



The Laveen Baptist Church Builder

Volume XLV, Number 10

October 1, 2024

Notes from Pastor Jim

During a recent Wednesday prayer meeting, someone mentioned to God about his weakness. His prayer echoed Paul's by saying, "When I am weak, then I am strong" (2 Cor. 12:10). These were timely words for me. For you see, I am all too aware of my weaknesses, I struggle with and perceive them to be hindrances in my desire to be of service to Father. On this particular day, I was preoccupied by my weaknesses so much I felt like a useless piece of equipment. This individual's embracing of his weaknesses and the Spirit's prompting caused me to re-consider my weaknesses.

There is no definitive idea of what Paul's weakness was. Based on His comments in Galatians 4:15 and 6:11, some suggest he may have suffered from an eye condition. Others, referencing 1 Corinthians 2:3-5, propose Paul suffered from some debilitating disease, i.e. malaria, etc. Whatever his situation, Paul related to it as "a thorn in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me."

Of his "thorn," Paul acknowledged two things that affected him directly and daily. First, his condition was inconvenient in the least and downright debilitating at worst. It was an uncomfortable reminder, an impediment, to effective service. It held him back. He couldn't do the things he wanted. He couldn't go as fast or as far, or accomplish all that his heart desired. Paul viewed this "thorn" as an obstacle to serving Jesus.

Second, his "thorn" left him feeling mocked, belittled, and ridiculed. Whatever his impediment was, Satan exploited it to belittle and discourage Paul. His weakness was a discomfiting reminder that Paul was not what he wanted to be. Like a pebble in his shoe, it slowed Paul down and gave him reason to question himself.

However Paul viewed this matter, God allowed it in order that He would be glorified. In allowing Paul to be slowed down, handicapped, situations were created where wondrous things were associated with an obviously incapable individual. In his weakness, Paul was a living, breathing five loaves and two fishes used to feed over 5,000 people (Matt. 14:13-21).

Paul admits that apart from this "thorn," there would have been the danger of him becoming arrogant, prideful, and full of himself. Instead, hobbled as he was, there was little danger of Paul thinking he was responsible for anything associated with him. Paul's weakness left no doubt that what took place was all Father's doing.

Since we tend to find our value in our perception of ourselves, it's hard to accept our weaknesses. That's why Satan used Paul's condition against him. But, eventually, Paul accepted that a weakened state provides God room to manifest His grace (enabling power). This results in God Himself getting the glory.

Therefore, Paul embraced his weaknesses. He came to understand that when he was weak, unable to carry the entire load, incapable of accomplishing what God wanted to do, that he was in the position God wanted. For in the situation God would make Himself known.

Me, I am working on it. Like Paul, I desire that God be seen and honored. If it takes me looking like a weakling for this to be, then by His grace I'll learn to accept it.

Pastor Jim

Notes from the Associate Pastor Harry

I was reading through some of my past articles and thought I'd update this one from 2019 and resend it because the message is still so true and one we need to remember.

While October is known for a particular well-known day at the end of the month that allows both candymakers and dentists to stay in business for another year, in 2024 you may also see that on the 12th is the last of the Jewish High Holy days known as Yom Kippur or the Day of Atonement. The central themes of the day are atonement and repentance. Judaism recognizes that everybody sins on occasion, but that people can stop or minimize those occasions in the future by repenting for past transgressions. Thus, the primary purpose of repentance in Judaism is ethical self-transformation.

The good news for people, though, is that the Day of Atonement has already happened. It occurred a little over two thousand years ago when the perfect lamb sacrifice was given for all of the sins of mankind for all time. Jesus completed the atonement for your sin and mine when, as the only sinless man to ever live, he died and bore the punishment for our sin. 1 John 2:2 "He is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world." (NIV) We don't have to keep doing a temporary cover year after year. All we have to do is accept that payment for the cost of our sin.

As to repentance though, we are never looking to self-transformation because most of us have tried that at one time or another, often with those failed New Year's resolutions, and failed miserably. As Christians, we know that repentance is agreeing with God's position on the sins that so often creep into our lives, to confess them to God who already knows about them and to live in and by His power so that we don't return to them. 1 John 1:9 – "If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." When God makes us clean there's not a spot to be found.

