



# heartland connection



January 2007

Volume 13, Issue 1

Dear friends,

Here we are again at the beginning of another new year. 2006 certainly has been a fantastic year in my life and in the life of Heartland. Although I didn't read everything I had planned or get all of my projects finished, it was a great year for me and my family.

Heartland has also been blessed this past year. We had our FAT (Facility Action Team) finish their work and come up with our new building to meet the needs we have in our ministry. God brought us Rick Franks as our new Associate Pastor. We had our missions committee host our first missions month. Our ESL ministry continues to grow. What an eye-opening time to see how God is using this church in so many different ways. We continue to watch our children grow and mature and have seen some weddings now and the next generation being born. God has brought us many new people of all ages from all over the country. We have a growing college/young adult group. We also have seen God raise up for us the largest number of men to be elders and deacons in our history. As we enter 2007 we will have the largest session we have had since we began Heartland. Sunday School, Youth groups, women's retreats and Bible studies, small groups, pot lucks, worship, outreach--we have truly been blessed this past year.

We have many exciting things facing us. We all need to ask, "What now?" What now would God have us do as a church to prepare ourselves for a new year? One area in particular is our outreach. I have been convicted by my lack of personal evangelism. I know that God wants us to share our faith because it was the last item Jesus told His disciples as He left this earth. Let's all ask God to give us a heart for the lost. Let us all commit to share our faith with someone this year. As we do that, and continue to pray for God to lead, I am convinced that He will open doors for us to minister to our new neighborhood around us, our community with all of the needs we see, and our world that is filled with uncertainty, pain and fear. Heartland will only be faithful as you are faithful. We will only be effective in ministry as you are involved and using your gifts. We will only grow as you continue to reach out to those around you and share Christ and invite them to come. Our leaders will only be able to minister as you hold them up in prayer and follow their lead.

I pray that all of us this year will grow in the wisdom and knowledge of God and pursue deeper things. Let us begin the New Year by forgetting what lies behind and pressing on toward the prize of the upward call of Jesus. Let us examine our lives and ask God for the strength and courage to get rid of the old and put on the new. Ephesians 4:20-24 tells us:

*"But you did not learn Christ in this way, if indeed you have heard Him and have been taught in Him, just as truth is in Jesus, that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth."*

God Himself is more concerned that we be more like Christ than we are and He is intimately involved in that process in our lives. He will continue to mold us and make us like His Son. Let God do His part, but don't neglect to do yours. As 2007 begins, take time to evaluate your life and make some positive steps of obedience as you renew your commitment to Him to walk in righteousness and holiness -- in "newness of life." It will be hard, but it will reap eternal rewards.

The bible is full of verses that remind us of the importance of time and how we use it. What will you do with your time this year? What will your priorities be? When you get to the end of 2007, will you be satisfied with your use of time? More importantly, will God be satisfied? I pray this year that you will be overwhelmed with the greatness of our God and His love for you. I pray that you will be humbled by the grace extended to forgive your sins and make you His child. I pray that you will be motivated to honor Him by the ministry that lies ahead--"the fields are white for harvest". I pray that you will be challenged to separate yourself from the things of this world and fix your eyes on Jesus. I pray that you will be excited to be a part of a body that desires to grow in maturity and encourage each other. I pray that you will dedicate yourself to raising your children in the nurture and instruction of the Lord.

I want to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have so faithfully served over this past year. Our music, Bible studies, small groups, family worship, potlucks, Sunday School, youth ministry, building, finances, etc. are all a tribute to your hard work for Christ. We could not have been as effective in our ministry without your dedication. I praise God for your faithfulness.

Finally, Ps. 98:1-4 gives us a great incentive as we enter into 2007:

*"O Sing to the Lord a new song, For He has done wonderful things, His right hand and His holy arm have gained the victory for Him. The Lord has made known His salvation; He has revealed His righteousness in the sight of the nations. He has remembered His lovingkindness and His faithfulness to the house of Israel; All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God. Shout joyfully to the Lord, all the earth; Break forth and sing for joy and sing praises."*

Remember what God has accomplished and sing Him a new song of praise in this coming year. May He receive all of the glory and honor that He alone deserves!

Pressing on in the New Year!

George



**When one thinks of the New Year thoughts often gravitate toward resolutions and renewed commitment to live life better or at least differently. In that vein let me share with you a sampling of the resolutions made by a young man only 20 years old:**

Being sensible that I am unable to do anything without God's help, I do humbly entreat him by his grace to enable me to keep these Resolutions, so far as they are agreeable to his will, for Christ's sake.

