

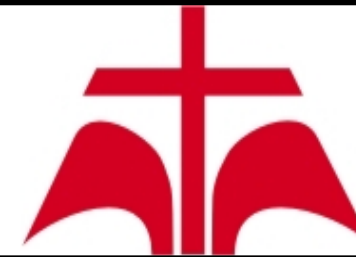


Lafayette Federated Church
 180 Route 15
 Lafayette, New Jersey 07848
 Phone: 973-383-4461
 Fax: 973-383-4762

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SEPTEMBER 2009

A WORD FROM PASTOR RICK...

To the Wonderful Family of God,

In view of the controversy currently swirling around health care in our country, someone asked me what kind of participation a Christian ought to have in these kinds of social matters. In other words, how much should a Christian be involved in politics? Entire books have been written on this subject but I will offer a few basic thoughts (that will not answer all your questions).

First of all, Christianity teaches that God owns everything and that all earthly powers are accountable to Him. All of our rights are given by God and not by earthly authorities. No earthly king or government is totally sovereign; only God is sovereign. This means that the government does not have the absolute right to own its people, to possess all land or control its people's thoughts and activities. The more that people in the United States believe in the sovereign God of Christianity, the less likely government will be allowed to usurp God's place. What is happening in America is that we are, as a people, forgetting God, and consequently government is expanding to fill the vacuum, trying to replace God as the provider of our every need. When we proclaim and live like God is the Supreme Ruler and Provider, we are making a political statement that will curtail the oppressive expansion of earthly government.

Secondly, the Bible has a great deal to say about our duty to love our neighbor. Loving our neighbor means, in part, caring about what laws and customs are practiced by society. We should not just care about our own family and our own church, but also the community and state and country in which we live. Because we care about our neighbor, we desire that the laws, schools, and mores of our society be just, right, benevolent and based on truth, which means that they should reflect Christian teachings about the dignity of every person, the value of the family, the worth of integrity and hard work.

For example, I am convinced that abortion is wrong not only for myself, my family, and my church, but also for all of society. Since abortion takes an innocent life and harms women, we should work against it out of love for God and neighbor. Similarly, since God's plan for marriage is the foundation of human life, happiness and a strong nation, we should labor against anything that weakens the family.

In some capacity, I believe that every Christian is obligated to attempt to enlarge the kingdom of God on earth, the kingdom that will ultimately be firmly and eternally established by Jesus Christ at His second coming. We should all be seeking to promote the doing of God's will, first within our own family and church, but also in our local community and beyond. It is a matter of loving our neighbor which God commands us to do. And secondly it is a recognition that this world belongs to God and will someday be fully redeemed by Him, even its politics.

The degree to which we each get involved socially and politically will differ, depending on God's leading. A few will make a career in politics. Others will faithfully and intelligently vote. Some will be active in such things as the pro-life cause. As Edmund Burke famously said, 'the only thing necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing.'

With love in Jesus,

Pastor Rick Cryder

In this **ISSUE:**

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" A G R O W I N G C H U R C H F O R G R O W I N G P E O P L E "

"Running the Race with Perseverance"

Hebrews 12:1

Join us for this year's

FALL WORLD OUTREACH CELEBRATION

October 22nd to 25th.

We will be celebrating those Missionaries whose work for the Lord has been supported by LFC for over 20 yrs.



... let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.
 Hebrews 12:1

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|------------|
| Oct. 23rd : | Women's Brunch | 9:30 a.m. |
| | Small Groups | 7:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 24th : | Men's Breakfast | 8:00 a.m. |
| | International Dinner | 6:00 p.m. |
| | Speaker, Greg Allen | 7:30 p.m. |
| Oct. 25th: | Speaker, Dan Wicher | 8:15 a.m. |
| | Speaker, John Buerer | 11:00 a.m. |
| | Sunday School Hour Seminars | |

FROM THE STUDY...

REV. TIMOTHY J. BRINKERHOFF, ASSOC. PASTOR

Well, it's hard to believe that after serving here at Lafayette Federated Church as an Associate Pastor on staff for approximately 14 years, that I'll be moving on now to another full time teaching ministry down the road at Veritas Christian Academy. I am excited to be a part of the vision of the board of VCA and their commitment to the Lordship of Christ when it comes to the subject of doing education/discipleship; and yet it doesn't come without mixed feelings as to what's being "left behind" here at LFC.

