



pastor's PEN

Dear Lakeview Family,

This past Sunday, we considered the glorious truth that our Lord Jesus, by his death, burial, and resurrection, has defeated the devil in principle. The Lion conquered as a slain Lamb (Revelation 5:5-6). At the cross, Jesus Christ “disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them” for there he dealt once and for all with the judgment of God’s law against us so that we would be forgiven of our sins (Colossians 2:13-15). Satan received the power of death over humankind only because of the curse of God’s law. God the Son took on “flesh and blood” so that “through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil” (Hebrews 2:14).

Until Christ returns, the devil is still present and active. Though we fight from a posture of victory, we still have a fight until glory. We overcome the devil “by the blood of the Lamb” and by the “word of [our] testimony” (Revelation 12:1). We enter each day with faith that the war is already won because we are in Christ.

The fact that the devil, though defeated, still “prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour” (1 Peter 5:8) raised a perceptive question from one of our members yesterday that went something like this. “Why didn’t God just put an end to the devil before he led Adam to sin?”

Good question. This question reminded me of Bill Maher’s documentary *Religiousless* that came out in 2008. In the trailer, an exchange takes place between Maher and a person dressed like Jesus. Maher says to this person playing Jesus, “Why doesn’t God just obliterate the devil and therefore get rid of evil in the world?” The Jesus impersonator responds, “He will.” Maher then skeptically asks, “He will?” The Jesus impersonator then says, “That’s correct.” Maher then replies, “What’s he waiting for?”

Of course, this documentary was written from the standpoint of a scoffer. Maher is no friend to Christianity, or theism for that matter, but this interchange does rightly represent the thoughts of even many Christians. If God has the power to rid this world of Satan, why doesn’t he just go ahead and do it?

Well, after the documentary, John Piper answered Maher’s question in a blog post titled, *Why not destroy the devil now?* I believe his answer is very helpful in answering the question posed to me yesterday. His answer is that God is most glorified by allowing Satan to remain for a time. He writes, “The glory of Christ is seen in his absolute right and power to annihilate or incapacitate Satan and all demons. But the reason he refrains from destroying and disabling them altogether is to manifest more clearly his superior beauty and worth. If Christ obliterated all devils and demons now (which he could), his sheer power would be seen as glorious, but his superior beauty and worth would not shine as brightly as when humans renounce the promises of Satan and take pleasure in the greater glory of Christ.”

Christ’s superior beauty and worth shines more brightly when his redeemed people renounce Satan’s promises by taking great pleasure in Christ’s promises and glory. This is not to say that we have exhausted the mind of God on this issue, but I think this is helpful.

Love and Gratitude,
Pastor Brian

**CARPENTERS FOR CHRIST AT MARANNOOK
MARCH 19TH-21ST**

The Carpenters for Christ will be on mission to Camp Marannook near Lafayette, AL on March 19th–21st, 2026. We will be assisting in the construction of two structures to support their ministry to campers.

Plan to arrive at the camp at 8:00 AM on Thursday, March 19th, for a biscuit breakfast. Work will commence at 8:30 AM each day. Work will conclude no later than noon on Saturday, March 21st. Camp Marannook will provide housing and meals for those wishing to stay at the camp overnight. There is no cost for this mission trip, but registration is required. Transportation assistance is available, if needed. All ages are welcome!

You may register for this event at www.CarpentersforChrist.com.



congregational
CARE UPDATE

THURSDAYS AT OLE TIMES COUNTRY BUFFET

I hope to see men of every age on Thursday, March 12th, in the Eagle Room at Ole Times Country Buffet from Noon–1 PM. Buck Baxter, who ministers in India in some troublesome areas, will be our guest. After “retirement,” our Lord gave him an exciting ministry to a faraway land of children with great needs. It is an amazing life. I asked him to come back and tell us more of his story of how physical water can turn into living water for a people. Come and bring a friend. It is also a great way to get to know more men in our church. See you soon! Our next meeting will be April 9th, 2026.

