



pastor's
PEN

Dear Lakeview Family,

On Monday, February 5th, we will once again have our children's catechism class. This is a ministry that was started by Brother Al many years ago that has had an impact on many through the years.

Historically, the ministry of grounding new believers in the essentials of Christianity has been known as catechesis. It really flourished between the second and fifth centuries in the early church.

Unfortunately, during the Dark Ages, the ministry of catechesis largely floundered for much of the next one thousand years. The line between natural and spiritual birth all but disappeared as in the West, the line between the church and the state also vanished. Consequently, untold numbers of persons who claimed to belong to Jesus had very little idea of what they actually meant.

The Reformers (Luther, Calvin, etc.) sought to change that. Luther restored the office of catechist (a teacher; the one who catechizes others) to the churches. Providentially, the printing press, which had been invented just decades before their time, allowed Luther, Calvin, and others to print and distribute catechisms. These were small handbooks, used to instruct children and others, who were interested in the essentials of the Christian faith. Catechisms of greater depth were produced for Christian adults and leaders. Moreover, entire congregations were instructed through catechetical preaching, regular catechizing of children in Sunday worship, and in many cases, through the renewed practice of congregational singing of psalms and hymns.

The deep-seated conviction of the Reformers that such catechetical work must be primary is very apparent. Just consider the words of John Calvin as he wrote in 1548 to the Lord Protector of England, "Believe me, Monseigneur, the Church of God will never be preserved without catechesis." Many Protestant leaders understood this. Richard Baxter, John Own, Charles Spurgeon, and countless other pastors and leaders saw catechesis as one of their most obvious and basic pastoral responsibilities. If they could not wholeheartedly embrace and utilize an existing catechism for such instruction, they would adapt or edit one or would simply write their own.

Of course, the Church of Rome, responding to the growing influence of the Protestant catechisms, soon began to produce its own to counter the spread of Protestant, evangelical theology. Unfortunately, for many in the Western church today, when they hear catechism, they think Roman Catholicism.

Historically, it was the Protestant Reformation that was behind the revival of catechizing. The Roman Catholics just followed suit. Unfortunately, while the Catholic Church has renewed its catechetical labors with vigor, most evangelical churches have not likewise returned to their own catechetical roots. Because of a variety of reasons like subtle liberalism, revivalism, or pragmatism, for most contemporary evangelicals the entire idea of catechesis is largely a foreign concept.

In a 2009 article titled, "The Coming Evangelical Collapse," Michael Spencer warns, "We Evangelicals have failed to pass on to our young people an orthodox form of faith that can take root and survive the secular onslaught. Ironically, the billions of dollars we've spent on youth ministers, Christian music, publishing, and media has produced a culture of young Christians who know next to nothing about their own faith except how they should feel about it. Our young people have deep beliefs about the culture war, but do not know why they should obey Scripture, the essentials of theology, or the experience of spiritual discipline and community. Coming generations of Christians are going to be monumentally ignorant and unprepared for culture-wide pressures."

In the summer of 1979, Brother Al was convicted to do something about this trend. I am glad he did; and so are countless families whose children have been catechized under Brother Al's teaching.

So we continue to offer this Lakeview ministry to our children, ages first grade to 6th grade. The class will be from 4:00-5:00 and will be offered every Monday in February (the 5th, 12th, 19th, and 26th). Our goal is to equip and prepare our young people to be arrows that we send out into the world, armed with the faith once for all delivered to the saints (Jude 3).

One last thing. Men, if you can make it, I encourage you to attend our Iron Sharpens Iron night on February 8th. The evening will feature Wes King and his sons. Tickets are going fast so make sure you do not wait too late to secure yours. Every man needs time with other men, centered on the Word of God. You need it, I need it and our boys need it. I hope you can make it.

Love and Gratitude,
Pastor Brian



cliff's notes ON FAMILY MINISTRY

IRON SHARPENS IRON MEN'S EVENT

We are excited about our next men's Iron Sharpens Iron event. It will take place in our church Fellowship Hall Thursday night, February 8, at 6 PM. It is our purpose to gather men around the gospel to worship, fellowship, and encourage one another in our walk with the Lord. Wes King and his sons will be with us to share an encouraging word through music and testimony. We sold over 150 tickets Sunday and we are limited to seating in our Fellowship Hall to about 290. Tickets will be available again this Sunday morning.

I am also excited about all the interest in our Sunday afternoon Life classes. The Wisdom for Moms class and our Ladies Sunday study in Romans are well-attended and are offering great encouragement to our women. Mike DeBoer's class on *Bioethics for Christians* has been well attended and getting great feedback. Our Men's Sunday afternoon study of Kent Hughes book, *Disciplines of a Godly Man*, has had around 35 men present to discuss how these lessons can be applied to our life. It is not too late to join one of these groups, I hope to see you there Sunday.



DISCOVER IN HIS HANDS

This Sunday, February 4th at 4:30 in the Fellowship Hall, In His Hands Disability Ministry will be hosting a Discover In His Hands class. Attending does not obligate you to serve. We invite you to come learn more about our ministry, what we do, and who we serve. If you would like to be reminded of the meeting or have any questions please email inhishandslakeview@gmail.com.

IN HIS HANDS LAKEVIEW DISABILITY MINISTRY



indispensable to the body
— 1 CORINTHIANS 12:22 —

MULTIPLY GROUPS

Join a 10-week disciple-making team to learn healthy and effective habits of making disciples: beginning relationships with the lost, sharing your faith, clearly explaining the Gospel, and helping them overcome barriers to following Jesus.