So, this October when you see that notation on your calendar about Yom Kippur take that time to remember that the Day of Atonement has already happened for you. Let it also remind you to remember what that means in your life and be thankful to God for it. And finally, let it also remind you to regularly be in a position of repentance as you seek to live a life that is for God's honor and glory. Even if you overeat some of the candy that may appear in your house after the Harvest Festival night of fun and frivolity.

In His service,
Pastor Harry

Baby/Child Dedication



October 13, 2024

Complete registration
in foyer or contact the
Church Office

by Oct 06, 2024

CHURCH WORK DAY
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Saturday, October 5th, 7:30 am - 12 pm
Let's keep our facility looking great

Do This In Remembrance Of Me

For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

1 Corinthians 11:26



**THE LORD'S
SUPPER**

**Morning Service
Sunday
October 6th**

Notes from the Youth Team

By Diane Williams

Friday-Sunday, September 20th-22nd, 13 of our students and 3 adult leaders attended the DNow (Disciple Now) Conference held at Avondale Baptist Church along with several other church youth groups. It was an amazing weekend full of music, Bible teaching, games, food, and fellowship. We all had a great time and want to go back next year.

One of the things that's built into DNow weekends is an opportunity for mission outreach. We had the privilege of serving at the Phoenix Resource Center at 27th Avenue and Augusta in north Phoenix. They are one of three Community Resource Centers in the Valley supervised by Arizona Baptist Children's Services (ABCS): Casa de Amor in Mesa, Rio Vista Center in south Phoenix, and the one where we served.

ABCS ministries focus on providing practical help to meet physical, emotional and spiritual needs. "Our goal is to share the love of Christ with each person we come in contact with." These Resource Centers are one of the ways that they meet those needs. Each one of these ministers to people who our culture would classify as "the least of these": low-income families, homeless, underserved, etc. They are on the frontlines of ministry. Along with food and clothing distribution, each Center also houses a New Life Pregnancy Center that offers diapers and other supplies, counseling, and parenting classes. Each Center also has a Bridge church on campus that partners with ABCS to provide for the needs in their community.

Our students have had the opportunity to serve in Mesa and south Phoenix, so I was excited that they got to serve at the third Center on Saturday. Because these Centers run on a very limited budget and respond to a very large amount of need, the men and women who serve there live with the constant expectation that God will provide – and He does. And that's one reason I like to have our students serve at these Centers; because it's very obvious that this is God's ministry, done God's way, through God's provision.

Ephesians 2:10 tells us that God has prepared good works for us to do. As believers, we're meant to share what God has given to us, physically and spiritually. In the movie, "Free Burma Rangers", Dave Eubanks says, "Go to the sound of need. And trust God to show you how you can be useful." Serving at one of these Resource Centers is a great way to share the gospel and be the hands and feet of Jesus. As a church, we serve at Rio Vista Center several times a year, but you can serve there individually, also.

If you'd like to know more about Arizona Baptist Children's Services and the Community Resource Centers, you can check out their website at www.abcs.org. There you can find more information about their services and contact information for each of the ministries.

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

October Events

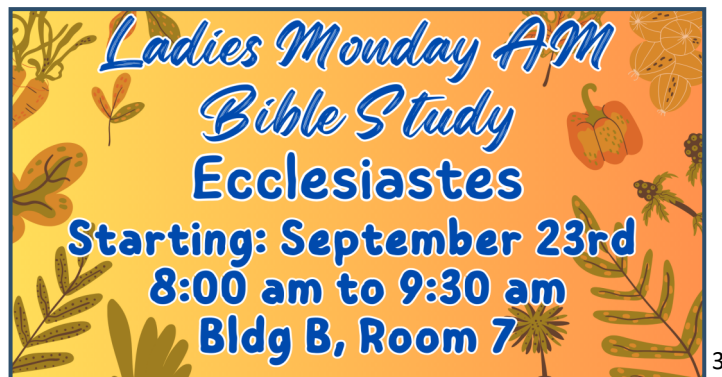
Sunday, October 6th – Afterglow (after evening Bible Study)

Saturday, October 19th – Delivering Hope (churchwide event)

Wednesday, October 23rd – Harvest Night

Saturday, October 26th – Where's Waldo?

