

November Newsletter



Note from the Elders

As you are aware, Ian Blacker will be retiring as of the last of April 2024. The Elders of Lamar Christian Church have been in prayer for the next minister. We, as the Elders, have asked Ray Matteson to step up into that position.

Ray has accepted the offer to become the new
Lead Minister starting as of May 2024.

We will be having a vote by the congregation on Sunday,
November 19, 2023, as a vote of confidence.

The ballot will be a "Yes" or "No" for Ray to be the new
Lead Minister. The Elders will be looking for a new
Associate Minister to fill the vacant position.



The Lamar Christian QR codes have been posted around the building and in the bulletin. Scan the code with your phone for information about getting involved, to submit a prayer request, or to leave your contact info for future reference.

*Contact Ray or Luann if you need help in this process!

MISSION

We are seeking to be a Church that loves God and loves others by making disciples, connecting them to the body, and equipping them to live a lifestyle of worship by serving God and others for Kingdom work.

STAFF

Senior Minister - Ian Blacker
Associate Minister - Ray Matteson
Youth Pastor - Kevin Dickenson
Children's Director - Kelsey Thomas
Worship Director - Marah Brase
Secretary - Luann Tecklenburg
Custodian - Dillon O'Neill

BOARD

Elders - Rick Akers, Bryan Herrera, Pat Leonard, Ken Montoya, Rod Thomas
Deacons - Lee Dowen, Brian Lauritsen, Monty Coen, Justin Homm, Ron Schmidt
Trustees - Norm Arends, Ron Clausen, Dave Tecklenburg

Ray's Reflections

November Sermon Series Christ > Culture Chapters 3-5



1 Peter Sermon Series

I will be completing the 1Peter series in November. At least that is the plan. Here is the schedule:

November 3 - Goodness > Harm - 1Pet. 3:8-22; 4:12-19

November 12 - Kevin Foster from MCC will preach since I will be at Kiaros. 1 Pet. 4:1-11

November 19 - Humility > Power - 1Pet. 5:1-5

November 26 - Standing Firm > Suffering - 1Pet. 5:6-15

Kiaros Prison Ministry - November 9-12

Please be praying for the Kiaros team who will spend the weekend serving inmates at Dalhart, TX. We desperately need your prayers. It is an intense weekend of breaking down barriers and connecting with men so they can connect with Jesus in a whole new way. Those going from Lamar Christian: Rod Thomas, Keenan Thomas, Brittin Thomas, Julie Thomas, Anthony LaTour, Ray Matteson, Susanne Matteson, Kara Matteson. There are several individuals heading down for the closing program on Sunday and some other individuals from other churches in Lamar.

Church Health Team

After our weekend with Curtis McGinnis where we examined the church health survey, we have formed a Church Health Team. During the weekend with Curtis we discussed possible reasons as to why Inspirational Worship was a weakness in our church and we have formed a team to examine the issues, get to the root of the problem, and find ways to improve that area of church health. We have met once to focus on a few of what we see as the main issues. We will be meeting again on Nov. 14th with Curtis via Zoom to get a plan for moving forward and addressing how to improve our worship experiences so that they are truly more inspiring.

Kevin

What a semester it has been! All of my groups have been #thriving as the youths would say. It has been a real blessing to lead alongside these awesome leaders each week and watch the students grow and wrestle with faith. We are in several different series depending on the group. Middle Schoolers are working through people who had encounters with Jesus, High School students are working through spiritual gifts, and at the College level we are gonna start working through the logic of Jesus!

Harvest Festival - I want us to thank Rod and Julie Thomas and Darlene Lopez for their hard work and long hours spent getting everything ready for the fun Sunday afternoon that we enjoyed. We don't know exact numbers, but close to 200 people attended one part or all of the special day of family fun; brilliant! The threesome will again plan for next year, but they need many more people to help in the planning and execution of the Harvest Festival-they were understandably exhausted!

New Year Sermon Series

In the New Year, Ian will continue the Acts series, as we seek understand what the early church was, how it functioned, and how it ministered in different and changing cultures. We will look at how we can have a similar impact in our communities as we surrender all that we are as individuals and as a congregation to God's will, word and spirit.

Christmas Eve Services

As Christmas Eve is on a Sunday, we will have one morning service at 10am with no Sunday school or refreshment time. The other two services will be at 2 and 3:30pm.

All services will be the same. As usual, a special retiring offering will be taken for Sparrow House Ministries and one other to be determined ministry.

We are excited to be able to host hundreds of people who come to our Christmas Eve services, and we encourage you to invite non-Christians to the services.

The service will take us musically through the Jesus birth story from beginning to the visitation of the Magi. It will include scripture readings as well as Christmas songs well known, and some newer Christmas songs.

