

# Connections

LAKEWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH

February 2019

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*Create in Me*  
**A PURE HEART**

**PSALM 51:10**



*Welcome Home.*



# A Message from M.R. Hamilton

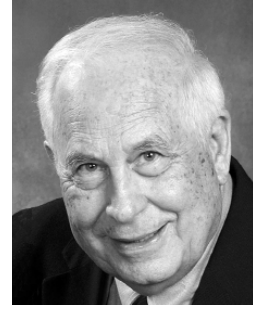
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SENIOR PASTOR, LBC

One of the things that has helped me through so many struggles is the reality and effect that one's perspective can have on us. Perspectives are simply how we see an event or happening from where we are. And often times the very best way to discover the truth is to ask for help from those with a different perspective. It also amazes me how differently I feel about the same situation or event once I gain a new perspective.

Last year ended and this year began with several of our members passing from this life into eternity and the effect of that on each of us comes from our perspective. We experience separation but from God's perspective it is a homecoming. We see it as a loss of life but the Biblical perspective is a gain with reward. And so it is with most everything in life even the month of February. I have always considered February and Kansas to be kissing cousins since both had to be gotten through to arrive at the place you wanted to be. But moving to Alabama has given me a very different perspective and allowed me to both see and experience February in a whole new way. This is now a month of great anticipation and expectation. It is a month that escorts winter out of our lives and invites spring with all its promise to begin to bloom. For fishermen this is the last great chance to really catch a giant fish as they move in shallow to spawn. For the golfer this is the month that brings in the Masters tournament and the real beginning of the golf season. For the gardener this is the month to get started as life is about to return to the ground that for the past few months has laid in waiting. For the Church this is the month to lay the foundations for a season of missions. February is suddenly different in almost every way and all because of a change in perspective. Perhaps this reality might well be one of the very reasons for God creating the seasons in the first place. How great it must be to watch the World go round and round from God's perspective. How great it must be to see history (His Story) unfolding just as you planned it never being surprised or confused by it all. February stands at the beginning of a New Year and is foundational in our ability to actually realize the dreams of January. I know I am hoping and praying to make the best of this February and I hope you will get through it with all your dreams of the New Year still before you. Let's make the best of all that promise that God has put before us in a month we call February.



# A Message from Dr. Jerry Horner



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MINISTER OF DISCIPLESHIP & OUTREACH

Never before in the history of our country have we witnessed such virulent hatred directed toward a president as the satanically inspired and organized acrimony aimed at the current president. I make no apology for characterizing such bitterness as satanic in origin, because it is totally anti-biblical and certainly not a godly attribute. How else can you describe the rage of a newly elected congresswoman who publicly shouted a heinous obscenity against the president and vowed his impeachment? Worse than her repugnant outburst was the applause of the audience, and worse than that was the lunacy of the people who voted her into office. Let me state at the outset that what I am about to write is not an acclamation for Donald Trump, because it applies to every president, no matter what political party in which he may be involved.

If we believe the Bible and accept it as authoritative, then we must recognize that it is our duty to pray for our president and that we are disobedient if we don't pray for him.

1 Timothy 2:1-3 does not offer a suggestion or an option, but a command when it tells us to pray for all those who are in authority. However, I find that we are more quick to criticize than to pray, and that's the reason that we're witnessing such a political and moral mess in this country. So-called pundits from the fields of politics, entertainment, the media, and across the full spectrum of society seem to be united in a vicious coalition dedicated to the overthrow of a duly elected president, just because they have a personal dislike of him.

"But," they say, "He's not the right leader," meaning of course that they will disagree with him regardless of his position. It doesn't matter who the president is, or whether or not we agree with him on all issues, if God's people will pray, God will take care of us. "But," they say, "You just don't understand the situation." Oh, but I do, because I know what the Bible says: "The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes" (Proverbs 21:1). Almighty God can turn the heart of a leader at any time and in any way, and if he endorses policies and platforms that are contrary to biblical principles, the intercession of Christians can lead God to change him or remove him.

How dare we elect any person to public office and then refuse to pray for him! And whether we voted for him or not, Donald Trump is our president, and he deserves and needs our prayers. What would happen if people spent as much time praying for him as they spend in criticizing him? If we do not pray, then we sin against God and we will reap the results of it. But I tell you truthfully that the biggest burden for the way this country is run does not lie in Washington. It lies in the prayers of God's people, and that is the promise of God: "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

The watchword of the present administration is "Make America Great Again." That's a wonderful slogan, but we must realize that America's greatness does not come from the wealth of the country's natural resources, or its military power, or the ingenuity of its citizens. America's greatness stems from the fact that the country was built on certain basic God-given principles and presuppositions, as any unbiased study of history reveals. The media will ridicule anyone who believes that statement, and will brand us as deplorable right-winged religious fanatics. However, the fact remains that this country was born in the heat of a spiritual revival, and the burden of our prayer should be that the president be led by the Holy Spirit to bring us back to our biblical foundations.



