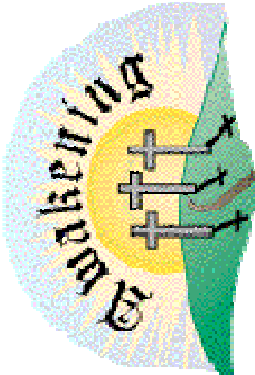


Visit our webs site at:
www.bartlettgreatbanquet.org

Contact your Board of Directors at:
BoardofDirectors@bartlettgreatbanquet.org



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Community Spiritual:
Director Roy Whaley

Assistant Community Spiritual Director:
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Bartlett Great Banquet
P. O. Box 343357
Bartlett, TN, 38138

DeColores!

BARTLETT GREAT BANQUET NEWS April 2008

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MEN'S BARTLETT GREAT BANQUET # 48

Lay Director Bobby Vawter

October 2 nd	Men's Send Off	7:00 PM	SOS 2505 Poplar Ave Memphis, TN
October 4 th	Men's Candlelight	7:30 PM	Advent Presbyterian 1879 N Germantown Pkwy Cordova TN
October 5 th	Men's Closing	4:00 PM	SOS 2505 Poplar Ave Memphis, TN
October 7 th	Men's 4 th Day Meeting	7:00 PM	Faith Cumberland Pres. 3427 Appling Rd Memphis, TN (Bartlett)

WOMEN'S BARTLETT GREAT BANQUET # 49

Lay Director Becky McKissack

October 9 th	Women's Send Off	7:00 PM	SOS 2505 Poplar Ave Memphis, TN
October 11 th	Women's Candlelight	7:30 PM	Advent Presbyterian Church 1879 N Germantown Pkwy Cordova TN
October 12 th	Women's Closing	4:00 PM	SOS 2505 Poplar Ave Memphis, TN
October 14 th	Women's 4 th Day Meeting	7:00 PM	Faith Cumberland Presbyterian 3427 Appling Rd Memphis, TN (Bartlett)

AWAKENING "2009"

Pinecrest — Highway 57, La Grange, TN

January 17 th	Awakening Send-off	Saturday 8:30 AM
January 18 th	Awakening Candlelight	Sunday 7:30 PM
January 19 th	Awakening Closing	Monday 3:30 PM

Gatherings (5:00 pm)

May 3 rd	Grace Celebration Lutheran Church 8601 Trinity Rd Cordova, TN
June 7 th	Advent Presbyterian Church 1879 N Germantown Pkwy Cordova TN
September 6 th	Grace Presbyterian Church 6671 Yale Road Bartlett TN
November 1 st	Holly Grove Cumberland Pres. Church 538 Holly Grove Rd Brighton, TN

MEN'S GREAT BANQUET #46

Against great odds! That's one way to think about the unbelievable great experience of the Spring 2008 Bartlett Great Banquet. If Vegas made odds there would be few people in this city who would bet for such success. We had to cancel the Fall retreat. Some of the committed staff had to drop out for various reasons. The University of Memphis was playing in the final four for only the second time in memory. Who would have bet that 23 men would set aside four days out of a busy schedule, missing one of the biggest sporting events of the decade in the process, to answer the invitation to come to the banquet table of God's grace? Great odds, indeed! But there they were...no excuses. And some people don't believe in the power of prayer!

Director John Cameron ably led the dedicated staff of spiritual warriors who rose to every challenge with enthusiasm and grace. The presence of God was known and felt in all the various ways God shows up at these weekends. Each guest came with their different baggage, their different needs, and their different places along their spiritual journey. God had something for each of them as unique as they are. Excellent talks touched hearts and provided helpful content. Agape and the greater community brought Christ's love like showers of life-giving rain. Even the meals and snacks were adequate (tongue-in-cheek in case you can't tell). Worship and music provided the framework for the Holy Spirit to work with wrestling souls. Lives were charged and changed forever. A new class of spiritual foot soldiers emerged from the wilderness more aware that "our God is an awesome God" who has chosen us for His glory! Against great odds...hallelujah!

Michael Qualls
Assistant Community Spiritual Director

ARE YOU IN A REUNION GROUP?

Reunion groups or accountability groups are a great way to stay focused and keep your faith alive. For *new* and *old* members of the Bartlett great banquet community please see Marilyn Duke if you need your own special group. You can contact Marilyn at 268-4419 or diverduke@comcast.net.