His sheep can, in return, be blessed all throughout the process. What a glorious vision for the expansion of Christ's kingdom! Imagine a whole Christian community that's committed to the motto and vision and starting point that *maximizing God's glory in everything* and without compromise is the first thing that crosses their minds. Imagine every believer's first question that's asked about literally anything is, "In my options and choices in this matter, what *maximizes* the pleasure and glory of God—my purpose and end—which is the least I can do for the God who has saved me from myself and my own destruction and sin?"

And speaking of the Lordship of Christ, as my last farewell message, I would like to impress on you all my life verse taken from Colossians 1:18b which basically is, that as believers and disciples of Christ who submit to the good King's leadership, our calling is that "in all things, Christ might have the preeminence." Put another way, it can be phrased, "for the supremacy of Christ in all things" and "All things" means exactly that—"ALL things" doesn't it. We are not left with the right to pick and choose what we will submit to and what we will not, nor should we want to if we really believe God is always good. As one great theologian put it, "There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence, over which Christ, who is Sovereign over all, does not cry: "MINE!"

Thank you to all of you that have encouraged us, prayed for us, loved us, blessed us and believed in the same kingdom cause and vision of glorifying God, uncompromisingly, in everything.

I'm convinced that if this truly was every Christian's starting point, the world and Sussex County wouldn't recognize the church if it embraced such a starting point for all of life because it would look so radically different than it does today... so goes the nature of blinding sin that's affected every one of us in so many, many different ways but can be radically reverted through the power of the Gospel.

So from the Brinkerhoff family to yours, in behalf of my wife and children, thank you to all of you that have encouraged us, prayed for us, loved us, blessed us and believed in the same kingdom cause and vision of glorifying God, uncompromisingly, in everything. Your vision, your passion, your zeal, your sacrifice, and your commitment for the cause of Christ have been an immense and incredible source of encouragement and support to us over the years. We are sincerely thankful for each and every one of you. The love and respect and integrity by which many of you have lived out your faith is unmatched.

So carry on and don't give up the fight for your work is not in vain. Contending for the Gospel and the supremacy of Christ in all things; that in all things, Christ might have the supremacy! God's richest blessings as you choose to commit yourself to maximizing God's glory in everything—to God be the glory!

Chuck Colson from his book *How now shall we live* reminds us that the calling of all Christians is to uncompromisingly redeem all of life back to God and not, strictly speaking, just souls. We are, by design, culture shapers and culture creators because God has delegated to us the role of "ruling" and "having dominion" in His behalf as the creation ordinance mandates in Genesis 1:26 & 28. But since the Fall, man has usurped and rebelled against his calling and chosen instead, to "be a god unto himself" and has stolen the glory reflection that was supposed to be returned to God to now redirect it towards himself. You might say, man has removed the insignia of God's name at the bottom of the beautiful landscape painting called earth and replaced it with his own.

And when it comes to the education and discipleship of the masses, man has even pulled off sealing it all "by law" that God will not have His rightful place over what is rightly His already. So schools like VCA pop up and are created so God can get His due (glory and worship) and

SEPTEMBER 2009

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
		8:00 AA Meeting	10-1:00 Sunshine Shop 6:00 Outreach Visits 7:15 Sr. High Bible Study 7:30 Prayer Meeting	7:30 Young Adults Bible Study	6:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast No Jr. High Youth Group	10-1:00 Sunshine Shop 6:00 Servant Teams 7:00 Sr. High Youth
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Financial Peace University Preview Shepherding Group Fellowship Meetings	LABOR DAY Church Office Closed 6:30 Women's AA	7:00 Parents of Prodigal Meeting 7:15 Celebration Choir Rehearsal 8:00 AA Meeting	10-1:00 Sunshine Shop 6:00 Outreach Visits 7:15 Sr. High Bible Study 7:30 Prayer Meeting	7:30 Young Adults Bible Study	6:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 9:30 MOPS Registration 7:00 Jr. High Youth	7:30 a.m. Sr. High SHORE KICK-OFF!!! 8:00 Elders Fall Retreat 10-1:00 Sunshine Shop
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 9:45 Sunday School MOVE-UP DAY 6-8:00 p.m. Financial Peace University	11:00 JOY Club Lunch 6:30 AA Meeting	7:15 Celebration Choir Rehearsal 8:00 AA Meeting	10-1:00 Sunshine Shop 5:30 Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 Outreach Visits 7:15 Sr. High Bible Study 7:30 Prayer Meeting	7:30 Young Adults Bible Study	6:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 7:00 Jr. High Youth Group	10-1:00 Sunshine Shop Bronx Outreach 7:00 Sr. High Youth
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 9:45 Sunday School 6-8:00 p.m. Financial Peace University	6:30 Women's AA 7:00 Trustees' Meeting	9:15 Women's Bible Study Brunch 7:15 Celebration Choir Rehearsal 8:00 AA Meeting	10-1:00 Sunshine Shop 5:30 Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 Outreach Visits 7:15 BACK-TO-SCHOOL PRAYER SERVICE	7:30 Elders' Meeting 7:30 Young Adults Bible Study	6:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 7:00 Jr. High Youth Group	10-1:00 Sunshine Shop 7:00 Sr. High Youth
27	28	29	30			
8:15 & 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship 9:45 Sunday School 6-8:00 p.m. Financial Peace University	6:30 Women's AA	9:15 Women's Bible Study 7:15 Celebration Choir Rehearsal 8:00 AA Meeting	10-1:00 Sunshine Shop 5:30 Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 Outreach Visits 7:15 Sr. High Bible Study 7:15 Women's Bible Study 7:30 Prayer Meeting			



