

Connections

LAKWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

MAY 2016

VOL VII: ISSUE 5

LBCPC.ORG



*Her children arise and call
her blessed; her husband also,
and he praises her*

Proverbs 31:28



Welcome Home.



A Message from M.R. Hamilton

SENIOR PASTOR, LBC

May is both the Alpha and the Omega of months as it's the beginning and the end of so many things. It's the beginning of summer here in the southern states and the beginning of spring in the mountains. It brings with it the end of the final cold fronts that sometimes reach this far south and it brings the end of the spring snows at elevation. It is the beginning of a whole new life for those about to graduate and for them it means the end of either high school or college. For all of us who are parents of those graduates it's the beginning of the true test of our parenting as we get to see how well prepared our children really are to fly on their own. It's also the end of their dependence on us and a time of letting go. It's a time of new beginnings as well as a time of final endings all wrapped up in a single month we call May. If we can't say anything else about May we must admit that May is a month of great change. Perhaps that reality is why I like May in a lot of ways. It used to be that I loved May because it was the beginning of summer vacation and the end of school, both of which were really good news to me as a child. I like May because it forces me to deal with change and any positive change is progress! It keeps me from getting stuck in the rut of a routine which allows me to experience a whole new perspective. I once read that **when we find ourselves in a rut the solution is always to climb up and out and enjoy the world you're in from the perspective of higher ground.** God is the creator of everything and thus the author of change. Perhaps He gives us months like May just to remind us that we can't stay where we are and follow Him. Perhaps it is here to remind us that our God is a really good Shepherd and He needs us to change so He can lead us to greener pastures. Change is self evident in all of creation and by watching this we can learn of God's invisible qualities and infinite power. The more I write, the more I realize why I like May. God made May the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end of so many things for a reason. He made May to remind us that He really does have a plan for us, a plan to prosper us not harm us, to give us a hope and a future. So look at May and all the changes and realize that we are on our way to the future He promised.

Lakewood Medley

IN MEMORY OF:

Kenny Faircloth for Budget from Glenda and Gabriel Medley

Virginia Kennedy, Clide Miller and Mabel Grimes for Annie Armstrong from Jimmy and Susan Graham

Jackie Webb for Homebound from Clara Jean Watson

For Food Closet from Joyful Servants Bible Fellowship Class

For the Budget from The Villas at McIntosh Creek

Reba Craft for the Food Closet from Dorothy Atkins

For Builders for Christ from Billy and Cathy Greene

For the Youth Department from Steve and Margie Argo

John Storey for Challenge to Build from Janice Noble

Bernice Pelletier Lynch for Food Closet from Billy and Cathy Greene

Maggie Mae Taunton for Benevolence from Janet and Eva Turner

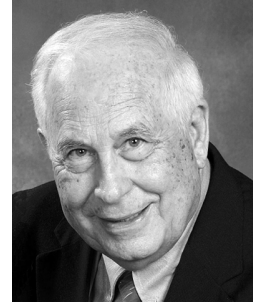
IN HONOR OF:

George and Sam Maxwell in honor of their 50th Wedding Anniversary for the Food Closet from Janice Noble

Bill and Mildred Benton in honor of their 70th Wedding Anniversary for Challenge to Build from Clara Jean Watson and Rebecca Baxter

A Message from **Dr. Jerry Horner**

MINISTER OF DISCIPLESHIP & OUTREACH, LBC



As I write these words, I am on the island of Borneo, the third largest island in the world, with some of the most primitive territory on earth, most noted for its exotic species of plant and animal life. I am in a place called Kota Marudu. I'm fairly certain that few people in America have ever heard of it, but I'm also certain that there are people here who know more about what's going on in the USA than the citizens of the USA know. That statement is certainly true of Christians in Borneo who are concerned about the spiritual condition of our country. Not only here, but everywhere else I travel, people ask about political and spiritual issues in America, because they are bewildered by the fact that our nation has drifted so far from biblical principles, and apparently the churches of America are silently accepting the changes. People of other countries have always looked to the USA as the leader and strength of the world in every area, politically, spiritually, morally, and economically. Their newspapers and televisions keep them well informed of what's happening in America, and they don't understand, particularly Christians, how a country that has been so favored by God and that has always been an unapologetic champion and defender of biblical principles now seems hell bent to move in the opposite direction. Those who live under Muslim rule are amazed that our government is deaf and blind to Muslim aspirations to dominate the world, and will use whatever means necessary to achieve their goals. Meanwhile, it's business as usual in the church today. As American society races toward hell and judgment, the church can't get people to be serious about prayer, Bible study, or evangelism. Think of the things that bother us enough to yell and talk back to the television, but don't bother us enough to get on our faces before God. We have allowed public opinion to determine our moral values instead of the Word of God, and as a result, we have:

