

Spring Hill Messenger

Vol. 62

February 2006

No. 2

From the Pastor

Soren Kierkegaard said there are two kinds of Christians: those who imitate Jesus and those who are content to admire Him.

Brennan Manning addressed the above comment by adding that there are those who choose to view the gospel safely and from a distance, as we would view Salvador Dali's *Last Supper* at the National Gallery in Washington; there are others who throw themselves into the Christian drama and live in the power of Jesus' words and resurrection.

Thomas Merton wrote: "One dimension of convenient spirituality is our insistence on ideals and intentions, in complete divorce from reality, from actions, and from social commitment... [In this kind of spirituality] pretty thoughts are enough. They substitute for everything including charity and [even] life itself."

The words of Jesus remain with us: Repent...follow Me...take up your cross...make disciples of all nations...teach them to obey everything that I have commanded you...visit the prisoner...feed the hungry...clothe the naked...welcome the stranger...love your enemies...bless those who persecute you...do not worry...seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness...be perfect even as your heavenly Father is perfect...[for] not everyone who says to Me 'Lord, Lord' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but only the one who does the will of My Father in heaven.

I think it's all very clear. I pray that we will not succumb to convenient spirituality and pretty thoughts, but that we will do *exactly* as Jesus said, and will do so out of gratitude for what He did for us on the Cross.

In His love,
Norman

The Kierkegaard, Merton and Manning quotes are from Brennan's book, *The Importance of Being Foolish: How to Think Like Jesus*, Harper Collins, 2005, pgs. 45-46.

God loves you as if you were the only one in the world to love. And he loves everybody the way he loves you.

St. Augustine

Molly's Musings

"A Time for Everything"

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven: Ecclesiastes 3:1

It is with a heavy heart that I use this newsletter article to announce to you, the church, that as of August 1, 2006, I will no longer serve as Spring Hill's Youth Director. For many months I have been struggling with how to juggle being both a mom and a minister to our young people. One sleepless night, the answer finally came to me and peace pervaded my conflicted heart for the first time in a really long time. With clarity, I understood that God, for some time now, has been calling me to concentrate my efforts into one ministry: the ministry of raising Hannah.

I cannot thank you enough for allowing me to be a part of this body of Christ. Your love, support, and friendship have been an incredible gift to Chris, Hannah and me. Words will never be able to express the gratitude we have for all the blessings you have so generously poured out on us.

I also want to thank the youth for being the amazing group of young people that they are. I do not want to sound prideful, but I truly believe there is not another church in Mobile as blessed as Spring Hill when it comes to outstanding young people. You are without a doubt the most gifted, the most loving, the most talented, the most caring, the most spiritually rooted group of young people I've ever known. You are who you are because God is at work in your lives and in the lives of your family, namely your parents. It has been my privilege and honor to watch the Creator mold and shape you as you come to know Him even more.

Ironically, I also must thank our young people for training me for the ministry I am about to begin. You will always be my benchmark for Hannah. Thank you for giving me a vision and a goal. It is my prayer that God will be at work in her life and if it is His will, I will get to see Him shape her into a kind, compassionate, loving, teachable disciple of Christ just as He is currently doing for each of you.

It is not yet time to say good-bye. I look forward to my last six months with you. I will cherish each Bible study, TMFP, PYC, and summer trip. With God's help, it will be an awesome spring!

Yours in Christ,
Molly



The total received for Joy Gift offering taken during the Advent and Christmas season was \$1,437.00



Poinsettias

The Service Committee would like to thank all the volunteers who helped deliver poinsettias to our shut-ins and sick.

Calling Actors and Singers of All Ages

Be a part of

“By the Sea”



An Intergenerational Musical for Children, Youth, and Adults

By Mary Nelson Keithahn and John Horman

Directed by Randy Sheets



To be presented in both morning worship services on May 14

“By the Sea” dramatizes in song and story incidents from the life of Jesus that took place along the shores of the Sea of Galilee, in and near the town of Capernaum. Three “Seekers”, one sick, one hungry, the third in need of a friend, represent the needs we all bring to Jesus. They have been told that they might find Jesus down by the sea, so they go from place to place looking for him. They never catch up with him, but eagerly listen to the stories of people who knew him.



