

Vol. 12, Issue 6, June 2023

connect

**THE LORD IS LIKE
A FATHER TO
HIS CHILDREN,
TENDER AND
COMPASSIONATE**

PSALM 103:13



JUNE 2023

**Can't be here
in-person?**

Join us live Sundays
at 9 & 10:45 am
on Facebook, Imbc.tv,
or our LMBC app.

12th-16th

6-8 pm

VBS'23
Anchored

18th

No evening service

HAPPY
FATHER'S
DAY

25th

6 pm

EVENING
AT EBENEZER

Also this month:

4th

Communion

- 6 pm, WC Auditorium

8th

**Widows: Birthday
Celebrations - Guest speakers
Kelly & Shelley Harbour**

- 12:30 pm, Renaissance Room

12th

**PrimeTime Celebrates
Fathers**

- 6 pm, Renaissance Room

Menu: Sloppy Joes, slaw, and
Tower's fried chicken. You bring:
veggie, salad and dessert. Sign
up with Vida or Blanche, or by
calling the church office (304-
736-7676).

25th

Evening @ Ebenezer

- 6 pm, Ebenezer

To culminate and celebrate
the Backpack VBS week at
Ebenezer we are moving our
Sunday night service to the
Ebenezer Building on June 25.
A shuttle will be available for
parking.

**Lewis KIDS
connection**

Visit lmbc.org/lkc or
ask to join our
Facebook group

*We are looking for volunteers who would like to serve in our
K-3 age range once a month in the first and second services on
Sundays. If you are interested, please contact the church office
or Rebekah Shaffer at r.shaffer@lmbc.org.

***Sunday Mornings
WC lower level**

*4: Jesus called His disciples
11: Jesus came to be the
sacrifice for sin
18: Jesus told Nicodemus
about eternal life
25: Jesus told a woman about
living water*

**Weds @ 7pm
in the FLC**

7,14,21,28: Bible Basics

VBS

June 12-16 (6-8 pm)
lmbc.org/vbs

**SUMMER '23
JUNE**

- 7 TATER TALKS**
STUDENT MINISTRY BUILDING
- 21 MOVIE NIGHT**
STUDENT MINISTRY BUILDING
- 28 SLIP N' SLIDE**
FAMILY LIFE CENTER

SAVE THE DATE!

Bible Study Lab: June 8
Backpack VBS: June 19-24
Prayer Lab: July 27
(Refuel does not meet on 6/14 & 7/5)

Follow us on Instagram!

[@refuelstudents](https://www.instagram.com/refuelstudents)

REFUEL STUDENT MINISTRY | WEDNESDAYS @ 645PM IN THE STUDENT MINISTRY BUILDING
LEWIS MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH | [LMBC.ORG](https://lmbc.org) | 5385 W PEA RIDGE RD, HUNTINGTON, WV 25705

SPIRITUAL LEADERSHIP

There are many people in our world today who claim to be spiritual leaders. However, not all of them are led by the Spirit of God and are not of Godly theology. Within the evangelical church, we need strong, committed, born-again, dedicated, God-fearing leaders, who affect the spiritual growth of others as they put their faith and trust in the God of all creation.

Leadership is important in every area of life and the church is no exception. God's design for His church is the calling of certain people to be leaders to guide His church. In Romans 12 and I Corinthians 12, we find all Christ followers have spiritual gifts that equip them in their service to God. Even though gifts may differ from one to the other, they are given for the good of the whole church, and in order for God to accomplish His will in and through us.

Spiritual Leaders are responsible to lead God's Church:

In the book of Ephesians, the Apostle Paul reveals God's intent for spiritual leadership. This gift has been granted to a group of people who God has given a responsibility for leading His church. This is evident in these scriptures: Ephesians 4:8 (NKJV) "Therefore He says: when He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." Ephesians 4:11 (NKJV). "And He Himself gave (gifted) some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers."

Further, Paul expounded in detail the purpose of the spiritual leader in Ephesians 4:12-16 (NKJV); "These ministry leaders are responsible for the equipping of the saints

for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ; that we should no longer be children, tossed to and fro and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the trickery of men, in the cunning craftiness of deceitful plotting, but, speaking the truth in love, may grow up in all things into Him who is the head—Christ— from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by what every joint supplies, according to the effective working by which every part does its share, causes growth of the body for the edifying of itself in love."

So, why did God gift these ministry leaders with the responsibility of leading the church? In His divine plan, He knew we all would need someone to lead us. He tells us in Isaiah 53:6 that "all we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned, everyone, to his own way." A flock of sheep without a shepherd (or leader) will wander off on their own in all directions. There is a danger when one sheep wanders off because it has no way to defend itself, and it becomes an easy prey for the enemy to attack and destroy.