- The Supreme Court approving same sex marriage.
- Entertainers, businesses, sports organizations, and other enterprises boycotting states that enact laws protecting children from perverts.
- The teaching of a homosexual agenda to our school children, beginning in kindergarten.
- Indescribable filth on the internet.
- Church splits, denominational politics, and power struggles because of moral compromise.
- Believers arguing about political correctness instead of uniting to resist the world, the flesh, and the devil.
- The popularity of a watered down, secular, man-centered gospel that allows people to be comfortable in their sins rather than warning them of God's judgment.
- The lack of a noticeable difference between the average Christian and a person of the world.
- A government that wants to support idlers at the expense of the workers.
- Liars by the scores in Washington, D.C. who change their stories every hour.
- Judges making laws from the bench, which is not the role of the courts but a violation of the constitution, and yet they get by with it.
- Disrespect of others, and even in worship of a holy God, yakking or texting, and a host of other indicators that says, "We'll get back to you in just a minute. There's something more important than you right now."
- A lack of concern among believers, and prayer meetings are "spare" meetings.

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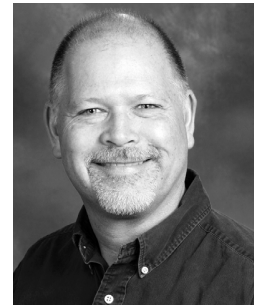


A Message from **Andrew Spires**

STUDENTS & SINGLES, LBC

Oh the much anticipated month of May, marking the end of the high school race for our graduating seniors. They have worked hard, accomplished much, and they feel they are ready to enter the next stage of life. Often students are in such a hurry to grow up that they rarely slow down enough to enjoy the life stage they are currently in. After all, this is a fast paced society which they have become accustomed to, and students are busier now more than ever before. Each year at this time I reflect on our graduating class and how well I think they are prepared for the challenges that are sure to come. Often I wish for more time, more opportunities, and more influence with these graduates as I selfishly just don't want to let go. Losing seniors means losing leaders, as they (whether they know it or not) have affected those younger than themselves, and that leadership is not easily replaced. To make matters worse, this year my own daughter Jordan is graduating proving that I am indeed getting old! Yet while growing up is an inevitable part of life my constant hope and prayer is that the time we've spent invested in their lives will make a difference in the future and that the gospel message planted will bear much fruit. I never want to turn out disciples of Drew, disciples of student ministry, or even disciples of Lakewood Baptist Church, but instead **I have challenged each of them in their time here to see the value and worth in placing their allegiance, hope, and eternal security in the Lord Jesus Christ alone.** I have prayed over them and with them and been blessed to lead many of them to the Savior and in baptism, but now the REAL challenge comes. This world is a big place, and in a big place there are big opportunities, big opportunities to make a difference and big opportunities to fade away. Sadly, many choose the easier path and fade away which is a disappointment in this ministry that God has given me. However, I have learned through the years to entrust them to God, to place them into God's almighty hands and recognize that He alone is able to lead them through this life and that His Spirit is that guarantee and deposit living in them. I fervently believe Proverbs 22:6 that many a parent has claimed over their children; "Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it." So, we understand there will be bumps in the road for our graduates but we hold fast to the eternal truths of God's Word and know He will lead according to His will and plan. Please pray for our grads and join us in recognizing their achievements in the 2nd morning worship service on Sunday, May 22nd as we honor them. For our parents of graduates (including myself) who find it hard to believe that your little boy or girl is all grown up, rest in Him as He has it all under control. May God bless and protect each of our graduating seniors and hold them close to His side!

