

God had a vision after the flood and so He called Abram out of Ur and told him his desire to bless all nations through the seed of this Semitic nomad with no pedigree. Abraham believed God and submitted to his seemingly impossible task of rebuilding the dream God had begun in Eden. The vision lives on in the hearts of all who surrender their very lives in humble service to the King of Kings. From slaves to sin we become servants of truth as we share in the reality that Christ Jesus died for all of us. Hear the Apostle John as he writes, "This is how we know what love is: Jesus Christ laid down His life for us and we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

Senge says that, "We have a shared vision when we are connected – bound by a common aspiration" (ibid.). He says there are at least three levels to a shared vision (Terms are from Senge):

- **Compliance:** This is the part of the church that comes to take communion because they believe they MUST. Some of the compliant can even be seen leaving the assembly BEFORE the sermon has begun or the first ones out the door AFTER the last prayer. In the work-a-day world it is the employee. The person who has no share in the vision of the business at all. He/she works eight hours and grumbles if they are ask to come to a staff meeting. Compliant Christians are the ones who are uncomfortable when the leadership tweaks the times, the rituals, or the forms in order to be more palatable to the crowd who does not know Jesus. This person does what she/he thinks is expected and no more. The vision is yours—not mine—I'm just here for payday.
- **Enrollment:** The difference here is that these members WANT and are committed the vision of the church. You write your name on the roll and accept the vision and the responsibility for its effective implementation. Senge says, **Enrollment is a natural process that springs from your genuine enthusiasm for a vision and your willingness to let others come to their own choice.** (Page 206-207, ibid.) Here is a person that supports the vision with every effort. He/she knows that you won't share a vision unless you are enrolled in it. The author says that **there is really nothing you can do to get another person to enroll or commit.** If we don't see the vision in the Great Commission of Jesus Christ, we will not enroll in it and no one can get us to do so. People who are enrolled in the vision of the local church take responsibility to give of themselves to make the vision happen.
- **Commitment:** This is the core of any movement. People who are enrolled can become part of the committed but only by their own choosing. Casting the vision to these people is so very important while not pressuring them. Core people can be counted on to "be there." This is where voluntary sacrifice happens. Here enthusiasm lives and dwells. Here is where people make the vision happen. The core people see the world and tailor the vision. They see reality where others may see form. (Like the man in Mark 8:22ff whom Jesus had to touch twice so he could see people as they really are.) We should all strive to be supportive.

Now listen to this—from a secular book! Senge writes, **Building shared vision is actually only one piece of a larger activity: developing the governing ideas for the enterprise, its vision, purpose or mission, and core values. A vision not consistent with values that people live by day to day will not only fail to inspire genuine enthusiasm, it will often foster outright cynicism.** (P.208, ibid.). This is nothing less than what the New Testament teaches us. The vision to be shared is—again, the Great Commission and the core values are the Biblical teachings Jesus interpreted to us which provide the proof to the world we are committed to the vision!

So. Where are you in your relation to the local body of believers? Is there a clear vision? Is it a vision expressive of the "What?" we are to create in the future? Is there a mission statement—a reason "Why we exist as a body?" And is there adequate teaching as to the "core values" of the body of Christ? Next week we will discuss the church as a "Learning Organism." yc

#### PRAYER LIST

- ♥ Sammy Sanderford, Joey's brother, to find his way on the outside.
- ♥ Beverly Huffstetler, Jennie Miller's mother, has torn rotator cuff. She will have an MRI.
- ♥ Linda Anderson, Monte Young's aunt, has benign tumors near or on her spine causing breathing problems.
- ♥ Lois Gabbert, Arlice Bridges' sister, is in rehab regaining strength.
- ♥ Gil Rhodes, Barry Rhodes brother, is having tests run. Pray for good test results.
- ♥ James Adams, Ryan Hamrick's neighbor, has severe hip pain.
- ♥ Raymond Gardner, a friend of Joey Sanderford, recovering from brain surgery and scheduled for another surgery around May 1 for aneurysm.
- ♥ Genie Rogers father, Gene, is recovering from by-pass surgery.
- ♥ Allen McDaniel is still recovering.
- ♥ Rudy Staggs, Ashley Nowlen's father, diagnosed with lung cancer.
- ♥ Lynn Snellgrove, a friend of Barry Rhodes, has Sceroderma.
- ♥ David Lynn Taylor, Lena Price's brother, needs prayer to find peace.

