



Benton First Assembly Newsletter

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March, 2011

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March Events

- 4th—5th—Fine Arts
- 5th—RR Chili Cook-Off
- 5th—Winter Jam Concert
- 6th—Connect Groups @ 5pm
- 12th—JBQ Tournament
- 12th—Zumba exercise class begins
- 13th—Daylight Savings Begins
- 19th—WM Cooking Class
- 22nd—PT Zoo Trip
- 25th—26th—District Men's Retreat
- 29th—Praise & Worship Practice



From Pastor's Desk

The snow is finally gone and everyone is shouting hallelujah!!! I know that I am the one who loves the snow and I still do but enough is enough and it is time to move on to spring-like weather. So no more praying for snow we are now praying for sunshine.

First we want to welcome Ryan and Chelsey McDaniel to our church they are our new Student Ministry Pastors. The search has been long and hard but I believe God has sent the leadership we need to take our Student Ministries to higher levels. I do believe under their leadership God will pour out a fresh flow of the Spirit that will spark revival in the students hearts and youth will start coming from the north, south, east, and west as we start impacting the lives of students in our city.

Just a note on our Outreach Ministry. Everything is going well. It is refreshing to know that we are trying to make a difference in the lives of those who are struggling and needing help. To all who are involved in this ministry, thank you for all you do and keep up the good work.

We do have ministries who are in need of help and I would encourage all who are not involved in ministry to seriously pray and consider becoming a part of the work God is doing here in our church, that is changing the lives of those being ministered to. See Pastor Tom, Carla Landon, or Jackie Earnest for more details. The Bible says that we all have a gift that has been given to us by God, and that we are to stir up that gift and use it for the glory of **God. Let's stop** making excuses and start stirring

the gift and see how you **can be used for God's kingdom.**

I can't tell you how excited I am of all that is going on in our church. There truly is a spirit of excitement and I know that God is up to something big. I am asking you to pray and seek God like never before. There are so many who need to hear the truth of the Gospel and so many who need to know that God really loves them. This next month our theme is Greater Heights with our series *Living in Spiritual Discipline*. The days of procrastination, waiting until **tomorrow, or if I don't do it** someone else will be over for the church and the children of God. The Bible says that today is the day of salvation and we are not to put off until tomorrow what we can be doing today.



Girls Ministry News—*Carla Landon*

A special thank you to all who purchased Valentine flowers to support our girls. We appreciate you so much.

If you have a heart for girls and love making a difference in young lives, I would love to visit with you. We are in need of committed, faithful women, will-

ing to sow seeds in the lives of our girls. We need sponsors and helpers for all ages.



Royal Rangers Ministry News—*Jackie Earnest*

It's that time of year again everybody has spent the winter perfecting a recipe for the winning brew, who **knows it might be you.** Yes it's the Annual Chili Cook-off and Royal Rangers are ready to sign you up. We will also have a pie and cake auction. Do you have that, **I've got to have another piece recipe?** Well make it, bake it and bring it on. All

proceeds go to support Royal Rangers. CrossPoint Quartet will be singing and judging the Chili Cook-off. This all happens March 5th, doors open at 9am. Get more information at the Information Booth. We also have tables to rent @ \$10 for businesses or individuals to show and sell their wares. This event gets bigger and better every year thanks to you.

Come and make a day of it, fun for all ages. Help us build the men of our future.



Saturday, March 5th—Sign up @ Info Booth

Power Time Children's Ministry News—*Brother Tom Young*



I want to thank everyone who has made a faith commitment or praying about making a faith commitment to support the BGMC walk I will be taking on May 12th. If you have not made a pledge, please pray and ask the Lord what He would have you do. All monies raised will go to give kids in Northern Asia backpacks loaded with supplies and a toy. Each backpack costs about \$16.



Parents, remember March 6th is the

deadline to turn in Kids Camp registration forms and \$60 deposit. We will have the Roll-a-Thon in May to help with the remaining balance. If you would like to sponsor a child, please let me know, or mark your offering Kids Camp Sponsor.

March 5th will be our Junior Bible Quiz state qualifying tournament. These kids have studied hard and are hiding **God's Word in their heart! I am thankful** for this ministry in our church. If your child is not involved this year, please consider having them be involved next year. **This is a fun way to learn God's Word** and it gives parents a fun way to help your child learn and sometimes us adults learn

new things too.

We have some special people who are leaving our team and moving to other town. I would like thank Jimmy & Ella Causey for their dedication to **children's ministry for several years.** You will be greatly missed but I know God has more in store for you. This leaves us with **openings in our children's ministry.** We have openings in Sonshine Church preschool ministry on Sunday mornings and evenings and in Power Time on Sunday mornings and Sunday nights. If you feel God has a call on your life to work with our kids, please let me know. I would love to visit with you.

Activ8 Young Adult Ministry News—*Raymond Cleghorn*

Greater Heights! This is our theme for March. I am praying for and expecting greater heights to be reached in Activ8 in the coming month. The past has been great! We have seen some wonderful things happening in the lives of our

young adults, but I am looking for greater things to come. Remember, we are not the church of tomorrow. We are the church of today!

Please be praying for the Activ8 ministry as we go forward into the next

months. God will move and He will continue to minister through the young adults. Pray for us that we will be willing to be moved for His purpose.



