

Connections

LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2016

VOL VII: ISSUE 9

LBCPC.ORG

Since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world **God's invisible qualities,** his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse.

ROMANS 1:19-20



Welcome Home.



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

SENIOR PASTOR, LBC

September, I don't really know if I love it so much because it represents the beginning or the end of so many things to me. I do like the idea that it represents the end of summer, if only in my mind, as we can have a good bit of summer weather here in September. And I like that the end of Summer means the beginning of Autumn which is a magical time of year when I find so many excuses to be outside in creation. As a child, I would have told you that it was the wildlife and natural beauty that drew me to come back time and time again to the quiet of a hardwood forest just before dark. As a young man I would have told you that it was the adventure of exploring and discovering the hidden treasures in the most remote parts of the world that perhaps no one else in the world would ever see or imagine. Things that can never be captured but only experienced by those who dare to go where few men go. Things like the wonder of a rainbow in the snow or a waterfall now frozen solid by the cold. To hear the wonder of the bugle of a bull elk echo through the mountains or see the tiny woodcock fly straight up in tiny circles only to freeze at the top of his flight to fall like a rock from his great climb

God's invisible
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opening his wings just before contact with the earth. I have read of the twittering sound that they make though I have never heard it myself as I never saw one before my loss of hearing in the Marines. Now I understand what I thought I knew way back then, creation has always spoken to me. Though I couldn't understand it at first I always recognized its power and influence in my life. Then one day, I experienced the power of creation by surrendering to the creator of everything. Suddenly creation spoke my native language as I began to view it through the truth of Scripture. Romans 1:19 & 20 brought an end to the mystery as I read "Since what may be known about God is plain to them, because God has made it plain to them. For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities, his eternal power and divine nature have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse." It was God calling me to the quiet

place in the hardwood forest. It was God calling me to the hidden places to show me his invisible qualities and divine nature. It was God that lead me to travel deep enough into the arctic wilderness to see animals that were unafraid and curious of the only human they had ever seen. It was there that God spoke to me the truth of Matthew 6:26 "look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns and yet your heavenly father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they". Only God and I even knew they existed yet he was taking good care of them. Now let me tell you the truth. I love this time of year because it is a time to go to the quiet places where you might hear the greatest stories, and yet never hear a sound. Perhaps these events and actions played out in silence speak louder than any shout. Perhaps God is trying to teach us all how to best communicate our love through actions that need no words to be understood.

A Message from Charles Keown



MINISTER OF MUSIC & SENIOR ADULTS

Sunday, September 25, we will be hosting RamCorp from Mobile University.

They will be in full concert at the 9:00 service. On Saturday they will be performing for the Band Festival at Garrett Stadium. We had the privilege of hearing them last year before they flew overseas to do missions. We discovered, after the concert, that the instruments they played that day had been donated, so that when they left the mission field they were able to leave the instruments for the missionaries to start an instrumental program there. How good were they? Robert said, after the concert, "I would have paid money to go hear that." They do everything by memory. It does get loud, but it is a good loud. You are enveloped in sound. Mobile University is one of our Baptist schools and where Ellie Hamilton is presently a student.

What do we need you to do? All of you who attend the second service need to come at 9 to hear RamCorp and everyone needs to stay at 11 to hear M.R. preach. We want these students to have a good experience and I would hate for you to miss one of the best musical presentations you will ever hear and see.

Secondly, we have 34 students to house on Saturday night. If you can help us please contact Linda and let her know. They won't come to you until sometime late Saturday evening. There are no meals involved except breakfast and we will provide lunch here at the church. Spread the word. This is going to be a great day! You are in for a treat.