God has gifted certain ones as spiritual leaders to lead Christ-followers by equipping them with an understanding of God's Word, thus giving them the ability to perform the work of the ministry. As we accept our place and position in the Church, we become unified in faith and knowledge and begin to take on the likeness of Christ. We grow in God's Word and become mature Christ followers and no longer children, being deceived by cunning, crafty people who try to persuade us to follow every worldly doctrine. We learn to love, speak the truth, and grow up in all things of Christ, who is the Head of the Church. Christ-followers are the Church, and, when working together, the body grows and edifies itself in love.

Spiritual Leaders are to serve willingly, eagerly, and as good examples:

We use the name 'shepherd' for a spiritual leader. Peter proclaimed in 1 Peter 5:1-4 (NKJV): "The elders who are among you I

exhort, I am a fellow elder and a witness of the sufferings of Christ, and to the partaker of the glory that will be revealed: Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock; and when the Chief Shepherd appears, you will receive the crown of glory that does not fade away."

The Apostle Paul also proclaimed in Acts 20:28-30: "Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers (spiritual leaders), to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. For I know this, that after my departure, savage wolves will come in among you, not sparing the flock. Also, from among yourselves, men will rise up, speaking perverse things, to draw away the disciples after themselves."

The Holy Spirit calls and appoints spiritual leaders, and they are to shepherd the church, which Christ built and purchased with His own blood. This was ordained by God because He is sovereign and knew, just as the Apostle Paul, that after Christ's ascension, Satan would begin to work by devouring as many as possible by speaking perverse things, causing confusion and discord in our world and in the Church.

A good spiritual leader will take time to keep himself spiritually fit, as Paul told Timothy in 1 Timothy 4:7 (NKJV), "But reject profane and old wives' fables and exercise yourself toward godliness." A spiritual leader is not exempt from Satan's attacks nor the fleshly temptations of the world. He must always be in prayer and continue in the Word daily, to strengthen the spiritual muscles needed to perform as God has designed.

Spiritual Leaders need the prayers of the flock:

Notice what Paul says to the Ephesian spiritual leaders in Acts 20:28 (NKJV): "Therefore take heed (guard) yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood."

Spiritual leaders are humans, just like everyone else. That is the reason the Hebrew writer says in Hebrews 13:7 (NKJV): “Remember (pray for) those who rule over you (your spiritual leaders) who have spoken the word of God to you, whose faith follows, considering the outcome of their conduct.”

If you want a joyful, spirit-filled shepherd (spiritual leader), who confidently leads the congregation into a deeper relationship/fellowship with Jesus Christ, and demonstrates a passion for revival and for reaching the lost, then you must pray for him and his family. Ask the Lord to give our pastor(s) and their families peace for every day in every event in their lives. Ask the Lord to equip our pastor(s) with everything needed to do His will and lead the church as He desires.

God has not called us to consider ourselves more highly, or to criticize or damage our pastors (spiritual leaders). God has called us to love and care for them, and to be submissive to their leadership as anointed by the Holy Spirit.

Spiritual Leaders and Accountability:

Accountability is essential for all Christ-followers, which includes our spiritual leaders. The disciples became accountable when they decided to leave all and follow Jesus. He helped them to realize that they were primarily responsible to the Creator of life. After Jesus’ ascension, they were motivated to work for eternity and not just for mere human reason. They were serving a higher power than those in authority of the day.

Jesus taught accountability in many of His parables, stories, and sermons. Jesus holds individuals accountable according to their gifts, talents, and their level of exposure to the truth. I am reminded of the “Parable of the Talents” found in Matthew 25:14-30 (NKJV): “For the kingdom of heaven is like a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them. And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. Then he who had received the five talents went

and traded with them, and made another five talents. And likewise, he who had received two gained two more also. But he who had received one went and dug in the ground, and hid his lord’s money. After a long time, the lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them. So, he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, ‘Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant’ He also who had received two talents came and said, ‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’ His lord said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant’“Then he who had received the one talent came and said, ‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’ “But his lord answered and said to him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant’ take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents. ‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness. There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

These servants received according to their ability. Even the servant that received the one talent had the ability to produce more but did not. Every Christ Follower has certain gifts and abilities and will be held accountable accordingly. Romans 14:12 (NKJV) “So then each of us shall give an account of himself to God.”