# A Message from Andrew Spires

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STUDENTS & SINGLES, LBC

**Who's the Greatest?** Matthew 18:1-4; "At that time the disciples came to Jesus and asked, "Who is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven?" He called a little child and had him stand among them. And He said: "I tell you the truth, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever humbles himself like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven." One of the greatest temptations of this human experience is to believe the lie that life is all about me. In fact, it has been said, we are all worshipping something or someone. For some they worship pleasure or popularity, others worship fame and fortune, and still others worship comfort and convenience. If we aren't careful, even we as Christians, can buy into the lie that Christ chose and saved me because of how great I am, and how necessary I am to His cause. However, nothing could be further from the truth. We repeatedly see throughout Scripture that God uses humble and broken people, and that personal holiness is regularly tied to humility. We are often reminded, that God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble. Pride, at its base level, is the worship of self over God. So, take a moment to examine your hearts, what are the things you value most, what things take the most of your time, and what things require the majority of your resources? Now, ask yourselves this question; are these things reflecting God's glory, or yours? Is your life a prideful pursuit of your plans and purposes or are walking with God hand in hand, waiting upon His guidance for the next step? If you take stock of your life and find pride has taken root, there's is a simple solution, humble yourself! Repent of your pride and remember the greatness of the God we serve. Look for ways to simplify your life, and replace them with ways to lift Him up. My life verse is simple and easy to remember, it comes from John 3:30 which says this; "He must become greater, I must become less." Let's seek ways to live this out.

God bless,  
drew



# A Message from Gina Fusillo



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CHILDREN, LBC

Make Valentine's Day a special day of love and appreciation for the ones GOD has chosen to put in your life.

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16*

Valentine's Day is this month and the celebration of love is everywhere. The celebration is equated with chocolate, cards, flowers and romance and will be marketing in advertisements and store displays. **Love** can be demonstrated in many ways. But as followers of Christ, we have been shown by God that love is so much more! It is essential for God's love to be demonstrated to our children in our homes, communities and ministries. Use this Valentine's Day to share the love you have for God and other people. Even if you are not in a "love" relationship, know that you can be in a relationship with God, our creator, who loves you more than anything. Spread love from your heart to the hearts of others, and don't feel left out or alone. You ARE NOT alone. Just love, as God first loved us. Love DEEPER, and speak SWEETER, as love is the best gift you can give anyone.

Awana and Flyte reached the half-way mark last month. Children continue working hard learning about the Gospel of Christ and how to serve Him. The **Awana Store** is part of this ministry and is based on a rewards system. The children earn points for various accomplishments and the points are redeemed twice during the Awana year for prizes, varying in size and value to cover a wide range of reward points. The Store will be open to the children one more time this year (scheduled for May) and we are in need of offerings to stock the store. If you feel led to give to this ministry, please mark monetary offerings "Awana Store" or drop off any items you wish to donate by the church office. Many thanks to those who have already helped supply the store. Because we are experiencing growing pains in the Children's Ministries, we continue to ask God to send servants to help with the many upcoming events we have planned for this year. We are thankful for all of our servants and welcome our newcomers who have recently joined us. Look for a list of events to be posted around the church soon and sign up!

MERGE summer camp dates are in! Save the date for July 15 – 18 to head to Shocco Springs. Anyone interested in MERGE Camp is encouraged to join Erin Jane on Sunday February 3rd for an informational meeting in the Fellowship Hall. Meeting times are 11:00 and 12:00 to accommodate interested parties from both services. Various fund raisers will be held to help offset costs of the chaperones and attendees.

Fun time for the Awana and Flyte kidz.....an **Awana Night Out** is planned for Friday, March 8th from 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm in the Family Activity Center. The cost is \$10 per child. Pre-registration is required. This event is in lieu of the previous "Awana Lock in", but will provide lots of fun and entertainment.