Lakewood Medley

IN MEMORY OF:

Frances Kelly:

For the Budget by Andy and Brenda Shipp
For the Homebound Ministry by Steve and Nancy Stainsby
For the Food Closet by Billy and Cathy Greene
For Challenge to Build from Jane Young and Leslie Smith
For the Food Closet from Janice Noble
For the Budget by Mr. & Mrs. Nelson Forbes

Charles Turner for the Benevolence Fund from Janet Turner

Parker May:

For the Homebound Ministry by Dorothy Atkins
For the Homebound Ministry by Steve and Nancy Stainsby
For the Food Closet by Bill and Margaret Wilson
For the Food Closet by Billy and Cathy Greene
For Challenge to Build by Jerry and Sheila Barbaree
For the Food Closet by Randy and Beth Davis
For Challenge to Build by Melvin and Sherry Scroggins

Bobby Watson:

For the Food Closet by Steve and Nancy Stainsby
For the Food Closet by Dorothy Atkins
For the Food Closet by Bill and Margaret Wilson
For the Food Closet by Billy and Cathy Greene
For Challenge to Build by Melvin and Sherry Scroggins
For the Budget by Jo Slappey
For the Bus Fund by Brenda Evans
For Challenge to Build by Jerry and Sheila Barbaree
For Challenge to Build by Patsy Richardson
For the Food Closet by Randy and Beth Davis
For the Budget by Emily Wallace

Bernice Franklin for the Food Closet by Bill and Margaret Wilson

Barbara Sternberg for the Budget by Glenda Medley

Jimmy Jones for the Food Closet by Jerry and Sheila Barbaree

Harry Tinkler for the Food Closet by Bill and Margaret Wilson

Max Wilkes for the Food Closet by Malinda Wilkes

IN HONOR OF:

Charles and Linda Keown for the Food Closet
by Bill and Margaret Wilson

O. D. Hamrick's 101st Birthday for the Circles of Influence
from Melvin and Sherry Scroggins



A Message from **Andrew Spires**

STUDENTS & SINGLES, LBC

Well school is back in full swing and college football season is about to kickoff in a few days. Whether it was doing VBS in New Orleans or going 5,000+ miles away to Romania, it certainly was a busy summer. For the last few weeks we've been going through a study called *Down, Dirty, Depressed, Despair* centered around the life of Job. Our students, though young, are not exempt from pain and suffering. In fact, they deal with disappointment in differing ways than adults. Things such as divorce, family instability, financial woes, bad relationships, lack of popularity, poor grades, and failed expectations can help spiral a student into depression before you know it. Often what we as adults would consider as a small thing, can be humongous and devastating in a student's life. Suicidal thoughts/attempts, cutting, and seeking temporal releases like alcohol and drugs are common among teenagers. Often they try and cope with disappointment by using other people and start relationships they shouldn't be in, compromising their purity for acceptance. In this series we have been tackling the tough circumstances, tests, and trials of Job and we have been asking hard questions of God such as; why God would let Job endure this, why doesn't God cease evil in the world, why me, why doesn't God save us each time we're in trouble, does God cause hard times, and what is the true purpose of pain? Through this study we have come to understand that our God is a **GREAT BIG GOD** and far beyond what we can hope to comprehend, however we have also seen God's immense compassion for His children. Please continue to pray for our students and young adults, they need it now more than ever! Our group is eagerly looking forward to the new building's completion and know it will open new doors of ministry for us including room to grow.

We have several events geared towards attracting new students this month. First a college football kickoff night on Thursday night, September 1st where our students are encouraged to invite a friend, wear their favorite college team gear, and enjoy some good food while watching the games. Second, on Friday night into Saturday morning September 16th-17th our students will first join Smith's Station Baptist Church for a combined 5th Quarter after the Central vs. Smith's Station game with food, worship, and a speaker followed by a Lock-In for our folks back here at the church. We'll end the month as usual with serving the homeless on Saturday, September 24th. Just a reminder, anyone is welcome to come out and serve with us at FTH from 10:45am-2:00pm the last Saturday of most months.

We look forward to BIG things to come and know that God is using us to reflect Christ's love to everyone we meet.

