

April Connections

Lakewood Baptist Church



**Lakewood
Welcomes
Our New Pastor
M.R. Hamilton
April 14th, 2013**

Horner's Corner



This is the last article I will write for *Connections* as the interim pastor of LBC. The time that Annie and I have been with you has been one of the most fulfilling periods in our lives, and we praise God for the opportunity to minister to you and give Him the glory for whatever may have been accomplished during that time. We have truly opened our hearts to you, and we feel the response of your genuine love. Perhaps in the providence of God that relationship will continue.

Speaking of those to whom he had ministered, the apostle John wrote, “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth” (3 John 3). I have failed to achieve what God has wanted me to do if you are not experiencing greater love for Him and for one another and if you have not grown “in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ” (2 Peter 3:18). When you go out into the community, I would much rather that you brag about Jesus instead of the church or its pastor. Get excited about Jesus and exalt Him instead of promoting the church or the pastor, and perhaps the same thing will happen with LBC that happened with the church in Thessalonica: “For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth . . . in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything” (1 Thess. 1:8).

In the first chapter of his letter to the believers in Thessalonica, Paul declares that they are God’s church, and he states a threefold basis for his assertion. In doing so, he reveals some characteristics true of all genuine New Testament churches. Firstly, **the church lives in the world and “in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ”** (v. 1). Every church has two habitats. It lives in the community where it is located and it lives in God, rooted in Him and deriving its life and power from Him.

Secondly, **the church is marked by faith, hope and love** (v. 3). It’s apparent from the teaching of the New Testament, particularly in 1 Corinthians 13, that these three graces are indispensable characteristics of an authentic Christian life, and a church lacking them among its membership can hardly qualify as a New Testament church. These three virtues form a concise description of the individual Christian character and the corporate character of the church. **Faith** is a trustful commitment to God through Jesus Christ, beginning with the reception of what God has done for our salvation in Christ, and continuing in a daily dependence upon Him. **Love** is continuing in a daily dependence upon Him. Love is the outstanding characteristic of the life and sacrifice of the Lord Jesus. Words cannot define it; Christ’s example alone defines it. In response to His great love we love Him and we love one another. **Hope** in the New Testament sense is more than an optimistic outlook or wishful thinking or hoping for the best without any grounds. Hope in the New Testament is solid certainty, a look to the future that rests on the sure promises of God. So certain is our future as Christians, the Bible can speak of future events in the past tense. So every Christian without exception is a believer, a lover and a hoper. Faith, love and hope are resulting evidences of our regeneration by the Holy Spirit.

They re-orientate our whole life, so that we are drawn upwards to God in faith, outwards to other people in love, and onwards to second coming of Christ in hope.

Horner's Corner



But Paul does not present these three virtues as abstract concepts. Each one is productive, having concrete, practical results. Notice in verse 3 that Paul says that our faith in God leads to **good works**, without which faith is a barren claim. Faith is active as well as receptive; it gets busy; it does things; it works. The Christian is not one who is so heavenly minded that he is no earthly good. He doesn't walk around with his head so far in the clouds that his feet don't touch the ground.

Our love for people leads to **labor** on their behalf. If it doesn't, then it isn't real; it's mere sentiment or emotion. Jesus gave the command to love one another as He loves us, and then He illustrated what He meant by washing the feet of His disciples. True love sacrifices self in order to serve others, and it seeks the highest good of the other person even at personal expense.

Our hope in Christ leads to **endurance** or **steadfastness** as we wait for His coming. Hope for the Lord's return does not mean a quiet resignation, but active courage in the midst of hardships and difficulties. So according to 1 Thessalonians 1:3, the members of the church are marked by work produced by faith, labor prompted by love and endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thirdly, **the church gives visible evidence of transformed lives** (vss. 3-7). Paul declares that he knows that the believers in Thessalonica belong to God because he could see the transformation of their lives when they received the gospel. The gospel came to them not in word only, but in power, and it bore fruit in their lives, in a work of faith, a labor of love, and an endurance of hope. It's only when people respond to the gospel and grow in holiness that their relationship to God becomes apparent and visible to others.

