



## Shepherd Tuesday Happenings for January 20, 2009

Dear Shepherdites and Friends,

For those of you that do not know, what used to be Sunday School is now Discipleship Training (sort of like Sunday School on vitamins). I can only speak about the class I am in, but I really enjoyed our Discipleship class Sunday morning. Ray did an excellent job. If you would like to tell your teacher in your class what a great job he or she is doing, why not drop a note in their mailbox or send me an e-mail and I will put it in the newsletter for all to see.

**Just Thinking** – Today is Inauguration Day. By the time most of you read this, it will all be over except the parties.



Recently I had the privilege of touring the Capitol Building in Washington, DC. Unfortunately, neither the House nor the Senate was in session at the time of our visit; however, I'm reminded of a story that I recently read, about a young boy that visited the Capitol with his father. After watching the Senate from the gallery, the boy asked his Dad, "What does the Chaplain of the Senate do?" The father thought a minute then replied, "He stands up, looks at the Senate, then prays for our country".

I think I will join the Chaplain on that one. We pray to be as the Pledge of Allegiance says "...One nation, under God". The Bible says, "*Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD.*" (Psalms 33:12 NIV). Could I have an "Amen"?

### **This Week at Shepherd --**

Wednesday @ 7 pm – Pray and Bible Study  
Sunday @ 9 am – Discipleship Training  
Sunday @ 10 am – Morning Worship  
Sunday @ 4:30 pm – Praise Team Practice  
Sunday @ 5:00 pm – Evening Worship

**Wednesday Night Bible Study** – This Wednesday night at 7 pm, in the church fellowship hall; we begin a multi-week study of a “Sacred Encounter with God”. Designed as a 40-day program, we will be compressing it into the next few Wednesdays. Ray Presnell has agreed to teach it and we are looking forward to this look at God’s love. As always, visitors and snacks are always welcome.

**Missionaries This Saturday** -- This Saturday at 5 pm, Shepherd Church, along with the Batesburg Church, will be hosting missionary Debbie Hofferbert who will be telling us about God’s work on the mission field. Mrs. Hofferbert is currently assigned to Brazil and is the daughter of Rev. B.W. & Mrs. Leota Downing of Sumter.

The church will furnish the meat; we need you to bring a side item. A signup sheet is in the foyer.

**2008 Contribution Forms** – The treasurer has placed your 2008 giving record forms in your mail box. Please check for these and other messages.

If you do not have a church mail box, please see Barbara Clark or the Pastor.

**Baptism and Membership** – If you are interested in Baptism or Church membership please see the Pastor. There will be no pressure or obligation should you inquire.

**Help Wanted** – If you would be willing to fulfill the duties of usher once a month, see Troy Whitaker or the Pastor.

**Alabaster Sunday** – Alabaster Sunday will be February 15. If you do not have a box, they are available in the foyer.

**Finally** -- The Sunday school teacher was carefully explaining the story of Elijah the Prophet and the false prophets of Baal. She explained how Elijah built the altar, put wood upon it, cut the steer in pieces, and laid it upon the altar. And then, Elijah commanded the people to fill four barrels of water and pour it over the altar. He had them do this four times. "Now," said the teacher, "can anyone in the class tell me why the Lord would have Elijah pour water over the steer on the altar?"

A little girl in the back of the room started waving her hand, "I know! I know!" she said, "To make the gravy!"

That’s a yummy thought. See you in church. Remember, come home to Shepherd where you ARE family.

*John*

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