Wednesday Night Bible Study

Ian's Wednesday night Bible study will focus on the book of Acts through April, which is 17 weeks. We will take a deeper look at what it means to be a New Testament congregation and its implications for our vision, mission and ministries. We will examine themes of taking care of widows, orphans the poor and the destitute, as well as the essentiality of preaching and teaching God's word so that lives can be powerfully changed into God's image, starting with each of us.

We will understand that The Satan will oppose those who take God at His word, but that God will go ahead of all that we are for Him in daily life. Each study will be an hour long. We will meet in the RFOM room unless we need a larger room.

Questionnaire

A couple of weeks ago, I asked the congregation to ask one person in the community what they know about Lamar Christian Church as part of a survey in the community and our relationships to the people of the community. I received about 40 responses from those attending our services. The results will be utilized in an upcoming sermon. It is interesting to see how few people asked another person that simple question. Question: what does that say about our willingness to talk to people about Jesus, if we cannot ask such a simple question that no one asked refused to answer? This will lead to some interesting discussions in our continuing sermons in the book of Acts next year.

"God only moves in a people willing to move."

SERVER SCHEDULE

ASSIGNMENT	11/5/23	11/12/23	11/19/23	11/26/23	
DEVOTION LEADER - E	Ron Clausen	Bryan Herrera	Mike Duffy	Keenan Thomas	
DEVOTION LEADER - L	Anthony LaTour	Pat Leonard	Mike Duffy	Keenan Thomas	
SERVER IN CHARGE - E	Monty Coen	Jean-Piere Jabo	Jared Crabtree	Justin Homm	
SERVER IN CHARGE - L	Joe Baca	Rick Akers	Nick Lopez	Jim Ramsay	
SHUT- IN COMM - 1	Albert Moreno	Dustin DeWitt	Mitch Finney		
SHUT- IN COMM - 2	Joe Baca	Ken Montoya		Terry DeWitt	
GREETERS - E	Bob Osborn	Rod Ausmus	Sam Tecklenburg	Dave Tecklenburg	
GREETERS - L	Rob Vallejos	Glen Smith	Kay Slough	Joe Baca	
COMMUNION PREP	Kathy Stiles, Andy Hammer & Nancy Scriven				

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

ASSIGNMENT:	<u>11/5/23</u>	<u>11/12/23</u>	<u>11/19/23</u>	<u>11/26/23</u>	
DRUMS				KEENAN	
KEYBOARD	SUSANNE	MARAH	JULIE	MARAH	
BASS	ZACK	RAY	DAVID	EMILY	
ELEC. GUITAR	ROD A.	ROD A.	JOSH		
GUITAR	MARIAH		ROD T.	ROD T.	
VOCAL	KATY	AMBER	JOY	CONNIE	
VOCAL	LYDIA	JOAN	KATHY	SUSANNE	
VOCAL					
SOUND TECH	BRIAN	KENNY	RORY	BRIAN	
VIDEO LATE	KEVIN/REBECCA	PAT	JOAN/DILLON	CHLOEE/	
LEADER	MARIAH	MARAH	ROD T.	MARAH	
PIANO	SUSANNE	BARB	DENNIS(GUITAR)	BARB	
SOPRANO	SUSAN	SHELBY	CARILYN	SHELBY	
ALTO	MELODY	CHAR	MELODY	CHAR	
TENOR		DENNIS	DENNIS	ANSLEY	
BASS	RON C.		RON C.	RON C.	
VIDEO EARLY	HERRERA	HOMM	SCHMIDT	HERRERA	

Prayer Requests

Mary Davidson
 Russ Hobden
 Vera Hammons
 Bill Potestio
 David Payne
 Duane Bridge
 Les Scriven
 Max Meyers
 Charlie Whiting
 Carolyn Carr
 Ron Clausen
 Tom Lewis
 Mike Bryant
 Brailee Crum
 Lucille Dawson
 Marlynn Eikenberg

November Birthdays & *Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|----|------------------------|----|------------------------|
| 4 | Mark Carrigan | 15 | Ron Schmidt |
| | Janet DeWitt | 16 | Misty Hablutzel |
| | Sheri Higgins | 17 | Janet Laird |
| 5 | Chris Cordell | 18 | Ty Kemp |
| | *Curt & Tera Bender | 20 | *Blake & Anna Carere |
| 8 | Ann Westfall | | *Clint & Alicia Crum |
| 10 | Garry Longworth | 23 | *Terry & Janet DeWitt |
| 11 | Karen Dashner | 24 | *Dustin & Staci DeWitt |
| | Chris Wilkinson | 25 | Payson Coen |
| 12 | Jaxyn Duran | | Arvenia Morris |
| | *Ken & DeeDee Smartt | 26 | Samuel Adams |
| 13 | Bryden Penaflor | | Lee Downen |
| | *Gary & Ann Turpin | 27 | Lena Bellomy |
| 14 | Everly Homm | | *Monte & Carol Ausmus |
| | Charles Kelley | 28 | Kathy Harper |
| | *Collin & Sydney Sires | 29 | Ty Kemp |

We are needing help at Sparrow House Food Pantry. If you are interested in helping, please call or text me at (719)688-2644, I believe this is a great ministry and would like more people to get involved in it.

