

Connections

LAKWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

October 2017

VOL VIII: ISSUE 10

LBCPC.ORG

October 29th from 4:00 - 6:00 pm



FALL FESTIVAL

— *Bring the Whole Family* —

Bake Sale for OCC

Front Lawn



Welcome Home.



A Message from **M.R. Hamilton**

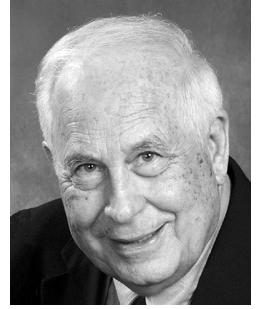
SENIOR PASTOR, LBC

The Bible clearly teaches us that God and all of His invisible qualities and Divine power are on display in the things He has made. Creation has a lot to say about God as we enter the month of October. Now we are entering a very special time of year. This is the season of great harvest and the official end of the hot days of summer. This is the opening of the fall hunting season and the time of year to drive through the breathtaking beauty that is on display with the colors of fall. This is a time for the trees to retire until the return of longer days in the spring. This is the beginning and the end of so many things. So what does all this change really mean to us as believers? It reminds us that we serve a God of seasons, and it reminds us that change when sent by God is a great thing. It reminds us that we need to celebrate that change like we do the seasons and make plans to enjoy the best that every season brings our way. You see there are seasons in each of our lives as well as the life of any church and with each season will come change and new opportunity if only we are ready to capture it. Perhaps the most important message God wants us to take away from the seasons is that change is always coming and we need to prepare for it, and embrace it. Because if we wish to make a stand to fight change we are certain to be in a losing battle all the days of our lives. We all pray for new members in our church and we celebrate and prepare for their arrival. However, more members will mean new challenges as well as greater opportunity but most of all it will mean change, but change for the better. Change for change sake will accomplish nothing but any change sent by God will be for our benefit. This is October and with its arrival we all expect some changes in more things than just the weather. I pray that just as October is a time of great harvest for the farmer so it will be for our church. I pray that all the seeds we have sown throughout the year will bear fruit and we will see the fruit of our labor expressed in changed lives. I pray that it will be a time of refreshing like the first cool days of Autumn. Yes, it is October and this has been one of the greatest months of the year for me as long as I can remember. And yes it is October for us spiritually here at Lakewood and I hope you are enjoying it as much as I am.



A Message from **Dr. Jerry Horner**

MINISTER OF DISCIPLESHIP & OUTREACH



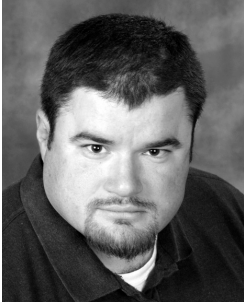
As most of you know, I went through a trying experience a few weeks ago, and I want to express my overwhelming gratitude to those of you who prayed for me and expressed your support in various ways. The surgery itself was not so serious, especially in comparison with what others have experienced, but the complications arising from the procedure caused me a great deal of trouble. I praise God for His healing power, and I praise Him even more for the lessons He taught me during this whole episode.

C. S. Lewis wrote in *The Problem of Pain*: “God whispers to us in our pleasures, speaks in our conscience, but shouts in our pain. It is his megaphone to rouse a deaf world.” We may not understand it at the time, but sometimes God desires to do more than simply heal our physical bodies. Often in infinite wisdom, God will use physical suffering to develop our character and produce spiritual growth in us. For years I have taught about the human body as the creation of God and related issues, such as the question of suffering and the body as the temple of the Holy Spirit. But once again, personal experience affords a much better understanding of things.

I have learned that I am not a superman, and that realization is very humbling to someone who rarely has any physical malady worse than a bad cold. All along, as I grew older, I thought I was giving God all the glory for my strength and health, but in reality I was filled with pride and was practicing religious snobbery. That attitude was encouraged by the marvel that people around the world expressed at my physical stamina in such a taxing schedule. Even when I piously gave credit to God, I was swelling with pride at my own strength. Well, I have just been vividly reminded that my body is nothing more than a clay jar (2 Cor. 4:7), and clay is very brittle, “that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us.” Even Paul was given “a thorn in the flesh” to afflict him, lest he “be exalted beyond measure” (2 Cor. 12:7).

