



The Living Branch Newsletter
Logan Elm Baptist Church



July, 2020

“Oh come, let us sing to the Lord!
Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving;
Let us shout joyfully to Him with psalms.
For the Lord is the great God, And the great King above all gods.”
Psalm 95:1-3, NJKV

Indeed, the Lord is the great God. It is right and good to come before Him with joyful thanksgiving for the abundance of His grace. During the month of June:

- We had the joy of acknowledging four young men who have grown up in our congregation who are this year's high school graduates.
- The church also awarded scholarships from the Shipma Scholarship Fund to five of our students. We again thank the Lord for the generosity of the Voss & Shipma families for providing the seed money, and for the ongoing contributions of our church family, to make these scholarships available. Since the year 2000 more than \$30,000 has been awarded to 30 different young people from our church family.
- On Father's Day our church family participated with three of our families in a *Family Dedication Ceremony*.
- We had another great Vacation Bible School thanks to the faithful and cheerful service of our workers. Many of those workers joined with the children as they exuberantly sang (and jumped!) in the opening and closing assemblies. They *did* what the banner in our worship center declares, “*I will enthusiastically praise my God and King.*” (Psalm 145:1) A special thanks to all of those who volunteered during the week, and especially for the Bible teachers who helped us see the one true God more clearly in His Word and in the world He made. (See the pictures of the aforementioned in this newsletter.)
- We resumed our Sunday evening service on June 28 with the usual faithful attendees. Tom Kuhlwein led us in an encouraging study and discussion of the *Authority of God*. He pointed out that the authority of God is seen throughout His Word. We will continue with this study on July 12. (No evening service on July 5) Tom ended our discussion with a question for us to ponder: *How does the authority of God apply to our lives on a daily basis?*

The first Sunday of July the adult Bible study classes will resume meeting in their usual classrooms and Children's Church will also resume its usual schedule on the first and third Sundays of each month. Our Summer Socials will begin following the evening service on July 12. Please see Karen Clark's article for more info about the socials.

Praying your summer is safe and spiritually-edifying,



A Pro-life Praise!



Although we are *very* disappointed in the five members of the U. S. Supreme Court who recently voted to strike down a Louisiana law protecting the unborn and their mothers, we were much encouraged by the response to this year's VBS offering that was designated for *Elizabeth's Hope Pregnancy Resources*. The students and workers gave a record \$833.47 for the week! Then our church family gave an additional \$267 to bring the total to \$1100.47. **To God be the glory!**



MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

- July 4 Happy Independence Day!
- July 5 Children's Church resumes; Bible study classes return to their usual locations. No evening service.
- July 12 Summer Socials begin following the evening service
- July 14 Staff meeting, 9:00 a.m.
- July 18 Men's Breakfast, 7:30 a.m.
- July 19 Security Team meeting following the morning service
- June 28 Lord's Supper during the 5:45PM service

In case you haven't heard... the LEBC Homecoming Has Been Postponed

Due to the uncertainties caused by recent events, the LEBC Homecoming has been postponed until next summer. This will allow us more time to plan and publicize this special event. Thank you for understanding – and please help us spread the word.



Operation Christmas Child

As we begin to resume our regular church services please bring your donations and put them in the brown basket. The boxes we fill will be used for children who have been through a difficult time. They also will receive literature on knowing Christ. Again thank you for your support of OCC.



2020 Senior Graduation Recognition
Charles Schall, Joey Herron,
Tyler Cavanaugh, Daniel Mitchell



Shipma Scholarship Presentation

Mikayla Julien, Jeannie McDowell (presenter),
Daniel Mitchell, Mike Heidish (representing
Caleb Heidish), Joey Herron





Family Dedication Ceremony

Tucker Clayton Cavanaugh, son of
Scott & Jill Cavanaugh

Caleb James Forte, son of
Matthew & Krista Forte

Michael Silas Steinhauser, son of
Dustin & Eva Steinhauser



Vacation Bible School!

