

# February Connections Lakewood Baptist Church

**Community Wide True Love Waits Event  
Wednesday Night, February 12th 6:30-8:30 PM**



Guest  
Speaker :  
Ricky Smith  
Calvary  
Ministries  
Columbus,  
Georgia

Worship  
Band :  
Eminent  
Worship

**Location - Lakewood Baptist Church (Main Sanctuary)  
4011 Lakewood Drive Phenix City, Al. 36867  
334.298.6433**

# Message from Brother M.R.

As I begin to write this message I am truly excited about all that God is doing among us this year. With the turn of the New Year God has been adding to our number in nearly every service. I can't help but believe that this will continue as long as we stay the course of strong Bible study, prayer and fellowship. In Acts 2:42-47 we get a wonderful picture of the early church as it began from only a few faithful believers, dedicated to the core essentials of the faith. With no buildings or denominational organization, no resources or political influence, persecuted and misunderstood they grew stronger every day. Their confidence in three key essentials laid the foundation for their success. "They devoted themselves to the Apostles teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer. Everyone was filled with awe, and many wonders and miraculous signs were done by the apostles. All the believers were together and had everything in common. Selling their possessions and goods, they gave to anyone as they had need. Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those that were being saved".(Acts 2:42-47) They devoted themselves to Bible study, strong fellowship and prayer and God added to their number daily! Well friends, God is the same yesterday, today and forever, and the foundation on which they grew the church is still there and just as strong as it was on that day. I say this because the new year holds great promise in the area of Bible study. Dr Horner will be leading a series of systematic Bible study programs to help anyone desiring to dive deeper in the Word. His introduction to this program can be found in this month's newsletter as well. Fellowship opportunities will continue to expand and I want to encourage everyone to give our prayer meetings a try. They start with a great meal and time of fellowship at 5pm and then our prayer meeting runs from 6 to 7pm every Wednesday night.

As a pastor I guess I see new members differently than most of our membership. Realizing the value that God places on each individual I am amazed at the confidence that God has in me. I need to learn a lesson from His example when I deal with my own children. God always believes in me more than I believe in myself. He knows the real me that the Devil has been trying to mislead all my life. He knows my true potential with Him at my side and I always want to judge my potential by what I can do alone. He shows His confidence in us as a church every time He sends us a new member. He is trying to show us that He believes in us to care for them, to support and help them grow into the spiritual leaders He has planned for them to be. It is much the same as our Child Development Center. Day after day I watch the parents bringing their children through the doors of the church. They are exhibiting great faith in us to care for and support their children in a positive way. They will not leave them just anywhere! When they choose our program they are showing great confidence in us and our staff. Like the parents who walk through the doors every day, God when He sends us His children is showing great confidence that we will supply the foundational support they need to grow spiritually. A strong fellowship, with great Bible study, that leads us to prayer are those foundations.

God Bless and Best Wishes in the New Year!

## Children are a gift from God

Awana/Flyte resumed on Wednesday, January 8 with 37 kids present! Our new 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> grade ministry, Flyte, is now averaging 15 in attendance! Thank you, Shaun and Cassie Culligan, for leading this ministry for our pre-teens, and thanks to all the workers who volunteer in the Wednesday night programs for our children, you are making a difference in the lives of these young people.

The Children's Ministry Leadership Team has planned out the special activities for 2014, and our next big event is the annual Awana Lock-In, which is scheduled for March 7 at 7:00 p.m. The Sparks will have fun and games from 7:00 until 9:30, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> graders will stay all night for the lock-in. The cost will be \$5.00 per child and this will cover supper, snacks, and crafts. Parents, watch for a handout coming home soon with more details about this fun night for the kids!

The children's choir resumed on Sunday night, January 5 at 6:00p.m. I encourage all K – 6<sup>th</sup> graders to use your talents to proclaim Christ through song in this choir, which is directed by Carole Thornton and Lindsey Tidwell. We are working on the new musical, "I Can Only Imagine," which will be presented to the church family this spring!

## Shaping the Future

Andrew Spires

## Youth & Younger Single Adults

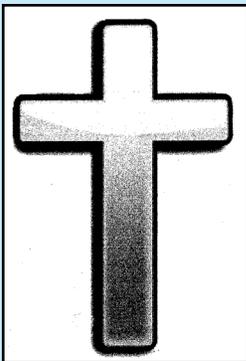
February is known as the month of love, but for those in the student ministry it's a month all about purity. Lakewood will host the community-wide True Love Waits event on Wednesday night February 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30-8:30pm. This, to my knowledge, is the first time a community wide True Love Waits event will happen on this side of the river where Columbus churches will travel over here. The group of youth pastor's who are sponsoring this event truly have a heart of cross-denominational student ministry and a spirit of selflessness which I believe is vital if we are to come together as one body of Christ. I would ask you to be in prayer in the days leading up to this event in several areas. First, that God's Spirit would move freely among us in worship, application of the spoken word, and in conviction power. Second, that students would honestly examine themselves in the area of purity and make changes, as this is the number one struggle for them and most of us. Finally, I would ask you to pray for all those involved, from the guest speaker, worship band, youth pastors, and other leaders who are involved in making the event happen. Our desire is not just a night of worship but a night that causes us to look at ourselves in the mirror and see ourselves as God sees us. Thank you in advance to all who have volunteered to help in any area for this event. Our Wednesday night lessons will all be focused on the area of purity for the entire month of February, please encourage your students not to miss a week. Also, just a reminder that we need your prayers and support for our upcoming ski trip to West Virginia (Feb. 7<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup>), and for the summer mission trip to Belize (June 8<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup>). In the days to come we will have more information on how you can get involved with our missions efforts to make them a success. Since it is the love month, may you be reminded daily of God's inescapable, never ending love for each of us.

