

Rehoboth Reflections

January, 2012

Pastor's Points from Pastor Doug

One New Year's Eve at London's Garrick Club, British dramatist Frederick Lonsdale was asked by Seymour Hicks to reconcile with a fellow member. The two had quarreled in the past and never restored their friendship. "You must," Hicks said to Lonsdale. "It is very unkind to be unfriendly at such a time. Go over now and wish him a happy New Year." So Lonsdale crossed the room and spoke to his enemy. "I wish you a happy New Year," he said, "but only one".

As the New Year approaches Judy and I wish you all many happy New Years to come. We thank you all for your cards, calls, and gifts during Christmas and all your hard work during 2011. It is a joy to be with you.

As we all enter into a new year, I continue my challenge to us all to bring at least one (hopefully more) person to Christ in 2012. Our witness is essential if we are to spread the message of God's love and salvation.

I urge us all to join the "My Ministry" efforts here at Rehoboth in order to discern and respond to the things that God is calling us to in 2012.

May we all stay focused on the Cross and always remember the words of Jesus from the Lord's prayer, "thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven".

In our coming let us all take to heart the Prayer of St. Francis where we hear the words "Lord make me an instrument of Your peace."

In our going let us all share with others the old Irish blessing:

"May the road rise up to meet you.
May the wind always be at your back.
May the sun shine be warm upon your face,
and rains fall soft upon your fields.
And until we meet again,
May God hold you in the palm of His hand."

In Christ,
Doug

COUNCIL ON MINISTRIES NEWS CORNER

January is always a time to reflect on the past year and begin to think about the New Year. In our reflection time, it is easy to remember the challenges and hardships so I encourage each of us to be intentional about thinking about our blessings and how God is there for us always, through good times and bad. What are some new ways in 2012 that you can be in ministry and serve others?

Rehoboth UMC just completed a year-long celebration of our 100th anniversary. How wonderful indeed! 233 people attended our morning worship. It was great seeing familiar faces again that we have not seen in a long time. It reminds me how God continues to unfold His plan for Rehoboth and how the celebration is for Him and not brick and mortar or our own personal desires in front of His desires. We celebrate Unity, Community, Love and Forgiveness over 100 years in the life of Rehoboth.

In 2012 the Administrative Council will continue to meet monthly. Our first meeting in January is scheduled on Sunday, January 22, from 12:30 - 3:00 p.m. This meeting will be our visioning meeting for the New Year. We ask everyone to be in prayer as we discern how God wants us to serve and step out in faith. Many wonderful seeds are already planted through the My Ministry Program and Workplace Ministry. The prayer teams continue to under gird our church and people with prayer.

I encourage you to make it a daily practice to show the love of Christ to everyone and share with others how God is present in your life. You may be the one who someone sees and then says, "I want that joy that I see in the people at Rehoboth."

God Bless you in 2012,
Jan Smith

FROM THE PRAYER CORNER

When we started this **Prayer Jubilee** journey together, my hope was that we would grow in our prayer lives as individuals and as a corporate body of Christ. Once we got started, God placed on my heart the need for each one of His children to know that first and foremost He **LOVES** us, and He cares about whatever is happening in our lives, and He yearns to have us walk with Him and fellowship and share with Him and be in His Word and have His Word in us. We traveled through the weeks of the Prayer Jubilee and many of us started seeing God clearly at work in our prayer times and in our lives. We also saw increasing evidence of His presence in the life of Rehoboth and we were and continue to be amazed at how He answered prayer.

As we concentrated on true **REPENTANCE**, God's healing started taking place and is still taking place. His forgiveness received became forgiveness given to others. We looked for God's **PEACE**, and we saw more of a calm and loving Spirit in our midst. We asked for the **JOY** of the Lord, and we found hope in all sorts of situations. We can truly see that we are a joy to Him and He wants us to experience all that that means and He wants us to experience it now. His **GRACE**, His unmerited favor, overwhelmed us, and now we seek to be conduits of that grace to others. During the Christmas week we concentrated on God's **GLORY**. Our focus was to understand that we can and do bring glory to our God through the lives we live for Him. We seek to yield ourselves to the work that He would give us to do but only for His glory. Finally we spent our last week of the Prayer Jubilee seeking ways to work our God's **WILL** at Rehoboth. God's will is always that men may come to know Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. He calls each of us into ministry with Him. He calls us as individuals and as a community of believers to witness to what we have received and to share with others the truth of what we know. What is your part in God's plan? Just ask Him, and He will show you. His promises are true.