Spiritual Leaders need to remember that they are held accountable as well. Just as the spiritual leader holds the Christ-followers in the church accountable, so the leader is held accountable by their followers. We see in Acts 17:11-12 that the Apostle Paul preached in Berea, and the people of Berea were open-minded and eagerly listened to Paul’s message. But, they searched the scriptures to see if Paul and Silas were teaching the truth. Then many of them believed. They searched the

Psalms, Jeremiah, Isaiah, and many of the scriptures from the Old Testament scrolls. They were holding Paul and Silas accountable for what they were teaching. They listened, they searched, and they believed.

Christ-followers should always listen to the spiritual leader’s teaching and search the scriptures to see if he is teaching the truth and, then, believe and apply the teaching to their lives. Not only should they hold the spiritual leader to the truths of the scripture, but, they should look for essential characteristics of true godly leadership. Some of these are: a passion for prayer, a faith that endures, a love for the Lord and His Word, a zeal for proclaiming God’s Word, a heart for service, a commitment to holiness, and a passion for lost souls.

Both the spiritual leader and the followers are held accountable by God. A spiritual leader who neglects to remember this will tend to become a self-centered leader, seeking to promote his own self and agenda.

We are all held accountable to put our complete reliance on God for the forgiveness of sins. No one is able to pay the penalty for their own sins. No one is able to boast that they deserve higher recognition from the Lord because we all owe our salvation to Christ, our Savior. In John 14:6, Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.”

Conclusion:

God’s gift to His Church is the spiritual leader(s) who is ordained to be an overseer of the flock, providing protection from any wind of doctrine that Satan might try to slip into the church through his cunning and crafty ways. They are required to teach and equip the Christ-followers to perform the work of the ministry. They are to love the church (body of Christ) and show compassion by leading and loving through the truth of scripture. Hearing the truth may sometimes hurt, as we are challenged to repent, change, and move forward in our spiritual walk. I am reminded of the saying, “The truth only hurts, if it is supposed to.”

I thank God every day for the spiritual leaders He has gifted to Lewis Memorial Baptist Church. I am equally thankful for the Christ-followers, who love, care, pray for, and follow the spiritual leadership. May we rejoice and be glad for God’s great love and care for us.



by Bill Blankenship

Bill Blankenship oversees the visitation ministry at Lewis Memorial. He and his wife, Debbie, joined Lewis Memorial in March of 2004, after serving as a bi-vocational pastor. He has a heart for the sick, shut-in’s, widows, and widowers. Bill and Debbie married in 1974, have two grown children and four grandchildren.

THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD

This is my Father's world,
and to my list'ning ears,
all nature sings and round me rings
the music of the spheres.

This is my Father's world!
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas
--His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world
--the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their Maker's praise.

This is my Father's world!
He shines in all that's fair;
in the wrestling grass, I hear Him pass
--He speaks to me ev'rywhere.

This is my Father's world
--O let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong
God is the Ruler yet.

This is my Father's world!
The battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
and earth and heav'n be one.

THE HISTORY BEHIND THE SONG

This Is My Father's World
Maltbie D. Babcock, 1858-1901

contributed by Nathan McClay

The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of His unfailing love. (Psalm 33:5)

Even though we are constantly reminded of the violence, tragedy, and ugliness in today's world, we can still rejoice that the beauty of nature all around us is ours to enjoy. Who can deny the pleasure that comes from the sight of a glowing sunset or a majestic mountain, the sound of chirping birds or the roar of the surf, and the smell of newly-mown hay or roses or lilies?

Maltbie D. Babcock revealed his great admiration for nature in this lovely hymn text. Although, he was recognized as one of the outstanding Presbyterian ministers of his generation, Dr. Babcock was also a skilled athlete who enjoyed all outdoor activity, especially his early morning walks. He would always comment, "I'm going out to see my Father's world." Since Dr. Babcock was an accomplished performer on the organ, the piano, and the violin, we can see why nature seemed to him to be "the music of the spheres." In addition to being a tribute

to nature, however, the hymn is a triumphant assertion of the unfailing power of God and the assurance of Christ's eventual reign-- "and earth and heav'n be one."

As we follow Dr. Babcock's example and give praise to God for all the beauty of His world, we cannot help being concerned that much of the loveliness is being destroyed by human carelessness and greed. The real answer to our ecological problems must be a renewed appreciation of earth as "our Father's world" and a greater responsibility for taking proper care of it. Christians should be models of this concern.

