one for each of three books of the Bible. Each participant chooses a book and receives the next verse from that book to write on two large sheets of Bible paper. Frazer's stop included verses from the books of 2 Kings, Matthew and Luke. After completing the verse, each person was given a certificate to commemorate the event. Two original copies of "America's Bible" will be compiled once all the verses are collected. One will be displayed in the Smithsonian Institution and a second will be auctioned by the International Bible Society to benefit the organization's Bible translation and distribution efforts, according to Zondervan's Web site. "America's Bible" will also be published for retail distribution, with an index listing every person who contributed a verse.

One of the most interesting aspects about the project was that many people seemed to receive a verse hand-picked especially for them by God, including one woman who had recently experienced the loss of her husband. Her verse was Matthew 5:4: "Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted."

"At least three people that I'm aware of received a verse that spoke directly to their heart for the stage of life they were in," Butch said.

The number of participants grew throughout the morning as people called their family and friends to become a part of history as well. Mark Martin, evangelism associate, said one family of five was able to write the entire passage of Luke 4:33-37, even though the family did not arrive together.

"The little boy came up first and



PHOTOS BY AMY PRESLEY



Jon Jones has been traveling throughout the U.S. with wife Mandy in the Bible Across America RV. He and Mandy, along with several Frazer volunteers, collected handwritten Bible verses from 146 people during the stop at Frazer.

asked what we were doing and he and his sister wrote their verses. Then the mom came by and she wrote one. Then they went and got the dad to come and write the next verse. They even had the toddler scribble the '37' and let the dad complete the verse. It was really special," Mark said.

Jonathan Lowe, 6, also encouraged his family to make a trip back to the church that morning so they could write a verse as well.

"I think it's a good idea. I got to write it in my own handwriting and I'm glad my whole family got to do it," he said.

His mom, Elizabeth, agreed.

"This is a once in a lifetime opportunity, to be a part of something like this is so special," she said. "We got to write God's Word."



Jonathan Lowe, 6, was one of many children who had the opportunity participate in the Bible Across America project with their families. "I'm glad my whole family got to do it," he said.

For more information about the Bible Across America project, go to www.bibleacrossamerica.com.



Bible Across America team member Mandy Jones watches as Frazer member Lana Williams writes a Bible verse at the special writing station set up in Frazer's Atrium Dec. 19.

Study seeks to equip Christians with a biblical worldview



By Mike Presley
News Staff Writer

In today's culture, the truth of who God is often gets lost in the clutter, say the makers of a new small-group study offered at Frazer this winter.

The study, called The Truth Project, aims to help Christians see through the cultural clutter and retain a biblical view of the world. The DVD-based seminar was created by Focus on the Family.

The study will be offered at Frazer from 6-7:45 p.m. Wednesdays, Jan. 7-April 1 in room 7203.

"The Truth Project helps rebuild foundations and develop a comprehensive biblical worldview," said Del Tackett, president of the Focus

on the Family Institute, who teaches the lessons on DVD. "One of the effects of a comprehensive and systematic biblical worldview is that you are not as easy to be fooled. You are able to fend off the illusions and lies of the world"

The study seeks to reintroduce believers to the purity and power of Christianity and focuses on three main concepts:

- Living from a Christian worldview means that what you do aligns with what is true, and the Scriptures are the ultimate authority on truth.

- God's truth lays a design for every area of our lives, whether for economics, history politics, family or church. God has given us a design governed by His nature that we are to follow. When we follow His design, we can discern what is good, right and holy. When we don't follow His design, suffering and immorality result.

- The transformation process occurs through the renewing of our minds. In the renewal process, we learn to discern good from evil.

"There is no cost for the class and no homework, just life-changing transformation," said Frazer member Doug Smith, who

will lead the study.

Member Dian Sims, who completed the Truth Project in 2007, said the study was, "the most enjoyable, enlightening and interesting class I have taken in a long time."

"It will open your eyes to the truth, better prepare you to live as a Christian and enable you to defend the truth," Dian said. "It is the truth that sets us free, so if we don't know the truth, we could be in bondage to a lie."

Member Keith Rudolph said The Truth Project helped him realize how God is short-changed in the daily lives of many Christians.

"I can promise you that you will not be the same after attending this course," Keith said. "I am talking about a radical change in worldview."

"Truly it is like having lived without ever wearing glasses before and having grown accustomed to seeing everything blurry, then being given a pair of glasses that corrects your vision to a perfect 20/20, allowing you to finally see things the way God intended them to be seen."

For more information about The Truth Project, visit www.truthproject.com.

Friendly Competition Blood Drive
Frazer vs. Auburn Methodist
Jan. 5 - 11

Support our friendly competition with Auburn Methodist and help us meet the critical blood supply needs in our community.

LifeSouth will be at Frazer Sunday, Jan. 11 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. You can also stop by the LifeSouth Donation Center 1601 Eastern Boulevard between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. now through Jan. 10.

Leaving your house in order a 'gift of love for the whole family'

As difficult as it may be to discuss what will happen after a spouse or parent dies, everyone should be prepared for that reality. Leaving instructions for your family after your death can be an invaluable gift to your loved ones during their time of need. Frazer's Charitable Trust offers a helpful booklet designed to help you prepare for the inevitable.

"Leaving Your House in Order" contains several worksheets and examples of the information your family may be asked for in the hours and days following your death. Financial information, insurance policies and other important data can be compiled and stored in a safe place, readily available when your family needs it. You can even leave instructions for your funeral service, so your loved ones will know have one less worry to take care of during the difficult and emotional time following death.

Frazer members Hank and Linda Schmitt recently completed the "Leaving Your House in Order" booklet after Hank received a terminal diagnosis. Here, they share their experience:

Hank: "This for every man and woman in the Frazer Family (and anywhere else). You are not '10-foot-tall and bullet-proof' and you are not promised tomorrow, as in 'I'll get to it tomorrow.'"

"I started running out of tomorrows Halloween night 2007 when I nearly died from congestive heart failure (CHF). It's not like I didn't know it was coming, after a lifetime of ignoring doctor's warnings about my weight and my smoking. I went through a heart attack and open heart surgery without addressing the fact that I was killing myself.

"I always said I'd deal with it tomorrow. As someone once

said to me, 'I'll straighten up my life when I start smelling fire and brimstone.'

"That happened Aug. 8, 2008, when my cardiologist said there was nothing more they could do, declared me totally disabled and called in Hospice of Montgomery."

Linda: "I love Hank, but you can't imagine the anger I felt toward him. He had been given warning after warning to lose weight, start walking, or doing something to make himself a little healthier. He wouldn't (or didn't) and that made me feel like he didn't care about our relationship, much less me. I am a fairly young person, I shouldn't be dealing with something like this, but here I am."

Hank: "Not too many days after my diagnosis, Linda brought home two small booklets from Frazer entitled 'Leaving Your House in Order.' She insisted I fill one out. I didn't put it off. I just did it. Linda now knows everything I know about our finances, obligations and who she can call on to fix things around the home after I'm gone. As part of doing this process, I realized people (especially men) store a huge amount of information in their heads. When we pass on, that information is lost, leaving the surviving spouse in a difficult situation.

"One part of the short pamphlet deals with leaving your wishes for a funeral. By completing that section, I have given my wife Linda a gift of love...not having to make decisions during the hours and days after I go to Heaven."

Linda: "If only you knew the tremendous amount of relief I feel having this done. As Hank just said, it is a give of love. I don't have to wrestle with trying to get a memorial service

together or think about who is going to do what. It's already there. This pamphlet is for the family, to let them know your wishes. We chose to give a copy to the pastors and musicians who will participate in the memorial service.

"The household part of this is also a great relief because again, it's all there—who fixes the car, where is the stickthing that turns off the water to the house, in case I need it, who do I contact regarding your life insurance? It's all there.

"We seem to have been focusing on the men getting this done, but ladies, we have to do this ourselves. If this is a gift of love from our husbands, don't you think we should reciprocate? This is a gift of love for the whole family.

Hank: "Four months have passed since I was pronounced terminally ill. I trust God for each day and moment and try to never say 'I'll do it tomorrow.' Please don't spend time and energy on regrets. Instead, enjoy the day which God has graciously set before you.

"If you smoke, or have issues with alcohol, drugs or food, please get help today, for your sake, for your spouse's sake and for the sake of the God who made you in his image. The person who told me that he'd straighten up when he smelled the brimstone was my father. He didn't and I grieve for him to this day that he didn't take the gift God offers to us all."

Pick up your copy of "Leaving Your House in Order" at the Welcome Desk in the Atrium anytime or at the information table set up in the Atrium Sunday, Jan. 25. For more information or to request an electronic copy, call Harold Faulkner at 272-8622

Toasty Toes Ministry collecting Socks for Seniors

Help warm the hearts and toes of seniors in Montgomery by donating a pair of new socks this month. Now through Feb. 8 drop off a new pair of Valentine-themed socks (pink, red, hearts, etc.) in the sock collection boxes in the Atrium. Socks will be distributed to men and women in Montgomery-area nursing homes and assisted living facilities Feb. 13 and 14. If you are interested in volunteering for this start-up ministry, please call Donna Burnett at 538-4798 or 277-9011 or e-mail her at donna_burnett@colonialbank.com.



In His Steps 2009 January Training Sessions

Dates, times and locations are subject to change. Please check with the area of ministry in which you signed up to volunteer for the most current training information.