Cast

Chorus (adults, youth, children are Citizens of Capernaum)
Several Roles for Solo Singer/Actors (adults, youth, children)
Several Roles for Speaking Actors (adults, youth, children)



For a complete cast list, see www.shpc.us (Music Ministries box on home page)

Auditions

Chorus members are NOT required to audition (but please be able to carry a tune)

Auditions for Speaking Parts and Solo Singing Parts: Sunday, Feb. 12, 4:00

To audition for a *solo singing part*, be prepared to sing a short section of any song, such as a hymn, patriotic song, Broadway tune, etc. (1 minute maximum duration)

To audition for a *speaking part*, you will be asked to read a short part from the musical. Please bring your calendar and be prepared to write down times you are able to rehearse between audition time and May 14.

Note: Children’s roles will be played by members of the Junior Choir and Carol Choir.



Schedule



Solo singers will have individual sessions with the director and/or with other coaches. Chorus sessions will preferably take place in March and April on Sundays between 5:00 and 6:00. Rehearsals for the full cast will be announced.

Final dress rehearsal will be on Saturday morning, May 13.

For more information, contact Randy Sheets at the church or see www.shpc.us (Music Ministries box on home page)

Schedule for Choir Participation in Worship: February

Youth Chorale: Feb. 5, 8:30
Youth Handbells: Feb. 12, 8:30
Junior Choir: Feb. 19, 8:30
Spring Hill Ringers: Feb. 12, 11:00
Chancel Choir: Each 11:00 service



Stillman College Choir concert

The Stillman College Choir will present a concert on March 5th at 3:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

Presbyterian Women Activities

Presbyterian Women's Coordinating Team will meet on Wednesday 1 at 9:30 a.m.

Circles will meet on Wednesday, February 8 as follows:

- #1 at 10:00 a.m. at the church: Thelma Bowen, Hostess.
- #2 at 9:15 a.m. at the home of Mendy Turnipseed (17 Ashley Drive)
(nursery provided) We will be filling goodie boxes
for our college freshmen.
- #3 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor
- #4 at 7:15 p.m. in the Parlor



Mark your calendars for Thursday, March 16 – PW Gathering. It will be at First Presbyterian in Jackson. More information about this and making your reservations will come soon.

We thank Circle 3 and members of the congregation who participated in the decorating of the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall for Christmas. It was more beautiful than ever.

First Thursday Luncheon – February 2

Have you stuck an article or picture in the closet or drawer with the thought that it's something you want to save? Sometime later you can't find it or it has been thrown away. At the luncheon on February 2nd, you will have the opportunity of finding out how we can preserve these gems to share with our children and grandchildren.

To help us think about these special gems, bring something to the luncheon you want to save. Cost of the lunch is \$5.00.

Katrina Committee Update-January 10, 2006

After hurricane Katrina hit the Mississippi Gulf Coast on August 29th and spared Mobile from the worst of the wind and water, the members of Spring Hill Presbyterian Church felt called to help those in the community in whatever way we could. Dr. McCrummen and Rev. Boone immediately convened a group of members to discuss what could be done and this group became the current Katrina Committee. (Tom Boone, Ashley Brown, Pat Edington, Allen Jones, Margaret Jordan, Kathy Hamilton, Norman McCrummen, Pat and Royce Ray, and Pat and Jeff Stoll)

The group quickly decided that the church and its members could do several things:

1. Organize and send out work teams to help with homes with damage.
2. House work teams from other areas and teams sent to us through the Presbytery.
3. Seek partners to help identify needs and then help meet these needs and identify sources of supplies and help direct these to those in need..

You, the members of the church, have accomplished many things in these areas.

1. 41 members and 18 Students from Rhodes College (organized by Robert Shreve) have participated in at least 10 different work days in Waveland and Ocean Springs, MS and the Mobile area. They have picked up trash, helped organize supplies, taken out sheetrock, sprayed gallons of Clorox, placed tarps on roofs and many other things to help people begin the process of putting things right. One crew found, and helped on two occasions, an 82 year old with Parkinson's and his wife.
2. The "Bullard Bed and Breakfast" is up and running and has played host to 8 work groups from Alabama, North Carolina, Tennessee, Georgia, Michigan, and Florida. Each group had between 3 and 20 guests and stayed as little as 3 days to 2 ½ weeks. Two student groups were here on their fall break to help. Many groups are expected from January through April with an average of 12 to 15 being housed each night. Each person receives an air mattress, sheets, towel, and most importantly, a hot meal each night and breakfast in the morning.
3. Church members identified several contacts to identify needs and several sources of supplies. Our sister church, First Presbyterian in Ocean Springs, is a central point for these efforts. Others include the Biloxi Community Center, Long Beach, St. Michaels Catholic Church on Herron Bay Loop, Christus Victor Church in Ocean Springs, Volunteer Mobile/Volunteer of America warehouse in Mobile and the Mayor of Ocean Springs. The first efforts were several truck loads of water, food and medicine to Waveland, Ocean Springs, Pass Christian, and Herron Bay. This continued and expanded to include 80 pallets of requested supplies from the Mobile warehouse to the Biloxi distribution center in one day and over 180 blankets, sweat shirts, gloves and caps when the weather cooled. Our youth took a bus, car and u-haul load of Christmas toys, furnished by the congregation, to Ocean Springs to be