*For Today: Psalm 8; 24:1-2; 145:1-13;
Isaiah 45:18; 1 Corinthians 15:25,26*

Determine to cultivate a renewed awareness and appreciation of the marvels of God's creation all around you. Endeavor to be even more responsible as a caretaker of your Father's world. Sing this musical praise as you go--

WE COME TO A FATHER

Excerpt from “How to Keep Praying”, by Scott Hubbard

Most mornings, it seems, I forget how to pray. Or I at least seem to forget what prayer really is — what’s really happening in these quiet moments before an open Bible and a hearing God. I may stumble through my thanksgivings and petitions, but apart from some daily remembering, my prayers, like hapless pilgrims in a Bunyan allegory, tend to fall into the slough of distraction, or get locked in the castle of discouragement, or fall asleep on the enchanted ground.

In his book on prayer, Tim Keller writes of the need to “take ourselves in hand and wake ourselves up to the magnitude of what is going to happen” as we pray (Prayer, 127). Before unthinkingly mumbling “Heavenly Father” or “Lord,” pause, take your soul in hand, and remember the wonder of prayer.

And one of the best ways we can remember is by listening to what Jesus himself says about prayer. So much of our Lord’s teaching on prayer is designed to help us “always to pray and not lose heart” (Luke 18:1). In the Gospels, Jesus comes to prayers like us — discouraged, distracted, willing in spirit but weak in the flesh — and he gives us a heart to pray. Of the many reminders, we could mention, consider four representative lessons.

1. We come to a Father.

Pray then like this: “Our Father in heaven . . .” (Matthew 6:9)

Michael Reeves notes how prone we can be to treat prayer “as an abstract activity, a ‘thing to do,’” rather than remembering “the one to whom [we’re] praying” (Enjoy Your Prayer Life, 30). Prayer easily becomes impersonal: “to pray” is to run down a list of names, sit or kneel in such and such place for so long, and drive in the old familiar ruts of phrases said ten thousand times. But most fundamentally, prayer is not an abstract activity or a habit or even a spiritual discipline; prayer is a personal response to a personal God — a God whom Jesus told us to call Father.

The wonder of this word often escapes us; it would not have escaped the disciples. They had never called God Father before, except in the broadest sense (Exodus 4:22–23; Hosea 11:1). To address God as “our Father in heaven,” to mimic Jesus’s own affectionate “Abba” — this was astoundingly, wonderfully new. When those who trust in Jesus come to pray, we come to a Father.

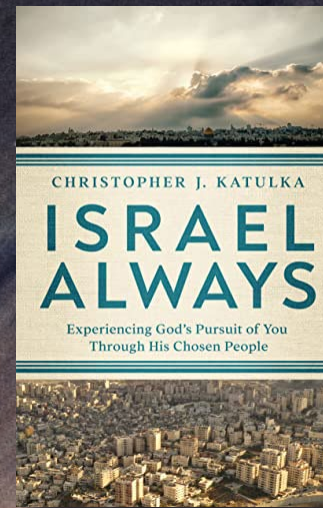
And what a Father he is. He knows our inmost thought and need, yet still, he loves to hear us unburden our souls before him. His ear always open, his eye always upon us, he turns our ordinary rooms and closets into sanctuaries of communion. He’s the archetype and fountain of all fatherly generosity, distributing good gifts with both hands.

But perhaps the most heart-awakening words Jesus spoke about the Father are those in John 16:27: “The Father himself loves you.” “Here is something to say to ourselves every day,” Sinclair Ferguson writes of these five words. “They are simple words, but life-changing, peace-giving, poise-creating” — and, we might add, prayer-inspiring (Lessons from the Upper Room, 174).

For Scott’s full article, visit <https://www.desiringgod.org/articles/how-to-keep-praying>

Scott Hubbard is an editor for Desiring God, a pastor at All Peoples Church, and a graduate of Bethlehem College & Seminary. He and his wife, Bethany, live with their two sons in Minneapolis.

WHAT WE’RE READING



Chris Katulka is a name most of you will recognize. He is one of our supported missionaries, a guest speaker, and a friend of LMBC. To hear him speak is always a blessing, as he speaks with wisdom and passion for God’s chosen people. We are so excited to share with you his newly written book, *Israel Always, Experiencing God’s Pursuit of You Through His Chosen People*.

The book is described as a sweeping journey through Israel’s prolific history, its modern-day influence, and its promised future. It is said to be insightful and informative. *Israel Always* will enrich your understanding of the Bible, enhance your appreciation for Israel, and elevate your awareness of God’s manifest love for all His people—including you—today.