## Bible Courses to Come

Twice in the Great Commission, as recorded in Matthew 28:19-20, Jesus told the disciples to teach. In fact, He presents teaching as their chief missionary task. They are to go in order to teach. Going is just a means to the end of teaching, and they are to baptize those who accept their teaching. The teaching is aimed at equipping the learner to become like Christ. In Ephesians 4:11-16, Paul speaks of gifted pastors and teachers building up the body of Christ into unity and maturity. The goal of teaching is the growth of the whole church into the image of Christ. As each member develops his or her own particular gifts and abilities, the whole community of believers grows. The church is people who are changed by the grace of God from darkness into light, but who still need to be changed throughout their Christian pilgrimage (2 Cor. 3:18; 2 Pet. 3:18).

Somewhere along the way, most churches got away from a disciplined methodology for making disciples, and many church leaders abandoned or never discovered their role of helping believers to identify their gifts and use them for the building up of the body of Christ. How much of this equipping is going on? Are our people growing in discipleship? How many of them know or understand the basics of the Christian faith? How many know what their personal giftings are? How many know how to use their giftings?

I am proposing the establishment of a teaching arm of the church, Lakewood Bible Training Center, or something similar, in which I will teach courses on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights, with occasional courses on week days and nights, open to the entire community. The Sunday morning classes will be a supplement to the Bible Fellowship classes. People may enroll in classes that appeal to them and still be part of their regular class. After completing so many courses, perhaps ten to twelve, students will receive a certificate, and they may continue for advanced certificates. This proposal is still in the planning stage, and more information will be forthcoming. Please express to me any suggestions you have.



Lakewood Baptist Youth will be going to Belize...  
Teaching, Building, Showing Love  
for Kids



**Please help us by recycling cans.**  
**You may drop off your cans at the  
parking lot of Lakewood Baptist.**



# VIP Bed Race

## Saturday, February 22nd

### 10:30 am

VIP raises awareness of their ministry and needed funds to support it every year by hosting a bed race in downtown Columbus.

The race is held on 14th St. between 1st Avenue & Broadway.

Come support the Lakewood Team.



**In Memory:**

Ray Newman for Youth Ski Trip from H. T. & Dot Oliver

Richard Atkins for Youth Ski Trip from H.T. & Dot Oliver

Bertha Howard for Lottie Moon from Jimmy & Susan Graham

William Bradley for Amen Choir from Billy & Cathy Greene

Melvin T. Hamilton for Circles of Influence from Clara Jean Watson

Melvin T. Hamilton for Challenge to Build from Myra Currier

Ruth Williams for Amen Choir from Billy & Cathy Greene

Ruth Williams for Lottie Moon from J. P. & Esther Benton

**In Honor:**

Jean Faulkner for Children's Home from Faith Sunshine Bible Fellowship Class

Cathy Greene for Lottie Moon from Faith Sunshine Bible Fellowship Class

M. R. and Katie Hamilton for Food Closet from Bill & Margaret Wilson

Jerry and Annie Horner for Food Closet from Bill & Margaret Wilson

J. P. and Esther Benton for Food Closet from Terry and Clara Grimes

**Welcome New Members**

Don & Judy Gallops,  
 Carrie & Jarad Swan  
 Rex & Judy Carter,  
 Carol Scherer  
 Ricky & SharAla McKinney  
 Judy & Bill McCarley

