

Connections

LAKESWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 2015

VOL VI: ISSUE 2

LBCPC.ORG

By **faith**
we understand that
the universe was
formed at God's
command, so that
what is seen was
not made out of
what was visible.

HEBREWS 11:3



Welcome Home.



A Message from M.R. Hamilton

SENIOR PASTOR, LBC

I just can't help myself, I love September! September is what it is because of where I have been, not where I find myself at the moment. I often get funny looks when I start celebrating September here in Alabama as what I celebrate as September happens here in October. I really do understand that reality but I celebrate September because when I was a child growing up in Kentucky September 1st was glorious. School was out and everyone gathered at Noble Park for all kinds of games and music with great food and the watermelon race. As I look back I don't know why they called it a race and not a scramble as hundreds of

**God is good
all the time!**

watermelons were placed in a pile and covered in liquid soap. Then fire trucks would surround the pile ready

to spray anyone trying to get back with one of the melons. I am smiling right now just thinking of how proud I was the first time I got out with my 1st watermelon. September in the Rocky Mountains was and still is a glorious time of year. The mountains are alive with color and the sound of Elk bugling fills the air as they remind everything with ears that they are excited to be alive. September is glorious because it reminds me of where I have been. It reminds me of how far I have come. God gives us memories to see what was in the past, but no way to see what is before us

for a very good reason. I wish I really understood all the reasons but then that would require little faith. I just know this one great truth and that is that "God Is Good All The Time!" If it would have been better to forget the days that have now past and clearly see what was ahead God would have created us that way. In everything I firmly believe that God has a purpose. In our memories we can find direction, in our past we can find hope for today, in the present we can find joy by choosing what we remember. It might be hot here in September, but my memories of September days in the mountains are even sweeter in that heat. I remember one of my favorite places to be in September was next to the small stream that ran behind my house in Crestone, Colorado. The Aspen trees there allow a lot of light to reach the ground, and the stream supplies the needed moisture to set the stage for a Glorious scene in September. The green of the knee deep grass accents the white bark of the Aspen tree that reaches up into the deepest blue skies of the season. The Early fall air is cool along the streams and with very little wind the stream is all that you hear until the Elk remind you that they too love this wonderful place. The Aspen leaf turns a brilliant yellow and red just before it begins to rattle and finally fall through the branches like a spring snow. That is just one of the many memories that make me smile when I hear the word "September".



Redeeming the Time

Dr. Jerry Horner

SENIOR PASTOR, LBC

We will soon enter the last quarter of this year, and I'm still in March on my "to do" list. I'm convinced that each year succeeds in outracing the preceding one. It's either that, or I'm picking up speed on the downhill slope.

The Bible often describes the brevity of life.¹ Sometimes I'm reminded of the farmer who was awakened in the night when his clock malfunctioned and struck seventeen. He jumped out of bed and rushed through the house shouting, "Everybody get up! It's later than it's ever been before!"

In Ephesians 5:16 God tells us to live in such a way that we are "redeeming the time, because the days are evil." The word "redeeming" means "to buy up; to deliver from loss," as purchasing a slave in order to set him free. The word "time" does not refer to "clock time," meaning time that can be measured in seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months and years. It means an appointed or allotted time, an opportune time, the right time. God allots us the proper time where we have an opportunity, and we had better get moving and make the most of that allotted time. The next phrase tells us that we are to salvage the time "because the days are evil."

The word "evil" is the word from which our word "pornographic" comes. The world in which we are living is filled with impurity, greed, idolatry, and disgusting wickedness of all types. Jesus said that before He returns lawlessness will abound (Matt.

24:25). We see this anarchy in every area of life today. At a recent display of modernistic art, people raved over a painting that won first prize. It turned out that a chimpanzee that threw globs of paint indiscriminately on the canvas did the painting. A few days ago I passed a sign on the highway that said, "Dirt for Sale," and thought how appropriate that sign would be hung over the paperback bookracks all over the country. Some of the songs polluting the airwaves are listed in the "top 40." I'd hate to hear the bottom 40!

Right and wrong are no longer absolute in our society, but relative, so people do what is right in their own eyes. Every television news report shows a howling mob with the law in its own hands. You can't tell who is on trial, the criminal or the policeman. Thanks to court decisions, the offender gets more sympathy than the victim of his crime. There is no discipline in government, in school, in the home, or in the individual. Even many churches have thrown biblical discipline and morality overboard, as witnessed by their sanction of abortion and homosexuality. What we are seeing is not ordinary wickedness but demonism in its most hideous expressions. We have become soft and tolerant

and permissive and politically correct and fearful of offending anybody, and the forces of evil are taking advantage of our moral weakness to wreck the country.

It is not necessary for the powers of darkness to seek to destroy America from without. We are allowing that destruction to be accomplished from within. American society will not listen to biblical warnings, because it is too drunk and drugged, too crazed by materialism, too deceived by the proclamation of the sameness of all religions, too infatuated with smooth politicians who pool their ignorance in signing peace treaties with the enemy and glibly promising a paradise.

