



# Benton First Assembly Newsletter

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May, 2011

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## May Events

- 1st—Connect Groups
- 4th—Robby Mitchell with us in svc
- 7th—PT Roll-a-Thon
- 8th—Mother's Day
- 8th—evening service dismissed
- 9th—11th—District Council
- 12th—19th—Brother Tom's Walk
- 14th—Church Yard Sale
- 15th—Graduation Service & Reception
- 22nd—Baptism Service
- 22nd—Orderation Celebration
- 27th—28th—WIM District May Getaway
- 29th—evening service dismissed
- 30th—Happy Memorial Day



## From Pastor's Desk—He has Risen! Do You Believe?

If you missed this past Sunday's presentation, "Do You Believe" presented by the Choir you missed a powerful production. When the altar call was given there were many hands that went up for salvation and 5 or 6 responded for salvation. Thank the Lord for the souls brought into His Kingdom! The crowd was awesome there were very few places to sit after the production started. Praise the Lord for a full house on Easter.

I want to take time and thank everyone who had a part in making this year's Easter production a success. From those who parked cars in the parking lot, to the door greeters, and all who had a part in the production thank you. Without your help, there is no way we could pull off such a large task. And it goes without saying if you are working in a ministry on Sunday: Nursery, teaching a class, running a bus or leading a ministry thank you for your commitment, without you church would not be possible.

The 100 days of prayer has been very instrumental in all that has been happening in the last few weeks. Please stay committed to your daily time with God as you pray for the direction of our church. I know we missed this past Sunday night but we will hand out new scriptures this coming week and everyone can get back on track. Without pray nothing will change. As I read about all the great outpouring in the past they all started with one common denominator, Prayer! As we continue to pray, God will continue to give vision and direction that will lead our church in His direction.

There are so many things God is setting in motion that many have no idea is in the making. Please pray for the leadership of our church as we make decisions that lead us in God's direction. If you have not been able to shake the hands of the homeless, who are attending our church, please make an effort to shake as many hands as possible, not just homeless but everyone who is attend-

ing should feel welcome. To see our church ministering outside the walls of our church is exciting. We know we are following the heart beat of God when we are bringing the lost into the house of God.

This next month is going to be a busy month but what's new, I am really excited about our series for the month because I believe it will hit right where we are. The Theme will be – Healing with the series *Experiencing His Touch*. You don't want to miss this because I believe God is going to do something great and church-changing this next month so don't be one who just hears about it but be one who is experiencing it first hand by being in church.

Let's stay focused and committed to what the hand of the God is doing in our church.

Thank you to everyone who has helped with our recent funeral meals. Your help is greatly appreciated!  
Janice Couch



## Girls Ministry News—Carla Landon

It's hard to believe it is already May, where has the year gone? April 6<sup>th</sup> was our baptism service. I would like to thank Brother Tom and each family, for all their help in making this night so special for our children. It is so awesome to see what God is doing in each of these kids' lives. It was

very touching when one of my girls shared her feelings and excitement afterwards. It is humbling.

The next couple of months will be very busy, as we start Honor testing soon, the Teen Girls will be going on their St. Louis getaway on June 9 – 11. Then Girls Ministry Celebration will be in

August. Our theme this year is Reflections. Make plans now to attend this **special celebration of all of our girls' accomplishments.**

Thank you so much for your continued support. We appreciate our church family so much.

## Royal Ranger News—Jackie Earnest

It's so awesome to watch God work in the lives of His people. But to see children grow in the knowledge of the Lord and truly watch them conform to His ways and separate themselves from the things of the world is such a blessing to be a small part of His plan. God is so good. Ranger Kids Day, at Otter Creek Assembly, was a great time for our

younger boys to have some fun and was fun for commanders as well. Thanks commanders for your commitment and love you share with your boys.

Our next event is Pow Wow on June 3-5. Handouts have been sent out, mom/dad check their pockets. Anyone wanting to sponsor a boy for this event, the cost is \$60. Our goal is no boy is left

out due to money. Thank you in advance for helping. Work days are May 21st and 28th. Anyone wanting to go help are welcome, see me for more details.

We know that in everything God works for the good of those who love him, Romans 8:28. Give someone a hug, you might need it more than you think.



