

August Connections

Lakewood Baptist Church



Belize Team Report

August 30th

6:00 pm

Proclaiming the Word of God with boldness

These are known as the dog days of August and I have often wondered where that term came from. God does have a way of reminding us that He is near and always paying attention. I had no more asked this question when God sent me the answer. Katie asked me if I had seen our big dog Kamie and I replied yes she dug a big hole in the coolest place she can find and refuses to come out until it cools off. Well I must admit that I have been trying to follow my dogs lead since it warmed up. I move from one cool place to the next as quickly as possible. I can only imagine how our mission team in Belize felt the past week in the jungles of Belize . Please take note I went to Wyoming on my mission trip this year where the temperature did not get above 75 degrees the entire week. Remember when I talked about being stupid like a fox? But August is a month of both new beginnings with the start of the new school year and a time of reflection as we look back to realize yet another summer is coming to an end. August was always a dreadful month as a kid growing up because not only was it hot but you had to go back to school and waste a perfectly good day that you could have been fishing . For my kids it represents the dreaded days known as band camp.

Have you ever stopped to consider what August is to God? You see God really is a God of seasons and all of creation points us to God and helps us to better understand His invisible qualities and divine nature. (Romans 1:20) So what do you think August is really about with God? What is God trying to teach us through these days we call the dog days of August? Well I think God really is a good shepherd and He knows how to move me from where I am to where He wants me to be, and then have me think it was my idea the whole time. I know right now I am living with anticipation of those first cooler days of September and I long to be there. You see God has made it hot enough here that I want to be there. And there is where God wants me to be. I had the honor to be around real shepherds in the great state of Wyoming and the one thing I learned most from them was just how they got the sheep to go where they wanted. They did it by making the sheep not want to be anywhere else. Now they used dogs, rods and staffs to get that job done but when it was time to move the sheep they wanted to go because the shepherd made sure they didn't want to stay where they were. The dog days of August make us want to move into another season with cooler breezes and shorter days. In our lives we all pass through seasons that are hard to get through. We often just have to dig a hole in the safest place we can find and ride out those dog days of August. But my dog isn't surrendering like one might think, she is simply waiting patiently on the better days that she knows are coming. She understands the lesson I have been so long figuring out. God is a God of seasons and this season only serves to make me more appreciative of the one that is to come. It makes me want to be where God wants me to be.

**God Bless and Best Wishes
Brother M.R. Hamilton**



I will sing to the Lord

Alleluia Choir Summer Concert – August 9 @ 6:00 p.m.

Psalm 107:22 says . . . “and tell of his works with songs of joy.” That is the theme of this year’s program with the majority of songs about ‘JOY.’ There will be some southern gospel music, featuring the quartet with choir, Katie with the choir, a couple of trios and choir, Mike, Terry and Scott with choir. I promise you will leave here with a smile on your face. Invite family and friends to join us Aug. 9. Ice Cream Social to follow.

Christmas In August

We will start Christmas music beginning Tuesday, Aug. 11th. If you don’t normally sing in the choir, but you would like to sing Christmas, plan to join us on this night. The Christmas Program will be the first Sunday night in December.

Amen Choir to sing at Evangel Temple, Friday, August 14th @ 7 pm.

Ice Cream fellowship to follow. The bus will leave from the church at 6 p.m. or meet us there at 6:15. Ladies wear fuchsia and khaki and men wear white and khaki. I believe this is a senior adult special event.

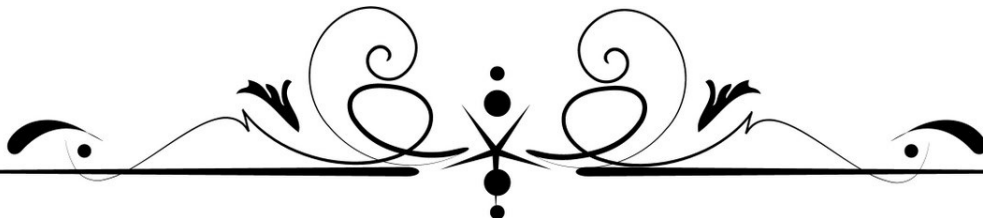


Children are a gift from God

A huge thanks to all of those who have allowed us to use their pools for **Wet Wednesdays** during the summer. **Wet Wednesdays** will continue through August as we beat the heat, cool off, and have some fun after our devotion time on Wednesday nights from 5:45 – 7:15. Special thanks also go out to Mrs. Cabbi and the CDC for sharing the water slides with us on Wednesday nights!

