

# Connections

LAKWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

OCTOBER 2015

VOL VI: ISSUE 3

LBCPC.ORG

## 2015 Homecoming Sunday

**OCTOBER 25  
10:00AM**

**ON THE FRONT LAWN  
DETAILS ON BACK**



*Welcome Home.*





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

SENIOR PASTOR, LBC

*It seems that I just wrote my September Connections last week and now it is October. Since I first arrived it seems as though my weeks feel more like days, and my months feel more like weeks, while my years feel more like months.*

Time does fly when you're having fun. Fall is in the air and our staff meetings are all about Homecoming and the Holidays. Yes, we are talking about Christmas and this year is shaping up to be another month long celebration of music and singing. October sets the stage for God's plan to bring real change in the world all around us. The colors and cool mornings along with the early evening darkness all signal the reality that we have indeed come a long way in our trip around the Sun. The Earth has stayed its course like all of creation without ever asking once why or for how long. I have always loved October because this is a time to be outdoors enjoying God's creation. This is the time of year I love to be in the northern woods of Wisconsin with a trailer filled with well trained English Setters. For this is the home of the Ruffed Grouse and Woodcock. My fascination with Bird dogs has always been something more than an means to an end.

Something much deeper and spiritual as I see in them the drive and passion of knowing their purpose and place in God's creation. The English Setter is actually a pointing dog and they point birds from the first few weeks of life until they die. They live to catch the scent of a bird as it has the power to literally freeze them in a trance beyond their comprehension, never asking why but merely spellbound by the knowledge that this moment is the very reason they exist. I have often picked up my dogs and moved them while on point, and as long as they have the scent they will not break from their point. How I wish I could have that single minded drive for nothing but the kingdom that my Setters had for birds. I once saw a poster that I like very much as it had this simple prayer at the bottom. "Lord please allow me to be half the man my dog thinks I am". My dog "Lucky" was big for a field trail Setter and he could run like the wind and he taught me what it means to be loyal. If he knew what I wanted he did it. I remember his first trip to the grouse woods of Wisconsin like it were only yesterday. He was not prepared for the tactics of the Ruffed Grouse as he had been raised and trained on Bob White quail. Now quail are gentlemen and they hide and hold well when pointed by dogs but the Grouse is just as likely to dance in circles around a pointing dog trying to get him to move. The Grouse enjoy this game as they can fly like the wind and

will do so the first instant the dog moves. Lucky knew his purpose and just what I wanted him to do but he could not hold once the bird circled and he lost his scent. Soon he came along side with his tail hanging low, his joy and drive were missing because he could sense my disappointment in him. That day he taught me that his joy in the hunt was my joy and the pride I showed him when he did well. Then and there I prayed that I could find such joy in my Masters success. You see the birds were the reason we came there but they were never the reason we came back. No, it was the day long walks through the north woods to places where you could imagine that no one had ever been before you. To the places where the grouse would simply fly a few feet up a tree fascinated by the first person he had ever seen. It was the partnership between men and dogs to accomplish together what neither could do on their own. It was about getting out in creation far enough and long enough to escape time and one's schedule to learn from creation the important lessons about their creator. For God's invisible qualities, His eternal power and Divine nature can be clearly seen and understood in all He has made. (Romans 1:20) Perhaps that is what I really like so much about October. It is a time to stop and get outside in the beautiful weather, a time to look at creation in all its glory, a time to listen to what creation has to say about its creator.





# Looking Unto Jesus

## Dr. Jerry Horner

SENIOR PASTOR, LBC

I am writing this article from the beautiful city of Singapore, where the British military suffered what Winston Churchill called “the worst disaster and largest capitulation in British history” when the city fell to the Japanese on February 15, 1942. Singapore, often called “the Gibraltar of the East,” was thought to be an impregnable island fortress, with huge guns emplaced in strategic locations along its coastline to fend off naval attacks. Most military authorities felt that it would be impossible for an enemy to conquer the island.

