



The Link

Vol. 55, No. 7

February 19, 2014

FAITH AND FINANCE

There are numerous hot-button issues that send people of faith scurrying to their Bibles to discover what scripture has to say on the matter, but few of us realize that Jesus spoke far more often about money and related matters than he did about some of the social issues that capture much of our time and attention. Would that he had given us more direction in those areas! Perhaps the idea was that we would put our faith to work in struggling through the thorniest issues of the time.

Not so with money! Jesus had a lot to say about handling our finances. Most notably we remember that saying from the Sermon on the Mount: "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also" (Matthew 6:21).

With that in mind, you need to know where your treasure is, that is the financial gifts that you donated to support the ministry of Lakeside last year.

We have all been aware that the last two years have been financially difficult for many individuals, families, and institutions. Lakeside was no different. Our budget for 2013 was \$633,379. We received offerings and other income of \$596,433, a shortfall of \$36,946. Thanks to the hard work of our staff, we underspent the budget by \$20,882, leaving a deficit of \$16,064. This money was taken from our reserve fund.

Two years ago, recognizing a similar situation, we developed a provisional operating budget that was \$25,000 less than the approved budget. Had those steps not been taken, we would have faced a serious deficit. This year, we will again operate on a budget that is lower than the one we all approved last November.

Why are we in this situation? Is our budget unrealistic? I don't think so. Anyone studying our budget will recognize that it is rather lean. We give 11.5% of our gifts to missions, an amount we would all wish to be higher. Our programs operate with sufficient funds, but with few resources to spare. Our wonderful facilities require regular maintenance which is not inexpensive. Granted, we invest a sizeable portion of our budget in staff needs; however, this congregation expects excellence and hard work. We should not expect less for the persons who lead our ministry than we expect for ourselves. We have a very healthy and reasonable budget. Our challenge is to support it.

Each and every one of us must recognize that Lakeside's ministry is our ministry. We have an obligation to support it. It is not right to expect someone else to do our part nor is it realistic to think that the offering I gave ten years ago is sufficient to support the ministries of today. Everyone ought to be financially supporting our ministry in some way just as we ought to offer time and talents as we are able. As the Apostle Paul said, "Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (II Corinthians 9:7). Your treasure is valuable—so is the ministry of this congregation. Let us happily put our hearts in the right place.

Jody Wright

OUR PRAYER CONCERNS

Please remember the following persons who need our prayers and support:

Autumn Care of Nash, 1210 Eastern Avenue, Nashville, NC 27856

Jerry Jolley, Room 307

Charles Wilkerson, Room 406

At Home:

Natalie Stewart Cortez, 6410 Lakewood Boulevard, Dallas, TX 75214

Hank Dunham, 1109 Meadow Drive, Townville, SC 29689

Brenda and John Hartness, 1041-I North Jamestown Road, Decatur, GA 30033

Georgia Morris, 1930 Northern Boulevard (04)

Winnie Raper, 1421 Lafayette Avenue (03)

Sylvia Wiese (sister of Jim Raynor), 113 Wilmar Court, Vader, WA 98593

Drew Yanishak, 9022 Brigadier Road, Mechanicsville, VA 23116

Our Members-at-Home

Catherine Cooper, 3313 Amherst Road (04)

Marie Price, 3786 Loblolly Drive (04)

Audrey Scarboro, 724 York Street (03)

Marjorie Taylor, Golden Living Center, 1000 Western Blvd., Tarboro, NC 27886

Alease Whitford, 1600 Goldrock Road (04)

We offer our sympathy to Dennis and Brenda Culpepper in the death of his brother, Vernon Culpepper, on February 14 in Raleigh.

TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY ORGAN CONCERT

In celebration of his twenty-fifth anniversary as Lakeside's organist, Mark Gansor will offer a concert of some of his favorite organ compositions on Friday evening, February 28, at 7:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. A reception honoring Mark will follow in Kincheloe Hall.

LAKESIDE PRESCHOOL PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Make plans to enjoy a few hours to yourself while helping support Lakeside Preschool! On Friday, February 21, from 5:30–8:00 p.m., the Preschool staff will offer their semi-annual Parents' Night Out. They will have pizza, hot chocolate, crafts and a movie for the children to enjoy. Spread the word to family and friends and help make this fun night a success! The cost per child is \$30. Additional children per family will be \$15 each. Please call the preschool or email Samantha Salz at samanthasalz@yahoo.com to sign up. A minimum of five families is needed in order to offer this event.

