

# Message from Brother M.R.

I really like to be pleasantly surprised! I just love it when I get caught off guard by a blessing I didn't see coming; and today has been one of those days. From time to time, my life gets a bit more hectic than normal, and I find myself trying to keep several balls in the air at once, and that's when God usually comes to my rescue. What really amazes me is that I am so focused on my problem solving, that it usually takes direct intervention to get my attention. This morning I was smack dab in the middle of a project, really rolling along when I had a knock on my door proclaiming "You have to see this". Wow, how my mind ran with that request, and began to create all kinds of disasters. As I entered the fellowship hall the members filled the seats for the sweet spirits meeting, while a good number stood around the dividers watching intently as a young man who could not speak, sang.

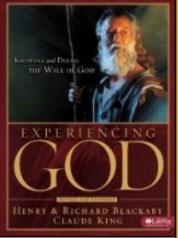
His name is Terry McKay, known for his ministry "Anointed Hands". He actually sang with his hands, and though I try to find the words to convey the reality of the presentation, I feel as though I am trying to take a picture of the Grand Canyon. It can't be captured apart from actually being there. I can remember the first time some friends tried to explain the experience of standing on the edge and looking down. They thought for a moment and then replied, "you just have to see it to believe it". At the time I wondered why all the excitement over a big hole in the desert? Then I got a weekend pass, and raided the chow hall as we had discovered where the cooks kept the really good stuff we would need to BBQ up on Williams mountain, just south of the canyon. Williams mountain is a popular stop for Marines traveling through Arizona, as the exit from the highway that takes you to the summit is Devil Dog Road. So no Devil Dog (the term used for Marines) could pass up the place. Now being a died in the wool mountain man I wanted to stay there on the mountain, certain the hole in the distance had nothing for me. This would not be the first, or last time, I was sorely mistaken. As we began to draw near to the canyon wall there were no signs of its existence. I was encouraged by a marvelous Mule deer buck that stood only a few feet from the roadway, and it kept my attention just long enough for the car to turn west along the south rim of the canyon. Then as I turned my attention back to where we were going there it was, the Grand Canyon. It really is one of the great wonders of the world. My friends had been right. You just have to see it, and stand on the edge, and look over and feel the wind rising from the river far below. A small aircraft flew below us up the canyon giving perspective to its actual size, as the aircraft seemed more like a bird from where we stood. It was as wild and untouchable as anything I had ever seen. I spent several hours watching the shadows transform the landscape as the clouds passed by overhead. While the shadows cast by the landscape throughout the canyon, moved steadily, first retreating, then stretching as the sun made its way from east to west. I sat and wondered how many had done the same thing just on a different day. All of creation cried out to God that day, but I failed to hear it. My friends spoke openly of what God had done, but I gave the glory to the river, never stopping to ask the obvious question, who's hand had guided the river? It was as foolish as celebrating the paintbrush, while denying the existence of the artist. I have never had the opportunity to sit there since my eyes have been opened to see God in all creation. Perhaps God will allow me that blessing one day.

Just as it is in creation, so some of the loudest praise is given to God in silence. The silent prayer of a grateful heart; the simple smile on the face of His children; or through the hands of a young man who can't speak, as he sings his favorite hymn. You see we all knew the words to the music, and now we know how those words look through the hands of a boy who longs to shout to the Lord in silence. We could not remain silent, and we sang the words for him, and all I can say about it is, you will just have to see it to believe it!



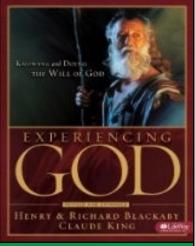
# Whooo Gives A Hoot About Missions? Join us for a Baptist Women's Kick-off Sunday, September 8th At 2:00 pm Lakewood Fellowship Hall.





## **Experiencing God Classes begin this week**

You have two choices of classes to attend: Thursday nights at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall Sunday afternoons at 4:00 in the Fellowship Hall.





## CHATTAHOOCHEE VALLEY AREA KICK-OFF

## **EVERYONE INVITED!**

LAKEWOOD SANCTUARY MON SEPT 9 6:30 EST

## IF YOU LOVE OCC AND IF YOU WANT LAKEWOOD TO BE A PERFECT HOSTESS...

then we need you!

