



HEARTLINES



UPCOMING EVENTS

Gifted 2 Glorify Women's One Day Retreat
 January 22 | 8:30am -4pm | FBC | Speaker-Judy Wallace | \$12

We are thrilled to welcome Judy Wallace, from Principles on Purpose, for this year's retreat and will conduct two seminars: Personality Plus and In His Presents. During the first, Personality Plus, Judy will use humorous personal stories to share the four basic personalities and how those personalities determine how we relate to and view life in general and others in particular. During the second presentation, In His Presents, you will gain an understanding of who God made you to be and how He specifically equipped you to fulfill His plan for your life. Judy will help you glean a better understanding of what the spiritual gifts are as well as how to discover which ones are yours.

Come spend the day with us as we worship, and fellowship together and learn how our God-given personalities and spiritual gifts are key in Reflecting His Glory.

Neighborhood Brunches | February

During the month of February our FBC women will host neighborhood brunches in their homes. Please pray for this ministry as they reach out to neighbors with the love of Christ. If you would like information on hosting a brunch in your neighborhood (and how we can help!), please email HeartLife@fbciloam.com.

HEART LIFE SPRING BIBLE STUDIES

No Other Gods | by Kelly Minter Led by Laura Macfarlan
 Tuesdays, 9-11am | Fellowship Hall | \$15 | Begins Jan. 18



The class will include eight study sessions, one Love Out Loud service day (March 1), and a wrap-up brunch on April 12. A nursery and study hall period will be provided for preschool children and home-school elementary children. Reservations are needed for children. Books will be ordered on December 15 to allow time for delivery and for participants to complete the first lesson before class begins. Please make your check for \$15 payable to FBC and drop off in the church office. Full and partial scholarships for books can be made available.

Dinners, Dialogue & Devotions | Begins the week of Jan. 10
 Contact Jeannie Abbott, jabbott@jbu.edu



This is a 6-7 week study that we spread out over 12-14 weeks. Groups of 6-8 women will meet in homes every other week for dinner, fellowship and Bible study. Your group can choose from many different Bible study options and each group is encouraged to complete a "Love Out Loud" service project as well. The Bible studies come with a leader's guide and questions for your dialogue time. This is perfect for women who work outside the home and cannot attend a Bible study during the day or go to a study each week. Sign-up is Nov. 21 through December. Please encourage your non-churched friends and neighbors to join you!

Revelation: Here and Now, There and Then | by Beth Moore
 Thursdays, 9:30-11:30am | in the Parlor | \$10 | Begins January 20
 Led by Sarah Evans & Cassie Perryman



Sign up for all Heart Life Bible Studies by emailing HeartLife@fbciloam.com

WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS BRUNCH
 10am Saturday, December 11



Follow the Star
 GUEST SPEAKER
 Vicki Dees

TICKETS
 \$3 on sale today at the Heart Life ministry table or church office
BRING
 Tea cup & a non-perishable food item for the Manna Center



Christmas Brunch

"We saw His star in the east and have come to worship Him." Matthew 2:2b

The First Baptist Heart Life Women's Christmas Brunch is an event you won't want to miss! This Christ-centered celebration that ministers to women offers delicious food, festive music, and the gospel message. Invite a friend, bring a canned food item for the Manna Center, and your teacup! Tickets are \$3 and available now through December 7 at the Heart Life ministry table after worship or in the church office during office hours. Childcare is available by contacting HeartLife@fbciloam.com.

THE SAD vs. THE TRAGIC

by Cherissa Roebuck, daughter of Vicki Dees

My mom's terminal cancer is a reality that our family has lived with for nearly three years, but each new oncology report brings even more clarity to the certainty: My mother is dying.

It's sad. But not tragic.

The distinction between the sad and the tragic has been one of the most tangible and valuable gifts I brought home with me from a recent trip to India.

My sweet mother has been fighting terminal lung cancer for almost three years now, and the fight has not been easy. She's been poked, prodded, drilled, radiated, poisoned, medicated, sleepless, exhausted, uncomfortable, in pain and SICK. And after all of this, aside from God's direct and supernatural intervention, she will still die of cancer. It is sad. It's not the way it's supposed to be.

But it's not tragic. My eyes were opened to some truly tragic things in India: a 2-year-old drugged and stuffed under a bed while her mom prostitutes herself; a woman with acid burns scarring her arms, yet too
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LOL

by Laura Macfarlan

Contrary to what you may be guessing, LOL for Heart Life actually stands for "LOVE Out Loud." This year we have challenged each Bible study group to devote one meeting session to a service or mission project.