However, there was a major flaw in the plans that brought this feeling of security. The British, expecting an attack from the sea, had their big guns pointed in that direction. The Japanese, conscious that British defenses were focused on the sea, attacked from Singapore’s back door, the Malay Peninsula. One and a half hours after the attack on Pearl Harbor, Japanese troops landed in the northern part of the peninsula, and swiftly moved toward Singapore. By February 8 they were fighting their way into the city and a massacre began.

Like the defenders of Singapore, sometimes we experience the perils of looking the wrong way. The Bible tells us that we are always to be “looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith” (Heb. 12:2). This is the only time in the New Testament that the word “looking unto” is found. It literally means

“looking away from and looking unto.” The word “unto” indicates motion toward an object with the purpose of reaching it. In other words, we are to look away from anything or anyone else and focus all our attention on Christ and zero in on Him.

The Bible often warns us of the dangers in getting our eyes off the mark and looking in the wrong direction. For example, there is the backward look. The one who puts his hand to the plough and looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God (Luke 9:62). It was the backward look that caused Israel’s failure to enter the promised land and to wander in the wilderness (Psalm 78:41). Lot’s wife perished when she looked back (Gen. 19:26). Sometimes we dwell on the past so much that we never move forward. It’s very difficult to drive forward when you’re looking in the rear-view mirror. “Let your eyes look straight ahead and your eyelids look right before you” (Prov. 4:25).

The Bible tells us not to be “dismayed” (Isa. 41:10). That word literally means “to look around.” God is telling us that we are not to focus on the circumstances surrounding us, but to look to Him. Peter took his eyes off Jesus and looked around, and “when he saw the wind” he sank. Ten of Israel’s spies took their eyes off the Lord and looked around to see walled cities, giants, and all kinds of difficulties. Only two looked in the right direction.

Don’t allow circumstances to hold your vision to the extent that you cannot see the faithfulness of the Lord to deliver you.

Paul spoke of those who are so near-sighted that they only see what is immediately before their eyes (2 Cor. 10:7). Some people have such a short range of vision that their horizon is limited, and they have no comprehension or expectation of the possibilities that God may have in store. They look only at the present, not realizing that God “is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think” (Eph. 3:20).

The wrong direction for many people is the selfish look. The Bible admonishes, “Let each of you look out not only for his own interests, but also for the interests of others” (Phil. 2:4). The look that focuses on self will limit us and make us small and self-centered. In contrast, looking unto Christ will lead a person to “esteem others better than himself” (Phil. 2:3).

Look in the right direction, and that’s unto Jesus.

Turn your eyes  
upon *Jesus*,  
Look full in His  
wonderful face,  
And the things of  
earth will grown  
strangely dim,  
In the light of His  
glory and grace.



# Food for Thought Andrew Spires



STUDENTS & SINGLES, LBC

The student and singles ministries will attempt a new service project during the month of October — one that will hopefully be of benefit to our **L.O.A.F. food closet**, called **"No Tricks, Just Treating Others Well"**. During the last week of October we will strategically pass out paper shopping bags, generously donated by Publix, to local neighborhoods with a note attached explaining our LOAF ministry and the service it provides to the community each Thursday. We are asking each home to donate at least three canned goods or staple boxed foods to fill our pantry before the holiday seasons of Thanksgiving and Christmas, which are two of our highest volume months. Our LOAF ministry goes out of its way each Thursday, but especially during the holidays, to meet needs and provide extra food to those less fortunate. We will pass these bags out on Sunday night October 25th and then return on Wednesday night October 28th to pick them up. Our goal is to pass out at least **400 bags** and our hope is that this will yield around **1,200 canned goods** and boxed foods. If you'd like to be involved, we can use some help with transportation, if you are willing to help drive



students to neighborhoods so they can drop off bags and pick them back up then please let me know, especially if you have a truck or SUV. Again, our goal is two-fold; first, to fill our food pantry before the holidays to help the needy, and second, to get our church name and its ministries out in the community with the hopes that someone else may come and visit. Please pray that this will be an effective service project and that it will be well received out in the community with great participation.