Come to the Area Kick-off Monday Sept. 9 at 6:30. If you would like to bring a snack food that's great but if you can't, COME ANYWAY. Meet other church volunteers who want to see more children hear the good news of Jesus Christ by receiving a shoebox. Invite anyone who might be interested. Everyone is welcome!



On Sunday Night the 22nd we will hear a testimony from our own Chris May as he shares about the Cadence Ministry that he and his family are a part of at Fort Hood Texas. Cadence is in our Circles of Influence ministry which means that each time you give an offering to Circles a part of that money goes to support the Soldiers Hospitality House at Fort Hood where Chris and Elizabeth are Directors. Come and hear how your dollars are spreading the gospel to military personal who are often far from home or family.

## Children are a gift from God

The hot days of summer will soon be behind us, but the approaching fall means that the kids are once again in school and all of our children's ministries are back in full swing. Here is the complete list of ministry opportunities available for our children:

Pre-school Division (birth - 4 year olds) Sunday: 9:30 - 10:30Bible Fellowship 10:30 - 12:00 **Extended Session** 5:45 - 7:00Awana Cubbies (3 - 4 year olds, must turn 3 by Sept. I)Wednesday: Elementary Division (K - 4th grades) 9:30 - 10:30 Sunday Bible Fellowship 10:45-11:15 Blended Worship Service 11:15 - 12:00 Children's Church (K – 4th) 6:00 - 7:00Children's Choir (K - 6<sup>th</sup>) Begins 9/15 Wednesday: 5:45 - 7:00Awana Sparks and Ultimate Adventure (K-4<sup>th</sup>) The Mix 5/6 (5th and 6th grades) Sunday: 9:30 - 10:30Bible Fellowship 10:45 - 12:00Worship Service 6:00 - 7:00Children's Choir (K – 6<sup>th</sup>) Begins 9/15 5:45 - 7:00FLYTE (5th and 6th) Wednesday:

The Mix 5/6 is our new ministry developed especially for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Come by and visit their new room located next to the library on the lower floor of the Senior Adult/Youth building!

Our average attendance on Wednesday nights is between 40 and 50 kids. This means we need many dedicated adults to volunteer their time and talents to help us out in our different areas of service.

Also we still have no adult teachers for our 2 year old Sunday morning Bible Fellowship class. Please be praying that the Lord will provide His leaders to serve this fun group of preschoolers. If you would like to volunteer this year in any of these areas of service please contact Patrick Thornton.

## Shaping the Future

**Andrew Spires** 

# Youth & Younger Single Adults

Fall is here and school is back in session and that means it's time for college football and Genesis Weekend. Genesis Weekend is a time where we learn how to become effective "reflectors" with our lives. We want to reflect the light of Christ's love in our lives to those who are lost and dying without Him. Our students have a burden for the lost as many constantly ask for prayer for their unsaved family and friends, but most lack the boldness or ability to approach others with the truth. The focus of this weekend is to train and empower them to be intentional in starting with just one person, build a relationship with them and then attempt to lead them to Christ. We are blessed to have Dr. Steve Stewart of Immanuel Baptist Theological Seminary as our guest speaker. I first met Steve on one of our Belize mission trips where he served as mission team pastor. I quickly began to enjoy him as person and his depth of knowledge and teaching. He is extremely relational, and has a wonderful way of expounding the truth of the gospel. Although he rarely is asked to speak to young people directly, he jumped at the opportunity to come to Genesis Weekend and I know God will use him in a mighty way. The cost of the weekend is low, just \$25 (which includes a t-shirt), this is intentional to allow as many of our students to go a s possible and to bring friends. If you would like to sponsor a student please let me know. Also, September starts a few new bible study opportunities for our youth and younger singles. On Sunday mornings, our singles have new Bible Fellowship classes starting on Sunday, September 1st, I am thankful that Katie Hamilton has volunteered to teach the ladies class and Joseph Lucas has agreed to lead the men. These new classes will meet during the first service time slot (9:30), any other singles who wish to attend the first service should continue to attend the older youth classes led by Paige Spires and John Rhodes (10:45). I am excited for our singles to deepen their walk, develop new relationships, and to be led by these great volunteers who have answered the call to serve. Finally, on Sunday nights this fall, the youth and singles will have the opportunity to attend the "gods at War" bible study in the youth room from 6:00-7:00pm. This book pulls the curtain back on idolatry in our lives, and reveals our true commitment to Christ. It is my hope that we allow God to take His rightful place as King of our lives and that we would toss aside all other things that vie for that number one position in our hearts. Fall will be a busy time, please continue to pray for our youth and singles as they are on the front lines of the societal battle for our souls.



