



Pea Ridge Baptist Church



February
2009

Know Christ Completely

“To Know Christ and Make Him Known!”

I am excited about our mission and vision as a church! We have been called to make disciples. It is the very heart of what the church is to be and do. Matthew's gospel records the commissioning words of Jesus... “go and make disciples of all nations” (Matt. 28: 19). Jesus is our model and He came “to seek and to save what was lost” (Luke 19:10). He came not “to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many” (Mark 10: 45). He held back nothing to reach those He loved.

Our vision is about a process of discipleship...that a disciple of Jesus Christ will **Know** Christ Completely... **Grow** in Maturity...**Serve** Wholeheartedly...**Share** God Personally.

What does it mean to know Christ? The Bible has much for us to learn about what it means to know Christ...and we really want to know Him completely... that is our goal. I believe that knowing Christ completely will begin as we acknowledge Christ's presence around us daily and in corporate settings such as prayer meetings and worship. It is in these settings that we really begin to experience Christ's presence and then come to a deeper understanding of all that Jesus has done for us. We must come to some understanding about some of these things. Let the truth of God's word carry our future...

“We **KNOW** that our old self was crucified with Him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin” (Romans 6:6, ESV)

“Formerly, when you did not **KNOW** God, you were enslaved to those that by nature are not gods. But now that you have come to **KNOW** God, or rather to be **KNOWN** by God, how can you turn back again to the weak and worthless elementary principles of the world, whose slaves you want to be once more?” (Galatians 4:8-9, ESV)

“For I decided to **KNOW** nothing among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified”
(1 Corinthians 2:2, ESV)

And more than just knowing about who Jesus Christ is for us...we are confident that He is present with us daily. The apostle Paul wrote, “And we **KNOW** that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28, ESV). The more we know Christ completely...the more we will understand His good and perfect plan for our lives.

So we know what Christ has done for us...we know that He is with us to work in our lives...and we know that through His power and love, we can ultimately be made complete in Him. A verse that has been in my heart and mind so much lately is from Ephesians. Paul writes these words as a prayer for the saints at Ephesus... “that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to **KNOW** the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God (Ephesians 3:16-19, ESV).

Knowing Christ is about loving Christ...Knowing Christ is about being **KNOWN** by Christ...Knowing Christ is about understanding God's gift and acts of grace in our lives everyday. Let's strive to **KNOW** Christ completely as a church!



a note from Pastor Greg Creasy...

5945 E. Pea Ridge Road, Huntington, WV 25705 304.736.5572 (office) 304.736.5551 (fax)
prbc@pearidgebaptist.com (office email) gcreasy@pearidgebaptist.com (Pastor's email)

Website: www.pearidgebaptist.com



We are excited to announce that Rev. Bryan Sweeney has been hired as Director of Discipleship and Assimilation. Bryan brings a variety of

experiences to his ministry here at Pea Ridge. His experience will bring new ideas to our congregation and a depth of insight and leadership that will help to move our mission and vision forward. Bryan will begin his ministry here at Pea Ridge immediately.

His role will include working with a team of church members to design and implement a system of moving first time guests into fully integrated (assimilated) members of our church. He will also be working on the design of our Adult Discipleship plan for the future.

This is an exciting time in the life our church. I pray that you will stand behind Bryan as he implements new ministries and strategies to further our vision. Welcome to Bryan and his wife Melanie!



Thank you to all who helped with the food ministry last year.

Because of your dedication and commitment to our church, we were able to offer comfort and support to many of our families.

The Deaconesses appreciate your help and participation.

*Sue Bock
2008 Deaconess Chair*

Pledges \$112,417.00

Donations \$92,400.00

"Donations" reflects the amount given to date, not the balance on hand.

We are so close to finishing the Capital Funds Work List!

Last update ... February 1



2009 PRBC Directory

The new 2009 Directory is completed and ready for you to pick up your copy. If you haven't received your copy yet, see Connie in the office.

Directories are always changing. As congregations change, there are always updates...birthdates, anniversaries, email addresses, phone numbers, etc. Please contact the office or add your information to the Sunday Connection Card.

Email Database

We have developed an email database for communication and sharing ministry opportunities. If you wish to be added, please be sure we have your current email address. If you signed up and haven't received your first message, let us know in the office.

