

**CONGREGATIONAL EVENTS:**

- July 1st - Sept. 2nd Combined Worship Services at 9:30 am. Coffee Fellowship to follow
- July - August Summer 2 x 4 Fellowship
- August 3rd - 12th NJ State Fair

CHILDREN'S EVENTS:

- July 9th - 13th Vacation Bible School (4 yr. olds - 8th Grade)
- August 20th - 24th Soccer Camp (Ages 5 - 13)

YOUTH EVENTS:

- August 6th - 13th Haiti Short-Term Missions Trip
- Wednesdays Sr. High Swim-n-Study (various locations)
- Saturdays Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group

YOUNG ADULTS EVENTS:

- Evenings Bible Study, Fellowship and Special Outings

WOMEN'S EVENTS:

- July 9th - 13th Women's Bible Study/Cooking Classes (scheduled during VBS)
- Fridays Women's Bible & Breakfast (Yetter's Diner)

MEN'S EVENTS:

- Fridays Breakfast Yetter's (6:30 a.m.) / Cloveberry Bakery (7:00 a.m.)

SENIOR EVENTS:

- August 6th J.O.Y. Club Luncheon at LFC (11:00 a.m.) Topics: Hobbies
- August 17th Senior Workshop / Lunch served

Don't forget to invite your friends!

LAFAYETTE FEDERATED CHURCH

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**A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR..**

Did you know that the song "God Bless America" turns 100 years old this year? Irving Berlin wrote the song in 1918 during World War I. Berlin actually wrote it for a musical called "Yip, Yip, Yaphank" while serving in the Army at Camp Upton near Yaphank, Long Island, NY. The musical it was originally written for was a comedy, and Berlin didn't think the song fit the tone of the musical, so he put it away for what would be the next 20 years. He pulled it out of storage in 1938 as World War II was looming. He actually made two revisions of the original, with the earliest manuscript dated October 31, 1938, and the other dated November 2, 1938. Berlin had the song finalized for the November 10, 1938, CBC radio broadcast to honor Armistice Day live from the World's Fair in New York City.

Kate Smith, the famous singer who truly popularized the song, said of it: "I feel it's one of the most beautiful compositions ever written, a song that will never die." In 1940, Berlin said in the New York Times, "It's not a patriotic song, but rather an expression of gratitude for what this country has done for its citizens, of what home really means."

As I think of the words of this beautiful song during this Independence Day season, I can't think of a time that our great nation needs the blessing and intervention of God more than now. As Believers, we have a calling to find the right balance in being a grateful, patriotic American while being a voice of salt and light amid a culture that is turning its back on righteousness and godliness at a blinding pace. We love our nation, we are grateful for our God-given freedoms, we are thankful for the rule of law and the gift of democracy, yet we love this nation and her people enough to remember that America's only hope- this world's only hope-is Jesus. As grateful citizens of the earthly nation, may we be ever passionate about introducing her people to King Jesus.

Here are the words to "God Bless America". May He truly bless & heal our land.

God bless America, land that I love
Stand beside her and guide her
Through the night with the light from above
From the mountains to the prairies
To the oceans white with foam
God bless America, my home sweet home

Pastor Aaron Robb

Inside this issue...

Family Ministries	2
July Calendar	3
Worship & Music	4
Student Ministries	5
Senior Adult Ministry.....	5
August Calendar.....	6
Kingdom Expansion.....	7

Glenn Cohrs, Pastor of Family Ministries / Administration

You would think that as the school year ends things would slow down around here, but instead it's the opposite. we are busier then ever gearing up for Summer here at LFC. We are so excited for our VBS Ministry this year. The church is abuzz as we get into full gear. This year's VBS dates are July 9th – 13th and, the theme is "Game On" "Gearing Up for Life's Big Game." The theme verse is **2 Peter 1:3 "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness."** Isn't that an awesome verse? What encouragement and joy we can get from knowing that God gives us the power and strength not only to face life, but that we can touch people for Christ! Please be praying for all the children and youth who will be attending this year, as well as for the Moms in the Mom's class and for all the staff. We look forward to seeing what God is going to do through this wonderful ministry.

Right after VBS we will be transitioning to the NJ State Fair Tent ministry. This is always an awesome week where we get to be a light in the middle of the fair. Then right after the Fair we get ready for our annual Soccer Camp August 20th – 24th. So, as you can see, we don't really slow down during the summer, but that's okay as all three of these ministries are amazing opportunities to reach out to our community and share the Gospel message.