**Lakewood Baptist Church Child Development Center** 

Cabbi Black

The CDC is getting geared up for our Fall Fundraiser. We have decided to go with Mixed Bag Designs this year. They are super neat bags of all sizes and shapes, along with many other accessories. They are great for birthday gifts, tailgating, traveling and with Christmas right around the corner, great for Christmas gifts. It's a good time to stock up on these great reusable bags and help support the CDC. There are some pretty cute houndstooth bags for the Bama fans out there. Please contact the CDC or Carol Breault in the church office if you have any questions. This fundraiser will begin Tuesday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> and will end on Friday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Be sure to get your order in.

We had a great summer and the kids had so much fun. We were able to go on all kinds of fun field trips, have fun water days, and just be the kids of summer!!! Thanks for helping us have a great summer 2013.

We are so happy to welcome Tammy Evans as our new Administrative Assistant in the Daycare.



## Music & Senior Adults

Charles Keown

"I will sing to the Lord"

## Alleluia & Youth Choir Concert - Sunday, September 8th at 6 p.m.

An end of the summer Sunday night of great music put together by our youth and adult choirs. I think you will be blessed and hope you will support them with your presence.

## Mystery Trip - Tuesday, Sept. 10

Cost is \$20 to include the event, travel, and a buffet lunch. The Bus will leave Lakewood at 7 a.m. and return by 2:30 p.m.

Former mystery trips have included the Hyaundi Plant, Chic-fil-a headquarters, a picnic and tour of Fort Mitchell, the I-Max theatre at the Infantry Museum and the Antiquities Center in LaGrange, GA. Each trip has been a hit and I think you will enjoy our next destination as well. I doubt very seriously if any of you have ever been where we are going. Everyone is welcome! Sign up in the church office or by contacting Lorene Parker@ 706-570-1207

### Youth Choir Workshop and Concert - September 29th

Our young people will join with other youth choirs from across the state at the I<sup>st</sup> Baptist Church of Montgomery, AL. There could be as many as 600 young people attending and they will be exposed to new music and several top directors in our state. I hope to use this music in worship one Sunday at Lakewood as well as on our tour in April. They will need to leave after church on Sunday and their only cost would be lunch. Encourage your child to go as this will be an awesome experience to sing with so many. They will perform at I<sup>st</sup> Montgomery that evening and return home.

## Welcome New Member

Shawndra Rhodes

Christina Harris

## Happy Birthday

to
Elias Martin
who turns
90
September 30

Check out our website for up to the minute changes @ www.LBCPC.org

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

Wednesday Menus

9/4 Beef Stew, Grilled Cheese, Salad & Dessert

9/11 Pork Loin, Rice & Gravy, Green Beans, Rolls, Salad & Dessert

9/18 Lasagna, Asiago Bread, Salad & Dessert

9/25 Scrambled Eggs, Biscuits & Gravy, John's Famous Grits, Milk, Juice & Coffee

## In Memory of:

Max Wilkes for Youth Camp from Melvin & Sherry Scroggins

for Youth from Wilkes and Wade Chandler

Ryon Locke:
For Clothes Closet from Bill and Merita Norris

For Bereavement Ministry from Jimmy & Susan Graham

Charles Turner for Youth Camp from Janet Turner

Mary Ann Hall for Bereavement Ministry from Jimmy & Susan Graham

In Honor of: Allen Howard's 4<sup>th</sup> birthday for the Clothes Closet from Gail Brantley

Margaret Wilson's birthday for Flower Committee from Brenda Slappey

### **Ministerial Staff:**

M.R. Hamilton, Pastor brothermr@LBCPC.org

Charles Keown, Minister - Music & Senior Adults charles@LBCPC.org

Andrew Spires, Minister - Students and Singles andrew@LBCPC.org

Patrick Thornton, Minister - Children patrick@LBCPC.org

### 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

Tammy Evans, Administrative Assistant tammy@LBCPC.org

July Giving	Budget	СТВ	Missions	Other	Total
7/7/13	\$197,546.00	\$476.00	\$555.00	\$2,708.32	\$21,285.32
7/14/13	\$11,128.20	\$85.00	\$402.00	\$2,288.03	\$13,903.23
7/21/13	\$ 8, 857.35	\$112.00	\$688.50	\$1,106.00	\$ 10,763.85
7/28/13	\$ 10, 861.52	\$41.00	\$354.30	\$ 1,982.89	\$ 13,239.71