I now have a more eager expectation of “the redemption of our body,” when the Lord Jesus “will transform the body of our humble estate into conformity with the body of His glory,” and “we shall all be changed—in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye,” and receive an incorruptible body like that of Christ, not subject to the ravages of pain and disease and the corruption of sin (Rom. 8:20-23; Phil. 3:20-21; 1 Cor. 15:51-53). One of the most precious promises in the Bible is Revelation 21:4: “And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain.” The Greek word translated “pain” is a kind of catch-all word that indicates laborious toil, distress, affliction, and pain of any sort. Meanwhile, we have the assurance that whatever trial may come upon us, “God is faithful, he will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it” (1 Cor. 10:13).

Finally, I see more clearly than ever the fact of God’s sovereignty over my body and my consequent responsibility to use my body exclusively for His glory. My body is “for the Lord” (1 Cor. 6:13); it is “the temple of the Holy Spirit”; I’m not my own, for I was “bought at a price”; therefore, I must glorify God in my body (1 Cor. 6:19-20) and present my body a living sacrifice to God (Rom. 12:1). Paul stated that his earnest desire was that “Christ will be magnified in my body, whether by life or by death” (Phil. 1:20). My body might be a clay jar, but it has precious value, having been bought by the blood of Jesus. I think I’ll start taking better care of it, that it might glorify Him even more, and that surely must involve proper nutrition, healthy exercise, adequate rest, and freedom from any harmful intake or practice that would abuse my body. This time I really mean it: Thank God for my strength and health!



A Message from Andrew Spires

STUDENTS & SINGLES, LBC

Many of you know that a few weeks ago our men had the opportunity to go up to Andrews, North Carolina and take part in the Be Strong Men's Retreat at Snowbird. For my article this month, I thought I would share some highlights from one of the teaching sessions that rang especially true to me from my experience in student ministry. The entire weekend was oriented around the idea of men taking up their roles as spiritual leaders in the home and challenged men to begin to mentor someone no matter what stage of life they were in (keep in mind, the ages of the group varied from older teenager to senior adult). The central idea was whether you're a young man, a single man, a married man with kids, or a grandfather, we all have wisdom and our personal relationship with Christ to share with others. Often men struggle with expression and have a hard time being real with themselves, others, and even their families. This weekend sought to challenge and equip men to see the opportunities that lay ahead. I'll share a brief synopsis of one of these sessions that dealt with parenting, taken from the story of Jesus' baptism in Luke 3:21-22. God was present, God spoke verbally, God affirmed His love, and God took pleasure in the Son.

5 keys to successful parenting:

- Be there, but more than that, be present- invest your time with your family, not just being physically there, but actually invested
- Make sure your presence is felt- hug your children, be hands on, doing the things they enjoy, teaching them life lessons
- Speaking love verbally with encouragement- tell your children you love them, express joy when they succeed, let them fail and then be there to encourage them to try again
- Seek expressions of love- whether this is more time spent, trips together, special gifts, or words of encouragement, be a loving person
- Take pleasure in the person they've become- as they grow and age, continue with affirmation of the people they have become (it's okay if they're not like you)

To be successful in parenting, there are phases in a child's life where our influence and love are essential:

- Cop phase- ages 0-8yrs old: you lay down the law to your children, you shape their will towards obedience towards your authority and towards the ultimate authority of Jesus, while placing priority on the things of God
- Coach phase- ages 9-18yrs old: you become more of an instructor on life lessons, teaching and guiding their development with patience, while maintaining your authority, you set their schedule, while placing priority on the things of God
- Counselor phase-ages 18 and up: parents never stop being parents, never stop worrying for their children even once they are adults, but now your role becomes more of a mentor, you teach more life lessons, impart wisdom, encourage them to see the value and worth in Jesus Christ