UNITED *in*
PRAYER

911 UNITED IN PRAYER GATHERINGS

Sponsored by Columbus Baptist Association

SEPTEMBER 1ST, THURSDAY 12:00PM

North Highland Church 7300 Whittlesey Blvd. Cols, GA

SEPTEMBER 6TH, TUESDAY 12:00PM

Lakewood Baptist Church

A Message from Patrick Thornton



CHILDREN, LBC

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. Awana and Flyte start back Wednesday, September 7th, and the children's choirs begin Sunday night, September 11th. Here is the complete list of ministry opportunities available for our children:

PRE-SCHOOL DIVISION (BIRTH – 4 YEAR OLDS)

- SUN** 9:00 Childcare available during early worship hour
10:00 Bible Fellowship
11:00 Extended Session childcare during late worship hour
6:00 Preschool Choir (3 – 4 year olds, *must turn 3 by Sept. 1*)
- WED** 5:45-7:00 Awana Cubbies (3 – 4 year olds, *must turn 3 by Sept. 1*)

ELEMENTARY DIVISION (K – 4TH GRADES)

- SUN** 9:00 Early worship service with parents
10:00 Bible Fellowship Children's Church (K – 4th)
11:00 Children's Church during late worship hour (K – 4th)
6:00 Children's Choir (K – 6th grades)
- WED** 5:45-7:00 Awana Sparks and Ultimate Adventure (K – 4th)

THE MIX 5/6 (5TH AND 6TH GRADES)

- SUN** 9:00 Early worship service with parents
10:00 Bible Fellowship
11:00 Late worship hour with parents
6:00 Children's Choir (K – 6th)
- WED** 5:45-7:00 FLYTE (5th and 6th)

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 need adult teachers and substitutes for several of our Sunday morning Bible Fellowship classes. Please be praying that the Lord will provide His leaders to serve in our children's division. If you would like to volunteer this year in any of these areas of service please contact Patrick Thornton.

ONLINE GIVING

Now you are able to support the work of the Lord at Lakewood Baptist Church by giving your tithes and offerings through the church website. Online giving allows you to customize your giving plan to include automatic monthly drafts, date of giving and tithe amount. Your preferences can be modified at any time, if needed. You will receive contribution credit just as if you had submitted a regular offering envelope. Online giving is easy and all transactions are secure. See Onezima or a Finance Team member if you have questions.



A Message from **Dr. Jerry Horner**

MINISTER OF DISCIPLESHIP & OUTREACH, LBC

When you receive this issue of *Connections*, I will be in Thailand, the citadel of Buddhism, with a Christian population of little more than 1%.

This is a beautiful country that attracts many tourists, but most of them, at least the ones from western countries, don't come for the scenery or the shopping, but for more sordid reasons. While most Americans have an image of human trafficking and drugs at the mention of Thailand, we should remember that people in other countries have their own image of America. What do most people in the world have on which to judge us? Television, music, and movies. Since those sources don't really reflect the true heartland of America, it would be easy for people to assume that most Americans are decadent and perverted.

I know first-hand what the rest of the world sees and hears from America. From our television programs they learn that crime and immorality is a way of life. Morals are relative and love is doing whatever you want that makes you happy. You can't watch a comedy without a prominent homosexual character. Most families portrayed on television are single families where the parents are idiots and the kids run the house with their sarcasm. "Reality" programs on television cause people to believe that Americans are stupid cut-throats, conniving, envious, and deceitful.

The world learns from American music, particularly rock and rap, that every woman is a sex object and foul language is the way we speak. It's even worse in our music videos. Even much of country music portrays the same image, with a lot of sex, lost love and broken hearts.

Practically every American movie they watch is filled with sexual innuendos or explicit scenes and graphic violence. It's no wonder that they see the "Lifestyles of the Rich and Famous" or "Jerry Springer" and think we're all like them. What are they to think when Hollywood celebrities spend more money on a pair of jeans than most families in the world make in a year? Those whose only knowledge of America comes from our entertainment exports regard us as materially prosperous but culturally decadent, technologically sophisticated but morally depraved. As one Muslim sheikh wrote, "What America appeals to is everything that is low and disgusting in human nature." Of course, people who have the view of America that I have described are getting only one side of the story, but it's still a real problem. Even Christians in other nations who read about the compromise of the church in America regarding such issues as abortion, divorce, homosexuality and same-sex marriage, and so on, are wondering if we have forsaken biblical faith, values, virtues, and morals for the sins of the flesh.

