

*Happy Thanksgiving!*

Frederick Buechner once wrote: "I am a part-time novelist who happens also to be a part-time Christian because part of the time seems to be the most I can manage to live out my faith: Christian part of the time when things are real and important to me and the rest of the time not Christian in any sense that I can believe matters much to Christ or anyone else" (*The Alphabet of Grace*, vii).

These words have been with me for several weeks now. I've been trying to sort through some kind of meaning they might have for this pilgrim, and have to believe that Buechner's honest appraisal of his own spiritual condition has some application to my own and perhaps some of you as well. In short, we still have work to do. We aren't always as Christ would have us to be in our thoughts, actions, and decisions. Yet I take some comfort in the words spoken by an older believer: "I'm not what I ought to be, and I'm not what I'm going to be, but thank God I'm not what I used to be."

There are so many things I'm grateful for, and being your pastor is one of them. It's a privilege to lead this congregation. You all have been tremendous in your prayers, support, friendship, and concern. My family and I count it a blessing to be here and believe the Lord has great things in store for all of us as His people. We've been through some tough times this past year, but God has been faithful and we have grown closer together as a result.

Part of that attitude of gratitude was experienced last Sunday night with our Thanksgiving banquet. I can't thank you all enough for your support of this special event, especially those who spent time and effort in the preparations. The History Committee, Capital Campaign Committee, Romona Baker's video contribution, those who helped decorate and set up, plus others I'm sure to leave out if I start mentioning names, went over and above in your service. I appreciate all of you for making it a memorable evening.

Yes, we do have our challenges. Some of you have shared them with me on a personal level, while others have made them known to our wider church family. Let's be kind to each other, and "count our blessings."

Your pastor and friend,  
*Danny*

**End-of-Year Gifts**

As we approach the end of 2009, we want to remind you that we must stay legal with the IRS with respect to late gifts. All offerings given on any Sunday in December will be included in your 2009 contributions. If you want to give a year-end gift after the plate has been passed on Dec. 27, you should hand your envelope to a church staff member by noon, Dec. 31, before the church offices close. A second way to give is to put your gift in the mail addressed to UHBC so that the envelope is postmarked no later than Dec. 31. Please do not put an envelope under a door where it will not be seen until Jan. of 2010.

A second reminder is that we can accept stock or mutual fund shares directly into our brokerage account with Scottrade but the transfer should be completed no later than Dec. 31. The value of the gift is the midpoint of the trading range on the day of transfer and we will determine that value for you. Call the church office or call me at 883-3877 if you need the account information.

Wyman Grindstaff, Treasurer

**DEACONS OF THE MONTH**

**December 2009**

Phil Hockensmith  
Diane Tucker

**A.R.M.S. VOLUNTEERS**

**November 22-28**

Marilyn Nelson: 742-0991

**November 29-December 5**

Loren & Norma Denney: 864-6090

**BREAD MINISTRY**

**November 22 & 29**

Bob Perry & Marilyn Nelson

**December 6**

Nancy Luxton & Melinda Nutt

**MENUS - 2009**

Each meal includes soup,  
salad bar, bread & dessert

**December 2**

Spaghetti & Meatballs, Broccoli,  
Cheese Bread

Serving Group: Hackett

**December 9**

BBQ Brisket on Bun, Cheese Potatoes,  
Steamed Vegetables

Serving Group: Hackett

**Happy Birthday!**

- 12/1 Ruth Latimer
- 12/1 James E. Miller
- 12/1 Darla O'Brien
- 12/3 Adam Hill
- 12/3 Kathy Twibell
- 12/5 Shawn Baker
- 12/8 Betty Turner
- 12/8 Pam Edwards
- 12/9 Sharon Harman
- 12/9 Chase Blakey
- 12/10 Julie Inmon
- 12/10 Kay Kerby
- 12/10 Ruth Lane
- 12/10 Elmagene Rains
- 12/10 David Hoffner
- 12/11 Mark Bowdidge
- 12/11 Maryan Smith
- 12/11 Elaine Young
- 12/12 Darin Bridges
- 12/12 Mel Gayer
- 12/12 Fern Palmer
- 12/14 Matthew Jordan
- 12/17 Andy Inmon
- 12/17 Ellie Inmon



**Deacon Prayer Concern**  
By Jennifer Goode

Merriam-Webster defines *thanksgiving* as the act of giving thanks, a prayer expressing gratitude, a public acknowledgment or celebration of divine goodness. In this season, we give thanks and express gratitude to God, but we often stop there. This year, in addition to your thanks, make this a celebration of God's divine goodness and the many ways you have experienced it.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

The next Word & Way Newsletter publication will be Thursday, December 10.

**Tuesday, November 24**

**WMU General Meeting in Fellowship Hall at 9:15 am**  
(Praise & Worship Service)

**Wednesday  
November 25**  
"Thanksgiving Eve"  
**NO**  
Wednesday night dinner  
or activities



Sunday, November 29  
**ADVENT BEGINS**  
"Christmas Around  
the World"

Hanging of the Green  
10:30 a.m.

**Parent's Night Out**

Fun for parents! Fun for kids!

