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Notes from Pastor Jim

"Therefore, leaving behind the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, of instruction about washing and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgement. And this we will do if God permits." (Hebrews 6:1-3)

There is so much more to Jesus than many realize. Yes, He is the answer to the sins of the world. Yes, in Jesus, the way is found to move a person from being an enemy of God to His beloved child. Yes, because of Jesus there is a hope beyond the chaos, pain, and confusion we live with in this world. However, as magnificent as these may seem, they merely scratch the surface of what is found in Jesus. As a matter of fact, Jesus-followers will take their discovery of Jesus into eternity.

The "elementary teaching about Christ" the author of Hebrews wrote about, i.e. repentance, faith, and such, are just the entrance to the abundant life found in Jesus. He is calling them, and by extension us, to move deeper into Jesus. To "press on to maturity."

This is a challenge to move deeper. To become more familiar with Jesus and to discover all that is associated in a life with Him. It means to accept that salvation is to redemption what the wedding is to marriage. To mature involves leaving behind not just the old way of living, but to embrace something entirely different.

Returning to the image of marriage, an appropriate analog for salvation (Ephesians 5:34), The person we marry, is not the person we fully know. This only happens as the marriage moves forward. In the daily struggles, challenges, victories, and experiences, the couple comes to know one another. The superficial is augmented by the intimate. In this process each marriage partner also changes. The melding of lives results in both becoming creatures they would not have been apart from joining their lives together.

As sweet as your salvation experience was, move forward. Don't sit around looking at your wedding album remembering how wonderful that day was. There is much more to discover about Jesus. Take the time each day to walk with Him, inviting Jesus into every aspect of your life. Talk with Him. Cry out to Him. Let Jesus be your daily companion. In the process, discovering new depths of His person.





FEBRUARY INCOME SUMMARY		
General Giving**	\$	28,444.08
(\$49,896.17 general giving needed monthly to meet budget)		
Designated Giving	\$	3,052.52
(Giving for a specific need or ministry)		
Miscellaneous Income	\$	1,635.00
Total Income	\$	33,131.60

Pastor Jim

Notes from the Associate Pastor Harry

Fáilte go Márta which is the Irish (Gaelic) way of saying welcome to March. Typically, this is a busy month around the church calendar and this year is no exception, but it's the month that we officially move from winter to spring and watch all of our plants and lawns start their annual growth. It's that regular comeback that reminds me of a couple of verses. The first of which is Genesis 8:22 "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night will not cease." This is God's statement that comes right after Noah, his family and all of the various animals have survived the flood and Noah worships God and offers a sacrifice of "some of every kind of clean animal and every kind of clean bird (Genesis 8:20)." Noah sacrificed a portion of a very finite resource and demonstrated his faith that God was going to maintain His creation and repopulate it. It was then

that he got the promise that no matter what, our world will continue as God has directed it to do. This reassures me and gives me great confidence going forward despite all of the dire predictions that unless we do something that the world as we know it will cease to be.

The other Bible passage that quickly comes to mind is Colossians 1:16-17 "For everything was created by Him (Jesus), in heaven and on earth, the visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities— all things have been created through Him and for Him. He is before all things, and by Him all things hold together." It's because of the unchanging Jesus that the Genesis passage is true. He's the one who holds it all together and insures that it doesn't change because He doesn't.

Yes, I know that spring means that Summer is not too far off but even that's OK because it also shows me that the God who loves me is consistently maintaining His creation which points back directly to Him. We serve a God that consistently and constantly takes care of us even when we're too blind and self-centered to recognize it.

So fellow LBC'ers, why not take some time to stop and thank God for His loving and consistent reminder that He's in charge of our world and is keeping it running exactly as He said he would. Even nature points directly to this truth which is why Paul told the church in Rome that everyone is without excuse in knowing God's attributes (Romans 1:20).

In His Service, Pastor Harry









Notes from the Youth Team

By Diane Williams

Welcome to March! From here through June, Youth Ministry is really busy. Mostly because of ZONA Summer Camp. We have 19 students and 3 adults registered to attend ZONA June $24^{th} - 28^{th}$. For those who aren't involved in Youth Ministry or haven't sent a student to ZONA, here's a crash course in how it works.

ZONA Camp is the summer youth camp sponsored by the Arizona Southern Baptist Network. It takes place on the campus of California Baptist University in Riverside, California. It's five days of worshipping and learning; playing games and hanging out. Each student picks from one of four tracks to follow after the morning worship celebration: ZONA Experience is like regular summer camp – Bible studies and games; IMPACT focuses on worldview and leadership development; MISSION LIFE is hands-on serving others both on and off-campus; and WORSHIP CATALYST is an opportunity for students who are involved in worship ministry (musicians, singers, actors and technologists) to get hands-on instruction and understand what leading worship really is – going to God and taking others with them. WORSHIP CATALYST is by audition and recommendation only.

Camp costs \$350 per attendee so fundraising is a huge part of our lives between now and June. Students are required to pay a small deposit, but we try to provide enough opportunities for them to earn the rest of their fees through serving. We keep track of the hours they serve at ZONA service opportunities (not every service opportunity is for ZONA credit) and divide the total amount of funds we raise by the total number of hours they worked. That gives us the amount per hour served (Total funds/total hours served = amount per hour), and we can pay them according to the number of hours they worked. So far, we've raised about \$1200.00. If you'd like to know more about ZONA Camp, you can talk to me or David Williams.