#### CONTINUE TO REMEMBER

Betsy Canfield, Tony Dority, Howard Farrar, Mary Louise Gipson, Beverly Graham, Charlotte Hunter, Larry Mittlestat, Joe Saia, Mart Salley and Joey Sanderford

#### FREE INDEED

Free Indeed will be with us **August 11-12**. They will perform in concert Saturday evening and will lead us in Worship Sunday morning.

#### GRAD SUNDAY

Grad Sunday will be May 6. Start inviting your friends and relatives for this day of celebration.

#### SUPPER CLUB

Here are the dates for the next few Supper Clubs. **April 21, and May 18.** All of these will be held at Allen and Genie Rogers' home. Watch each month for menu suggestion.

#### LADIES NIGHT OUT

Ladies Night Out is March 29 at 7:00 p.m. Guest speaker, Rebecca Long from Meadowbrook, will speak on "Becoming a Woman of Courage and Encouragement in Christ." Bring your friends.

#### VBS

VBS will be the June 18-22. Our theme this year will be SonForce Kids Special Agents. Help is needed with set-up, decorating, advertising, teaching, etc. See Genie if you want to help.

#### EASTER SONRISE SERVICE

We will be hosting Easter Sunrise Service in the Pearl Park on April 8. We will need help with set-up and "breakfast." See Yale if you can help.

#### HEALTH FAIR

We will host a Health Fair May 19 from 9am-4pm. If you have suggestions for exhibitors see Jennie Miller. Volunteers **are** needed to help in many areas. See Jennie and let her know where you can help. ASAP

#### GUEST SPEAKER

**April 29** will be a special Sunday for us. Jason McLeod from the movie *Facing the Giants* will be with us to share some experiences the movie has brought to his life and his church.

#### LIFE GROUPS

Don't forget that on April 1 we will bring all the Life Groups together at the building at 6:00. The Sweeney group will facilitate. Everyone please remember to bring finger foods. The fellowship is worth your time.

#### 24 HOUR PRAYER CHAIN

We have a lot of events coming up. To make sure that each one is effective, we are seeking God's help in prayer for 24 hours before all events. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board where you can commit to spend 30 minutes in prayer for our Sunrise service.

#### SUNDAY ASSIGNMENTS

Contact Tim Nelson if unable to serve at 601-853-3704.

**4/1/07**

Greeters ..... Sweeney Life Group  
Song Leader ..... Tim Farrar  
Call to Worship ..... Allen Rogers  
Prayer ..... Wayne Bridges  
Presiding ..... Alvin McMillen  
Closing Prayer ..... George Miller

#### Serving

Dusty Reynolds	Ryan Hamrick
Justin McCoy	Terry Hester
Scottie Stanford	Dan Ellis

Evening Worship ..... Life Groups  
Nursery ..... Lisa McCoy  
Children's Worship.....Jenny Farrar

**4/8/07**

Greeters ..... Rogers Life Group  
Song Leader ..... Tim Farrar  
Call to Worship ..... Dusty Reynolds  
Prayer ..... Lonnie Livingston  
Presiding ..... Jerry Mitchell  
Closing Prayer ..... Al Garner

#### Serving

LaRan Kilpatrick	Todd Lott
Bobby Stewart	Allen Rogers
Ryan Hamrick	Al Garner

Evening Worship ..... Life Groups  
Nursery ..... Earlene McMillen  
Children's Worship ..... Justin McCoy  
Bryan Farrar

#### THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR

Apr. 1–Judges 6-7; Luke 8:1-21  
Apr. 2–Judges 8-9; Luke 8:22-56  
Apr. 3–Judges 10-11; Luke 9:1-36  
Apr. 4–Judges 12-14; Luke 9:37-62  
Apr. 5–Judges 15-17; Luke 10:1-24  
Apr. 6–Judges 18-19; Luke 10:25-42  
Apr. 7–Judges 20-21; Luke 11:1-28

#### DATES TO REMEMBER

March 29 – Ladies Night Out  
April 8 – Easter Sunrise Service  
April 15 – Nursing Home Devotional  
April 21 – Supper Club  
May 6 – Grad Sunday  
May 18 – Supper Club  
May 19 – Health Fair  
June 18-22 - VBS