Offering Envelopes

The new envelopes for 2009 are available in the office. These envelopes help our financial staff keep track of your donations for tax purposes. If you are already on the contributors list from the past year, your records will continue to be kept. If you would like us to start keeping a financial record for your taxes, contact the office.

Newsletter Survey

We are considering the possibility of going to a every-other-month newsletter or ... distributing the monthly newsletters here at the church to regular attendees and continuing to mail to those who cannot pick up here. We would like to know just who and how many of you would like to continue to receive your PRBC Newsletter through the mail. There will be a response post card in the March newsletter. Please, let us know by returning the card (next month), calling the office or sending an email which method of delivery you would prefer. No decision has been made yet and your input would be MUCH appreciated.

The March Newsletter deadline will be Sunday, February 15.

Musical Opportunities

Would you like to provide special music during the worship service?

Would you like to participate in any upcoming drama events?

Would you like to join the choir?

We will be starting back on Sunday, February 8, at 6:00 pm. We will be working on an Easter Drama Musical. If you are interested in a 10-week short-term commitment and want to raise your voice to the Lord, we would love to see you there. All are welcome.

If interested please contact Kathleen Napier at 733-4085 or Angie Martin at 743-5271.

Check out the calendar for more church activities & special dates!

CHURCH NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARENTS NIGHT OUT

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 6PM - 10:30PM

Once again, the preschool is sponsoring a Parent's Night Out for children, 3rd - 6th grade. We will be serving spaghetti for dinner, and providing popcorn for snack during movies.

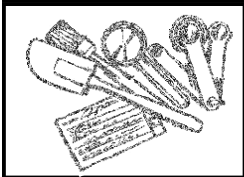
The children are split up by age groups; preschoolers stay upstairs in the classrooms, while the school-age group stays in the youth room. Games, crafts and movies are planned for both age groups.

Pre-registration is required. Forms will be located on the table outside the office and on the blue cubby cabinet in the hallway outside the primary department.



Rather than charging a set fee, we ask for donations. Just how much would it be worth to you to drop your child off with people you trust, who will feed and entertain them for an evening so you can spend the evening out or in the quiet of your home?

Wednesday Dinners



Please... If you sign up for a standing reservation, and cannot attend that week, remember to call the office so Erica can make

adjustments in the amount of food she prepares.

Let's show our support by helping her keep the count correct.

Erica Mullins (638-1059)

February 11

Miss Betty's Chicken, Green Beans, Rolls & Dessert

February 18

Chili, corn bread, salad & dessert

February 25

Spaghetti, bread, salad & dessert

All Women!

Come in from the cold and enjoy fun, food and fellowship!

Friday, February 20, 2009

5:30-7:30 pm

In the Fellowship Hall

Lifeway presents...

Beth Moore

in Pittsburgh, PA

June 12 & 13

Union Baptist is sponsoring a bus trip to Pittsburgh.

\$168.00 ... 2 / room

\$150.00 ... 3 / room

\$139.00 ... 4 / room

\$75.00 deposit to hold your spot

Balance is due May 1.

For more information,
Kelli Estep 736-3551



2 Jason Napier

3 Steven Martin

4 Harrison Cyrus

8 Jeremy Heck

Tammy Hager

9 Steve & Angie Martin

10 Barbara Bragg

11 Bryce Pullen

14 Kenny Bowen

Patrick Hensley

15 Adrianna Porter

17 Nathan Welch

18 Elisabeth Boyd

19 Mike Smith

21 Greg Creasy

22 Brandon Frazier

23 Jonathan Porter

Makenzie Warnock

Jim Twohig

Carly Elswick

24 Jeremy Napier

25 Sarah Mink

Alyson Smith

Mary Griffith

26 Tiffany Clay

Dwayne & Diane Heck

Brad Ransbottom

Shaun Elkins

Roger Lovett

27 Lisa Thomas

Church email ... prbc@pearidgebaptist.com

PRBC Children Happenings

Greetings From The Church Library

Did you know we have a wide selection of books in our church library? Part of our vision is to GROW in our knowledge, and what better way than to pick up a book on prayer or devotions. For those who like to read fiction, check out the great selection of suspense and love stories. There is also a growing selection of books for children and young adults. We have no late fees, check out is any time, and we accept donations if you need to de-clutter your book collection at home. If you've heard of an author or book you'd like to read, let me know and I'll try to get it. The library is located downstairs off the fellowship hall.