Elementary school-aged children have Kid's Camp the second week in June. Their camp is at Mountain Meadows Ranch in Christopher Creek. They sleep in cabins or treehouses, worship together, have Bible study, play games and sports, do arts and crafts, go fishing and play in the creek, etc. If you'd like to know more about Kid's Camp, you can talk to Kris Williams.

Both ZONA and Kid's Camp exist to lead students to Jesus and provide a place to grow in Him. If you'd like to help send a student to ZONA or Kid's Camp, contact the church office, attend one of our fundraising events, or look for the "Donate to Kid's Camp and Youth Camp" container at some church events. If you need a record of your giving, you can use an offering envelope, designate "Kid's Camp" or "Youth Camp", and put it in the regular church offering. Your gift will be an investment in a young person's life.

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

MARCH EVENTS

March 2nd – Volleyball Tournament Prep (ZONA service opportunity)
 March 3rd – LBC Volleyball Tournament
 March 11th – Youth Room Work Day (ZONA service opportunity)
 March 15th – Video Scavenger Hunt and Nine-Ball
 March 16th – Church Work Day
 March 17th – Parents' Meeting
 March 31st – Easter (Youth serve breakfast after Sunrise Service)

INDOOR RUMMAGE SALE COMING UP APRIL 20TH

Notes from the Worship Leader

Church, what a beautiful month, especially with the beautiful weather until those hot temperatures start to hit. Church, I want to invite you that as a church body we come together and let's pray. 1 Thessalonians 5:17 reminds us to pray continually and we should. Prayer has to become part of what we do without hesitation and I get it and it's no excuse, sometimes we get so busy with our own routine that we forget to talk to God.

Prayer brings us closer to God. Prayer helps us to seek God's direction instead of our own and we can all testify that when we lean on God, we are in better hands than our own. We make decisions every day, but how many times do we pray to God to help us in those decisions and I mean more than what I'm going to wear that day. Prayer helps us to not only talk to God, but to listen to Him as well because we become sensitive to his Spirit.

We have many reasons to pray for. Ephesians 6:18 says "And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the

Lord's people." We should pray for our church family. Pray for our church leaders. Pray for our fellow believers in America and around the world. We should never forget our battle is not against flesh and blood, but a spiritual battle (Ephesians 6:12).

So, pray whether you join us on Wednesday Night prayer meetings, or the last Saturday of each month at 8:00am, or praying at home, pray without ceasing. Prayer is not an extra thing we do daily, it is a necessity and I think we can all do better at this including myself.

Church, you know I love you all and thank you for everything you do!

Cesar Aleman































MARCH

1st Ofelia Monje Hoa Tran

2nd Quincy Southern

4th Joy Teferra

6th Sotirios Yiannou

8th Laura (Jimenez) Acosta

Mindy Harry

Joseph Kilcoyne

11th Alejandra Barrera (Aleman)

14th Queen Bialo

Cedric Kaneza

Samuel Roberts

17th Polly Woollum

18th Thierry Kiyogiera

19th Claudine Uwamahro Kiyogera

20th Edward Monje

21st Richard Gajdowski

24th Ann Servant

25th Anthony Nicholas

27th Leon Sexton

28th Callie MacDougall Stephen Tatrai

30th Luna Jimenez-Acosta Smitha Konki



MARCH

1st Naz & Minerva Prieto

11th Paul & Sharon Olsen

12th Frank & Holly James

13th Alberto & Amanda Corral

15th Sotirios & Ruth Anne Yiannou

18th Steve & Tina Worley

31st Jack & Karen Tolmachoff

We Want To Hear From You:

E-mail prayer requests to:

lbc@laveenbaptistchurch.org

Call us at: 602-237-4885

See what's happening & Register for events:

www.laveenbaptistchurch.org





Regular Events

MARCH—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

MONDAY

Ladies Bible Study – Daniel – 8:00 am Ladies Bible Study – Unexplainable Life – 5:45 pm

TUESDAY

Victorious Overcomers Support Group – 6:30 pm

WEDNESDAY

Dinner – 5:00 pm AWANA – 5:55 pm Youth Bible Study – 6:15 pm Hour of Prayer – 6:15 pm Men's Bible Study – 7:00 pm

THURSDAY

GriefShare - 10:00 am

FRIDAY

AA Meeting - 6:30 pm

Special Events

MARCH

Sun, Mar 3rd – LBC Volleyball Tournament

Evening Bible Study 5:00 pm Fri, Mar 8th – Ladies Fellowship Potluck 6:00 pm Sun, Mar 10th – Missions Meeting 11:45 am

> NO Evening Small Group/Bible Study Bob Davis Concert & Dessert 5:00 pm

Tues, Mar 12th – Crafting in Ruth's Footprints 9:30 am Sat, Mar 16th – Church Work Day 7:30 am – 12:00 pm

Sun, Mar 17th – Youth Parent Meeting 11:30 am

Constitution & By-Laws Q & A 11:30 am

Tues, Mar 19th – Maricopa County 5:30 am – 9:00 pm Sun, Mar 24th – Seder - with Jews for Jesus 5:00 pm

NO Evening Bible Study

Tues, Mar 26th – Crafting in Ruth's Footprints 9:30 am

Sun, Mar 31st – Easter Sunrise Service 6:00 am

Easter Breakfast

Easter Service 10:05 am

NO EVENING SMALL GROUP

Welcome New Members



Elliot Anderson

Marks joined via Baptism,

Callie & Ann joined via statement



Mark MacDougall

Mark, Callie MacDougall & Ann Servant