



THE LOMAX CHURCH OF CHRIST

MESSENGER

A place to belong. A place to be loved. A place to serve God and others.

December 16, 2012

www.lomaxchurch.com

Volume 57, Number 50

Welcome to Lomax!

As I write this article the Christian Service Center is buzzing with activity. We are in full preparation mode for our Community Christmas Dinner and what a great time it is! I am so thankful for all the people from Lomax and our sister congregations who have worked so tirelessly to make this event possible. Today we should be able to share some numbers with you about just how many lives we were able to touch on Saturday. Each meal represents an opportunity to influence someone for the Lord, and yesterday we planted lots of seeds that may take time to grow to maturity. We helped people see that the churches of Christ in Lewis County are concerned about our community and want to help those in need. We also got a chance to show people that, while physical needs are important, there is an even greater spiritual need that each person has. And while our meals met their physical needs for a short time, I pray the influence we had will show them how the Lord can meet their spiritual needs forever. Please don't stop praying for the effect our Community Christmas Dinner has on our neighbors! We have not yet begun to see the harvest that may come from our efforts! And while we will look for and anticipate the effect this will have on our community, I'm also thankful for the effect it has on each person who serves. We are changed as we work together for others. Thank you to each one of you who worked. A special thank you to *Bob and Lovada Burklow* for heading up this great work. I know there are many more people who put in lots of time and energy as well, and Bob will thank them appropriately today. We are blessed to be here and to serve in such a way! To God be the glory!

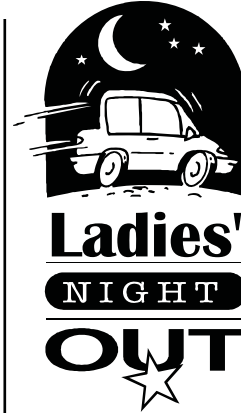
-DAVID

A special welcome to our guests!

We are glad to have you visiting with us today! You are welcome here. We know you have a choice of where to worship, and you chose to be with us today — thank you.

At Lomax we want to be the church we read about in the Bible. Our goal is to glorify God with our worship and with our lives and to point people to Jesus Christ.

If you need anything during the service, ushers in the lobby can direct you to restrooms, the nursery, or a telephone. Please do us the favor of filling out a blue card located on the back of the pew in front of you. If you have any questions or if we can help you, please let us know while you are here or call 796-5381.



Ladies' Night Out

All ladies are invited to the home of Verlin George tomorrow evening at 6:30 for Ladies' Night

Out. Bring a favorite dish and enjoy a great evening of fellowship!



Going Caroling

This Thursday, December 20, all ages are invited to join us for a night of caroling and spreading joy to the community. We'll meet at the building at 5pm. See Mia Hinson with questions.



Don't Forget!

The Elders will be meeting today at 4pm, and the Deacons will join them at 5pm.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Sick:

Sandra Thompson had surgery last Monday to repair her esophagus. She is recovering at home now.

Aubrey Pfaff, newborn daughter of *Erik & Adrienne Pfaff*, is home now and improving.

Joe Turner, brother of *Sue Amacher*, is in Hospice care now. He is staying with *Richard and Sue*.

Continue to remember: *Caroline Darden, Brooke Duncan, Marguerite Flowers, Florine Gossett* (sister of *Nadine Turnbow*), *Jimmy Griner, Jan Hill, Dale Hull, Candis Pelfrey, Aidan Turnbo* (great-nephew of *Betsy Tiller*), and *Ed Williams* (father of *Mylie McKissack*).

Shut-ins: *Carolyn Armstrong, Robbie Breece, Bessie Edwards, Carma Edwards, Sharon Edwards, Loyce Harris, Tiny Hinson, Willie Matt Hinson, Estelle Mercer* and *Minnie Sue Willis*.

In Lewis County Nursing & Rehab Center: *Gladys Baxter, Marguerite Bullion, Jennie Burdette, Gertha Mae Duncan, Robena Gunter, Michelle Huff*, and *Ava Provance*.

At The Bridge in Columbia: *Wylodean Edwards*

Remember our military: *Dustin Brugmann* (grandson of *Jim & Sharon Grinder*), *Justin Conkle* and *Kerry Conkle* (grandsons of *Ralph & Sue Conkle*), *Mickey Mohrmann* (grandson of *Ava Provance*), *Matthew Pfaff* (nephew of *Erik Pfaff*), and *Brad Pierce* (son of *Judy Smith*).



Tree of Knowledge

The Tree of Knowledge

Congratulations also to *Lillie and Nathan Hamblin* of the 1st and 2nd Grade class who memorized the books of the Old Testament.

Lads to Leaders/Leaderettes News

- Please give your registration money (\$35 for those attending Convention, \$20 for participants not attending) to Steve Edwards or David or Heather Salisbury as soon as possible.
- Practices will start Jan. 6 with Speech meeting at 4pm and Bible Reading and Little Disciples meeting at 5pm.



Food for Friends

Food For Friends:

Team 2, December 20

If anyone can help deliver meals, be at the CSC at 10:30 am.

5th Sunday Contribution Coming Up!

Make your plans now — Our 5th Sunday contribution on Sunday, Dec. 30 will go toward our building fund.