LAKESIDE PRESCHOOL OPEN HOUSE

Lakeside Preschool will be holding an Open House on Tuesday, February 25, from 5:00–7:00 p.m. Come and visit with our teachers and explore the classrooms! Registration is open for pre-kindergarten, 3's and 2's. For more information email samanthasalz@yahoo.com or call 446-2626. We hope to see you there!

LARGE PRINT ORDERS OF WORSHIP

We now have the order of worship available in large print. Please ask an usher if you would like one on Sunday morning.

DONATION RECEIPTS

Anyone who donated items for the youth yard sale and is still in need of a tax receipt for your in-kind donation, please contact the church office.

YOUTH NEWS

Week after week, this column may sound like a broken record (a simile some of the youth won't even understand). It often begins with a litany of "thank you's," a list of the people who have contributed to our various events and activities. While I never want what I write here to seem tedious, the pattern is necessitated by the tremendous generosity of so many in the Lakeside family who support our youth program with your time, talents and resources. Thank you, Lakeside, for all that you do to nurture and encourage our young people in their growing faith!

We will be on a regular schedule for choirs, dinner and SNL this Sunday evening. I hope to see you all there. Elizabeth

SHAGGING FOR SHELTER

The United Community Ministries Board of Directors will hold "Shagging for Shelter" on Friday evening, February 28, from 6:30-10:30 p.m. at the Imperial Centre. Tickets for this fund-raising event are \$35 per person and include a barbecue dinner, silent auction, raffle, and dancing. Tickets are available in the church office and donations are also appreciated for those unable to attend. Our members can head over after Mark's reception for a final dance or two.

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH ANNUAL CASSEROLE AND BAKE SALE

March 22, 2014 * 9:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Plan now for all of the delicious items you will donate to our sale. Remember that we have a supply of containers and labels in the office. If a recipe from *A TASTE OF LAKESIDE* is used, please highlight that fact on your "ingredients label." Sign-up will begin soon.

SUNDAY AT LAKESIDE

Deacon Greeters - Stuart Todd and Jill Ward

Ushers - Group II, Ray Weathers, Captain

Crucifer - Jackson Browder; Acolyte - Reynolds Cobb

Extended Session - Ann Winstead

Nursery Volunteer - Alicia Hamrick

Audio Booth Volunteer - Ricky Cobb

FINANCIAL SUMMARY FOR 7 WEEKS

2014 Missions and Ministry Budget: \$633,375

	Week	YTD
Budget Goal	\$12,180	\$85,260
Receipts February 16	\$4,985	\$70,169
Amount remaining to meet the Annual Budget		\$563,206

Worship at Lakeside

February 23, 2014

The Seventh Sunday after the Epiphany

Old Testament Lesson: Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 5:38-48

Sermon: "Make a Difference"

Chancel Choir Anthems:

"I Will Joyfully Sing" - McDonald

"Total Praise" - Smallwood/arr. Rao

LAKESIDE BAPTIST CHURCH

1501 Sunset Avenue, Rocky Mount, NC 27804

Phone: 252-446-0126 Fax: 252-446-4997

E-mail: lakesidem@embarqmail.com

Website: lakesidechurchmt.org

CareNet Counseling East of Rocky Mount

355-2801 • toll free: 866-355-2801

CHURCH STAFF

Elizabeth Edwards

Associate Minister

Stephanie Bynum

Secretarial Assistant

Mark Gansor

Organist

Jody Wright

Senior Minister

Linda Davis

Administrative Assistant

Napoleon Taylor

Custodian

Amy Shortt

Minister of Music

Susan Skinner

Senior Adult Director

Samantha Saliz

Preschool Director

The Link
1501 Sunset Avenue
Rocky Mount, NC
27804-504

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CHURCH CALENDAR

Friday, February 21-Sunday, February 23

Women's Retreat, Lake Gaston

Sunday, February 23

9:45 a.m. Sunday School

10:00 a.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

10:30 a.m. Coffee and Fellowship, Education Building Foyer

11:00 a.m. Worship

5:00 p.m. Preschool Storytime, Children's Missions Activities

5:00 p.m. Youth Choir and Handbells

5:45 p.m. Dinner for Preschoolers and Children

6:00 p.m. Dinner for Youth

6:15 p.m. Preschool Music and Activities, Children's Choir

6:30 p.m. SNL

Tuesday, February 25

7:00 p.m. Adult Study Group, Conference Room

Wednesday, February 26

10:00 a.m. Adult Study Group, Conference Room

6:30 p.m. Lakeside Ringers Rehearsal

7:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, February 27

12:00 p.m. Meditation Group, Parlor