“Christopher Katulka has written a masterful work in *Israel Always*. He walks the reader through the whole counsel of God and Israel’s history as it relates to her purpose-and role in redemptive history--past, present, and future. I readily recommend this book to anyone who wants to know why, when other nations come and go in history, Israel always will exist. This book is desperately needed in this day when the church is losing its understanding of Israel’s relevance and importance.” -- Jim Showers, DMin

“Christopher faithfully presents the purpose of the nation of Israel in God’s plan from early history until today, helping the reader understand why the land and the people are called ‘the center of the earth.’

“He helps readers to understand contemporary politics and how to treat God’s chosen people in a way that will glorify His name. Had this knowledge been accepted in the hearts of those in the medieval institutional church, as well as those in Israel’s neighboring countries, much of history could have been different.” --Men Kalisher, DMin

“Israel is miraculous. Its landscapes and biblical sites inevitably turn tourists into pilgrims! With the logical ‘yesterday, today, and tomorrow’ approach taken in *Israel Always*, as well as the touching personal stories, this is an excellent resource for any traveler. And Christopher, with a precise and loving pen, adds an extra dimension beyond historical chronology: his faith in the divine purpose for the chosen people in the land. Unlike any other, this book prepares Christian readers for an unforgettable visit as well as a spiritual journey to their origins.” --Tim Anidjar

“Books on Israel abound, but each tends to focus on one aspect of Israel’s history, politics, or prophetic role. Christopher Katulka has provided readers with a rare service-- a comprehensive, up-to-date survey of Israel in almost every important aspect, yet as a succinct and compelling story. His background in Jewish ministry has given him a unique and necessary perspective for this work, and I enthusiastically commend *Israel Always* to a wide readership!” --J. Randall Price, PhD

A small quantity of *Israel Always* is now available to purchase at our merch station in the main lobby. The book can also be purchased on Amazon.com or foi.org/israelalways/

BE ENCOURAGED

First appeared on Turning Point: by David Jeremiah

*But command Joshua, and encourage him and strengthen him; for he shall go over before this people, and he shall cause them to inherit the land which you will see.
Deuteronomy 3:28*

*Joshua 1:6-9 (NKJV)
6 Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. 7 Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.”*

Consider what discourages you: circumstances, relationships, finances, or health concerns. All those are legitimate reasons to seek encouragement. But what if God asked you to lead more than a million people into a strange, new homeland filled with enemies who didn't want you there. Would you need encouragement?

God knew Joshua, the man chosen to settle the Hebrews in Canaan, would need encouragement. That's why He told Moses to "encourage [Joshua] and strengthen him" for the task that lay ahead. And when it came time for Joshua to lead the new nation of Israelites into Canaan, God told Joshua how to be encouraged and stay encouraged: "This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night.... For then you will make your way prosperous.... Be strong and of good courage" (Joshua 1:8-9). Who wouldn't want to be "prosperous" and have "good success" (verse 8)?

Do you need to be encouraged today? Turn first to God's Word and all its "great and precious promises" (2 Peter 1:4). And be encouraged!

Only engrossment with God can maintain perpetual spiritual enthusiasm.
A. W. Tozer

RECONCILIATION

Theological Word of the Month

If you've ever been involved in a formal or informal conflict, then you might know a little (or a lot) about the term reconciliation. Reconciliation desires to bring peace to a dispute between two people or groups, but the process of getting to the resulting peace is often not peaceful at all. In the process of reconciliation, a change must occur; a compromise must be agreed upon, and each person (group) must be willing to follow through. However, when we speak of reconciliation from a biblical viewpoint, the process is one-sided: God is perfect and holy and does not change.

Have you considered that the entire narrative of the Bible can be summed up in this term reconciliation? Think back to the beginning chapters of Genesis. In Genesis chapter 3, when Adam and Eve disobeyed God, sin entered the human race and severed man's perfect relationship with God. Man became alienated and separated from God. Furthermore, God did nothing wrong, He was not the One who sinned, but He was the One who took IMMEDIATE steps to repair the broken relationship. After disobeying God, man did not run back to God for help, he ran away from God, but it was God who pursued him, and it's that same God who continues to pursue mankind today.

This entire process of reconciliation, however, is contingent upon one critical component: Jesus. Without the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross, there is no reconciliation, and a return to that peaceful state is impossible. It cannot be stated better than Colossians 1:21-22 (NLT), "You were his enemies, separated from him by your evil thoughts and actions. Yet now he has reconciled you to himself through the death of Christ in his physical body. As a result, he has brought you into his own presence, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault."