## October Activities

STUDENTS & SINGLES

- 2:** 5th Quarter after the Smith's Station vs. Central game
- 11:** Romania Mission Trip organizational meeting
- 29:** Casting Crowns concert
- 31:** Not-So-Halloween party

Please continue to pray for our students and singles as they follow the Lord in a culture that is increasingly less and less conducive to those who stand for the Truth.

# Lakewood Happenings

## October 2015

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
				2:00pm Clothes Closet 2:00pm L.O.A.F.	10:30pm Youth 5th Quarter	
				1	2	3
4:00pm Ladies' Bible Study Amen Choir Concert	10:30am Amen Choir	6:30pm Alleluia Choir	Amen Choir - Dothan 5:45pm Awana/Flyte/R.E.A.L	10:30am VKWMMU 2:00pm Clothes Closet 2:00pm L.O.A.F.	5:30pm Game Night Surprise Supper	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
4:30pm Romania Mission Team Meeting	<b>COLUMBUS DAY</b>	10:30am Amen Choir - Summerville 6:30pm Alleluia Choir	5:45pm Awana/Flyte/R.E.A.L 7:00pm Deacon Meeting	2:00pm Clothes Closet 2:00pm L.O.A.F. 7:00pm Cliff Bennett Class		6:30 - 11pm Youth Judgment Journey
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Amen Choir - Summerville Church Conference Amen Choir Tour.....		6:30pm Alleluia Choir	5:45pm Awana/Flyte/R.E.A.L 7:00pm Finance Meeting	2:00pm Clothes Closet 2:00pm L.O.A.F. 7:00pm JEG Baptist Women	Choir Festival FBC - Opelika	6:00pm Talent Show Reunion
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>HOME COMING SUNDAY! 10AM</b> <b>PROCLAIMERS AT 6PM</b>	10:30am Amen Choir	6:30pm Alleluia Choir	5:45pm Awana/Flyte/R.E.A.L 7:00pm CDC Meeting	2:00pm Clothes Closet 7:00pm Casting Crowns		10:45am Feed The Homeless
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## August Giving

	BUDGET	CTB	MISSIONS	OTHER	TOTAL
8/2	\$21,729.05	\$1,835.04	\$1,459.00	\$1,050.07	\$26,073.16
8/9	\$8,382.00	\$1,475.00	\$280.00	\$185.00	\$10,322.00
8/16	\$15,501.25	\$640.00	\$855.00	\$6,244.77	\$23,241.02
8/23	\$9,143.25	\$290.00	\$280.00	\$1,057.80	\$10,771.05
8/30	\$9,303.77	\$585.00	\$521.00	\$4,822.45	\$15,232.22
	<b>\$64,059.32</b>	<b>\$4,825.04</b>	<b>\$3,395.00</b>	<b>\$13,360.09</b>	<b>\$85,639.45</b>

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

#### SUNDAY

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

#### WEDNESDAY

- 5:00pm Family Night Supper
- 6:00pm Orchestra Rehearsal
- Adult Prayer & Bible Study
- 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal



# Lakewood Medley

## IN MEMORY OF:

**Sally Kennedy**  
for Challenge to Build:  
Ted Lee  
J. D. & Diane Whitehead

**Homer Medley**  
for Challenge to Build:  
J. D. & Diane Whitehead

**Homer Medley**  
for Circles of Influence  
from Terry & Clara Grimes

for Challenge to Build  
from Melvin & Sherry  
Scroggins

**Glenda Thomason**  
Lewis Thomason for  
Challenge to Build

**Grace Cook**  
Billy & Cathy Greene for  
Challenge to Build  
Melvin & Sherry Scroggins  
for Homebound Ministry  
Janice Noble for Challenge  
to Build

Carolyn and Keith Pruski  
for Amen Choir  
Dorothy Atkins for Amen  
Choir

## IN HONOR OF:

**Bill & Mildred Benton**  
Billy Benton for Challenge  
to Build

**Charlene Keeter**  
Dorothy Atkins for Amen  
Choir

## NOTES OF

### APPRECIATION:

From **Meg Valfre's**  
mother

Family of **Grace Cook**

### SYMPATHY TO:

Family of **Grace Cook**  
Family of **Bertha Franklin**

# Welcome Home.

## new members

# Ron & Alice Wilson

# Heidi Wilson

Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, so now, not only as in my presence but much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling, for it is God who works in you, both to will and to work for his good pleasure. Do all things without grumbling or questioning, that you may be blameless and innocent, children of God without blemish in the midst of a crooked and twisted generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, holding fast to the word of life, so that in the day of Christ I may be proud that I did not run in vain or labor in vain.

