



- August 2-11 NJ State Fair Tent Outreach
- August 5 J.O.Y. Club Hotdog BBQ: 11 AM in the gym
- August 19-23 2019 Soccer Camp: Students ages 5-13 / 6-8 PM
- September 8 Regular Worship Services resume: 8:15 & 11 AM
Sunday School for all ages: 9:45 AM
- September 21 LFC Fall Festival: 1-4 PM
- September 25 Wednesday Night Activities resume
6 PM Family Fellowship Dinner
7 PM Children, Student & Adult Discipleship Groups
- September 29 DISCOVER LFC: 10 AM in the Sanctuary Overflow
LFC Chicken BBQ: Following 11 AM Worship Service in the Pavilion

Invite a friend!

LAFAYETTE FEDERATED CHURCH
180 ROUTE 15, LAFAYETTE, NJ 07848
973-383-4461 / WWW.LFC.ORG



Pastor Glenn Cohrs, Pastor of Family Ministries/Administration

Wow! It's so hard to believe that we are halfway through 2019. It has been a fantastic year so far, and as we go into our summer months here at LFC, things don't slow down at all. I would like to take a moment to highlight just a few of the summer ministries.

First, we held VBS on July 8th – 12th. What an amazing week we had. I have to admit I was a little nervous going into VBS as we had lost several of our key workers to various things this year; but once again, God was amazing and raised up an incredible team that just loved on the kids in the name of Jesus. In this year's curriculum we investigated "Encounters with Jesus." It was so exciting to watch the kids get excited about their time at VBS and to hear them talking about what they learned in class, as well as hearing them singing about Jesus and what He's done for them PTL!! But I also saw the children encountering Jesus through our amazing staff who truly were the hands and feet of Christ. I would like to take a moment to say a big THANK YOU to all of our VBS staff. It's because of your willingness to serve that we were able to share the Gospel message with the 203 kids registered at VBS and with all the Moms in the Mom's class.

Our next outreach to the children in our community will be through our annual Summer Soccer Camp on August 19th – 23rd. This ministry has been a great tool for us to use in reaching kids in our community through sports. Please be praying for this incredible ministry as we get excited for the opportunity to share the love of Jesus with both the kids in attendance and their parents. If you would like to volunteer with this ministry (coaching assistants, snacks, registration, closing BBQ etc....), just reach out to me at gcohrs@lfc.org.

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SUSSEX PROJECT 2019

What an awesome week we had serving along with our church family and partnering with Milford Bible Church for this year's Sussex project! Our theme again this year was "The Other 51", with the emphasis on considering how we can be the hands and feet of Christ in Sussex County not only for the last week of June, but with every week of the year.

Students were able to help meet some physical needs through yard work, painting, trimming, and mulching. They were also able to effectively communicate the Gospel message to individuals at their homes and to nursing home residents and shut-ins through using the wordless bracelet and engaging in conversation. It was a special privilege to see our students partnering with their church family to bring the Gospel to their community!

One of my favorite parts of the week was seeing how relationships that began over a year ago continued to develop and grow. We ask that you continue to pray for those seeds that were planted and relationships that were established that they may be used by God to bring people in our community to a saving knowledge of Him and that there would be revival in Sussex County! We praise God for what He has already done and pray that He will continue to be at work.

For the Team,

Pastor Ryan



The **worship leader's responsibility is to lead others to an understanding of God's revelation and then help them shape a response.** This is best done in the words and comfort zone of the people, not the worship leader's or that of the leadership of the church. What is good at one church may not be right at another. We should build on history while recognizing the changing culture around us. The best of both old and new should be used to help us shape our worship.

It is also important for us to recognize that there is **more than one** indigenous culture for us to deal with as the church. There is the culture **within the walls** of the church which is most directly impacted by our use of arts in the service.

But there is a **second culture**, the one immediately **outside our walls.** Our sensitivity to that culture will determine the ability of that culture to come within our walls and understand what they are seeing. If the hypothesis set forth by the writer Sally Morgenthaler in her book Worship Evangelism, as well as by other authors and theologians, that the act of worship is the best form of evangelism is true, then the ability of the seeker to recognize what they observe will be determined by the impact of our art in communicating to them in a manner they understand.

This is a common theme concerning worship in the New Testament. The call for orderly worship presented by Paul and the writer of Hebrews is made with an assumption that unbelievers will witness our worship and that we need to be sensitive that they understand that which they observe. (Understand that there is a big difference between being seeker sensitive in our worship and being seeker driven.)

Then, just to make things more complicated, our **post-modern world has created a third indigenous culture both within and outside the walls** of the church, that of the emergent worshiper who values experience over words. The worship leader needs to be aware of all these cultures as worship is planned, a task that cannot be met by merely imitating the success of another church!

So enjoy your preferences AND embrace those of others, but above all, WORSHIP!

In Christ,

Pastor Greg

Pastor Glenn Cohrs, Pastor of Family Ministries/Administration

These two ministries are just a small portion of all the ministries that continue to run here at LFC over the summer. These worthwhile ministries are all possible thanks to your generosity in giving to the budget. With this in mind, we would like to let you know that our current giving to budget is running a shortfall. We know with the busyness of summer, it is easy to fall behind in your regular giving. Would you prayerfully consider contributing to close this shortfall so that all of our ministries can continue to reach people for Jesus.

I would like to leave you with a few verses from John 14 that have just been such an encouragement to me over the last couple of weeks:

"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you. Whoever has my commands and keeps them is the one who loves me. The one who loves me will be loved by my Father, and I too will love them and show myself to them."