Thank you and God Bless,
 Jared L. Crabtree

*Our Sympathy
 for the Loss of a
 Loved One*

*Sue Ramsay passed
 away on 10/14*

*Oscar Noble passed
 away on 10/24*

BLOOD DRIVE

The next Vitalant Blood Drive will be Tuesday, December 19th from 11:30 - 4:30 in the fellowship hall. Go to vitalant.org to make an appointment. Walk-ins are welcome as time allows - you may be asked to try back in a bit.

JOY MINISTRIES

JOY meetings are the 4th Thursday of each month at the church at 1:00pm. The November meeting will be on the 16th, and the mission will be Socks for the Homeless Shelter.

Women's Breakfast

Saturday, Nov. 11th
 at 8:00am in the
 fellowship hall.
 All women are
 WELCOME!

MEN'S BREAKFAST



The next Men's Breakfast is Saturday, November 18th at 7:00am in the fellowship hall. All Men are welcome to attend - Come at 6:00 to help cook!

Lamar Christian Church
811 South Main Street
Lamar, CO 81052
(719)336-5343



WORSHIP SERVICES:

8:00AM - Blended
10:30AM - Contemporary
Sunday School - 9:15AM
Children's Church - 10:30AM

www.lamarchristian.info

Return Service Requested

SENIOR SAINTS

The purpose of the senior adult ministry of Lamar Christian Church is to share in Christian fellowship and encourage each other in spiritual growth, while striving to be a blessing to the church and community.

Senior Saints met at 5:00PM on Monday, October 16, 2023 in the fellowship hall with the following in attendance: Kara Matteson, Inez Hernandez, Nancy Idler, Thelma Cole, Deleta Downen, Les & Nancy Scriven, Judy Weber, Larry Tracy, Susan Gourley, Ray & Susanne Matteson, Alice Mauch, Kay Slough, Niles & Rosella Voigt, Ron Clausen, Dorothy Comer, Nancy Voss, Don Colclazier, and Betty Clark. Good Crowd! Luann was there when we got opened to see if we needed anything as usual. We visited while the ladies got things ready. Lots of good food and they brought out some leftovers from the potluck on Sunday night that we also enjoyed. As usual we had plenty to eat! No one goes home hungry!

Ron offered our blessing and then we ate and ate and ate - oh good food! I think most of us ate just a "tiny" bit too much! We visited and teased each other and laughed a bit while eating.

Shortly after eating Betty called the meeting to order. Not much business. Betty asked for a volunteer for devotions and then she volunteered herself. Thank you Betty. Alice Mauch gave a good devotion. She asked us all to smile - and then asked us all to frown. Did you know it takes only 17 muscles to smile and 67 to frown? Moral of this story is that we should always smile at others and not frown. Good devotion Alice - Thank you! If you see someone without a smile - give them one of yours. We Christians have so much to smile about - even if sometimes we do feel like it - Ha!

Some prayer requests: Carolyn Carr is still in Eads Hospital but is not in pain now - Thank God! Our country and the world situation - the Middle East conflict! Sue Ramsay's family - Sue went home to be with the Lord. Joe Baggett has some tests coming up.

We cleaned up and put things away and then got ready to play Round-a-bout! Table #1 - Dorothy, Thelma, Nancy V., Nancy I., Les & Nancy. That was the Nancy table. Ha! I think Thelma won at that table. Oh I see Nancy V. and Nancy I. were on that team. Table #2 - Kay, Niles & Rosella, Deleta, and Susan. Deleta won at that table. Table #3 - Judy, Susanne, Kara, and Betty. Betty won 1 and Kara won 1. Lots of laughter and teasing going on, good time by all. We were on our way home about 7:45PM.

Our next Senior Saints will be November 20, 2023 at 5:00PM. Everyone is welcome. Just bring something to share and come prepared to have a good supper and a good time. Thank you Dillon for putting up and taking down our tables. Thank you Luann for all you do for us seniors.

I know this is short - but I am writing this at 5:30 Sunday morning and I need to get my clothes on and eat breakfast before church.

Oh - Ray took Tom and me to Eads to see Carolyn and Vera Hammons. So good to see both of them. Thank you Ray.

Nuff for now.

Betty Clark, Reporter