



# NEWS LETTER



The newsletter you have in your hands is part 2 in a brief series of special publications concerning some exciting transitions and changes at Lebanon Christian Church. A few weeks ago, we published one addressing stewardship and database changes that affect each of us.

In this brief installment we'll address steps that have been taken to help ensure the safety of our congregation as we worship. Among these changes are the implementation of a Child Protection Policy and the launch of an active Security Team.

The final content you'll uncover in this newsletter is an introduction to our new Associate Minister as we prepare to welcome him and his wife in June.

I'm thankful to serve alongside of you. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our elders or me.

Loving and serving with you,

## CHILD PROTECTION POLICY

Seeking to be responsible and faithful stewards of all that God has entrusted to us at Lebanon Christian Church, we decided to build a relationship with a reputable law firm that specializes in matters and policies that are unique to religious organizations. We began working with Josh Tatum of Plews Shadley Racher & Braun LLP. Josh specializes in helping churches. He's already proven to be a source of counsel in reviewing policies and procedures. Additionally, he has helped us understand what types of policies and procedures we are missing that could have a detrimental effect on Lebanon Christian Church. In this process, we learned of the importance of the Child and Youth Abuse Protection Guidelines. We've drafted such a policy to ensure that proper steps are taken both to provide the safety and protection of the most vulnerable among us (our children), and to guide us in necessary next steps in the unlikely event that neglect or abuse is reported.

If you volunteer in an area that involves working with minors, then your ministry leader will be scheduling time to meet with you and your team to update you on this policy and what it means for you. We know that this means some changes that could seem cumbersome for our various ministries in the beginning. However, we believe that protecting our children is worth any difficulty in changing current practices.

# SECURITY



While violence in places of worship is far from a normal reality, there have been enough instances of attacks and threats in other public venues, that we want to make sure we are doing all that we can to look out for the safety and security of those who worship with us at Lebanon Christian Church. We understand that because of evil and sin in this world, the threat of violence will persist until the Lord returns. Following the shooting in Texas in November of 2017, Lebanon Christian Church began forming a Security Team and developing a strategy for the safety of those who worship on our campus. This team had been slowly developing in recent years, but the tragic events in Southerland Springs led to intentional efforts to launch a full Security Team.

While we cannot divulge all of the details surrounding our security protocols, I want to encourage you that at our regularly scheduled worship gatherings and some special events (like our most recent community prayer gathering), we have a full security team working our security plan under the direction of the Security Team Leader, AJ Naekel. The security team is in regular communication with one another, and they work diligently to ensure that you and I can continue to worship, grow in faith, and be equipped to impact our community and world.

Part of looking after the safety and security of those who attend Lebanon Christian Church is ensuring the safe and proper exercising of a citizen's right to bear arms. Below you will find a specific request from our Security Team directed toward those of you exercising your right to bear arms through lawfully obtaining a concealed carry permit.

## Members of the congregation:

We do not want to infringe on your constitutional right to bear arms, but we do have a request. If you do carry a firearm in church, we ask that you please give your name to a member of our Security Team. Far too often we see that our churches, schools, and other public gathering places are involved in active shooters or other acts of violence. This request is to enable the Lebanon Christian Church Security Team and First Responders to know there are members attending who carry a firearm. This will let us identify who is and who is not the active shooter or person(s) causing a disturbance.

Everything will be kept in strict confidence; this just allows the team to know who and how many firearms are in the church, if there is a situation. We have various members of our Security Team who are involved in law enforcement, fire, and EMS. They will have this information and will not make public what members are Conceal Carry. You may provide your information to our Security Team by calling either AJ Naekel (765-577-0052) or Ken Conley (765-891-0734).

This is a purely voluntary request. We thank you for your gracious consideration.

