



KINGDOM news

Lafayette federated church

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR...

Happy New Year! I want to bless you with a passage that has blessed me over the years. This is a portion of a sermon from one of my heroes of the faith, Charles Spurgeon, from a New Year's Day sermon he delivered on January 1st, 1885 at the Metropolitan Tabernacle.

"And He that sat upon the throne said, Behold, I make all things new."—Revelation 21:5

How pleased we are with that which is new! Our children's eyes sparkle when we talk of giving them a toy or a book which is called new; for our short-lived human nature loves that which has lately come, and is therefore like our own fleeting selves. In this respect, we are all children, for we eagerly demand the news of the day, and are all too apt to rush after the "many inventions" of the hour. The Athenians, who spent their time in telling and hearing some new thing, were by no means singular persons: novelty still fascinates the crowd. As the world's poet says—

"All with one consent praise new-born gawds."

I should not wonder, therefore, if the mere words of my text should sound like a pleasant song in your ears; but I am thankful that their deeper meaning is even more joyful. The newness which Jesus brings is bright, clear, heavenly, enduring. We are at this moment specially ready for a new year. The most of men have grown weary with the old cry of depression of trade and hard times; we are glad to escape from what has been to many a twelve-months of great trial. The last year had become wheezy, croaking, and decrepit, in its old age; and we lay it asleep with a psalm of judgment and mercy. We hope that this newborn year will not be worse than its predecessor, and we pray that it may be a great deal better. At any rate, it is new, and we are encouraged to couple with it the idea of happiness, as we say one to another, "I wish you a happy New Year."

"Ring out the old, ring in the new;
Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true."

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SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

Join us as we stand and recognize
the sanctity of all human life:
the unborn
the elderly
the infirm

Sanctity of Human Life Sunday,
January 22nd

Get involved and make a difference:

◆ **MARCH FOR LIFE RALLY, WASHINGTON D.C.**

Friday, January 27th. Registration information is available at the Welcome Center.

◆ **TODAY'S CHOICE PREGNANCY CENTER**

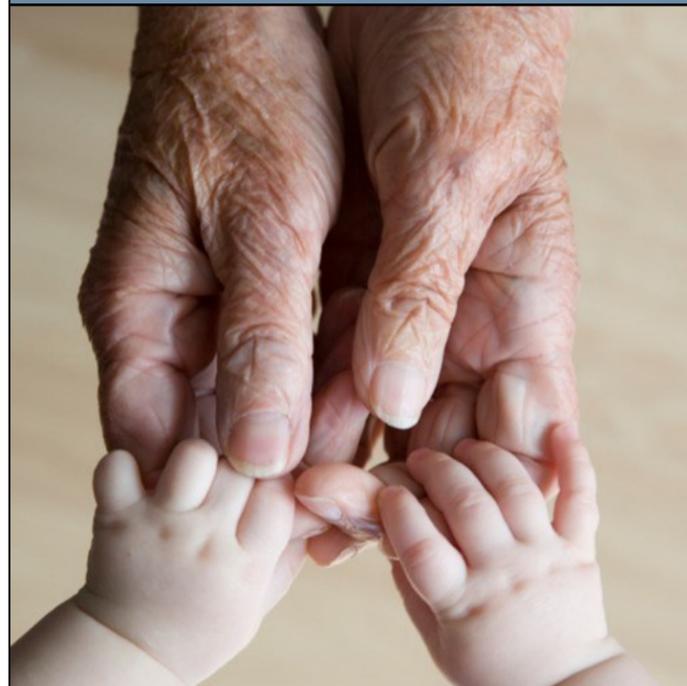
Baby Bottle Boomerang Fundraiser:
January 15th-February 5th. Each family is encouraged to fill a baby bottle for the benefit of Today's Choice.

Volunteer! Training is scheduled for March.

◆ **HOMEBOUND & NURSING HOME VISITATION**

Contact the church office for a list of those in need of a friendly visit and encouragement.

*"Defend the cause of the weak and fatherless;
maintain the rights of the poor and oppressed.
Rescue the weak and needy; Deliver them from
the hand of the wicked."
Psalm 82:3-4*



Get involved...

Glenn Cohrs, Pastor of Family Ministries / Administration

Hard to believe it's already 2017. First and foremost, I just want to thank all of you for all the work you did for the Lord here at LFC in 2016. I was just blown away by how everyone truly stepped up and said "I'm All In." One of the greatest benefits of being on staff here is that you get to see and hear about all the amazing things God is doing through our church family. This past year we have been able to impact our local community through many of you volunteering hours to Family, Promise, The N.J. State Fair, Community Carwash, Serving Hot Chocolate at the Lafayette Tree Lighting, Soccer Camp, Manna House and the list goes on and on. Let's continue to serve Him to the best of our ability in 2017, let's continue to be "All In."