Parents- are you looking for a fun, free, inside, activity to do with your children on a cold Saturday? Success by 6 is having their Super Kids, Super Families, Super Saturday event on February 7, 2009 from 10 am to 1 pm in the Don Morris Room, Marshall University Student Center. The special guest is Noriko Senshu, a fine arts illustrator and published author of children's books. She will feature her book, "Sonny's Dream" at the story time. She has also donated 200 books to be given to the children. There are lots of fun activities scheduled around the room, and some terrific door prizes. I'll be there handing out dancing scarves to get our children moving.

-Written by Nan Richards



Children's Church

Wednesdays...

Team Kid-Kids in Discipleship

Games, Bible Stories, Games, Crafts, Games, Snacks, Music and MORE GAMES! *Bring A Friend!*



Wednesday Lessons

Feb. 4 Courage To Tell God's Message:

Isaiah Told God's Message (Isaiah 6:1-8; 7:14)

Feb. 11 Courage To Keep Doing What God Says Even

When It Is Hard: Jeremiah Did What God Said (Jer. 36:1-32)

Feb. 18 Courage To Trust In God When It's Scary:

Daniel Trusted God in the Lion's Den (Daniel 6:1-23)

Feb. 25 Courage To Tell the Truth: Ester Told the King

the Truth (Esther 1:1-2; 2:5-10, 17; 3:1-11, 13; 4:1-7:6, 10; 8:1-12)

Grow Opportunities

The children are writing in journals. This is a proven method of self-reflection and growth for children and adults. (Adults from Disciple 201 have been using journals, too.) This is a wonderful opportunity for you to encourage and help your child.



Volunteers Needed

In the coming months Christina will need help covering certain classes because of family commitments. The lesson plans will be set - all you would need to do is be available.



Children's Spring Rally (Parchment Valley)

Saturday, March 21

Anyone interested in going to this year's Rally needs to contact Christina ASAP. If we register before March 7, the fee is only \$12. After March 7, it goes up to \$25. This is open to all children grades K-6 and their parents. (Looking for drivers, too.)

Christina Black 633-2330



Eydon Jeffery Stratton

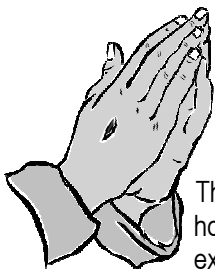
Born ... January 15,
weighed 6 lbs. 1 oz., 20" long

Proud Parents... Brittany and Dennis Stratton.

Proud Grandparents... Jeff and Paige Stratton

Proud Aunt... Mackenzie Stratton

PRBC Opportunities to Know and Grow



The Easter Experience

what if what happened then changes everything now?

This unique, video-driven group study makes Easter more than a holiday. The Easter Experience is, as its name implies, a truly spiritual experience that has the power to change every member in a Sunday School class or small group by bringing the passion and resurrection of Jesus to life through dramatic storytelling and challenging teaching by Kyle Idleman. It consists of six 20-minute episodes. Prior to Easter, our Adult Sunday School Department will be doing this study during the Sunday School hour. All classes will come together in a central location to view the DVD, then return to their individual class rooms for discussion on the video and bible study. (***You will need your bible for this study.***)

If you are not currently in a class or small group, now would be a good time to get involved as we study the life of Jesus during His last few days on earth.

A SNEAK PEEK AT WHAT'S TO COME!

1. My Life Has a Purpose

Jesus said He came not to be served, but to serve, and give His life as a ransom for many. Focusing on the Last Supper, this episode reveals that our life purpose is found in serving others, following Christ's example.

2. My Life Can Change

We've all made bad choices, but we don't have to be held prisoner by them. As we relive the betrayals of Peter and Judas, we see both men overcome by grief over the choices they have made, and we discover that how we respond in similar situations can lead to repentance and life or despair and death.