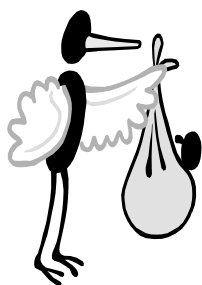
Have you received from the Lord during this **Prayer Jubilee**? Please share it with others. God asks that we broadcast His goodness, tell of His wonderful works, and rejoice in His love. Don't keep it for yourself. Share what the Lord has done for you. Witness to His mercy and grace and share the love that you have been given. I remember the lines of a song that Pastor Doug talked about one Sunday. They go something like this: "Love wasn't put in your heart to stay. Love isn't love till you give it away." So, give it away and become a star shining that all can see the Christ who came to give it all away.

In His service with you,
Sherry Smoak

YOU'RE INVITED

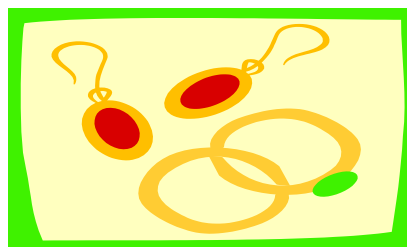


The Jubilee Prayer Groups along with Doug and Judy wish to invite everyone to Shealy's BBQ in Leesville on Saturday, January 14, 2012. We will meet at 12:30 p.m., have lunch, and then go three blocks to Doug and Judy's house for a brief prayer meeting. Everyone is invited. See you there!



NEW ARRIVAL

John Kipton "Kippy" Hogsett arrived December 21, 2011. He weighed 8 lb. 14 oz. and was 21" long. Kippy is the son of Brittani Harrington and Brett Hogsett, the grandson of Kami Baldyga, and the great-grandson of Barbara Herndon.



IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO BEGIN GATHERING ITEMS FOR NEXT YEAR'S AUCTION!

Judy Benton will host a Premier Jewelry party on Sunday, January 15, at 3 p.m. in the church parlor. This party **will not** benefit Judy. **ALL jewelry EARNED from the sale of jewelry sold will go to the auction for 2012.** Everyone is invited, and bring a friend. The more jewelry sold will mean more jewelry we will win for the auction. So come, enjoy, and order this nice jewelry. Let's get started on finding items for the auction early.

January 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 6:30 UMM Church Office Closed Grayson Hensley	3 6:45 Prayer Breakfast 10:30 Sutton/ Brown Prayer 6:00 Trustees	4 6:30 Choir	5	6	7
8 12:15 Children's Choir Carlisle Smith III	9 6:00 Adult Handbells 6:30 UMW 7:00 Finance Christopher Miller	10 6:45 Prayer Breakfast 10:30 Sutton/ Brown Prayer 6:00 UMM to DJJ	11 6:30 Choir	12 6:00 Thankful Thursday 6:40 Small Group Studies Virgie McLemore Betsy Walsh J.M. Windham	13 8:30 Soup Kitchen Buck Evans	14 9:30 Produce Giveaway 12:30 Jubilee Prayer Groups - Shealy's BBQ
15 12:15 Children's Choir 3:00 Premier Jewelry Party	16 6:00 Adult Handbells Dee Hook Brisa Juarez Earle Kirkley	17 6:45 Prayer Breakfast 10:30 Sutton/ Brown Prayer Newsletter Deadline	18 6:30 Choir Shannon Gardner	19 11:45 CLC Luncheon 6:00 Thankful Thursday 6:40 Small Group Studies Rita Burrows Patrick Saunders	20 Austin Jones	21 Loretta Joyner
22 12:15 Children's Choir 12:30 Church Council Mark Hatley	23 6:00 Adult Handbells Ken Dalton Charlotte Weekley	24 6:45 Prayer Breakfast 10:30 Sutton/ Brown Prayer David Mitchum	25 6:30 Choir	26 6:00 Thankful Thursday 6:40 Small Group Studies Dan O'Donnell	27	28 Tyler Cabrera Joan Deremo
29 12:15 Children's Choir Don Fulmer Matthew Hudson Palmer Hudson	30 6:00 Adult Handbells	31 6:45 Prayer Breakfast 10:30 Sutton/ Brown Prayer Kerry Ridings				