(Continued on page 6)

(Continued from page 5)

distributed to kids who were in need. The youth also decorated the Chapel and Fellowship Hall with two Christmas trees and numerous wreaths and helped prepare for a youth Christmas party.

4. As of December, \$25,000 had been donated by the congregation and one unsolicited gift from a record producer in Los Angeles. Additionally, you have sent \$30,000 to the Katrina Relief Fund of Presbytery. These financial commitments will continue to fund our relief efforts for an extended period of time.

With the passage of time, the needs of those affected will be changing. Currently, shelter is a priority and FEMA trailers are arriving. Items to set up housekeeping, pots, pans, flatware, etc. are needed. Please look at the church website, www.shpc.us, to see the current needs. While you are there, check out the photo galleries on Katrina relief.

The effort on the coast is a long term one and we are making plans for how to continue meeting needs in the new year. Your generosity and compassion has made a difference and with God's help, will continue to do so.

Thanks to outgoing officers

The thanks of the congregation is expressed to the
Officers in the outgoing class of 2005:

Elders: Amelia Daugherty, Joe Hastings, Mac Otts, Virginia Price, Ben Rowe, Rick True, Bruce Weinard, Don Wright

Deacons: Jim Adams, Mark Coats, Don Fry, Mike Hofto, Vi Howard, Ernestine McElroy, Harriet Nihart, Peter Pearce, Susanne Weaver, Sylvia Weinard



The Current Issues class schedule for February is as follows:

February 5th – Marie King, Child Advocacy Center

February 12th – Carolyn Douglas, Executive Administrator of the South Alabama Literacy Coalition

February 19th – Judy Stout; Book review of *The God Gene*

February 26th – Church Committee Reports, Coordinated by Royce Ray

Come and join us for these interesting and informative programs.

A little girl, whose church did not have a choir, was taken by her mother to a neighboring church where there was a large choir. She whispered in dismay to her mother, "They're not all going to preach, are they?"

From the Library

In the last two months several additions have been made to the church library. Consider the following for adults (parents, grandparents and teachers):



- >Michael Gurian: *The Minds of Boys*, saving our sons from falling behind in school and life.
- >Lt. Col. Dave Grossman: *On Killing*, the psychological cost of learning to kill in war and society.
- >Abigail Trafford: *Crazy Time*, surviving divorce and building a new life.
- >Bryan Sirchio; *Bugs for Lunch*, New Testament Bible songs for kids! With CD.
- >Bryan Sirchio: *Worms in the bread*, songs for kids based on stories and themes from the Hebrew Bible, with CD.
- >Maren Tukabassi & Bryon Sirchi: *Artist's Hands*, music for youth groups and confirmations classes, with CD.



I recently read a letter written by a 23 year old girl whose mother has had cancer for the last five years. Her mother put up a brave fight dealing with surgeries, chemotherapy, and constant pain. The doctor finally had to tell her dad that nothing more could be done.

Her father rarely speaks about her mother's illness. She and her dad joke about it, mostly to avoid a sad, uncomfortable situation. She tried to talk to him about things, but doesn't want to make him sad. She starts to lose it every time her dad tears up, so now they avoid the subject. She doesn't know who to talk to. Sometimes she feels talking is pointless anyway, because talking won't change the situation. But her feelings are becoming overwhelming, and she needs to let them out.

Can you help me, she asks? Yes, we can help you. Let us be your friend.

Margaret Miller, Your Stephen Leader

There are two days in every week about which we should not worry.

One is yesterday, with its mistakes and cares, its aches and pains. Yesterday has passed forever beyond our control.

The other day is tomorrow, with its possibilities, adversities and blunders. Until the sun rises we have no stake in tomorrow, for it is yet unborn.

That leaves only one day—today. Anyone can fight the battle for just one day.