If you are a believer in Christ, then you have experienced this wonderful gift of reconciliation. However, countless people do not yet share in this glorious gift; therefore, we must remember that we (believers) have been given the ministry of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:18). What is this ministry? We have the ministry of telling others that they, too, can have a restored relationship with God through Jesus. When we participate in this ministry, we become ambassadors of Christ (2 Cor. 5:20).

ROOTED

Grow in your faith by staying rooted in the Word of God. Your Spiritual Yearbook can be found at the merch corner in the main lobby.

- 1st Nehemiah 9:1-15
- 2nd Nehemiah 9:16-25
- 3rd Psalm 122
- 4th -
- 5th Nehemiah 9:26-31
- 6th Nehemiah 9:32-38
- 7th Nehemiah 9:26-38
- 8th Nehemiah 10:1-31
- 9th Nehemiah 10:32-39
- 10th Psalm 66
- 11th -
- 12th Nehemiah 10:32-39
- 13th Nehemiah 11:1-18
- 14th Nehemiah 11:19-36
- 15th Nehemiah 12:1-26
- 16th Nehemiah 12:27-43
- 17th Psalm 150
- 18th -
- 19th Nehemiah 12:44-47
- 20th Nehemiah 13:1-9
- 21st Nehemiah 13:10-14
- 22nd Nehemiah 13:15-22
- 23rd Nehemiah 13:23-31
- 24th Psalm 138
- 25th -
- 26th 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10
- 27th 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8
- 28th 1 Thessalonians 2:9-16
- 29th 1 Thessalonians 2:17-3:5
- 30th 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13

MISSIONARIES OF THE MONTH

IN EUROPE

Bret & Katie Anderson, Spain
Andy & Mimi Bonikowsky, Spain
Joel & Debbie Dicks, Hungary
Kyle & Abigail Guins, France
Tony & Dawn Hess, Russia
SECURED K. Family, Ukraine
Megan Kuhn, Spain
Brent & Tammy Lowe, Portugal
Doug & Kathy McClain, Germany
Nahum & Arin O'Brien, Norway
Rick & Jen Peace, Ireland
Jason & Adele Rice, Slovakia
Amber & Doug Staley, Ireland
Joshua & Denise Steward, Ireland
SECURED W. Family, Bulgaria



TREY & TERRI
BAILEY

I am writing you today with some exciting news! After serving with SCORE International for the past 22 years, God has called me to step into a new role in ministry. As of July 1, I will be joining Daystar Baptist Missions to become their next Executive Director. Daystar is based in Huntington, WV, and was birthed out of Lewis Memorial Baptist, which is the church that Terri and I grew up in and were called to full-time ministry in. Daystar is an established ministry that is a full-service mission board. Terri and I will remain based in Chattanooga, and I will represent the ministry of Daystar throughout the US. Along with engaging people in missions, my role will be to provide direction and vision and oversee the totality of the ministry.

How did this transition come about? Earlier this year, I was approached by the Board of Daystar Missions, and they asked me if I would pray about interviewing for their Executive Director position. Their current Director, Tim Bilbrey, helped to initiate a process more than a year ago to ensure Daystar had their next leader in place before he retires. Tim has been instrumental in Daystar's development and growth and still desires to help the mission agency going forward. As I prayed about this opportunity, the Lord continued to give me peace about taking the next steps with

Daystar. Over a series of weeks and months, the Lord made it very clear to me that Daystar is where He wants me to be. I had a final interview with the Daystar Board of Directors in late April, and shortly after the interview, they offered me the position. So here I am, taking a step of faith and following the calling of the Lord. I'm so excited to help grow the ministry of Daystar Baptist Missions! We are praying for more missionaries, more interns, more mission trip participants, and more partners! I can't wait to see what the Lord has in store for the future.

The transition timeline will be July 1 as far as starting with Daystar in a full-time capacity. While it is bittersweet for us to leave our ministry and friends at SCORE, we know this is what the Lord has called us to. This role with Daystar is still a support-based ministry role. We are asking our current financial partners to pray about staying on board in supporting us in our new role. We are so thankful for our prayer warriors and our financial supporters. We could not do this ministry without you, and we count it a joy to partner with you for this Kingdom work. Thank you for your love, encouragement, and support!

For the Kingdom!--
Trey Bailey

NOTE: Many of you support Trey and Terri through your Faith Promise giving to LMBC; however, if you give to them through SCORE, they ask that your May donation still go through SCORE. Starting in June, please switch over your giving to Daystar or simply give through LMBC, just be sure to note on your Faith Promise check, Trey and Terri Bailey.

