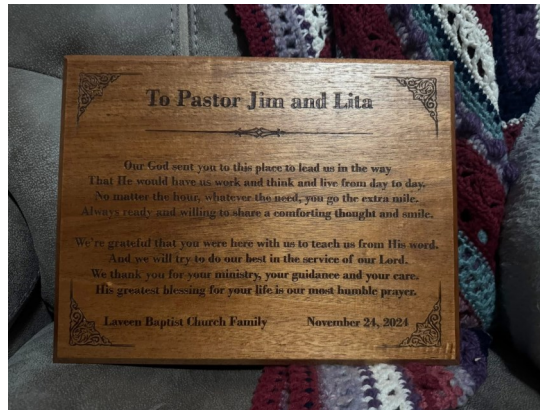


GOOD BYE

The last Sunday of November, the 24th, we bid farewell to Pastor Jim and his wife, Lita. We wanted to thank Pastor Jim and Lita for all that they have done for the last 18 months in helping Laveen Baptist Church as we went through the process of searching for a new Pastor. Pastor Harry & Cindy presented Pastor Jim & Lita with a plaque, cards, and flowers.



WELCOME

Hey, new church family!

I'm excited to be here, and I'm eager to get to know you all in the coming days and weeks. I can tell LBC is a special people, and I'm grateful that God has called me and my family (who will join me soon, God willing) to serve and share among you!

Please join me in prayer as we ask and expect God to do amazing things! He has been so faithful to LBC in the past, and He, no doubt, intends to continue blessing, providing, and leading incredibly! The good news: we can't ask and expect too much from Him. "Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be the glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen" (Ephesians 3:20-21).

As we pray and expect, let's obey His Word and always keep our spiritual ears attuned to His marching orders. When He moves BIG, He does so in US, as His "power [is] at work within us!" Therefore, may we not only PRAY expectantly, but may each of us who are His ever be ready to ACT and do exactly what His Spirit in us leads and enables us to do!

It's going to be an awesome and tremendously enjoyable shared experience! All thanks to Him!

Blessings!

Pastor B

Notes from the Associate Pastor Harry

Merry Christmas, Laveen Baptist Church. We just finished the Thanksgiving season; and we have so many reasons to be thankful as a local church body. As He always does, our God has gone before us (Deut. 31:8). Where the prevailing concept is that when you lose your long-term senior pastor you will decline in membership and participation, we've increased both our membership and baptisms. This is absolute evidence of God at work showing the wise to be foolish.

Now, we have a new senior pastor and soon a group of elders to help lead us as under-shepherds to Jesus, our actual perfect shepherd. All of these (new members and leadership) are God's gifts to us. As we approach the 'Christmas Season' and its gift-giving frenzy, we need to remember the many gifts that God has given us individually and corporately as a church body.

Now is the time to start thinking about what you're going to be giving (and I'm not talking finances) to the body here in Laveen. What is it that the Lord has especially equipped you to do? Like the fictional character of Scrooge, are you going to just sit on and hoard the gifts that God has given to you to be shared with others, or will you use them in service to your king?

Remember what Jesus replied when he was asked what the greatest commandment was? He said in Matthew 22:37-39: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and most important command. The second is like it: Love your neighbor as yourself." This is the greatest 'gift' that you could give this Christmas, the gift of your service to your fellow members of Laveen Baptist Church and then to the community around us. When people open that gift, their life will never be the same.

In His service,
Pastor Harry



LBC Missions
LAVEEN BAPTIST CHURCH

Monthly Meeting
After AM Service
Room 9

Join Us
Dec 8th

THE LORD'S SUPPER
Morning Service Sun. Dec 29th



Do This In Remembrance Of Me

Crafting in Ruth's Footprints

2nd and 4th TUESDAYS OF THE MONTH
December 10th
9:30 AM
BLDG B Room 2



WMU women on mission

NEW LIFE PREGNANCY CENTER NEEDS LBC'S SUPPORT!

For December we will be focusing on:
Baby Diapers & Wipes

Contacts: Lisa Valdivia or Sue Hardy



WMU God's mission. Our passion. LBC Missions Elvovista Center newlife pregnancy center

Notes from the Youth Team

By Diane Williams

I've always loved Christmas. When I was young it meant grandparents, some gifts, a traditional Christmas dinner, and maybe even some snow. It was the school Christmas program, a couple of weeks off, and time to read whatever book or books I received that year.