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| <p>Sunday, Jan. 4
Acolyte Coordinator - 2 p.m. - Sanctuary
Confirmation Vol. - 4 p.m. - C.R.A.V.E.
Local Missions - 5 p.m. - C.R.A.V.E.</p> <p>Tuesday, Jan. 6
Threads of Love - 2 p.m. - 8114</p> <p>Wednesday, Jan. 7
Sewing Ministry - 7 p.m. - Sewing Room
Prison Ministry - 7 p.m. - 7206
Adult Choir - 7 p.m. - Choir Room
Hispanic Ministry - 7 p.m. - 3201</p> <p>Thursday, Jan. 8
Meals on Wheels - 3 p.m. - MACOA
S.P.I.R.I.T. Volunteer - 4 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
Alliance (College) Volunteer - 6 p.m. - C.R.A.V.E.
Social Events Volunteer - 6 p.m. - C.R.A.V.E.
Care/Study Package - 6 p.m. - C.R.A.V.E.
Clothes Closet - 6 p.m. - Comm. Ministries Lobby</p> <p>Sunday, Jan. 11
Worship Technical Team - 12 p.m. - 3101
Handicapable Ministry - 1 p.m. - 7206
Bereavement Ministry - 2 p.m. - 7208
United Methodist Women - 2 p.m. - Parlor
Nursery Coordinators, Caregivers - 2 p.m. - SURGE
Welcome Center Vol. - 2 p.m. - Welcome Center
Outside Greeter - 2:30 p.m. - 7201
Visitation Ministry - 2:30 p.m. - 7202
Neighborhood Welcome - 2:30 p.m. - 7202
Orientation Tours - 2:30 p.m. - Atrium
Concert Volunteer - 2:30 p.m. - 7209
Cherub Church, Teachers - 2:30 p.m. - Nursery
Library Assistant - 3 p.m. - Library
Visitation Ministry - 3 p.m. - 7206
Life Group Leader, Host Home - 4 p.m. - C.R.A.V.E.
Writer, Editor, Photographer - 4 p.m. - 3105
Conference/Retreats/Events - 4 p.m. - 3103
Dementia Daycare - 4 p.m. - 7208
Girls Ministry - 5 p.m. - C.R.A.V.E.
Asbury Campus Ministries - 5 p.m. - TBD</p> <p>Monday, Jan. 12
Wesley Gardens Vol. - 10 a.m. - Wesley Gardens
Homeless Shoebox Ministry - 6 p.m. - 8100</p> | <p>Hospitality - 6:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
Video Production - 6:30 p.m. - 3106</p> <p>Tuesday, Jan. 13
Noon Salad Luncheon - 10 a.m. - Fellowship Hall
Speeders Choir - 1:15 p.m. - Choir Room
8, 9:30, 11 a.m. Vol. - 11 a.m. or 6 p.m. - Chapel
Roll Up Your Sleeves - 6 p.m. - Comm. Ministry
Food Pantry - 6:30 p.m. - Comm. Ministry Lobby</p> <p>Wednesday, Jan. 14
Christian Job Exchange - 2 p.m. - Comm. Ministry
Sportsmen's Ministry - 6 p.m. - 7201
Orchestra - 7 p.m. - Sanctuary
Hispanic Ministry - 7 p.m. - 3201
Aqua Zone Check-in - 7:10 p.m. - SURGE</p> <p>Thursday, Jan. 15
Friends/4th Thursday - 10 a.m. - Fellowship Hall
Geek Squad - 6:30 p.m. - 3103</p> <p>Friday, Jan. 16
Bulletin Stuffers - 10 a.m. - 3103</p> <p>Saturday, Jan. 17
1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, Sunday - 8:30 a.m. - 7201</p> <p>Sunday, Jan. 18
Attendance Counter - 10:30 a.m. - Main Office
Children's Church/Wavemakers/Lifesavers
Teaching Training - 12 p.m. - Fellowship Hall
Worship Usher - 12 p.m. - Atrium, By the Sea
Chapel Communion, Support - 12 p.m. - Atrium
Sanctuary Care - 12 p.m. - Atrium, By the Sea
Wesley Hall Care - 12 p.m. - Wesley Hall
Worship Usher, Greeter, Hospitality, Set Design, Set Up, Breakdown - 12 p.m. - Wesley Hall
Altar Care - 12 p.m. - Atrium, By the Sea
Hedge (Boiler Room) - 1 p.m. - Cokesbury Room
Flower Arrange/Delivery - 1 p.m. - 7206
Youth Worship Arts - 2 p.m. - C.R.A.V.E.
Pre-Marital/Marriage Mentor - 2 p.m. - 7208
Attendance Data Entry - 2:30 p.m. - Comp. Lab
Telephone Committee - 2:30 p.m. - 7201
Pathway to Membership Contact - 3 p.m. - 7205
Shine Your Light Volunteer - 3 p.m. - Parlor
Casserole Ministry - 3 p.m. - 7206
Altar Call - 3 p.m. - Cokesbury Room</p> | <p>Pathway to Membership Orientation - 4 p.m. - 7205
PAWS Ministry - 4 p.m. - 7208
Apples of Gold Mentor - 4 p.m. - Cokesbury Room</p> <p>Monday, Jan. 19
Selma Children's Home - 6 p.m. - Comm. Ministry
Sunday Breakfast - 6:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Tuesday, Jan. 20
English as a Second Language - 6 p.m. - 3201</p> <p>Wednesday, Jan. 21
Military Focused Ministries - 7 p.m. - 3110
Hispanic Ministry - 7 p.m. - 3201</p> <p>Thursday, Jan. 22
4th Thursday Helper - 9 a.m. - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Saturday, Jan. 24
Bible Study Leader - 9 a.m. - Cokesbury Rm.</p> <p>Sunday, Jan. 25
Telephone Warriors - 2 p.m. - 7208
Mission Prayer Teams - 2 p.m. - 7208
Upper Room - 2 p.m. - Cokesbury Room
World and National Outreach - 2 p.m. - 7205
Work/Medical Teams - 2 p.m. - 7205
Disaster Relief Team - 3 p.m. - 7205
Family Issues and Concerns - 3:30 p.m. - 3106
Ministry Prayer Partners - 3:30 p.m. - 7208
Off-site Intercessors - 3:30 p.m. - 7208
Heart Notes - 3:30 p.m. - 7208
E-mail Intercessors - 3:30 p.m. - 7208
Wed. Men's Breakfast - 4 p.m. - Wesley Hall
Wed. Evening Bible Study - 4 p.m. - Wesley Hall
Incubator Leadership Dev. - 4 p.m. - Wesley Hall
Men's Leadership (Lion Chasers) - 4 p.m. - Wesley Hall
Special Events Volunteer - 4 p.m. - Wesley Hall
Prayer Volunteer - 4 p.m. - Wesley Hall
Youth Missions BBQ - 5 p.m. - C.R.A.V.E.
Turnabout Ministry - 5 p.m. - Comm. Min. Lobby</p> <p>Monday, Jan. 26
Wed. Night Supper Vol. - 6:30 p.m. - Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Wednesday, Jan. 28
Safety Committee - 7 p.m. - 3126
Hispanic Ministry - 7 p.m. - 3201</p> |
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Looking for information about small groups, Bible studies and Sunday School classes? Pick up your copy of Connections today!

Available at information desks throughout the Frazer campus and at www.frazerumc.org

Frazer's Sportsmen's Ministry presents

Seventh Annual Wild Game Dinner

with special guest
John Croyle

**Thursday, Feb. 5
6 p.m.
Fellowship Hall**

Admission is free but please bring a wild game dish (enough for 8-10 people) in a disposable container. Tickets are available in the JEMAC and Frazer Bookstore. All leftovers will be donated to Faith Rescue Mission. For more information, call the Activity Center at 272-8622.

Two Frazer members go the extra mile in the fight against breast cancer

By Brianne Wilson
News Staff Writer

The chances of a woman developing breast cancer in her lifetime are one in eight, according to the American Cancer Society. The good news, however, is that as advancements in treatment and early detection have improved, the death rates from breast cancer have been decreasing since 1990. Two faithful Frazer members had the opportunity to contribute to the search for a cure during breast cancer awareness month in October. Kathryn Jones and Cheryl Smeltzer both participated in Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure events. This was not just any walk, however; it was a three-day, 60-mile, train-for-24-weeks and raise-\$2,200-walk.

Though they participated in the walk in different cities on opposite weekends, Kathryn and Cheryl both reported similar experiences. Kathryn walked with 3,500 other participants in the Atlanta event, Oct. 24-26. With both a grandmother and a childhood friend affected by the disease, Kathryn felt led to support the cause and successfully raised \$2,500. Despite the rainy, cold weather, Kathryn and her team of co-workers finished 58th in the Atlanta event.

"Everyone in my Sunday School class lifted me up in prayer and was very supportive," she said. Kathryn was also grateful for the support of her husband, who walked with her during her many weeks of training.

The Komen event is a series of three day, 60 mile

walks that take place in 14 major cities across the United States. In 2007, the combined events raised more than \$86 million dollars for breast cancer research, education and community health programs. Each participant is required to raise a minimum of \$2,200 and be at least 16 years old. The organization provides the participants with an extensive training guide and moral support.

The weather was more cooperative for Cheryl's walk in Tampa, Fla. from Oct. 31- Nov. 2. The timing was right to enroll in the three-day walk efforts for 2008, as Cheryl had recently retired from a long career in teaching. Her daughter, a three-day walk veteran, had been encouraging her to join her in the 60-mile journey. Twenty four weeks, 577 miles of training and \$2,646.95 later, the mother-daughter duo united with 1,550 other walkers to raise more than \$4.5 million dollars.

"The experience was truly rewarding," Cheryl said. "The community came together to support the event and to say thank you." Cheryl said she appreciates the generosity and support she received from her husband Brent and their Sunday School class.

Frazer member and breast cancer survivor Carolyn Morgan gratefully added, "it is indeed humbling to have someone without the disease [walk] on behalf of all survivors and those who have gone on to be with Jesus."

For more information on the Susan G. Komen three-day walk, visit www.the3day.org.



Kathryn Jones, second from left, and her team of co-workers smile just after crossing the finish line on day three of the Susan G. Komen Walk for the Cure three-day walk in Atlanta Oct. 26.



Cheryl Smeltzer waves as she participates in the Tampa, Fla. three-day Walk for the Cure. Cheryl trained for weeks to prepare for the 60-mile, three-day walk held Oct. 31 - Nov. 2.

Women of Hope Breast Cancer Support Group

This group provides education, awareness and mentoring for breast cancer patients, survivors, family members, friends or anyone interested in becoming a part of this compassionate journey. The group meets the second Tuesday of each month at 5:30 p.m. in room 8114. For more information, call the church office at 272-8622, e-mail us at womenofhope@charter.net or visit our Web site at www.womenofhope.info.

