



pastor's PEN

Hey Lakeview Family,

I am grateful to report that we completed the year \$363,245 over budget, and as of today, we have given \$240,102 to the Lottie Moon Christmas offering. As one who just concluded a few days ministering to missionaries in East Africa, I can tell you that the Lord is doing a great work among the unreached peoples of Africa and that testimony could be multiplied innumerable times all over the world. God in Jesus Christ and by the Holy Spirit is extending his kingdom across the world. It is the most important reality in the history of the world. Yet it takes resources. You know that and you have owned it. I am so very grateful to have the privilege to pastor you.

On another note, our annual prayer week begins this Sunday, January 15 and continues through Friday, January 20. We will conclude with the Lord's Supper on Friday evening. I know that many of you are very busy; and it is a necessary busyness. You do not fill your calendar just to be on the go. You have many important and necessary responsibilities. With that said, it is not a moralistic plea for me to encourage you that corporate prayer is vital for your spiritual walk, health, and maturity.

Paul speaks to the Christians in Galatia and he warns them: "Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? ... Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law ..." (3:3-5). In other words, do you think that you have begun by the Spirit, receiving a gift of grace and faith, that you are now going to perfect yourself by use of the law, or disciplining yourself through the flesh? Paul says that the way in which you have begun, which is by the Spirit through faith, is the way in which you are going to continue.

By encouraging them, he is encouraging us that we are both saved and sanctified, or matured, by faith. And God gives us means to strengthen our faith because our faith is what sustains us and is what grows us or sanctifies us. This is what the Reformers refer to as 'the means of Grace' (*media gratia*). There are means that God has promised that if we use those means, then God is going to strengthen and bolster our faith. The confessions describe these as the word, ordinances, and prayer – the ordinances being the Lord's Table and baptism.

If we are to grow in grace, we must acknowledge that God has appointed certain means for that growth and the emphasis in Scripture is the corporate expression of these means. We should approach these corporate means with hopeful anticipation and childlike reliance on the One who adds His blessing to them, and we must rest, content in a right use of them, knowing that God has promised to bless them as we use them with repentant and believing hearts. That is why we devote a week each year to corporate prayer and a time in the word, and closing out the week with the ordinance of the Lord's Supper.

Paul in the most church centered book of the Bible, Ephesians, closes out the book with a call to corporate prayer. Yes, personal and individual prayer is important, but the burden is corporate activity. I say this because prayer is the means by which the armor of God is put on and wearing the armor is a corporate endeavor (I will support that at another time). And so, after his treatise on the armor of God and Spiritual Warfare, he writes, "praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints" (6:18).

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continuation of the Pastor's Pen)

Prayer week is one of the ways Lakeview seeks to be faithful to this apostolic charge. It may be that you cannot attend every night, but for the nights you can, I sure look forward to seeing you.

Love and Gratitude, Pastor Brian



FUEL WEEKEND INFO & DESSERTS NEEDED

Thank you so much, Lakeview family, for your willingness to provide scholarships for our students to attend FUEL Weekend! Through your generosity, youth will enjoy a powerful weekend of worship, service, fellowship, and more.

As we move toward FUEL, we want to put out the call for those of you who have a great dessert to offer! We are blessed every year by the cooking skills of our Lakeview family. So, if you have a dessert you'd like to donate for the weekend, please let Mary Harrison know in the church office by Thursday, 1/12 for a drop off on 1/13 before 5PM. Thank you!

FOUR CORNERS DONATION DRIVE

Lakeview Youth is once again partnering with Four Corners Ministries to stock their thrift stores! Proceeds from these stores help fund Lakeview missionaries, Abaana's Hope, and more! If you have clothes, household items, or other donations, please bring them by the church on Saturday afternoon from 12:30 PM to 3:00 PM!



SENIOR SAINTS

Senior Saints will meet January 19, 2023 at 12:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be served at a cost of \$5.00 per person. Hope to see you there!





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, January 11 | 6 PM in the Choir Room

CELEBRATION ORCHESTRA

Wednesday, January 11 | 6 PM in the Sanctuary

RE/GEN YOUTH CHOIR

Sunday, January 22 | 4:30 PM in the Choir Room

JOYFUL NOISE CHILDRENS' CHOIR

Sunday, January 22 | 4:45 PM in the Fellowship Hall



congregational CARE UPDATE

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.