FOOD PANTRY & PRODUCE GIVEAWAY

Wonderful things happened at the Food Pantry in November. Of course the most important part was the clients we served. 487 people came to the door with 1,856 family members. We actually got 2 cases of peanut butter at HHFB, the first in a long time. This probably sounds a little crazy, but we feel great when we have things like peanut butter, macaroni and cheese, and some other particular items. All the volunteers take pride in putting together the best of what we have available for our clients.

In case you haven't already heard: Jeannette and Ed Burch bought 50 chickens and side dishes for Thanksgiving while we had put aside 8 turkey breasts for HHFB along with the "fixings". The Monday before Thanksgiving we had over 70 people come to our door. (I think the first one went home and called their friends!) It was a joy to see how appreciative they all were.

We will be closing the pantry from December 22 until January 2. Many of our volunteers will be out of town, and it would have been almost impossible to staff during that time frame. Say an extra prayer for your clients, please. Come visit us in our new home. There will be some adjustments, and we'll probably have to do some fine tuning to our procedures; but we are up to the challenge. Say a prayer for us too!

We had 90 people at PGA. We gave away flavored rice serving 6-8 people, 2 bunches of green onions, collards or lettuce, 4 cans of soda, 1-1/2 pounds of green beans, spinach, bread, and bagels. This is not as much as we usually have, but it still would have cost \$22.48 at Bi-Lo.

Our faithful crew was Joan Deremo, Gabby Windham, Neil & Sherry Smoak, Pat Hynds, and Ken Waldron. We were out of food by a little after 10 a.m. (We opened the door at about 9:20 a.m.) Again, we are so blessed to be able to provide this, and thank you one and all for making this possible.

By the time you read this we are expecting to be in our new home in the Christian Life Center. Arrangements have been made to move the 3 door cooler by a professional mover. Two refrigerators and one freezer are already in place. Canned goods will be moved shortly. Dan and Brian O'Donnell and Gabby Windham are doing a lot of the moving.

MISSION PROJECT UPDATES

As you know we at Rehoboth have been saving egg cartons for Harvest Hope Food Bank for years. We have recently learned that HHFB now longer needs them. Thank you for all the many cartons you have saved; however, please **do not** save them for us any longer.

We have been saving greeting card fronts for several years. Originally we saved them for St. Jude's Ranch Recycled Card Program. Because they received so many cards from all over the world they stopped accepting new donations. They have since redesigned the process to more efficiently manage the increased production from the increased volume and are once again welcoming new submissions. Any greeting card fronts are welcome. They currently have an increased need for both birthday and thank you cards. Just bring your card fronts by the church office, and we'll take it from there.

Do you have any paperback books lying around you have finished and don't have a home for them? We are taking donations of paperbacks to give to the Washington Street UMC soup kitchen for their clients. We deliver them on the second Friday of each month when our volunteer team goes to man the soup kitchen. Just bring them by the office, and we will see that they are delivered.

CHALLENGING NEW LEADERS FOR CHRIST

This is a midday Christian luncheon hosted by Rehoboth every third Thursday of the month from 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. It is open to everyone. Lunch is \$6.00 and is followed by table discussions and/or testimonies. It is a great opportunity for Christian fellowship. Invite your co-workers and join us for lunch.

UMW NEWS



The UMW will meet on Monday, January 9, at 6:30 p.m.

ALL WOMEN OF REHOBOTH ARE INVITED TO ATTEND!