LFC STUDENT MINISTRIES

RYAN DREW, YOUTH PASTOR

Reminders are helpful, and for many of us, necessary for daily living. If you don't mind, I'd like to offer a "reminder" as the school year starts and the busyness of life resumes (even though it feels like it never stopped!). This is a reminder that applies to you if you have kids in school or if your kids are still at home. It also applies to those who have kids in college, to those who are in college, even to those who are in high school or K-8. It applies to everyone who works for a living, and to those who are retired, or like to pretend that they are retired. Do you get the picture yet? It applies to all of us.

In our youth ministry, I have a great desire as this school year begins to want to challenge our students to excel, to be attentive to God's direction and leading in their lives. I want them to be focused not just on school work or sports, but more importantly on how God is at work in and around them and encourage them to be sensitive to His leading. The big picture is that I just get excited as a new school year starts and students move up. I am eager to see what new thing God is going to do in our youth ministry, and in our church.

But as I look for God to do something new, I'm reminded that His instructions remains constant. This simple reminder can be found all throughout scripture. *"Fix your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith"* (Hebrews 12:2). Anyone who has lived a single day in this hectic society can attest to the fact that we are faced with distractions. Lots of distractions. Whether it be TV, popularity, work, school, the desire for success, or even the satisfaction of getting lots of "stuff" done throughout the day, lots of things can take the attention that God so rightly deserves. But how do we handle this? What do we do in a world that relentlessly demands our attention?

We absolutely need time to be quiet. Scripture is very clear that we are to *"be still and know that I am God"* (Psalm 46:10). How are we to know what God is trying to tell us if we're not listening? Human beings were made for intimacy with our heavenly Father, and this is difficult to attain in the midst of our daily lives- aka chaos. Find time to be alone with God daily. Study His word, contemplate how it applies to your life. Pray, asking Him to guide you through the day.

Another danger is assuming that a full schedule is equal to success. The pressures and hectic schedules of life have a knack of distracting us from the truth. We can all too quickly think that a successful day is one in which lots of "stuff" is accomplished even though we have forgotten the first and greatest commandment and the instructions that follow it in Deuteronomy 6:5-9. *"You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your might. And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise. You shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates."* How does this statement affect what we do each day? Does it affect how you carry yourself at work? Does it have an impact on how you act at school? Does it change your relationships with other people? Our relationship with God is meant to permeate all other areas of our lives!

Don't misunderstand me, I believe that it is pleasing to God when we are efficient with our time and we work hard; but who are we working hard for? Are we finding satisfaction in Christ or in our own accomplishments?

So what is the reminder? His truth never changes. School is starting. Life is going to be busy. And God has commanded us to love Him first. He desires to be in the midst of my life, of your life. As life speeds up, don't forget to allow God's word *"to be on your heart"*. Life will be busy, but may we as a church body not lose sight of God's presence in daily living. I encourage you to allow Christ Jesus to permeate every aspect of your life, and may it become more than a reminder. May it simply be how we live.