It's still my favorite season: the songs, the decorations, the lights, the Christmas movies on my "must watch" list. Even though it's become very commercialized, it still seems to bring a general feeling of goodwill to the world.

Of course, as believers, we understand where that goodwill originates. We know that the true celebration of Christmas centers on a baby born in less than ideal circumstances: born to a young woman pregnant before her wedding, far from home and the women who would normally help her deliver, giving birth in a shelter meant to house animals, and laying her newborn in a feeding trough for a bed.

But circumstances do not determine outcomes – God does. Did Mary know God's plan? Some of it, from Old Testament prophecies, the angel Gabriel's visit, the shepherds, and the wise men. It says that she treasured these things and thought about them over and over. But no one fully knows the mind of God. Still, she entrusted herself completely to His care.

Thirty-three years later, circumstances seemed even more impossible. Jesus was dead. Buried in a tomb. His followers were in hiding. And yet, God wasn't done. Christ rose from the dead, and Mary's son became her Savior, paying the penalty and taking the punishment for her sin – and ours.

And that's why we celebrate the birth of a baby in Bethlehem two thousand years ago. Because we can now live in hope with no fear of sin or death. So, no matter what the circumstances, entrust yourself to God's care and enjoy this Christmas season with all its festivities, music, and lights. Remember that without Christmas, there is no Easter.

"Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act." Psalm 37:5

Sunday, Dec. 1st – Deck the Hall Afterglow (meet for Bible Study at 5:00 pm)

Sunday, Dec. 15th – Sign-up begins for Winter Retreat

Wednesday, Dec. 18th – Christmas Celebration

Wednesday, Dec. 25th – NO Youth

Friday, Dec. 27th – Where's Waldo: Christmas Version

Tuesday, Dec. 31st – Sign-up for Winter Retreat deadline

Wednesday, Jan. 1st – Youth Prayer Walk

Sunday, Jan. 5th – Bonfire Afterglow (meet for Bible Study at 5:00 pm)

Sunday, Jan. 12th – Bake Sale

Sunday, Jan. 12th – Parent Meeting

Sunday, Jan. 12th – Sign-up begins for ZONA Camp (\$25.00 deposit required)

Friday, Jan. 17th – Sunday, Jan. 19th – Winter Retreat

Friday, Jan. 31st – Sign-up for ZONA Camp deadline

Notes from the Worship Leader

Church, can you believe the year just flew by. The year 2024 will be no more, but let me tell you that Jesus is the same today, tomorrow, and forever (Hebrews 13:8). I know it has been quite a year, but I rejoice because we are in the hands of YAHWEH and that's enough for me, and I know it's enough for you.

First of all, I thank God for his mercy and grace as well as the opportunity to be alive this far. Second, thank you to all our ministries and the work you have done. It is an honor to serve God as it is an honor to serve along with you all. To be part of the body of Christ gives me hope that I am not alone in my walk with Christ as you are not alone. 1 Thessalonians 5:11 says "Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing".

That being said, church, we have 250+ active members here at LBC. Do you think we could have done more this year of 2024? Do you think we can do better next year? I know I could have done better, and I will strive to do better next year. God brought me to LBC almost three years ago in February. I will say it once and continue to say that LBC has been surrounded by 68,000+ people in our community, not to mention outside of Laveen. Our objective is not to be focused inside of the four walls but outside of them. We must continue to reach out to the lost souls and take part in the greatest honor, sharing the good news. There is a lot of work to do, and, together through Christ, we can make an impact in our community.

Like I said, I am excited about what God is doing now and will continue to do. I know there are times we might want to throw the towel, but like the song we sing, "I'm fighting a battle you've already won!". The battle cannot be fought alone, but together through Christ. As Pastor preached on his last sermon, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid or terrified because of them, for the LORD your God goes with you; he will never leave you nor forsake you." Deuteronomy 31:6.

Cesar Aleman



SAVE THE DATES FOR PHOTOS

DECEMBER 19—21

Hello Church Family,

We will start taking signups for our new Church Photo Directory on Sunday 11/3 before and after service.

Photo dates:

December 19th and 20th from 2pm - 8:30pm every 10 minutes

December 21st 10am - 4:30 pm every 10 minutes.