## Discipleship Ministry News—Larry Davis

Make a difference! Be a Discipleship Ministry teacher. Discipleship Ministry teachers make a difference how? In our world, Discipleship Ministry teachers affect millions of people in thousands of churches 52 weeks a year. Discipleship Ministry teachers disciple people of all ages to see the world, everyday events, and people around them through God's

eyes. They guide people of all ages to Bible truth; learning truth, loving truth, living truth. They invest time, money, and prayers to transform lives from the inside out. They rely on the Holy Spirit to empower their teaching, to draw students to salvation, to mature students in their faith. They complete the Great Commission--to make disciples, teaching them to

obey everything Christ commands. Their students enter the world equipped with Biblical knowledge, attitudes, and faith....prepared to change their world in Jesus' name, they really do Make A Difference!



## Illumin8 Student Ministries—Ryan McDaniel

Illumin8 is an exciting place to be right now. 7th -12th grades have come back together to form a stronger and more united group. Numbers are on the rise with leaders and students alike. It is so amazing to sit back and watch what God is doing in the lives of everyone involved.

April gave us a chance to celebrate the death and resurrection of our Savior! So many of our students don't know what it is to have good relationships in their lives, and they are finding how to do this in Jesus. They have been allowing Him to love them as only our Heavenly Father

can. It is wonderful to watch them grow.

May brings with it a bittersweet event for Illumin8— graduation. We are so happy for all of our graduates and look forward to what God has for them in the next phase of their lives. Come celebrate this achievement with us Sunday, May 15th. The students will be honored during the morning service, and a reception with refreshments will follow the evening service. I know these students will appreciate your support and encouragement as they move into the next level of their walk with Christ.

Youth camp is just around the corner! June 14-17 we will be attending the Arkansas Youth Camp in Hot Springs and will enjoy the Word, delivered by Neil Hubbard. Our students are excited and eager to receive all that God has for them at camp. We do have a few students still in need of a sponsor for camp, so if that is something you feel God has laid upon your heart to support, please see Chelsey or me. Camp is always a great springboard to get students on fire and ready to change the world!



## JEWELS Ladies Ministry—*Mua Brothers*

Our district office Women's Dept is hosting May Getaway, May 27-28, with guest speaker Thelma Wells. There will be swimming, go carts, vendor booths, massages & more. There are 3 packages to choose from: with housing \$65, no housing \$45 or 1 service only \$20 with meal(s) included in packages. If you would like to be a vendor, booths are offered for \$10 or \$20. Please see me for

details. Money is due by May 8<sup>th</sup>. This is an opportunity to get away, have fun & enjoy the company of sisterhood.

**"Secret Pals" will be revealed at our May Connect Group** for those involved. To participate in the next secret pal exchange, a brief form about yourself must be completed so it can be given to your 'secret pal' and vice versa.

Everyone likes a great bargain so please help us get the word out to your family and friends about the Church Yard Sale, Saturday, May 14<sup>th</sup> starting at 7am. Individuals will be selling their own items.

I have a very special treat planned for our next Connect Group. Please join us May 1<sup>st</sup> at 5pm. You will be blessed!



## moMentum Men's Ministry News—*Jimmy Batterton*

The 2011 Men's Retreat and Bass Tournament was a big success. This was probably one of the best tournaments that we have had for fishing with the average bag weighed in at about 12 lbs! This year's winners were Jeff and Greg Holmes with 18.7 lbs. 2<sup>nd</sup> place went to last year's winners, Virgil Vandergrift and Mike Hall with 16.24 lbs.

3<sup>rd</sup> place went to Tim and Cullen Bullard weighing in 13.88 lbs. And finally, The "Big Bass Award" went to Greg Holmes with a fish that weighed 6.702 lbs! Everyone was extremely satisfied with the catering by Denton's Trotline. We had a feast fit for kings! We have already signed them up for next year! I want to offer a gratitude to all of our sponsors

who helped us out this year and a very special thank you to Jackie Earnest who put in tons of hours to ensure the retreat's success. God bless you all!

Coming Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, make plans for our summer Men's Breakfast. We will be having biscuits and gravy, bacon, sausage, eggs and pancakes so come hungry!



## Intercessory Prayer Ministry—*Linda Robinson*

Fan the flames of the Holy Spirit burning up the past and making room for a fresh new anointing straight from the throne room of God.