Thursday, October 31st – Harvest Festival (churchwide event – sign up in Youth)



Notes from the Worship Leader



I want to start my article by sharing something I read last week. "We sing not because the present is enjoyable, but because the future is glorious." (Christopher Ash). This is so true. It reminds me of what 2 Corinthians 4:17 says, "or this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison." We can agree life is not easy and being a Christian doesn't mean we have it all good. It's the stereotype that people believe we as Christians have it all perfect. The truth is we are far from perfection, and we all fall short from the grace of God (Romans 3:23-24). We all go through trials and temptations, whether that is spiritually, emotionally, mentally, financially, whatever the reason. But we have Jesus and it is good to know we have hope in Him (John 16:33). We know our biggest reward is the day we see Jesus. In other words, the hardships we face in life are only temporary. It might bring us down sometimes, and we might feel like quitting and throwing in the towel, but I'm going to keep my eyes on Jesus.

Can you just imagine the day that we will no longer just speak about Jesus, we will see Him (Rev. 22:4-5)? We will be rejoicing and celebrating, worshipping Jesus (Rev.7:9-12). God's people from all over the world, from a different time, singing together in a place where there will be no hunger, no sickness, and no death (Rev. 21:4). If that is what the future holds for me and you, then let's continue in His path. Don't be discouraged, because God is with us (Joshua 1:9). Our situations become small when we see Jesus. I know it is easier said than done, but I have come to understand that I need Jesus and not just on Sundays but every day, twenty-four seven. If I keep my eyes on Jesus, my trials become smaller, and I will be able to understand that what I'm facing now is not to see that I can do it, but I can see God's hand in the midst of it. Not to see my own strength but to see God's faithfulness through it.

Brothers! Continue forward! Rejoice and sing loud and proud because you have a place to be and sooner or later we will arrive there.

Cesar Aleman

LADIES FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK
OCTOBER 11, 2024
6:00 PM
Bring your favorite dish to share



DELIVERING HOPE
FREE MUSIC EVENT



Bring your chairs, blankets, and enjoy the event!
Live music from local church worship teams
Resources from various community organizations
Free food provided for all attendees

Everyone is welcome!
Saturday, October 19
1pm-5pm
Laveen Baptist Church Lawn

NEW LIFE PREGNANCY CENTER
NEEDS LBC'S SUPPORT!
Things always needed:
Baby Soap & Lotion, Diaper Rash cream
Pads with wings, Size 5 & 6 Diapers
Wipes & Bibs

Contacts: Lisa Valdivia or Sue Hardy



Monthly Meeting
After AM Service
Room 9

Join Us
Oct 13th

Update from Personnel & Pastor Search Committee

As was announced on Sunday, September 29, 2024 we have scheduled opportunities (see below) for you to visit with Pastor Lewis and his wife, Amy, and view some of his sermons before the October 27, 2024 service.

If you would like a copy please contact the Church Office via phone or email


602-237-4885

lbc@laveenbaptistchurch.org


<u>Meeting For</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Description</u>
Those without internet access, who would like to view sermons by Pastor Lewis	Sun., 10/6/24	5:00 p.m.	A different sermon will be viewed each night in Building B, Room #2.
	Sun., 10/13/24	5:00 p.m.	
	Sun., 10/20/24	5:00 p.m.	
Church Office Staff & their Spouses	Wed., 10/23/24	11:30 am	Meet & Greet with Pastor and Amy Lewis
Entire Church	Wed., 10/23/24	5:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Meet & Greet with Pastor and Amy Lewis during and after the Wednesday night dinner
Music Ministry Team & their Spouses	Thurs., 10/24/24	6:00 – 7:00 p.m.	Meet & Greet with Pastor and Amy Lewis - Sanctuary
Trustees, Deacons & their Spouses	Fri., 10/25/24	6:00 – 8:00 p.m.	Dinner with Pastor and Amy Lewis – Building B
Entire Church	Sat., 10/26/24	5:00 p.m.	Question & Answers with Pastor and Amy Lewis – Sanctuary Dessert fellowship afterward - Building B

Crafting in Ruth's Footprints

2nd and 4th TUESDAYS OF THE MONTH
October 8th & 22nd
9:30 AM
BLDG B Room 2







Harvest Festival

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 31
5:30-8:00 PM
CANDY
FOOD TRUCKS
GAMES



LAVEEN BAPTIST CHURCH
5036 W Dobbins Rd
Laveen, AZ 85339

Adventure Club

Hello, Church Family I thought I would give you an update on Adventure Club that started on September 4th. We started that first night with 37 kids signed up, added 6 more that night, and now have a total of 51 signed up. So far at least 45 have attended each night. While the first week was rather chaotic, we are slowly getting into the routine.