UMM NEWS

UMM Purpose: To declare the centrality of Christ in every man's life, to promote the spiritual growth of men through effective discipleship, and to model the servant leadership of Christ in our daily lives.



“As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another.” Proverbs 27:17

“Be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only.” James 1:22 (KJV)

2012 Schedule:

- Monday, January 2: 6:30 p.m. meeting
- Tuesday, January 10: 6 p.m. UMM to DJJ (meet at the church to carpool)

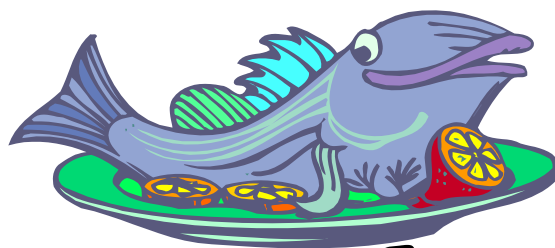
“If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things become new.”
2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)

DJJ Christmas Party: Eight UMMen met with 22 juveniles for a Christmas party at DJJ (Dept. of Juvenile Justice) on Tuesday, December 13, the second Tuesday of the month (always the second Tuesday). A great time was had by all with the theme of the party being “The True Meaning of Christmas”. Special thanks to the following for their participation:

- Bill Rose: for shopping and preparing gift bags (t-shirts, socks, toothpaste, etc.) for all
- Dan O'Donnell: for providing refreshments, including the “Happy Birthday, Jesus” cake
- Dial Hook: for playing the best Santa Claus ever
- Christopher Miller: for leading the discussion and the prayer circle
- Rev. Doug Benton, L.W. Smith, Jeff Snow and Dave Petty: for speaking to the juveniles about the true meaning of Christmas.

If you are interested in participating in this exciting men's ministry, please contact one of these UMMen.

“Remember those in prison as if you were their fellow prisoner.”
Hebrews 13:3 (NIV)



Fish Fry

UMM FISH FRY 2012

Rehoboth UMMen will host the 29th Annual Columbia District Fish Fry on Monday, February 27. This is the largest men's meeting in the Columbia District so all men of Rehoboth are asked to lend a hand. The sign up board will be in the Education Building beginning Sunday, January 29.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

The following have volunteered for various duties during Sunday morning worship for the month of January:

Greeter: Haley O'Donnell

Ushers: Josh Boyce, Ed Johnson, Christopher Miller, Frank Pratt

Lock up: Christopher Miller

January 1:

Lay Reader: Judy Benton

Communion Assistant: Judy Benton

Nursery Worker: Karen Pratt

Counters: Christopher Miller & Neil Smoak

January 8:

Lay Reader: Paul Elliott

Nursery Worker: Marge O'Donnell

Counters: Janice Petty & Judi Rose

January 15:

Lay Reader: Christopher Miller

Nursery Worker: Bonnie Hollis

Counters: Judy Benton & Belinda Fulmer

January 22:

Lay Reader: Sherry Smoak

Nursery Worker: Martha Marcucci

Counters: Vilma Cobb & Judi Rose

January 29:

Lay Reader: Dave Petty

Nursery Worker: Jane Massey

Counters: Bill Rose & Jan Smith

EMMAUS OF THE MIDLANDS GATHERING

Rehoboth will host the Emmaus of the Midlands community on Friday, February 24. We look forward to this opportunity to showcase Rehoboth and our new Christian Life Center. This gathering is open to all to participate. Mark your calendar to come fellowship and worship with the Emmaus community. There will be a covered dish dinner following worship.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Bobby Dennis and Brian O'Donnell for all their help in setting up our Christmas tree and other holiday decorations. The Worship Committee

The families of the late Thelma Smith would like to thank Vilma Cobb and members of the UMW of Rehoboth for the service and lovely gift presented to each of us. May God Be the Glory for the things He has done.

I'd like to thank everyone who helped in any way with the year long celebration of Rehoboth's 100th Anniversary. Addie Mae Jones

Thank you to our Rehoboth friends for expressions of sympathy during the loss of our nephew, Paul Hill. A special thank you to the ladies and/or gentlemen who prepared and served our lunch. In Christian love, Linda and Catherine Bowen

2012 FLOWER CHART

The 2012 flower chart is here and posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Sign up now to get the Sunday you want!

