



Happy New Year, Lakeview Family,

Perhaps you are like me and get quite reflective as another year concludes and we prepare to begin a new one. As believers, we are under grace and have no need to perform more to have God's favor. We have it by grace alone through faith alone in Jesus alone. Yet, we also understand that "it is required of stewards that they be found faithful" (1 Corinthians 4:1). To faithfully steward 2023, I would like you to consider a few helpful texts that can benefit us as stewards.

In Haggai 1, the prophet Haggai rebukes a people who had stopped building the temple and instead were focused on their own "paneled houses" (Haggai 1:4). Haggai calls them to "Consider your ways" (Haggai 1:5).

In Psalm 90, Moses considers time and how it passes so quickly (90:3-11). This leads him to pray, "So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom" (90:12).

In Ephesians, Paul is giving wisdom as to how to "walk in a manner worthy of the calling" (Ephesians 4:1), admonishes believers to make "the best of the time" that the Lord has given us.

Three strategic texts to consider as you seek to steward 2023: consider your ways, learn to number your days, and make the best use of the time entrusted to you.

So how may we respond to this threefold challenge in some concrete ways that may aid us as stewards of the time, treasures, and talents that the Lord has entrusted to us?

Well, let me offer you some challenging questions to reflect on for 2023 from my old friend, Donald Whitney:

- 1. What is one thing you could do this year to increase your enjoyment of God?
- 2. What is the most humanly impossible thing you will ask God to do this year?

- 3. What is the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your family life this year?
- 4. In which spiritual discipline do you most want to make progress this year, and what will you do about it?
- 5. What is the single biggest time-waster in your life, and what will you do about it this year?
- 6. What is the most helpful new way you could strengthen your church?
- 7. For whose salvation will you pray most fervently this year?
- 8. What is the most important way you will, by God's grace, try to make this year different from last year?
- 9. What one thing could you do to improve your prayer life this year?
- 10. What single thing that you plan to do this year will matter most in ten years? In eternity?
- 11. What is the most important decision you need to make this year?
- 12. What area of your life most needs simplifying, and what is one way you could simplify in that area?
- 13. What is the most important need you feel burdened to meet this year?
- 14. What habit would you most like to establish this year?
- 15. Who is the person you most want to encourage this year?
- 16. What is your most important financial goal this year, and what is the most important step you can take toward achieving it?
- 17. What is the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your work life this year?
- 18. What is one new way you could be a blessing to your pastor (or to another who ministers to you) this year?
- 19. What is one thing you could do this year to enrich the spiritual legacy you will leave to your children and grandchildren?
- 20. What book, in addition to the Bible, do you most want to read this year?

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(Continuation of the Pastor's Pen)

- 21. What one thing do you most regret about last year, and what will you do about it this year?
- 22. What single blessing from God do you want to seek most earnestly this year?
- 23. In what area of your life do you most need growth, and what will you do about it this year?
- 24. What is the most important trip you want to take this year?
- 25. What skill do you most want to learn or improve this year?
- 26. To what need or ministry will you try to give an unprecedented amount this year?
- 27. What is the single most important thing you could do to improve the quality of your commute this year?
- 28. What one biblical doctrine do you most want to understand better this year, and what will you do about it?
- 29. If those who know you best gave you one piece of advice, what would they say? Would they be right? What will you do about it?
- 30. What is the most important new item you want to buy this year?
- 31. In what area of your life do you most need change, and what will you do about it this year?

Maybe you could consider these questions in your personal devotion time, or in a small group with other brothers/sisters, or maybe in your family devotional time. However you use these questions, honestly answering these questions can be a great way to kick off 2023.

Love and Gratitude, Pastor Brian



WEEK OF PRAYER

January 15-20 is our annual Week of Prayer. Please guard your calendar and be ready to participate in this corporate act of dependence each evening from six until seven. We must have the grace of the Lord upon us in 2023 for his Kingdom's coming and glory to be expressed through us. This opportunity to gather in unity of need is vital for our individual and church wide spiritual health.

Each night will have a different theme and emphasis for our attention in intercession. Friday night will be a time of celebrating the Lord's Supper as well as a meal in the Fellowship Hall afterwards. This will be a covered dish dinner as you are able to contribute your favorite foods for the occasion. Be in prayer for what the Holy Spirit might speak to you about during the days of the Week of Prayer. See you then!





GIVING UPDATES

Lakeview family, thank you for your generous, joyful, and faithful giving in 2022. As of today, your budget gifts total approximately \$3,600,000. This is approximately \$300,000 over budget. Praise the Lord! (These amounts will increase somewhat as 2022 mail continues to arrive.)

Your Lottie Moon Christmas Offering contributions currently total approximately \$180,000. As you may recall, our gifts last year totaled \$361,153. We will continue to receive Lottie Moon giving through mid-February.

New year blessings to you all!

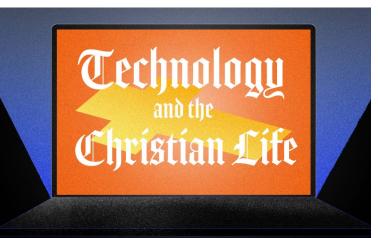


FUEL WEEKEND JANUARY 13-15

Youth families! Our annual FUEL Weekend is next week! Signups are open, host homes are secured, and leaders are getting ready for a wonderful weekend of worship, service, and fellowship. This year, our theme is all about technology and the Christian Life. We live in a digital age, but we also know that Scripture has a word for us on how to live wisely and faithfully. So join us by signing up at <u>lakeviewyouth.com</u>!

Additionally, we will have a special parent event on the evening of January 12th. On this night, we will give you an overview of where we're headed during Fuel, some information on how to keep the conversation going with your students, and more.