Food for Families

Our monthly Food for Families distribution will be this Thursday, Dec. 20. If you have not brought in your grocery items, please do so **TODAY**. If you would like to bring extra items this month, we could feed an extra family for Christmas.



A Look Ahead Put these dates on your calendar!

- Dec. 17** — Ladies' Night Out
- Dec. 20** — Christmas Caroling
- Dec. 26** — Special Service
- Dec. 28** — Youth Lock-In
- Dec. 30** — 5th Sunday Contribution

BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION:

What woman in the Bible was sent from home into the wilderness with her young son? (answer next week)

KNOW YOUR BIBLE



Meditations with Malcom

A Special Welcome to all our visitors. We are glad you came our way. Remember our services tonight at 6:00 and on Wed. at 10 AM and 7 PM. Thanks beyond words to Lomax and area congregations for making possible another annual event of food and clothing that is indescribable. Only time and eternity will show the positive outreach of such a marvelous work of love.....The Primetimers are reminded of our meal for Rosie's group following our class on the 19th.....Elsewhere you will note the special service for all on the 26th.



It's That Time of Year Again—Lights decorating trees and houses...very special packages, reunions, and activities. The holiday season is a special time, and available for all to enjoy. Most of us could tell about special holidays past but this is not the medium for this. Yet, we can clear the air by saying that this is an opportunity to join others in saying how glad we are that Jesus was born. We can also try to convince all of this *Joy To The World* in July and throughout the year and never forget that He is Lord then, too! Yes, this is truly a wonderful time of the year and as David and I have stated elsewhere we hope you have the best ever and that life itself will *Grow Sweeter As The Years Go By*.

And let us never forget that true *Joy* is a choice. Even Moses told the people of his day—“*I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessings and cursing: therefore choose life that both thou and thy seed may live.*” (Deut. 30). Joshua told his people to **choose you this day** (Josh. 24:15). David said “*This is the day that the Lord hath made. I will rejoice and be glad in it.*” (Psa. 118:24). The apostle Paul reminds us that we can do all things through Christ that strengthens us (Phil. 4:13). The early followers of Christ who were obedient to his will *went on their way rejoicing* (Acts 8:39). May each of us submit to His will today so we can sing *Joy to the world* today and someday join the redeemed in singing *The Song of Moses and the Lamb* (Rev. 15:3).

On The Lighter Side: Two little teardrops were floating down the river of life. One said to the other, “Who are you?” I am a teardrop from a girl who loved a man and lost him. “Who are you?” “Well, I am a teardrop from the girl who got him!” Seriously, life to many, is like that. We may cry over things we can't have this season and always. Paul was right when he said. “*I have learned in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content*” (Phil. 4:11).

Sermon Brief: The things that go in one ear and out the other do not hurt as much as the things that go in one ear, get all mixed up, then slip out the mouth. (Cf. Psa. 19:14; Jas. 1:19).

BY THE NUMBERS For the week of 12/9	
A.M. Bible Class	146
A.M. Worship Service	223
P.M. Worship Service	135
Wednesday PM	163
Contribution:	\$
Weekly Budget	\$5,700.00

Last week's Know Your Bible answer: Cyprus (Acts 4:36)	
Schedule of Services	
Sunday Bible Study	9:00 am
Sunday Service	10:00 am
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 pm
Wednesday: Primetimers	10:00am
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 pm

Lomax
Church of Christ
931-796-5381

David Salisbury - Minister

Malcom George - Minister

ELDERS:
Richard Amacher
Steve Edwards
Bill Lawson
Rick Morrow
Dan Spears
Yogie Spears

DEACONS:
J.W. Churchwell
Jeff Dye
Matthew Farr
Jeff Spears
Larry Tatum
Walt Thompson
Lynn Tiller

The Last Word

Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. Romans 12:2

I read an article this week about unusual food that is consumed around the world. From fried insects to haggis (look it up sometime, but make sure you aren't hungry when you do) to pigs' knuckles and chicken feet, there are a lot of different foods in this world that don't sound very appetizing to me. In fact, I have to be honest and say that I wonder how anyone could eat some of the things I read about.

But the truth is that we feed ourselves trash a lot more than we might care to admit. Someone who would never dream of consuming a plate of fried cockroaches will sit down to a half hour TV show full of godless trash and not think anything about it. Or perhaps we justify the television shows we watch or the music we listen to by saying that it isn't as bad as some of the other stuff out there. But does it really matter if you're eating pigs' knuckles or raw herring? Not really.

Why is it that someone who might be passionate about health food will indiscriminately consume the values and morals of our culture? When major networks market shows as "hit shows" that are the "best" at their time slot when they are really just moral depravity, why do we watch? When a show is billed as a "family show" but it really tears apart any notion of the family as God intended, why do we tune in?

Do we or our culture really believe that somehow these things won't hurt us? Are we really still buying into that tired old lie "It's only television" or "It's just music"? And while we might expect the world to endorse a worldly culture, what defense can Christians offer for swallowing whole what the media feeds us? How can we justify turning off our morals when we turn on the TV?

It's high time we began to exercise discernment and feed our souls with the Word of God. We must hunger and thirst after righteousness if we want to be filled by God.

Seconds on that haggis, anyone?

- *DAVID*

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