May Gathering Grace Celebration Lutheran Church 8601 Trinity Road, Cordova, TN 5:00 PM Saturday, May 3, 2008

It will be a picnic. We will provide the Hot Dogs and you bring the trimmings and a drink. Bring you favorite picnic dish, chips, dips, salads or deserts.

We will be blessed by the awesome offering of praise and worship by Jenna Wallace, John Bean, Dan & Britta Schweizer, Shawn Weiser.

Child care will be provided.

June Gathering Advent Presbyterian 1879 N. Germantown Parkway 5:00 PM Saturday, June 7, 2008.

It will be a potluck "salad supper." Suggested salads include: green salads, fruit salads, pea / bean salads, pasta / rice salads, meat salads, (tuna salad, chicken salad, taco salad), congealed / jello salads etc. (You get the idea.) There is sure to be a wide variety with something to appeal to all. You may also bring a dessert which does not necessarily have to be a salad. If you prefer, you may bring something that goes with a salad...crackers, crusty bread, cheese, crutons.

Child care will be provided.

For Gatherings at your church please contact: Dolores Bean
Gathering coordinator
901-386-5689

Please help us be good stewards of time and resources by sending us your email address if you have one. Please send to:

decoloresupdate@yahoo.com

Please include your name, address and phone number along with names of anyone else in your household who may have attended the Great Banquet or Awakening.

Women's GB #47, back table (clap) This past weekend was an incredible weekend. It was the largest group of guests that I remember in my ten years with BGB. That in itself is not what made it a success. The incredible commitment of team and community was what made it a success. The turn-out for candle-light was the best in a long, long time. Thanks for making that effort!

If satellites can be the fixed point from which you can determine your geographical location and destination, what compass would point the right direction for a more spiritual journey? In earthly terms you might need a Global Positioning System. In heavenly terms you would need an Eternal Positioning System, a fixed point from which you can guide the direction of your life.

I hope we have increased the number of EPS that are turned on.

DECLORES!
Roy Whaley
Community Spiritual Director

I want to thank the community for making the spring banquets such a huge success!! We had 23 guests on the men's weekend and 33 on the women's. What a way to start off our year of "New Beginnings". There is not a lot of time for celebration though as the team formation for the fall banquets begins in May. The lay directors for the fall are Bobby Vawter and Becky McKissack. If you are interested in serving on a team in the fall please **s e n d a n e m a i l t o** boardOfDirectors@bartlettgreatbanquet.org.

One thing that was very noticeable this time was the level of excitement and commitment from the community. Because of this, we are expecting the fall weekends to fill up quickly and we have already started to receive reservations. Now is the time to start inviting guests for the fall to guarantee they have a spot on the weekend. God's grace is so amazing! How can we not want to share that with others?

Please continue to pray for the success of the Bartlett Great Banquet, especially for the lay directors as they begin the team building process.

In Christ
Dan Schweizer
Chairman of the Board

As we were leaving the 4th Day meeting this past Tuesday night I overheard the following comment: "See that little lady. What she said makes it all worthwhile."

What does makes it all worthwhile? Why do we do what we do?

We pour ourselves out, giving our best effort to be the 'hands and feet' of Jesus. In return we are privileged, honored, to hear people say: "I feel as though the weight of the world has been lifted from my shoulders"; I want to learn more about Christ, study my Bible more"; "I want to be a better husband, wife, parent."; "I want to be more involved with my church and help share Christ with others"; "I didn't think anyone could love me, but now I know that God really does".

By pouring ourselves out, by being hands and feet of Christ, we are filled. God's Grace is a gift, freely given, undeserved. All He asks is that we 'feed His sheep'.

As we prepare for future banquets, please consider where God might be calling you to serve. It might be to accept a position on a team. It might be to sign up on the 72 hour prayer chart. It might be to attend Send-off, Candlelight, Closing. It might be to make agape snacks or a banner. You may help deliver items to SOS Center from storage, or you may help pack up and clean up. Whatever it is, no matter how small a thing you might think it is, you and everything you contribute are important.

De Colores!
Nancy

We extend a very special thanks to Jerry VanHouten for the beautiful table cloths.
~~THANKS JERRY~~