Promotion Sunday for the children’s department is Sunday, August 2. Our 4 year olds will be moving upstairs to the elementary division into the kindergarten class, taught by Mrs. Robin. After Bible Fellowship, they are taken to Children’s Church, where they can be picked up after the late worship service. Welcome kindergartners to the elementary division! Our Bible Fellowship teachers will be available to show our upcoming 1st, 3rd, and 5th graders where their new classes will be meeting.

We have a great group of kids here at Lakewood and we need some motivated volunteers to step up and help out! Openings are available in our Extended Session to keep preschoolers during the 11:00 a.m. worship service, as well as openings to help in Children’s Church during the same time. See Patrick Thornton if you would like to help out in one of these vital ministries to our children.



To know Him and make Him known

In recent days, two great servants of the Lord from our community received their promotion to heaven. One spent his boyhood years in China, where he was born to missionary parents, and he later served as a missionary in Africa for 25 years. The other was a faithful pastor for half a century. As I read the obituaries of these giants of the faith, I reflected on the fact that they were ready to die because they were ready to live.

One who is not ready to die is not ready to live. Paul had such a philosophy of life, and he stated it in Philippians 1:21. He was in prison, facing possible execution. He isn't absolutely certain of what's going to happen, but he says, "It doesn't make any difference to me, because for me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If I live, that's wonderful, because I'll have more opportunities to serve Christ and to know Him more intimately. But I may die, and that's even better by far, because I'll be with Him forever. I can't lose. Heads, I win; tails, I win."

What did he mean? As far as life is concerned, he meant that apart from Jesus Christ, there is no life; there is only existence. For Paul, Christ was the *source* of life, the very beginning, as he stated in Philippians 1:6. John said that Christ is life (John 1:4), and Jesus said that He came that we might have life, and enjoy it in abundance (John 10:10).

Paul meant that Christ was the *subject* of his life, that is, he talked about Him and gave testimony of Him constantly. We learn in Philippians 1:12 that Paul had the opportunity to introduce Jesus to the best troops in the Roman army, 10,000 soldiers assigned to the emperor.

Christ was the *standard* of Paul's life, the goal for which he aimed and the model by which he patterned his life (Philippians 3:14). Christ was the *song* of his life, in which he rejoiced always (Phil. 4:4). Christ was the *satisfaction* of his life, the fulfillment of all his desires and expectations (Phil. 4:11). Christ was the *strength* of his life, in which he always knew victory (Phil. 4:13). Christ was the *supply* of his life, in which all his needs were met (Phil. 4:19).

As far as death is concerned, Paul meant that it would not be a tragedy, but a blessing that would bring untold dividends. The word "gain" is a monetary term that means the profit on an investment, so death for Paul was to receive the eternal dividends of a life invested in the service of Christ.

He used the word "depart" to describe his death, and that word is full of meaning. *Sailors* used that word for the unmooring of a ship so it could set sail. *Soldiers* used that word for folding up their tent and moving to a new camp. *Policemen* used that word for unchaining a prisoner and setting him free. *Farmers* used that word for unyoking the oxen, freeing them from their hard labor. *Philosophers* used that word to describe the solving of a riddle or a problem or the answering of a difficult question. In fact, the English word "analyze" comes from this word. So death for Paul was setting sail for a new harbor, breaking camp for a new location, release from all pains and hindrances, rest from all burdens, and the answer to all problems. Paul had a wonderful philosophy by which to live and die, and we need that same outlook.

To *live* is CHRIST,
and to *die* is GAIN.
PHILIPPIANS 1:21

Shaping the future

I'd like to invite you to attend a new four-part/night series this summer on Sunday nights. Starting Sunday night July 26th (continuing Sunday nights 8/2, 8/16, 8/23) I will be teaching a series that I've titled 'Broken'. We all have seen how our society has no regard for absolute truth or God its author, but what is to be our reaction? How did society get this way, what is our role to play, what should our stance be? The answers may surprise you! This will not merely be a series bemoaning the cultural perspective of this world, instead it will be a series of personal introspection focused on our own purity. Who are we as God's people and do we look like Him? We will cover some very serious topics affecting God's people and I hope you'll take the time to attend. This teaching will be in the sanctuary on Sunday nights at 6:00 pm (with the exception of 8/9 for a choir concert), childcare infants to sixth grade will be provided.

