



The Laveen Baptist Church Builder

Volume XLV, Number 11

November 1, 2024

Notes from Pastor Jim

Ephesians 3:14-19

“For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name, that He would grant you, according to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in the inner man, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; and that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled up to all the fullness of God.”

Paul and the believers in Ephesus shared a close relationship. The Ephesian Jesus-followers and Paul knew one another very well. Paul had been the one God used to bring the Good News of Jesus to their community. Paul had spent considerable time with them. The Ephesians had actively supported Paul in his travels and work. This letter exudes this connection and compassion they shared for one another..

The Ephesians had heard of the hardships Paul faced. They were concerned for him. In order to encourage them, he wrote to remind them of all they had gained in Jesus. He wanted them to know that whatever the circumstances he or they faced, they were worth it considering what is gained in Jesus. This brings me to the passage above.

Because of all the spiritual blessings received from Jesus (1:3), Paul prays on behalf of the Ephesians. He asks God that in His strength He would strengthen them in order that they would know Jesus, be “rooted and grounded” in Him, to comprehend the vast blessings to be found in Him, and that all this would result in them being filled up, becoming rich examples of God.

I don’t know how long ago this passage touched my heart. But, for the people God has placed me among, this statement resonates. My desire for you, as well as for the others I encounter, is that you would know and enjoy Jesus. That’s it. It is that simple. Other matters of church life all take a second place to the desire to be used by Father to help you “be filled up to all the fullness of God.”

Lita and I will shortly be leaving. We do so glad to see God working in your midst. But sorrowful because we will miss the relationship we have made. Thank you for welcoming us. We appreciate the prayers and love you have shown us. Much like with Paul, though not physically present, the care for you will not diminish.

Thank you for the opportunity.

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

Notes from the Associate Pastor Harry

November is here and the long haul of a Phoenix summer is finally over for a few months. That alone is something that you should be thankful for. The Bible is filled with directives to give God thanks (See Psalm 106:1; 107:1; 118:1; 1 Chron. 16:34; 1 Thess. 5:18 to name a few). A lot of the verses then list reasons why we should thank Him, such as “His love endures forever” (Psalm 136:3), “He is good” (Psalm 118:29), and “His mercy is everlasting” (Psalm 100:5). Thanksgiving and praise always go together. We cannot correctly praise and worship God without also being thankful.

Feeling and expressing appreciation is good for us. Like any wise father, God wants us to learn to be thankful for **all** the gifts He has given us (James 1:17). It is in our best interest to be reminded that everything we have is a gift from Him because, without gratitude, we tend to become arrogant and self-centered. We start to believe that we have obtained everything on our own. Thankfulness keeps our hearts in a right relationship to the Giver of all good gifts.

Giving thanks also reminds us of how much we do have. We are all prone to greediness to one degree or another. We tend to focus on what we don't have. But by giving thanks continually we are reminded of how much we do have. When we focus on our blessings rather than our wants, we're happier people. When we start thanking God for the things we usually take for granted, our perspective changes. We realize that we could not even exist without the merciful blessings of God.

1 Thess. 5:18 says, “In everything give thanks; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.” So, we're to be thankful not only in pleasant situations but in the circumstances that we don't like. When we actively decide to thank God regardless of what comes into our lives, we keep bitterness at bay because we can't be both thankful and bitter at the same time. It's not that we're grateful for tragedy, but we can be thankful for who God is even in the midst of tragedy. He sustains us and gives us strength to endure (see James 1:12; 2 Cor. 12:9). We thank Him for His promise that “all things will work together for the good, to those who love God and are called according to His purpose” (Rom. 8:28).

We can have thankful hearts toward God even when we don't *feel* thankful for the circumstances we're in. We can grieve and still be thankful. We can hurt and still be thankful. We can be angry at sin and still be thankful toward God. That is what the Bible calls a “sacrifice of praise” (Heb. 13:15). Giving thanks to God keeps our hearts in a right relationship with Him and saves us from a host of harmful emotions and attitudes that will rob us of the peace God wants us to experience.