Because the days are evil, we must realize what time it is and rescue the opportunities that are slipping away. What time is it? It's time for holy desperation, because it's too late for anything else. It's time for those who claim the name of Christ to rise up in one accord, brought together by the urgency of the hour, praying until God rends the heavens and comes down. Start with yourself. Get right with God and then join with others of like mind and heart. The evil days don't stand a chance with God working through us.

One True King Andrew Spires



STUDENTS & SINGLES, LBC

September is always a big month in the South with school already in session, and of course the beginning of high school and college football seasons. Most of us are ready to cheer for our favorite high school and college teams and the emotional swing depending on who wins or loses is stout. If you're anything like me, when your team wins you're on top of the world ready to take all comers, but when your favorite team loses you feel depressed, maybe a little angry, and you don't want to see any news regarding the team for at least a few days till the pain goes away. The loss may even keep you from socializing with others, you may even skip church a time or two so no one ribs you on Sunday? Now I say all this realizing most of you have seen my office, the red and black proudly displayed, 'dawg' pictures hung from the wall, so I speak from experience although I certainly can't skip church when Georgia loses! College football is definitely king here in the South, but should it be so?

We have just finished the 'Broken' series on Sunday nights dealing with our sin, and the sins of the culture. I am thankful to those who came out week after week and I hope it was insightful and convicting as it was for me to teach it. However, my hope is

**Church
as usual
just won't do
anymore...**

that it wasn't just a short series of messages to be filed away with the rest you've heard in your lives but instead that it helped initiate a jumping off point, a turning point to do something different. We must come to God wholeheartedly, unashamedly, without reserve and give Him our all to affect change in our own lives and in this culture empowered by the Holy Spirit. Church as usual just won't do anymore, it is time for we as God's church to stand up and be counted, and no matter what persecution or hardship comes we must face it head on together and not

stick our heads in the sand and pretend it doesn't affect us.

We spend countless hours and resources on things like sports, as we brazenly display our team loyalty, and while we chant our team's fight song why not do something far more important and become accurate reflections of Christ's love to everyone we meet? Even go a step further and show this world Christ is THE KING! That He's not in competition with college football, He is more than the King of the South, instead He IS King of our lives and we live to serve Him!

My prayer for our students, our young adults, and our church is that God will give us His heart, His eyes, and His passions without distraction. That our hearts would be the one found in Psalm 86:11-*"Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will walk in your truth; give me an undivided heart, that I may fear your name."* Remember each time you cheer for your team this season, that God wants you to cheer for Him, proclaim His name to all you meet for He has placed you as missionaries in the field of life. It's time to shine for Him and cause the darkness to flee!



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 9th**, and the **children's choirs** begin **Sunday night, September 12th**. Here is the complete list of ministry opportunities available for our children:

Pre-school Division (birth-4 year olds)

SUNDAY

9:00 Childcare during Contemporary Worship
10:00 Bible Fellowship
11:00 Extended Session (Childcare during Blended Worship)
6:00 Preschool Choir (3-4 year olds, must turn 3 by Sept. 1)

WEDNESDAY

5:45 - 7:00 AWANA Cubbies (3-4 year olds, must turn 3 by Sept. 1)

Elementary Division (K-4th grades)

SUNDAY

9:00 Contemporary Worship 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)

WEDNESDAY

5:45 - 7:00 AWANA Sparks and Ultimate Adventure (K-4th)

The Mix (5th & 6th grades)

SUNDAY

9:00 Contemporary Worship with parents
10:00 Bible Fellowship
11:00 Blended Worship with parents
6:00 Children's Choir (K-6th)

WEDNESDAY

5:45 - 7:00 FLYTE (5th & 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.

We need adult teachers and substitutes for several of our children's 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 in any of these areas please contact Patrick Thornton.

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

Let's Eat!

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

SEPTEMBER WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

9/2

HAMBURGER
STEAK & GRAVY
MASHED
POTATOES
GREEN BEANS
ROLLS
SALAD
DESSERT

9/9

HAM
SWEET POTATO
CASSEROLE
PEAS &
BUTTERBEANS
ROLLS
SALAD
DESSERT

9/16

TACO SALAD
MEXICAN CORN
SPANISH RICE
DESSERT

9/23

BAKED & FRIED
CHICKEN
RICE & GRAVY
MAC & CHEESE
BISCUITS SALAD
DESSERT

9/30

SCRAMBLED EGGS
BACON
BISCUITS &
SAUSAGE GRAVY
GRITS
CINNAMON ROLLS

To make dinner reservations visit LBCPC.org, email Carol at carol@lbcpc.org or call 334.298.6344.



Ladies of Lakewood

THE ARMOR OF GOD The Ladies' Ministry of Lakewood is studying *The Armor of God* by Priscilla Shirer. The study began August 23rd and is a 7-week series. It's never too late to join. Suit up in the armor of God and learn the ultimate defenses against the enemy's attack. The study meets on Sunday afternoons at 4pm in the fellowship hall. Learn more at LBCPC.org/ladies-ministry.