3. My Pain Is Understood

Because the journey to the cross was marked by betrayal, abuse, humiliation, loneliness, and agonizing pain, we know that Jesus identifies with us in our own sufferings. "Because he himself suffered when he was tempted, he is able to help those who are being tempted" (***Heb. 2:18 NIV***).

4. My Life Has a Plan

This episode imagines the thoughts and emotions of Jesus' mother, Mary, as she witnessed Jesus' journey on the road to Golgotha. In the intensity of the moment, she struggles to reconcile giving birth to the Son of God and the scene before her eyes of His imminent death. Did God really have a plan for her life?

5. I Have the Promise of Eternal Life

Through the interaction between Jesus and the thief on the cross, we find ourselves in Jesus' plan of salvation. The heart of the Gospel message is powerfully presented as we experience the crucifixion and death of Christ.

6. I Have a Hope That Never Dies

Mary Magdalene's miraculous experience at the tomb of Jesus is filled with a new message of hope and the promise of eternal life. Through her story, we rejoice in the reality that nothing can ever take from us the hope we have in Christ.

**THIS SPECIAL STUDY WILL BEGIN ON MARCH 8 AND
CONCLUDE ON EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 12**

ESTHER



It's TOUGH being a woman!

A 10-week Beth Moore study

Starting

March 3 Tuesdays 9:00-11:00 am

Leader- Johnna Gaunch 736-8811

Starting

March 4 Wednesdays 6:00-8:00 pm

Leaders- Leigh Ann Creasy

(& Connie Forth) 733-3385

*Member books are \$17.

On Tuesday mornings from 9-11 am, a child care workers are needed. For many women, this is their one opportunity to come and study God's Word. Please consider making yourself available to support our young moms! If you can help, contact Johnna Gaunch at 416-3364 or the church office.



Anointed Transformed Redeemed

Because of the snow, we have missed two Wednesday evenings, but if we stay up-to-date with our homework, we will catch up. We plan to show two videos Wednesday, Feb. 18.

So go ahead-do the homework for week 4 before the video and we will be ready for Kay Arthur and week 5.

Fully Engaged

And I'm not sure if you have used those words lately or not... "Fully Engaged"...but they are words that you might use if things are going your way... When you are really focused... When things are really happening. We are looking at being **Fully Engaged** in Your Walk with God... Your Church... Your Friends... Your Community... and Your City.

Don't miss this relevant sermon series as we continue to grow and mature disciples of Jesus Christ.

Dominican Republic Mission Trip

You may not be able to go on the trip, but you can support our mission trip by ...

- donating supplies for the sub-sandwich sale
- taking up a sandwich order
 - buying a ticket to the dinner theatre
 - making a donation by a marked envelope in the offering tray

Donations for the Sub Sale

1000 zip lock sandwich baggies 10 rolls plastic wrap 15 bags of plain potato chips

Take up orders for the Sub Sale on February 16

*Order deadline Wednesday, February 11

*Orders will be delivered Monday, the 16th, by Noon.

*Please use the provided order form to assure a correct order.

Get order forms from the office or a member of the Mission Team or Paul Bock

Attend the Dinner Theatre February 14, 5:30-8:30 pm

To buy your tickets...contact Paul Bock at 733-2641 or paul.bock@wrightline.com

This Mission Team represents all of us. Let's show them our support.



Pea Ridge Outreach Missions

"Because Jesus Loves You...There's Help"

POM will serve young mothers and their babies.

bottles, food, diapers, wipes, pacifiers and bibs

These will be bundled as a kit to be distributed to families as needed.

A Bible and prayer will be offered to any family helped.

Also, a personal hygiene kit will be presented to mom.

If you would like to donate items or money to this effort, contact the church office.

News from Pea Ridge Baptist Preschool...



Once Again, Staff Changes...

It seems as if every year we loose someone at Christmas time and this year is no exception. Luckily we did not actually lose a staff member completely and was able to fill it quickly. Carrie Adams is no stranger to most of you and she is a beloved staff member of our preschool. Carrie's school schedule changed for this semester and did not allow for preschool hours on Tuesday and Thursday. As we greatly miss Carrie on those days a parent decided to take the job and work on those days that needed covered. Tracy Bush, who has great experience in child care has come in and won the hearts of the preschoolers, parents and staff.