- Resolved, that I will do whatsoever I think to be most to God's glory, and my own good, profit and pleasure, in the whole of my duration, without any consideration of the time, whether now, or never so many myriads of ages hence. Resolved to do whatever I think to be my duty and most for the good and advantage of mankind in general. Resolved to do this, whatever difficulties I meet with, how many so ever, and how great so ever.
- Resolved, to be continually endeavoring to find out some new contrivance and invention to promote the aforementioned things.
- Resolved, if ever I shall fall and grow dull, so as to neglect to keep any part of these Resolutions, to repent of all I can remember, when I come to myself again.
- Resolved, never to do any manner of thing, whether in soul or body, less or more, but what tends to the glory of God; nor be, nor suffer it, if I can avoid it.
- Resolved, never to lose one moment of time; but improve it the most profitable way I possibly can.
- Resolved, to live with all my might while I do live.
- Resolved, never to do anything which I should be afraid to do if it were the last hour of my life.
- Resolved, to act, in all respects, both speaking and doing, as if nobody had been so vile as I, and as if I had committed the same sins, or had the same infirmities or failings as others; and that I will let the knowledge of their failings promote nothing but shame in myself, and prove only an occasion of my confessing my own sins and misery to God.
- Resolved, to be endeavoring to find out fit objects of charity and liberality.
- Resolved, never to do any thing out of revenge.
- Resolved, that I will live so as I shall wish I had done when I come to die.
- Resolved, after afflictions, to inquire, what I am the better for them, what good I have got from them, and what I might have got by them.
- Resolved, always to do that, which I shall wish I had done when I see others do it.

**Let there be something of benevolence in all that I speak.**

In addition to drafting 70 resolutions, the young 20-year-old Jonathan Edwards read his resolutions once every week to keep his mind on his duty before God. Knowing that we are all prone to wander spiritually, let me challenge us to either read over Edwards' complete list of resolutions (<http://www.apuritansmind.com/ChristianWalk/ResolutionsOfJonathanEdwards.htm>) weekly or make our own list of resolutions and each Sunday afternoon of 2007 to prayerfully read over them. May we, like the saints of old, live our lives with an ever increasing awareness of God's glory!

*Philippians 3:12-14 "12 Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. 13 Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, 14 I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."*

**In Christ,  
Rick**

## MISSIONS UPDATE

- ✝ Check us out! Anyone is welcome to come to the next Missions Committee meetings on January 11<sup>th</sup> and January 30<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at 7:00 pm in the church office.
- ✝ The Perspectives on the World Christian Movement course is offered this winter in Andover (Sundays) and West Wichita (Tuesdays), taught by experts from the world of missions. Discover what God is doing around the world and prayerfully consider your part in His purposes. You can audit or take this course for credit. **Scholarships are available.** See Sandy or Mandi Neblett or Jama Challans for more information.
- ✝ Notes of gratitude from the overseas missionaries we support:

***From Chris & Josephine Hatch:*** Wow! Thanks so much!

***From Mike & Susan Hershberger:*** We were very taken back by this generous gift! Thank you. This will help pay for our recent trips back to the States that we had for our Fathers' funerals. Your gift is an answer to prayer and we are very grateful for your thoughtfulness. Merry Christmas!

***From the Vaughns:*** Thank you so much! Hope you all have a great Christmas!

***From the Lenks:*** Please express our thanks to the brothers and sisters at Heartland Community Church for your kindness to us as a family. We are humbled by your generosity! Because this year has been rather hectic and stressful, we are going to take a short vacation to visit some friends in Europe shortly after Christmas. We will use this gift towards our travels. We hope you all have a wonderful Christmas!!!

-----

## MERCY UPDATE

- ✝ Anyone who would consider joining in prayer and outreach to Muslims in Wichita in conjunction with International Students, Incorporated (ISI), please contact Sandy Neblett or Norm Allen. We plan to gather weekly for intercessory prayer. We will encourage those participating to reach out individually by seeking to build a friendship with a Muslim student or immigrant.
- ✝ Operation Rescue is hosting "Wichita '07 - A Cry for Justice" January 19-22. Please contact Troy Newman if you could help with housing participants from out-of-town.