## September 2013

Check out our website for up to the minute changes @ LBCPC.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
I Experiencing God @ 4:00 Youth Choir @ 5:00	2 Labor Day Office Closed	3 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	4 VKBW@10:00 5:45 Awana 5:45 Flyte 5:45 Youth Get R.E.A.L.	5 Experiencing God @ 6:30 F/H	6	7
8 B/W-2:00 Experiencing God @ 4:00 Adult & Youth Choir Program @ 6:00	9 Amen Choir @ 10:30 6:30 OCC Kick Off Sanctuary	I 0 Mystery Trip Leave at 7:00am Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	II VKBW @ 10:00 5:45 Awana 5:45 Flyte 5:45 Youth Get R.E.A.L. 7:00 Deacon's	Experiencing God @ 6:30 F/H	Genesis	14 Weekend—
I5 8:00 Men's Breakfast Experiencing God @ 4:00 Youth Choir @ 5:00 Kid's Choir@6	16 Amen Choir @ 10:30	17 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	18 5:45 Awana 5:45 Flyte 5:45 Youth Get R.E.A.L. 7:00 Finance	19 Experiencing God @ 6:30 F/H	20	21
22 Experiencing God @ 4:00 Youth Choir @ 5:00 Chris May @ 6:00 Service Kid's Choir @6	23 Amen Choir @ 10:30	24 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	25 5:45 Awana 5:45 Flyte 5:45 Youth Get R.E.A.L. 7:00 Finance 7:00 CDC Team	26 JEG B/W @ 7:00 Experiencing God @ 6:30 F/H	27	28 Feed The Homeless 11:15-2:00
Youth Choir to Mont.@ 12:00 Experiencing God @ 4:00 Kid's Choir@6	30 Amen Choir @ 10:30					

## **Regularly Ongoing Weekly Activities**

Sunday

9:30 AM Contemporary Worship

**Service** 

9:30 AM Bible Fellowship 10:45 AM Blended Worship Service

10:45 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

7:00 PM 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.



## Children Helping Children

As many of you know, Katie Testement is the granddaughter of Don and Kay Craft. Katie is a happy, joyful little girl who loves reading, drawing, and caring for others. After three major heart surgeries, Katie was placed on the heart transplant list and has just recently received her transplant.

With the cost of such a transplant exceeding \$500,000, many transplant families are unable to shoulder the financial burden of such a procedure. The Children's Organ Transplant Association (COTA) is a national charity dedicated to organizing and guiding communities in raising funds for transplant-related expenses. In association with COTA, the children's division of LBC is sponsoring a silent auction to raise funds to help with some of Katie's medical expenses.

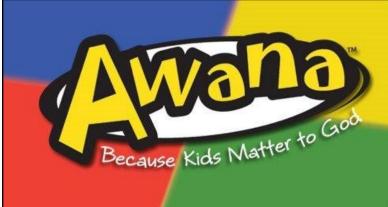
The silent auction will take place on Sunday, Oct. 27, with final bids placed during the Fall Festival on Sunday evening. The warm and giving hearts of our Lakewood family have always been evident during our fundraisers, and the children's division is counting on you to help make this silent auction a success. If you would be willing to bake a cake, prepare a dinner, assemble a gift basket, donate time in your condo, make some crafts, offer your professional services or help out in getting donations from our community, etc., please see Patrick or Carole Thornton or email us at: patrickncarole@aol.com.



THE RALEIGH RINGERS are in concert Saturday September 7th at First Baptist Church in LaGrange. They are an internationally acclaimed handbell choir from Raleigh, NC. They play sacred, secular and popular music on a collection of over 360 handbells and related instruments.

The bus will leave at 4:00 and the cost is \$25 which includes the bus, a meal, and donation at the concert.

CALL LORENE PARKER @ 706.570.1207 TO RESERVE A SEAT FOR THIS TRIP





New Children's Programs begin this Wednesday, September 4th at 5:45.

## **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

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