We always want to help our families and guests who need some financial assistance for FUEL. If you would be willing to scholarship a student for next weekend, pleae contact Aaron Wine or Mary Harrison. Thank you!





JOIN US IN 2023

The start of a new year is always a perfect time to join the music ministry at Lakeview. Below you will find start dates and times of praise leadership opportunities. Come join us!

CELEBRATION CHOIR Wednesday, Jan. 11 | 6 PM in the Choir Room

CELEBRATION ORCHESTRA Wednesday, Jan. 11 | 6 PM in the Sanctuary

RE/GEN YOUTH CHOIR Sunday, Jan. 22 | 4:30 PM in the Choir Room

JOYFUL NOISE CHILDRENS' CHOIR Sunday, Jan. 22 | 4:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall



UNDERSTANDING AND LIVING GOD'S WORD

The Lakeview pastoral staff will teach an 8-week Sunday afternoon class on understanding and living God's Word using genres to discern the meaning of God's Word. Join us Sundays at 4:30 pm in Room N208-209 beginning January 22. Aaron will lay the foundation and give us some ground rules for understanding the scriptures. Tom will lay out some methods to understand the narrative passages and psalms/proverbs. Kevin will help us discern the meaning of the epistles and prophetic writings and Pastor Brian, the gospels. Adam will close us out and give us some insights on music and the scriptures. The book, *Read the Bible for Life* by George H. Guthrie will be a helpful addition to your studies.

2023 CO-ED THEOLOGY STUDY GROUP

Starting soon, you have an opportunity to start or continue an incredible journey through a readable and transformative Systematic Theology, 2nd edition by Wayne Grudem. Go ahead and read Chapter 31 on Common Grace and come prepared for discussion. Each chapter is self-contained so it is okay to join us now. My first time through I began in the middle of the book. This group restarts Wednesday mornings, at 6:30 AM beginning January 11.

THURSDAYS AT OLE TIMES COUNTRY BUFFET

Hope to see men of every age Thursday, January 12, in the Eagle Room at Ole Times Country Buffet from Noon-1:15 PM. Darren Olsen, one of our Lakeview deacons and active with our 5th & 6th grade boys will be our guest.

LADIES BIBLE STUDIES

We are excited to announce our Spring 2023 Bible study line-up! Please join us and invite a friend!

THE WORD OF THE LORD (BY NANCY GUTHRIE)

WEDNESDAYS I 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM STARTS FEBRUARY 1

SUNDAYS | 4:00 PM - 5:50 PM STARTS JANUARY 29

Workbooks are for sale online at Lifeway.com and other booksellers.

PRECEPTS: II THESSALONIANS

WEDNESDAYS | 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM STARTS FEBRUARY 15

PRECEPTS: COVENANT

TUESDAYS I 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM STARTS JANUARY 24

Workbooks are available online at precept.org

Register for all classes on the Lakeview website at: www.lakeviewbaptist.org/lakeview-women/ladies-bible-study/

For registration issues, contact lakeviewwomen@gmail.com





IRON SHARPENS IRON MEN'S EVENT

Join us at Cypress Hill on Thursday night January 26, 6:00 PM. Some of our staff will be sharing a brief word of encouragement for us men to get a good start on our new year. Tickets go on sale soon at \$5 per person or \$20 maximum for a family.

SPRING L.I.F.E. CLASSES

Our Sunday afternoon equipping classes will begin Sunday, January 22. Here are the classes available:

- "GriefShare" led by Larry Wit & Stacy Schuessler in Room N109 at 4:30 PM
- "How To Study God's Word" led by Tom McClendon & other LBC staff in Rooms N208-209 at 4:30 PM
- "Witness Training" led by Cliff Knight in Room N108 at 4:45 PM

OUR *newest*

LEIGHTON RAE BEERS Born: December 23, 2022 Parents: Mitchell & Regan Beers

ANNA KATHERINE THOMAS Born: December 31, 2022 Parents: Wesley & Megan Thomas

DISCOVER LAKEVIEW CLASS THIS SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

Are you interested in joining Lakeview or just finding out more about us? The Discover Lakeview Class is for you. Bro Cliff will walk through what we believe as a church, membership, and our covenant. We need a reservation from you with the number attending for lunch and childcare. The class will follow the morning service in the Fellowship Hall. Please email Laura Gray at <u>lgray@lakeviewbaptist.org</u> to reserve your spot.



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REMEMBER IN *prayer*

ARBOR SPRINGS Louise Morris

EAMC Charles Gilliam

Larry Swango

EASE HOUSE

Anne Dodge Harriett McNelly Larry Ryan

MAGNOLIA PLACE Nancy Thornton

OAK PARK

INDEPENDENT LIVING Bobby Jones Emaleen Fagen Joe Waller

SUMMER VILLAGE Linda Currie

VALLEY PARK MANOR Kay Gaillard

AT HOME

Matthew Baker Shirley Baker Daniel Beniamin Matt Beth Mike Cannon Dennis Clark Jackie Cooper Joe Denison **Hugh Fellows** Ambers Hanson Renae O'Mary Jane Parker Kathy Rains John Dale Rector Matthew Richardson Lottie Sides Shannon Works Joe Youngblood

JANUARY 1 ATTENDANCE

MORNING SERVICE	740
EVENING SERVICE	N/A

JANUARY 1 GIVING

BUDGET	\$21,229.23
RESTRICTED	

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WE BELIEVE THAT GOD'S PURPOSE FOR LAKEVIEW BAPTIST CHURCH IS TO LOVE THE LORD GOD AND TO EXPRESS THAT LOVE BY MAKING, NURTURING AND EQUIPPING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST IN AUBURN AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.



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