



November 2017
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501 Hope Mills Road
Fayetteville, NC 28304
(910) 425-1306

ON THE JOURNEY...

By Dr. Ron Hinson

“Committed Followership”

Kyle Idleman wrote a book entitled, “not a fan” back in 2011. He addressed the reality that many who name themselves as Christians seem a long way from being committed followers of Jesus.

Idleman uses the analogy of those who are “fans” of Jesus as opposed to being committed followers. We live in a social climate that creates fans for any number of personalities, interests, or activities. Following Jesus is meant to be something more.

I challenge you as we move toward Thanksgiving and the Advent Season, to examine your own walk of faith. Are you honestly growing in your relationship with Christ? Are you confident of your daily walk with God in the sense of being engaged in His calling upon your life in identity, discipleship, service, and witness? Are you looking for God’s guidance and are you learning and growing in that daily following?

Do your friends know you are a Christian? Have you shared with them your interest in their knowing Christ as Lord and Savior as well? Do you care about your friends enough to want them to know the blessings of life in relationship to Jesus as their Lord and Savior? Are you praying for them? Have you told them you are praying for them? Have you shared with them an invitation to worship and bible study? Have you shared with them an opportunity to hear the gospel? Do they have a bible? Are they reading it? Have you considered ways to involve them in fellowship with other Christians? Do you show them God’s love in the ways you relate to them?

An old adage is this, “If you were arrested for being a Christian, would there be enough evidence to convict you?” Fans are many, and followers may be fewer, but we are called to follow.

The world of differences that so often define us are nothing in comparison to our common need of a Savior. Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world. Introduce those close to you to Him. Many people indicate that they would attend church with someone they knew if they were simply invited. It is a logical beginning place for many who need to know our LORD.

November 26—Agape Service and Meal

Sign-ups will be available November 5-19.

An Agape service is the gathering of the church around a common meal. Our service is scheduled for Sunday, November 26 at 5:30pm. During this time, we will be sharing our seasonal missions focus as well as participating in the Lord’s Supper. Our meal will be a catered meal of bread, salad, lasagna, and drinks. There is no cost to attend, but reservations are required no later than Sunday, November 19. More information will be shared in worship over the coming weeks.



W Worship

Celebration Choir

Rehearsals

November 1, 8, 15, and 29 at 6:30pm

Worship Preparation: Praise Team & Instruments

Rehearsals

November 1, 8, 15, and 29 at 7:45 pm

e Equipping

Discipleship courses have ended until the new year. As we move into the holiday season, we hope you and your family will make an effort to participate in the many special events happening in the life of LBC. In the new year, the Equipping Council is preparing for a few events in January, and our Sunday evening discipleship courses will return in February 2018.

e Evangelism

What does the Lord ask of us? A key element that seems to be missing from some of today's popular Christianity is repentance. The word repent means to turn away from. Jesus denounced towns that didn't repent in Matthew 11:20. Paul declared to both Jews and Greeks that they must turn to God in repentance and have faith in our Lord Jesus in Acts 20:21. Jesus was answering a question of how one can be born again in John chapter 3. Most of us can quote John 3:16 but in John 3:14 Jesus says "just as Moses lifted up the snake.... So the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him." Picking up a snake like Moses takes faith, it may be scary to turn away from what we are comfortable with but to turn away from our sin and to turn to the Saviour is foundational to our salvation. Let us each examine our hearts and see if there be any thing we would do well to turn away from. See you Sunday!

Music and Worship Ministry Update

It is hard to believe that we are so close to Advent and Christmas. We are working hard on music for the season and look forward to how God will use this music and this experience to shape us and you! Advent begins December 3rd (two Sundays after Thanksgiving this year). The last Sunday of Advent is also Christmas Eve. That day, we will have morning worship as usual at 9:30 am and we will have our Christmas Eve Worship at 6:00 pm that evening. There will be no Sunday School/Adult Bible Study that Sunday.

Mark your calendar for Sunday, December 10th at 5:30 pm. Adults, Youth, and Children will present *Wonder and Glory*. You will not want to miss this special time of worship with your church family. Afterward, we will enjoy sweet and salty holiday treats provided by YOU! Bring something to share!

In the weeks ahead, I pray that you will carry with you all that God has shared with us as we have focused on stewardship this month. I pray that we will continue to allow God to mold us into better stewards each day.

I'm grateful to serve with you!

