



# Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity

**It's time for another Thrivent Builds Habitat House!**

## Who and Where:

The house will be for the Rodgers family of Jomesa and Kourtlin

The location is 153 Martin Drive in Centerpoint.

## When:

We will begin the build on **February 25th** and continue each weekend until the dedication date which is estimated to be around April 21st. (no work day before Easter is planned)

## What YOU can do:

• In the coming weeks we will have a fundraiser like last year to hopefully raise the funds needed to build the house. The bulletin board will be set up in the hall with information by April. We will have an email journal of the build again this year and if you would like to keep up with the build or want to be a part of the build.

• We will need someone to head up a team to prepare a noon time meal.

Usually we prepare for around 30-40, but will know the week of the meal.

Contact Donna Crabb by email at [dmcrabb@uab.edu](mailto:dmcrabb@uab.edu) or by phone 205-979-0549.

Other information can be found at: [thriventbuilds.com](http://thriventbuilds.com) or [www.habitatbirmingham.org](http://www.habitatbirmingham.org)

## MERCY AND MISSION SUNDAY

### "Fire House Mission"

February 5, 2012

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OPENING HYMN

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

#686



1 Come, Thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, Tune my heart to  
2 Here I raise my Eb - en - e - zer, Hith - er by Thy  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or Dai - ly I'm con -  
4 Oh, that day when freed from sin - ning, I shall see Thy



sing Thy grace; Streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,  
help I've come; And I hope, by Thy good plea - sure,  
strained to be; Let that grace now like a fet - ter  
love - ly face; Clothed then in the blood - washed lin - en,



Call for songs of loud - est praise. While the hope of end - less  
Safe - ly to ar - rive at home. Je - sus sought me when a  
Bind my wan-d'ring heart to Thee: Prone to wan - der, Lord, I  
How I'll sing Thy won-drous grace! Come, my Lord, no long - er



glo - ry Fills my heart with joy and love, Teach me  
strang - er, Wan - d'ring from the fold of God; He, to  
feel it; Prone to leave the God I love. Here's my  
tar - ry; Take my ran - som'd soul a - way; Send Thine



ev - er to a - dore Thee; May I still Thy good - ness prove.  
res - cue me from dan - ger, In - ter - posed His pre - cious blood.  
heart, O take and seal it, Seal it for Thy courts a - bove.  
an - gels soon to car - ry Me to realms of end - less day.

## INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**C** Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** O Almighty and merciful God, who heals those that are broken in heart, and turns the sadness of the sorrowful to joy; Let your fatherly goodness be upon all that you have made. Remember in mercy those who are this day destitute, homeless, or forgotten by their fellow men. Uplift those who are cast down. For those who suffer innocently, we pray that you will sanctify their endurance of any wrongs worked on them, keeping their hearts free of bitterness. Cheer with hope all discouraged and unhappy people, and help those who are tempted into sin by their poverty; though they be troubled on every side, suffer them not to be distressed; though they be perplexed, save them from despair. Grant this, O Lord, for the love of him, who for our sakes endured poverty and blameless suffering, your Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

- P** Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**C** Thanks be to God.

## POSTLUDE

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### TODAY IS "SOUPER" BOWL SUNDAY

Please place your dollars and coins in the containers in the narthex as you leave worship today. All monies will go to those in need.

More than twenty years ago the *"Souper Bowl of Caring"* program started in congregations with youth group servant events supporting local charities. Since that day, more than 60 million dollars has been raised across the nation. It has become a powerful movement transforming Super Bowl weekend into the nation's largest youth led weekend of service. Through this mission, young people learn what it is like to make a positive difference in the world – as they collect food, goods, and money for local charities that provide shelter to the homeless and food to the hungry and compassion to those in need. Our LCVH youth participated this weekend in the Boxin' It Event to assist the Firehouse Shelter. After both services today, we will be in the back of the church, holding soup pots to collect donations for the Firehouse Shelter. Be part of this movement that is sharing the mercy and mission of God's love with those in need. Thank you!

**SONGS AND HYMNS DURING DISTRIBUTION**

Songs may be found in the songbook entitled: *"Lift Up Your Hearts"* located at the end of each pew.