In His service,
Pastor Harry

Food Drive for Rio Vista Throughout November



GREATEST NEED:
PROTEIN
POP TOP VEGGIES
POP TOP SOUP



Please place food in collection barrels in Sanctuary or in Building B

Frozen Turkey Drive

rio vista center

Beginning Sun, Nov 10th through Wed, 20th!



Bring to the Church Office, or place frozen turkeys in the freezer in Bldg B

Thanksgiving Feast & Fellowship Potluck



Nov 24th following Morning Service

Here are the recommendations if you're able to bring one.



Last Names:

A-G ~ Dessert

H-M ~ Main Dish

N-Z ~ Side Dish

NO Sunday School or Evening Service



THANKSGIVING FEAST

HELP NEEDED

Set-up Sat., Nov. 23rd @ 9am

Feast is Sunday, Nov. 24th

Following Service

Clean-up Sun, Nov. 24th



Please sign up in Bldg. B or contact the Church Office if you'd like to help with set-up and or clean-up.

Notes from the Youth Team

By Diane Williams

This school year on Wednesday nights in Youth we're using the same Adventure Club curriculum as the children - slightly revised for older students. The curriculum is designed to teach foundational truths about God and His Word. Each week an additional basic truth is added to the ones already learned along with a supporting Bible verse to be memorized.

This week, the truth we'll be covering is "God is The Creator". This is always one of my favorite things to teach, partly because the story of Creation reveals so many characteristics or attributes of God. He is self-sufficient, self-existent, eternal, omniscient, omnipotent, etc.

One of His attributes that I focus on during the Creation story is that He is an orderly God. Everything He does is with function, purpose, and intent. During the Creation week, He displays His orderliness by first forming and preparing the universe and then filling it. I use the following graphic to show how Days 1-3 each correlate to the next 3 days:

Day 1 Light Genesis 1:3-5	Day 2 Sky and Seas Genesis 1:6-8	Day 3 Dry Land and Plants Genesis 1:9-12
Day 4 Sun, Moon, and Stars Genesis 1:14-18	Day 5 Sea Creatures and Flying Things Genesis 1:20-21	Day 6 Land Creatures and Humans Genesis 1:24-27

On Day 1, God created light and separated it from the darkness. Then, on Day 4, He filled it with the sun, moon, and stars. On Day 2, God separated the waters making the sky and seas. Then, on Day 5, He filled the sky and seas with living creatures that flew and swam. On Day 3, God gathered the waters together into one place and let the dry land appear. Then, on Day 6, He filled the dry land with living creatures including His most unique creation, mankind. Each of the things He created reflects His character and reminds us of His goodness. How can we do anything but worship and praise such an amazing Creator God?



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

November/December Events

Sunday, November 3rd – Parent's Meeting

Sunday, November 10th – Afterglow (after evening Bible Study)

Saturday, November 23rd – Turkey Day at Rio Vista Center (churchwide event)

Sunday, November 24th – Thanksgiving Dinner (youth serve)

Wednesday, November 27th – No Youth

Thursday, November 28th – Turkey Bowl (youth and college)

Sunday, December 1st – Deck the Hall Afterglow

Wednesday, December 18th – Christmas Celebration

Wednesday, December 25th – No Youth




Turkey Day

Sat, November 23rd
8:30 - 10:30 am

Questions see Diane Williams

Adults Click here to sign up



Notes from the Worship Leader

I want to thank you all for the support you have given me during my political candidacy. Whatever the outcome, may this opportunity be for God's name to be glorified.

I was talking with one of my running mates and we were asking ourselves, "If we win, would we have to be careful not to lose our focus of why we are running in the first place? Would we have to be careful who we allow ourselves to be influenced by? In other words, would we allow ourselves to be intoxicated by the gossip, the drama, the negativity, and the criticism?" We had noticed this behavior since the beginning of our campaign and, I asked my colleague, "Do you think they started just like us? I mean did they go in with the right passion, the right reason, and along the way they allowed themselves to be intoxicated by unfruitful behavior?" If this happens in the political world, can it happen in the church as well?

My answer is. "Yes, it can, and it does." We have seen many situations, whether personally or by other means, where the church has allowed itself to be intoxicated by the world. Maybe at our church not through a prosperity gospel, but what about drama, gossip, or negative criticism? Sometimes, without noticing, we allow ourselves not to be used by God and allow ourselves to be used by the enemy. We start criticizing the church so much that the church becomes the enemy.