Philippians 2:12-16



## ONE NATION UNDER GOD

**THE**  
*Charlie Daniels*  
**BAND**  
IN CONCERT

# NOVEMBER 10

## RiverCenter 7:30 PM

A Military Tribute  
& Benefit Concert

### BUY GIFT TICKETS!

Send a veteran or soldier  
to this special tribute  
dedicated to their honor.

100% of the proceeds from the  
concert benefit children with  
terminal diseases through  
Camp Laughing Child

[www.laughingchild.org](http://www.laughingchild.org)

  
**107.7**  
**THE TRUTH**  
[thetruthlife.com](http://thetruthlife.com)





# OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

Collection Week is just 6 weeks away and the need is so great. Last year only 1/3 of the world's needy children received a shoebox and the gospel story—a booklet called The Greatest Gift which is given with each shoebox in their own language. It is estimated that each booklet is read by 7 people—7 lives hear the good news of Jesus Christ because of one shoe box. Here are a few pictures of a shoe box distribution in Ecuador with Franklin Graham and Michael W. Smith.

**NATIONAL COLLECTION WEEK NOV.16-23, 2015**



## A Message from Patrick Thornton

CHILDREN, LBC

This year's Homecoming celebration is planned for October 25, and it looks like we will be having a great time of worship and fellowship together. The Proclaimer's Quartet will be singing during the evening service, and the children's division is planning a special evening just for kids during the concert. We will be having an inflatable, food and a movie for the kids while their parents enjoy The Proclaimers. Make sure to mark your calendars and be sure to come back to the church for the evening service at 6:00 on Homecoming Day for an exciting completion to the festivities.

Only \$5 per meal  
with a maximum  
\$15 per family!

# Let's Eat!

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

### OCTOBER WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

## 10/7

BAKED  
SPAGHETTI  
GARLIC BREAD  
SALAD  
DESSERT

## 10/14

CHICKEN &  
DUMPLINGS  
FRIED CORN  
TURNIPS  
CORNBREAD  
SALAD  
DESSERT

## 10/21

SMOTHERED  
PORK CHOPS  
MASHED  
POTATOES  
GREEN BEANS  
ROLLS  
SALAD  
DESSERT

## 10/28

BAKED & FRIED  
CHICKEN  
PEAS & BUTTER  
BEANS  
SQUASH  
CASSEROLE  
ROLLS  
SALAD  
DESSERT

To make dinner reservations, email Carol at [carol@lbcpc.org](mailto:carol@lbcpc.org) or call 334.298.6433.



## Other Announcements

If you are interested in helping decorate the church for Christmas on November 23rd, please call Margaret Wilson at 334-297-8014.

Adult Sunday School Department  
Fellowship

Saturday, October 24th @ 6pm

Bring Finger Food

*We will be watching the  
video from the 1994 LBC Talent Show!*

## VIP Week

Oct 25  
~ thru ~  
Nov 1

Sign up  
online at  
[LBCPC.org/VIP](http://LBCPC.org/VIP)  
or come by  
the computer in  
the rear of the  
Sanctuary.

### MINISTERIAL STAFF

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HOURS: M-TH 8:30AM-4:30PM

FRI 8:30AM-12PM

## Homecoming Details

There will be no Bible Fellowship class sessions on Homecoming Sunday. Brian Squires will be speaking. Bring casseroles, vegetables, salad and desserts - church will provide BBQ and drinks. Please bring enough for your family and more. Don't forget your lawn chair! The Proclaimers will sing at 6:00pm in the sanctuary.

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HOURS: M-F 6:30AM-6:00PM

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