- "Great is Thy Faithfulness" page 8 & 9 LUYH**  
Choir : "O Christ the Same"
- "Seek Ye First" page 21 LUYH**
- "Lord, Be Glorified" page 11, LUYH**
- "Have Thine Own Way, Lord" page 19, LUYH**
- "God is So Good" page 13, LUYH**

**POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

**BENEDICTION**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

**CLOSING HYMN**

"Go to the World"  
(Melody: "For All the Saints")

**Go to the world! Go into all the earth.**  
**Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth**  
**Baptizing as the sign of our rebirth.**  
**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Go to the world! Go into ev'ry place.**  
**Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.**  
**Go seek God's presence in each time and space.**  
**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;**  
**The nights of tears give way to joyous day.**  
**As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.**  
**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,**  
**For I am with you 'til the age shall end.**  
**When all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!"**  
**Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**C** Amen.

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Isaiah 58:7-10

<sup>7</sup>Is it not to share your bread with the hungry and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover him, and not to hide yourself from your own flesh? <sup>8</sup>Then shall your light break forth like the dawn, and your healing shall spring up speedily; your righteousness shall go before you; the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard. <sup>9</sup>Then you shall call, and the

LORD will answer; you shall cry, and he will say, 'Here I am.' If you take away the yoke from your midst, the pointing of the finger, and speaking wickedness, <sup>10</sup>if you pour yourself out for the hungry and satisfy the desire of the afflicted, then shall your light rise in the darkness and your gloom be as the noonday.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God

**RESPONSE (8:00)**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

#700 v.1,3

1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of  
 3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; Let us  
 heav'n, to earth come down! Fix in us Thy  
 all Thy life re - ceive; Sud - den - ly re -  
 hum - ble dwell - ing, All Thy faith - ful mer - cies crown.  
 turn, and nev - er, Nev - er - more Thy tem - ples leave.  
 Je - sus, Thou art all com - pas - sion, Pure, un -  
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, Serve Thee

bound - ed love Thou art; Vis - it us with  
 as Thy hosts a - bove, Pray and praise Thee

Thy sal - va - tion, En - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
 with - out ceas - ing, Glo - ry in Thy per - fect love.

**CHOIR (10:30)**

**“Day By Day”**

*Day by day and with each passing moment, Strength I find to meet my trials here;  
 Trusting in my Father’s wise bestowment, I’ve no cause for worry or for fear.  
 He whose heart is kind beyond all measure Gives unto each day what he deems best,  
 Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure, Mingling toil with peace and rest.*

*Every day the Lord himself is near me With a special mercy for each hour;  
 All my cares he fain would bear and cheer me, He whose name is Counselor and Power.  
 The protection of his child and treasure is a charge that on himself He laid;  
 “As thy days, thy strength shall be in measure,” This the pledge to me he made*

*Held me then in every tribulation So to trust thy promises, O Lord,  
 That I lose not faith’s sweet consolation Offered me within thy Holy Word.  
 Help me, Lord when toil and trouble meeting, E’er to take as from a father’s hand,  
 One by one, the days, the moments fleeting.  
 Till I reach the promised land.*

**EPISTLE READING**

Philippians 2:1-4

<sup>1</sup>So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from rivalry or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others.

**R** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God**

**LORD’S PRAYER**

**C** **Our Father who art in heaven,  
 hallowed be Thy name,  
 Thy kingdom come,  
 Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;  
 give us this day our daily bread;  
 and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
 and lead us not into temptation,  
 but deliver us from evil.  
 For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.  
 Amen.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

**P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

**THE PEACE**

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** **Amen.**

**DISTRIBUTION** PLEASE NOTE: We invite all baptized Christians who acknowledge their sinfulness, trust in Christ as their Savior, and who recognize the real presence of Christ’s Body and Blood in the bread and wine to join us at the Communion table. The practice of our congregation is to place the bread into the extended hand of the communicant. The wine is offered in both individual cups and the chalice (common cup). If you wish to receive it from an individual cup, please take one from the tray as it is offered by the Elder. (The cups in the center of the tray are filled with non-alcoholic wine, in consideration of persons who for medical or personal reasons should not drink wine.) Please drink from the individual cup, and then hold the cup until the Pastor has passed by with the chalice. The chalice will be offered to communicants who do not have an individual cup in their hand. Also, children who have not received Communion instruction are invited to come to the Communion rail, fold their hands and receive a blessing.