THANKFUL THURSDAY IS A GREAT SUCCESS!

The new Christian Life Center is providing great opportunities for our membership. Thankful Thursday is one of these opportunities. Your support is appreciated. It is encouraging to see visitors invited, kids excited, and everyone enjoying themselves. We look forward to continuing these weekly fellowships in 2012.

Your participation in Thankful Thursday helped raise over **\$1,300.00** in our six fellowships. Let's increase our participation, share God's love, grow together, and watch God bless this new building and our ministries. Starting in January, small group opportunities will immediately follow Thankful Thursday. (See below.)

Thankful Thursday Menus

January 12: Black-eyed peas, collard greens, rice, pork, cornbread, dessert, and beverage

January 19: Baked/fried chicken, mashed potatoes, vegetables, rolls, dessert, and beverage

January 26: Spaghetti supper with vegetable, salad, toast, dessert, and beverage

February 2: Chicken Alfredo, vegetables, salad, rolls, dessert, and beverage

**Tickets may be purchased immediately after worship in the Education Building.
For ticket information you may call the church office at 788-2220.**

SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITIES

IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THANKFUL THURSDAY

Starting January, 2012

6:39 p.m. Jan. 12th – Feb. 9th

Call facilitator with any questions or to sign-up.

Five Week Study "AGING IN THE GRACE OF GOD"

Facilitated by: Sherry Smoak (Discussion based Not lectured based)
Contact Sherry at 234-4520

This study relates to issues of senior adults as their ministries change. It emphasizes the positive aspects of aging and encourages seniors to not just exist but to grow and bloom.

Five Week Study "JUST WALK ACROSS THE ROOM"

Facilitated by: L.W. Smith (Discussion based....Not lectured based)
Contact L.W. at 730-6769

This video study will help us with ideas and concepts of building relationships with folks so that we are comfortable in sharing how our involvement in church and God's Word benefits our life. It will give us a simple and fresh understanding to what "evangelism" really means. If you desire to "go" and reach out to people around you, but you find yourself perpetually stuck in "stay" mode, this study is for you.

Five Week Study "NOOMA VIDEOS" by Pastor Rob Bell

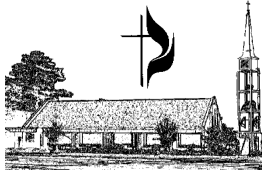
Facilitated by: Brad Priest (Discussion based...Not lectured based)
Contact Brad at 420-7874

Each film is about 10 to 14 minutes of teaching related to real-life situations. Each short story covers a specific topic, usually by relating various experiences from a Christian perspective.

Jesus lived with the awareness that God is doing something, right here, right now, and anybody can be a part of it. God is always inviting us to open our eyes and join in. NOOMA is a series of short films that explore our world from a perspective of Jesus. NOOMA is an invitation to search, question, and join the discussion.

***Studies begin at 6:39 p.m. immediately following "Thankful Thursday" meal.
Studies will be finished by 7:45pm.
Supervised children activities will be provided during studies.***

**VISIT OUR SIGN-UP TABLE
IN FRONT OF THE WATER FOUNTAIN IN THE EDUCATION BUILDING**



REHOBOTH UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
DOUG BENTON, PASTOR

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**REHOBOTH CELEBRATES
THE NEXT 100 YEARS
WITH A VALENTINE GALA**

*Tuesday, February 14, 2012
Christian Life Center
6:30 p.m. social time
7 - 8:30 p.m. gala*

*This will be a dressy/casual Valentine Gala.
You will be greeted by a host/hostess,
seated by candlelight, served a four-course meal,
and entertained with live music.*

*Reservations are required.
\$25 donation per person (table for 7 can be reserved)*

*Reservations can be made immediately after worship in the
Education Building starting in January or by contacting
Pat Hynds, Belinda Fulmer, Addie Mae Jones, or L.W. Smith.
Make checks payable to: RUMC and designate "Gala Donation"*