## PRAYER REQUESTS...

- Those dear to Heartland who serve our country: Brian & Sara Blackman, Jeff Danielson, Trevor Pederson, Nate Tolle, Gary Wischmeyer, and Kevin Woodrow. Please pray for peace and protection for them and their families.
- Glory Gensch (niece of Gary and Diane Gensch) who has made excellent progress in her battle with cancer. Please pray that Glory's faith will be strengthened, that she will have resolve to persevere, and that the chemotherapy would be effective.
- Ken Larson and family on the passing of his mother Peggy Larson.
- The Lazcano Family on the passing of Jeremias Lazcano.
- Kay Coon on the passing of her mother.
- Nate Humphries, recovering from knee surgery.
- Twin girls Caroline & Anne Yost, daughters of Julie & Bryan Yost. Praise God that they are finally home! Pray for health & growth for the girls, and God's peace and provision for Bryan & Julie & their growing family. Also pray for strength and rest for Julie. Updates on the girls' progress can be found at [www.yost.janasnyder.com](http://www.yost.janasnyder.com)

### NEW ADDRESSES

**Brian & Sara Blackman**  
427 N. Dodge ▪ Wichita KS 67203

**Rick & Robbie Franks**  
2612 Cranberry ▪ Wichita KS 67226

Home: 712-4100  
Rick Cell: 519-7868  
Robbie Cell: 519-7869

**Eric & Meredith Mork**  
3960 Sweet Bay ▪ Wichita KS 67226

## MEMBERSHIP CLASS

We will offer a New Members Class on Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. Please join us from 3:00-6:00 p.m. for an informal time of discussion with Pastor George as he answers your questions and explains Heartland's vision for ministry and how you can become more involved! We would love for you to attend even if you're not yet sure that you want to join; there is no obligation. Please call Erin at 686-0060 to RSVP.

*We look forward to seeing you there!*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS:

### POT PROVIDENCE

On Sunday, January 21st, we will have a Picnic in the Gym after worship. Stay tuned for more details!

### NURSERY COMMITTEE

Our next meeting will be Thursday, January 18th at 7:00 pm in the church office building.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please have bulletin announcements to the office by noon on Thursdays!

### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

We will have a Congregational Meeting on January 14th immediately following worship. Join us to vote for the men who have been nominated for the position of Deacon or Elder & examined by Session.

### DEACONS MEETING

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 9th at 6:30 pm at the church office.

### MERCY OFFERING

A special offering for the Benevolence Fund will be taken this Sunday, January 7th. You may place your offering in the gray box or in the baskets during Communion.

### JOB OPPORTUNITY

A part-time job is available as an Administrative Assistant to a Christian Psychologist, 20-30 hours per week. Contact Vicki Granberry at 733-0986 if you are interested.

### FINANCE COMMITTEE

Our next meetings will be at 7:00 a.m. on Thursday, January 18th in our office building. See you there!

### MS & HS YOUTH

Youth Groups will meet on Wednesday evening at 6:30 p.m. at Heartland.

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School classes will resume on January 7th at 9:15 a.m.

### BIRTHDAYS

If you have not given your family's birthdays to the office and would like to be included on our monthly birthday list, please call Erin in the office at 686-0060!

# WOMEN'S MINISTRY NEWS

## New to Heartland?

Those interested in being added to the Prayer Chain, please notify Lynne Foss at fossdog@sbcglobal.net or call 733-5463. Those wishing to become a part of our Meal Team ministry (for new moms, families in need, etc.) please contact Emily Cable (613-2268).

## 2007 Heartland Women's Retreat

Join us February 23rd & 24th at Crosswinds Retreat Center in Hesston for our 2007 retreat: "Building a Community of Kingdom-Effective Women". Our speakers this year will be Stephanie Granberry and Janet Malcom. We are excited for another great time together learning, sharing and lots of fun! Mark your calendars now!

## New Women's Bible Studies

**The Way of the Psalms** starting January 17, 2007 at the church 9:00-11:00 a.m. Childcare is available. Please RSVP to Erin at church if you are needing the nursery and were not here last semester. Join us for great inductive study and discussion!

**Twelve Extraordinary Women** by John MacArthur, starting January 17, 2007 in the home of Kathy Morris (147 Belle Terre) at 9:00 a.m. Childcare is available. Please let Kathy know if you are new to the group and need childcare. Questions? call Kathy 733-8340.

*Congratulations*

*to*

*Daniel & Megan Gensch*

*Pete & Caitlin Mathews*

*and*

*Trevor & Stephanie Pederson*

*Who were married in December 2006!*



## NURSERY CLEANING SCHEDULE

### Purpose:

Two people team up for 1 hour to clean the nursery once a month to keep the nursery safe and clean.

### Duties:

Hand wash cups & toys, wipe down larger toys, throw away broken toys, wipe down shelves & clean the bathroom.



### January

Barry & Janet Malcom

### February

Meredith Mork & Mandi Neblett

### March

Franks family

### April

Terri Dugger & \_\_\_\_\_

Keys are in Erin's office, upper-left cabinet, #1 and #4 keys with giant key chain attached.  
Sign out on checkout sheet & return them by the next business day.