Brian Ingraham, Pastor of Kingdom Expansion

Earlier today I was training one of our workers on our Child Safety Policy and couldn't help but think about how blessed we are at LFC with incredible workers for Summer here at LFC. We are so excited for our VBS Ministry this year. The church is abuzz as we get into full gear. This year's VBS dates are July 9th – 13th and, the theme is "Game On" "Gearing Up for Life's Big Game." The theme verse is **2 Peter 1:3 "His divine power has given us everything we need for life and godliness through our knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and goodness."** Isn't that an awesome verse? What encouragement and joy we can get from knowing that God gives us the power and strength not only to face life, but that we can touch people for Christ! Please be praying for all the children and youth who will be attending this year, as well as for the Moms in the Mom's class and for all the staff. We look forward to seeing what God is going to do through this wonderful ministry.

So, what are you doing this summer? Maybe your going to be working with one of these ministries; maybe it's a mission trip; maybe its just being a prayer warrior for one of these ministries; maybe its spending time with your family on vacation. Whatever it is, "do it all for the Glory of God."

In Christ Service,

Pastor Glenn

Brian Ingraham, Pastor of Kingdom Expansion

I'm excited to have a special guest writer for this newsletter to address an issue that has been on many of our minds lately, immigration. One of LFC's Global Partners, Ben Johnson, serves as the Director of Immigrant Hope and has answered a few commons questions surrounding immigration. His article below will give us a biblical foundation of mercy, help us better understand the challenges immigrants face as well as share with us the impact that Immigrant Hope has on the Kingdom of God. If you would like to hear firsthand how God was at work during someone's immigration journey please attend **"Stories of Hope"** on Wednesday night, July 18th, @ 6:30PM. Dessert provided! Space is limited so please RSVP to bingraham@lfc.org or call/text 717-341-3740.

WHAT DOES IMMIGRATION LEGAL WORK HAVE TO DO WITH MISSIONS?

From the ministry of Jesus and His apostles, disciplemaking and social action have gone hand-in-hand. Jesus preached about the coming Kingdom and he also healed the sick (Matt 8:16-17). Paul planted churches and raised funds for the poor (Acts 11:29-30). James taught the gospel and demanded those who love God serve others (James 2:14-17). Jesus lived and died so that we could be saved (Luke 19:10) and join Him to create a new kind of society (Luke 4:14-19). Meeting people's felt needs is often necessary for effective disciplemaking. Most understand that showing God's love opens hearts to hear, especially when you are trying to cross a cultural, social, or language barrier. The early church's care for the poor and oppressed fueled its rapid spread. A second reason is less obvious: obedience. Isaiah 58 shows that God may block our attempts at spiritual revival if we do not live with justice, mercy, and love. To be faithful and fruitful disciplemakers, we must serve. Providing affordable, reliable immigration legal advice is our way to apply God's love to the needs of vulnerable, suffering people.

WHAT CHALLENGES DO IMMIGRANTS FACE IN THE U.S.?

Some challenges are part of the universal migration experience – navigating new language and culture, separation from family and support structures, the struggle between assimilation and maintaining heritage. Others are unique to our society. Our immigration and criminal legal systems rest on very different principles. The immigration system is complex and unforgiving, with severe consequences for mistakes, yet most immigrants must face it alone. Many thousands lose status because they lack the knowledge to navigate the laws and procedures. They may be imprisoned for years without trial or basic amenities, or summarily deported without a chance to see a lawyer or judge. Young children are regularly imprisoned alongside or, recently, separately from their parents. Some of these conditions are inadvertent, but there is also a segment of our society, government, and even church that supports laws and policies because they make life worse for immigrants.

The effect is that immigrants in the U.S., with or without legal status, live with fear and alienation. Children are unsure if their parents will come home, parents fear to send kids to school, everyone avoids the police. Marginalized, they are prime targets for conmen and abusers and suffer more violent crime, wage theft, unsafe work, sex and labor trafficking, domestic violence, and fraud.

WHAT IMPACT DOES YOUR MINISTRY HAVE ON THE KINGDOM OF GOD?

I regularly meet with a young Somali man in the office of a church. He fled recruitment by an Islamist militia, crossed three continents alone, applied for asylum at the U.S. border, and spent a hellish year in a Texas detention facility waiting for a hearing. His application was among the 10% that court approves, and now our office is helping him transition to permanent status. God is using us to help this remarkable man find physical, emotional, and spiritual peace and security. Through our work, he has a relationship with a church offering him new community, family and faith. This story is repeated in each of our ministry's seven churches. Through service to our 1,900 clients, we have become known as places of safety, care and welcome. Church members have grown in their discipleship, learning about God's heart, His grace, and the role He has given them. All the while, our workers seek opportunities for spiritual engagement with each client by praying, sharing the gospel, and connecting them to the church family. This is how we fulfill the Great Commission and bring God's Kingdom on earth as it is in heaven.