We had a great week of VBS, June 21-25! The children (“Islanders”) spent their evenings tracking down the One True God with a Bible lesson, crafts, music, games and snacks. Through these activities we learned that God is Great, God is Almighty, God is Ruler, God is Emmanuel, and God is Trustworthy!

We had 42 children, ages 3-12, attend. Of those children, 21 were children who regularly attend our church and 21 were visitors, either grandchildren or friends.

We had 36 volunteers, adult and youth, serve throughout the week! Thank you!!

This year our mission offering focus was for Elizabeth’s Pregnancy Resource Center. We collected \$833.47 during the week. Additional money was collected on Sunday which brought our offering total to \$1,100.47

12 Questions to Ask Yourself Before Posting Something Online

By Mark Dever

1) Will it edify? Or significantly inform a useful conversation? (Mk 12:29–31; 1 Cor 14:26)

All we do is in obedience to the command to love God and others. How will it increase their knowledge, or faith, or love? Trivialities hopefully fill up our lives less than they do so much of the Internet. John Piper has said that “One of the great uses of Twitter and Facebook will be to prove on the last day that our prayerlessness was not from lack of time!” He’s right.

2) Will it easily be misunderstood? (Jn 13:7; 16:12)

Negative assessments are often best shared privately, or not at all. How many of us have learned that email is a terrible way to share any kind of negative comments? And, thinking of more public postings, ask yourself: are there reasons why I may not be a good person to speak on certain matters?

3) Will it reach the right audience? (Mark 4:9 et al.)

If you’re correcting someone, should the audience for that correction be wider—or more narrow? Is that audience correctable? When you use social media, consider who is listening to what you’re saying. What if everyone eavesdropped on your personal conversations? Yet we do this all the time online.

4) Will it help my evangelism? (Col. 1:28–29)

Is what you’re about to communicate going to help or hinder those you’re evangelizing? Is it likely to diminish the significance (to them) of your commitment to the gospel, or enhance it?

5) Will it bring about unnecessary and unhelpful controversy? (Titus 3:9)

Think carefully about controversy. The line between vigorous exchange of ideas and a kind of social war is sometimes thinner than we may think. What is this particular controversy that I would be contributing to good for? Is this an unavoidable primary issue, or a matter about which disagreement is fairly unimportant?

6) Will it embarrass or offend? (1 Cor. 12:21–26)

Will anyone be embarrassed or offended by what you’re saying? I understand that the mere fact that something is offensive doesn’t mean that saying it is wrong, but simply, we must be sure the offense is worth it.

7) Will it convey care? (1 Cor. 12:21–26)

Privacy in communication conveys care, an honoring of the person receiving the information. You like the fact that your doctor’s report is private; but you don’t mind that the sale at the store is advertised. If someone would rather be addressed in person, why not do that?

8) Will it make people better appreciate someone else? (1 Cor. 12:21–26)

Point out God’s grace in others’ lives, ministries, arguments, etc. Highlighting something that will build others’ esteem for someone else glorifies God and encourages others to see His work in them.

9) Is it boasting? (Prov. 27:2)

Does what you communicate online draw attention to yourself more than your topic? How could that be spiritually harmful to you or others? Will it leave people with a more accurate understanding of you? Are you simply being tempted to draw attention to yourself, or to what you know?

10) Is the tone appropriate? (2 John 1, 12; Col. 4:6; Eph. 4:29; 2 Tim 2:24–25)

Will people understand and be encouraged in the truth that you communicate? How important is the tone to your message being rightly received? Is it evidently kind, patient, and gentle? In a personal conversation, you can more quickly understand that something needs clarifying and clarify it. The Internet doesn't sanctify anger or frustration.

11) Is it wrong to say nothing? (Romans 1:14)

Do you have an opportunity or even a responsibility to communicate something? Have you established a "relationship" with readers, friends, and followers online that would expect you to comment on a particular issue or situation? Our freedom of speech is a wonderful stewardship! We want to use it well and responsibly.

