

REACHING THE UNCHURCHED

They aren't antagonistic.

They welcome a conversation with believers.

They aren't staying out of church for the reasons you may think.

In one of the most comprehensive studies ever done on the unchurched, LifeWay Research, surveyed 2,000 unchurched Americans. They defined "unchurched" as someone who has not attended a worship service in the last six months.

Most unchurched do indeed have some church background. Contrary to some perceptions, the great majority of unchurched have a church background. Almost two-thirds of them (62%) went to church regularly as a child.

Most unchurched quit church because they get out of the habit of churchgoing. For certain, a number of them did leave churches for negative reasons, but that is not true of the majority.

One-third of the unchurched have plans to go to church in the future. Please read that statement carefully. **One of three** unchurched Americans are actually planning to return to church. Are we actively inviting them?

It also turns out that the unchurched are very open to a gospel conversation. Nearly half (47%) would interact freely in such a conversation. Another third (31%) would listen actively without participating. Pause for a moment. Look at those numbers. Almost eight of ten unchurched Americans would welcome a gospel conversation. Another 12% would discuss it with some discomfort, and only 11% would change the subject as soon as possible. We can't use the poor excuse that the unchurched really aren't interested in gospel conversations. In reality, church members are more likely not to be interested in initiating gospel conversations.

If you invite them, they will come. Among the unchurched, 55% said they would attend church if invited by a family member. And 51% said they would attend church if invited by a friend or neighbor. These numbers are staggering. The opportunities are incredible.

It's truly an incredible opportunity.

Let's seize this God-given moment.

Invite a family member, a neighbor, a coworker to worship.

Grace & Peace
Derek

Sunday Conference call:

To listen to our Sunday morning service live,
call 1-800-914-8405 followed by 4896244

YOU MUST MUTE YOUR PHONE

Family News & Notes

- **Cora Epperson** has moved to assisted living.
- **Dot Jones** is recovering from knee surgery.
- **Steve Arwood** is home.
- **Dena Rounsaville** is recovering at home from a fall
- **Betty Blue** is in Baptist East ICU.
- **Mike Tabor** is recovering from a heart cath.
- **Michael Canada** is experiencing severe leg pain.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

HEALTH ISSUES: Joe Albritton, Cindy Caldwell, Tim Edge, Jerry Frederick, Sonia Henry, Beverly Hutcheson, Ken Joines, Misha Kimbell, Peggy McGowen, Bill Newport, Banks Ready, Jerry Richardson, Chris Rogers, Louise Schmittou, Tonya Smith, Jamie Vorhof, Helen Weathers, Eddie & Margaret Whalen, Lula Whittle, Jane Winstead.

REHAB: Richard Fraley,

HOSPICE CARE: Katie Culley, Ann Estes

SHUT-INS: Ann Estes, Valeria Canada, Robert Coleman, Maxine Drewery, Lorene Edge, Evelyn Fowler, Sallye Giles, Irmagene Hall, Margaret Jones, Jackie Lorensen, Dot McEwen, Billy & Betty Moore, Dorinda Murphy.

SYMPATHY

Goodman Oaks would like to extend our sympathy to **Justin & Dawn Ales and family** at the passing of Justin's father, Virgil Ales.

SHOWER

There will be a wedding shower for Emma McKean, bride elect of **Alex Williams, Sunday, May 7, from 3:00PM until 4:30PM.** She is registered at Target and Bed, Bath & Beyond.



...He Came



...He Died



...He Arose



...He Ascended



...He's Coming Back

NURSERY WORKERS

April 30

10:00 (0-24 mos) Heather Cuevas,
Kimberly King, Karen Kopf
(2 years) Mason Branning, Amanda Denton
No Evening Service

May 7

10:00 (0-24 mos) Emily Beard, Cassie Walker,
Mason Branning
(2 years) Amanda Massey, Lynn Bicknell
5:00PM: Jennifer Kuykendall, Tammy Behl

FIFTH SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Today is our 5th Sunday. We will have a fellowship meal after the morning worship. The menu is ham, corn, green beans, and rolls. We ask our members to bring **salads and desserts.**

As you know we also set aside the contribution from our 5th Sunday to meet needs that are not in our annual budget. Goodman Oaks is blessed to have our facility paid off. This allows us to use a large portion of our contribution to do works of mercy and missions around the world, and around the county.

We use our facility as a tool to accommodate worship that is centered on God and edifying to each other. We use our facility to host our wonderful education programs and to host programs from the *Encouragers*, to *WBS*, to *Thursday School*. And numerous other ministries that are simply too many to mention.

The proceeds of this 5th Sunday's collection will be used to begin the much needed process of remodeling some of the classrooms and recarpeting the classrooms and hallways. May the Lord continue to bless you for your spirit of service and support.

FIELD OF DEREAMS

Please join us on **Monday, May 1, and Tuesday, May 2, from 6:00PM-8:30PM** nightly, as Goodman Oaks helps assist special needs children and their families at the Field of Dreams (located in the Southwest Corner of the Snowden Grove Park). We will be cheering for and helping our very own **Matthew Canada** and **Eden Williams** while they play baseball. Please contact **Susan Brownfield** for more information.

EL SALVADOR YARD SALE

The annual El Salvador yard sale will be **Saturday, May 6.** Donations may be dropped off in room 20 and labeled **ESYS.** Please contact **Nick Eddlemon** for pick-ups.

YOUTH NEWS

GRAND ISLAND MISSION TRIP

If you would like to go to Grand Island this summer, please let Jared know by **Sunday, May 7.** The dates for this year's trip will be **Tuesday, June 20-Monday, June 26.**

SENIOR SUNDAY

This year we will be honoring our graduating Seniors on **Sunday, May 21.** Please join us as we celebrate this great achievement with **Atticus Nelson** (Desoto Central), **Kayley Underwood** (Harding Academy), **Deja Henry** (Southaven), **Noah Hammett** (Lewisburg), and **Jacob Robinson** (Hernando).