"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him." Col. 3:17

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Date	8:30 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	Sunday	General	Missions	Building
7/12/09	301	279	168	\$16,631.03	\$306.00	\$225.00
7/19/09	264	229	123	\$18,213.70	\$3,255.00	\$1,910.25
7/26/09	298	246	126	\$19,318.64	\$410.00	\$311.00
8/2/09	275	269	140	\$20,609.35	\$675.00	\$1,010.00
8/9/09	288	264	136	\$23,361.78	\$100.00	\$255.00
8/16/09	267	252	132	\$19,310.08	\$100.00	\$156.00
8/23/09	274	274	128	\$15,336.61	\$201.36	\$131.00

ABOUT OUR PEOPLE...

Dear Friends at LFC,

My sincere heartfelt thanks to you for your prayers, lovely cards and phone calls. Our "great physician" guided me to a great doctor who performed his expertise in the healing of my leg discrepancy.

Thank you again for your prayers and thoughtfulness. We have an awesome and great God!

Sincerely,

Ursula Nehrings

Dear LFC Family,

Thank you for your prayers, help and support during my illness.

Mike Frodella & Family

Please join us in wishing the following people a very Happy Birthday:

Pastor Tim - August 20th

Carl Casterlin - August 23rd

Kimberly Drew - August 23rd

Dear LFC Family,

Thank you for your love, support and encouragement during the time leading up to and the Homegoing of Ruth. We are all very grateful to all who reached out to our family during those days.

Pastor David & Family

Dear LFC Family,

We can't thank you enough for the outpouring of love shown us during our saddened time of Gordon's passing. Thank you so much for the many cards, phone calls, meals and monetary gifts. We are so blessed with caring family and friends. We're very grateful for the roof. It's awesome watching all the girls and guys work and serve the Lord together in helping others. I thank God for His great faithfulness and that He will watch over us. As an old hymn reads, "His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me".

God bless you all.

Ginny, Bonnie and Debbie

Our prayers and sympathy go to Pastor David and his family on the Homegoing of his mother, Ruth Johnson.

Our prayers and sympathy go to Ted Cosgrove and his family on the passing of his brother, Glen.

Our prayers and sympathies go our missionary, Dave Underwood, on the Homegoing of his wife, Becky. Please keep Dave and his family in prayer.

Our prayers and sympathy go to Susan Ferrari and family on the Homegoing of her father, Donald Hansen.

We would like to thank Carl Casterlin, our Church Administrator, for his many years of faithful and dedicated service. Carl's retirement date will be this Friday, August 28th. Please join us in wishing Carl a fulfilling and well deserved retirement. Carl and his wife, Vicki, will continue worshipping at LFC.

Dear Joshua Men's Group

On behalf of all of us at SCARC and our Lafayette Group Home on Pelletown Road, I would like to thank you for your generous contribution of time and energy to pain the outside of the Lafayette Group Home as one of your service projects for the year. Everyone at the home enjoyed your men coming over to paint and socialize with the gentlemen who live there. This volunteer project was a great encouragement to the group home and staff residents.

I am convinced that such volunteer projects as this is very God honoring and helps build the kingdom of God. I am sure that the testimony of the men was positive, and we certainly received a great blessing by having the Joshua Men volunteer as they did. Thank you for accomplishing this large and necessary task. I deeply appreciate the relationship that we have between our organization and the Lafayette Federated Church.

Sincerely,

Richard C. Lecher, Ph.D.
Chief Executive Officer
SCARC, Inc.

As we head for our opening date of October 7th, we are in need of a few leaders/co-leaders. This commitment will not take an overwhelming amount of your time...but will make an overwhelming impact on the young girls of our church family.

If you feel the Lord is "leading you to Lead" or would like more information, please call Kim Kus @ 973-948-2941 in the evenings or call Turid in the Church Office.



FALL ACTIVITIES

September:

- 9/6 **Shepherding Group Fellowship Meetings**
- 9/11 @ 9:30 a.m. **MOPS Registration Day**
- 9/11 @ 7:00 p.m. **Jr. High Kick-off Night**
- 9/12 @ 8:00 a.m. **Elders Fall Retreat**
- 9/12 @ 7:30 a.m. **Sr. High Shore Kick-Off Day**
- 9/13 **Sunday School MOVE-UP Day**
- 9/14 **JOY Club Luncheon**
- 9/13, 9/20
9/27 **Financial Peace University Classes
Held in the Sanctuary from 6-8:00 p.m.**
- 9/19 **Bronx Outreach Trip**
- 9/22 @ 9:15 a.m. **Women's Bible Study Brunch & Class Sign-ups**
- 9/23 @ 7:15 p.m. **Back-To-School Prayer Service**
- 9/29 @ 9:15 a.m. **Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study Classes begin**
- 9/30 @ 7:15 p.m. **Women's Wednesday Evening Bible Classes begin**