LEARN MORE:

- Welcoming the Stranger: Justice, Compassion & Truth in the Immigration Debate, by Matthew Soerens and Jenny Hwang Yang
- Christians at the Border: Immigration, the Church, and the Bible, by M. Daniel Carroll R.
- Evangelical Perspectives on Immigration (<http://evangelicalimmigrationtable.com/category/perspectives/>)
- Resolution on Immigration – National Association of Evangelicals (<http://www.nae.net/immigration-2009/>)

CONNECT WITH IMMIGRANT HOPE:

- Attend Hope Stories at LFC, January 18 at 6:30 p.m.
 - Visit the Immigrant Hope office at Grace Church in Clifton, NJ (<http://immigranthope.org/clifton>)
 - Subscribe to the Johnson's newsletter
 - Contact Ben or Sarah to discuss their ministry
- Ben Johnson, Missionary, EFCA ReachNational Director, Immigrant Hope, (201) 835-2594
ben.johnson@efca.org, www.efca.org, www.immigranthope.org

August 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

SPECIAL EVENTS: 8/3-12 NJ STATE FAIR OUTREACH 8/6-13 YOUTH MISSIONS TRIP/HAITI 8/17 SENIOR ADULT WORKSHOP 8/20-24 SOCCER CAMP			1 10-1 Sunshine Shop 9:30 Prayer Mtg.	2	3 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	4 7:00 Elder Breakfast 10-1 Sunshine Shop
5 Shepherding Fellowship 9:30 Combined Worship Service Coffee Fellowship	6 11:00 J.O.Y. Club Luncheon	7	8 10-1 Sunshine Shop 9:30 Prayer Mtg. ← NJ STATE FAIR OUTREACH: 8/3-12 →	9 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	10 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	11 10-1 Sunshine Shop
	7:00 Men's Bible Study	6:30 Women's AA 8:00 AA Meeting		7:00 Celebrate Recovery		7:00 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
12 9:30 Combined Worship Service Coffee Fellowship	13	14	15 10-1 Sunshine Shop 9:30 Prayer Mtg.	16 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	17 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's 11:00 Sr. Adult Workshop/Lunch	18 10-1 Sunshine Shop
19 9:30 Combined Worship Service Coffee Fellowship	20	21	22 10-1 Sunshine Shop 9:30 Prayer Mtg. ← SOCCER CAMP: 8/20-24 →	23 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	24 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	25 10-1 Sunshine Shop
26 9:30 Combined Worship Service Coffee Fellowship	27	28	29 10-1 Sunshine Shop 9:30 Prayer Mtg.	30 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	31 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	

July 2018

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

"A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another, even as I have loved you, that you also love one another."

1 Shepherding Fellowship 9:30 Combined Worship Service Coffee Fellowship	2 11:00 J.O.Y. Club Luncheon at Dominick's	3	4 HAPPY INDEPENDENCE DAY!	5	6 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	7 7:00 Elder Breakfast 10-1 Sunshine Shop
		6:30 Women's AA 8:00 AA Meeting		7:00 Celebrate Recovery		7:00 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
8 9:30 Combined Worship Service Coffee Fellowship	9 6:30 Women's AA 8:00 AA Meeting	10 7 Sr. High Swim-n-Study at the Robbs	11 10-1 Sunshine Shop 9:30 Prayer Mtg. ← VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL: 7/9-13 →	12 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	13 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's	14 10-1 Sunshine Shop
15 9:30 Combined Worship Service Coffee Fellowship 11:00 MOPS BBQ	16 6:30 Women's AA 8:00 AA Meeting	17 6:30 Immigrant Hope Event 7 Sr. High Swim-n-	18 10-1 Sunshine Shop 9:30 Prayer Mtg. 6:30 Immigrant Hope Event 7 Sr. High Swim-n-	19 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	20 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's 6:00 Ladies Night at Lafayette Village	21 7:00 Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
22 9:30 Combined Worship Service Coffee Fellowship	23 6:30 Women's AA 8:00 AA Meeting	24 7 Sr. High Swim-n-Study at the Cuperus	25 10-1 Sunshine Shop 9:30 Prayer Mtg. 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	26 7:00 Celebrate Recovery	27 6:30 Men/Women Breakfast @ Yetters 7:00 Men's Breakfast @ Cloveberry's 7:00 Jr. & Sr. High Frisbee Friday	28 No Jr. & Sr. High Youth Group
29 9:30 Combined Worship Service Coffee Fellowship	30 6:30 Women's AA 8:00 AA Meeting	31 10:00 Women's Summer Bible Study			SPECIAL EVENTS: 7/2 J.O.Y. Club Luncheon 7/9-13 Vacation Bible School 7/15 MOPS BBQ 7/18 Immigrant Hope Event 7/20 Ladies Night 7/27 Jr. & Sr. High Frisbee	

Gregg Gaffney, Pastor of Worship & Music

New Testament Worship

One of the things we looked at in our Sunday School class on worship was the difference between Old Testament worship and New Testament worship. We focused on the difficult and messy process of the blood sacrifice of the Old Testament and how in the New Testament economy that sacrifice has already been made for us. Look at what we see in the Bible about this truth.

