

The Messenger

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Mrs. Kim Bogan
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Mrs. Shelly Atkins
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814-2237

Mrs. Michelle Grigg
Nursery Coordinator
472-4436

Mrs. Debbie Williams
After School Program
578-3268

Mrs. Deana Fowler
Children's Ministry
895-4594

NOVEMBER 18, 2008



Thanksgiving Meal Tuesday,

November 25

6:00 P.M.

Fish or Chicken

\$3.00 Per Plate



A concert will follow the meal.
Each family is asked to bring a dessert.
Please sign up in the atrium.

FROM YOUR PASTOR

Refocus or Focus This past Sunday morning I challenged us to a commitment of Change and Refocus as the Body of Christ and as people devoted to Him. It is a challenge to examine our life and how it reflects our relationship with our Savior. Some have been at the place where they had a clear vision of the Lord and could sense His presence and His leading. But diversions have caused that picture to become fuzzy and even distorted. There may be others who have never really been that focused on the things of God. I challenge you to begin to focus on Him and experience the fullness of the life that He has for you. This coming Sunday we need to come to worship focused and prepared for God to challenge us.

The church is not immune to the economic realities that our nation is experiencing. We have seen some impact in the giving of our church family, and it has caused us as a staff to refocus and evaluate what we are spending the Lord's money on. In our weekly staff meeting we examine what is coming up on the calendar and which expenses are necessary. I want you to know that we are committed to being good stewards and you may see a change in some of the things that the church has paid for in the past. You can help by making sure that the mail-outs you bring to us are necessary; using email and the old-fashion telephone will reduce our postage cost. In fact, if this newsletter was mailed to you, we would love to switch you to email if possible. Also, please resist the urge to adjust the thermostats in the building. Too many of the settings are being changed and they end up running all day all week. And thank you for your faithful giving; we don't take lightly the responsibility of how it is used.

In a meeting Tuesday morning we were urged to create a Prayer Team to be a part of the foundation for our worship services. I want to invite the men of our church to join the team. If you think you would be interested, please send me an email at pastor@lakebowenbaptist.com.

I welcome Bro. Scott, our Minister to Students, in assisting at the invitation time in our worship services. He will be splitting the responsibilities in the morning services and sharing them in the evening services with Bro. Kenny, our Associate Pastor. That has been our plan all along, but your pastor has been slow in getting it implemented.

HOSPITAL LIST

SRMC: Todd Floyd; Surgery this week: Paul Cox; Going to Duke Monday: Bud Moss

FROM YOUR MINISTER OF MUSIC

Worship the Perfect Example: "Be imitators of God, therefore, as dearly loved children."

Ephesians 5:1

"Touchdown!" I screamed... It was Saturday afternoon and Georgia had just taken the lead with 3:08 left in the first half. What happened next was the highlight of my day, even though it was off the field. Fifteen-month-old Micah, who had been playing quietly nearby, jumped to attention at the sound of my exclamation. Forgetting her own playtime agenda, she squealed and raised both hands straight up over her head like a 2 ½ foot tall referee.

These days, many of my actions are in danger of being imitated by my mini-me. Undoubtedly, Micah has seen me thrust my hands in the air after a touchdown (something I wish she had seen more of during the Florida game!). She holds whatever toy is in hand up to her ear when I'm on the phone. She even waves her hands when music plays (like she's conducting) and she *loves* to "sing" into a microphone.

Right now, her imitations are simply cute. However, I know a day is coming when she will probably imitate something a bit less adorable. Why? Because her model is far from perfect. I don't catch every careless word, and my attitude is not always Christ-like.

When I was a child, I recall reading the verse above and wondering what exactly it meant to be an imitator of God. More than once I remember standing in a dark room and trying "Let there be light!" to no avail. Clearly, God did not equip me to create worlds and part seas. What, then, does it mean to imitate God?

Thankfully, we have the perfect answer, and His name is Jesus. Unlike Micah's model, Jesus never misspoke or allowed his own pride to dictate his actions. In all things, in all conversations and in all circumstances, Christ was perfect. He was perfectly in-tune with the Father, He was perfectly focused on His mission and purpose, and He was perfect in His love for His Father and for us.

Now that's something worthy of imitating!

Soli Deo Gloria

Tim

Coming Soon –

Noelle, The First – a Children's Christmas Musical. Sunday, December 14th, 6:30 PM.

Everything Glorious – a praise and worship Christmas presented by our Choir and Orchestra Sunday, December 21st, 6:30 PM.



**Lake Bowen Baptist
Student Ministries**

Hey Everybody. Last week I issued a plea with the students in this ministry to be missionaries on their local campus or at their job. We looked at Matthew 9:35-38 where Jesus said some pretty disturbing things. He said that the harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. I challenged our students to take the next step and get committed in being a worker that spreads the message of the cross. We had students that responded with brokenness for both their campus and the world. I need the church's help. These people that took this step need sponsors who will pray for them, encourage them, send them a text, and just let them know they are behind them. I will have packets out in the atrium in the coming weeks, and you can sign up to be a sponsor. All that we ask you to do is pray and encourage the person you take. Please be praying about this opportunity to radically change the world for the cause of the cross. I want you to see what these students have committed to doing.

Description: 1. One who has surrendered their life to Christ. 2. Minister- Meet the needs of the people. 3. Testimony - Share your testimony and be a testimony. 4. Know the Word. Be ready at any time to take someone to God's word, and show them what He says about issues. 5. Witness - Share your testimony; point people to Jesus.

Requirements: 1. The student will pray for their campus weekly. 2. The student will share their testimony with someone weekly. 3. The student will carry God's Word to school daily. 4. The student will be a part of Project 1:8 and outreach with-in the church. 5. The student will be a part of Discipleship Training.