Now, many of you may be thinking, I've missed one or messed up one or more of these stages, what do I do now? It is true that if you missed or messed up one of these stages the road to successful parenting will be tougher, as it's hard to assert authority if you never instilled it, but all is not lost. Simply begin to reinvest in the stage you are currently in, as it's never too late, even if your kids have grandkids. We've all seen children behaving poorly in public and we've all seen students acting out in rebellion, some of that is a natural phase of life and our sin nature, but some is a result of poor parenting. It's not cute or okay for a kid to throw a tantrum in a store, hit their parent, and scream to the top of their lungs. It's not okay for a young girl to seek her affirmation in a guy who tells them everything they want to hear and has their hands all over them, right in front of the parents who do nothing. And it's not okay for a young man to grow up a bigger jerk than his father was, taking little or no responsibility for his life or his actions. I don't tell you these things as parents to make you feel bad about the job you've done so far, but instead to challenge you, as these things are reality in most families today because the enemy seeks to destroy the family as it was one of God's earliest institutions. The good news is we can make a change, but what does this change look like? Begin with these simple steps; express approval of your children and teach them to work hard, and when they fail, let them, then pick them back up and use it as a teachable moment. Speak and express your love and satisfaction in who they are, not condoning bad behavior or poor choices, but a genuine expression of your love. Don't force your goals on them, or ignore their dreams because they aren't yours for them, find common ground, set achievable goals that guide them to a better possible future. Value them, not by living through them vicariously, and not by obsessing over them and bowing to their whims, but set an example that they will want to follow. Teach work ethic, respect for authority, good stewardship, biblical sexuality and treatment of others, a trust and faith in the Lord in all things, a love for the church, and to be thankful in good times and bad. Warn against materialism, covetousness, jealousy, anger and rage. Look for opportunities to serve together, take mission trips together, serve locally side by side showing them that loving their neighbor is paramount. Keep your rules short and simple, easy to follow, and be entirely consistent in their application. When you're wrong or discipline poorly, don't be afraid to make it right and ask forgiveness, let them see you be real. Most important of all, let them see Jesus in YOU! We are all called to make disciples for Christ, parents let your children be your first disciple, walk with them, lead them, teach them God's Word. Live out the Christian walk in front of them so they will follow. Guess what? Even if you do all these things perfectly, it won't always create a well rounded, godly future adult, but you will be able to know that you did your best, empowered by God's Spirit, and then leave the results up to God.

A Message from Gina Fusillo



CHILDREN, LBC

SAVE THE DATE October 29th 4-6 pm FALL FESTIVAL

BELIEVE it or not . . . as it remains “hot”, Fall is in the air! That means our **FALL FESTIVAL** is near. So, as we begin gathering candies for the booths for the annual festivities, we welcome any offerings of individually wrapped candy. Offerings may be delivered to the Church office. The adult Fellowship Bible Study classes man the booths extending loads of fun for the Kidz. Don't forget the AWANA Operation Christmas Child Fundraiser. Our goal this year is to fill and ship 300 boxes. Donations for the Bake Sale, held during the Fall Festival, may be delivered the day before the Festival. If you are interested in donating baked items, please send an email to gina@lbcpc.org.

AWANA Clubs Update: The season started just a short three weeks ago. We are so excited to report a continual rise in attendance. Each week the Kidz attendance rose and the Workers attendance rose right along with them! Praise God in His glory for the work He has done at LBC.

Week #1	63 Kidz	21 Workers
Week #2	71 Kidz	23 Workers
Week #3	82 Kidz	27 Workers

We pray for continued growth in the number of Kidz this ministry will reach. Workers are necessary and appreciated for their service and dedication to these Kidz each week. Their service as a volunteer is not just a “helper”, but a service to God. Without our Leaders and Workers, we would have no program. AWANA still seeks workers who feel led to partner with these Kidz and Workers. Contact Gina Fusillo for more information.

We welcome Shaun Culligan, Katie Hamilton, Kathy Hollon, Rhonda Harris, and Fran Loftin, who have committed to the Kidz Music through AWANA nights. Shaun leads the FLYTE Kidz, Katie leads K-4th grades, while Kathy, Rhonda and Fran brave the Preschoolers. As I walk around on Wednesday nights, it is truly a delight to see and “hear” our Kidz participation in praise songs and worship.

Praise God our church is so blessed with babies! Since last year, our toddlers have moved out of the nursery and we continue to pray for a leader for this age group. They are currently combined with the two year olds. Our goal is to provide the appropriate learning for the age of the class and both groups deserve to learn at their age level. Hence, my prayer continues for God to send the right persons to fill the leader positions for both the Toddler Class and the Two Year Old Class.