Older Adult Ministry has a lot in store for 2009

Frazer's Older Adult Ministry has a variety of activities planned for 2009. Retirement is a time for personal and spiritual growth, and also a time for more social life and to give back to friends, church and the community. If you are an older adult looking for a place to keep living, growing mentally and spiritually and enjoying the blessings of life, the Older Adult Ministry invites you to join us!

• **Social Time Fellowship** and continental breakfast each Sunday at 8:30 a.m. in the church parlor, followed by Bible studies and worship.

• **Temple Builders Exercise and Fitness** offers stretching, low impact aerobics, and strength building. We meet Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday at 8 a.m. in the Activity Center.

• **Speeders Choir** Traditional and upbeat music, directed by Joe Pat Cox. Practice Tuesdays at 1:15 p.m.

• **S.P.I.R.I.T** Join us for dinner and a program at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall, the second Thursday of each month. Cost is \$5.

• **Friends Bible study** and complimentary luncheon meets every third Thursday at 11 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

• **Fourth Thursday** A variety of table games, crafts and classes meet at 9 a.m. in different locations with a noon luncheon (\$5) in the Fellowship Hall. Dr. Don Hill gives a devotional.

• **Computer Classes** Computer classes are offered to teach basic and advanced computer literacy skills. Times and locations TBA.

• **Trip Ministry** Travel by bus to historic and educational sites. This spring we'll tour the historic Tidewater area of Virginia. In the fall, we'll explore Savannah, Ga. and Charleston, S.C.

Here, members share their experiences with the Older Adult Ministry:

"Fun, fellowship, and an opportunity to meet new friends are all a part of travel. Our trips have given new meaning to the words 'American the beautiful.'" —Henry North

"The diversity of ministries gives everyone an opportunity to be involved. A caring spirit pervades the entire older adult ministry."

—Dick Cornell

"I love fourth Thursdays. Since I am not a Frazer member, this ministry provides me an opportunity to meet new people. Don Hill's devotionals are inspirational; the food is great, and bridge is a real challenge."

—Frank Wells

"I especially enjoy the 'Friends' Bible study. It is an important part of my Christian growth."

"Frazer is fortunate to have a wonderful older adult ministry led by Martha John Allison. I especially enjoy the great fellowship and programs at S.P.I.R.I.T. I look forward to rejoining the Speeders Choir. Joe Pat makes it a relaxing, fun way to serve the Lord."

—Judy Cornell

"It is a wonderful thing to be alive! If a person lives to be very old, let him rejoice in every day of life!"

—Ecclesiastes 11:7-8



Southbound Glory Bluegrass Band A Reunion Performance

Jan. 8, 2009
6:30 p.m. in Wesley Hall
for
S.P.I.R.I.T

Dinner at 6 p.m.
\$5 per person, reservations required
Bring a canned good for Frazer's Food Bank
For dinner reservations call:
Faye Jackson at 334-279-8727 or
Jo Frith at 334-270-8711

Frazer Family Focus

Asbury Campus

A Community of Help, Hope and Life

Contact Us

Asbury Campus

To reach any Frazer at Asbury staff member or volunteer, call 281-8971 or e-mail asburycampus@frazerumc.org.

Robert Spicer

Site Pastor

Preston Frazier

Adult and Youth Choir

Director

Kim Brantley

Administrative Assistant

Susie Pearson

Tutoring Program

Coordinators

Crystal Thierry

Evangelism and Care

Ministry Coordinator

Kelly Parker

Children's and Nursery

Ministry Coordinator

Bob Bachant,

George Cox

Worship Ministry

Coordinators

Deloris Bonner

Food Service Coordinator

Claudia Mitchell

Women's Ministry

Every week at Frazer at Asbury Sunday

Traditional Worship	9:30 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Children's Church	11 a.m.
Adult Sunday School	11 a.m.
Gospel Worship	11 a.m.
Single People United	1 p.m.
Nursery available for birth through 5 years at 9:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.	

Monday

Women's Aerobics 9 a.m.

Tuesday

Tutoring 3:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Prayer meeting 9 a.m.

Wednesday

Family Night Supper 5:30 p.m.

Children's choir 6 p.m.

Adult choir 7 p.m.

Men's Bible study 6 p.m.

Women's Bible study 6 p.m.

Asbury experiences the 'Joy of Christmas' with drama production



PHOTOS BY HAROLD HILL

Children and youth at Asbury presented "The Joy of Christmas" Dec. 21. Through drama, music, dance and readings, the children shared the story of the true meaning of Christmas.

By Chandra Spicer

The Asbury campus Sanctuary was filled with members, families and friends who traveled from near and far to witness the children and youth ministries' production of "The Joy of Christmas" Sunday, Dec. 21. Through drama, music, dance and readings, the children unfolded the story of the Perfect Gift.

The performance began with a young college student, Miss Inga, played by Elizabeth Wilson, busily trying to find the perfect gift to give for Christmas. After searching the Internet, she placed an order and within seconds, an angel (played by Angel Beasley) appeared at Miss Inga's doorstep to deliver a box filled with the items necessary to prepare for the perfect gift. Miss Inga could not believe how fast the order came or understand how the return address could be Bethlehem. While reading the instructions for finding the perfect gift, the story of the

Nativity began to unfold.

Each part of the production revealed a scene from the Nativity. The children and youth told the Christmas story through recitations, poems, a skit, songs and even a dance from the Frazer at Asbury dance group. Finally, as Miss Inga got to the end of the instructions, she finally understood that the true joy of Christmas was not about going to shopping malls, buying gifts, having parties, eating lots of food or Santa Claus. The Joy of Christmas is God's perfect gift, Jesus.

This was the first time we attempted to provide the children and youth with an opportunity to use their talents to worship our Lord through speaking, singing, dancing and prayer, and the children were so excited to participate. Several members and parents volunteered during the weeks leading up to the production and on the day of the production to make it a success. After the program, we celebrated with a "Happy Birthday, Jesus" party with hot chocolate, cookies and peppermints. Each child present received goody bags filled with fruit, toys and sweet treats.



Michael Thomas hangs a wreath over an entranceway at the Frazer at Asbury campus. Beautiful decorations adorned the campus throughout the Christmas season.

Hanging of the Greens at Asbury

In early December, members of Frazer at Asbury decorated the campus with greenery, ribbons and other decorations in preparation for the Christmas season. Michael Thomas said participating in the Hanging of the Greens helped him find the right perspective for Christmas.

"As we get our physical house in order with decorations we should likewise get our spiritual house in order. Hanging of the Greens was a special time of reflection as we beautified the church with decorations and various nativity scenes," he said.

Michael said he enjoys being a member of a church that teaches God's Word. He has been a member since December 2007 with his wife Noela and their three children, Kaleb, Kaylani and Kevin.

"Let us always remember that Christ was born as Savior for all mankind," he said.

Bible study helps new member grow in her Christian walk

By Betty P. Beville

As I sit here thinking of how I was led to attend Bible class at Frazer's Asbury campus, I have to reflect back about a year ago. For several months, I had discussed with my husband and daughter my need to be involved in a group Bible class. The congregation where I attended worship service at that time did not have an adult Bible class ministry. Last February, I heard on the local news that Frazer had a grand opening for its Asbury campus. I was confused because the only campus I knew of was on Atlanta Highway. I mentioned this to my daughter and she suggested calling Frazer's office to find out where the new campus was located. Needless to say, I didn't call and some time passed.

While talking with a friend in early September, I mentioned my yearning to find a Bible study group and also mentioned Frazer's new campus. She knew where the campus was located and I drove to

Asbury that week. I saw on the marquee that a Bible class was meeting every Wednesday at 6 p.m. I attended the next Bible study class and have tried to attend every week since. The time spent in Bible class keeps me uplifted and helps me spiritually to get through the remainder of the week.

The Bible class appeals to me because it allows its members to pray, sing and discuss various passages of Scripture. Everyone is allowed to give input if they desire to share their thoughts with the group. We are currently studying characters of the Bible. I really needed the refreshing of my spirit that I receive from actively participating in the Bible class. I believe that being involved with the Bible class allows me to gain more knowledge of our Creator and a better understanding of what Christians should strive to do while on their Christian journey. The Bible class ministry helps me to focus on what my Christian



Betty Beville, her husband Johnny and their daughter Jocelyn recently became members of Frazer at Asbury.

walk should be about.

After attending my first Bible study class, my husband and I began attending morning worship services the following Sunday. We were welcomed with smiles and hugs, which made us feel as if we had always been a part of this warm and friendly congregation of believers. My husband and I plan to continue our Christian journey as members of the Frazer family.

Notes from Asbury



Robert Spicer
Site Pastor,
Asbury Campus

Can't Rush God

I grew up in a rural community with neighbors who farmed. It was nothing to have a cornfield on one side of our property and peanuts on the other side. The farmers knew there was a time for planting, and to wait a certain amount of time before harvesting. There were times when it would get extremely hot and dry. The plants would start to wilt and burn, leading to financial devastation for those farmers. Oh, how they wished they could speed up the harvesting time. Then, someone decided that they didn't have to sit by and watch the crops perish—an irrigation system could be installed to water the crops.

We can't hurry time, but we don't have to sit around and do nothing either. The farmers figured out how to save their crops until harvesting time. Perhaps there are some short-term opportunities that we have not considered.

One of my neighbors was laid-off a couple of months ago and eagerly seeks employment. I'm sure my neighbor's goals for life require earning an income. With a family to provide for, sitting at home and doing nothing is not an option. This neighbor has submitted scores of applications and attended numerous interviews because they know if they do not actively seek a job, unemployment will last for a long time.

There will be times when we are pressured by circumstances while we are waiting on God to fulfill his promises to us, but we must not give up on God nor become disobedient to the Word of God. G. Campbell Morgan wrote, "Waiting for God is not laziness. Waiting for God is not going to sleep. Waiting for God is not the abandonment of effort. Waiting for God is first, activity under command; second, readiness for any new command that may come; third the ability to do nothing until the command is given." Waiting on God is an active waiting. For example, if you have a job and it's not the one that you believe God has for you, then you should pray to God about it before you up and quit.