December Events

- 6th Spartanburg Children's Shelter Project 1:8**
*leaving church @ 10:00am; return at 2:00pm
- 14th Christmas Shopping for sponsor family**
We will leave church @ 3:00pm. Bring money for food. We will return around 5:30pm.
- 15th Christmas Party for our family we are helping.**
6-8pm. In the Atrium
- 17th We are going to nursing home to sing Christmas Carols.**
- 19th Progressive Dinner Jr./ Sr. High**
Leaving Church at 6:00pm. Return at 9:00pm.
- 24th No Wednesday Night Service**
- 31st No Wednesday Night Service**

**Crucified with Christ,
Scott Miller**

FROM YOUR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

* First of all I want to thank my church family for all the sweet cards and gifts you gave me. Seriously, you have no idea what a joy and honor it is to have such a loving church family. I thank God for allowing me the opportunity to serve with the most wonderful people on the planet. You guys are so gracious and I love you all.

* It was so much fun to see us collect over 230 Christmas Shoeboxes. "AWESOME." Can you just see the faces of 230 poor children opening up Christmas boxes full of surprises, along with having the message of the gospel of Jesus given to them? I want to thank all of you who participated.

* There will be an adult department teachers' meeting this Sunday evening at 5:15 in the Fellowship Hall. All assistant teachers and care group leaders are welcome.

* Monday, November 24 at 7:00 p.m. is "Outreach Night." Come for supper at 6:00 and let's go make visits for your class...childcare provided...sign up Sunday morning in Sunday School.

**WELCOME CANDIDATES FOR CHURCH
MEMBERSHIP**

Coming by Statement:

Linda R. Gilbert, 417 Coggins Shore Road, Inman, SC 29349

Coming for Baptism:

Clay Nicholls, 134 Grandview Drive, Inman, SC 29349
Megan Celestin, 174 Waterford Drive, Inman, SC 29349
Rebecca Smoak, 251 Mud Creek Road, Inman, SC 29349

FOOD CLOSET

We have a food closet here at the church and it is currently empty. We are asking everyone who would be willing to help restock the closet to bring a few canned goods or nonperishable items (dried beans, rice, macaroni, flour, sugar, cereal, etc.) to the Thanksgiving meal Tuesday evening. You may also bring items by the church office or leave them in the atrium.

2009 CALENDAR

Right Turn Ministries is doing a calendar for 2009. The cost of the calendar will be \$10.00. We will quit taking dates November 26th and will look at having these calendars available for purchase by December 7th. Cost: name on a certain date is \$5.00, name and picture on a certain date is \$10.00. Advertisement Page: \$15.00 for 1/4 page or \$25.00 for 1/2 page.

NICARAGUA MISSION TRIP

Anyone who is interested in a mission trip to Nicaragua in the spring/summer of 2009, please sign up in the atrium or contact Keith Corn.

COOKBOOKS

We still have cookbooks to sell. They are now \$10.00 each. These would make great teacher gifts for Christmas. All the proceeds go to the Youth Ministry.



FUN, FOOD, AND FELLOWSHIP LADIES' CHRISTMAS ORNAMENT SWAP THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2008 6:30 P.M. IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

Ladies, please plan to join us for our Ornament Swap. Bring your favorite finger food and a \$5.00 ornament. Childcare will be provided.



3RD ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CAMPFIRE!!

Who: All children – 1st through 5th Grade
What: Food, Fun, and Fellowship
Hot Dogs, (and chili), Smores, Hot Chocolate, Christmas Carols and Hayride
When: Friday, December 12th -7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Where: Church Shelter
Please sign up in the Atrium! Parents are welcome – just sign up, too! Don't forget your coats, gloves, and toboggans. Hope to see you there.

FROM YOUR PRAYER TEAM

To actively participate in God's purpose for our lives, prayer is essential. Placing our faith in Him, seeking His will, His comfort, His healing, and His intervention are important to the Christian. It brings us closer to God and eases the burdens we carry. His word gives us assurance He hears us too.

Ephesians 2: 18-19 says "for through Him we both have our access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints, and are of God's household."

Your prayer team here at Lake Bowen Baptist Church is willing and ready to assist you or someone you know anytime through prayer. The team is committed to taking your concerns before the Father whenever you need us. Call the church office and leave a message. Your request will be passed on to the prayer team.



HANGING OF THE GREEN
SUNDAY EVENING, NOVEMBER 30
Come at 3:30 to help decorate. The service will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Preschool Project SPARTANBURG CHILDREN'S SHELTER

Bring items by December 7th.

CO-ED VOLLEYBALL SIGN-UPS

Sign up at the Welcome Desk. You must at least be in high school. No childcare available.



Sponsor a Child for Christmas

If anyone would like to sponsor a child for Christmas, please contact Patti Kelly at 592-9386.

A LOOK AT SUNDAY

	Nov. 9	Nov. 16
Sunday School	526	502
Tithes/Offerings :	\$16,047.94	\$17,364.38
Total Building Fund:	\$148,182.25	

Poinsettias

If you would like to purchase one, please fill out a form found in the atrium and turn it, along with your money, in to the church office.

NURSERY WORKERS

Sunday Evening, Nov. 23: Lewis & Martha Rosman, Buddie & Martha Cooper

Sunday Evening, Nov. 30: Chris & Kerry Hodges, Jay & Deanna Guest

Wednesday Night, Dec. 3: Nina Brown

COUNTING COMMITTEE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23

Richard Gowan, Kenny & Frances Bass, Vickie Smith, Lewis & Martha Rosman

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Tommy and Connie Pearson, Ronnie & Estelle Bridges, Steve McAbee, Larry Richards

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