

July Connections



INDEPENDENCE DAY

Celebrating Freedom

Lakewood Baptist

Church

MESSAGE FROM BROTHER M.R.

In the book of Acts we get a rare opportunity to look into the life and ministry of the early church. Without facilities, organization or funding, a small group of bewildered individuals without their leader set out to change the world, and actually got it done. They had discovered that the coming of the Holy Spirit had changed everything. Empowered by the reality that God was with them, they took on the organized governments of the world, determined to not be silenced, and the message of hope rang out. From town to town they followed God's leadership, discovering an open door where none thought it possible. God's plan stood the test of time and today we are recipients of that very promise. Now the future of that hope depends on this generation, to carry that hope into yet another generation. We are called upon this day to carry that light, and God has multiplied our resources and supplied us with every opportunity. Television, radio and modern communication, along with transportation have opened wide the doors of opportunity. This past month saw our mission teams serving in Vermont, and the country of Belize. Our television ministry is reaching into houses throughout our area, and our worship services here on sight have experienced a sweet spirit of excitement as we prepare to face tomorrow's challenges.

As we plan for the future, it is always wise to remember our past. To take time to remember where we come from, and how God has always been there to show us the way. It is a time to reflect upon the simplicity of the Gospel, and the message of hope that drove the early church to have such great power. This is a time to look back for the foundations on which the church was founded, as those foundations have stood the test of time. Acts 2:42 is a great example of the historical evidence we have before us of just how the foundations were laid. "They devoted themselves to the apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." The early church launched itself into this present day with a simple system we call church. A place where we come together and study the apostles teachings (Bible Study), Remembering Jesus, and joining our hearts together in prayer. Through the ministry of preaching and teaching the truth, we can empower the individual members to hear God and follow His leadership. Through the fellowship of the saints we can encourage and uplift one another to even greater works of service. And through the power of prayer, we can unleash the power of God to open the doors of opportunity throughout our community, and around the world. Bible study, prayer and fellowship were the tools of the early church that have carried us to this very day. They are the foundational ministries of the church.

I share this truth in hopes of encouraging you to join in with these opportunities as they are offered throughout the year. I realize that on the surface it might seem a bit simplistic, and lacking in sophistication for the 21st century church. But I assure you there is nothing simple about the direct application of God's Word to our daily lives. It takes faith! And the faith that shines in the darkness of our present day comes only from prayer and the support of a faith based fellowship with other believers who are always there to encourage you and help you along the way.

I have only been here a few months but I can assure you of this. We have a sweet, sweet spirit in this place! We have a loving and supportive fellowship that loves to meet and pray. If you have never had the opportunity to enjoy the Wed. night fellowship at the meal I want to encourage you to come. The food is wonderful and the fellowship is even sweeter than the dessert. Following the meal we have a brief challenge from God's Word, followed up by corporate and individual prayer support for any and all needs. It is a blessed time of loving support, praise and celebration of all God is doing, and has done in and through us. Please dare to believe that prayer changes things!

Bible study opportunities here at Lakewood are everywhere. From the worship services, to the Sunday School, we are committed to the advancement of Biblical knowledge. We have been blessed with talented Bible teachers who are both gifted and very well trained. Dr Horner is an example of that talent pool. A lifelong educator who has supported ministries around the world, he is offering a July Bible study on James that is certain to be a blessing. It will be meeting Monday nights at 6:30 for the five Mondays in July.

The end of August we will be launching an Experiencing God class that I will be leading that will run for 12 weeks in the fall.

Message from Brother M.R.

The end of August we will be launching an Experiencing God class that I will be leading that will run for 12 weeks in the fall. If you have never had this opportunity I cannot encourage you enough to attend. I promise you that this is a life changing experience. I began doing the study as a missionary to equip our new members of our church plants and it was the very key to our success. Within the study you will learn to hear God speak. You will be challenged to break through your crises of belief, to experience God doing things through you that you could never do alone. I have had the privilege of leading a great number of these studies over the past 27 years and it has always been remarkable what God has done in those twelve weeks. Lives will be forever changed, so please pray about coming to the Experiencing God classes this fall. They are presently being planned for Thursday nights, but other times will be available if anyone desires to attend. Bible study, fellowship and prayer really are the foundations of the church that are preparing to impact the world with a message of hope, found only in Christ Jesus.

November 7th is a day to remember as that is Billy Graham's 95th Birthday. To celebrate he is planning his final crusade. "The Message of Hope" from Billy Graham. It will be a telecast seen around the world in homes of volunteers he calls Matthew homes. He is asking individuals to open their homes and invite their un-churched friends and neighbors to a BBQ and fellowship where the telecast will be shown. It has been done now in 57 countries over the past few years with great results. We here at Lakewood will be praying and sponsoring the event so if you would like to be a Matthew home please let us know as we have all the materials and training available.