Another important factor in the ability to wait on God is not to complain about every little thing. Philippians 2:14 says, "Do everything without complaining." Of course I know that this can be difficult because we often complain at work, on break, with our friends, at home and on the phone. But complaining about circumstances makes it increasingly more difficult to endure and become longsuffering while waiting on God. Make a decision to not complain and work on it daily. You might be surprised at your ability to have a more positive perspective on your circumstances. This will prove to be most valuable while waiting on God.

Remember we can't hurry God. We just have to wait! He never forgets about His own. Psalm 37 reads, "I was young, but now am old, yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken or their seed begging bread."

Christmas at Frazer

WE HAVE COME TO WORSHIP

YOUTH WORSHIP ARTS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
NOV. 30
PHOTOS BY JOHN BOYD



ANGEL TREE GIFT DELIVERY VOLUNTEERS
DEC. 13
PHOTOS BY HAROLD HILL
AND
AMY PRESLEY

CHILDREN'S WORSHIP ARTS CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
"IT'S A WONDER-FULL LIFE"
DEC. 7
PHOTOS BY LORI MERCER



A Christmas Tale

PRESENTED BY FRAZER'S CHOIR, MUSIC AND DRAMA MINISTRIES

DEC. 13 & 14

PHOTOS BY MAC MCLELLAN AND CHRIS THORNTON



CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT AND COMMUNION SERVICES

DEC. 24

PHOTOS BY CHRIS THORNTON



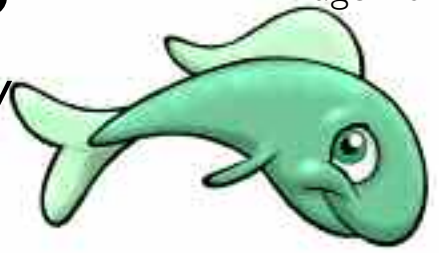
Frazer Family Focus



Children's Ministry

January 2009

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Making choices: A skill every child needs

By Marsha McGehee,
Director of Children's Ministry

"Good morning, Mike! I'm so glad you are awake. Find yourself a place at the breakfast table. Later, I will tell you what you need to know, what you should do, and how you should do it."

Doesn't this sound like a simple, uncomplicated way to teach your young children? Simple? Uncomplicated? Yes, but ineffective if we want to reach our children and form a child's healthy development.

Recently, a child was reluctant to participate in an activity in his Wednesday evening LifeSaver class here at Frazer. The parents and teacher were trying to coax the child. I came along and gave the child a choice of joining the other children in the activity or sitting with me in my office for an hour. He thought a moment and decided to participate in the classroom activity, enjoying every moment with his friends. When he considered the consequences of each choice he had no trouble making a decision.

Instead of expecting children to be passive receivers of information, we should help each child make choices as an active learner. Never forget that children learn by doing.

Making choices helps a child develop a sense of independence — not independence to the exclusion of authority and direction, but independence that allows the child to make good choices. Never allow a child to make a choice that can be harmful, now and in years to come.

If a child is always looking for someone else to make decisions, he or she can become a pawn for any strong authority figure to lead astray.

Making small choices, such as which color crayon to use or whether to play with blocks or read a book, can actually help prepare a young child to make life's larger decisions. Because the child eventually must "Choose...this day whom you will serve" (Joshua 24:15), we must help our children develop wise choice-making skills. The child who is rarely allowed to make decisions may find it harder to make the ultimate decision of responding to Jesus Christ.

A child develops a sense of responsibility through making choices. A responsible person is one who makes a choice after having fully considered the consequences of that choice. Learning to be accountable for choices made will help the child in making responsible choices.

Allowing children to make some of their own choices will help you avoid discipline problems. Children's behavior is more positive when they are doing something they have chosen. In contrast, when a child is told to do something he or she doesn't want to do, he or she becomes unhappy and usually will let everyone know it.

Allowing a child to make choices tells the child you believe he or she is capable of making a decision. Your trust is an essential foundation for a child's healthy development.

"...Now choose life, so that you and your children may live and that you may love the Lord your God, listen to his voice, and hold fast to him. For the Lord is your life, and he will give you many years in the land." Deuteronomy 30:19, 20.

Children celebrate serving others with pajama party

In December, the Children's Ministry collected pajamas to give to the residents of Father Purcell's. Children donated 148 pairs of pajamas and celebrated the success of the drive Sunday, Dec. 7 with a pajama party during Children's Church. Children and teachers alike wore their favorite PJs to the party, which was complete with games and cookies. Thank you to everyone who helped us make this collection effort a success.



Children and teachers enjoy a pajama present party Sunday, Dec. 7 in SURGE. Everyone was invited to wear their favorite PJs to the party to celebrate collecting new pajamas for Father Purcell's.

Upcoming classes designed to help parents teach children about God's plan for sex

By Pam Mashburn

As Christians, we must tell our children God's plan for sex. Unfortunately, we face a battle everyday from movies, commercials, and even well meaning school programs on what sex is all about. This February, Frazer will offer a curriculum to help parents discuss this subject with their children. For those who were not raised in a Christian home, this may feel like an even more daunting task. But God has provided these answers for us in His Word and He wants us to share His truths.

The truth is that God designed our bodies to have an emotional union that celebrates love, produces children and experiences pleasure. His design is that this union is protected in the commitment of marriage. The Bible provides many references to this kind of love in the Song of Solomon. God also refers to sex in the seventh and 10th commandments when he commands us to not commit adultery and not covet our neighbor's wife. God wants the best for us and for our lives. We have to share this with our children when it is age appropriate.

How do you know if it's time to talk to your children? A better question is: Is this a one-time discussion? The media and the world will teach your children that sex is dirty, permissive and without boundaries. The world never seems to address the physical, emotional or spiritual consequences of sex outside of God's boundaries. To be able to educate your children and arm them with the truth is more than just a one-time discussion. We should always be prepared for questions and even initiate discussions. Sometimes a commercial or a magazine cover can spark the discussion for us.

Proverbs 1:8 says "Listen my son, to your father's instruction and do not forsake your mother's teachings." God intended for both parents to be involved in this instruction. Dads should teach daughters that they are beautiful and to be protected and also about what boys think. Dads should provide a model their of what a husband should be. Sons need moms to tell them they are strong, allow them to protect them, explain how girls feel and teach them to honor women. As children grow older they will naturally feel more comfortable asking awkward questions to the same gender parent, but we should always be ready and welcoming of those questions.

How can Frazer help equip and arm you and your children in God's Truth about sex? Our Sex Education for Children curriculum is designed for kindergartners through fifth graders. A parent meeting will answer questions, give suggestions, provide resources and allow you to preview the videos and curriculum. The classes will be held Sunday mornings and require that a parent accompany a child. Facilitators will be in the class to teach and answer questions.

The parent meeting will be Sunday, Feb. 1 at 4 p.m. in the SURGE room. Age-level divided group sessions will be held Sundays, Feb. 8, 15 and 22 at 9:30 a.m. in rooms 6202, 6204 and 6206.

Below is the curriculum with suggested ages. After second grade, the boys and girls are in separate classes. As the parent, you should decide which class your child is ready for.

- Kindergarten: **How boys and girls are different?**
- 1st-2nd: **Where do babies come from?**
- 3rd-4th: **Where do babies come from? Part 2**
- 4th-5th: **You and your body**
- 5th: **Sex and God's Truth**

Sharing God's truth is an important job for parents. It should be an ongoing discussion, intentional and positive. Sex is not a four-letter word. It's a beautiful gift from a loving God. Frazer's Children's Ministry is here to help. For more information about sex education classes for children, please see the listing in Connections magazine or call the Children's Ministry at 272-8622.

Suggested resources available from the Frazer Bookstore:

"I want to Teach my Child about Sex" by Dr. Karl & Shannon Wendt

"A Chicken's Guide to Talking Turkey with your Kids about Sex" by Dr. Kevin Leman

"How to Talk Confidently with your Child about Sex" by Lenore Buth

Plan your summer with us!



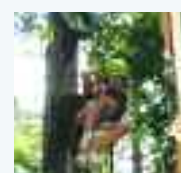
Camp Sunshine, June 8-10
Rising first - third graders



Camp Challenge, June 8-12
Rising fourth - sixth graders



Vacation Bible School
July 13-17



Rising 4-year-olds - fifth graders

Contact Us

Children's Ministry Staff

272-8622

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(Sunshine Outlives Storms)

Amis Sellers

Children's Worship Arts

272-8622

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Children's Calendar

Every Wednesday
Lifesavers ages 4-year-old
through fifth grade at 6 p.m. in
the 6200s. Children's Worship
Arts ages 3-year-old through 5th
grade at 6 p.m. in the 6100s.

- ❑ Jan. 4, Acolyte training, 2 p.m. Sanctuary
- ❑ Jan. 7, Lifesavers and Children's Worship Arts resume, 6 p.m., 6200s
- ❑ Jan. 11, S.O.S. training, 2 p.m., room 6102
- ❑ Jan. 14, Aqua Zone Check-in training, 7:10 p.m., room 5210/SURGE
- ❑ Jan. 18, Wavemakers, Children's Church, Lifesavers teacher training, 12 p.m., Fellowship Hall

Frazer Family Focus

TV Ministry

WFRZ - Frazer Christian TV- Cable Channel 13

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News Nuggets

By John Rogers



A look at television: Yesterday, today and tomorrow

As we have mentioned in previous Frazer Family News articles, WFRZ is set to start broadcasting in high definition in February. It was in 1993, but it seems like only yesterday when Frazer TV made its debut with W14BV, our first call letters. WFRZ became our call letters in 2003. When we begin broadcasting in HD, our call letters, now known officially as WFRZ-LD, will become WFRZ-LD.

With a new era of television broadcasting (HDTV) coming into focus in 2009, I found myself wanting to take a look back at the history of television recently, and found it quite fascinating.

To my amazement, I discovered that television is almost as old as radio, although radio raced ahead as a home entertainment medium, probably due to the relative ease and cost of making and selling radios compared to television sets.