I want to emphasize to you that the main element in the church's identity is that it is the church of God. It is not a kind of religious club, united by a common interest. It is not a group that attaches itself to a human leader, united in their allegiance to him. It is God's church, a people chosen and loved by God in all eternity, rooted in God the Father and in the Lord Jesus Christ, drawing its life and power from Him. It is dreadfully wrong for the congregation to give, and for the pastor to expect, a devotion that is due to Christ alone. The one who matters is not the one who preaches, but the one who is preached. Losing sight of the absolute centrality of Jesus Christ can only result in tragic quarrels and divisions. One of the greatest needs of the Christian church today is that we give less glory to men and more glory to Christ.

Covered Dish Lunch to Celebrate the On-Going Ministries of Jerry & Annie Horner

This is not a good-bye, but a celebration of the ministry Dr. Horner and Annie have been and will be to all of us. On Sunday April 7th, immediately following the AM service, we will gather in our beautiful new Fellowship Hall for all of your best recipes. Bring with you to church your favorite covered dishes such as pot-roast, chicken and dumplings, dressing, casseroles, vegetables, salads or desserts...any dish that you would like to prepare. The church will provide the tea and coffee.

Children Are A Gift From God

Despite impending storms, kids from the church and our community thoroughly enjoyed the Lakewood annual Easter Egg Hunt, which was held on Saturday, March 23 at 11:00 a.m. With black clouds gathering and wind whipping through the trees, the decision was made to proceed with the egg hunt indoors in the children's building. Approximately 2200 eggs were hidden on desks, tables, chalkboards, and practically any level surface on which they would stay put. After hearing a gospel message emphasizing that Jesus is risen and He is still alive, the kids tore out of the children's church room with the mission of filling their baskets. Thank you to everyone who donated eggs and candy to make this year's "eggstravaganza" a huge success!

Patrick Thornton, Children's Minister



Shaping the Future

Youth & Younger Single Adults

April is a month where the weather really changes and things start to warm up and we're warming up too headed towards summer! The school year is quickly fading away and before we know those dog days of summer will be here bringing with it breakfast clubs, the mission trip, and summer camp.

We will begin the month of April with service, on Saturday, April 6TH from 10AM until 2PM we will be working in the food closet at Valley Rescue Mission helping them organize canned goods and building new shelves for food storage. I know our students and singles will see the value in helping provide the most essential element of food for those less fortunate.

The following weekend April, 13TH from 8AM-2PM our Belize Mission Team will host the Missions Yard Sale on the front lawn of the church. Unfortunately, we had to reschedule the yard sale due to rain in March, but we are excited about the opportunity to hold it in April.

Also in April, we will once again be selling cases of Coke products as a fundraiser for both the mission trip and youth summer camp. We did very well with this fundraiser in February raising over \$1,800, but I believe we can do better! You can purchase a case of Coke products (24-20 ounce bottles) from any student or mission team member who participates in the fundraiser and by doing so you will help them reach their goal. Please also remember to fill up your mason jar with your loose change and bring those back in the month of May. Bruster's Ice Cream on 280 Bypass has once again been gracious to allow us to do the Scoop Night Fundraisers every other Thursday night from 6-8PM (dates: 4/4, 4/18, 5/2, 5/16, and 5/30) until the mission trip. There will be at least two mission team members there at each of our selected nights where we get a percentage of the sales and also all tips during our 6-8pm time slot. They will also make a donation towards the mission trip for each half gallon of ice cream or pie that you order from them. Please help us by supporting those businesses who support us! God has tremendously blessed Lakewood Baptist Church with people who believe in service and giving and I am eternally grateful to each of you. I pray that God will richly bless you as you have blessed us!

Andrew Spires, Minister of Youth & Younger Singles

Adults

Lakewood Baptist Men's Golf Retreat – Meadow Links in Fort Gaines, GA

Tee Times - Friday @ 1:30PM and Saturday @ 8AM April 19-20TH
Registration is \$115.00 per person with 2 to a room (Breakfast included)
Lodging is at the Bagby State Park
Mike Welch is our guest speaker.