A Message from Patrick Thornton



CHILDREN, LBC

Our Children's Choir did a wonderful job performing their spring musical, "Down by the Creek Bank." Diane Bush and Lauren Ny lead the preschool choir and Carole Thornton and Lindsey Tidwell lead the elementary choir. Thanks to these leaders who work hard with the kids each week. A special thanks also goes out to Morgan Duke, who did an outstanding job leading the kids on their creek bank adventure, and to Kelly Howard for her work on the production as well.

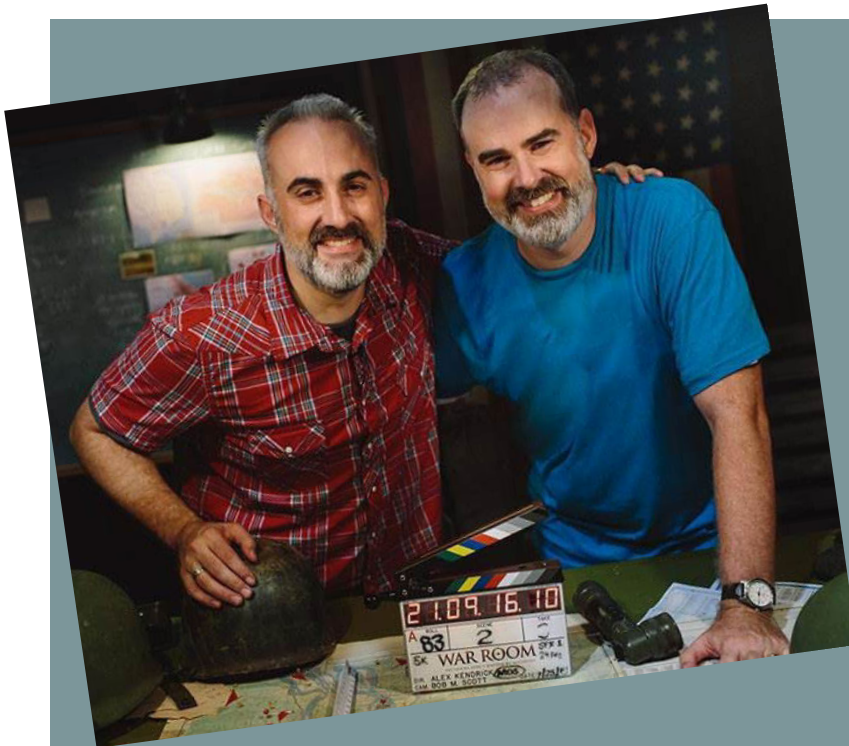
This will conclude children's choir for this spring. The choir will begin again in September as we start work on our Christmas program. Awana night is coming up on Sunday, May 15th. The children have been working hard all year learning their verses and how to apply this Godly wisdom to their lives. They are eager to share with you the knowledge they have gained this year.



"Submerged", this year's Vacation Bible School, begins on June 5th and runs through June 9th. VBS is open to any children who are currently in the 3-4 year old Sunday School class up through current 6th graders. A nursery and a 2 year old class will be available for those who are working in VBS. A light supper will be served at 5:15 and the worship rally and rotations begin at 6:00. We end at 8:30 each evening. This year we're taking the kids on an adventure like no other, deep within the mysterious sea. **As the kids submerge themselves in God's Word, they will discover that Jesus didn't just see what's on the outside of people. He looked deep down on the inside.** So KIDS! Grab your goggles, step into your flippers, and dive in to find truth below the surface! The key verse for this year's VBS is Psalm 139:23-24, "Search me, God, and know my heart; test me and know my concerns. See if there is any offensive way in me; lead me in the everlasting way." The motto is "Jesus sees. Jesus knows. Jesus saves."