In Christ service,

Pastor Glenn

HYMNS OR CHORUSES, WHO IS RIGHT???

I have been following with interest the discussion concerning hymns, hymnals, and today's worship music that has exploded again on social media. I am saddened to see the rush to judgment that both sides of the debate often have with one another. Instead of trying to understand the breadth of expression with which God has gifted us, we throw down a gauntlet and limit our worship language to the limited vocabulary that we know (and love) well. The problem with doing so is that we forget the importance for each one of us to be able to express worth back to God in a language we know and we also then don't grow in our ability to expand our expressions of praise to Him. Ultimately, when taken to the extreme, we make corporate worship about our preferences and thereby make ourselves the central object of worship!

I am not saying that one side or the other is wrong. It's not having a preference that is the problem. When we, no matter what our personal preferences are, don't listen to one another and demand our preferences over others, are wrong!

I was thrilled to be asked to speak to Janet Neidhardt's women's Bible study last month as they studied hymns and hymnody. It was great being with a group of people who want to know what they are offering up in worship! Being with that class reminded me how so much of our argument on worship is based on personal preferences or experience rather than on a historical and even more importantly, Biblical understanding of worship music. Which is why their study was so important.

One of the things we talked about was how culture is so influential in shaping our worship preferences. We also looked at how we have a limited view on the historical truths of worship, how the hymn as we know it is really a relative phenomenon compared to the musical styles and formats that the early church knew. Our understandings of harmonies and style weren't allowed in the church worship of the middle ages! So when we rebel against using anything from the culture of today, we actually revert back to the culture of yesterday that we know, but that form wasn't accepted by those who came before us either.

I know that is a convoluted sentence, but if you think about it long enough it'll make sense... maybe! The other side of the coin is when we only revere the sounds and styles of today and dispose of that which came before us, we lose a great repository of theology and expression that is ours to own as the historical church!

Culture in itself isn't bad or good, and we need to recognize that worship is influenced by culture. But it should never be defined by culture! In the Nairobi Statement on Worship and Culture, a document forged over years of study by Biblical scholars, there is a recognition that worship and culture will and must interact, but in four different ways.

Our worship should be:

1. **Trans-cultural** – recognizing that the basic tenants of Christian worship are unchangeable and above any cultural expression. Those tenets include:

- a. the centrality of the Word as the foundation of Christian understanding and world view
- b. the honest prayers of God's people
- c. the proclamation of the full Gospel
- d. the celebration of Lord's Supper and Baptism

2. **Contextual** – recognizing the unique genius of the culture in which it is placed; speaking directly to that culture and arising naturally from the people of that culture. In other words, allowing culture to shape our expression so that it is natural and easily understood in our culture.

3. **Counter-Cultural** – recognizing we need to resist aspects of the culture that detract from deep, Gospel-centered celebrations. These things in and of themselves are not an issue until they become the centerpiece of our worship, distracting from our true object of worship, our Lord Himself.

Some of these aspects could be:

- a. Technology
- b. Material Wealth
- c. Constant Noise
- d. Individualism

4. **Cross-cultural** – Incorporating elements, prayers, and music that a given community receives as gifts from Christians in other places and other times. This broadens our worship language and helps us to have a greater understanding of Whom we are worshipping.

2019 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL HIGHLIGHTS

- ⇒ 203 Children in attendance
- ⇒ VBS Missionary: Operation Christmas Child. \$5,386.69 collected / 268 Shoes will be purchased for the OCC Ministry.



Stephen Ministry



IT'S YOUR MINISTRY!

Stephen Ministry is YOUR ministry. It is an important way we at Lafayette Federated Church care for one another. If you are going through a difficult time, consider having a Stephen Minister. If you know someone else who is facing difficulties, suggest that he or she request Stephen Ministry. Make use of it.

STEPHEN MINISTRY BELONGS TO YOU!

LAFAYETTE FEDERATED CHURCH FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

As of: **May 31, 2019**

Total Income: \$460,471.18
Total Expenses: \$484,439.42

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	9:30 a.m.	General Offering	Missions Offering	Building Fund
06/30/2019	359	\$14,071.01	\$875.00	\$0
07/07/2019	366	\$14,733.33	\$289.00	\$326.00
07/14/2019	285	\$14,083.25	\$3,647.23	\$0
07/21/2019	322	\$18,089.47	\$2,109.46	\$10.00

"...Offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God..."

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

We are excited to serve alongside five other local churches in the tent!



AUGUST 2-11, 2019

The Fair is coming soon, and we have opportunities where you can serve:

- Prayer Team:** We'll be praying for each hour of the Fair. If you're interested in being part of the Prayer Team, choose a time slot on the Prayer Schedule located at the Welcome Center.
- Fair Ministry Team:** We are looking for people to serve during the Fair at the Face painting Station, Children's Activity Stations, as well as folks to interact with visitors. Please sign up at the Welcome Center or contact Pastor Brian to be part of the Ministry Team, bingraham@lfc.org or 973-383-4461.



Invite a friend!

J.O.Y. CLUB LUNCHEON

(Senior Adults)

MONDAY, AUGUST 5TH

11-1 PM (Gym)

Guest Speakers: Howard & Marilyn Stark

Please join us for a delicious potluck lunch. HOTDOGS will be provided. Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert.

Remember also to bring an item for our food pantry.

2019 SOCCER CAMP

August 19 - 23RD

Students Ages 5 - 13
6:00 - 8:00 pm
Cost: \$40 per student

To Register:
www.lfc.org or visit
the Welcome Center.