Groups begin the week of February 4th, 2024. Childcare will be provided for Sunday groups.



praise WORTHY

RE/GEN ON-MISSION

BALANCE DUE — THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

The remaining balance for the cost of this year's Re/Gen On-Mission Trip to Charlotte, NC is \$100 per student. This balance (\$100) is due THIS Sunday, February 4th. If paying by cash or check, please make sure the payment is in an envelope marked "Re/Gen Charlotte" and given to Adam Traylor, Karen Parten, or taken to the church office.

To pay online, please visit the Re/Gen page at lbcmusic.org. (Please select "Youth" as the FUND when paying online)



youth NEWS



college LIFE

YOUTH AND COLLEGE GIRLS

GALENTINES — FEBRUARY 9TH

Please join us on February 9th from 6:30-8:30, for Lakeview Youth and College Galentines!! We will provide snacks, play games, and have a painting party! The only thing you need to bring is something to paint! It could be a canvas, candles, tote bag, shoes, etc!! (Paint will be provided.) It will be a great time to connect with one another! We hope you will join us!



STAFF SPOTLIGHT: TOM McCLENDON

How long have you been on staff at Lakeview Baptist Church?

I have been on staff at Lakeview Baptist Church for 4 years.

Tell us about your family in 2 to 3 sentences?

I am married to my wonderful wife, named Betty. We have been married for 40 years and have 4 grown children, and 9 precious grandchildren.

What is an average work week look like for you?

The question makes me smile because there is no average work week. The obvious beginning of the day is to start with a good quiet time in the Word and prayer. What I do right before I go to sleep

(Staff Spotlight Continued)

is so important. I usually listen to the Scripture on my phone. My goal is to read all the Bible in a year and read through the Psalms and Proverbs each month. Mondays and Tuesdays are quite busy, usually with our food pantry and many people coming in the office door asking for help. We listen to their needs and share the gospel. When we think appropriate, we help them with their bills or give them an emergency food bag. I oversee a theology group that meets early Wednesday mornings and co-teach a young married class on Sundays. So, there is some preparation and study time associated with these ministries. I also oversee a portion of our prayer ministry attempting to keep the prayer sheet updated. We have a monthly men's luncheon where I interview one of our leaders and enjoy fellowship with our men. I organize and oversee Sunday School ministries to Monarch and Auburn Assisted Living. After getting the ministries started, as well as a few other Bible studies, it has been a blessing to see our men teach and care for those in these assisted living places. If we have a funeral, I oversee the process with the help of many, sometimes doing the eulogy. Betty and I do some pre-marital counseling and I perform some weddings. There is also hospital and home visitation to be done which is shared by deacons, staff, and some trained chaplains. I counsel some on the phone and in person and pray for many. I love our Senior Saints and teach a Seminary class at Christ Redeemer Seminary in town. And very importantly, I am so blessed to have Haley Wine and other secretaries to help me carry on these ministries. Thank you, Haley and all.

What Bible verse has been encouraging to you lately?

The combination of two verses stays on my heart daily. "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness" (1 John 1:9). The emphasis is that I confess, and God is faithful. I have confidence to move on from my sin, because God is faithful to forgive and cleanse. And because I desperately need His indwelling power, I cling to the promise of Ephesians 5:18. "And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit," (Ephesians 5:18). God's commands are our promises because we know that His commands are His will for us (1 John 5:14). My life verse is: "As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for you, O God." (Psalm 42:1, ESV)



fellowship MEAL

WEDNESDAYS FROM 4:45-5:45

FEBRUARY 7

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

FEBRUARY 14

Baked Potatoes, BBQ Pork, Toppings, Broccoli,
Rolls, Salad, Apple Crisp

*Fellowship Meals are open to everyone and cost \$5 per person
with a \$20 cap per family. Cash or Check only. Menu subject to change.*

Thank you, Lakeview family, for all your support after the death of my father. Your prayers, calls, texts, cards and words of condolences were so much appreciated during my time of grief. When I look at the beautiful plant sent by Lakeview, I am reminded of sweet memories of my father as well as the comfort I received after his homegoing. Surely you demonstrated the body of Christ in action.

Cindy Wilkerson and family

Dear Lakeview Family,
We want to thank you so much for your ministry to us!! The food was so appreciated and the prayers so needed. Thank you so much for your prayers and comfort. They will be cherished for eternity. We are heartbroken, but not hopeless.

Love,
The Joseph C. Denison family

Dear Lakeview Family,
We are so grateful for your care during this time of grief. It was a blessing to not have to worry about preparing a meal after the funeral. You've helped give us the time we needed to come together as a family and celebrate Grandmamma Jeanette's life. Thank you for your love and kindness.

Much love,
The Rileys

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

EAMC

Jackie Adams

EASE HOUSE

Anne Dodge
Harriett McNelly
Larry Ryan

MAGNOLIA PLACE

Nancy Thornton

VALLEY PARK MANOR

Kay Gaillard

AT HOME

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
Latriece Jones-Thomas
Ilze West
Joe Youngblood

JANUARY 28 ATTENDANCE

MORNING SERVICE _____ 1,215

EVENING SERVICE _____ 521

JANUARY 28 GIVING

BUDGET _____ \$65,652.04

RESTRICTED _____ \$9,417.46

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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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