Ephesians 4:29-32 says "Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.". I know it's been a lot of change, and, for us at Laveen Baptist Church, it has been quite a ride, but God has never left us. He is with us now, and we have seen His mighty hand move throughout. We will have a new president, new elected officials, a new lead pastor, youth pastor, elders and so on, but God's faithfulness and His Word never changes, and that's why it's vital we depend on God.

Brothers, I encourage you to reflect on what comes out of your mouth just as I have to analyze what comes out of mine. Let it be words that build up and not words that destroy. I also encourage you to not lose your focus of why God chose us, and that is to share the good news of salvation. I appreciate and love every one of you, and my prayers to you and your family.


Cesar Aleman



LBC Missions
LAVEEN BAPTIST CHURCH


Monthly Meeting
After AM Service
Room 9

Join Us
Nov 10th



BLOOD DRIVE
Thursday, Nov 21st 2pm - 7pm

Sign Up Online
or
Call the Church Office



LAVEEN BAPTIST CHURCH
5036 w Dobbins Rd.
Laveen, AZ 85339
602-237-4885

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.

We will be signing people up over the next 6 weeks.



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

Happy Birthday

NOVEMBER

1 st	George Richardson	10 th	Lisa Salinas	22 nd	Khaldun Thompson
2 nd	Lorenzo Cassanguir	11 th	Joy Andrew	23 rd	Lisa Valdivia
	Lohany Cassanguir	12 th	Jack Tolmachoff	28 th	Ruben Becerra
4 th	Daniel Aleman	13 th	Ellis Kuhn		Nazario Prieto
5 th	Harold Stewart	14 th	Felix Jimenez		Janis Villa
7 th	Colt Charmasson	18 th	Charolette Bell	30 th	Connor Martin
9 th	Katharyn Macy	20 th	Bethanne Desko		Leslee Steinmann
10 th	Linda Combs		Margo Kruse		
	Hannah Mills	21 st	Renee Nowell		

Anniversary

NOVEMBER

- 5th - Joseph & Katharyn Macy
- 14th - Dusty & Dennielle Shelton
- 12th - George & Pauline Mungai
- 20th - Felix & Laura Acosta

Grief & Share

Free **Surviving**
the *Holidays*



Sat., Nov. 16th @ 10:00am
in Building B Rooms 4

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Morning Service Sun. Dec 1st



Do This In Remembrance Of Me



November



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

MONDAY

Ladies AM Bible Study - Ecclesiastes 8:00 am
 Ladies PM Bible Study - Acts 5:45 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

Griefshare (August - November 7th) 10:00 am

FRIDAY

AA Meeting 6:30 pm

Special Events

NOVEMBER

Sun, Nov 3rd – Youth Parent Meeting 11:45 am
 Tues, Nov 5th – Election Day (Office Closed)
 Sat, Nov 16th – GriefShare Surviving the Holidays
 10:00 am – 12:00 pm
 Thur, Nov 21st – Blood Drive 2:00 pm – 7:00 pm
 Sat, Nov 23rd – Rio Vista Turkey Day 8:30 am
 Sun, Nov 24th – No Sunday School
 NO Childrens Church
 Thanksgiving Fellowship 11:30 am
 Mon, Nov 25th – Laveen Coalition 6:00 pm
 Tues, Nov 26th – Crafting in Ruth's Footprints 9:30 am
 Wed, Nov 27th – No Events tonight
 Thur, Nov 28th – Turkey Bowl (Youth vs College) 8:00 am
 Sat, Nov 30th – Marriage Small Group, Room 4 5:30 pm

DECEMBER

Sun, Dec 1st – Lords Supper
 Youth Deck the Hall Afterglow 5:00 pm
 Wed, Dec 4th – Staff Meeting 11:30 am
 Thurs, Dec 5th – Interfaith Meeting 10 – 11am
 Dec 8th - Budget Business Meeting 11:45 am

Welcome New Members



Deborah Davis & Christina Moan

Baby Dedication

Baby - Rose Gina Lydia



Teddy & Mallory Amoaning-Dua