

CONCERT DATES:

Friday, December 20th, 7 PM at Sussex Christian Reformed Church  
49 Unionville Avenue, Sussex, NJ

Saturday, December 21st, 3 PM at Lafayette Federated Church

Sunday, December 22nd, 6 PM at Lafayette Federated Church

VOICES OF THE KINGDOM CHOIR & ORCHESTRA

presents

BORN  
TO  
Save



LAFAYETTE FEDERATED CHURCH

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CONNECTION

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR..

Every year or so, I use one newsletter article to share some of the books, websites and resources that have been especially helpful to me in my own spiritual journey. I know what a blessing it is when many of you share a meaningful book or helpful article with me, so I hope this is a way to return the spiritual favor!

I had an opportunity to do a little more reading than I usually do, thanks to my summer sabbatical. Here are a few books that I found especially challenging and helpful.

**Walking in the Spirit** by Kenneth Berding (Crossway, 2011). This little book is wonderful examination of what it means to live a victorious, Spirit-led life as shown us in Romans 8. Even though Berding is a professor at Biola University, this book is straightforward, easy to read, and very biblical and practical. There are also great study questions at the end of each chapter.

**The Prodigal Church: A Gentle Manifesto Against the Status Quo** by Jared Wilson (Crossway, 2015). This is one of the best books about the direction of many modern, evangelical churches in America. What I loved about this book was that it wasn't an angry tirade, or un-Christ like rant against some of the dangerous trends developing in the modern American church; rather, it was a humble, gentle, loving, and biblical response. I found it both encouraging and challenging. This would be a great read for those who are in leadership and help make decisions about direction, programs, and ministries in the church.

**Spiritual Maturity** by J. Oswald Sanders (Moody Press, 1962, 1994). I re-read this powerful book this summer for probably the 5<sup>th</sup> time. Sanders has a very practical way of explaining what it means to be spiritually mature and how to apply what the Bible says about it to our lives. Sanders is also the author of one of my favorite books about leadership, entitled **Spiritual Leadership**. I have read that book closer to 10 times, so I thought I better mix it up a bit! Both of these books are classic books that one should revisit often. They have both been a tremendous help to my walk with the Lord.

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**Glenn Cohrs, Pastor of Family Ministries / Administration**

As much as I love summer, I really love fall. I think of it as a time of newness, refreshment and excitement. The changing colors of the leaves remind me of God's power, glory and majesty as He paints the countryside with His artist's brush. I love the verses in Psalm 96:11-12, "Let the heavens rejoice, let the earth be glad; let the sea resound, and all that is in it; let the fields be jubilant, and everything in them. Then all the trees of the forest will sing for joy."

I would like to take a moment to encourage you to use fall as a great time to get plugged back into a God's Word. Gathering to worship together on Sunday mornings is an incredible time for us to, first and foremost, gather to worship the God of Creation, the King of Kings, and Our Lord & Savior. But it's also a time of refreshment for us, to help us get our focus back on what matters most, "living for Jesus." But Sunday is not enough, if we really want to live our life for Christ, we need to be in God's Word daily. I would like to give you several ways to grow in God's Word.

Join a Bible Study or Sunday School class. We have so many opportunities to dig deeper in God's Word. We currently have six adult classes offered this semester, and it's never too late to join in. Secondly, we have several Bible Study opportunities during the week. We have a Men's Bible Study on Monday Nights, a Women's Bible Study on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday Nights, as well as an adult Bible Study on Wednesday Nights.

Grab a daily devotional book to help keep you in God's Word daily. There is no better way to start or end a day than meditating on scripture. At our Welcome Center, we have several items to help you in this area. We have Our Daily Bread devotionals, The Upper Room devotional, and we have a plan to help you read through the Bible in a year that was formulated by one of our own (Leroy Lindsey). The most important thing is that you get into a routine of being in God's Word regularly.

