

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Juliana Monteiro



WELCOME NEW STAFF

Andrew Arias
Part-Time Custodian



What kind of music do you listen to? Slow Songs

What is your favorite Christmas food? Tamales

What do you like to do when you're not working at Seventh? Go fishing with my niece & nephew.

Favorite Christmas hymn or carol? Silent Night

What was your first job? Lone Star Steak House

How many brothers and sisters do you have? 8 brothers & 4 sisters

What has surprised you about working in a church? It brings me closer to God and the people I work with. Also, it's a great experience for me.

DECEMBER 2011 CALENDAR

Wednesday, Dec. 21 - No Wednesday Evening Activities

Saturday, Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Service - From 6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. in the church sanctuary. A meaningful experience for all as we relive the birth story of Christ once again. All money received from the Christmas Eve offering that night goes to support our benevolence ministry. We will also collect canned good items for Caritas of Waco. The evening will end with lighting candles and singing "Silent Night."

Sunday, Dec. 25 - Merry Christmas! No Sunday school Christmas morning, worship at 10:50 a.m. in Harper Hall.

Wednesday, Dec. 28 - No Wednesday Evening Activities

HYMNAL DEDICATIONS

The new Celebrating Grace hymnals are dedicated in memory, honor and appreciation of those who are dearly loved by the Seventh & James family.

IN HONOR OF:

All the children (past & present) at Seventh	Mary Ila Colvin	Ruthanne Kay	Mary Lou Reynolds
All college students who have been part of our fellowship	Erin Conaway & Family	Megan & Hannah Kittner	Leslie Rosencrans
All the living & pasts saints of Seventh & James	Janet & Gerry Dizinno	Robbie Lamkin	Matt Rosencrans
All members of "The James Gang", past, current and future	Brayden Daniel, Brody John & Bryson Carter Dorris	Jerry & Bettye Lewis	Nathan McBrayer & Heather Wetta Segrest
Patricia Bailey	Dustin Michael & Amanda L. Segrest Dorris	Jan McDaniel	William Andrew Granger Segrest
Donnie & Nancy Balmos	Willa Dunleavy	Merolyn McGee	Xander Claude & Benjamin Warren Segrest
Jay & Sonia Belew	Dorothy Dyer	Elizabeth McKinney	Sandi Swartz
Natalie Belew	Jacqueline Edwards	David & Doris Music	The Sanctuary Choir
Patsy Brasiel	Kevin Edwards	Hannah Elizabeth Music	The Segrest Brothers of Seventh & James - Harvey, Bobby, David, Phillip, John, Charles
Blake & Larkin Bratcher	Don Fugate	John Christian Music	The musicians of Seventh & James
Clem Bratcher	James Duke Fugate	Menita Corine Music	Dr. Albert L. Travis
Lydia Bratcher	Mina Garnand	Caroline Norris	James H. Walker
Gladys Bray	Mrs. Geary	Julia Colleen Petty	Jason, Tamra, Landry & Chaney Walker
Nan Brown	Lillian "Nanny" Wood Granger	Julia Kathleen Petty	Helen E. Walker
Burt Burleson	O.D. Hall Jr.	Emma Grace Pollard	Marc Walker
Harry Carter	Rick Herman	Gabriel Christian Pollard	Bob & Betty Weissinger
the work of Randy Casey	Beverly Howard	Joanna Caroline Pollard	Jeanne Williams
	Roberta Hunter	Pianists: Thelma Cooper, Ellen Deaver, David DeLoach, Joyce Edwards & Jim Williams	Valerie Willis

IN MEMORY OF:

B.B. Bratcher	Martha Emmons	Judge Bill Logue	Shirley Thompson Ross
Phillip Bray	Lois Ferguson	Ruth Duke Mason	Dr. Hugh Sanders
Charles Bryant	Doris Colleen Fugate	E. Winston McCall	Kristen Sanford
Jack & Margaret Bowen	Ray & Demmie Parker Gaunt	Jarrell McCracken	Claude Harvey & Lois Rivers Segrest
Dr. Robert Burton	William David Granger	Dale McClendon	J.O. Strother
Ann Christian	William Radford "Dub" Granger	James C. McKinney	Pat Strother
Dr. Herbert Colvin	Carra Elizabeth Coffee	Dr. Joe H. Music	Vera Nell Strother
Katherine T. Cooper	Claude & Minnie Green	Martha Veazey Nelson	Wilbur & Myrtis Swartz
Kitty Cooper	Mary Lou Green	Dr. Euell Porter	Kathleen Underwood
W. Lowrey Cooper	Mr. & Mrs. T.A. Green	Dr. William J. Reynolds	Martha Ann Baxter Voyles
Dr. Robert Douglass	Mr. & Mrs. Herman Paul Hagelstein	Joe Rooney	Jim Wood
Bruce Dyer	Lucille Thalia Hagelstein	Mary Rooney	Margaret Young
Doyce Edwards	Jan Harrell	Dr. Cecil Roper	
	Bill Lamkin	Robert Main Ross	

COMING UP AT SEVENTH - 2012



Sunday, January 1 - On the first day of the year, we'll have one adult Sunday school class which will meet in Harper Hall. Rosalie Beck will lead our conversation which will focus on the Gospel Lesson (Matthew 25:31-46). We hope you will join us!