Wow, it really is exciting to be here, and I pray that your summer is a blessed one. I also pray that one or more of the opportunities presented here will be of interest to you and your family. God bless and continue to pray for God to move with great power in our midst.

Music & Senior Adults

"I will sing to the Lord"

Charles Keown

Youth Choir is back on track for the summer meeting, Sunday's at 5 p.m. After choir I encourage you to stay for Sunday night Bible Study. You will be out before 7 p.m.

The Amen Choir has been invited to sing at **Frazer United Methodist in Montgomery on Thursday, March 13th 2014**. Please update your calendars. This is a major opportunity and we would like to have everyone participate. Other dates of importance include **Salem Baptist Church in McDonough, GA Wednesday, October 23rd** and **Choir Festival at Central Baptist in Phenix City on Friday, October 25th**.

The Alleluia Choir is working on a program for the end of August. We are even considering some opportunities outside of our own church. You have been very faithful to rehearsals since we have started back. We need to make a lot of progress through the month of July as we seek to memorize our program. The music is beautiful! "I will sing to the Lord for He has been good to me" Psalm 13:6.



VBS 2013



The month of June began with the clash of swords as we learned how to put on the full armor of God in our week-long Vacation Bible School, where 8 children made professions of faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior!

The Kingdom Chronicles, based on Ephesians 6, was a great success. With a high attendance of 109 kids, we discovered that we must fight against the bad kingdom of Satan and stand strong in our battle for truth with our awesome God. We learned how to put on the full armor of God and fight for righteousness and truth by using the helmet of salvation, the breastplate of righteousness, the shield of faith, the belt of truth, the sword of the Spirit, and feet shod with the Gospel of Christ. We learned that God has power over all things, that He is in control no matter what is happening, and that God sent His Son, Jesus, as our Savior and we can accept His forgiveness. God gave us a tremendous week of fun, fellowship and learning! He is so good!

There is no way to name everyone who worked so hard to make this year's VBS such a success. We had as many as 70 volunteers working each night, as well as people who dedicated their time and talent to create our worship rally set and decorate the church. Lisa Woodburn, VBS director, and Amy Casey, preschool director, gathered a team of volunteers who truly blessed our kids and poured out their hearts during our time together. Worship Rally leaders Shaun and Cassie Culligan had the kids on their feet and praising God every night and Becky Aderhold's kitchen team kept us nourished and energized. Julie Pelletier and Beth Hedges and company kept our hands busy with great craft projects, and Coach OJ and staff played awesome games, even as they battled rain most of the week. Thank you to all who had any part in providing this life-changing opportunity to Lakewood's children, as well as to the kids who poured in from the community. You have been a blessing to many!

Patrick Thornton, Children's Minister

Youth & Younger Single Adults

Shaping the Future

Andrew Spires

It's summer time and camp is almost here. Once again, we will be heading to Andrews, North Carolina to visit Snowbird Wilderness Outfitters. Many may think that summer camp has little impact on student ministry since most who attend are already saved, however, nothing could be further from the truth. Camp is not just a week where Christian kids go off to the woods and play instead, at Snowbird, students find a program that deepens their faith, teaches apologetics, and develops a servant lifestyle within each young person. Of course occasionally a student realizes that they didn't really have that intimate relationship with the Savior and they truly commit to Christ for the first time. The camp matches young adults who are passionate about their walk with Christ with each youth group and they lead them in small group studies daily. These young adults live with our students for the week, sitting with them at meals, in worship, and even at recreation and display for them what a "sold out" life looks like. Often our students just need to see another person not much older than them living out their faith for all to see. When we come back from camp it is often one of the spiritual high points in our students lives and it acts as a spring board for new growth as they head back to school in the fall. I eagerly look forward to seeing the deepening affect that is sure to come in our students lives. Our students and adults who went on the Belize Mission trip are still riding high and ready to share with the church on Sunday night July 14th, I hope you will make plans to join us then to see pictures and hear testimonies of what God accomplished in and through us. Once again, I thank each one of you who have given to the mission effort and summer camp, you are following God's command to give, displaying obedience, and your servants heart. Only eternity will tell the seeds that are planted because of your faithfulness, God sees your heart and will always reward.

May God richly bless you all!

Firm Foundations for Future Generations

Lakewood Baptist Church
Child Development Center

Cabbi Black, CDC Director

The CDC is currently registering for the Fall. If you know anyone who is interested in our program, please have them contact the CDC office for more information@ 334-298-6461.



Summer Camp is going great!!
Our kids are having a blast and enjoying staying cool with water play.
They are going on all kinds of field trips and doing different fun activities!



We had a great turnout for Donuts for Dad!! We had over 200 fathers and grandfathers come and celebrate with their children for breakfast. Our children were so excited to show their dad's and grandpas off!!!