Please pray about your talents and service in our Kidz Ministries. We are in need of volunteers in several areas. Contact Gina Fusillo for more information.

Toddler's Sunday School Teacher
Two Year old's Sunday School Teacher
Volunteer to research summer camps
Volunteer to coordinate summer camps
Sunday School Subs
Helpers in AWANA Clubs
Volunteer to send cards from Kidz Ministry
Musical Talent to plan and direct Kidz Musical Spring 2018

*The Kidz Ministry is having their
Fall Festival & Bake Sale for OCC
October 29th from 4:00-6:00pm on the front lawn.*

*They need us to help them with individually
wrapped candy and items for their bake sale.*

*Drop off candy at the church office and email
gina@lbcpc.org if you are willing
to bake something.*

*Have the baked items here
the day before the festival*

*Thanks in advance for your
support & participation*

*Brenda Deason donated 20 shoe boxes in memory of the
anniversary of her twin sister Linda's passing.
Linda loved her church and especially loved children.*

Deacon Nomination Forms need to be turned in by October 29th.

Lakewood Medley

In Memory of:

Shirley Bell
For Budget from Nancy Hallmark
For Budget from Montise Waldrop

Otto Scarborough for Music Ministry
from Dorothy Atkins Robinson

Lakewood Happenings

October 2017

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
4:30pm Women's Bible Study in FAC 1			10:30am VK/WMU 7:00pm Church Council Meeting 4			
4:30pm Women's Bible Study in FAC 8	Columbus Day 10:30am Amen Choir 9	6:30pm Alleluia Choir 10	7:00pm Deacon Meeting 11		5:30pm Game Night 13	11:00am Helping Hands Ministry 14
4:30pm Women's Bible Study in FAC 6:00pm Church Conf. 15	10:30am Amen Choir 16	6:30pm Alleluia Choir 17	7:00pm Finance Meeting 18			
5:00-7:00pm 3rd Annual Can Drive Deliver Bags 22		6:30pm Alleluia Choir 24	5:00-8:00pm Pick up bags 7:00pm CDC Meeting 25	7:00pm JEG/BW - F/H 26		10:45am YA&S Feed the Homeless Last Women's Bible Study & Brunch 28
4:00-6:00pm Fall Festival & Bake Sale Return Deacon Nom. Forms 29	10:30am Amen Choir 30	6:30pm Alleluia Choir 31				

August Giving

	BUDGET	CTB	MISSIONS	OTHER	TOTAL
8/6	\$27,028.70	\$1,036.00	\$1,029.85	\$1,527.00	\$30,621.55
8/13	\$13,275.86	\$130.00	\$806.39	\$1,177.46	\$15,389.71
8/20	\$10,473.66	\$140.00	\$432.67	\$1,876.25	\$12,922.58
8/27	\$6,780.36	\$66.00	\$317.50	\$1,385.00	\$8,548.86

ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

SUNDAY

- 9:00am Contemporary Worship
- 10:00am Bible Fellowship
- 11:00am Blended Worship
- 11:15am Kidz Worship
- 6:00pm Evening Worship

WEDNESDAY

- 5:00pm Family Night Supper
- 5:45pm FLYTE, AWANA
- 6:00pm Orchestra Rehearsal
- Adult Prayer & Bible Study
- Praise Team Rehearsal
- 7:00pm Youth Worship

Only \$5 per adult meal,
\$2.50 per child meal with a
maximum \$15 per family!

Let's Eat!

Dinner is
served from
5:00-6:00pm

OCTOBER WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

10/4

PORK LOIN
BAKED
POTATOES
BROCCOLI SALAD
ROLLS
SALAD &
DESSERT

10/11

TACO SALAD
BEANS
RICE
DESSERT

10/18

BBQ CHICKEN
BAKED BEANS
COLE SLAW
ROLLS
SALAD & DESSERT

10/25

SCRAMBLED EGGS
GRITS, BACON
BISCUITS &
SAUSAGE GRAVY
CINNAMON ROLLS
JUICE

To make dinner reservations, email Carol at carol@lbcpc.org or call 334.298.6433.

If you would like to
help decorate the
church for
Christmas
be here on

Monday
November 20th
@ 9:30

Check Bulletin Board

FOR
THANK YOU NOTES
&
OTHER NOTES
OF
INTEREST

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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