It is only when we add the burden of those two awful eternities: yesterday and tomorrow, that contentment will escape us.

The G.O.L.D. Bulletin

Our Adult Education ministry has taken great strides with increased attendance, more course offerings to meet our needs, and even more classroom space! If you are not already coming to a course then there's no time like the present to dive in. In February we are featuring the following exciting courses!

Sunday AM

Foundations for Christian Marriage
Learning the Living Word
Bible Discovery
The History of the Bible
Current Issues



Wednesday PM

The Chronicles of Narnia, led by Rev. Boone

Coming in March look for two new courses to refresh and renew your faith during Lent.

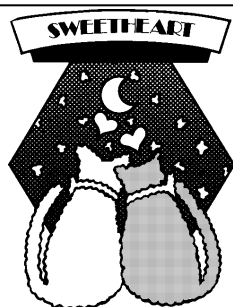
Sunday AM

A 5 week course for new members or inquirers to SHPC

Wednesday PM

The Ragamuffin Gospel, led by Dr. McCrummen

For details on these courses, or to make further suggestions to the adult education team, then please grab the Spring 2006 G.O.L.D. catalogue at church!

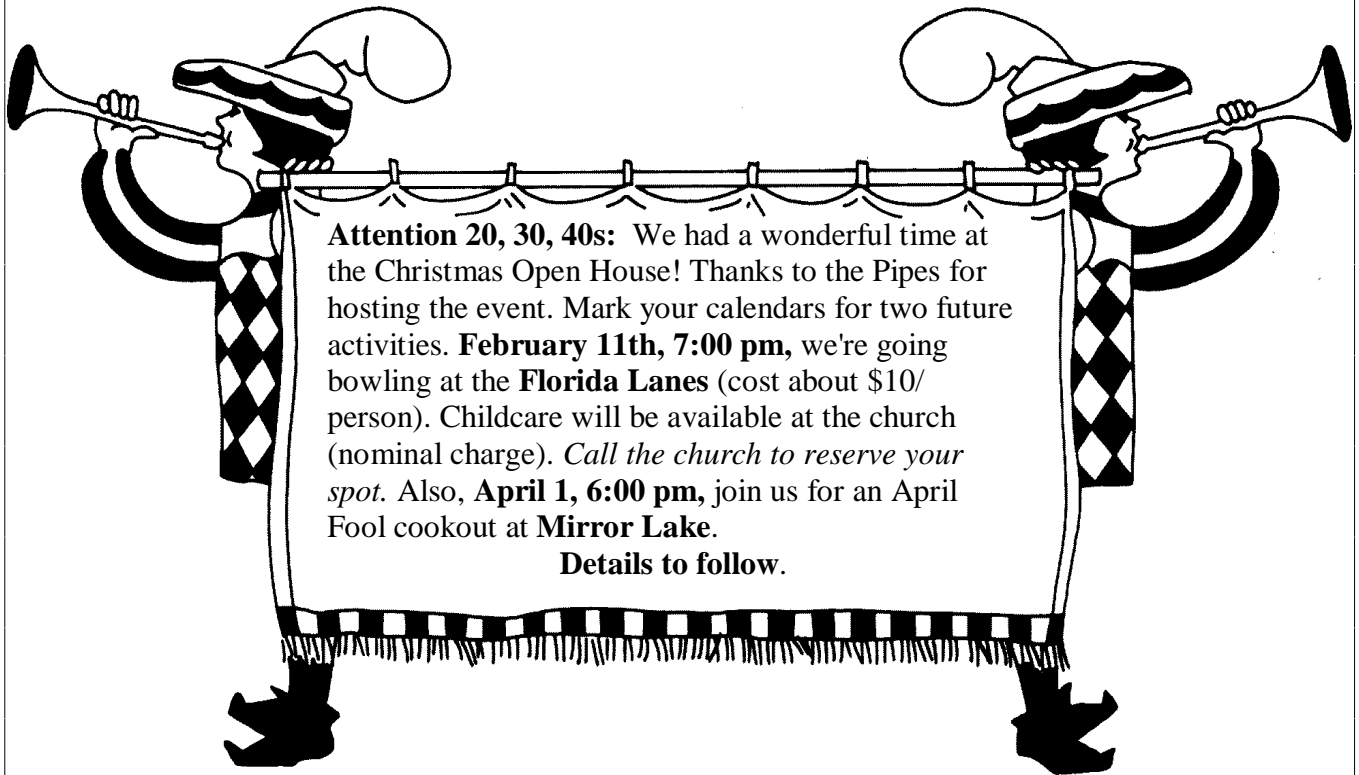


Valentine Lunch

Plan now on attending our Valentine Lunch on Sunday, February 12 following the 11:00 a.m. service. Cost is \$5.00 adult; \$3.00 child; \$20.00 family maximum. Watch the bulletin for more details and reservation information.