Ephesians 1:7

In Him we have redemption through His blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of His grace.

Romans 8:1-3

Therefore, there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus, because through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law was powerless to do in that it was weakened by the sinful nature, God did by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful man to be a sin offering.

Our sacrifices today are to be in thankfulness for what has been done on our behalf, not as a requirement for our salvation. That work has been done. So how do we sacrifice today?

Hebrews 13:15 (NIV)

Therefore by Him let us continually offer the sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of our lips, giving thanks to His name.

Look how often we are told to offer the sacrifice of praise to our God – CONTINUALLY!

Romans 12:1

"I urge you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, which is your spiritual service of worship."

I do not know about you, but I am sure glad I live on this side of the cross. Hebrews tells us that we no longer need the temporary earthly tabernacle. Hebrews also tells us that now Christ is our high priest and has offered the sacrifice on our behalf; once, for all. Christ took our sin upon Him so that the debt for our sin would be satisfied. It should give us great joy to realize what our Savior has done for us. Christ took our burden on Himself and became the sacrifice for our sin. Now in gratitude we offer Him our sacrifice of praise from our lips and our lives.

In some ways, though, we have lost something. We do not look at our worship as our responsibility. We act as if the job of worship belongs to someone else, perhaps the worship leader or the worship team, or even the pastors. The Old Testament worshiper performed much of the ritual himself. He cleansed himself and his offering, he approached the tabernacle with expectancy, and he prepared and killed the animal. The priest then completed the worship as the worshipper looked on from a distance. It was absolutely necessary for the worshiper to be actively involved in the process.

In the economy of the New Testament, we are called to be both the worshiper **and** the priest. The work of worship becomes the responsibility of each of us. It is our responsibility to prepare **ourselves** for worship; to offer the sacrifice of **our praise**, the fruit of **our lips**, to present all of **our lives**, to give thanks to His name. We must become actively involved in **our** worship so that we might proclaim the praises of **our** Lord, Who has paid **our** debt for sin forever.

How then should we define our offering today; as the giving back of our all to Him who has given all.

Do not take Christ's sacrifice for you lightly. Spend time daily honoring Him by reading His Word, praying and living lives that give worth to Him. Seek to use the gifts and talents that He has given you to proclaim His praise and demonstrate your love for Him. Spend time encouraging others, learning what it means to become the Body of Christ. As you worship, come with expectancy that God has plans for His people, and wants to engage each of us. Be, as we are called, a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, so that you may proclaim the praises of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light.

2018 COMMUNITY PROJECTS

Short-Term Youth Missions Trip



We had an incredible week of serving together along side of members from Milford Bible Church! Hopefully you were able to make it out to the team report a few weeks back, but in case not, I encourage you to ask our students and others who were involved in the project about how God was a work and the things they learned from the experience. The students involved were Sarrah Clark, Sarah Llerena, Aiden Ingraham, Caleb Robb, Katie Robb, Kelsie Robb, Victoria Schiedlo, Jonathan Schiedlo, Cailey Deming, and Anthony Lasslett. We are also incredibly grateful to the many others who took part through providing meals, building relationships, and helping with projects. It was a great picture of the body of Christ working together.

2018 SUMMER SENIOR ADULT EVENTS

JULY:

2nd J.O.Y. Club Luncheon at Dominick's Restaurant, Newton @ 11:30 am

AUGUST:

6th J.O.Y. Club Luncheon at 11 am, Topic: Hobbies

SEPTEMBER:

10th J.O.Y Club Luncheon at 11 am, Speaker: Pastor Glenn Cohrs, Church Safety

OCTOBER:

1st J.O.Y. Club Luncheon at 11 am, Topic: Operation Christmas Child

NOVEMBER:

5th J.O.Y. Club Thanksgiving Celebration & Hymn Sing @ 11 am

DECEMBER:

3rd J.O.Y. Club Christmas Luncheon @ 11 am

For more information and to sign up for events, please contact the church office at 973-383-4461.