"Have you been looking for a place to serve?"

Have you been looking for a place to serve? First, I would like to encourage you to just start praying about it, asking God to show you where HE would like you to serve, not necessarily where YOU want to serve. Many times, God likes to get us to step out of our comfort zones when we serve Him, as this is where He does His best work. Remember everything we do should be to bring God all the honor and glory and not us. We have needs in many areas, here is a list of just a few:

- ◆ Childcare during the Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study.
- ◆ Sunday Nursery and Junior Church program
- ◆ Assistant leaders for Pioneer Girls, Boy's Brigade or Kids Club.
- ◆ Our Sound Room is looking to train some more folks.
- ◆ Join our Choir or Bell Choir
- ◆ Our Greeters Ministry
- ◆ Family Promise, Operation Christmas Child or Today's Choice.
- ◆ Ushers

If you would like more information about these ministries or others that we have going on at LFC, please do not hesitate to contact me at 973-383-4461 or email me at gcohrs@lfc.org.

Our Wednesday Night programs are starting up on January 4th. It's never too late to start coming out; we have programs for everyone. Our family dinner starts at 6:15pm, followed by all our programs at 7:00pm. We have Kids Club, Pioneer Girls, Christian Service Brigade, Prayer Meeting and a Women's Bible Study.

I would like to also challenge you to dig deeper into God's Word this year by getting plugged into a Sunday

School class (we have classes for all ages) or a Bible Study.

I also want to take a moment to thank the Building and Grounds Committee on the work with the snow removal so far this Winter season.

In Christ Service,
Glenn

"Come let us bow down in worship, let us kneel before the Lord or Maker." Psalm 95:6

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Monday, February 27th, 2017

7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

All are welcome to attend!

Ryan Drew, Pastor of Students

Happy New Year! A new year always brings new excitement and an anticipation of the unknown possibility of what God may have in store for the next 12 months. Our prayer for our student and young adult ministries is that as this new year begins, God would bring about significant spiritual growth in the lives of each who are involved.

From January 1st-5th our young adults will be on a trip to Atlanta, GA for Passion. Passion is a conference for those ages 18-25 that is focused on seeing this generation surrender to Jesus and live in obedience to Him. It carries the same purpose as our Jr. and Sr. High Winter Retreats but on a much larger scale. By the time you are reading this, we will have already returned from this trip; and my hope is that you will soon be hearing about the Spiritual change that God brought through this conference. Speaking of the Winter Retreats, our Jr. High Winter Retreat this year is from Feb. 10-12 at Camp Orchard Hill (PA), and our Sr. High Winter Retreat is from Feb. 17-20 at Camp Spofford (NH). If you have had a student take part in one of these trips, you very well may already know the potential impact of how God uses these times away to bring about change and an unflappable trust that Jesus really does know what He is doing.

As our students and young adults take part in these life changing trips, it is crucial for them to remember that the key component that they bring as God begins to transform them is a humble heart. Those who are humble and recognize that there is indeed room for growth and change in their relationship with Jesus are the ones who truly will see change.

Perhaps we can take a step back and look at our own hearts as we begin this new year. As we anticipate "change", let's have the same focus and truly fix our attention on coming before Jesus with humble hearts. Instead of longing for a change in our circumstances, may we focus on finding contentment in Jesus no matter what challenges we face this year. Instead of hoping that others will treat us differently this year, can I suggest that we work hard at treating those same individuals as we would like to be treated? It seems that often, at the

heart of our desire for change that comes with a new year, we focus on the external. May we as a church family be more introspective this year, inviting Jesus to bring about change in us.

All for Jesus,

Pastor Ryan



Young Adults in Atlanta for Passion Conference



Young Adults having dinner after Passion Conference

A Word from Our Pastor...

(Continued from Page 1)

We ought not, as men in Christ Jesus, to be carried away by a childish love of novelty, for we worship a God who is ever the same, and of whose years there is no end.

In some matters "the old is better." There are certain things which are already so truly new, that to change them for anything else would be to lose old gold for new dross. The old, old gospel is the newest thing in the world; in its very essence it is for ever good news. In the things of God the old is ever new, and if any man brings forward that which seems to be new doctrine and new truth, it is soon perceived that the new dogma is only worn-out heresy dexterously repaired, and the discovery in theology is the digging up of a carcass of error which had better have been left to rot in oblivion. In the great matter of truth and godliness, we may safely say, "There is nothing new under the sun."