FOOD PANTRY - FEBRUARY REPORT

Households fed _____	92
Total pounds of food distributed _____	4,652
Average pounds per household _____	51
Average \$ per household _____	\$7.31



**SAVE THE DATE FOR MISS PATTY CAKE
MARCH 28TH | 10 AM**



children's
CHATTER

SCRIPTURE MEMORY DEADLINE

Attention Parents: Sunday, March 15th, is the last day for children in grades 1–6 to earn Scripture Memory Medals! The Scripture Memory Banquet will be Sunday, April 26th, following the morning service. A free pizza lunch will be provided for all scripture memory medalists and their families.

VBS VOLUNTEER POSITIONS

VBS plans are underway and we still need more adult helpers! If you're available to help with this gospel-saturated, community event, we would love your help! VBS is June 22nd-26th from 8:00–12:00. Childcare/preschool VBS is available for all workers with preschool aged children. Please email jvail@lakeviewbaptist.org if you have any questions.

Adult volunteer positions still needed (we will fill youth positions later):

- Kindergarten — (1) Bible story leader, (2) Music/Missions leaders, (1) Rec adult, (1) helper for decorations
- 1st grade — (1) helper for decorations
- 2nd grade — (2) group leaders, (1) helper for decorations
- 3rd grade — (2) adult leaders
- 4th grade — (2) adult leaders
- 5th grade — (1) helper for decorations
- 6th grade — (1) classroom helper

Thank you so much for volunteering to help with Bible school! We are so grateful for our faith family and the many ways you love and shepherd children's hearts to Jesus.

fellowship MEAL

SERVING MEALS 4:45 UNTIL 5:35 PM; CLEARING TABLES AT 5:45 PM.

FEBRUARY 25

Hamburger Steak w/Gravy, Mashed Potatoes,
Green Beans, Rolls, Salad, Brownies

MARCH 4

Chicken Sandwich, Roasted Baby Potatoes,
California Veggie Blend, Salad, Oreo Dessert

*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.***

OUR *newest*

JAMES SILAS BEAUCHAMP

Born: February 19th, 2026

Parents: Joel & Emily Beauchamp

Grandparents: Tommy & Eve Coshatt

IN *memoriam*

Dick Lane

October 25th, 1941 – February 21st, 2026

sympathy

From the pastor, staff, and church family to:

Sandy Lane and family in the death of her husband.

REMEMBER IN *prayer*

ARBOR LAKE

Nancy Brownfield
Jennifer Hood
Joe Waller

AZALEA PLACE

Barbara Blankenship
Susan Lazenby

ARBOR SPRINGS REHAB

Jackie Cooper

BILL NICHOLS STATE VETERANS HOME

Ira Hayes

CAMELLIA PLACE

Linda Currie

CANTERBURY HEALTH CARE FACILITY

Dean Baker

EASE HOUSE

Anne Dodge

MONARCH ESTATES Bill Thornton

THE PHOENIX AT OPELIKA

Jerry Clark
Judy Clark
Charles Knause
Jerry Knause

AT HOME

Matthew Baker
Daniel Benjamin
Matt Beth
Dennis Clark
Nelda Kennedy
Jane Parker
Janice Powers
Matthew Richardson
Lottie Sides
Jackie Snead
Larry Swango
Ilze West

FEBRUARY 22 ATTENDANCE

MORNING SERVICE _____ 1,246

EVENING SERVICE _____ 577

FEBRUARY 22 GIVING

BUDGET _____ \$37,697.22

RESTRICTED _____ \$15,493.10

LAKEVIEW LIFE | VOL. 67, NO. 8

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

1600 E Glenn Ave | Auburn, AL 36830



PHONE | 334-887-7094



WEBSITE | www.lakeviewbaptist.org



FAX | 334-826-6512



PRAYER REQUESTS | 334-887-8783