Happy Birthday to

Sara Franklin who turns 90 this month

Welcome New Members

- Lou Loughry
- Berkley Taylor
- Joshua Lee
- Emily Hollon
- Ben Graham
- Will Graham
- Timothy Schlorf
- Tyler Grochowski
- Drew Brasfield

Wednesday Menus

\$5 Adult \$2.50 Child
\$15.00 max per family

July 3

Closed for 4th of July

July 10

Ham ,Sweet Potato Casserole, Squash, Salad, Dessert

July 17

Polish Sausage on Bun w/ Onions & Peppers, Baked Beans, Corn on the cob, Salad & Dessert

July 24

Open Face Roast Beef Sandwich, Green Beans, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Roll, Salad & Dessert

July 31

Fried & Baked Chicken, Macaroni & Cheese, Collard Greens, Cornbread, Salad & Dessert

In memory of

Richard Atkins:
For Amen Choir
Bobbie Redmon
J. D. & Diane Whitehead
Peter & Corry Finnerty
Janice Noble

For Food Closet:
Mr. & Mrs. George Maxwell
Melvin & Sherry Scroggins

Homebound Ministry from Brenda Evans,
Bobby & Clara Jean Watson
Challenge to Build from Gail Brantley
Belize Mission Trip from
Mr. & Mrs. Desmond Beck

Mary Lowe for Sweet Spirits
from Judith Cameron

Geraldine Shine
For Budget from Sally Kennedy
For Homebound Ministry
from Clara Jean Watson

Ministerial Staff:

- M.R. Hamilton, Pastor
brothermr@LBCPC.org
- Charles Keown, Minister of Music and Senior Adults, charles@LBCPC.org
- Andrew Spires, Minister - Students and Singles, andrew@LBCPC.org
- Patrick Thornton, Minister - Children, patrick@LBCPC.org

Ryon Locke
For Budget from Robinson Paving Company
For Bereavement Ministry
from Bobby & Clara Jean Watson

James Black for Food Closet
from Sally Kennedy

Ollie Mae Norris for Circles of Influence from
Melvin & Sherry Scroggins

Kathryn Robbins and Rassie Smith for Belize
Mission Trip from Glenda,
Christine and Sandra

Mary Jane Riley for Belize Mission Trip from
Fran Loftin

Mary Ann Hall
For Belize Mission Trip from Billy & Cathy
Greene
For Bereavement Ministry from Bobby &
Clara Jean Watson

In Honor of

Bill Phillips' 84th birthday for
Circles of Influence from Pat Phillips.

Office Staff:

- Onezima Everritt, Finance Ministry Assistant, onezima@LBCPC.org
- Carol Breault, Office Ministry Assistant, carol@LBCPC.org
- Linda Keown, Music & Media Ministry Assistant, linda@LBCPC.org
- Child Development Center**
Cabbi Black, Director, cabbi@LBCPC.org/cdc
Rebecca McCoy, Ministry Assistant, rebecca@LBCPC.org/cdc

May Giving	Budget	CTB	Missions	Other	Total
5/5/13	\$22,520.00	\$612.00	\$1,349.00	\$4,124.56	\$28,605.56
5/12/13	\$9,793.40	\$336.00	\$482.50	\$2,902.35	\$13,514.25
5/19/13	\$9,415.00	\$191.00	\$3,347.00	\$3,911.15	\$16,864.15
5/26/13	\$ 5,792.30	\$91.00	\$2,875.50	\$1,445.03	\$10, 203.83
Total	\$47,520.70	\$1,230.00	\$8,054.00	\$12,383.09	\$69,202.85

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Amen Choir @ 10:30 July Bible Study @ 6:30	2 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	3 No Activities due to 4th of July	4 Office Closed	5	6
7 Lord's Supper AM Youth Choir@ 5:00 VIP	8 Amen Choir @ 10:30 July Bible Study @ 6:30 VIP	9 Sweet Spirits @ 10:30 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30 VIP	10 5:45 Wet Wednesday 5:45 Youth Get R.E.A.L. 7:00 Deacon's	11 Braves Game 3:00- until -\$25 VIP	12 Breakfast Club 10-2 VIP	13 VIP
14 Youth Choir@ 5:00 VIP	15 Amen Choir @ 10:30 July Bible Study @ 6:30	16 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	17 5:45 Wet Wednesday 5:45 Youth Get R.E.A.L. 7:00 CMLT & Finance	18 9:30 Brown's Peach Farm & Lunch	19 Breakfast Club 10-2	20
21 Youth Choir@ 5:00 Church Conference	22 Amen Choir @ 10:30 July Bible Study @ 6:30	23 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	24 5:45 Wet Wednesday 5:45 Youth Get R.E.A.L.	25 JEG B/W @ 7:00	26 Breakfast Club 10-2	27 FTH @ 11:15- 2PM
28 Youth Choir@ 5:00	29 Amen Choir @ 10:30 July Bible Study @ 6:30 Youth Camp	30 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30 Youth Camp	31 5:45 Wet Wednesday 5:45 Youth Get R.E.A.L. Youth Camp			