- Political campaigns with candidates yelling at each other and not even knowing how to be quiet and let one another speak. Just watch television and no matter how you feel about the issue, you see that we've lost civility on both sides.
- The abuse of the name of God and the belittling of Christians in movies and on television.
- Applauding as a culture behavior that God will judge.
- Terrorism and the possibility and probability of rogue nations having nuclear weapons.
- A half-wit judge determining that there isn't enough evidence against terrorists and we need to set them free on American soil.
- The admission of tens of thousands of so-called refugees to our country and support of millions of illegal aliens, but repeated denial of a visa to the only sister of my daughter-in-law who would like to come to the USA from Albania to visit for a couple of weeks. We think that advances in technology indicate that we are making progress, while in reality it means that we're just better educated pagans. We are a morally depraved society, and apart from a powerful and convicting awakening of the Holy Spirit we have passed the point of no return. Our society is the book of Judges updated to the 21st century. We're selling dirt and calling it gold. There are no absolutes. Everything is relative. We've thrown out right and wrong and everybody can determine their own value system. In the midst of this pathetic condition, the church is apathetic, unaware that a lukewarm church nauseates the Lord.

We need to wake up to the fact that while the president and congress are leaving our children and grandchildren with a nation broken and in debt, **we must not leave them with a powerless church that has a form of godliness without power.** We may point our fingers and blame others, but it was the church that sat in silence while our country eroded around us. Judgment begins at the house of God, and we must repent and seek the Lord. We need to agonize, not organize. We need to realize that Obama is not our hope, nor is Hilary nor Trump nor Cruz. God is our only hope, and if we aren't desperate now, when will we be? What would happen if a thousand churches in America got desperate for God? We will never know if we don't start.



Burger King
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**THE KENDRICK
BROTHERS' STORY**

A LUNCHEON TO
BENEFIT INTERNATIONAL
FRIENDSHIP MINISTRIES
Featuring Guest Speaker
Stephen Kendrick,

Filmmaker

Monday, May 16, 2016

Lunch 11:30am-1:00pm

ST. LUKE MINISTRY CENTER
301 11TH STREET
COLUMBUS, GEORGIA
PLEASE REGISTER WITH IFM AT
706-653-0097 OR OFFICEIFMGA@GMAIL.COM

Lakewood Happenings

May 2016

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
AMEN CHOIR TOUR..... 1 2 3	6:00pm Alleluia Choir Praise Team & Orchestra Rehearsal	4	5	6
MOTHER'S DAY Identical Services 8	10:30am Amen Choir 9	6:30pm Alleluia Choir 10	10:30am VKBW 7:00pm Deacon Meeting 11	12	13	Young Married's Feed The Homeless 14
Taco Salad Lunch Fundraiser 6:00pm Awana Program 15	10:30am Amen Choir Sings at Orchard View 16	6:30pm Alleluia Choir 17	7:00pm Finance Meeting 18	6:30pm CDC Graduation 19	6:30-10:30pm Parent's Night Out 20	21
GRADUATION SUNDAY 22	10:30am Amen Choir 23	6:30pm Alleluia Choir 24	7:00pm CDC Meeting 25	7:00pm JEGBW at Julie Pelletier's 26	10:00- 2:00pm Breakfast Club 27	Youth & Singles Feed The Homeless 28
29	MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED 30	CDC Summer Camp Begins 31				

March Giving

	TITHE	CTB	MISSIONS	OTHER	TOTAL
3/6	\$25,101.06	\$656.00	\$2,023.87	\$3,269.50	\$31,050.43
3/13	\$11,301.72	\$341.01	\$ 570.00	\$3,927.00	\$16,139.73
3/20	\$ 9,955.10	\$ 70.00	\$2,467.25	\$3,931.14	\$16,423.49
3/27	\$ 11,160.55	\$ 90.00	\$2,966.00	\$2,685.98	\$16,902.53

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.

MAY WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

5/4

CHICKEN &
DUMPLINGS
PEAS
BUTTERBEANS
GLAZED CARROTS
SALAD
DESSERT

5/11

BEEF TIPS OVER
RICE & GRAVY
CORN
CABBAGE
CORNBREAD
SALAD
DESSERT

5/18

FRIED CHICKEN
MASHED
POTATOES &
GRAVY
LIMA BEANS
ROLLS
SALAD
DESSERT

5/25

HAM
SWEET POTATO
CASSEROLE,
GREEN BEANS
ROLLS
SALAD
DESSERT

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



Welcome Home.

new members

Thomas & Nancy
Hallmark

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BROTHERMR@LBCPC.ORG

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MUSIC & SENIOR ADULTS
CHARLES@LBCPC.ORG

Andrew Spires
STUDENTS & SINGLES
ANDREW@LBCPC.ORG

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