The exact date television made its debut is debatable, but according to an article in The Indianapolis Star newspaper, dated April 9, 1927, under a heading titled: "SCIENCE'S LATEST MIRACLE", we learn the following:

"Television, a scientific dream ever since the telephone was perfected, has at last been realized..." The article relates that, "Secretary Hoover delivered a short address over the telephone at Washington and he was seen as well as heard in the Bell telephone laboratories in the metropolis."

The Great Depression was instrumental in slowing the development of this new medium, but in the late 1930s, growth became evident as more manufacturers began building television sets. DuMont, a big name in early television, including its network of the same name, began building sets in 1938 and continued, along with other manufacturers, until 1941. The beginning of World War II halted all television broadcasting.

The end of World War II saw the real beginning of television age. Many more set manufacturers and broadcasters entered this fascinating new field. While most of the earlier sets had very small screens it was still a novel way to be entertained. As each year passed, the interest in TV continued to grow.

In 1948, sales of televisions began to rev-up. By July of 1948, 350,000 sets were in operation, with 27 TV stations in 18 cities. Then, progress began to take great strides as Americans accepted TV, and our everyday world began to change.

For more information on the history of television, visit www.tvhistory.tv.

	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
5:AM	WORSHIP	IT IS WRITTEN	BEVERLY EXERCISE				
5:30	SPIRITUAL OUTDOORS	DAY OF DISCOVERY	WORLD HEALTH NEWS TODAY				
6:00	FLIP FLOP SHOP	TURNING POINT	MORNINGS	MORNINGS			
6:30	AQUA KIDS	POINT	MORNINGS	MORNINGS			
7:00	ZEEK'S ANIMAL	FIRST METHODIST	TIME OF YOUR LIFE	MORNINGS			
7:30	L'IL IGUANA	MONTGOMERY	JOHN HAGEE	MORNINGS			
8:00	FLIP FLOP SHOP	IN TOUCH	QUICK STUDY				
8:30	ODYSSEY	TOUCH	PRECEPTS FOR LIFE				
9:00	ZEEK'S ANIMAL	WINNING EDGE	LIFE TODAY	UMCHATTIESBURG	VISIONS	LIFE TODAY	TIME OF YOUR LIFE
9:30	AQUA KIDS	FRAZER	LIVING THE LIFE				FORUM/HEALTH
10:00	JEDI BYRD'S KITCHEN	FAMILY WORSHIP	EVERY DAY WITH MARCUS AND LISA				
10:30	FALLEN SMITH	FRAZER CONTEMPORARY	YOUR HEALTH				
11:00	FISHIN' MISSION	FRAZER	YOUR HEALTH				
11:30	VENTURE OUTDOORS	FRAZER	YOUR HEALTH				
12 PM	IN PURSUIT	FAMILY WORSHIP	PATHWAYS	FRAZER FAMILY WORSHIP	LIFE TODAY	TIME OF YOUR LIFE	UMCHATTIESBURG
12:30	OUTDOOR NEWS	TAYLOR RD. BAPT	FAM. COUNSELOR	WORSHIP	FRAZER CONTEMPORARY	FORUM/HEALTH	FAM. COUNSELOR
1:00	JIMMY HOUSTON OUTDOORS	UMCHATTIESBURG	AT HOME/ARLENE	DAY OF DISCOVERY	FRAZER CONTEMPORARY	FAULKNER SPORTS	ASBURY
1:30	JIMMY HOUSTON ADVENTURES	FIRST BAPTIST	ASBURY CHURCH	TAYLOR RD. BAPT	PATHWAYS	LIVING THE LIFE	
2:00	FORUM FOR HEALTH	BAPTIST	CHRIS WORLD NEWS	JEDI BYRD'S KITCHEN	THE VENUE	REB OF THE GREEN	DISTANT ROADS
2:30	TIME OF YOUR LIFE	ZOLA LEVITT	MOVIE GUIDE	P. ALLEN SMITH	VENUE	ALLEN SMITH GEMS	LANDMARKS
3:00	GAITHER	IN TOUCH	NANNA'S COTTAGE	ASPIRING WOMEN	RIDGECREST	FRAZER FAMILY	DOOLEY & FALLS
3:30	HOME COMING	TOUCH	DISCOVERY JONES	DISCOVERY JONES	BAPTIST	WORSHIP	DISCOVERY JONES
4:00	VISIONS	FRAZER CONTEMPORARY	FORUM/HEALTH	CBN NEWS	CBN NEWS	CBN NEWS	PATHWAYS
4:30	UMCHATTIESBURG	FRAZER CONTEMPORARY	ADV IN ODYSSEY	ORIGINS	WAY OF THE MASTER	ZOLA LEVITT	AQUA KIDS
5:00	GAITHER	SOUTH PSALMS	WORLD HEALTH NEWS TODAY				
5:30	HOME COMING	GOSPEL JOERNEY	JOHN HAGEE				
6:00	GAITHER	FIRST BAPTIST	TAYLOR RD BAPTIST	1ST BAPTIST	FIRST METHODIST	1ST BAPTIST	DAVID JEREMIAH
6:30	HOME COMING	TIME OF YOUR LIFE	FAM. COUNSELOR	GREENVILLE	MONTGOMERY	UMCHATTIESBURG	ASBURY
7:00	THE VENUE	ADRIAN ROGERS	PATHWAYS	FAM. COUNSELOR	TIME OF YOUR LIFE	FORUM/HEALTH	CONTEMPORARY
7:30	VENUE	BIBLE EXPLORER	HUNTINGDON SPORTS	1ST BAPTIST	UMCHATTIESBURG	VISIONS	HUNTINGDON
8:00	INSPIRED AMBITION	CORAL RIDGE	DAVID JEREMIAH	INSPIRATION TODAY	INSPIRATION TODAY	PATHWAYS	RONNIE FLOYD
8:30	ULTIMATE CHOICE	UMCHATTIESBURG	JEREMIAH	LIFE TODAY	ASPIRING WOMEN	FAM. COUNSELOR	WINNERS
9:00	WRETCHED	FRAZER	FRAZER	UMCHATTIESBURG	RONNIE FLOYD	AM. HERITAGE	VENTURE OUTDRS
9:30	FRAZER HISPANIC	FAMILY WORSHIP	FAM. WORSHIP	FRAZER HISPANIC	WINNERS	TURNING POINT	FAULKNER SPORTS
10:00	HISPANIC	FRAZER CONTEMPORARY	CBN NEWS	HISPANIC	ASBURY	CBN NEWS	CBN NEWS
10:30	FIRST BAPTIST GREENVILLE	FRAZER CONTEMPORARY	MOVIE GUIDE	THE GREATS	INSPIRED AMBITION	CONTEMPORARY	REFUGE
11:00	REFUGE	REFUGE	I SPY WITH BILL COSBY				
11:30	REFUGE	WORSHIP	WRETCHED				
12 AM	GAITHER	AMERICAN DOCUMENTARIES	TECH HEAD	INSPIRED AMBITION	THE GREATS	LANDMARKS	MOVIE GUIDE
12:30	GAITHER	AMERICAN DOCUMENTARIES	YOUR HEALTH				
1:00	THE VENUE	AMERICAN DOCUMENTARIES	QUICK STUDY				
1:30	VENUE	AMERICAN DOCUMENTARIES	QUICK STUDY				
2:00	INSPIRED AMBITION	WORSHIP	WATCH WORD BIBLE				
2:30	ULTIMATE CHOICE	ON SOLID ROCK	KENNETH GOPLAND	BORN TO BE FREE	JACK HAYFORD	PATHWAYS	WORSHIP
3:00	WATCH WORD BIBLE	WRETCHED	WATCH WORD BIBLE				
3:30	BORN TO BE FREE	WAY/MASTER	WORSHIP				
4:00	THE LOGAN SHOW	IN TOUCH	FAITHPRINTS	GAITHER HOME COMING	WINNING WALK	THE VENUE	GAITHER HOME COMING
4:30	ON SOLID ROCK	TOUCH	HOME COMING				

Catch WFRZ on these cable channels: Knology Ch.13; Charter Ch. 13, BrightHouse Ch. 122.

Television Timeline



- 1949 TV sales expand at a rapid rate, 600 percent ahead of 1948.
- 1950 Approximately 8 million TV sets owned by Americans, 107 stations on the air.
- 1951 Oct. 15, 1951: "The Lucy Show" debuts on CBS.
- 1952 "The Today Show," with Dave Garroway, debuts in January.
- 1953 First compatible color show: "Colgate Comedy Hour."
- 1953 WCOV, channel 20, Montgomery's first TV station, signs on the air.
- 1954 WSFA, channel 12 signs on the air Christmas Day.

- 1954 RCA launches color TV sales: \$1,000 each.
- 1955 "Honeymooners" and "Captain Kangaroo" debut.
- 1956 The first videotape is used. "As The World Turns" debuts.
- 1957 "Perry Mason" and "Leave It To Beaver" debut.
- 1958 "Peter Gunn" debuts; Ford introduces the Edsel.
- 1959 "Bonanza" becomes the first Western in color.
- 1960 "The Andy Griffith Show" debuts.
- 1961 Vince Edwards stars in "Ben Casey."
- 1964 Federal Communications Commission rules that all sets must include UHF tuners.
- 1964 WKAB/WHOA/WNCF, channel 32, signs on the air.
- 1984 WAKA, channel 8, moves from Selma, becomes full power.
- 1986 FOX Network debuts.

- 1993 Frazer Christian Television debuts
- 1996 WRAL-HD, Raleigh becomes the first HDTV Station.
- 2009 WFRZ-LD will join the industry with HDTV.



ARCHIVE PHOTOS



WFRZ archive photos show new equipment ready to be installed in the control room in the mid-to-late '90s, top, and taping in the Sunday School classroom that was used as the old WFRZ studio, bottom.