This summer had been packed with amazing opportunities to serve others. Our students had the opportunity to go serve in New Orleans with Mission Lab in June and then again to serve the children and people of Belize in July. Both of these mission trips were challenging and rewarding. Someone said regarding the Belize trip; "it was the most fun hard work I've ever done!" Doing God's work should be fun and it should be hard work. I am so proud of our students, singles, and adults who mirrored Christ's love in various places this summer. School is just around the corner and I ask you to bathe our students in prayer. As I've said before, they are on the front lines in the cultural battle in this world. The enemy seeks to sift them, confuse their thinking, and offer them the shortcuts of this life hoping they will be ineffective Christians who are mired in sin. If you haven't grabbed a card from our Adopt-A-Student board please do so before the school year starts so you can pray for them by name and their families. Thank you once again for your support of our student ministry and its mission efforts.

Some of you have heard or read of the policy change enacted by the mayor's office in Columbus regarding the homeless. She, in cooperation with Columbus Water Works (property owner), is closing one of the main areas where homeless people "hang out" in downtown Columbus known as the "water park" off Veterans Parkway. There are several reasons for this including the amount of trash left behind by the homeless. The mayor's stated intention is to redirect the homeless into programs and shelters such as Valley Rescue, Salvation Army, or House of Mercy (and others). While I'm sure the mayor has the best of intentions the fact is that many of the chronically homeless will unfortunately not go to these places. Another question is always raised; the argument of providing for their needs vs. enabling them to continue in the homeless lifestyle. I defer to the Word found in Isaiah 58:7-9, and Matthew 25:35-40. The truth is many if not most of the chronically homeless are mired in addiction of some sort and will likely never get out unless they turn their hearts to Christ. Feeding the homeless where they live affords us the opportunity to be the only Jesus many will ever see. Our monthly service project called Feed the Homeless, in partnership with Highland Community Church, regularly serves food at the CWW water park. I have talked with the leadership of Highland and we plan to comply with the mayor's new guidelines however that will not end the Feed the Homeless/Chicken & Rice program. While Highland is formulating a new strategy for outreach they will continue to offer free meals at the church each Saturday and provide meals-on-wheels to less privileged elderly and disabled members of the community. We will continue to make hygiene kits to be passed out to the homeless who come for meals and continue to help make and serve the meals themselves the last Saturday of each month. If you would like to help with items for the hygiene kits please see the updated list in the sanctuary lobby. This monthly service project is open to any church member or anyone wishing to serve. It is not hard, but it pays eternal rewards.

God bless,
Drew

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

Sympathy to

Steve Argo in the loss of
his brother, Barry

The Family of Allen
Hirsch

The Family of
Sally Kennedy

Meg Valfre in the loss of
her Father

Cabbi Black in the loss of
her Grandmother.

The family of Homer
Medley

**Wednesday Night
Supper Menus**

August 5

Baked & Fried
Chicken
Rice & Gravy
Mac & Cheese
Biscuits

August 12

Hot Dogs, Chili
Slaw, Corn on the Cob
Watermelon

August 19

Chicken Salad Croissants
Broccoli Salad
Potato Salad
Brownies

August 26

Pork Loin
Baked Potatoes
English Peas
Rolls, Salad
Dessert

~ In Memory Of ~

Max Wilkes for Challenge to Build from Melvin & Sherry Scroggins
Charles Turner for Belize Mission Trip from Janet Turner
Don Newsome & Mark McGowan for Challenge to Build from J.D. & Diane Whitehead
Sally Kennedy for Challenge to Build
Allen Hirsch for Challenge to Build from:
J.D. & Diane Whitehead
Fran Loftin
Gary Newsome

~ In Honor of ~

For Challenge to Build from Clara Jean Watson
O.D. Hamrick in honor of his 100th Birthday
Janet Ormond for her Birthday
H.T. Oliver for his 80th Birthday
For Amen Choir for Beatrice Carmack by Kay Tidmore:
Charles & Linda Keown
Fred & Margaret Van Horn
J.D. & Diane Whitehead
Betty Burrows
Terry & Virginia Windham
Charles & Judy May