You can sign yourself up by scanning the QR code or clicking on [This Link](#), then:

Choose your Date

Choose your Time

Complete the form

NOTE: if you do not have an email leave it blank.

Any questions stop, by the table outside sanctuary on Sunday or call the Church Office.



SAVE THE DATE

Make your appointment to be included
in the new pictorial directory!

Laveen Baptist Church
Laveen, AZ

Photo dates:

DEC 19,20,21 2024



Remember CHURCH
DIRECTORIES

**YOUTH BONFIRE
AFTERGLOW**



**JANUARY 5TH
5:00 PM**



YOUTH WINTER RETREAT
JAN 17 - 19

\$40

**SIGN UP BY
DEC 31ST**





December

BIRTHDAYS

DECEMBER

1st Seyla Fearn

Frank James

2nd Rebecca Kilcoyne

5th Melinda Brooke

Lincoln Pulley

6th Scott Martin

7th Della Nicholson

9th Dana Desko

Donna Razo

11th Paul Brooke

12th Frederic Kilcoyne

13th Jhamiel Phan

Isabella Phillips

15th Donna Pulley

15th Faith Teferra

Ruth Yiannou

19th Abigail Kilcoyne

24th Alice Acosta

27th Isola Jones

29th Antonio Becerra

Lynda Johnson

Madison Roldan



December

ANNIVERSARIES

DECEMBER

8th Darrel & MaLinda Johanning

23rd Andy & Michelle Harry

Church Business Meeting

December 8, 2024
Following AM Service

PICK UP YOUR
MEMBER PACKET **Nov 24th**
IN THE FOYER ON

All Church Members to VOTE on Budget and Nominations



Thank you to those who came out and helped serve at Rio Vista for Turkey Day on November 23rd.



December



Regular Events

SEPTEMBER - MAY

SUNDAY

| | |
|--|----------|
| Sunday School Classes | 8:30 am |
| Worship Service | 10:05 am |
| Evening Study (ALL WELCOME) Bldg B Rm 4&5 | 5:00 pm |

TUESDAY

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Victorious Overcomers Support Group | 6:30 pm |
|-------------------------------------|---------|

WEDNESDAY

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------|
| Dinner | 5:00 pm |
| Adventure Club (New Kids Program) | 6:00 pm |
| Youth Bible Study | 6:00 pm |
| Prayer Hour | 6:00 pm |
| Ladies Bible Study | 6:30 pm |
| Men's Bible Study | 7:00 pm |

THURSDAY

| | |
|--|-----|
| College/Young Adult Bible Study (off Campus) | 7pm |
|--|-----|

FRIDAY

| | |
|------------|---------|
| AA Meeting | 6:30 pm |
|------------|---------|

Special Events

DECEMBER

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Sun, Dec 1 st – Lords Supper | |
| Youth Deck the Hall Afterglow | 5:00 pm |
| Wed, Dec 4 th – Staff Meeting | 11:30 am |
| Sun, Dec 8 th - Budget Business Meeting | 11:45 am |
| Carols & Hot Chocolate | 5:00 pm |
| Tues, Dec 10 th – Crafting in Ruth's Footprints | 9:30 am |
| Fri, Dec 13 th – Ladies Fellowship Potluck | 6:00 pm |
| Sat, Dec 14 th – Marriage Small Group, | 5:30 pm |
| Thurs 12/19 – Sat 12/21 – Directory Photos | |
| Sun, Dec 22 nd - Snowball Fight | after am service |
| Tues, Dec 24 th – Christmas Eve Candlelight | 5:00 pm |
| Sun, Dec 29 th - Lord's Supper | am service |

JANUARY

| | |
|--|------------------|
| Mon, Jan 6 th - Lifeline Screening | 8:30 am—5:30 pm |
| Sun, Jan 12 th - Youth Bake Sale | After AM Service |
| Missions Committee Meeting | 11:30 am |
| Tues, Jan 14 th - Crafting in Ruth's Footprints | 9:30 am |
| Sun, Jan 26 th - Testimony & Chili Cookoff | 5:00 pm |
| Tues, Jan 28 th - Crafting in Ruth's Footprints | 9:30 am |

Welcome New Members



Page Lasby

Welcome New Members

David & Smitha Konki



Japheth, Jayden, & Joshua