On the administration side, I would like to just update you on some upcoming meetings and projects: We are finally nearing the completion of the Elevator Project. I know this has taken a lot longer than we anticipated; however, by using the gifts and talents of many folks here at LFC that God has blessed us with, we have been able to save literally tens of thousands of dollars. It is my anticipation that by our next newsletter we will be celebrating this new piece of equipment.

The Trustees have been working hard on next year's budget and will present it to the members for a vote on Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM. Copies of the proposed budget will be available starting on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

I would also like to take a moment to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who made our Back-to-Church/Fall Festival/Chicken BBQ such an amazing time. We had over 300 people in attendance and a great time of food and fellowship was had by all. We're already looking forward to doing it again next year.

In Christ Service,

Pastor Glenn

*"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." Isaiah 7:14*

**LAFAYETTE FEDERATED CHURCH  
FINANCIAL INFORMATION:**

**As of: August 30, 2019**

**Total Income: \$682,846.63**  
**Total Expenses: \$760,073.-23**

*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.*

**OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD**



Operation Christmas Child distributes shoeboxes packed with toys, school supplies, toiletries, hats, scarves, etc. and most importantly, a booklet proclaiming the Gospel message to needy children around the world. We will once again be a Collection Site. Shoebox packing information, volunteer sign-ups, and more information are available at the Welcome Center.

*Please drop off your items at the Welcome Center or outside the church gym. **Shoebox Collection Week: 11/18-25***

**SENIOR ADULT**

*Thanksgiving*  
**FEAST & HYMN SING**

**Monday, November 4th, at 11:00 am**

**Please join us as we share a traditional Thanksgiving meal and sing hymns of gratitude. Sign up at the Welcome Center or contact the church office.**

## Greg Gaffney, Pastor of Worship & Music

### BORN TO SAVE

Yes, it's that time again where the choir has started rehearsing, the narrations are being prepared, and the sound team is trying to figure out the impossible. Christmas is around the corner and cantata preparations are under way. This year's theme centers around the Lee Black and Jason Cox song "Born to Save".

*"Born to live so that we could live,  
Born to die so that death would never win.  
Born to take the chains of sin and leave them  
broken in the grave,  
Born to live, born to die, born to save."*

We will look together at the great mystery of God's redemption plan, how, as it says in Philip-  
pians 2, Jesus "emptied Himself, taking on the  
form of a bond-servant and being made in the  
likeness of man" came into our world with the  
intention to redeem all mankind.

Here's what this year's musical is going to do; look at old favorites and new settings while declaring and celebrating the work of our God. We will travel back to Bethlehem while also looking at what this historical event means for us today. With a full orchestra and a combined choir composed of our own singers joined by many others including members of Sussex Christian Reformed Church and Unionville Presbyterian Church, I believe the message will be clear and the program entertaining. But that is not enough. As we glorify our Lord, we want the program to be an encouragement to the believer and life changing for those who have yet to put their trust in Jesus. We also desire to see that our worship will continue as we take this life changing message and share it every day with a world greatly in need of hope!

The performances this year will be right before Christmas, with one concert, Friday, December 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m., being done at Sussex Christian Reformed Church and two done here at LFC; Saturday December 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>. We again are offering a Saturday matinee at 3:00 p.m. to help those who struggle driving at night in the winter season to have the opportunity to celebrate with us. Sunday will be at the usual time of 6:00 p.m.

Take this opportunity to invite friends, family and neighbors to come celebrate the story of Christmas with you.

As the words of another song in the musical tell us, we have the privilege of looking at this eternal story and see the love our God. *"The ages ring, the heavens sing; where hope was dead there is life again. A light has dawned, arise and see. What does it mean? Behold the hope, behold your King!"*

### SPECIAL EVENTS CALENDAR

Sunday, November 24th	6:00 p.m.
<b>Hope Through the Holidays</b>	
Wednesday, November 27th	7:30 p.m.
<b>Thanksgiving Eve Service</b>	
Friday, December 20th	7:00 p.m.
<b>"It's Christmas" @ SCRC</b>	
Saturday, December 21st	3:00 p.m.
<b>"It's Christmas" @ LFC</b>	
Sunday, December 22nd	6:00 p.m.
<b>"It's Christmas" @LFC</b>	
Tuesday, December 24th	
<b>Christmas Eve Celebration</b>	7:00 p.m.
<b>Christmas Eve Candlelight Service</b>	9:00 p.m.