For full updates, go to lmbc.org/missionary-updates

MISSION FOCUSED

by Mary Ellen Black

From Daystar Baptist Missions, Inc.:

We are so excited to welcome Trey Bailey as the new Executive Director of Daystar Baptist Missions. Trey brings with him a wealth of experience in missions, having served in various leadership roles at SCORE International during the last 22 years, most recently as Director of Partner Development. He and his wife, Terri, have two sons Evan (2006) and Carson (2009) and are members of Dallas Bay Church in Hixson, TN.

Trey will join Daystar July 1 and have a three-month transition, as he learns the details of the operations of Daystar and gets to know our wonderful missionary family. We are confident that Trey's leadership experience, vision and passion for missions will be a tremendous asset to Daystar Baptist Missions.

We would like to take this opportunity to express our gratitude to our current Executive Director, Timothy Bilbrey who has served in this role since 2014. Tim has been instrumental in helping to grow and strengthen the operations of Daystar Baptist Missions. Tim will continue serving with Daystar as a missionary and on our board of directors.

We believe that with Trey's leadership and Tim's ongoing involvement, Daystar Baptist Missions is well-equipped to continue to grow and expand its missions impact. While we anticipate reaching more people with the gospel, involving more people in missions, seeing new church-planting teams form and fields opened, we also remain committed to providing a supportive framework that helps our missionaries fulfill God's call on their lives.

Would you join us in welcoming Trey and his family to the Daystar Baptist Missions Family! For more information about Daystar Baptist Missions please visit our website at dbmi.org.

LESSONS FROM PROVERBS

By: Pastor Lemming

“Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life.” (Proverbs 4:23 NLT)

What is in our hearts eventually comes out through our words, actions, and associations (Matt. 15:19). We have to “guard” our hearts against evil influences and not let them be instructed/influenced by unrighteousness.

“

... For from the heart come evil thoughts, murder, adultery, all sexual immorality, theft, lying, and slander. -Matt. 15:19

As “hearts” go, so go our lives. We have to watch what we see, what we hear, where we go, who has influence in our lives, what counsel we’re given, what music plays in our heads, what movies we go see, what TV shows we watch, etc. (As you watch your food intake to be healthy, you have to watch your “heart” intake to be holy.) You can’t avoid all these things all the time, but you have to “guard” your heart as much as possible to keep evil from getting more ingrained in you. Where evil is already ingrained, we have to “guard” our hearts by replacing “bad programming” with “good programming” through scripture, worship, prayer, church gatherings, Christian friendships, etc. This is not a one-time event but a process for all of us. The technical, biblical term for this “process” is sanctification (“set apart from/to”). We are being “set apart” from some things, and we are being “set apart” to others! This is an important aspect of the “process” for how Christlikeness is developed in our lives.

DIFFERENCE MAKERS

SERVE GOD SERVE OTHERS

Visit lmbc.org/serve to find specific needs and see where you can serve here at LMBC.

MAKE AN ETERNAL DIFFERENCE BY
PRAYING FOR SALVATION

Hey Church, our June Difference Maker is one everyone can participate in. It costs nothing and does not require leaving your home. It is, however, one of the most powerful ways you can help make a difference in countless lives of children, teens, and adults. How?

P.R.A.Y.

The answer is simple but powerfully effective. We need prayer warriors for the following events/weeks:

LKC VBS

June 12 -16 (here on the LMBC Campus):

- Please pray for our workers to know peace, patience, strength, and joy in abundance
- Pray for the salvation and spiritual growth of the children who attend - as well as their families. This yearly event has the potential to change lives, families, and neighborhoods for generations to come.
- Pray for our security team that works to keep everyone safe from arrival to dismissal.
- Pray that the event might be a bright light to LMBC neighbors.
- Pray about who you can invite.

Backpack VBS

June 19 - 23 (on our Ebenezer Campus and surrounding neighborhoods with the potential to reach many unchurched/unsaved children and their families):

- Pray for our van drivers who transport not only our teens but the children who participate.
- Pray for our security team that works to keep everyone safe from arrival to dismissal.
- Pray for the salvation and spiritual growth of the children who attend - as well as their families. This yearly event has the potential to change lives, families, and neighborhoods for generations to come.
- Pray that the event might be a bright light to the surrounding community.
- Pray for those who cook for and feed the children throughout the week.
- Please pray for the special night when we will gather as a church on the Ebenezer campus for a follow-up outreach to the week of Backpack VBS (June 25).
- Pray especially for the children who participated and their families to join us and for their hearts to be changed by the message that is shared.