12) What do others advise? (Prov. 11:14; 15:22; 24:6)

When you are about to communicate something you know others will find provocative, do you have good sounding-boards to try to help you estimate the response? Do you take time to consider before you publish? Speed of response is both an ability of the Internet and a temptation to speak too quickly (contra James 1:19; Prov. 10:19; 14:29; 16:32; 17:27). Remember, you will give an account for every word you type (Mt 12:36). Can you imagine how much care the apostles took when writing their letters?

(This article has been abridged and edited for length; the full article can be found at - <https://www.9marks.org/article/12-questions-to-ask-yourself-before-posting-something-online/>)

KITCHEN ANGELS



We thank and praise God for bringing us safely back together after the pandemic.

Our picnic lunch was highly successful, and we had beautiful weather for it. Thank you to all who participated. We had a very successful VBS as well. Thank you to all the volunteers and the excellent job of leading our children.

As we move forward, we still want to move cautiously and safely. As in the past few years we follow our Sunday evening service with fellowship meals in July and August. There will not be a service July 5th in the evening, so we will begin our socials July 12th. We will be using our snow cone and popcorn machines. It has been suggested we have popcorn every Sunday evening, along with one of the following: snow cones, ice cream bars, popsicles, ice cream drum sticks, etc., which the church will be providing. Everyone can eat their meal at home or bring wrapped sandwiches for their own families.

If you feel you do not know others very well, this would be a great opportunity to begin coming to the evening service and sharing during the fellowship to get better acquainted.

Karen Clark, Kitchen Coordinator

Men's Breakfast
Saturday, July 18, at 7:30 a.m.



The biggest need by far right now is a couple, or individual with a young adult, to teach the 1 & 2 year old's for Sunday school. Please pray that someone will step up to this need. These little ones are precious!!

There has been a desire on my heart to set some goals for Sunday school attendance.

First, by encouraging those who are currently on our rosters to strive to be a regular attender and to arrive before 8:45 AM. Before the pandemic we were averaging close to 80 in attendance each Sunday, but there are currently 120 on our rosters. I realize there are Sundays where some are on vacation and some have jobs where they cannot come. But if everyone would make that extra effort, we can meet a much better goal.

Second, my desire is for us, as attendee's, to notice who is missing in your class and give them a call to see if there is a need and let them know they are missed. This does not need to be left up to the teacher. Have someone in the class make a list of absentees and appoint others to give each one a call to encourage them and let them know they were missed in Sunday school. Maybe give last 5 minutes of class to make the arrangements for contacts to be made.

Third, we can invite friends, family, and neighbors, who do not go to church, to come and join us. Fellowship with other Christians and showing love and concern for others is what the world needs right now. We definitely live in a broken world and the moment is ripe to share the gospel.

So – help us to have an outreach for others as well as making that extra effort to attend regularly as we meet each Sunday and be in your classroom by 8:45 AM. Help us grow our Sunday school and to share the gospel message.

Karen Clark Co-Director Sunday School

Women's Ministry

We plan to start back up with the Women's Ministry meetings in September. If you would be interested in hosting a meeting in your home, please let Denise, Becky or Kim know, so we can plan accordingly.

Birthdays

Weston Cavanaugh-July 2

Matthew Schall-July 5

Sandy Morgan-July 8

Laraine Muncy-July 10

Rod Schultz-July 10

Bob Muncy-July 11

Jack Willoughby-July 13

Julie Heidish-July 15

Ruthie Gilmore-July 21

Isaac DeLong-July 21

Jody Amspaugh-July 23

Caleb Forte-July 24

Matthew Julien-July 24

Mikalyn Heidish-July 31

Anniversaries

Andrew & Rebecca Karst-July 12

Mike & Wendy Serra-July 20