## Ryan Drew, Pastor of Students

*"And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God." Colossians 1:9-10*

There are several components to this passage that I find motivating as I think about our student ministry and what we are trying to accomplish. I find myself reverting to requests for prayer for this area of ministry, almost to the point of feeling guilty, but then reminding myself of the need for prayer. Our students, your children and grandchildren are at such a stage of life that they need prayer and encouragement to continue to pursue and walk with Jesus!

The second thing that I take away from this passage is the centrality of Paul's desire to see that his readers are "filled with the knowledge of his will" that they may "walk in a manner worthy of the Lord." Who doesn't want that for their children, right? One specific area of emphasis for the students in our youth ministry has been pointing out the need to live in biblical community with one another to encourage and build one another up.

This is certainly no surprise to many of you, but it is often one of the very things that in our human nature we don't do well. Praying for one another, encouraging each other, forgiving each other, and showing characteristics such as gentleness and respect are actions that are often learned and inspired through the Holy Spirit. This year we have been working hard to encourage our students to live in genuine community with each other, which includes all the things listed above. We are praying that gentleness, selflessness, and respect for one another would more and more become the hallmark of how our students engage with each other and with this world that they live in.

Would you continue to pray for them as they seek to do this? Just as Paul's great desire was to see these fellow believers grow in their knowledge of Jesus and to walk in a manner worthy of his calling, I know that your desire for our kids is the same. I cannot emphasize enough the impact that praying for these students can have. We would love to have you come be a part of this prayer time believing that God hears our prayers and that He will do great things!

All for Him,  
Ryan

## Aaron Robb, Senior Pastor

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Our whole family was challenged by an incredible film entitled **The American Gospel: Christ Alone** (it can be viewed or purchased at Amazon or at [www.americangospelfilm.com](http://www.americangospelfilm.com)) This was one of the most compelling and interesting films I've seen in a long time. The film examines how the prosperity gospel (the Word of Faith movement) has distorted the gospel message, and how this theology is being exported abroad. It is packed with fascinating interviews, video clips, along with some excellent teaching about the nature of the true Gospel. This film even captivated our three teenage kids and 11-year old.

Finally, I "discovered" a very helpful digital resource this year--The **Life Action Ministries** app (available in iTunes and Google Play). *Life Action Ministries* is one of my favorite Christian organizations.

They offer all kinds of practical resources for individuals, churches, and pastors in the area of cultivating genuine personal and corporate renewal and revival.

While I have read their magazine "Revive" for years, I recently downloaded their app. On it, you have access to some excellent devotionals, blogs, and messages. I highly recommend any resource from Life Action Ministries.

I hope this brief list will be a helpful resource for you. As always, please feel free to share with me any books and resources that you have found helpful. It is a joy to help each other as we walk together on this journey.

In Christ,  
Aaron



### BACK TO THE BASICS

Football season is now officially in full swing. One of my favorite football coach quotes was by Vince Lombardi - a guy who coached the Green Bay Packers from 1958 - 1967 and went on to win six division titles, five NFL championships, and two Super Bowls (I and II). Yet, as Lombardi walked into training camp in the summer of 1961, he said to his players, "Gentlemen, this is a football."

What was his secret ingredient for success? I believe that it was his obsession with getting back to the basics of football. His team would become the best in the league at the tasks everyone else took for granted. This 'getting back to the basics' concept is critical, even in the church. As Christians, God has given us His word as a guide. Psalm 119:105 says "Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path."