**Lakewood Baptist Church
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May Giving	Budget	CTB	Missions	Other	Total
5/3/15	\$19,769.85	\$5,275.00	\$2,892.00	\$1,181.55	\$29,118.40
5/10/15	\$15,541.17	\$2,280.00	\$2,125.00	\$2,579.35	\$22,525.52
5/17/15	\$8,725.59	\$680.00	\$1,416.00	\$721.00	\$11,542.59
5/24/15	\$6,186.70	\$315.00	\$2,742.04	\$605.00	\$9,848.74
5/31/15	\$19,445.31	\$985.00	\$2,169.00	\$1,171.81	\$23,771.12

August 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Senior Student Meeting @ 6
2 Guest 3 Speaker - Hin Hiong Khoo Youth Ch @ 5 Broken @ 6	3 Amen Choir @10:30 Dr. Horner's Class @ 6:30	4 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	5 VK/BW @ 10:00	6	7 Breakfast Club	8
9 Alleluia Choir Concert Followed by Ice Cream Social	10 Amen Choir @ 10:30 Dr. Horner's Class @ 6:30	11 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	12 Deacon Meeting @ 7:00	13 CDC Open House	14 Amen Choir@ Evangel Temple	15
16 Youth Ch @ 5 Broken @ 6	17 Amen Choir @10:30 Dr. Horner's Class @ 6:30	18 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	19 Finance Meeting @7:00	20	21	22
23 Yth. Ch. @ 5 Broken @ 6:00	24 Amen Choir @ 10:30 Dr. Horner's Class @ 6:30	25 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	26 CDC Meeting @7	27 JEG/BW @7:00	28	29 Feed the Homeless 11-2
30 Belize Mission Report @ 6:00	31 Amen Choir @ 10:30					

Regularly Ongoing Weekly Activities

SUNDAYS

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship Service
10:00 AM Bible Fellowship Classes
11:00 AM Blended Worship Service
11:15 AM Kidz Worship
6:00 PM Evening Worship

WEDNESDAYS

5:00 PM Family Night Supper
5:45 PM Youth Get R.E.A.L.
5:45 PM Wet Wednesday
6:00 PM Orchestra Rehearsal
6:00 PM Adult Prayer and Bible Study
7:00 PM Praise Team Rehearsal

THURSDAYS

2:00 PM Clothes Closet
2:00 PM L.O.A.F.

* All times are Eastern

Dear Lakewood membership,

Linwood and I wish to thank all of you for your faithful prayers, over the past 10 months, relative to my cancer diagnosis. I am in remission and so grateful to God for His faithfulness. Your consistent prayers have literally been God's hands and feet pouring out His love over us!

Even though this road was not easy, we are thankful we never lost sight of God being in control, nor His desire to increase our faith, refine us, build character, prove His faithfulness, and ultimately bring Him greater glory. As well, we are grateful we were able to "praise Him" by holding on to the promises of His Word assuring us of His love, grace, mercy, provision, peace and healing power.

It is our prayer that God will continue to bless each of you at LBC, to overflowing, for the measure given us. *Hebrews 6:10... For God is not unjust so as to forget your work and the love which you have shown toward His name, in having ministered to the saints...*

In Christian love and grateful appreciation,
Dora & Linwood Spires (Parents of Drew Spires)

CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE HIGHLIGHT CAMP LAUGHING CHILD (Camp in Mexico for children with HIV/Aids)

July: Shane remembers Emilio...

Our hearts feel broken tonight. We just received the sad news that one of our first campers, Emilio, has lost his life-long fight against cancer. This kind and brilliant eight-year-old boy was among the very first group of kids to attend a healing camp at Camp Laughing Child. Along with his fellow campers, Emilio, enthusiastically asked Jesus into his heart. His witness touched many lives. Please pray for Emilio's family. Here are the last words that he spoke to his Mom: "You are the best mom in the world. I am glad that you'll be able to spend more time with my little brother now that you won't have to worry about me. I am glad that I am going to see God and that I'll be in heaven waiting for you."

Claudia (Director of the institution that cared for him) told us that after Emilio visited Camp Laughing Child, he could not stop talking about God, and about the great time that he had at camp. She insists that his fear of dying ended at Camp Laughing Child. Emilio found peace, confidence, and comfort, in Lord Jesus.



Emilio

THANK YOU FOR TOUCHING THESE CHILDREN THROUGH OUR CIRCLES OF INFLUENCE

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Fri 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

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334.298.6461

Hours: M - F 6:30 am - 6:00 pm

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2015

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CONNECTIONS
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