GRIEFSHARE CLASS

We will begin a new class of GriefShare on Sunday, January 22, at 4:30 PM. GriefShare is a ministry that offers a biblical guidance for those who have lost loved ones. With GriefShare, you will learn how to walk the journey of grief and will be supported on the way. It is a place where grieving people find healing and hope. It involves weekly videos of respected counselors and teachers who have faced their own grief and who share insights on how to walk through grief in a healthy manner. It covers topics such as dealing with the holidays, what to do with personal belongings, making future decisions, managing your emotions, understanding how God helps us in our grief, etc.

Toma and I went through the class four years ago and found the material and friendships to be very helpful after Ben's death. I did not think we needed the class at first, but going through the class was helpful and encouraging. It also gave us the opportunity to comfort others with the comfort God gave us.

You may call the church office for more information and sign-up. Registration is not required.

Because He Lives! Cliff

LADIES BIBLE STUDIES

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

For registration issues, contact lakeviewwomen@gmail.com

THE WORD OF THE LORD (BY NANCY GUTHRIE)

WEDNESDAYS | 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 <u>Lifeway.com</u> and other booksellers.

PRECEPTS: II THESSALONIANS

WEDNESDAYS | 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

STARTS FEBRUARY 15

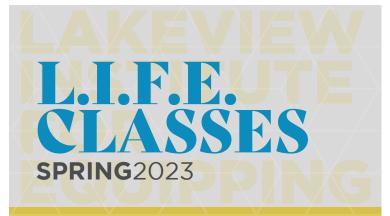
PRECEPTS: COVENANT

TUESDAYS | 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

STARTS JANUARY 24

Workbooks are available online at precept.org







GRIEFSHARE BEGINSSUN.JAN.22

4:30PMROOMN109

LedBy

Larry Wit & Stacy Schuessler
Biblical and group support for those who have lost loved ones.



HOW TO STUDY GOD'S WORD

BEGINSSUN.JAN.22 4:30PMROOMSN208-209 LedBy

Tom McClendon & Other LBC Staff Understanding and living God's Word using genres.



WITNESS TRAINING

BEGINSSUN.JAN.22 4:45PMROOMN108 LedBy | Cliff Knight

Practical and Biblical encouragement for sharing your faith.



THE WORD OF THE LORD

BEGINSSUN.JAN.29 4:00PMROOMN106 LedBy Jenny Swaim

Ladies Bible Study.



UPCOMING DATES

We've got some great events coming in the children's department this year. Be sure to mark your calendars and plan on being involved!

JAN 11 | Torchlighter's *Heroes of Faith Movie* – The Jim Elliot Story

JAN 25 | MPAC (Missionary Prayer and Care) starts back.

JAN 29 | M&M's/Coins for Lottie Moon Offering due

FEB 6, 13, 20, 27 | Catechism class for boys and girls

MAR 26 | Scripture Memory Deadline

APR 23 | Scripture Memory Banquet

MAY 21 | Upcoming 1st Grader's Meet & Greet

MAY 28 | Promotion Day

JUN 19-23 | Vacation Bible School (online registration will open in April)



2022 YEAR-END FOOD PANTRY REPORT

Households fed 1,027*
Total pounds of food distributed 49,605
Average pounds per household 48
Average \$ per household \$6.72

*This number reflects the total number of household visits to the Lakeview Food Pantry in 2022. Some households may be included up to 6 times in the count, since households are eligible to receive food once every two months.





ESL CLASS SCHEDULE

ESL classes will begin for the spring semester January 25th. A meal will be provided each Wednesday evening before class for our students and workers in the Fellowship Hall from 4:45-5:45 PM.

We are also in need of volunteers. If you are interested and available, please contact Jerry Ferguson at jferguson@lakeviewbaptist.org.





JANUARY 25

Parmesan Crusted Chicken, Corn, Green Beans, Rolls, Salad, & Ice Cream Cups

FEBRUARY 1

Hamburgers, Cole Slaw, California Blend Veggies, Salad, & Chocolate Cake

FEBRUARY 8

Chicken Fingers, Baked Beans, Spring Blend Veggies, Rolls, Salad, & Oreo Dessert

Fellowship Meals are open to everyone and cost \$4 per person with a \$20 cap per family. Cash or Check only.

OUR *newest*

FAITH REID BRASHER Born: January 8, 2023 Parents: David & Casey Brasher Grandparents: Jon & Leslie Brasher



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 8 ATTENDANCE

MORNING SERVICE — 1,054 EVENING SERVICE — 374

JANUARY 8 GIVING

BUDGET \$68,409.89 RESTRICTED \$12,036.93

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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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