As we stand in agreement, fast and pray for our church, our intercessory team has seen many of God's promises come to pass. We operate on "God's time" which means we will pray for you until you leave spiritually different than when you came in. Please let us know if we can pray for your needs, we meet at 7pm on Tuesday nights. I want to thank our team for their dedication and com-

passion. I know it is not easy being on call 24/7 as we obey the leading of the Holy Spirit to: heal the sick, raise the dead, and cast out demons, in Jesus name."

You and I can be strong because the Holy Spirit in us makes us strong, Romans 8:26. How does the Holy Spirit help us? The Greek word that is translated "helps" gives us an explanation. It is the word sunantilambonomai (OK, I know that is a mouthful). It is a compound of three Greek words. You see the Holy Spirit had to create His own word to describe Him-

self. The first word sun means "together with," second word anti means "against" the third word lambano means "to take hold of." Together those three words mean that the Holy Spirit partners with us to stand against anything that opposes us. It means we have the same power of the Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead!!!

Therefore, the Holy Spirit will provide all that we need to defeat the enemy that stands in the way of God's promises.

## Joshua's House—*Zeke Brinsfield*

We have been very blessed over the last several months. God continues the work He has started in us. We have seen entire families come to Christ through the work of the Lord. The Joshua House will be sponsoring a weekly men's prayer breakfast at the church every Thursday morning starting May 5<sup>th</sup>

through August. We would like to encourage every man to have breakfast with us as often as you can make it. Breakfast will start at 6:30 and end around 7:30.

We want to thank everyone who has purchased a picnic table from us. All proceeds from the picnic tables go to-

ward the Dream Center Missions trip this fall. If you are interested in purchasing a picnic table they are \$125 for an adult table and \$75 for a child table. Thank you all for being obedient to the call. Your support helps build us in to the men God created us to be. This is the work of the body.

## May Newsletter



Benton First Assembly  
1801 Hot Springs Hwy  
Benton, AR 72019

*a place for you*

Find us on the web  
[www.bentonfirst.com](http://www.bentonfirst.com)



May 8th



Brother Tom's Walk

May 12th—19th

### Ordination Celebration

For Brother Tom and Raymond

Sunday, May 22nd

Following evening service

cake will be served



May 30th

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



This month's newsletter comes with summer vacation just around the corner. Our annual Roll-A-Thon is on Saturday, May the 7th. It will start at 10 am and will last till noon. The roll a thon is a fundraiser to help kids with church camp costs. The kids ride bikes, trikes or anything else that will roll around the church for two hours and volunteers count the laps. I would like to invite parents to bring their grills out and tailgate and cheer the kids on and give them a hot dog off of your grill. It will be lots of fun and **let's hope it does not rain.**

The Easter Egg Hunt was a great success. We had lots of participants in our egg toss. Thanks for everyone who **helped make this year's egg hunt a success!**

The 15th of May is the deadline to sign up your child for Timothy Club camp. Timothy Club camp is for kids going into the 3rd grade thru the 6th. This camp is held at the church from 3pm on Sunday June the 12th thru Friday June the 17th. The kids will spend the night on Sunday night and the parents can pick them up at 5pm on Monday. We will start at 8am each day there after. The Timothy Club camp, although it is and will be fun for most of the kids, it is not about having fun, its about leadership. This year we will have a theme for Timothy Club camp. The theme is, We Are Not Playing. I think some kids and their parents think this week is a fun way to spend a week out of their summer and it will be fun but it will also be hard and challenging. I expect the kids who graduate to be leaders. The big-

gest problem we have after the camp is attendance. If you want your child to come to Timothy Club camp, I expect them to be at church on Sunday mornings at least 40 times out of the year. Some kids who go thru the camp show up once or twice a month if we are lucky. I am asking you a favor if you are not willing to commit to getting your child to practice by 6:20pm on Wednesday nights and at least 3 Sunday mornings a month please do not sign them up for Timothy Club. I know there are times when there are family emergencies but I know this is not the case most of the time. I love you and your kids. We can make Power Time the best children's church and Benton First the best church if we all work together. Thank you.



## Food Pantry Ministry News—Dan & Loretta Stroud

Thank you for all the donations for the Food Pan-

try. The shelves are filling up again for the needs to be met.

Again, thanks!! Dan and Loretta Stroud