October:

- 10/2-4 **Sr. High Youth Fall Retreat**
- 10/4 (after 2nd service) **LFC Chicken Barbeque/Pastor Tim Appreciation Day**
- 10/5 **Joy Club Luncheon**
- 10/5, 10/11,
10/18, 10/26 **Financial Peace University Classes
Held in the Sanctuary from 6-8:00 p.m.**
- 10/7 **Wednesday Night Activities Begin:**
- 6:30 p.m. **Supper**
- 7:15 p.m. **Boys Brigade and Pioneer Girls**
- 10/2 @ 9:30 a.m. **MOPS Meeting**
- 10/9-11 **Boys Brigade 4H Camp Out**
- 10/16-18 **Pioneer Girls 4H Camp Out**
- 10/22-25 **Fall Missions Conference**

Regular Youth Group Meetings

- Wednesday Nights** **Sr. High Bible Study**
- Friday Nights** **Jr. High Youth Group**
- Saturday Nights** **Sr. High Youth Group**



WORSHIP & MUSIC MINISTRIES PASTOR NICK BAILEY

**"This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine..."
"Hide it under a bushel, No! I'm going to let it shine"**

Remember that song that many of us and our children learned in Sunday school? I'm sure the meaning of that song was based on "let your light so shine before men..." In other words, live your life in such a way that others can see Jesus in you! We are the lights of the world.

God gave each of us gifts, talents and abilities that we surely don't want to lay dormant or go unused in the body of Christ, hidden under a bushel. We need to use whatever God has specially given to each of us for His glory and for the building up and encouragement of His people.

The Fall season is upon us, and LFC will be starting up all our Fall ministries, including the Worship-Arts Ministries. I would like to invite and encourage you to join us in ministry. We have some great opportunities to use and develop those special gifts God has given you.

Celebration Choir begins Tuesday, September 8th in the Sanctuary at 7:15pm. Besides singing in our morning worship services, we will begin rehearsal s for our new Christmas Musical "Wondrous Gift". Come and help us fill our loft with voices united in celebration and praise to the Lord! Contact Pastor Nick or the church office to express your interest.

Sunday Orchestra and Instrumental Ensembles also participate in our morning worship services and rehearsals are arranged as needed. So, dust off the instruments and play for the Lord! You may contact Joe Tanga, Ed Meisner or John Gardner to get details of how you can be involved.

Handbell Choir rehearsals are held each Wednesday night from 5:30-6:30pm in room and will begin September 16th. This group have at least a basic knowledge of music and besides participation in morning worship services also plays for special occasions. Please contact Pastor Nick or Joe Tanga to express your interest.

Praise Team, Soloist and various Ensembles are organized through an interview process with Pastor Nick, so if you have an interest and sing or play bass, guitar, keyboard or drums, let us know.

Sight and Sound Ministry Teams are always looking to recruit more servants. If you have interests in the technology areas, (sound and video) contact Rick Smith, John Faber or the Church office.

Here at LFC, we desire to live out the instruction of Colossians 3:16: **"Let the words of Christ richly dwell within you, teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God." In everything we do, we desire to do to the glory of the Lord!** (1 Cor. 10:31)



GET TO KNOW YOUR ELDER...

Glenn Cohrs

Life Verse: James 2:18 *"But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds. Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do."*

Married to: Diane for 20 years. **Children:** Jimmy (16), Mike (14), Matthew (10) and Jonathan (7).

Occupation: Police Sergeant for 25 years. (West Orange Police Department).

Hobbies & Areas of Interest: I love spending time with my family, fishing, camping, swimming & spending time at the beach.

Length of time at LFC: 13 years **Length of time serving as an Elder:** 3 years **Worship Service I attend:** 11:00 a.m.

Most memorable or rewarding experience from my time as an Elder: The blessings I have received from being an Elder are too many to count, but being able to pray with those in a time of need and rejoicing with many in times of celebration have been so meaningful to me. Working with the youth at LFC has been so rewarding. I look forward to serving the flock of LFC in the years ahead.