Regularly Ongoing Weekly Activities

Sunday
 9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service
 9:30 AM Bible Fellowship
 10:50 AM Blended Worship Service
 10:50 AM Bible Fellowship
 11:15 AM Kidz Worship
 5:30PM PRAYER TIME
 6:00 PM Worship

Wednesday
 5:00 PM Family Night Supper
 5:45 PM Youth Bible Study
 5:45 PM Awana
 6:00 PM Orchestra Rehearsal
 6:00 PM Adult Prayer and Bible Study
 7:00PM Praise Team

* All times are Eastern.

Additional Information

The church office should receive all submissions to be considered for the monthly newsletter (*Connections*) by 2:00 PM on the 14th of the prior month.

Weekly submissions for consideration should be received by noon each Tuesday.



Go to the July events page of LBCPC.org and click on any "VIP Week" entry from July 7 through 14. You will then be able to see who has signed up for meals, overnight hosts or transportation opportunities. If you are interested in helping us with this awesome ministry just email Linda at linda@LBCPC.org or call her at 706-718-4240. If you have never served in the ministry before you can fill out simple volunteer forms that we have here at Lakewood (we will take these for you to the VIP Office in Columbus). There is also a short training video you may borrow. Thank you church family for always stepping up to serve GOD by serving OTHERS.



How well do your actions correspond to the faith that you profess? This is a question that most of us struggle to answer well. We would like to point to all the ways that our works and our faith consistently overlap, but too often we see only gaps and crevices. The book of James encourages God's people to act like God's people, and its pages are filled with direct commands to pursue a life of holiness. James would agree that if you talk the talk, you ought to walk the walk, and he makes no excuses for those who do not measure up. For him, a faith that does not produce real life change is a bogus and worthless faith (James 2:17). And for him, faith was no cold abstract theological proposition; it had practical effects in the real world, and he offered numerous examples to illustrate his point. Faith endures in the midst of trials, calls on God for wisdom, bridles the tongue, sets aside wickedness, shows concern for the less fortunate, and does not play favorites. James stressed the fact that the life of faith is comprehensive, impacting every area of our lives and driving us truly to engage in the lives of other people in the world. In language and themes that sound similar to the teachings of Jesus in the Sermon on the Mount, James thundered against the hypocritical believer who says one thing but does another.

Even though he grew up in the same household as Jesus, his half-brother, James was not a believer during the earthly ministry of the Lord. In fact, along with his other brothers, he taunted Jesus at times (John 7:3-5) and thought he was crazy for claiming to be the Messiah (Mark 3:20-21). However, Jesus made a special post-resurrection appearance to James (1 Cor. 15:7) that changed his heart and mind, and he became a follower of the Lord. Later, he became the leader of the church in Jerusalem, as evidenced by the fact that he presided over the church council of Acts 15 and by the special recognition given to him by Peter (Acts 12:17) and Paul (Gal. 2:9). According to tradition, James earned a nickname, "Camel-knees," because he spent so much time on his knees in prayer that he developed large callouses on them. The very fact that the book of James was likely the first book of the New Testament to be written ought to inflame our interest and motivate us to study it and to allow it to encourage us to live according to the faith we proclaim.

I promise you that you will not be disappointed if you attend our applications from **James each Monday during July at 6:30 p.m.**

Dr. Jerry Horner



Thursday, July 18th the bus leaves for Brown's Peach Farm & lunch at a restaurant yet to be decided @ 9:30. Bring \$5 for bus gas and money for your lunch and peaches. Everyone is welcome to go but contact Lorene Parker @ 706-570-1207 or Church Office @ 334-298-6433 for a reservation.

Contact Information:

Lakewood Baptist Church

Website: LBCPC.org
 4011 Lakewood Drive,
 Phenix City, AL 36867
 Main Office: 334.298.6433
 Fax: 334.298.4873
 Hours: M-Th 8:30 - 4:30 F- 8:30 - 4:00

Child Development Center:

334.298.6461
 Website: LBCPC.org/cdc
 Hours: M- F 6:30 - 6:00

July
2013

Volume VI

Issue 2

CONNECTIONS (USPS #463270) is a monthly publication by Lakewood Baptist Church.

Periodicals paid at Phenix City, AL.

POSTMASTER: Send all address corrections to: Lakewood Baptist Church, 4011 Lakewood Drive, Phenix City, Alabama 36867