This is what a typical night looks like for our leaders and kids:

5:55pm - Leaders meet in one of the classrooms to pray for the night.

6:00 pm - Leaders start signing the kids in, take their satchel, and send them to room 4 to start Music. After Music is over, the little kids (3 yr - 5 yr old) are excused and go back to their classroom for the rest of the night.

6:30 pm - The older kids (6 - 11 year olds) are given an opportunity to get a drink of water and use the rest rooms before coming back to room 4 for "teaching" time.

7:00 pm - The older kids go out to games. After games is over they come back in, and

7:30 pm - They go to their "small group" classrooms to say last week's verse and Central Truth to their table leader and review the material they had just learned earlier that night for the next week. Then they are dismissed and picked up by parents.

Every week for 5 weeks the kids get a new Central Truth and Memory Verse to study. On week 6 they will review the 5 previous Central Truths and Memory Verses and they will have an opportunity to earn a new Pin.

This week is week 5 so I am looking forward to how our first review night will go. We are still looking for Volunteers. If anyone is interested, let me know.

Tina

Welcome New Deacon

On Sunday, September 15, 2024 Laveen Baptist Church officially welcomed Justin Wolfe as our most recent Deacon. Below, Justin and his wife Laura were prayed over by the current Deacons and their wives.





OCTOBER

1 st	Lena Hertel	11 th	Jesus Sosa	24 th	Richard Freeberg
2 nd	Paul Dodson	12 th	Corynne Charmasson	25 th	Daniel Brewster
3 rd	Holly James	13 th	Gemma Fearn		Tina Freeberg
4 th	Christina Moan	19 th	Esmee' Thompson	26 th	Nancy Fullmer
6 th	Adam Welker	20 th	Michael Williams		Cathy Martin
7 th	Jenny Arriaga		Juanita Walker	27 th	Luca Jimenez
	Jade Arriaga	21 st	Andy Harry		Guillermo Quihuis
9 th	Bonnie Carroll	22 nd	Leandro Prieto		Sue Hardy
	Alex Ponce	23 rd	Wisdom Andrew		Claudia Ramirez
10 th	Isaiah Pena		Gregory Villa	30 th	Mary Papp



OCTOBER

4th - Andrew & Queen Bialo

30th - Jimmie & Linda Creekmur

Volunteers NEEDED

Harvest Festival

SIGN-UP SHEETS ARE IN BUILDING B

SIGN UP TODAY

Wednesday Night Dinner

\$4.00 per person up to 6 then \$1.00 per person up to 12 per household.

\$4.00 per To-Go-Box (not included in the household rate)

Please PAY separately for any guest



October



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

OCTOBER

Sat, Oct 5th – Church work Day 7:30 am – 12:00 pm
 Sun, Oct 6th – Lord's Supper During AM Service
 Delivering Hope Planning Meeting 11:30 am
 Youth Afterglow 5:00 pm
 Tues, Oct 8th – Crafting in Ruth's Footprints 9:30 am
 Wed, Oct 9th – Staff Meeting 11:30 am
 Fri, Oct 11th – Ladies Fellowship Potluck 6:00 pm
 Sun, Oct 13th – Baby Dedication During AM Service
 Missions Committee Meeting Rm 9 11:30 am
 Wed, Oct 16th – Homeschoolers Chess Club
 (weekly till 12/19) 1:00 pm – 2:00 pm
 Sat, Oct 19th – Delivering Hope Fall Event 1pm – 5pm
 Tues, Oct 22nd – Crafting in Ruth's Footprints 9:30 am
 Sat, Oct 26th – Youth Where's Waldo 9:30 am
 Sun, Oct 27th – Qtr 4 Family Business Mg 11:30 am
 Mon, Oct 28th – Laveen Coalition 6:00 pm
 Thur., Oct 31st – Harvest Festival 5:30 pm

NOVEMBER

Sun, Nov 3rd – Youth Parent Meeting 11:45 am
 Tues, Nov 5th – Election Day (Office Closed)

Welcome New Members



Landon

Becerra-Williams



Elijah

Downs



Guillermo

Quihuis