With this in mind, I wanted to share something that God taught me recently and how it is helping me to get back to the basics in our missions ministry. I've really enjoyed serving within the missions committee and working alongside our missions chairperson Janet Neidhardt. Janet's wisdom, life experiences, and heart for the Lord have been an inspiration and encouragement to me. Recently we were talking about how to be a church that effectively supports our current global partners and sends out future global partners. How can we be confident as a committee that we are being good stewards of the funding given to missions? As I looked through our missions policy, God used some verses to challenge and refocus my thinking.

The Bible passage that stood out most to me was Matthew 9:35-38 which says, "And Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." English Standard Version (ESV)

This passage convicted me that I first need to get back to the basics...that there are two main areas we need to make sure are at our foundation. One is that compassion needs to guide our approach to missions. Jesus looked out at the crowds and had compassion on them. I need to continually ask God to give me a broken heart for the lost. Jesus describes these people as harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Hearing these words struck a chord with me. Jesus' mission is the most important mission of all. When we view people as God views them, He can use that in powerful ways for His Kingdom.

Another thing the Lord showed me was the importance of prayer. Jesus calls his followers to pray earnestly for the Lord to send out laborers into His harvest. I never noticed the end of this verse before where it says "His" harvest. It's about Him, not us! How often do I pray for workers to be sent to the harvest? How often do you? God really certainly convicted me in this area.

As we approach our upcoming missions conference on October 25th-27th, let's try to get back to the basics. Please pray that God will use this conference to reflect this year's theme taken from the book of Esther - "For such a time is this." Pray that we all would see that the time is now for missions. Pray that God would send out workers from LFC into HIS harvest field. Please look at the attached schedule and prayerfully consider where God is leading you to serve in the area of missions. The task of missions is great, but our God is greater!

In Christ,

Pastor Brian

# 2019 FALL MISSIONS CONFERENCE

OCTOBER 25-27

*"For such a time as this"* Esther 4:14

Guest Speaker: Ron Hutchcraft

## CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

### FRIDAY, OCTOBER 25TH

7:00 PM **Missions Program:** Guest Speaker: Ron Hutchcraft  
*"The Time is Now"*, Sanctuary (Childcare, 4-8 yrs. old)

### SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26TH

9:00 AM **Opening Program,** Sanctuary  
9:30-10:15 AM **Workshops** offered by Ron Hutchcraft/Mission Guests\*  
10:45-11:30 AM **Workshops** offered by Ron Hutchcraft/Mission Guests\*  
4:00-6:30 PM **Missions Fair,** Gym  
Kid's Scavenger Hunt, Mission Movie, Food  
6:30 PM **Sonrise Mountain Revival and Ron Hutchcraft\*** Sanctuary

### SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27TH

8:15 AM **Worship Service,** Guest Speaker: Ron Hutchcraft\*  
9:30 AM **LIVE SENT:** Special Missions Focus for all Adults, Gym\*  
Youth (Grades 7-12): Ron Hutchcraft, Youth Room  
Children: Regular Sunday School  
11:00 AM **Worship Service,** Guest Speaker: Ron Hutchcraft\*

\* Nursery (0-3 yrs. old)/Childcare (4-8 yrs. old) Offered



**Guest Speaker: Ron Hutchcraft**

Ron Hutchcraft is an impassioned contemporary evangelist, speaker, author, and radio host. As President of Ron Hutchcraft Ministries, Ron and his team specialize in developing authentic, relevant, and creative tools to, as Ron says, "Bring the lost to the Cross." Ron is committed to communicating the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the lost in their language and to motivating and equipping believers to communicate Christ to the lost in their world.

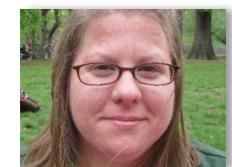
### GLOBAL PARTNERS IN ATTENDANCE:



**Guy & Carolyn Eshelman,**  
Christar, USA



**Don Schuit,**  
AIM  
Missionary Retreat Fellowship, USA



**Samantha Sickel,**  
Word of Life, France