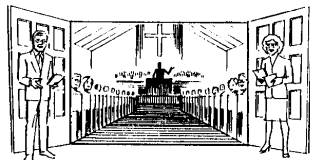
Please mark this important date on your calendar – March 12, 2006. This is the date of our next BLOOD DRIVE. We did not have a very good turn out for our last drive. We would like to have 35 units of blood donated. That means we need at least 40 people to sign up. Please consider giving the gift of life. Call the church office if you can donate or help at the drive. There will also be a tear-off in the Sunday bulletins for signing up.



Welcome to our new members:

Kay and John Williams
408 Ridgelawn Drive West
Mobile, AL 36608
343-3247

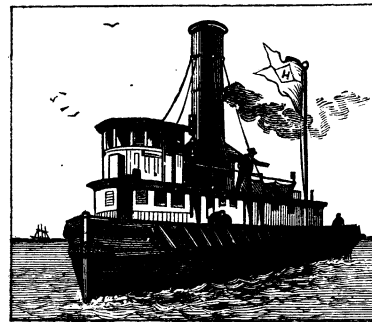
Paula Johnson
5014 Hillwood Circle South
Mobile, AL 36608
345-9980



**Welcome to Our
Congregation**

Russian river cruise

Frank and Sylvia Beall are hosting a Russian river cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow, September 9-22, 2006. Brochures are available on the table in the main hallway. For more information, you can reach the Bealls at: (850) 439-6862 or by email at frankbeall@bellsouth.net.





We rejoice with Dave and Marilyn Fulgham in the marriage of their daughter, Susanna, to Adam Ennes on October 20.



death shall
no longer
have
dominion

The prayers and sympathy of the congregation are with Harold White in the death of his mother, Ella Mae White, on December 12; with Dan Sellers in the death of his mother, Doris May Sellers, on December 15; with the family of Rock Lee in his death on December 30 in Marshall, North Carolina; with the family of Fay Otts in her death on December 31; and with Weezie Taylor and Burt Taylor, Jr. in the death of their son, Burt Taylor III on January 9th.



We rejoice with Susan Tomlinson in the birth of twin grandsons, Dario Fernando and Michael James Olivera on December 27 in Orlando, FL. (Parents are Susan and Dario Olivera)

Memorials

Memorials have been received for the following:

Fay Otts
Frances Jung
Blair Walton
Bill Hart
Doris Sellers
Rockne Lee and Marian Lee
Burt Taylor III
John Hamilton
Frank Cox
Katy Willis

From the following:

Gaylord and Betty Lyon
Dr. and Mrs Charles M. S. Rogers,
IV
Cathy and Jack Echols
Dr. and Mrs. Thomas C. Myers
Hilary Cabaniss
Perrin and Bill Drew
Evelyn and Bob Trainor
Russell Terry Agency
Manson and Marietta Murray
George and Greta Massing

Ruby Lauzon
Cathy Rayford
G. Garner
Denny Garner
Winthrop Hallett
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hanks
Ashley Childers
Mary Anne and Stewart Thames
Wayt and Elizabeth Harris
Hal and Lynne Daugherty
Mrs. Randolph Adams
Nedra Stimpson
Louise Parmley
International Assurance, Inc.
Ann and Walne Donald
Billy and Sue McLean
Dick Bradley
Edith Cox
Jean and Arthur Williams, Jr.
Mr. and Mrs. Tom Sharp, Jr.
Genie and Clifton Inge
Lucy Lyons
Martha McCarty
Dr. and Mrs. Fred Bodie
Cecile Gardner
Richard and Marion Overbey
Joy Taylor

Catherine Higdon
Collis and Shirley Parmer
Dr. and Mrs. Charles F. White Sr.
Mrs. John W. Adams
Mr. and Mrs. Cliff Brady
Clarinda and Sam Marshall
Mrs. Ernest F. Ladd, Jr.
Stony and Virginia Price
Marion and Malinda McMurphy
Larry and Nancy Sims
Dan and Doodle (Busby) Crumpton
Harriet and David Nihart
Susanne Weaver
Mike and Tamara Clancy
Ada Kearns
Charles and Ruth Cobb
Peggy and Blacksher White-Spinner
Kathy and Jim McElduff
Pat and Royce Ray
Roy and Gail Kennedy
Cort and Susan Schlichting
Sallie and Vernon Hunter
Maurice and Lulu Bell