In answer to this challenge, the Tuesday morning Bible study group met and cooked for the Compassion House (a home for unwed mothers in Elm Springs). Their labor produced eight freezer meals (each meal large enough to serve all the residents.) The Thursday morning study collected 10 bags of items ranging from toiletries to towels to diapers to bless Restoration Ministries, a home for abused women and children. WMU collected brushes and combs for the Compassion House. Other groups have Love Out Loud projects in the works.

Incidentally, the name isn't a total misnomer, as we are finding that a lot of LAUGHING Out Loud actually does take place as we LOVE Out Loud. We hope you can join us next semester for Bible study, as well as a lot of laughing and loving in Heart Life Ministry. ■



WMU/WOMEN ON MISSION NEWS

The SBC Week of Prayer for International Missions is Nov 28th-Dec 5th, emphasizing Lottie Moon Christmas offering. The national goal is \$175 million

God truly blessed the November clothing giveaway and we met several people. One requested that we visit her.

Operation Christmas Child Shoe Box Gift Ministry was a success with 225+ shoe boxes given from FBC to children around the world.

SO LONG SECRET PAL...

Please remember the 2010 Secret Pal reveal will be December at the Christmas Brunch. Our new Barnabas Bags ministry will replace our Secret Pal tradition beginning in 2011 and will be unveiled at the Heart Life retreat in January.

HEART LIFE NEWS BRIEF

- **Welcome Home** ministry ministered to six visitors and one new member in October.
- **Heart Strings** ministry delivered three bracelets either to women who were hospitalized or were caregivers for a loved one hospitalized in October.
- **SOS** mailed five boxes full of items and home-baked cookies to our soldiers in November. To God be the glory for your generosity.

THANK YOU!

A BIG thank you to Julie Chandler of the Creative Corner on Broadway for donating a door prize and providing all attendees at 10% discount to her store at the November Heart Life seminar.

WEDDING SHOWER

You are invited to a wedding shower for Josh Price and Cammie Ricks 2pm Sunday December 5 in the Parlor. They are registered at Bed, Bath, Beyond, Dillard's, Macy's and Williams-Sonoma.



LOOK WHO'S EXPECTING!

Andrea VanSandt is expecting a boy this month.



JOIN HEART LIFE ON FACEBOOK

Please look for us on Facebook and join the Heart Life group and stay connected to Heart Life women!

CINNAMON ORNAMENT

Ingredients:

- ¾ cup applesauce
- 1 cup ground cinnamon
- 1 tablespoon nutmeg
- 2 tablespoons white craft glue

Tools:

paints, brushes, cookie cutters

* NOTE * These are not to be eaten!!

Mix ingredients together until dough is smooth and holds together.

(If too sticky, add cinnamon. If too dry, add applesauce.) Roll out to about ¼ inch thick and cut with cookie cutters. If using for ornaments, use a straw to make a hole for yarn or ribbon. Let dry 24 hours or in an oven at 200° until dry.



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frightened to flee her abuser; a shriveled, dying man, lying utterly alone in the dust and filth of a Kolkata street. Most tragically of all, these people and millions more are living in real despair, without the hope of Jesus Christ. This is true tragedy.

The life of Vicki Dees is not tragic. Her life is 55 years stuffed-to-the-brim full of hope, love, faith, joy, happiness, peace and trust. Her life is also an eternity stretching out in front of her- an eternity that's far more amazing than anything our little human minds could conjure up.

I don't know what the weeks and months ahead will hold for my mom. God has done so many miraculous things with her life already that I don't really have any reason to believe that He won't continue to do so. I do know that the days ordained for the life of Vicki Dees were set long ago, and there's really no point in trying to figure out how many days that's going to be. If she lives three more weeks or 30 more years, it's all pretty short in light of eternity.

If our all-knowing, all-powerful, utterly good and wise God allows my mom to die of cancer sometime in the near future, it will be sad. It will be hard. But life will go on. Both for her and for me! For her, she'll be checking into a new home in heaven that is overflowing with treasures she's been sending that way since long before I was born.

For me, there's life after cancer. There's a husband to love, children to nurture, a Church to serve and a world in need of the Gospel. And I'm forever thankful that I've had such a beautiful example in my mom of just how to go about doing all of those things and more by faith. ■



Author Cherissa Dees Roebuck with mother Vicki Dees. Vicki will be our honored guest speaker at the HL Christmas Brunch December 11