Yet, as I have already said, there has been so much evil about ourselves and our old nature, so much sin about our life and the old past, so much mischief about our surroundings and the old temptations, that we are not distressed by the belief that old things are passing away. Hope springs up at the first sound of such words as these from the lips of our risen and reigning Lord: "Behold, I make all things new." It is fit that things so outworn and defiled should be laid aside, and better things fill their places.

In Christ,

Pastor Aaron Robb

LAFAYETTE FEDERATED CHURCH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

As of: **November 30, 2016**

Total Income: \$981,165.85

Total Expenses: \$889,504.02

In response to our church family taking a step of faith with this year's budget, we want to faithfully keep the congregation informed to the status of where we stand in giving compared to budget and expenses. Please prayerfully consider remaining faithful in your regular giving commitment.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

Date	8:15 a.m.	11:00 a.m.	Sunday School	General Offering	Missions Offering	Building Fund
11/06/2016	230	200	202	\$22,093.38	\$1,030.00	\$270.00
11/13/2016	265	193	231	\$13,658.47	\$1,445.00	\$434.00
11/20/2016	230	211	189	\$18,671.96	\$25.00	\$170.00
11/27/2016	250	219	200	\$15,896.42	\$290.00	\$70.00
12/04/2016	235	200	221	\$24,689.35	\$455.00	\$360.00
12/11/2016	225	252	185	\$20,814.39	\$150.00	\$50.00
12/18/2016	225	187	197	\$17,248.80	\$196.00	\$16.00
12/25/2016	Combined	Service = 360	-	\$22,277.25	-	\$10.00

MISSIONS AT LFC: "A Look Back and A Look Forward ..."

New Missionaries Accepted:

In 2016 The Missions Team accepted two new missionaries: Zala Cempre, Slovenia and Hannah Johnson, Slovenia. Zala is a native of Slovenia and is working there with students. Hannah is raising support (prayer partners and funds) and hopes to be in Slovenia in September this year.



Hannah
Johnson



Zala
Cempre

Update on the Eshelman's:

Our missionaries in Albania, **Guy and Carolyn Eshelman**, experienced a severe challenge in early October. Their son Philip, about 22, was in a serious motorcycle accident. For a few days he was not expected to live, but God blessed them and he survived. But with many injuries and trauma, it took weeks of monitoring, surgery and prayers before he was out of the woods. He spent 5 weeks in the hospital trauma unit and 4 more at an acute rehab hospital before going home December 8th. Their house needed some "rehabilitation" to accommodate and relatives and friends pitched in to adapt the bathroom and install a ramp up to the house. Philip has made great strides but has a long way to go. Almost every part of his body was affected severely and only time will tell how much function he will regain. The family has been supported by much prayer and concrete help. Please continue to pray for Philip's recovery and the family and they adjust to their new way of life. They do not know when they will be returning to Albania. Guy is a doctor with the ABC Health Foundation and Carolyn teaches in the Christian school there.



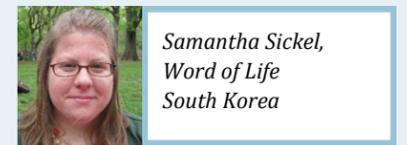
Three of our own "home" missionaries have recently completed their first year "on the field."



Don & Bev Stark,
Global Serve Int'l
Florida



Serina Klotz,
Camino Global
Colombia, SA



Samantha Sichel,
Word of Life
South Korea

Congratulations to Ashley Halstead and Ken McDonald who were married in December. They are both serving with Cru (college student Ministry) and assigned to Virginia.

Statistics of Our Missionary Family (We supported 27 Missionaries in 2016:

USA: John & Ann Buerer, Barrie & Tillie Flitcroft, Ashley (Halstead MacDonald), Ben & Sarah Johnson, Leroy & Kay Lindsey, John & Ruth Madsen, Rob & Tammy Mittuch

Central & South America: Beth Hanna (Mexico), Phil & Arlene Blycker (Mexico), Jose & Karina Alonso (Colombia), Serina Klotz (Colombia), Justin & Lluvia Hose (Argentina)

Europe: Guy & Carolyn Eshelman (Albania), Ron & Hildegard Furst (Germany), Carlos & Yolanda Gomez (Spain), Dan & Susan Wicher (Spain), Ben & Janice Hlastan (Slovenia), Zala Cempre (Slovenia).