# Lakewood Medley

## In Memory of:

### **O. D. Hamrick:**

For Homebound from Stephen and Nancy Stainsby  
Lottie Moon from Clara Jean Watson,  
J. P. and Esther Benton  
Challenge to Build from Sherry Scroggins

### **Budget:**

Jimmy and Susan Graham  
Peggy Ledford  
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Acton  
Mr. & Mrs. William Jett  
Dovie Long

### **Food Bank:**

Brenda Slappey  
Connie Marriott

### **Margaret Maurer for Bereavement Ministry:**

Terry and Clara Grimes  
Mary Kay Wilson  
Carolyn Pruski  
Ruth Drinkard  
Jack and Pam Tinkler  
Janice Noble

### **Homebound:**

Stephen and Nancy Stainsby

### **Challenge to Build**

Billy and Cathy Greene

Sue Newsome for Challenge to Build from David and Debbie Newsome  
Virginia Kennedy for Lottie Moon from David and Debbie Newsome

Dr. Vincent Currier for Lottie Moon from Myra Currier

### **Billy Hall:**

for Challenge to Build from Clara Jean Watson  
for budget from Jimmy and Susan Graham

### **Jo Gables:**

Window Repair from Terry and Clara Grimes  
Challenge to Build from Norman and Katie White

### **Melvin Scroggins:**

For Challenge to Build from Jerry and Sheila Barbaree  
Amen Choir from Shirley Mabe

Larry Bush for Challenge to Build from Jerry and Sheila Barbaree

## In Honor of:

M.R. and Katie Hamilton for Lottie Moon from Billy and Cathy Greene  
Rev. & Mrs. J. A. McCarley for Lottie Moon from Bill and Judy McCarley  
David Slocumb for Challenge to Build from Collin Ray  
Pansy Slocumb for Amen Choir from Collin Ray

# Lakewood Happenings

## February 2019

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	10:30am Amen Choir	6:30pm Alleluia Choir	10:30am VK/WMU	7	5:30 Game Night Soup 7:00pm Young Adult Game Night @ Midtown	11:00am H H Ministry FTH
10	10:30am Amen Choir 6:00pm Dr. Horner Bible Study	6:30pm Alleluia Choir	7:00pm Deacon Meeting	14	15	16
VIP 17	10:30am Amen Choir 6:00pm Dr. Horner Bible Study VIP	6:30pm Alleluia Choir VIP	7:00pm Finance Meeting VIP	VIP 21	VIP 22	VIP 23
Fundraiser Lunch VIP 24	10:30am Amen Choir 6:00pm Dr. Horner Bible Study	6:30pm Alleluia Choir	7:00pm CDC Meeting	7:00pm JEG/BW 28		

## December Giving

	BUDGET	CTB	MISSIONS	OTHER	TOTAL
12/2	\$18,578.23	\$1,020.52	\$1,913.74	\$368.83	\$21,881.32
12/9	\$24,818.75	\$265.00	\$2,691.04	\$2,691.04	\$29,100.13
12/16	\$43,745.20	\$648.67	\$3,073.93	\$795.71	\$48,263.51
12/23	\$20,234.00	\$95.00	\$1,996.36	\$2,875.49	\$25,200.85
12/30	\$33,272.64	1,070.00	\$1,184.32	\$150.00	\$35,676.96

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES:

#### SUNDAY

- 9:00am Contemporary Worship
- 9:15am Kidz Worship
- 10:00am Bible Fellowship
- 11:00am Blended Worship
- 11:15am Kidz Worship
- 6:00pm Evening Worship
- 6:00pm Young Adult Bible Study/FAC

#### WEDNESDAY

- 5:00pm Family Night Supper
- 5:45pm AWANA/FLYTE
- 6:00pm Orchestra Rehearsal
- 6:00pm Adult Prayer & Bible Study
- 6:30pm Youth Worship
- 7:00pm Praise Team Rehearsal

Only \$5 per adult meal,  
 \$2.50 per child meal with a maximum  
 \$15 per family!

# Let's Eat!

Dinner is  
 served from  
 5:00-6:00pm

## JANUARY WEDNESDAY NIGHT SUPPER

### 2/6

HOT DOGS  
 CHILI, FRIES  
 BAKED BEANS  
 SALAD &  
 DESSERT

### 2/13

FRIED CHICKEN  
 YELLOW RICE  
 GREEN BEANS  
 ROLLS  
 SALAD & DESSERT

### 2/20

PORK LOIN  
 MASHED POTATOES  
 WHOLE KERNEL  
 CORN  
 ROLLS, SALAD &  
 DESSERT

### 2/27

CHICKEN POT  
 PIE  
 ROLLS  
 SALAD &  
 DESSERT

To make dinner reservations, email Carol at [carol@lbcpc.org](mailto:carol@lbcpc.org) or call 334.298.6433.

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

AMY, CHRISTOPHER  
 & KYLE MATTHEWS

### February Greeters

MERITA NORRIS  
 SARA BUSH

### Check Bulletin Board

FOR  
 THANK YOU NOTES  
 EVENTS, NEWS  
 ALSO OUR WEBSITE:  
[lbcpc.org](http://lbcpc.org)

#### MINISTERIAL STAFF

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 FRI 8:30AM-12PM

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