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, for the Fire House shelter, and for the Thrivent Building program with Habitat for Humanity, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For . . . *[additional bids for prayer may be inserted here]* . . . let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## ALLELUIA VERSE

- P** Alleluia! "Be ye merciful, just as your Heavenly Father is merciful." —Luke 6:36  
**C** **Alleluia!**

## HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 15:29-36

- P** The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew , the fifteenth chapter.  
**C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>29</sup>Jesus went on from there and walked beside the Sea of Galilee. And he went up on the mountain and sat down there. <sup>30</sup>And great crowds came to him, bringing with them the lame, the blind, the crippled, the mute, and many others, and they put them at his feet, and he healed them, <sup>31</sup>so that the crowd wondered, when they saw the mute speaking, the crippled healthy, the lame walking, and the blind seeing. And they glorified the God of Israel. <sup>32</sup>Then Jesus called his disciples to him and said, "I have compassion on the crowd because they have been with me now three days and have

nothing to eat. And I am unwilling to send them away hungry, lest they faint on the way." <sup>33</sup>And the disciples said to him, "Where are we to get enough bread in such a desolate place to feed so great a crowd?" <sup>34</sup>And Jesus said to them, "How many loaves do you have?" They said, "Seven, and a few small fish." <sup>35</sup>And directing the crowd to sit down on the ground, <sup>36</sup>he took the seven loaves and the fish, and having given thanks he broke them and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds.

- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.  
**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## NICENE CREED

- C** **I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.  
And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,  
very God of very God,**

begotten, not made,  
 being of one substance with the Father,  
 by whom all things were made;  
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
 and was made man;  
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
 He suffered and was buried.  
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
 and ascended into heaven  
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
 whose kingdom will have no end.  
 And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the Lord and giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life  $\text{✝}$  of the world to come. Amen.

### CHILDREN'S SERMON (10:30)

Following the Children's Message, all children ages 3 through 7 are invited to go downstairs for Children's Church.  
 Children will return to their parents in worship during the Offertory.

### HYMN OF THE DAY Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service #848



1 Lord, whose love through hum - ble ser - vice Bore the weight of  
 2 Still Your chil - dren wan - der home - less; Still the hun - gry  
 3 As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, Till Your love's re -  
 4 Called by wor - ship to Your ser - vice, Forth in Your dear

hu - man need, Who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,  
 cry for bread; Still the cap - tives long for free - dom;  
 veal - ing light In its height and depth and great - ness,  
 name we go, To the child, the youth, the a - ged,  
 Of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed, We, Your ser - vants, bring the  
 Still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, Your deep com -  
 Dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, Mak - ing known the needs and  
 Love in liv - ing deeds to show; Hope and health, good - will and  
 wor - ship Not of voice a - lone, but heart, Con - se -  
 pas - sion Healed the sick and freed the soul, Use the  
 bur - dens Your com - pas - sion bids us bear, Stir - ring  
 com - fort, Coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, That Your  
 crat - ing to Your pur - pose Ev - 'ry gift that You im - part.  
 love Your Spir - it kin - dles Still to save and make us whole.  
 us to tire - less striv - ing, Your a - bun - dant life to share.  
 ser - vants, Lord, in free - dom May Your mer - cy know and live.

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### SERMON

"He Only Has Eyes for You."  
 You are valuable in his sight - Isaiah 43:4  
 Reverend Michael Ahlemeyer

### OFFERING

During the offering all worshipers are asked to sign the Friendship Register. It is in the black binder in each pew pocket on the center aisle. Please pass the Register to each worshiper in the pew. When the Register has reached the side aisle, please pass it back toward the center aisle. As it is being passed back to the center aisle, please take note of the names of the people in the pew with you, and greet one another in the name of Jesus after the service. Thank you.

### OFFERTORY