Frazer Men's Ministry

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Dale Todd

Pancake Breakfast

Dick Cornell

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Mark Your Calendar

- Jan. 7
Men's breakfast,
6:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall,
John Schmidt, speaker
- Jan. 16-17
Annual Methodist Men's
Blue Lake Retreat
- Feb. 1
Young Men's Sunday
School class begins
- Feb. 4
Men's breakfast,
6:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall
- Feb. 19
Wing Dinner, Just for Men

Frazer Family Focus

Men's Ministry

January 2009

Page 12

Capt. Roy Harris speaks at Dec. Men's Breakfast, shares mission of Salvation Army

By Jim Miller

Capt. Roy Harris spoke at the monthly United Methodist Men's Prayer Breakfast Dec. 3. He thanked Frazer for the many years of support the church has given to the Salvation Army. He said he was overwhelmed by the number of Frazer volunteers who worked to convert the Salvation Army's Bell Street building into a social services center on Frazer's Great Day of Service. He also reminded us of how Frazer volunteers helped man the Salvation Army Red Kettles, which collected more than \$53,000 last year.

Roy first became aware of the Salvation Army when he was 9-years-old. He lived in North Carolina with his parents, two

brothers and sisters. His parents both worked in a sausage factory until his father had a heart attack. His mother had to stay home to take care of his father, which meant both parents were unemployed and the family had no income. At Christmas, the family cut a tree but had no presents to place under it. One day, an agency came by and picked up the children. Each child was given \$20 to buy presents for the family. On Christmas Eve, the Salvation Army brought them food and Christmas presents, along with hope for his family. Roy said that day was one of only two times he ever saw his mother cry.

Roy also shared the story of William Booth, a Methodist min-

ister. William and his wife, Kathy, had a heart for the poor and homeless in the poor areas of London. They started preaching and ministering to alcoholics, prostitutes and the poor. William eventually started a church in 1895 because the people he was leading to Christ were not readily accepted in the other local churches. This new church later became known as the Salvation Army Church.

The Salvation Army is both a charity and a religious organization. William Booth believed the Salvation Army was called to save the world and their mission was and is twofold: to preach the Gospel and to meet human needs without discrimination.

The Salvation Army moved into the United States in 1895 and established itself in Montgomery in 1898. They currently have a 76-bed homeless shelter in Montgomery that is full most nights. On colder nights, as many as 125 men, women and children take shelter there, sleeping on the floor if necessary. Their church meets the needs of many inner-city children and other members. Services are held on Wednesday night and Sunday. They also hold weekly Bible studies.

Many people who seek assistance from the Salvation Army are



PHOTOS BY DON LASHLEY

Capt. Roy Harris of the Salvation Army speaks at the Dec. 3 Men's Breakfast.

educated and some were very well-off. Many people are able to get their lives together and become a part of the community again. Roy said most of us do not realize that many people in Montgomery go hungry and cannot pay their utilities and rent. In 2008 alone, the number of people who applied for help with Christmas rose by 43 percent.

Service is the most sincere form of worship and the Salvation Army is about hope and service. When people came to the Salvation Army at Christmas to pick up a stocking and food, they also picked up hope for a better life. More than 2,000 children received Angel Tree presents for Christmas.

God has called on all of us to feed the hungry and help the poor. Remember that Jesus said that even as you do this for the least of these you do it for Him.



Men pray at the December Men's Prayer Breakfast.

Men's pancake breakfast draws crowd, raises money for local missions

By Rick Holston

A crowd of nearly 500 people gathered in the Fellowship Hall Saturday, Dec. 13 for the annual Men's Ministry Pancake Breakfast. The Men's Ministry team began cooking at 5 that morning before the doors opened at 7. They served hot pancakes, sausage, bacon and other delicious food to the steady stream of people who came to enjoy the breakfast and support the Men's Ministry.

Some people dropped by to enjoy a hot breakfast before picking up and delivering Angel Tree gifts to children in the Montgomery area. Others wanted to fill up before heading out to do some Christmas shopping.

Santa Claus was there, too, and many children were delighted to visit with him as their parents



Santa Claus (Pat Benton) visited with children at the Pancake Breakfast.



PHOTOS BY HAROLD HILL

Chandler Weaver eyes a big plate of pancakes and sausage.

snapped a special Christmas photo of Santa with their children.

The Pancake Breakfast was a great time of fun, food and fellowship. Most importantly, all proceeds received from the breakfast will be used to aid local missions in the Montgomery area.

The Frazer Men's Ministry thanks all of those who came and ate breakfast with us. We hope you can join us again next year.



The Men's Ministry prepared pancakes and other items for nearly 500 hungry folks.

Don't miss these upcoming Men's Ministry opportunities

Siran Stacy to speak at Blue Lake Retreat

Former Alabama football player Siran Stacy will be one of the featured speakers at the upcoming United Methodist Men's Blue Lake Retreat. Siran has traveled throughout the country sharing his faith and will offer words of encouragement for all of us. Senior Pastor Barry

Carpenter will also be one the speakers at this retreat. We will depart from Frazer as a group the afternoon of Friday, Jan. 16 and return to Frazer Saturday, Jan. 17 in the afternoon. The cost of the retreat includes room, dinner, breakfast and lunch. For more information and to register, please call Rick Holston at 546-2512 or Sandy Boswell at 272-8622.

Eat and Talk

In February, the Men's Ministry will offer a new opportunity for men of all ages to get together and just talk. Beginning Thursday, Feb. 19 at 6:30 p.m., join us for wings and things, and a time of fellowship. The Men's Ministry encourage you to bring a friend with you for this special time. We'll have a short devotional but this is mainly an opportunity to talk to and share with one another about anything. Bring your questions, your problems or just your comments. The cost is nominal, just enough to cover the food. Ask your table leader for more information or call Sandy Boswell at 272-8622. We look forward to seeing you there.

Young Men's Sunday School

Starting Sunday, Feb. 1, John Morris and Charles Hall will lead a new Sunday School class just for young men. The class will meet at 11 a.m. John and Charles have both served as table leaders the past two years. The class will be similar to the Wednesday Night Bible study, with a short lecture followed by discussion. Join Charles and John in this great opportunity to grow spiritually with other young men. Invite your friends! For more information, call John at 277-2390 or Charles at 271-1737.



Frazer Family Focus

Adult Sunday School

Growing together in God's Word

A Teaching Moment

Happy New Year
in 2009!

"What this means is that those who become Christians become new persons. They are not the same anymore, for the old life is gone. A new life has begun!"
2 Corinthians 5:17 NLT

As we begin a new year, take some time and make a plan to grow closer to God in 2009 through the following:

1. Spend Time in God's Word

Psalm 119: 105 "Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and light unto my path."

- Set aside time DAILY
- Agree to a specific reading plan and **stick to it!**
- Reflect on what God is saying to you through His Word

2. Develop an Active Prayer Life

1 Thessalonians 5:17 "Keep on praying"

- Take time to listen, don't just talk!
- Confess your sins and purpose to turn away from them!
- Remember that God cares about it all – big or small!

3. Honor Your Commitments

Psalm 37: 5 "Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust Him, and He will help you."

- Wherever you have agreed to serve, serve **joyfully!**
- Wherever you have agreed to serve, serve **faithfully!**
- Wherever you have agreed to serve, serve **fully!**

4. Be Generous

Matthew 25:29 "To those who use well what they are given, even more will be given, and they will have an abundance. But from those who are unfaithful, even what little they have will be taken away."

- Share your **TIME**
- Share your **TALENTS**
- Share your **FINANCES**

5. Join a Sunday School Class!

Philippians 1:9 "I pray that your love for each other will overflow more and more, and that you will keep on growing in your knowledge and understanding."

- Develop Christian Friends
- Receive and Give Support and Care
- Grow Deeper in God's Word

Living Today provides growth and outreach

The Living Today class provides strong teaching and mutual support for class members who find themselves sandwiched between the needs of aging parents and the demands of children and grandchildren. Bob Kline is the primary teacher but several class leaders also provide teaching from time to time.

Linda Carleton has been a member of the class for only two years but feels this class has always been her family. Linda first met the Living Today class when she and her husband were invited to a Valentine's social. Several class members extended warm, personal invitations to join them on Sunday morning with one member, who is a retired State Trooper, even threatening to "arrest" them and bring them in handcuffs! Linda shared that it certainly didn't take that to draw them in and they have been

committed members ever since.

"The teaching just brings it all down to earth," Linda said. "I first came to know Christ through reading the book of Matthew and when we studied that book, I just felt like my eyes had been opened anew!"

Stan and Helen McCulley have been members of the class since the very beginning and consider the class members a second family. Stan and Helen provide the class refreshments each week as part of their service but are quick to point out the extensive heart the whole class has for outreach. Stan shared that any need that is brought before the class by the church is immediately supported. Recently, the class agreed to use class funds to support a project in Haiti but another local need arose. Instead of splitting the money, the class just dug deeper



Living Today class members share common bonds and have hearts for outreach.

and was able to support both.

The class members expressed that the teaching challenges them to grow a little more each day, even beyond their current maturity in the knowledge of Christ.

Living Today meets in the Cokesbury Room at 9:30 a.m. and is open to all age 55 and above.

Journey class walks the road together



The Journey class provides a place for young singles to find support and accountability as they learn to follow Christ together.

The fellowship and trust that has developed between members of the Journey class has created a very meaningful experience, according to class member Paul Beaird. As a young, single professional, this class has given him the bond, or "woven strands" referred to Ecclesiastes 4, to face any situation that comes his way.

"I feel I can be transparent with this class," Paul said. "No matter what I

am facing or feeling, I know this class will support me and hold me accountable and that is something I think we all need."

Fellow class member Tim Martin had a similar experience when he joined the Journey Class. Tim came from a small church but found a caring environment in which he was quickly accepted. "A friend from work had urged me to plug into a small group and when I found the Journey class, I knew I was home," he said.

Michael Gross and his wife Marcilla provide the teaching and the shepherding for this vibrant group. Michael's teaching comes directly from Scripture and challenges the class members to truly seek God's will in all areas of their lives. Tim said he has been especially challenged to have that awareness despite the circumstances of life.

Michelle Bauerkemp came to the Journey Class after seeking guidance through Frazer's adult education department. She said she immediately found the "safe haven" she'd been searching for.