Parents Night Out - Friday, February 13, 6pm - 10:30pm

Once again, the preschool is sponsoring a Parent's Night Out for children 3 - 6th grade. We will be serving spaghetti for dinner, and providing popcorn for snack during movies. The children are split up by age groups; preschoolers stay upstairs in the classrooms, while the school-age group stays in the youth room. Games, crafts and movies are planned for both age groups. Preregistration is required. Forms will be located on the table in the back of the church and in the office. Rather than charging a set fee, we ask for donations. Just how much would it be worth to you to drop your child off with people that you trust, who will feed and entertain them for an evening that you can spend out or just in quiet at home?

Registration for 2009-2010 Preschool Year

Registration forms for all preschool classes (2-5yr olds) are available now. Church members may register their children beginning Thursday, Feb. 26, five days before public registration begins. Call Heather Blake at 634-4324 for details.

The Faith of a High School Football Coach

When Cheering for the Other Side Feels Better Than Winning

By RICK REILLY

Dec. 26, 2008—Editor's Note: *This story was reported by Rick Reilly for ESPN Magazine and ESPN.com. It was originally published on Dec. 22, 2008.*

They played the oddest game in high school football history last month down in Grapevine, Texas.

It was Grapevine Faith vs. Gainesville State School and everything about it was upside down. For instance, when Gainesville came out to take the field, the Faith fans made a 40-yard spirit line for them to run through.

Did you hear that? The other team's fans?

They even made a banner for players to crash through at the end. It said, "Go Tornadoes!" Which is also weird, because Faith is the Lions.

It was rivers running uphill and cats petting dogs. More than 200 Faith fans sat on the Gainesville side and kept cheering the Gainesville players on by name.

"I never in my life thought I'd hear people cheering for us to hit their kids," recalls Gainesville's QB and middle linebacker, Isaiah. "I wouldn't expect another parent to tell somebody to hit their kids. But they wanted us to!"

And even though Faith walloped them 33-14, the Gainesville kids were so happy that after the game they gave head coach Mark Williams a sideline squirt-bottle shower like he'd just won state. Gotta be the first Gatorade bath in history for an 0-9 coach.

But then you saw the 12 uniformed officers escorting the 14 Gainesville players off the field and two and two started to make four. They lined the players up in groups of five handcuffs ready in their back pockets and marched them to the team bus.

That's because Gainesville is a maximum-security correctional facility 75 miles north of Dallas. Every game it plays is on the road.

This all started when Faith's head coach, Kris Hogan, wanted to do something kind for the Gainesville team. Faith had never played Gainesville, but he already knew the score. After all, Faith was 7-2 going into the game, Gainesville 0-8 with 2 TDs all year.

Faith has 70 kids, 11 coaches, the latest equipment and involved parents. Gainesville has a lot of kids with convictions for drugs, assault and robbery many of whose families had disowned them wearing seven-year-old shoulder pads and ancient helmets.

So Hogan had this idea. What if half of our fans for one night only cheered for the other team? He sent out an e-mail asking the Faithful to do just that. "Here's the message I want you to send:" Hogan wrote. "You are just as valuable as any other person on planet Earth."

Some people were naturally confused. One Faith player walked into Hogan's office and asked, "Coach, why are we doing this?"

And Hogan said, "Imagine if you didn't have a home life. Imagine if everybody had pretty much given up on you. Now imagine what it would mean for hundreds of people to suddenly believe in you."

Next thing you know, the Gainesville Tornadoes were turning around on their bench to see something they never had before. Hundreds of fans. And actual cheerleaders!

"I thought maybe they were confused," said Alex, a Gainesville lineman (only first names are released by the prison). "They started yelling 'DEE-fense!' when their team had the ball. I said, 'What? Why they cheerin' for us?'"

It was a strange experience for boys who most people cross the street to avoid. "We can tell people are a little afraid of us when we come to the games," says Gerald, a lineman who will wind up doing more than three years. "You can see it in their eyes. They're lookin' at us like we're criminals. But these people, they were yellin' for us! By our names!"

Maybe it figures that Gainesville played better than it had all season, scoring the game's last two touchdowns. Of course, this might be because Hogan put his third-string nose guard at safety and his third-string cornerback at defensive end. Still.