**CANDYLAND**

**GAMES!**

**CRAFTS!**

And of course...  
**CANDY!**



**\*\*Come dressed all in one color like a Candyland game piece\*\***

Friday, December 4, 2009

6:00—9:00 pm







University Heights Baptist Church

Corner of National and Grand

Register by November 27 online at  
[www.uhbc.org/cia/parentsnightout.asp](http://www.uhbc.org/cia/parentsnightout.asp)

# Heights Highlights

University Heights Baptist Church  
1010 South National  
Springfield, Missouri 65804  
417-862-0789  
Dr. Daniel Chisholm, Senior Pastor  
November 5, 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> <i>Ladies Bible Study</i> 6:30-8:30 pm	<b>2</b> Dinner & Activities Bible Study Guest Speaker: Michael Olmsted  Outreach Meeting 9:30 am	<b>3</b> "Transition's" Christmas Party in the Heights 4:30-10 pm	<b>4</b> Parent's Night Out "CANDYLAND" game night 6—9 pm  Prime Time Event Night 5:15 pm	<b>5</b> <i>Mosaic Christmas Concert in the Chapel 7:30 pm</i>
		<b>6</b> "Global Missions Day" Guest Speaker: Bob Perry  Global Missions Dinner at 5:00 pm	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> "InterFaith" <i>Family Promise</i> in Fel- lowship Hall 6:30 pm  WMU Groups	<b>9</b> Dinner & Activities  Stand in Gap 7:15 pm	<b>10</b> Barnes & Noble- Rountree Book Fair  WMU Groups
<b>13</b> High Attendance Emphasis Day!  <i>Chancel Choir and Ko- rean Choir Christmas Program 3:00 pm</i>	<b>14</b>  WMU Groups	<b>15</b> Lyons Club "Blind Group" Christmas Party 1 - 4 pm in Fellowship Hall	<b>16</b> Dinner & Activities   <i>Christmas Vespers with Children's Choirs &amp; Bells, 6:30 pm</i>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  <i>Chamber of Orchestra of the Ozarks in the Chapel, 7 pm</i>
<b>20</b> <i>Chapel Bells will play in the East entry, 9:00 am</i> 	<b>21</b> "Searcher's" Christmas Party at Wyman's 6:30 pm	<b>22</b>  WMU General Meeting 9:15 am	<b>23</b> NO Dinner or Activities	<b>24</b> Office Closes at Noon  <i>Candlelight Service 6:00 pm</i> 	<b>25</b> Christmas Day Office Closed 	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> NO Dinner or Activities	<b>31</b> <i>New Year's Eve Office Closes at Noon</i> 		

**Reaching Out to Rountree:  
Interviews with UHBC Members**  
by Tania Gray

"It's a no-brainer," Ingrid Denney said, "They're right here. We should be ministering to that school." Ingrid has worked with the annual October Rountree Roundup festival for four years. Diane Tucker has also helped with the festival. "It's a lot of work and a lot of fun," she said. "It's a very successful event." Janet Hill, our Minister to Families, says that the past three years' fundraising total was \$5240 for technology equipment. This year we raised \$1369, plus the percentage that Barnes & Noble will contribute on December 10 sales for customers who mention the Rountree School.

UHBC is a Community Business Partner with Rountree School and corporate member of their PTA, and the corporate sponsor for the Rountree Cub Scouts. Both their dens and packs meet in our building. We are the emergency location if the school has to evacuate for any reason.

Our services to Rountree School have expanded over the years, including cleaning up their grounds, painting their foyer, and buying new books for their library. UHBC is the biggest contributor of Proctor and Gamble box tops (worth 10¢ each) for the school.

"Some of the best work our members have done is tutoring," says Nan Olmstead. "At first, we were working outside the classroom at tables, helping children read." Then they transported children to our church after school for tutoring in Fellowship Hall. Many people helped. "I yearn for us to plug in with teachers, to give our personal time as well as money to meet children's needs," she said, "but we are ministering to individuals in whatever we do for Rountree."

Why do we do all this? Janet says it is because of the reputation UHBC has earned as *caring*. Some Rountree families have joined our church as a result. David Martin, Principal of Rountree School, calls the church when he sees special needs for some of their families. 50% of their students receive free lunches. Janet said, "When the need is greatest, we are who they turn to."

**December 6  
Global Missions Day Dinner  
at 5:00 p.m.  
in Fellowship Hall  
Guest: Missionary Shane  
McNary — Slovakia  
(Please bring a  
covered dish)**

**SUNDAY'S REPORT**  
November 8, 2009

Sunday School 195  
Morning Worship 235  
Budget Offering \$11,994.00

November 15, 2009

Sunday School 221  
Morning Worship 198  
Budget Offering \$8,551.65

We are now giving at  
80.26% of our budget.

**POINSETTIAS**

If you would like to donate a poinsettia in memory of a loved one to be used in the sanctuary for the Christmas season, please call the church office at 862-0789 or you may place this form in the Sunday offering plate.

Deadline to order is December 9th.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Small: \$11.50 \_\_\_\_\_ Large \$22.50.

Amount enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