Welcome Home.

new members

Tripp
&
Morgan
Duke

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teaching and admonishing one another in all wisdom, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, with thankfulness in your hearts to God. - Colossians 3:16

MINISTERIAL STAFF

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Lakewood Happenings September 2015

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
		6:30pm Alleluia Choir	10:30am VK Baptist Women	2:00pm Clothes Closet 2:00pm L.O.A.F.		
		1	2	3	4	5
4:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 5:00pm Youth Choir 6:00pm Kidz Church 6	LABOR DAY OFFICE CLOSED	10:00am Amen Choir at St. Luke 6:30pm Alleluia Choir	7:00pm Deacon Meeting	2:00pm Clothes Closet 2:00pm L.O.A.F. 7:00pm Cliff Bennett Class	5:30pm Game Night	10:00-5:15pm Beth Moore Simulcast
	7	8	9	10	11	12
4:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 5:00pm Youth Choir 6:00pm Kidz Church 13	10:30am Amen Choir	6:30pm Alleluia Choir	7:00pm Finance Meeting	2:00pm Clothes Closet 2:00pm L.O.A.F.		
	14	15	16	17	18	19
4:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 6:00pm Kidz Church	10:30am Amen Choir at Spring Harbor	6:30pm Alleluia Choir	7:00pm CDC Meeting	2:00pm Clothes Closet 2:00pm L.O.A.F. 7:00pm JEG Baptist Women		11-2pm Feed the Homeless
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
4:00pm Ladies' Bible Study 5:00pm Youth Choir 6:00pm Kidz Church 27	10:30am Amen Choir	6:30pm Alleluia Choir				
	28	29	30			

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

June Giving

	BUDGET	CTB	MISSIONS	OTHER	TOTAL
6/7	\$15,367.71	\$2,349.00	\$5,295.11	\$5,061.00	\$28,072.82
6/14	\$12,786.61	\$1,308.00	\$3,042.50	\$201.00	\$17,338.11
6/21	\$7,682.57	\$425.00	\$5,128.50		\$13,236.07
6/28	\$8,394.35	\$161.50	\$510.00	\$225.00	\$9,290.85

Visit **LBCPC.org**
for more info
and activities.

Did you notice? We have a new look!



IVORY

PUMPKIN

SLATE

Wear it and share it...

NEW LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH COMFORT COLOR® T-SHIRTS ON SALE NOW! Pre-order by Sunday, October 4th. Adult, youth and toddler sizes available. T-shirts sales will support Lakewood's missions. Be ready to invite others "home" by wearing your Lakewood shirt and sharing the love of Christ. Send your order to Carol at carol@lbcpc.org or call 334.298.6433. Shirts can be picked up on Homecoming Sunday, October 24th.

Lakewood Medley

IN MEMORY OF:

Sally Kennedy

for Challenge to Build:

Brenda Slappey
Terry & Clara Grimes
Dot Beck
Clara Jean Watson
Bill & Margaret Wilson
Martin & Becky Kinzalow
Billy & Cathy Greene
Ken & Janice Noble
Carolyn Pruski
Melvin & Sherry Scroggins
J.P. & Esther Benton
Steve & Nancy Stainsby
Mr. & Mrs. Don Harbuck
Charles Norris

Allen Hirsch

for Challenge to Build:

Clara Jean Watson
Bill & Margaret Wilson
Martin & Becky Kinzalow

Billy & Cathy Greene

Ken & Janice Noble

Melvin & Sherry Scroggins

J.P. & Esther Benton

Flournoy Companies

Buddy & Margie Jackson

Steve & Nancy Stainsby

Homer Medley

for Circles of Influence

from Terry & Clara Grimes

for Challenge to Build

from Melvin & Sherry

Scroggins

Angela Gonzales

for Challenge to Build

from Clara Jean Watson

Barry Argo

for Challenge to Build

from Bill & Margaret Wilson

Mark McGowan

for Challenge to Build

from Bill & Margaret Wilson

Titus Payne

for Challenge to Build

from Bill & Margaret Wilson

Max Wilkes

for Challenge to Build

from Malinda Wilkes

IN HONOR OF:

O.D. Hamrick's

100th Birthday:

Clara Jean Watson for

Challenge to Build

Steve & Nancy Stainsby

for Amen Choir

H.T. Oliver's 80th Birthday:

Clara Jean Watson for

Challenge to Build

Steve & Nancy Stainsby

for Amen Choir

Janet Ormond's Birthday:

for Challenge to Build

from Clara Jean Watson

Beatrice Carmack by Kay

Tidmore for Amen Choir:

Charles & Linda Keown

Fred & Margaret Van Horn

J.D. & Diane Whitehead

Betty Burrows

Terry & Virginia Windham

Charles & Judy May

Notes of Appreciation

Families of:

Allen Hirsch

Sally Kennedy

Barry Argo

Anna & Bella Galarza