Wednesday, January 4 - Wednesday Evening Fellowship resumes. We'll gather in Harper Hall for a meal at 5:15 followed by a time of prayer and a program. Preschool children will be in childcare. Grade school children will have an activity from 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, January 8 - Epiphany Sunday: The term Epiphany means "to show" or "to make known" or even "to reveal." Epiphany Sunday is the climax of the Advent/Christmas Season. In traditional Christian churches Christmas, as well as Easter, is celebrated as a period of time, as season of the church year, rather than just a day. Christmas begins with Christmas Day, December 25, and lasts twelve days until Epiphany, January 6, which looks ahead to the mission of the church to the world in light of the Nativity. The season of Epiphany extends from January 6th until Ash Wednesday, which begins the season of Lent leading to Easter. In Western churches, Epiphany remembers the coming of the Magi bringing gifts to visit the Christ child, who by so doing "reveal" Jesus to the world as Lord and King.

Wednesday, January 11 - Choristers is our children's choir for children in grades 1-6. We meet weekly from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Mini Singers, our preschool children's choirs, resume as well, meeting from 6:15-6:45 p.m. Youth Choir resumes this evening and is for youth members in grades 7-12. Youth Choir meets weekly from 6:30-7:00 p.m.. Youth Bible Study resumes and meets weekly from 7:00-8:00 p.m. College Bible Study resumes and meets weekly from 9:00-10:15 p.m.

Monday, January 16 - Offices Closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Wednesday, January 18 - Children's Handbells resume this evening. Children in grades 3-6 meet weekly from 5:30-6:00 p.m. for handbells. Preschool Mission Friends resumes well, meeting from 6:15-6:45 p.m.. Mission Friends alternates with our Mini Singers choirs. Youth Handbells resumes this evening and is for youth members in grades 7-12. Youth handbells meets weekly from 6:00-6:30 p.m.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

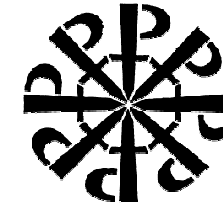
Saturday, January 7, 2012

8:30 a.m.

Harper Hall



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LUMINARIES

As a child, my family generally celebrated Christmas with my grandparents who would rent a place in Colorado, and all of the family would be together in one cozy condo. We developed several traditions and one of my favorites was setting out and lighting the luminaries. Tradition holds that the shepherds marked the way to the manger of Jesus with small bonfires. For centuries, people would light fires on Christmas Eve to welcome the Christ Child. The story goes, that a little boy whose family was too poor to light a fire outside their home one Christmas Eve, lit a small, broken candle and placed it in a paper sack to keep the tradition and light the way for the baby. We followed his example. Every Christmas Eve we would put sand in paper sacks, plunge a candle into the sand, and line the little sacks in a path to our door. Then just before the sun went down, we would light the candles and go caroling. It was a beautiful path of light and love to welcome the Christ Child into our home and into our world.

I hope that as we engage in all the Advent activities we have here at Seventh and in the Waco community, we are seeing each one as a light along a path to our hearts, where we will gladly welcome the Christ Child in on Christmas day. This season can so easily get away from us and turn into something we simply try to survive, rather than a time of celebration. When the liturgical color is purple, that is a penitent season, and while we normally associate an act of fasting with Lent, it is appropriate for us to do the same during Advent. We might choose to fast from some event in order to spend time with family. Or we could choose to fast from some food in order to remind ourselves that this story we are following centers around a poor couple, scared and excited about the miracle that was growing in their lives. Whatever practice works for you, I hope you will be intentional about your preparations for the Christ Child this Advent season. I love this time of year and am so grateful to get to share it with you, our new family!

Grace & Truth,
Erin Conaway

ALL COUNCILS NIGHT

Save the Date - January 26th, 6:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

This will be a time to gather all of the Councils in one room on one night to jump-start the year's work. Your council is free to meet during your regularly scheduled time in January in order to select a new chair and to do any other business you need to do. Our time together on the 26th will be used to dream together about what God would have us do here during 2012. We will also talk about the expectations for your councils and give you a chance to get to know one another and start focusing in on your next steps. Each council will gather as a group around a table so you can choose to make this your January meeting if that helps. Our church depends on the councils to carry out the missions and ministries of the church, and we greatly appreciate all of the time and energy you put in to making the councils work. This will be a wonderful night of dreaming and hoping together; please make every effort to join us. Dinner & childcare will be provided.

For dinner, please RSVP to Valerie (valwillis@seventhandjames.org).

For childcare, please RSVP to Leslie (leslie@seventhandjames.org).

Please RSVP by Sunday, January 22.

Once upon a time...



Mark your calendar now for the

Women of Seventh Brunch!

Date: Feb. 4, 2012

Time: 9:30 a.m.

Place: Harper Hall

Stay tuned for more details!

SEVENTH & JAMES BAPTIST CHURCH
602 James Avenue • Waco, Texas 76706

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED