



LaCrosse Baptist Church Newsletter

January 2016

<http://www.lacrossebaptist.org>

Christmas Play

On December 13th we had our annual Christmas Play. Pastor Joey started out by welcoming everybody and reminding them that these type of events are where memories are made, and he is right. After his short introduction, the Choir came up and started the evening off with a Christmas song. Then we had readings from



Megan, Kelsey Maddox and Tobie to help narrate the story of Jesus' birth. As you can see from the photos, the kids were dressed for their parts and played them very well. Yes, it was a bit chaotic once in a while, but the kids did a great job, the Choir sang our favorite Christmas Hymns and Joey closed with God's word from the Bible. We had a wonderful food and fellowship time after the play in the Fellowship Hall. It was a terrific evening and a BIG thank you to everyone who helped put on such an inspiring play, which was written and directed by our music director, Carolyn Turlington whom we appreciate so much.



Church By-laws in need of review

The Church is in the process of updating our by-laws 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 by-laws has been written and we need two or four people to assist in reviewing what we have so far. Since no one has volunteered yet, a result of the busy Holiday season I'm sure, Don Loftus will be asking a few people for assistance. Really, this will be a painless experience and we will only meet as a group once or twice after everyone in this small committee has had a chance to review the material.

Ladies Outing to Dudley Farms

by Sallie Slora

The Ladies' Ministry hosted an outing to Dudley Farm Historic State Park, 18730 W. Newberry Rd, Newberry, FL, on December 5th for the 26th Annual Fall Cane Festival. The Cane Festival celebrates Ms.



Myrtle Dudley's birthday by inviting visitors to experience the pioneering past of our area's rural lifestyle.

The group enjoyed touring the farm. Caroline Turlington gave us a personal tour of the grounds, since she volunteers there, and her insight into the purpose of all the buildings had history coming to life everywhere. A



young Dudley was braiding a 12 strand whip with his grandfather patiently watching the process. The young man was adept at cracking the whip as well. Every aspect of life was so dependent on hard work, discipline & faith in God to get you through. Nothing was wasted.

Musicians traveled the grounds to entertain guests with songs of the 1800's. There were simple children's games of the era for kids to play. Butter could be churned, corn meal ground, clothes washed with washboards in tubs of water or just rocking on the porch. We brought picnic lunches with us & enjoyed fellowship at tables in the shade. It was a beautiful day for enjoying the traditions of yesteryear Florida & sharing the glory of God.



Kyndal Brewington Baptism

On December 13th, Kyndal, granddaughter of Barbara and Charles Underwood was Baptized. Pastor Joey spent time with her to see if she really understood the meaning of what she was doing and was convinced this is a sincere endeavor. We congratulate Kyndal for her understanding and devotion to Jesus Christ. Please pray for her as she arises a new creation in the name of Christ.

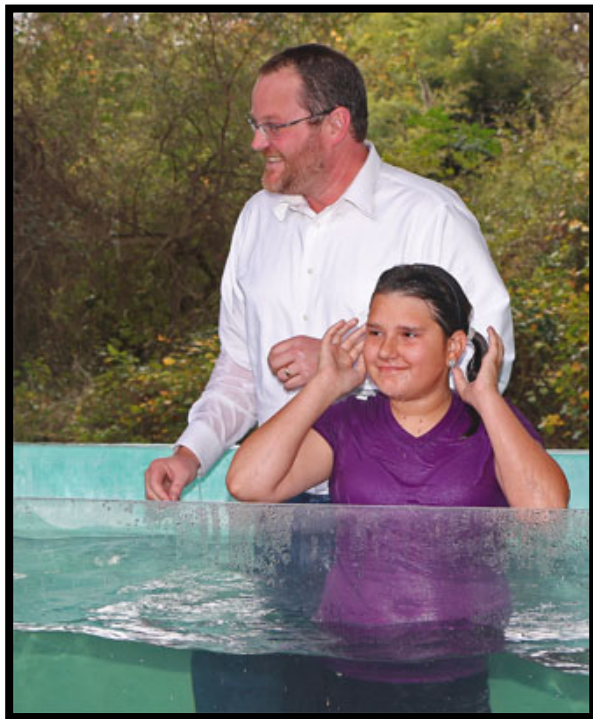


Raise the Roof ... a little higher!

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, after a re-evaluation, that we will actually need \$20,000 to really get the job done right, rather than the \$15,000 first quoted.

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.



Happy New Year!

On December 31st we had a New Years Party at Tobie and Carolyn Turlington's house. This is something of an annual tradition and we had a good turn out. Tobie delivered on his promise to have his "snowball" fight that evening. With ice in hand and a blender, he was able to fabricate a Florida snowball and a good natured battle ensued in his back yard. It seemed to be a contest between Tobie and Scott against all the kids at the party.





Next we had a very nice meal. The church provided BBQ chicken and pork while everyone bought a covered dish. As is always the case with our congregation and food, it was outstanding and no one left the table hungry.

After the meal everyone climbed aboard the “hay wagon express” for a slow, leisurely ride through Tobie’s back pastures. By now it is really dark and danger lurks around every corner. The “woolybooly wild man” did make an appearance at some point during the trip and while there were a few screams, everyone survived. Once safely back in camp, there was a huge bonfire to light up the night sky and no marshmallow escaped unroasted.



To cap off the evening, we made our way back to Tobie’s livingroom where Pastor Joey delivered an end of the year message on fear. Reading from Isaiah 41:10 *“fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”* While life can, and does, get crazy sometimes, it is a comfort to know that in the end, no matter what happens we, who believe in the message of Jesus Christ, will spend eternity in heaven with him. As we face 2016, the love of our God to his people does not change, he is always with us, as it has been in the past, as it is now and as it always will be. Our God is an awesome God!

WHAT’S COMING UP:

Church Council – Jan 3 – Will meet at 4:30 in the Fellowship Hall

Youth United – Jan 8 – Will start at 7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall for dinner followed by an exciting devotional in the Sanctuary.

Business Meeting - Jan 10 - We will meet following the Sunday Night service in the sanctuary.

Ladies Meeting - Jan 18 - Will meet in The Lighthouse at 7:00 pm

Brotherhood Meeting - Jan 21 - Will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm

Revival at Brooker Baptist Church - Jan 31 to Feb 3 - We will be meeting at Brooker Baptist Church at 7:00 pm as co-sponsors for our Second Annual Revival Meeting from Jan. 31st until Feb. 3rd. Dr. James Peoples will be preaching and Allegiance Trio will provide the music. We will also schedule several cottage prayer meetings in preparation for revival and they will be announced in the church bulletin. It will be a great time, so mark your calendar and invite friends and family to attend.

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.

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- January** - Beal and Barbara (Lockup and Trash)
- February** - Pat and Dan Drum (Lockup and Trash)
- March** - Tobie and Kay (Lockup and Trash)
- April** - David and Carolyn (Lockup and Trash)
- May** - Beal and Barbara (Lockup and Trash)
- June** - Pat and Dan Drum (Lockup and Trash)
- July** - Tobie and Kay (Lockup and Trash)
- August** - David and Carolyn (Lockup and Trash)