It's up to us to demonstrate to the world that there are millions of godly Americans who don't fit into the category that our entertainment industry depicts. If our American churches were truly New Testament churches, boldly proclaiming the true gospel of Jesus Christ and uncompromisingly living by biblical principles, maybe the world would see us differently. We need to give a clear and loud voice to our faith. We need a national revival to sweep across our nation. We need a great movement of God that makes the news media take notice, as in the days of the Great Awakening in our history. We need it and the world needs to see it. The way things are going in our country, we're headed for revival, riot, or ruin, and I call on members of Lakewood to take the lead in the right direction. Don't wait on someone else. Revival, righteousness, morality, purity, and integrity should be our choice.

Lakewood Happenings

September 2016

| SUN | MON | TUES | WED | THURS | FRI | SAT |
|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| | | | | 7:00pm College Football Kickoff | | |
| | | | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED | 12:00pm Hour of Prayer <i>at North Highland Church</i> | 10:30am VKBW 5:45pm AWANA/ FLYTE/ Students Begins | | 5:30pm Game Night <i>Tailgate Food</i> | 10:45am Young Married's Feed The Homeless |
| 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 6:00pm Kidz Choir | 10:30am Amen Choir | 6:30pm Alleluia Choir | 5:45pm AWANA/ FLYTE/ Students 7:00pm Deacon Meeting | | 5th Quarter | |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 6:00pm Kidz Choir | 10:30am Amen Choir OCC Kickoff | 11:00am Big Bus to the Bullock House 6:30pm Alleluia Choir | 5:45pm AWANA/ FLYTE/ Students 7:00pm Finance Meeting | 7:00pm JEG Baptist Women RBA Senior Adult Conference <i>Beaver Creek</i> | | 10:45am Youth & Singles Feed The Homeless |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 9:00am RamCorp Concert 6:00pm Kidz Choir | | | 5:45pm AWANA/ FLYTE/ Students 7:00pm CDC Meeting | Food Bank Closed | | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |

July Giving

| | TITHE | CTB | MISSIONS | OTHER | TOTAL |
|------|-------------|------------|------------|----------|-------------|
| 7/3 | \$18,299.71 | \$450.00 | \$1,955.93 | \$476.45 | \$21,182.09 |
| 7/10 | \$14,063.34 | \$525.00 | \$2,456.00 | \$467.46 | \$17,611.80 |
| 7/17 | \$13,508.61 | \$520.00 | \$2,505.66 | \$206.46 | \$16,740.73 |
| 7/24 | \$13,677.10 | \$1,495.00 | \$766.00 | \$780.55 | \$16,718.65 |
| 7/31 | \$10,588.65 | \$220.00 | \$2,620.46 | \$399.40 | \$13,828.51 |

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 Students Get R.E.A.L. AWANA
- 6:00pm Orchestra Rehearsal
Adult Prayer & Bible Study
- 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

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

Let's Eat!

Dinner is
served from
5:00-5:45pm.

SEPTEMBER WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

9/7

SCRAMBLED EGGS
BACON
BISCUITS &
SAUSAGE GRAVY
GRITS
CINNAMON ROLLS
JUICE

9/14

HAMBURGER
STEAK & GRAVY
MASHED POTATOES
GREEN BEANS
ROLLS
SALAD
DESSERT

9/21

FRIED CHICKEN
SWEET POTATO
CASSEROLE
LIMA BEANS
ROLLS
SALAD
DESSERT

9/28

SMOTHERED PORK
CHOPS
RICE & GRAVY
PEAS & BUTTER BEANS
ROLLS
SALAD
DESSERT

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



Welcome Home.

new members

Bobby & Penny Cook
Charles & Carol Clegg
Jesse & Sheila Waldrop
Roy & Betty McHargue
Lee Bircheat

MINISTERIAL STAFF

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