JEWELS Ladies Ministry—*Mua Brothers*

We have an exciting “Gathering” planned for this month. On March 19th at 6pm in the HonorBound Room. We invite all ladies to bring a dish of your choice, uncooked. We will be responsible to cook our own dish. As each dish is

ready, we will all have a sample of every dish prepared. The theme is *Women of the World*. So be creative & bring your most favorite dish to share. More details will be given at our upcoming Connect Group.

“Women of Joy” money is due at our upcoming Connect Group. We will also finalize the roommate list.

Our next Connect Group is March 6th at 5pm with Linda Robinson as our guest speaker. Come & be blessed!

Discipleship Ministry News—*Larry Davis*



Well this year is really going by fast. This means that we are getting closer to the day when Jesus will rapture His church. God has really blessed the Discipleship Ministry. God always provides the funds to take care of this ministry. I want to thank each and everyone of you who support this ministry in your attendance and finances. The Discipleship Ministries is in need of teachers and teachers helpers for all ages. We are also

having a problem in Disciple Ministries right now, but it is a good problem. We are running out of classrooms, praise the Lord. This is a good problem to have. If you have never been to one of our classes, I want to invite you. We have a class for every age group. Myself and Pastor Huskey are always looking at different classes that will minister to everyone. You owe it to yourself to check us out. You will not only learn more about

God's Word, but get to know more people here at Benton First. I have been here for 15 years and God has really blessed the church.

In closing, God welcomed Gerald Berry and Dalton Brothers, who passed away recently, into His kingdom. These were two great men who were faithful to the church, and truly loved the Lord.



Music Ministry News—*Raymond Cleghorn*

In the words of TD Jakes...“Get ready! Get ready! Get ready!” The Spirit has been so great in the past few services and I believe that this is only the beginning. When God's people begin to put aside everything else and just focus on Him, great things will hap-

pen. Through our worship, healing comes. In our praise, peace is found. When we give ourselves to Him completely, He makes us complete.

I challenge you this month to spend time in personal worship, not just when

you come to church. Prepare yourself daily for the confrontations that you will face. When we worship, no stronghold can stop us! What better offense against the enemy can there be? Sing it with me... “Oh Lord send the power just now...”



MoMentum Men's Ministry News—*Jimmy Batterton*

Men, there has never been a better time to be involved with Men's Ministry! With so many opportunities to serve, fellowship, and have fun, now is the time for what MoMentum has to offer! Take this perfect opportunity to see what exciting things God has in store for you!

Our Annual Men's Retreat on Lake Ouachita keeps getting bigger and better. This year we are excited to welcome Denton's Trotline as our official “Fish Feast” provider. Denton's will be offering

a variety of catfish, shrimp and chicken **with all the fixin's for our Friday night** fellowship and feast. We will be staying at the lodge at Crystal Springs again which is included in the \$70 registration. This also includes tournament fee, meals (supper and breakfast), and an event t-shirt. As always, the optional Big Bass drawing will be an additional \$5.

Men, the “Big Deal” is the Friday night rally and we want all of you to be a part of it! So for only \$20 you can enjoy

great food, fellowship, our guest speaker and transportation to and from Crystal Springs. So get registered and make plans to attend April 15th & 16th.

On a final note, we would like to extend our warmest sympathy to the families of Gerald Berry and Dalton Brothers. God has welcomed home our brothers as we sadly say goodbye. We would like to thank them for all their participation, love, and support they provided to MoMentum. You will be dearly missed.

March Newsletter



Benton First Assembly
1801 Hot Springs Hwy
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a place for you

Find us on the web
www.bentonfirst.com



Time to
Spring Ahead

Sunday, March 13th



Illumin8 Student Ministries—*Ryan McDaniel*

2011 has started out a wonderful year of change for our family: a new church, a new home, and a wonderful new family that has taken us in as their own. The first time we came to Benton, we knew this was where God **was going to put us, we just didn't know** when. As always, His timing is perfect and He has brought us here to be with each and every one of you. I want to extend a very special thank you to everyone who helped us with the move and welcomed us with open and loving arms.

Students are our passion, and student ministry is what drives us every single day. Students are faced with greater

challenges and more peer pressure than ever before. Our goal is to reach out to as many students as possible showing **them God's unconditional, never-ending** love. Our vision is for each student to realize that God has a purpose for them in this world that is far greater than they even know.

This is a journey that we cannot take on our own. God has so graciously provided us with an amazing staff of volunteers, ready and willing to do whatever it takes to reach these students. We are so grateful for these wonderful people, and we look forward to meeting more of you who will dedicate your time, talents, and

prayers to this ministry.

Change is in the air in 2011, and we are excited to see all of the changes that will take place in our ministry and our students. We are expecting great things from God both this year and in the years to come. The month of March will be an exciting time as we attend Winter Jam on March 5th and look forward to a fun filled week of activities during Spring Break. We look forward to all of these opportunities to serve our awesome God, and we face each new challenge knowing that we are blessed and highly favored.

Praise God we are so blessed. I encourage everyone to take a moment to stop and ask God, how can I serve? Let March be a month that we get up each morning asking God to fill us up to overflowing with his Holy Spirit. Keep your mind **guarded and on Christ and you will see your life reflect God's Love.** - *Linda Robinson*