"We all share common experiences," Michelle said. "I don't like titles being assigned to certain groups of people and found in this class, we were accepted just for who we are."

The Journey Class plans social outings together but also focuses on outreach to the community. For Christmas, class members played "Secret Santa" but with children's toys and donated them to a local charity the next day.

"I find it difficult to put into words how much this class means to me. From the friendships and accountabilities to the strong, challenging teaching, Journey has become my second family," Michelle said.

The Journey Class meets at 9:30 a.m. in room 3201 and is open to unmarried adults between the ages of 25 and 35.

Refuge provides shelter from life's storms

Karen Vander Hey knows what it means to see Christ in action through her Sunday School class. In September 2004, her husband Elmer was diagnosed with melanoma. From the moment of the diagnosis until his home-going in October 2007, the Refuge Class was with her whole family every step of the way. Karen can recall time after time when her class family surrounded her with love, encouragement, support and prayer. When Elmer lost his hair from chemotherapy, several guys in the class shaved their heads in support. Her family was never in need of a meal, help with yard work or transportation. One Christmas, the class surprised her family by providing a special outreach in gifts from them all.

"I could not have made it through without the support of this class," Karen said. "They were there for me then and are still here every day for me."

Catherine Shoemaker was drawn to this caring class in May 2008. She has felt her path changing for the better through deliberate application of the practical teaching she receives from the class.

"The class just enveloped me in love and continue to equip me with spiritual tools in the teaching that I can apply in my daily life," Catherine said.

The Refuge Class uses a team teaching approach. Debbie Hanson said that the rotating teaching is always strong and reflects the unique personality of



The Refuge class members lift each other up during troubled times and work together to reach out to others in need through missions.

the teacher. Debbie was particularly impacted by lessons on how to listen and walk in the Holy Spirit. She found them to be very meaningful and can still recall specific teaching points.

The Refuge Class also reaches out in service to others by working with the Selma Children's Home, supporting a child in Honduras and supporting a class member each year on a short term mission trip.

The Refuge Class invites all individuals age 45 to 60 to join the class Sundays at 9:30 a.m. in room 3105.

**Looking for a class?
There is one just
for you!**

**Contact the Adult
Education office at
272-8622 or e-mail:**

Charles Wise

Adult Education minister
cwise@frazerumc.org

Lowell Berenguer

lowell@frazerumc.org

For a listing of available Sunday
School classes,
check "Connections" magazine
and the information
booth in the Atrium.



Student Ministries

Wednesday Night
Schedule Resumes
Jan. 7



Adrenaline
Grades 6-8

Adrenaline is the place for junior high students on Wednesday nights.

This gathering is not for the faint of heart. Be ready to be loud, play some Xtreme Games, sing at the top of your lungs, and encounter the God who is as wild and untamed as your cravings.

Adrenaline Schedule:

5:30 p.m. games open
5:50 p.m. doors open
6 p.m. - 7 p.m. Adrenaline in C.R.A.V.E. Room 8251
7 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Open gym, south gyms

8 p.m. - 9 p.m. Fellowship at Moe's at East Chase
Students are responsible for money and transportation.



Elevate
Grades 9-12

Elevate worship gathering is for you. From times of crazy games to sincere moments of encountering God, we all are looking to Elevate our faith and passion in Jesus Christ.

Elevate schedule

5:30 p.m. games open
6:20 p.m. doors open
6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m. Elevate in East Sanctuary
8 p.m. - 9 p.m. Fellowship at Moe's at East Chase
Students are responsible for money and transportation.

Check out what's happening in the C.R.A.V.E. Student Ministry in 2009

Sunday night disciple classes

Becoming a Contagious Christian

This study is aimed at helping students discover and develop their unique evangelism styles. This video series will assist in training individuals with the knowledge, skills and confidence they will need to become truly contagious in reaching their friends for Christ.

Open to all students in grades 6-12. Study runs Jan. 11 - March 8, from 6 - 7 p.m. in the C.R.A.V.E. room (8252). Alison Ashley and Brian Word are the leaders.

Sex. Dating. What does the Bible say?

The Bible doesn't tell us how to ask someone out and Scripture doesn't say what the perfect date would look like. But God gives us clear guidance on how we should treat our bodies and how we should treat others. In four sessions, this video series uses practical and biblical guidelines to help teens figure out how to build healthy relationships with the opposite sex.

Open to all students in grades 6-12. Study runs April 5 - 26, from 6 - 7 p.m. in the C.R.A.V.E. room (8252). Alison Ashley and Brian Word are the leaders.

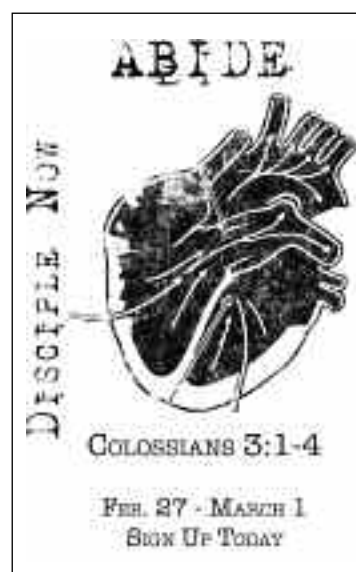


Join us Wednesday nights in January for our new series.



Mark your calendar... you don't want to miss these upcoming events!

- Sunday, Jan. 11, Confirmation Sunday School begins for sixth graders
- Saturday, Feb. 7, Confirmation Service Project for sixth graders
- Friday, Feb. 27 - Sunday, March 1, DiscipleNow '09: ABIDE for all students
- Friday, March 6 - Saturday, March 7, EMIM (Every Member in Ministry)
- Monday, March 16 - Wednesday, March 19, Montgomery Mission trip, Spring Break
- Friday, March 27 - Saturday, March 28, Youth Worship Arts Dinner Theatre
- Friday, April 17 - Saturday, April 18, Confirmation Retreat for sixth graders
- Friday, April 17, Saturday, April 18, Guys' Retreat
- Saturday, May 2, Youth Missions BBQ
- Sunday, May 3, Confirmation Graduation for sixth graders
- Saturday, May 16 - Sunday, May 17, Senior Recognition for 12th graders
- Wednesday, May 20, Last Elevate and Adrenaline before summer



Spend your summer with C.R.A.V.E. Student Ministry!

Dominican Republic Mission trip (high school): May 30 - June 6
Youth Worship Arts Choir and Mission Tour: June 13- 20
Koinonia '09: July 6 -10

Youth Worship Arts visits LifeTech

In December, Youth Worship Arts visited LifeTech, a facility with programs designed to help recently released female prisoners transition back into the real world. As part of the visit, YWA talked with the women, delivered gift bags and gave a performance.



PHOTOS BY ROGER CURRY

Above: Trinity senior Jordan Marx painted this picture during the YWA performance and gave it to LifeTech. Left: Youth Worship Arts members distribute gift bags.



Student Ministry Spotlight: Lisa McKissick

By Mark Martin

Seventh grade girls Sunday School teacher Lisa McKissick can't imagine not being involved in such an "awesome student ministry." Her genuine care and concern for the young ladies she interacts with each Sunday fosters an environment of "comfortable sharing" where personal and difficult information can be discussed.

"I want so badly for them to grasp the truths that took me so many years to grasp," the mother of two said, passionately. "[Hopefully they] will not make mistakes they will regret for the rest of their lives."

Like many adults, she thinks the toughest part is getting in touch with the young ladies in her class. In fact, after her first year, she wasn't sure if this was the area where God wanted her to serve.

"I wanted to be near my daughter, who was in the seventh grade at the time, and sure enough, now I am hooked," she said.

Lisa is full of energy but claims she draws it from the staff, volunteers and students of the ministry.

"Everyone has helped these students get closer to God and advance their spiritual walk," she said.

Contact us

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C.R.A.V.E.
the date

●	7-12 Grade Guys Retreat April 17-19
●	More details Coming soon

Frazer Family Focus

Women's Ministry

A place for women to connect and find the place God has for them

Evaluate your life

By Susan Fisher



I like to begin my new year by reflecting on what lessons I learned from life in the past year. Evaluating the changes I made and those I still need to make helps me to set goals for the year ahead. I take these things into consideration: my spiritual life, my marriage, my family, my friends, my work, self-care, finances and fun. This year I will add my neighbors. One of my life verses is 2 Peter 1:3 (NIV) "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of him who called us by his own glory and goodness." Life in Him is a process of change, less of me and more of Him. I just have to stay yielded to his Lordship.

Here is our challenge:
2 Peter 1:5-8 (NIV) "For this very reason, make every effort to add to your faith goodness; and to goodness, knowledge; and to knowledge, self-control; and to self-control, perseverance; and to perseverance, godliness; and to godliness, brotherly kindness; and to brotherly kindness, love. For if you possess these qualities in increasing measure, they will keep you from being ineffective and unproductive in your knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ."
Take the time to evaluate your life and commit to being effective and productive, for His Glory this year.

Remember to make daily Bible study one of your commitments for this year. Choose from one of the many studies beginning this month. For more details, check *Connections* magazine (formerly *Seasons*), available at the information desk in the Atrium and at www.frazerumc.org.


intentional connecting • woman to woman
Tuesday, Jan. 20, 8:45 a.m. in room 8114.
Come connect with other women as you enjoy a hot breakfast, close fellowship and a spiritual message. Cost \$5. Reservations necessary to attend and for pre-school age childcare. Call Sandy Boswell at 495-6391 or e-mail her at sandy@frazerumc.org by noon Jan. 16 to reserve your spot.

MEASURELESS LOVE



FEBRUARY 27-28

Where: Children's Harbor on Lake Martin
Cost: \$85
Space is limited.

Your payment is your reservation.
Registration forms are available at the information desk in the Atrium.
E-mail Sandy Boswell at sandy@frazerumc.org for more information.
www.frazerumc.org/measurelesslove

Register now for Women's Ministry Winter Retreat

Ladies, it's time to make plans for our 2009 Winter Retreat. Last year, we were challenged to Love Well. This year, our focus will be on the Father's Measureless Love for us. Join the Women's Ministry Feb. 27-28 at Children's Harbor on Lake Martin for a fun-filled weekend as we learn how to recognize and receive God's Measureless Love. Through video, we will hear from Beth Moore. We'll also participate in small group sessions and a prayer walk. We hope you'll come and be a part of this special weekend as we share wonderful meals, laugh until we cry, fellowship with other women, make new friends and enjoy old friends. It's a retreat you don't want to miss.

