



pastor's
PEN

Happy New Year Lakeview Family,

I hope that you all had a joyful Christmas season and that 2024 is off to what will be a fruitful year. I would like to kick off our year by directing your attention to a very important ministry of Lakeview that many in our body may not yet know enough about, our “In His Hands” ministry, which is a ministry centered on our special needs image bearers. The theme verse for this ministry is 1 Corinthians 12:22 “the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable.” To that, we say, “amen.”

Ryan Faulk, of Joni and Friends ministry, published an article in February 2020 with a title that should burden us all: “The Largest Unreached Group You’ve Never Heard Of.” The article begins with these grievous words, “Without anyone even realizing it, a huge number of people with disabilities have been locked or pushed out of the church.”

Thankfully, the Great Commission to the unreached peoples of the world is increasingly gaining traction as the Word of God and sound theology is being restored in evangelical churches across the country. Yet as the article laments, “But today, one of the largest unreached groups of people in the world has been artificially created by the church. Without anyone realizing it, a huge number of people with disabilities have been locked out or pushed out of the church.”

Indeed, numerous studies reveal that, all things being equal, people with disabilities are less likely than their peers to attend church even once a month. It is estimated that there are 61 million American adults who live with some sort of disability and there are about 2.25 million who could be attending church, but do not. A 2018 study from Clemson reveals that children with any kind of disability are less likely than their peers to attend church, and children with autism are nearly twice as likely to never attend a religious service. Of course, that, in turn, impacts the families of the disabled who may desire to attend but cannot because of caring for their loved one.

Faulk closes his article with these words: If Christ thought it was worth going to the cross to win the hearts of people with disabilities, what efforts should we make to include them in the Body of Christ? That church that can look at anyone who comes through their doors and confidently say, “You are not only welcome here, but wanted” is a church with a powerful prophetic witness But because the world is, by default, a poor fit for people with disabilities, the church is also a poor fit, unless we intentionally include the people of all abilities.

In our city alone, parents of children with a disability have to inordinately lean on the school system for help. I am grateful for the school system, but these families need more than physical or material help. They also need spiritual help and that is the church’s role. Our county has 159,913 people in it with 20,733 of them with disabilities. So the harvest is plentiful. But, the laborers are too few.

In 2024, we desire to help correct that by relaunching our “In His Hands” ministry. So starting on January 7th and extending to February 4th, we will have three tables in the lobby with information on this ministry. You can also find a page for this ministry on our website. We will conclude with a new volunteer training on February 4th at 4:30 with our local Joni and Friends representative.

No individual member at Lakeview is called to every ministry. But every member is called to ministry at Lakeview. As you are praying for wisdom and discernment as to how the Lord could use you in 2024, I can say there would be no more strategic way to employ your spiritual gifts than in this important ministry.. Matthew 25:40 And the King will answer them, "Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these..., you did it to me." As you pray about your role with "In His Hands," pray as well for this ministry.

Love and Gratitude,
Pastor Brian

WEEK OF PRAYER



WEEK OF
Prayer
6 - 7 P M

JANUARY 14TH-19TH, 2024



cliff's notes

ON FAMILY MINISTRY

NEW YEAR... NEW STARTS!

January marks the beginning of a new year. It gives us new opportunities to re-engage in Bible study and fellowship. Our Sunday morning Bible study groups are a great place to start. If you are not presently involved in a group, join one. If you need help finding one, let me know and I will help you make the connection.

IRON SHARPENS IRON FEBRUARY 8th — WES KING AND SONS

The next Iron Sharpens Iron men's event is February 8th. We are excited to have Wes King and his three sons come and share through song and testimony, a message to encourage us men and our family life. Wes had a very successful music career in the 90s, recording several hits and being nominated for several Dove awards. He has collaborated with many artists such as Michael W. Smith, Michal Card, Point of Grace, Steve Green and others. In 2005, he was diagnosed with lymphoma and underwent many months of treatments and years of side-effects. Through all his struggles and success, he has worked really hard to keep family first and pour into his sons. We will have a meal that evening along with the message and music. Men, mark your calendar and listen for more details as we get closer to the event.

SUNDAY LIFE CLASSES BEGIN JANUARY 21ST

Bioethics for Christians – Michael DeBoer
Book: *Bioethics: A Primer for Christians*, 4th Edition by Gilbert Meilaender
Room: N109 at 4:45PM

Wisdom for Mothers – Toma Knight and Julie Mobbs
Book: *Wisdom for Mothers* by Denise Glenn
Room: N103/N104 at 4:45PM

Disciplines of a Godly Man – Cliff Knight and Robert Maddox
Book: *Disciplines of a Godly Man* by R. Kent Hughes
Room: N108 at 4:45PM

LADIES SPRING BIBLE STUDY

Ladies, we are excited to announce that our women's Bible studies will be kicking off the spring semester in a few weeks. We will offer a study on Romans called *In View of God's Mercies* by Courtney Doctor as well as Precept studies on Philippians and Hebrews. Please visit <https://lakeviewladiesatthewell.wufoo.com/forms/z8kd52a1rgenwh/> for details and registration.