Melanie



November Produce & Perishables

Distribution

Saturday, November 4—10am-Noon

Last month we began a new missions initiative in partnership with Second Harvest Food Bank. One Saturday each month we will be a satellite distribution site for "perfectly imperfect" produce and perishables. We had a great experience on the 2nd Saturday of October. With Veteran's Day falling on Saturday, November 11 we are moving the November distribution to **Saturday, November 4th**. We will need volunteers on hand to help set-up, sort produce and perishables, assist at the tables, and greet and record census information. We hope that any of you who are interested in being a part of this wonderful time of ministry will plan to join us. Volunteers are asked to be present by 9 am if at all possible. The distribution takes place in the back parking lot near the garage.

**Sunday, November 12 at 7pm in the Worship Center—
Called Church Conference for 2018 Budget Discussion**

**Sunday, November 19 at 7pm in the Worship Center—
Quarterly Conference with Budget Vote**

Preschool and Children's Ministries

November is here, and of course, that means it is time to prepare for the Advent Season! This month, rehearsals will begin for both the Preschool Christmas Choir and the Children's Christmas Choir. Our Preschool Choir is for ages 2-Kindergarten. Our Children's Choir is for 1st-6th Graders. The Preschool Christmas Choir will rehearse during the last 10 minutes of Sunday School each week. On Sunday, December 17, our Preschool Christmas Choir will present their two songs in worship dressed as the nativity characters. Our Children's Choir will begin rehearsals on Sunday, November 12 from 5:30-7pm in U205/207 upstairs. To officially enroll in the Children's Choir, I will need a parent or grandparent to bring your child upstairs to get information and sign them up. Our Children's Christmas Choir will participate in our Advent worship event, Wonder and Glory, on Sunday, December 10. They will also sing in worship on Sunday, December 17.

During the first weekend of November, we have two big events for our preschoolers and children. Saturday, November 4 is our Children's Missions Day at Oakmont Baptist Church in Greenville, NC. All participants who are registered to attend will receive an email prior to the day with reminders and important information. Our Family All Saints Celebration is Sunday, November 5 from 5-7pm. We will begin in the Fellowship Hall with a soup and sandwich potluck, and following our meal, we will break up into groups to venture around the church meeting important figures of the Christian faith. Sign ups ended on Sunday, October 29, but if you missed the sign-ups, you can still call the church office to reserve your place.

Our Family Connections Class that meets on Wednesday evenings in the Multipurpose Room from 6:30-7:30pm will celebrate with a fall party on Wednesday, November 1. During our party, we will work on crafts for our homebound church members and those in care facilities. On November 8 and 15, we will conclude our study about God with Jesus and the Holy Spirit. That will be our final Connections class until our Christmas craft party on Wednesday, December 13.

Should you ever have questions about our regular activities for preschoolers and children, please do not hesitate to contact me! I do not want you to miss out on anything coming up during this busy season.

Sincerely, April

Attention! LBC Youth & Parents

By now each of you should be aware that we are planning a variety of mission projects/days for our LBC youth. Last year, instead of going to Florida for Spring Break we served in Lumberton doing disaster relief alongside Baptists On Mission. For Spring Break 2018 we plan to return to Florida for the Spring Break week, April 1-7. Youth and parents have been informed that those who are interested in being a part of that trip will need to have been involved in a majority of the mission opportunities that are being held between September 2017 and March 2018. Here are a couple of mission opportunities for November:

- * **Produce & Perishables Distribution - Saturday, Nov. 4 - 9am-12:30pm** : Join your fellow LBC volunteers as we share this new mission with our community.
- * **ARISE: The Sequel - Friday, Nov. 10 - 7am-6pm**: We will travel to Robeson County for a day of labor in partnership with the folks of Baptists On Mission. If you are interested and have NOT told Steve, please make contact with him as soon as possible.

Nurture *N*

WEECare

Closed for Veteran's Day-Friday, November 10
Closed for Thanksgiving-Wednesday thru
Friday, November 22-24

Sr. Adult

On Thursday, November 9, the Keenagers will have their monthly meeting in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 10 am. We will have a guest speaker from Waste Management followed by a potluck lunch.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

The **LBC Prayer Shawl Ministry** is looking for new members. If you already know how to crochet or would like to learn, this group would love to teach you. Their handiwork is given to cancer patients in our area. If you are interested contact Cindy Handley or the church office.

Men's Prayer Breakfast

Tuesday Mornings at 6:30am at the K&W Cafeteria.

Missions *M*



Sunday Nov. 12 - Final Day To

Receive Shoebox Gifts

We will be transferring all shoebox gifts on Sunday afternoon November 12 to be taken to the local collection site. Please place your shoebox gifts with those stacked outside the Worship Center.

OCC Distribution Center- Monday, Nov. 27

We have 12 volunteer spots reserved for a 6 hour shift of work at the Distribution Center in Charlotte. We will take the church bus and will leave at 6 am from LBC. Our ETA back at LBC is 7pm. Please sign-up on the Missions Board.