After the game, both teams gathered in the middle of the field to pray and that's when Isaiah surprised everybody by asking to lead. "We had no idea what the kid was going to say," remembers Coach Hogan. But Isaiah said this: "Lord, I don't know how this happened, so I don't know how to say thank You, but I never would've known there was so many people in the world that cared about us."

And it was a good thing everybody's heads were bowed because they might've seen Hogan wiping away tears.

As the Tornadoes walked back to their bus under guard, they each were handed a bag for the ride home a burger, some fries, a soda, some candy, a Bible and an encouraging letter from a Faith player.

The Gainesville coach saw Hogan, grabbed him hard by the shoulders and said, "You'll never know what your people did for these kids tonight. You'll never, ever know."

And as the bus pulled away, all the Gainesville players crammed to one side and pressed their hands to the window, staring at these people they'd never met before, watching their waves and smiles disappearing into the night.

Anyway, with the economy six feet under, it's nice to know that one of the best presents you can give is still absolutely free.

Hope.



-submitted by Becky Porter

Husbands and Wives of the Bible

A	S	L	J	J	J	J	D	L	E	S	T	H	E	R	I	B	V	K	U
P	R	M	J	U	E	U	B	A	J	C	H	R	I	S	T	O	M	X	S
R	E	I	I	D	Z	D	V	A	U	I	S	A	A	C	A	A	N	M	N
U	B	C	V	I	E	A	S	B	V	G	A	D	V	G	X	Z	A	U	K
T	E	H	B	T	B	H	A	I	A	C	H	D	J	D	H	P	O	S	Q
H	K	A	E	H	E	J	P	G	N	B	H	T	A	K	E	H	M	A	M
A	A	L	T	E	L	W	P	A	A	C	O	V	E	M	R	I	I	M	A
E	H	A	H	R	M	R	H	I	N	P	I	X	Q	R	O	L	T	S	G
L	U	E	S	S	S	A	I	L	I	D	V	F	P	H	D	I	T	O	G
H	A	S	H	E	Z	M	R	T	A	B	P	A	A	M	M	S	W	N	J
T	S	O	E	S	X	A	A	D	S	I	Q	R	J	A	N	T	R	Z	D
A	E	H	B	O	C	T	A	H	X	B	O	C	H	F	H	I	O	O	Y
N	H	S	A	M	B	B	A	C	O	P	X	A	H	H	Y	N	R	D	B
E	C	H	I	Y	A	L	E	C	P	P	R	O	A	P	H	E	E	H	K
S	E	A	M	H	L	V	A	I	R	B	Q	A	R	E	C	G	M	L	I
A	M	O	A	I	E	J	Z	J	A	B	E	C	U	S	R	I	O	E	M
W	A	R	Z	A	H	A	S	U	E	R	U	S	T	O	U	R	G	H	U
Q	L	A	C	C	S	O	L	O	M	O	N	Q	E	J	H	L	A	C	W
M	U	H	Z	E	L	I	M	E	L	E	C	H	K	J	C	Y	R	A	M
J	C	P	L	Q	I	E	Z	E	R	J	J	E	T	N	A	C	Q	R	P

- Adam to Eve
- Lamech to Zillah
- Isaac to Rebekah
- Esau to Judith
- Abraham to Keturah and Sarah
- Jacob to Leah and Rachel
- Joseph to Asenath
- Moses to Zipporah
- Samson to Philistine girl
- Boaz to Ruth
- David to Michal and Abigail and Bathsheba
- Solomon to Pharaoh's Daughter
- Ahab to Jezebel
- Ahasuerus to Esther
- Hosea to Gomer
- Joseph to Mary
- Christ to the Church
- Judah to Tamar
- Elimelech to Naomi
- Ananias to Sapphira

Our Hearts

"Trust _____"

* ↑ ↗ ↓

_____ ; _____ ;

↗ ↓ ↖

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_____ ; _____ ; _____ ;

↖ → ↘ ↖ ↗

_____ ; _____ ;

→ ↑

Psalms _____

↗

1. Start with the center heart marked with * and write its word on the blank.

2. Then follow the arrows underneath each blank to find the remaining words.