TAKE A LOOK AT THE LATEST FAMILY NEWS

Bereavements

- Charlotte Dailey, Libby Chapman's sister
- Sophie Madeline Withrow, Shona Johnston's grandmother

New Members/Baptisms

- Jerry & JoAnn Aldrich
- Scott & Shawna Bumgardner
- Thom Christian
- Philip & Lisa Elliott
- Debbie Henderson
- Jacob & Breanna Roberts
- Brittany Robertson
- Shawn Tackett (baptism)

Ways to Give:



Offering Boxes
in the Auditorium



Imbc.org
or our App



By mail

LOOKING FOR A STARTING POINT?

How to join our community of faith

Are you looking for a church home?
Would you prayerfully consider whether God
may be leading you to our family of believers?
If you are ready, follow these simple steps:

1st Baptism



Trust in Christ and
follow Him in believer's
baptism.

2nd Register (pick 1)



In Service: scan the QR
code on the pew in front
of you and let us know
you would like to join.
Online: imbc.org/register
Call: 304-736-7676

3rd Discover



Check out the
information in the
visitor packet you
received when you
registered with us or
visit imbc.org/what-we-believe to learn
about our core beliefs
and more.

4th Experience



Come to the next
Starting Point on
Sunday, Aug. 20
at 4:30 pm in the HIS
Way Cafe (SMB), where
you'll meet with our
Pastors to begin your
membership experience.
Call: 304-736-7676
Pre-register: imbc.org/starting-point

WANT TO JOIN A LIFEGROUP?

Come grow with us **Faded group names are on Summer break*

ADULTS (COED)	SUNDAYS @ 10:45 am Through the Bible (S104) Jared Blankenship Wall Builders (S100) Steve Bragg Cornerstone (S102) Tim Koletka Maranatha (Renaissance Room) Chuck Daniel
	TUESDAYS @ 1 pm Fearless (S100) Estep/Wyrick
	@ 6 pm Life Together (HIS Way Cafe) Tim Yates
	WEDNESDAYS @ 10 am Encouraging Friends Ministry (I12) Kate McMullen
	@ 6:30 pm At Home with the Word (Tardy Home) Steve & Vicky Tardy It's Always Something (S100) Chuck Daniel
WOMEN	@ 6:45 pm Abundant Life (L108) Gary McMullen
	@ 7 pm Selah (L114) Nathan McClay Friends of God (Renaissance Room) David & Mary Lemming Friends of God 2.0 (Northside House) Sargent/Ball
	NEW! Grandparents Parenting Grandchildren (F206) Bob & Kim Brown NEW Location! Rooted in Christ (Barboursville Park) Jonah & MaKayla Howerton Every other Wed starting June 7 Whosoever (L112) Sargent/Fry
	FRIDAYS @ 5:30 pm Believing, Belonging, & Becoming (HIS Way Cafe) Thurman Lowder
	SUNDAYS @ 10:45 am Journey with Him (L110) Hale/Tritz
MEN	MONDAYS @ 6 pm Daughters of the King (S100) Rebekah Shaffer
	TUESDAYS @ 9:30 am Kingdom Seekers (Tardy Home) Tardy/McMullen
	@ 10 am At His Feet (S100) Beth Jenkins Sewing for God's Children (L104) Barbara Keaton
	WEDNESDAYS @ 7 pm First Wed. of June/July/Aug only 4Ever His (L107) Leah Adkins Women of God (F205) Hager/Bashore *Embrace Grace (L106) *for single pregnant ladies Angela Cantley
	THURSDAYS @ 10 am Women of Strength (HIS Way Cafe) Mullens/Foreman
SENIORS	WEDNESDAYS @ 10 am Westridge Wisdom (S100) Jeremy Shaffer
	@ 7 pm Men of Truth (HIS Way Cafe) Steve Bragg Iron Sharpeners (L110) Matheny/Miller
SENIORS	SUNDAYS @ 9 am Willing Workers (L108) Richard Sexton Young at Heart (L114) Bill Blankenship
	FRIDAYS @ 11 am Life Group (Victory Place Apartments) Charles Logan

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Making disciples who
live and love like Jesus

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SUNDAY WORSHIP
9 & 10:45 am (watch live
at imbc.tv)

WEDNESDAY BIBLE
STUDY
7 pm

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Graphic Designer,
Matt Waller

Read previous editions
of Connect at
imbc.org/connect

**THE LORD IS LIKE
A FATHER TO
HIS CHILDREN,
TENDER AND
COMPASSIONATE**

PSALM 103:13



**Lewis
Memorial**
BAPTIST CHURCH

connect