**Wednesday Menus**

**2/5**  
 Taco Salad,  
 Refried Beans,  
 Spanish Rice,  
 Salad & Dessert

**2/12**  
 Beef Stew, Cornbread,  
 Salad & Dessert

**2/19**  
 Ham, Sweet Potato  
 Casserole, Steamed  
 Broccoli, Rolls,  
 Salad & Dessert

**2/26**  
 Baked Chicken in  
 Gravy, Dressing,  
 Green Beans, Rolls,  
 Salad & Dessert

**Ministerial Staff:**

M.R. Hamilton, Pastor  
 brothermr@LBCPC.org

Charles Keown, Minister - Music & Senior Adults  
 charles@LBCPC.org

Andrew Spires, Minister - Students and Singles  
 andrew@LBCPC.org

Patrick Thornton, Minister - Children  
 patrick@LBCPC.org

Jerry Horner- Minister of Discipleship & Outreach  
 hornerjerry@hotmail.com

**Office Staff:**

Onezima Everritt, Finance Ministry Assistant  
 onezima@LBCPC.org

Carol Breault, Office Ministry Assistant  
 carol@LBCPC.org

Linda Keown, Music & Media Ministry Assistant  
 linda@LBCPC.org

**Child Development Center**

Cabbi Black, Director  
 cabbi@LBCPC.org

Tammy Evans, Administrative Assistant  
 tammy@LBCPC.org

December Giving	Budget	CTB	Missions	Other	Total
12/1/13	\$14,564.00	\$431.00	\$640.10	\$962.00	\$16,597.10
12/8/13	\$15,819.00	\$166.00	\$1,758.00	\$4,617.67	\$22,360.67
12/15/13	\$8,460.75	\$81.00	\$460.00	\$4,284.00	\$13,285.75
12/22/13	\$11,722.80	\$95.00	\$455.00	\$1,446.11	\$13,718.91
12/29/13	\$5,933.00	\$62.00	\$1,870.00	\$4,290.00	\$12,155.00

# February 2014

Check out our website for up to the minute changes @ [LBCPC.org](http://LBCPC.org)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Couples Evening Out 4:00-9:00 pm
2 1st Plc @ 4 Youth Choir @ 5 Kidz Chr @ 6 Youth & Singles Super Bowl Party @6	3 Amen Choir @ 10:30	4 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	5 VK-WMU @ 10:00 am Amen Choir leaves @ 1:00 Awana/ Flyte/ True Love Waits 6:30-8:30	6	7  ——Youth Ski Trip——	8
9 1st Place @ 4 Youth Choir @ 5 Kidz Chr @ 6 —Ski Trip—	10 Amen Choir @ 10:30	11 10:30 am Sweet Spirits Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	12 Awana/ Flyte/ Youth 7:00 Deacon Meeting	13	14	15
16 1st Place @ 4 Youth Choir @ 5 Kidz Chr @ 6	17 Amen Choir @ 10:30	18 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	19 Awana/ Flyte/ Youth Finance Team @ 7:00	20	21	22 VIP Bed Race @ 10:30 Feed the Homeless 11:00-2:00
23 1st Place @ 4 Youth Choir @ 5 Kidz Chr @ 6	24 Amen Choir @ 10:30	25 Alleluia Choir @ 6:30	26 Awana/ Flyte/ Youth CDC Meeting @ 7:00	27 JEG BW @ 7:00 Julie Pelletier's House	28	

## Regularly Ongoing Weekly Activities

\* All times are Eastern.

### Sunday

9:30 AM Contemporary Worship Service  
9:30 AM Bible Fellowship  
10:45 AM Blended Worship Service  
10:45 AM Bible Fellowship  
11:15 AM Kidz Worship  
5:30PM PRAYER TIME  
6:00 PM Worship

### Wednesday

5:00 PM Family Night Supper  
5:45 PM Youth Bible Study  
5:45 PM Awana / Flyte / Youth  
6:00 PM Orchestra Rehearsal  
6:00 PM Adult Prayer and Bible Study  
7:00 PM Praise Team

### Additional Information

The church office should receive all submissions to be considered for the monthly newsletter (*Connections*) by 2:00 PM on the 14<sup>th</sup> of the prior month.

Weekly submissions for consideration should be received by noon each Tuesday.

# SIGN UP NOW!

## FOR OUR UPCOMING PHOTOGRAPHY EVENT

### DIRECTORY PROGRAM



## Photography Sessions:

Wednesday - Friday, February 19th - 21st 1 pm - 8 pm

Saturday, February 22nd 10 am - 5 pm

Friday, February 28th 1 pm - 8 pm

Saturday, March 1st 10 am - 5 pm

Sign up @ [LBCPC.org](http://LBCPC.org) or call the Church Office

### Contact Information:

#### Lakewood Baptist Church

Website: [LBCPC.org](http://LBCPC.org)  
4011 Lakewood Drive  
Phenix City, AL 36867  
Main Office: 334.298.6433  
Fax: 334.298.4873  
Hours: M-Th 8:30 - 4:30 F- 8:30 - 4:00

#### Child Development Center:

334.298.6461  
Website: [LBCPC.org/cdc](http://LBCPC.org/cdc)  
Hours: M- F 6:30 - 6:00

February  
2014

Volume VI

Issue 2

CONNECTIONS  
(USPS #463270)  
is a monthly  
publication by  
Lakewood Baptist  
Church.  
Periodicals paid at  
Phenix City, AL.

POSTMASTER:  
Send all address  
corrections to:  
Lakewood Baptist  
Church,  
4011 Lakewood  
Drive, Phenix City,  
Alabama 36867