November 2017 Calendar

Wednesday, November 1: 10:30am - Intercessory Prayer; 6:30pm - Bible Study, Celebration Choir Rehearsal, Youth Midweek Workout, Connections for Children and Families
Thursday, November 2: 10:00am - Keenagers, 1:30pm - Prayer Shawl Ministry
Saturday, November 4: 7:00am - Children's Mission Day, 10:00am-12noon - Produce & Perishables Food Distribution
Sunday, November 5: Parent/Child Dedication During Morning Worship, 4:30pm - Youth Christmas Choir Rehearsal, 5:00pm - Family All Saints Celebration
Tuesday, November 7: 6:30am - Men's Prayer Breakfast
Wednesday, November 8: 10:30am - Intercessory Prayer; 6:30pm - Bible Study, Celebration Choir Rehearsal, Youth Midweek Workout, Connections for Children and Families
Friday, November 10: Youth Missions
Saturday, November 11: 8:00am-11:00pm - Veteran's Day Pancake Breakfast
Sunday, November 12: 5:30pm - Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm - Called Church Conference for the Purpose of Annual Budget Discussion
Tuesday, November 14: 6:30am - Men's Prayer Breakfast, 7:00pm - Evangelism Team Meeting
Wednesday, November 15: 10:30am - Intercessory Prayer; 6:30pm - Bible Study, Celebration Choir Rehearsal, Youth Midweek Workout, Connections for Children and Families
Saturday, November 18: 9:00am—Christmas Choir Rehearsal, 6:00pm - Deacon Fellowship
Sunday, November 19: 4:30pm - Youth Christmas Choir Rehearsal, 5:30pm - Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsal, 7:00pm - Quarterly Conference
Tuesday, November 21: 6:30am - Men's Prayer Breakfast
Wednesday-Thursday, November 22-23: Office Closed for Thanksgiving
Sunday, November 26: 5:30pm - Agape Meal with Communion
Tuesday, November 28: 6:30am - Men's Prayer Breakfast
Wednesday, November 29: 10:30am - Intercessory Prayer; 6:30pm - Bible Study, Adults and Youth Combined Christmas Choir Rehearsal, Children's Christmas Choir Rehearsal

ATTENDANCE REPORT

	September 3	September 10	September 17	September 24
Enrollment	310	310	310	310
Preschool	17	12	16	16
Children	23	18	22	21
Youth	27	24	29	26
Adult	123	112	118	109
<i>Total Sunday School & Bible Study Groups</i>	190	166	185	172

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

	September 3	September 10	September 17	September 24
Budget	\$11,778.95	\$7,509.50	\$6,310.50	\$7,000.40
Designated	\$462.00	\$734.00	\$674.00	\$581.00

Budget Goal as of September 30, 2017:	\$422,700.72
Budget Offering Received as of September 30, 2017:	\$327,825.65

November Birthdays



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THANK YOU

Dear LBC Family,

October was Staff Appreciation Month and the expressions shared by the body with us as your staff were wonderfully affirming. Many Bible Study groups shared wonderful treats with us that were enjoyed throughout the month. The gift cards and cards sharing well wishes and expressing “thanks” to us were very heartfelt and meaningful. We are so thankful to be serving alongside the members of this body.

We want to share a special word of thanks to the Personnel Team of LBC. They hosted a luncheon for us all one day and were responsible for picking out a gift for each of us from the church body. These gestures were so meaningful to us and they will remind us of your love and support as a church family.

We look forward to our continued ministry alongside you in the days and years ahead. May God bless us all and may He be honored by all we do and say.

Thankfully!

Your Church Staff

Dear LBC Family,

My family and I truly appreciate all of the encouraging words and comforting prayers related to my mom’s home going. We are also grateful for the beautiful plant and we know the donations made to the Bob Russell Ministries will bless many. The loss of a parent or other close family member is one of those life events for which one cannot prepare. Yet, despite the storm of sadness, we believe in the promise in Psalm 34 that the Lord is close to us who are brokenhearted and heals our wounds.

Thank you!

Love,

Brian and Lorraine Shreve

Reminder: Set your clocks back on Sunday, November 5th. Daylight Savings Time Ends.



Advent Prayer Groups

Sign-ups are November 5th through November 26th in the Worship Center hallway for those interested in participating in Advent prayer groups in December. These are designed to be simple small group get-togethers in homes from two to four times during the season to pray, eat and experience the true wonder of the season. We are seeking hosts, prayer leaders and participants. For more information contact Faith Boehmer or Sally McDonald with the Prayer Deacon Ministry Team.



Happy Thanksgiving!
November 23rd