Space is limited so make your reservation today. Your payment and completed registration form will reserve your place.



Inspiration, decorating tips highlight women's brunch

Women understand the core meaning of Christmas because they know it's not about the gift or the tinsel, but all about relationships, Associate Pastor Suzie Beeson told several hundred women who gathered for the annual Women's Ministry Christmas Brunch in December.

"Christmas is all about relationships, but at its heart, it centers first on one relationship—our eternal relationship to the Savior," she said. "We can only receive his love as a simple, unadorned gift, and allow it to slowly open and unfold the deepest longing and thoughts of our heart."

When we allow Christmas to take up residence in our hearts, we begin to live as "Christmas Christians," Suzie said. Like the wise men who worshiped the King of Kings, but were directed by God to change their course, we too are called to follow a different path. "Our relationship with Jesus as Christmas Christians has the power to guide and sustain us, every day of our lives, no matter what," she said.

By keeping Christmas alive in our hearts, she added, "it allows us to bear daily witness to the

truth that, even in the chaos of 'life as usual,' it is possible through the grace of God and the gift of the child born in a manger to live each day fully, joyfully, faithfully—no matter what, because every day is Christmas Day."

Frazer member Michael Byars, a local decorator who is hired to decorate several homes during the holidays, spoke to the brunch gathering for the second year and offered some simple decorating tips. This year, he decorated a small tabletop tree with lights, two types of wired



PHOTOS BY LENORE VICKREY

Michael Byars demonstrated how to decorate a small tabletop Christmas tree.


ribbon and Christmas balls, using different sizes and shapes for variety and texture. Ann Hinds of the Frazer Evangelism Ministry liked the tree so much she purchased it for use in her own house.



Associate Pastor Suzie Beeson was the guest speaker for the 2008 brunch.



Women enjoyed fellowship and great food, along with the decorating tips and inspirational message.


United Methodist Women's Annual Tea
Sunday, January 11, 2009
2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
Frazer Parlor

Please join us to learn more about this ministry and the circles that are a vital part of ministering to the women of Frazer.

Contact Us Women's Ministry

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Mark Your Calendar

- ☐ Jan. 7
Just Between Us Girls,
6 - 7 p.m., Room 7207-7209
- ☐ Jan. 11
UMW Annual Tea,
2 - 4 p.m., Parlor
- ☐ Jan. 20
iConnect, 8:45 a.m.
Room 8114
- ☐ Feb. 27 -28
Measureless Love Women's
Retreat, Children's Harbor at
Lake Martin, see ad for
details. Registration forms
available in the Atrium.

*Apples of Gold begins Jan. 27.
Call Ginger Bain at 244-0124
for more information. Register today!*

All Singles

Small groups
Tuesdays, 5:30 p.m.
Fellowship Hall
TNT dinner
Tuesdays, 6:55 p.m.
Fellowship Hall - \$5;
please make reservations
by 10 a.m. Mondays.

Parenting Solo

- 9:30 a.m., Room 3218
- Jan. 4
Lunch at Dairy Queen
 - Jan. 18
Lunch at Burger King
(Atlanta Hwy)
 - Jan. 23
Movie night, 7 p.m.
Details TBA

Journey

- 9:30 a.m., Room 3201
- Jan. 16-19
Winter Retreat in
Gatlinburg, Tenn.
 - Jan. 8, 15, 22, 29
Bowling at Bama Lanes,
6:30 p.m.

Anchor

- 10:45 a.m., Room 7207
- Jan. 4
Lunch at Ming's Garden,
Atlanta Hwy, 12:15 p.m.
 - Jan. 10
Chili cook-off at Judi
Mallory's, 6 p.m.

Prime Time Singles

- 9:15 a.m., Room 8201
- Jan. 16
Poduck supper and game
night, 6 p.m., room 8114

Defenders of Our Faith

- 9:30 a.m., Room 3207
- Jan. 18
Covered dish/book
discussion at Ardith and
Sheila's house, 1 p.m.

TNT January

- Jan. 6 Charles Wise,
speaker
- Jan. 13 Dwight Moon,
singer
- Jan. 20 Janet Carpenter,
speaker
- Jan. 27 Music by Cole Bruce

All singles are invited to attend Tuesday Night Together, dinner and a program, whether you're in a small group or not. Join us at 6:55 p.m. every Tuesday for a midweek blessing.

Enjoy a delicious dinner and time of fellowship and programs. The cost is \$5, paid at the door on Tuesday nights. Bring correct change whenever possible, no bills higher than a \$20.

Make your reservation by 10 a.m. Monday by calling 495-6368 or e-mailing singles@frazerumc.org. The Frazer Singles Family looks forward to welcoming you.

Frazer Family Focus Singles

January 2009
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Prime Time Singles class member, veteran participates in Honor Flight

By Dr. Dick Bennett

Dr. Dick Bennett is a member of the Prime Time Singles Sunday School class. He served as an Army medic in World War II, working in a general hospital in England as a surgical technician. Dick was blessed with the opportunity to participate in the Honor Flight program, which takes World War II veterans to Washington D.C. to see the World War II monument. Here, he shares his experience:

In August, my request to be on the Honor Flight for veterans was accepted and I was scheduled for the Oct. 4 flight. That morning, I awoke at 3 a.m. to get ready for departure from Prattville. I arrived

in Prattville at 4:30 a.m., where I met my guardian Bill and got on the red bus. Three buses were there to transport the 88 veterans and their guardians. We had a police escort to the Montgomery airport and we arrived there in plenty of time for our 7 a.m. takeoff. The flight lasted about two hours.

The World War II Monument, Vietnam Memorial, Iwo Jima Memorial, the changing of the guards at Arlington Cemetery and several other sites in Washington D.C. were sights to behold. I would not have missed this trip unless I had broken bones or had been sick in bed. I will treasure the photo I had taken with former Sen. Bob Dole, whose untiring

efforts made this project possible.

The added thrill for all of us was seeing all of the people waiting to greet us when we arrived at the airport in Washington D.C., at the monument and then when we arrived back in Montgomery. They were lined up on both sides of the aisle as we got off the buses or planes, shaking our hands and thanking us for serving our country. There were quite a few tears in the vets' eyes, too, as we received these unexpected greetings, from generals and privates, and young and old folks alike.

It was an unforgettable experience and I want to thank all the people who made this trip possible.



PHOTO BY NELL MURPHY

Dr. Dick Bennett is a member of Prime Time Singles and a World War II veteran.

for me and all of the veterans who have been on the two flights so far and for those who will be on future flights.

This article first appeared in the Montgomery Area Council On Aging's newsletter "Friends."



Left: Prime Time Singles gathered for their annual Christmas party in December. Anne Dean, Virginia Holmes and Peggy Turner were among those in attendance.

PHOTO BY BUDDY MURPHY

Right: Anchor Class members Angela Allen, Dave Smith, Jon Couey and Paul Wise enjoy a time of fellowship at their annual class Christmas party.



PHOTO BY LYDIA PORTER



PHOTO BY TERI BROWN

DivorceCare for Kids participants thank Frazer

Children and volunteers participating in Frazer's DivorceCare for Kids program recently expressed their thanks to the church for offering a safe place where children can heal from the pain of their parents' separation or divorce. The next 13-week session of DC4K begins Jan. 6 at 5:30 p.m.

The 13-week DivorceCare structured program for adults dealing with divorce and ongoing DivorceShare group also begin Jan. 6 at 5:30 p.m.

Register now for Singles Small Groups

The Winter 2009 term for Singles Small Groups begins Tuesday, Jan. 6 at 5:30 p.m.

Register now for one of the following groups:

- DivorceShare
- DivorceCare
- DivorceCare for Kids (DC4K)
- Boundaries
- Stop the Whining (single-parenting class)
- "Come Thirsty" (six-week Max Lucado study)
- "Walk the Talk" (seven-week study of 1 Peter)

Brochures and registration forms are available in the Singles Ministry office and in Singles Sunday School classes. For more information, call the Singles Ministry at 495-6368 or e-mail singles@frazerumc.org.

Parenting Solo class members thankful for blessings, share with those in need

By Kristi Lee

The members of Parenting Solo have been busy this holiday season. The class enjoyed a Thanksgiving potluck dinner and a wonderful time of fellowship while sharing the many reasons each person had to be thankful last year.

The class organized a toy drive to coincide with the Parenting Solo Christmas party and each member brought a new, unwrapped toy to donate to Common Grounds Ministries, an inner-city mission in Montgomery. As a result, needy children in Montgomery's poorest neighborhoods were able to enjoy Christmas. The children of Parenting Solo class members all

had the opportunity to experience giving to those in need at Christmas. What better way to demonstrate Christ's love.

"I like giving things to people," one 5-year-old boy said. "It makes me feel good."

In 2009, Parenting Solo has planned several social events and will consider the many opportunity available to help those in our church and community. An estimated 29,000 single parents live and work in the tri-county area. The mission of Parenting Solo is to reach out to those who have no place to belong. Fitting in as a single parent can be difficult, but Parenting Solo can make it possible.

TNT Volunteer Spotlight



Mildred Bridges is one of the Tuesday Night Together volunteers who helps make the Tuesday evening program a success. Here, she checks TNT attendees on the reservations list before they make their way down the line to pay for their meal.

Anchor Class celebrates with football bash

By Patty Woodring

The Anchor Singles Sunday School class gathered recently at the home of class member Janet Williamson for an evening of football. The predominant colors worn by class members were crimson and white, though some came clad in orange and blue.

Shouts of "Roll Tide!" were heard from the downstairs group, while those upstairs clapped and cheered for their team. All enjoyed the food and fellowship.

If you want to experience true Christian fellowship and friendship with other Christian singles visit the Anchor class Sunday mornings at 10:45 in room 7207.