# JANUARY 2007



Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

	1 <b>NEW YEAR'S DAY</b> Office Closed	2	3 Ladies' Bible Studies 9am  MS & HS Youth 6:30 pm	4  Session	5 <i>Pastor George's Day Off</i>	6
7 <b>Communion</b> <b>Mercy Offering</b>  <b>Membership Class 6pm</b>	8 <i>Pastor Rick's Day Off</i>	9  Deacon's Mtg. 6:30pm	10 Ladies' Bible Studies 9am  MS & HS Youth 6:30 pm	11  Missions Committee Meeting	12 <i>Pastor George's Day Off</i>	13
14 <b>Congregational Meeting</b> <i>(Vote on Deacon/Elder Candidates)</i>	15 <i>Pastor Rick's Day Off</i>	16	17 Ladies' Bible Studies 9am  MS & HS Youth 6:30 pm	18 Finance Meeting 7am  Nursery Committee Meeting 7pm Sessions 6:30pm	19 <i>Pastor George's Day Off</i>  Operation Rescue "Cry for Justice"	20  Operation Rescue "Cry for Justice"
21 <b>Picnic in the Gym</b> (following worship)  Operation Rescue "Cry for Justice"	22 <i>Pastor Rick's Day Off</i>  Operation Rescue "Cry for Justice"	23	24 Ladies' Bible Studies 9am  MS & HS Youth 6:30 pm	25	26 <i>Pastor George's Day Off</i>	27
28	29 <i>Pastor Rick's Day Off</i>	30  Missions Committee Meeting	31 Ladies' Bible Studies 9am  MS & HS Youth 6:30 pm			

## PICNIC IN THE GYM

Join us on January 21st after church for a Picnic in the Gym!  
*Watch the bulletin for details...*

## STORYTIME

*If you are unable to work during the time you are scheduled, you must find a replacement and notify the church office of the change.*

January 7 - Bankston

January 14 - Berry

January 21 - Bruce

January 28 - Castro-Miller

February 4 - Challans

February 11 - Crandall/Coon

February 18 - Doctor

February 25 - Glass

## GREETERS

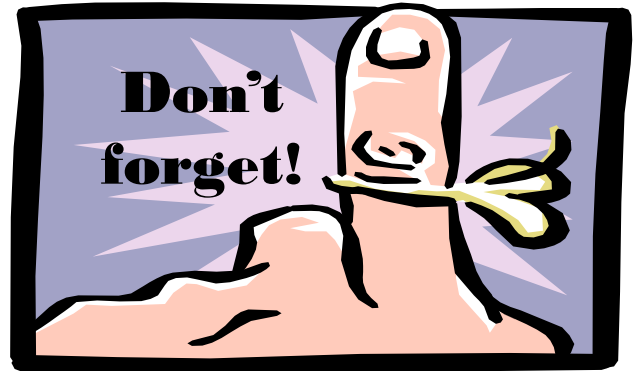
*Please call Bill Crandall (682-9662 or 265-6553) if you have questions or need to reschedule.*

*January 7th - Martinez*

*January 14th - Mork*

*January 21st - Morris*

*January 28th - Nadlicki*



## NURSERY

*If you are unable to work during the time you are scheduled, you must find a replacement (an adult needs to switch with another adult) and notify the church office of the change.*

### Sunday School (9:15-10:30am)

01/07 - Klaassen

01/14 - Morris

01/21 - Peterson

01/28 - Shelden

02/04 - Malcom

02/11 - Schantz

02/18 - Welles

02/25 - Wilson

### Worship (10:30-12:00pm)

Bruce Team

Snow Team

Haslam Team

Willis Team

Bruce Team

Snow Team

Haslam Team

Willis Team

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

1 - Daniel Johnson

2 - Will Morris

3 - Zachary Dugger

6 - Ben Franks

Cary Humphries

7 - Lois Johnson

Heather Vaughn

9 - Bob Crook

11 - Nevada Castro-Miller

18 - Mary Kay Larson

19 - Nate Tolle

21 - Caleb Morris

27 - Loa Kay Welles

28 - George Bruce

heartland  
Community Church

---

***Senior Pastor:***

George Granberry

***Associate Pastor:***

Rick Franks

***Elders:***

Walter Berry

George Bruce

Gary Gensch

Bryan Hanning

Jeff Morris

Stan Shelden

LaVerne Waalkes

Brad Welles

heartland  
Community Church  
457 S. Woodlawn  
Wichita, KS 67218