LIFE GROUPS		
Area	Location	Leaders
South Brandon	Rotated	Paul McManaway
		Glynn McMillen
Pearl	Building	David Blevins
		Lonnie Livingston
Florence/Star	Rotated	Yale Canfield
		Allen McDaniel
Brandon	Sweeney Home	Jeff Sweeney
		Tim Farrar
Reservoir	Rogers Home	Jim Head
		Allen Rogers
Teens	Varies	Ken Salley

**Mission Statement for Heart Matters**  
 To enhance the mission of the Skyway Hills church of Christ and to build a sense of community among the members of the body of Christ through an accurate and quality communication of 1) ministries and activities of the church 2) the opportunities for each member to find fulfillment as disciples of Jesus and 3) the scriptural application of God's Word to life relevant issues today.

**YOUTH**

**See Linda if you can help with VBS.**

**Watch for more upcoming events.**

Heart matters

**Skyway Hills Church of Christ**  
 Highway 80 East  
 P.O. Box 5600  
 Pearl, MS 39288

**Address services requested**

**Schedule of Service**  
 Sunday Bible Class.....9:00 am  
 Sunday Morning Worship.....10:00 am  
 Sunday Evening Worship.....6:00 pm  
 Wednesday..... 7:00 pm

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
*PAID*  
 JACKSON, MS  
 PERMIT No. 301

**YAKS**

**VBS  
 June 18-22  
 SonForce Kids  
 Special Agents**

**Plan now to attend.**

**Continued on Inside**

*“Since then,  
 you have  
 been raised  
 with  
 Christ,  
 set your  
 hearts  
 on things  
 above.”*  
 Colossians 3:1

**Skyway Hills Church of Christ**  
 Phone: 601-939-5473 • Fax: 601-939-5447  
 Web: [www.skywayhills.com](http://www.skywayhills.com) • E-mail: [skywayhillchurch@bellsouth.net](mailto:skywayhillchurch@bellsouth.net)  
 Elders - Lonnie Livingston • Al Garner  
 Minister – Yale Canfield  
 Email: [yalec@bellsouth.net](mailto:yalec@bellsouth.net)  
 Youth Minister – Ken Salley

April 1, 2007



# Heartbeat

The next few weeks I am going write to the church about vision. I want you to consider some things as we begin to think about a vision that was intended to be shared by each of us in the Lord's church. Each member of the church has been saved by the grace of God and added to the body of Christ to carry on God's will on earth. God gave us a vision—a dynamic fulfillment of God's initial promise in Genesis 3:15, 12:1-3, Gal. 3:16, John 3:16; and Mt. 28:18-20.

**CHRIST'S CHURCH: A SHARED VISION**  
*Where there is no vision the people perish* (Pro. 29:18)

Rick Warren and his wife began with a vision and little else. Today Rick's name rivals the name of Elvis. How did it happen? **Vision is nothing if it isn't shared.** Saddleback church has five concentric levels of human interest: The community, the crowd, the congregation, the committed, and the core. Vision is shared from the core outward.

*Spartacus*, the movie, took its name from a Roman gladiator who led an army of slaves to an uprising in 71 B.C. He defeated the Roman legions twice and was finally conquered by General Marcus Crassus. Crassus tells the defeated army of thousands of Spartacus' followers, "You were slaves, and you will be slaves again, but the mercy of the Romans will spare you crucifixion if you tell me which one of you is Spartacus for we do not know him by sight."

Spartacus rises and says, "I am Spartacus." Then the man next to him arose and said, "I am Spartacus." The man next to him did the same until the entire army was standing. Each man who arose was doomed to the stake. Their loyalty was not to the man Spartacus but was a sharing of the vision for FREEDOM.

There is nothing as powerful as a SHARED VISION FOR FREEDOM. The Apostle Paul would say to an emerging church, "It was for freedom that Christ has set us free" (Gal. 5:1). Jesus said before him, "You shall know the truth and the truth shall set you free" (John 8:32). Peter Senge (*The Fifth Discipline*, p.192) says, "A shared vision is not an idea. It is not even an important idea such as freedom. It is, rather a force in the hearts of people—a force of power."

**Continued on Inside**

- Deacons**
- David Blevins, Education
- Tony Dority, Building
- Tim Nelson, Calls/Visitor/Greeters
- Jim Head, Life Groups
- George Miller
- Allen Rogers, YAKS