Prizes will be awarded at Michele's Restaurant in Georgetown following the final round.
See Charles Keown or call the church office to sign up. Registration is due by Sunday, April 14TH.

Youth Choir Tour – April 26-28TH

The Youth will be singing at Teen Challenge at the Ocohee location Friday afternoon and staying at the Mt. Gilead Baptist Church family life center Friday and Saturday evenings. Saturday the youth will spend the day at Panama City Beach. Sunday morning the choir will be singing for the worship service of Mt. Gilead Baptist returning that afternoon to do the home concert at Lakewood. This year we are inviting the church orchestra to travel with the youth choir and be a part of the program.

Sweet Spirit's / April 9TH – TRIP – THE ANTIQUITIES CENTER in LaGrange, GA

Departure at **9:30AM** with the tour beginning at 10:30AM

Experience ancient biblical life and times as you:

- Step back into time as you sit in an authentic goat hair tent like the nomadic shepherds have lived in for thousands of years.
- See tombs like those in which Abraham and Jesus were buried and catacombs like those early Christians used for worship.
- Visit a village and city gate area to see what life was like 2000 years ago
- Enter the Time Tunnel and learn about the worship practices of pagans, Jews and Christians from 2500 BC to 500 AD by exploring replicas of excavated houses of worship from Israel.
- Sit in the new Roman Theater, still under construction, based on ancient theaters around the Roman world.

Cost of the Tour, the bus, and a buffet lunch with drink and tip is \$20.

Please sign up as soon as possible as there are only so many reservations available.

Firm Foundations for Future Generations



Lakewood Baptist
Church Child Development Center

Summer is right around the corner and the CDC is getting geared up for a fun time.

Summer Camp begins May 20TH and ends when P.C. schools start back.

We will be registering for summer camp beginning on Tuesday, April 9th through Thursday, April 11TH.

Please make sure that you come to the CDC office and register before all of the spots are taken.

Cabbi Black, CDC Director

Sympathy to

Sheila Bryant in the loss of her Father, Buddy Hardin

Judy Evans in the loss of her Uncle, Bernice Davis

Welcome New Members

Jean Simmons

Jerry & Sheila Barbaree

Jerry & Annie Horner

Wednesday Night Supper Menu

Begins at 5:00 each Wednesday.
\$5.00 for adult
\$2.50 for child
\$15.00 max per family

4/3/13

Lasagna, Green Beans, Garlic Bread, Salad & Dessert

4/10/13

Baked Chicken, Rice, Peas, Salad & Dessert

4/17/13

Swedish Meatballs over Noodles, Lima Beans & Corn, Salad & Dessert

4/24/13

Italian Baked Pork Chop, Baked Potato, Corn, Salad & Dessert

Gifts Have Been Given in Memory

Ruby Hall:

Billy and Cathy Green for the Food Closet
J.P. and Esther Benton for the Amen Choir
Terry and Clara Grimes for the Food Closet
Ray Quintana for the Belize Mission Trip
Jimmy and Susan Graham for the Food Closet
Virginia Kelly for the Amen Choir:
Eugene Harden Family
Virginia Mitchell
Mr. & Mrs. Michael May
Mary McAuliffie
Marguerite Michael
Montie and Clide Miller for Annie Armstrong from Bobby and Clara Jean Watson

Eddie Nevels for the Food Closet from Desmond and Dot Beck

Charles Martin III for the Food Closet from Desmond and Dot Beck

In Honor of:

Ruth Drinkard and Martin Kinzalow for the Budget from Jody and Frances Kelly
Terry and Clara Grimes for the Belize Mission Trip from Billy and Cathy Greene

Ministerial Staff:

M.R. Hamilton, Pastor
brothermr@LBCPC.org
(email account active 4/14)

Dr. Jerry Horner, Interim Pastor,
jhorner@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

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Onezima Everritt, Finance Ministry Assistant,
onezima@LBCPC.org

Carol Breault, Office Ministry Assistant,
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Linda Keown, Music & Media Ministry Assistant,
linda@LBCPC.org

