



LaCrosse Baptist Church Newsletter

December 2015

<http://www.lacrossebaptist.org>

Thanksgiving Dinner

On Sunday the 22nd we had our annual Thanksgiving Dinner at church. We had a wonderful selection of delicious holiday treats made with love by the members of our church. I think I gained 10 pounds in 10 minutes, and that was just from looking at the food! It was outstanding!

After dinner Pastor Joey read passages



from 2 Samuel 22 which is David's Song of Deliverance, a time when he was thankful for God's protection and blessing. As pastor would read a passage he asked anyone who would like, to share their thoughts. It was very moving to see how relevant King David's words are to us even today.

David's willingness to give God the credit for all the good things in life is a model for us, especially at this time of year. What are you thankful for? Take the time to thank God, just like David did. But remember, we have one thing that David didn't, we have an intercessor, an advocate to plead our case to God, we have a Lord and Savior, we have Jesus. And that IS something to be thankful for.



Carolyn bought her Autoharp and sang a song of praise and thanksgiving to go along with Pastor's message. It was a special evening for a special time of year. If you really think about it, because of Jesus, every day is Thanksgiving.

Shoe Box Ministry

The Shoe Box Ministry was very successful this year. We had a total of 43 boxes, which is outstanding for a small church like ours. Thanks to everyone who helped by donating items and thanks to everyone who helped by wrapping and stuffing the boxes prior to being sent for distribution. Diana shared a story with us about how a young girl received her shoebox and it made



such a difference to her. To think, that someone from so far away cared about her. She still had her shoebox years later and even some of the contents. She saved it because it was so special to her. Something so simple to us, was so special to a little girl in a far off place. Sharing God's love is like that.

All your hard work and generosity can really make a difference for someone you will probably never know and never meet, but it will be an opportunity for a missionary to share the word of God with a child and their parents. You will help change lives. And that makes you awesome!



New Color Copier

As many of you know, our old office copier has been having problems for a while and it was time to look for a replacement.

This month the Church purchased a Dell color laser copier/printer and it has now been set up in The Lighthouse. As you can see from the photo, this is not a small printer! You have probably noticed that the bulletins now have color highlights in them. They look great and a big “Thank You” to David for producing the bulletins for us. The use of color does cost more so just be thoughtful when making copies. Black toner copes are about 6¢ per page while color is about 20¢ per page (such as printing a photograph or a Power Point slide with a lot of color on it). The cost per copy should come down when we are able to use generic toner cartridges instead of factory replacements.



Church Computer and A/V Stuff

The Church received money dedicated to upgrading our Audio/Visual equipment. The plan is to replace the video projector hanging from the ceiling with an HD 60” flat screen TV. The TV will provide a better picture during the day because it is brighter than the projector. In November some equipment was purchased, such as the desktop PC and monitor and in December the TV has been acquired. There are plans to upgrade the audio speakers and amplifier, but that will come after the video is working properly.

Church Bylaws in need of review

The Church is in the process of updating our bylaws so that we will be protected from interference from the State or Federal Governments in our adherence to Biblical principles and to shield us from litigation. A rough draft of the new bylaws has been written and we need two or four people to assist in reviewing what we have so far. Once the church approves a final document, we will send it to Gary Yedell, a Christian lawyer, and get his feedback. If you would like to help, contact Don Loftus to get copies of our current and

proposed bylaws. This is something our church must do, sooner rather than later. Really, this is important.

Hayloft Devotionals

Pastor Joey is putting out a daily devotional based on Biblical scripture that is very easy to read and understand. He has been doing it for several weeks and has over 100 people he is sending them too. If you would like to receive these devotionals, please give him your e-mail and you will be added to the list. Having read them myself, I can say they are short, to the point and very well done. Our pastor has a real gift for graphic design, and the message is from God, so how can you go wrong?

Raise the Roof!

As many of you know we have been experiencing some leaks in the roof of the Sanctuary. Several spots have been repaired and the metal roof has been coated, but we are still having problems.

It has been determined that we need a new roof which will cost \$15,000. The church has started "Project Raise the Roof" to gather the funds necessary. We are praying that God will provide the funds for the church's new roof through His people. Please be in prayer about this important project. We are the stewards of the Lord's House and there is nothing He can't do.

WHAT'S COMING UP:

Ladies Group Outing – Dec 5 – A trip is planned to go to Dudley Farm for a day of fun, fellowship and relaxation. Bring a picnic lunch and be at the church by 9:00 a.m. Talk to Sallie for more information.

Church Council – Dec 6 – Will meet at 4:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Business Meeting – Dec 6 - We will meet following the Sunday Night service in the sanctuary.

Annual Christmas Play – Dec 13 – This will start at 6:00 p.m. Make plans now to attend and invite people you know to come with you. Finger food will be served in the Fellowship Hall afterwards.

Ladies Meeting – Will not meet this month

Brotherhood Meeting – Will not meet this month

Christmas Dinner at Church – Dec 20 – Dinner on the grounds following the Morning Service. Everyone is asked to bring a covered dish.

Mid Week Service – Dec 23 & 30 – Will be held at their normal times. There will be no New Year’s Eve Services at church.

Church Choir/Singers – Anyone interested in being a part of the Choir and/or music specials is asked to attend practice following Wednesday evening prayer service. For more information contact Carolyn Turlington.

COLLECTION COUNTERS

This is the schedule for the coming year and reflects changes in personnel. If you are not available to count please find someone to cover for you. If you have any questions see Candy. Thank you.

December - David and Carolyn (Lockup and Trash)

January - Beal and Barbara (Lockup and Trash)

February - Pat and Dan Drum (Lockup and Trash)

March - Tobie and Kay (Lockup and Trash)

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