Honoraria

*Honoraria have been received
for the following:*

Kelly Dunnill
Dr. and Mrs. W. T. Wright
Paul Kalifeh
Mitchell Kalifeh
J. E. Sandifer
Seaborn Guest
Norman and Nancy McCrummen
Randy and Vera Lynn Sheets
Tom Boone
Sara Martin

From the following:

Kathy and Dale Elifrits
Sara Martin
Alex Lankford
Edith Cox
Beverly Yeager



We rejoice with Dick and Beth Dearden in the celebration of their 50th Wedding Anniversary on November 23 and with Carter and Mary Kathryn Bryars in the celebration of their 63rd Wedding Anniversary on November 27.

A young clergyperson had preached what he thought was an outstanding sermon. He asked one of the older members of the congregation whether he enjoyed it. "No, I did not," replied the old man in a very firm tone. "What was wrong with it?" the clergyperson asked, rather taken back.

"In the first place, it was read, in the second place, it was not read well, and in the third place, it wasn't worth reading."

Thoughts for the day

- Birthdays are good for you. The more you have the longer you live.
- Do you know the best way to heal dry, chapped lips? Stop moving them.
- Don't worry about avoiding temptation. As you get older it will avoid you.
- Football: A game where 18 big, strong players run around like crazy for two hours while millions of people who really need the exercise sit and watch.
- My wife says I never listen to her. At least I think that's what she says.
- The happiest people don't necessarily have the best of everything. They just make the best of everything.
- Why do we wash bath towels? Aren't we clean enough when we use them? If not what was the purpose of the bath?
- When you're at your wits end, you'll find God lives there.

Lectionary for the Lord's Day

February 2006

- 5 *5th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
Isa. 40:21-31; Ps. 147:1-11, 20c;
1 Cor. 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39
- 12 *6th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
2 Kings 5:1-14; Ps. 30; 1 Cor. 9:24-27
Mark 1:40-45
- 19 *7th Sunday in Ordinary Time*
Isa. 43:18-25; Ps. 41; 2 Cor. 1:18-2
Mark 2:1-12
- 26 *Transfiguration of the Lord*
2 Kings 2:1-12; Ps. 50:1-6;
2 Cor. 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9



Bring your friends to Sunday school!

February 2006

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

Church Calendar

February 2006

- 1 Presbyterian Women Coordinating Team – 9:30 a.m.
2 First Thursday Lunch – 11:45 a.m.
6 Committees
8 Circles
9 Presbytery Meeting – Providence Presbyterian
10 Meals on Wheels – 10:30 a.m.
11 “20-40’s” Bowling Night
12 Valentine Lunch
13 Diaconate – 7:00 p.m.
14 Men’s Breakfast – 7:00 a.m.
20 Newsletter Deadline – 9:00 a.m.
Session – 7:00 p.m.
28 Office closed – Mardi Gras

Thought for the month

We are not human
beings having a spiritual
experience.

We are spiritual beings
having a human experience.

“I do not feel obligated to believe that the same God who has endowed us with sense, reason, and intellect has intended us to forgo their use.”

-Galileo



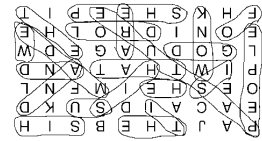
Edited by: Dan and Laura Sellers and heart-shaped
treats for Ti Amo and Al E. Cat.



Word Find

Find the words of Psalm 100:3 in this word find.

KNOW THAT THE LORD IS GOD. IT IS HE THAT MADE US AND WE ARE HIS PEOPLE, AND THE SHEEP OF HIS PASTURE.



Pasture Code

Here is a list of things that you might see in a pasture. Fill in the letters using the code.

Code: a = Δ
 e = \square
 i = \circ
 o = \square

1. Gr \square s s

4. Fl \square w \square rs

7. Sh \square ph \square rd

2. F \square nc \square

5. Tr \square \square s

3. W \square t \square r

6. B \square rds

Answers:
 Grass
 Fence
 Water
 Flowers
 Trees
 Birds
 Shepherd