Child Development Center

Cabbi Black, Director, cabbi@CDCPC.org

Rebecca McCoy, Ministry Assistant,
rebecca@CDCPC.org

	February Giving	Budget	CTB	Missions	Other	Total
2/3/13		\$15,854.17	\$671.00	\$2,763.00	\$1,241.21	\$20,529.38
2/10/13		\$10,905.50	\$60.00	\$374.00	\$793.03	\$12,132.53
2/17/13		\$9,400.00	\$238.00	\$1,375.00	\$1,618.00	\$12,631.00
2/24/13		\$8,489.00	\$101.00	\$475.00	\$253.00	\$9,318.00
Total		\$44,648.67	\$1,070.00	\$4,987.00	\$3,905.24	\$54,610.91

April 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 Amen Choir @10:30	2 Alleluia Choir @6:30	3 VKBW@10:00 5:45 Awana 5:45 Youth Bible Study	4 Bruster's Scoop Night 6-8	5	6 Valley Rescue Service Project
7 Lord's Sup- per CARE Teams Youth Choir 1:30 Kid's Choir- 6	8 Amen Choir @10:30	9 Sweet Spirits @10:00 Alleluia Choir @6:30	10 5:45 Awana 5:45 Youth Bible Study 7:00 Deacon's Meeting —VIP Week—	11	12	13 Belize Yard Sale 8AM-2PM
14 Youth Choir 4:30 Kid's Choir @6:00 M.R.'s First Sermon —VIP—	15 Amen Choir @10:30	16 Alleluia Choir @6:30	17 5:45 Awana 5:45 Youth Bible Study Finance Team & CMLT Meetings @ 7:00	18 Bruster's Scoop Night 6-8	19 —— Golf	20 Retreat——
21 Youth Choir @4:30 Kid's Choir @6:00 7:00 Fellow- ship for Hamiltons	22 Amen Choir @10:30	23 Alleluia Choir @6:30	24 5:45 Awana 5:45 Youth Bible Study CDC Team Meeting @ 7:00	25 JEG/BW @ 7:00	26 ——Youth Choir Tour——	27
28 Kid's Choir @6:00 Youth- Home Concert	29 Amen Choir @10:30	30 Alleluia Choir @6:30				

Regularly Ongoing Weekly Activities

* All times are Eastern.

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

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.

Church-wide Fellowship to Welcome the Hamilton's

On Sunday April 21ST, immediately following the evening worship service, we will gather to welcome our new Pastor and family with food, drink and joy! Bring your favorite finger food in the dish that you wish it to be served in and drop it off in our newly updated Fellowship Hall on your way to worship. Brother M.R., Katie, Elizabeth and Daniel will get a chance to taste firsthand Lakewood's most delicious finger foods and desserts, as well as some of the local wings or pizza that someone may buy. You may bring tea or drinks if you'd rather as well. Mark your calendar now and plan your dish!

Thank you for your generosity for the Easter Decorations.

We lovingly dedicate them to the Glory of God and to our wonderful Lakewood Baptist Church family.
Flower Committee

New Website to debut May 1ST

We know that if you have visited LBCPC.org lately all the news is old news. That's because much work is being done for the premier of a new website that will be up and running May 1ST. We hope that the result will keep us informed with up to the minute information, as well as represent Lakewood to the community in a way that honors Christ. The address will be the same: LBCPC.org

Cards of Appreciation were received and can be viewed on the bulletin board outside the fellowship hall from the following:

The Family of Virginia Kelly
The Family Of Connie Evans
Sheila Bryant
Jean Faulkner

V.I.P. WEEK APRIL 7 ~ 14

It is our opportunity again to serve Christ by serving the homeless who are participating in the Valley Interfaith Promise program. We will be able to serve meals, sit with them as hosts and also spend the night so that they feel safe and secure while they are our guests here at Lakewood. The sign-up sheet is at the Information Desk in the Foyer or you may call Linda at the church office. Please consider doing what you can for "the least of these" knowing that what time you give in service will come back to you in blessings.

Happy Birthday to Jean Simmons who celebrates her 90th Birthday on April 30th.

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: CDCPC.org
Hours: M- F 6:30 - 6:00

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