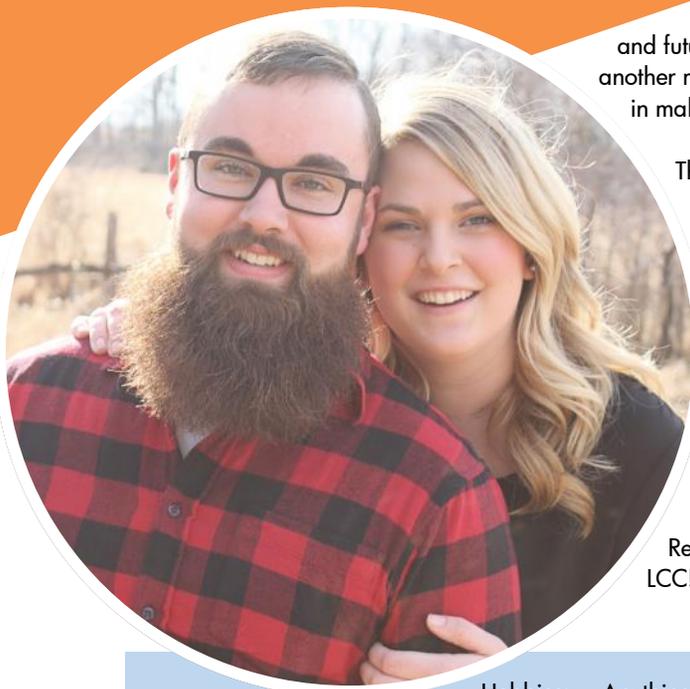
Serving you,  
The Security Team

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We thank God that He has gifted men and women in serving us through this protection. We are also thankful to God that we have the promise of His presence with us, no matter what may come in this world.

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# ASSOCIATE MINISTER



In September 2017, after months of praying intentionally about the present and future of Lebanon Christian Church, the elders determined that we needed to enlist another minister in order to be effective in building up and equipping followers of Jesus, in making disciples, and in reaching our world.

They launched the search for an Associate Minister in late September. After seven months of searching and multiple interviews with well-qualified candidates, they found a high-capacity disciple of Jesus to fill this role. The elders would like to introduce you to Philip Davis and his wife Sara.

Philip & Sara Davis were married in October 2016 and their dog completes their family. Philip earned his bachelor's degree in Preaching and Church Leadership from Johnson University and began his ministerial career in youth and children's ministry. He has been in charge of small groups and discipleship at Stroh Church of Christ since 2015, where he also preached quite a bit.

Read on below to get to know him a little better. It sounds like he'll be a great fit at LCC! More details on Philip's job description can be found on the next page.

|                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-----------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Hobbies:                                            | Anything outdoors (hiking, biking, on the water). Martial Arts. Fitness. Guitar.                                                                                       |
| Sports teams you follow:                            | Professional Bull Riding                                                                                                                                               |
| Who do you admire most and why?                     | Phil Robertson from Duck Dynasty. He stands for what he believes and lives simply. He's content with what he's got even in the face of fame. He truly loves everybody! |
| Favorite junk food:                                 | ANYTHING PEANUT BUTTER!                                                                                                                                                |
| One food you couldn't live without:                 | Chick-Fil-A (hands down the best)                                                                                                                                      |
| Where would you go if you were invisible?           | The kitchen of Chick-Fil-A to watch the magic happen.                                                                                                                  |
| Favorite "church" song:                             | "Glorious Day" by Passion                                                                                                                                              |
| Life verse:                                         | Jeremiah 20:9                                                                                                                                                          |
| Describe your faith in 3 words:                     | Bold. Passionate. Authentic.                                                                                                                                           |
| Last book you read:                                 | <i>The Road Back to You</i> by Ian Morgan Cron and Suzanne Stabile                                                                                                     |
| Favorite vacation spot:                             | Anything with mountains                                                                                                                                                |
| What music do you listen to?                        | Pretty much anything but rap and screamo                                                                                                                               |
| If you had a day to do anything, what would you do? | Go out either on the water or in the mountains with my wife                                                                                                            |
| Any quirks we should know about you?                | I like to laugh (not sure if that's a quirk). I also have quite a large beard...                                                                                       |

But if I say "I will not mention his word or speak anymore in his name," his word is shut up in my heart like a fire, a fire shut up in my bones. I am weary of holding it in. Indeed, I cannot.

—Jeremiah 20:9



**Lebanon**

Christian Church

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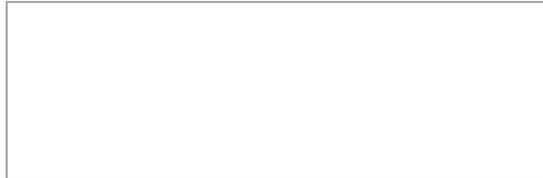
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# ASSOCIATE MINISTER

This Associate  
Minister role entails  
three key areas of  
leadership.

## Spiritual Formation

This refers to the intentional process of how our inner lives are developed to enable us to live as fully devoted disciples in our world. This includes intentional encouragement and equipping of small group leaders, class and study leaders, and working closely with other staff and leaders to ensure we are equipping the church to make disciples.

## Leadership Development

The Associate Minister will be tasked with developing a team to work toward creating a process of intentionally identifying and equipping men and women of all ages to influence the lives of others for God's purposes both within our church as well as in the home, community, and workplace.

## Global Engagement

Lebanon Christian Church has a rich history of supporting the work of the Church around the world. Our Associate Minister will work closely with our Acts 1:8 Missions Team to continue these efforts. He will also work to help us develop partnerships within our community so that Lebanon Christian Church can engage our city and county more effectively.