Lakeview Women
BIBLE STUDY

Spring
2024

IN VIEW OF GOD'S MERCIES
(A STUDY IN ROMANS BY COURTNEY DOCTOR)

Wednesdays 9:00 - Beginning Jan. 24
Sundays 4:00 - Beginning Jan. 21

PRECEPT STUDIES
PHILIPPIANS
Wednesdays 9:30 - Beginning Jan. 31
HEBREWS
Tuesdays 6:30 - Beginning Jan. 23

www.lakeviewbaptist.org/lakeview-women
lakeviewwomen@gmail.com

Scan for details
and registration

HAPPY NEW YEAR!



youth NEWS

FUEL WEEKEND IS COMING UP!

FUEL Weekend is coming up this January 12th-14th for our Lakeview Youth Ministry. FUEL is our annual weekend of discipleship, fellowship, service in our community, and fun. Each year, we ask our Lakeview family to help financially sponsor some students who otherwise would not be able to attend. If you are interested in serving as a sponsor, please contact Camdyn Ferguson. Join us in praying for a powerful weekend in the lives of our students!

MADE
IN HIS
IMAGE



jim's JOTS

2023 GIVING

The generosity of our Lakeview family never ceases to amaze me. All of your 2023 tithes and offerings are not yet totaled, but I am able to announce that we have exceeded our 2023 general budget of \$3.5M by approximately \$205,000 and that we currently have collected approximately \$225,000 for the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering. (Whatever is collected by mid-February will then be forwarded to the IMB with 100% of it being used on the mission field.) To God be the glory!



congregational CARE UPDATE

OUR CONDOLENCES TO THE DOYLES

Peter Doyle, former pastor of Covenant and Trinity Presbyterian in Auburn and a dear friend and mentor of many here at Lakeview, entered into the presence of our Lord, Tuesday morning at 1:40 AM, January 2nd. He touched many lives with his incredible knowledge and wisdom, directing them to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He and Sally Ann, his wife, who preceded him in death, attended regularly our Sunday evening services. Thank you to those of you who loved them, picked them up, and cared for them during our services.

POINSETTIA DELIVERY THANK YOU

So many people commented that nice folks came to their home and gave them a beautiful poinsettia. Thank you so much to all of you who delivered a smile, a kind word, prayer, and a poinsettia.

THURSDAYS AT OLE TIMES COUNTRY BUFFET

Please mark your calendars for our next meeting on Thursday, January 11th, in the Eagle Room at Ole Times Country Buffet from Noon-1PM. Zac Whitehead, our new Communications and Media Director will be there to entertain questions. He is also a new dad. Come and bring a friend. It is a great way to get to know other men.

SENIOR SAINTS

The Senior Saints will meet on Thursday, January 18th at 11:30 in the Fellowship Hall. This will be a POTLUCK, so bring your favorite side dish and dessert. This program will introduce you to the new leadership and show you the planned activities for 2024. You won't want to miss this meeting. We welcome all seniors to attend. For more information, please get in touch with Jann or Jenny Swaim or Larry or Miranda Webb.



sympathy

From the pastor, staff, and church family to:

Candace Denison and family in the death of her husband.

Kathy Rains and family in the death of her mother.

Debbie Reesman and family in the death of her father.

Cindy Wilkerson and family in the death of her father.

IN *memoriam*

Jeanette Riley
July 29, 1935 – December 31, 2023

Joseph (Joe) C. Denison
March 13, 1944 – December 25, 2023

thank YOU

Dear Lakeview Family,

Thank you for the prayers lifting me and my family during my Mother's hospital and hospice stay. On the day of Mother's Celebration of Life service, I received the beautiful peace lily and I could see my Lakeview family praying, loving, and comforting me. I am beyond grateful to be blessed to have Lakeview as my church family. Thank you for loving me.

Trusting in His care,
Kathy Rains

REMEMBER IN *prayer*

ARBOR LAKE
Nancy Brownfield
Emaleen Fagen
Joe Waller

ARBOR SPRINGS
Louise Morris

CAMELLIA PLACE
Linda Currie

CANTERBURY HEALTH
CARE FACILITY
Dean Baker

EASE HOUSE
Anne Dodge
Harriett McNelly
Larry Ryan

EAMC-LANIER
Latriece Jones-Thomas

MAGNOLIA PLACE
Nancy Thornton

VALLEY PARK MANOR
Kay Gaillard

AT HOME
Jackie Adams
Matthew Baker
Daniel Benjamin
Matt Beth
Mike Cannon
Dennis Clark
Jackie Cooper
Ambers Hanson
Fred Holmes
John Kennedy
Renae O'Mary
Jane Parker
Matthew Richardson
Lottie Sides
Jackie Snead
Larry Swango
Ilze West
Joe Youngblood

DECEMBER 31 ATTENDANCE

MORNING SERVICE _____ 822

EVENING SERVICE _____ N/A

DECEMBER 31 GIVING

BUDGET _____ \$190,342.05

RESTRICTED _____ \$81,781.73

LAKEVIEW LIFE | VOL. 64, NO. 47

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.



Lakeview
BAPTIST CHURCH

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