Asia: Greg & Julianne Allen (East Asia), Jane Brinkerhoff (Japan), Samantha Sichel (S. Korea)

Africa: Rich & Anne Hoyt (Chad), Russ & Beth White (Kenya), Ralph & Sandra Thompson (Kenya)
John & Lydia Apeh (Nigeria)

Middle East: Ralph & Anula Jauch

Retired: Eight retired from long-term service that we still partially support and three organizations and a pastor in India

MISSIONS TEAM MEMBERS: Jim Drew, Chairman; Peggy Drew, Treasurer Janet Andersen, Diane Klemm, Dennis Larson, Linda Lovland, Janice Mitchell, Janet Neidhardt, Sue Oberg, Mark Williams

January 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

"Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD Himself, is the Rock eternal." Isaiah 26:4

1 8:15 Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship Service Happy New Year! 7:00 Young Adults	2 6:45 Outreach Visits	3 6:30 Women's AA 8:00 AA Meeting	4 10-1 Sunshine Shop 6:15 Fellowship Dinner 7 Boy's Brigade/ Pioneer Girls/Kids Klub 7 Women's Bible Study 7 Prayer Meeting 7 Worship Team Reh.	5 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	6 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	7 7:00 Elder Breakfast 10-1 Sunshine Shop 7:00 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
8 8:15 Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship Service 7:00 Young Adults	9 11:00 J.O.Y. Club Luncheon 6:45 Outreach Visits 7:00 Men's Bible Study	10 9:00 LFC Kitchen Clean-up 6:30 Women's AA 7:00 Sr. High D_ 8:00 AA Meeting	11 10-1 Sunshine Shop 6:15 Fellowship Dinner 7 Boy's Brigade/ Pioneer Girls/Kids Klub 7 Women's Bible Study 7 Prayer Meeting 7 Worship Team Reh.	12 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	13 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	14 10-1 Sunshine Shop 7:00 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
15 8:15 Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship Service 7:00 Young Adults	16 6:30 Trustee Mtg. 6:45 Outreach Visits 7:00 Men's Bible Study 7:30 Ministry Heads	17 9:15 Women's Bible Studies/MOPS 6:30 Women's AA 7:00 Elder Mtg. 8:00 AA Meeting	18 10-1 Sunshine Shop 6:15 Fellowship Dinner 7 Boy's Brigade/ Pioneer Girls/Kids Klub 7 Women's Bible Study 7 Prayer Meeting 7 Worship Team Reh.	19 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	20 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	21 10-1 Sunshine Shop 7:00 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
22 SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE 8:15 Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship Service 7:00 Young Adults	23 6:45 Outreach Visits 7:00 Men's Bible Study	24 9:15 Women's Bible Studies/MOPS 6:30 Women's AA 7:00 Sr. High D_ 7:15 Choir Reh. 8:00 AA Meeting	25 10-1 Sunshine Shop 6:15 Fellowship Dinner 7 Boy's Brigade/ Pioneer Girls/Kids Klub 7 Women's Bible Study 7 Prayer Meeting 7 Worship Team Reh.	26 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	27 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's March For Life Rally Washington DC	28 10-1 Sunshine Shop 7:00 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
29 8:15 Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship Service 7:00 Young Adults	30 6:45 Outreach Visits 7:00 Men's Bible Study	31 9:15 Women's Bible Studies/MOPS 6:30 Women's AA 7:00 Sr. High D_ 7:15 Choir Reh. 8:00 AA Meeting	SPECIAL EVENTS: Baby Bottle Boomerang: January 15th -February 5th Sanctity of Human Life Sunday: January 22nd March for Life Rally, Washington, D.C.: January 27th			

February 2017

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

"Trust in the LORD forever, for the LORD Himself, is the Rock eternal." Isaiah 26:4

			1 10-1 Sunshine Shop 6:15 Fellowship Dinner 7 Boy's Brigade/ Pioneer Girls/Kids Klub 7 Women's Bible Study 7 Prayer Meeting 7 Worship Team Reh.	2 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	3 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	4 7:00 Elder Breakfast 10-1 Sunshine Shop 7:00 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
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26 8:15 Worship Service 9:45 Sunday School 11 Worship Service 7:00 Young Adults	27 7:00 Annual Congregational Meeting	28 9:15 Women's Bible Studies/MOPS 6:30 Women's AA 7:00 Sr. High D_ 7:15 Choir Reh. 8:00 AA Meeting	SPECIAL EVENTS: Jr. High Winter Retreat: February 10th - 12th Sr. High Winter Retreat: February 17th - 20th Kentucky Short-Term Missions Trip: February 25th - March 4th Annual Congregational Meeting: February 27th			