



# LaCrosse Baptist Church Newsletter

## October, 2016

<http://www.lacrossebaptist.org>

### **God is working in our Church**

It has been about two years or so since we noticed some problems with the roof on our Sanctuary. The ceiling tiles around one of the lights and over by the piano showed signs of water damage. The first attempt was to caulk all the holes. This helped for a while, but the leaks returned. The next attempt was to paint the entire roof with a special paint used for coating metal roofs that would seal up small openings. This also worked for a while but the leaks returned. Since all the lower cost solutions had been tried it was now time to look at a more permanent solution ... replacing the entire roof!



We have a beautiful Church that has lasted over a hundred years and we needed to do what is necessary to take care of the Lord's House. Pastor Joey called on the congregation to start a special campaign to fund the construction of a new roof because the estimate was about \$15,000 for the repair and this estimate was later raised to about \$20,000 once estimates started coming in. This was something that really needed our prayers since the Church didn't have that kind of money on hand. Each month at the Business Meetings, Candy would read

out the Treasures report and the roof offerings grew. It was amazing to see the dedication of the congregation to this fund raising event and soon we were over the \$10,000 mark. But the leaks continued, we once again had stained ceiling tiles and the paint on the wall by the piano was cracking and peeling off. We could see that the problem was getting serious.



Just recently, in answer to our prayers, some events have transpired that enabled us to move this project forward more quickly, and I mean very quickly. Pastor Joey was told there were funds available from the Florida Baptist Convention and he contacted them, which in turn provided us with an additional \$4,000. Pastor Joey, in general conversation with other pastors, was talking about our situation and additional resources were mentioned. The end result was \$1,500 from the New River Baptist Association. Also, we have had on two occasions, offerings during the Sunday Morning service that were five times our normal collections. We even had a \$50 offering from a stranger that came out to my U-Pick farm and, seeing my LaCrosse Baptist Hat, asked if our church could use a donation. I said yes and he asked, "for what fund?" I said we need a new roof and he made it out to the Building Fund. I was speechless, just totally surprised, because I had said nothing about the roof or our church. All during this time the congregation continued to give and in the end we had enough to start the project. To me this was the hand of God helping to provide for those who call on his name.



Well the result of all this is we have a contract with a roofing contractor and construction will start October 3<sup>rd</sup>. And just to show you that God is still working on our behalf, this contractor (who came highly recommended from another church) came in several thousand dollars below the next bid.

This whole process has been one of those times when you can see God working in a most convincing way. For those who don't believe, all of this is just coincidences, but for those of us who know better, this truly is an example of the Lord's love for His people and their needs being answered through prayer.

On October 30<sup>th</sup> we will have Celebration Sunday, and dinner on the grounds afterwards, to take some special time to give thanks to our Lord Jesus and God the Father for the new roof that protects our Sanctuary and for all the blessings God has bestow upon our Church. We serve an awesome God! Jehova-Jireh (a Hebrew name for God that means "God Provides")

### **Outreach into the LaCrosse Community**

During Wednesday nights, Pastor Tyler has been instructing us on ways to study the Bible for a better understanding of God's message. But on the third Thursday of each month we have started our "Community Outreach" project.

Our first effort was to promote the fish fry for the Fire Department and that was an outstanding success. The next two occasions several groups have gone out and started to hand out Invitation Fliers and the "HOPE" track. While this is definitely outside most of our comfort zones, this is what the Lord has called us to do, to reach out to other people and spread the "Good News".

Another group has also been writing to local teachers about how we can support them and to previous members to let them know we have changed our membership rules (our new By-Laws) and invite them to come back to Church and get active again.

The primary reason for this outreach is NOT to get new members into our church. This is shocking, I know, but the real reason is to present God's invitation to the lost. Our goal is to bring the message of God's love and salvation, to save people from the lies of the world. Our membership may or may not change, but if someone hears the Word and responds to the message, that is our goal, to grow His Kingdom.

We really want everyone to be at Church on Wednesday nights because so much instruction is going on. But we also need your help in spreading the word to our local community. You can even help on your own by talking to family, friends and co-workers about the Lord. Take some of our material, give it to them, talk to them about the Lord and the message of HOPE. Your only task is to share the Word and your testimony with others; Jesus will do the rest.

### **Big Change**

Starting this month, the Church Council will meet on the SECOND Sunday of the month at 4:30 pm. The Business Meeting will continue to be held on the second Sunday of the month. This way Council members will only have one long Sunday rather than two and the discussion from the Council meeting will be fresh on their minds for the Business Meeting. Mark your calendars!



## WHAT'S COMING UP:

**Church Council** – Oct 9 – Will meet at 4:30 in the Fellowship Hall

**Business Meeting** – Oct 9 – following the Sunday Night service in the sanctuary.

**Senior's Meeting** – Oct 16 – Lunch in the Fellowship Hall right after Sunday Service

**Ladies Meeting** – Oct 17 - Will meet in The Lighthouse at 7:00 pm

**Brotherhood Meeting** – Oct 20 - Will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00 pm

**Celebration Sunday** – Oct 30 – To celebrate the work God has done on our Church. Dinner on the grounds right after the Sunday Morning Service.

## COLLECTION COUNTERS

**October** - Jeanine Carsey and Carolyn Turlington (*David Skelton Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**November** - Danny Williams and Pat Stroud (*Danny Williams Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**December** - Tobie Turlington and Kay Davis (*Tobie Turlington Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**January** - Beal Stroud and Barbara Underwood (*Beal Stroud Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**February** - Jeanine Carsey and Carolyn Turlington (*David Skelton Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**March** - Danny Williams and Pat Stroud (*Danny Williams Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**April** - Tobie Turlington and Kay Davis (*Tobie Turlington Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**May** - Beal Stroud and Barbara Underwood (*Beal Stroud Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**June** - Jeanine Carsey and Carolyn Turlington (*David Skelton Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**July** - Danny Williams and Pat Stroud (*Danny Williams Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**August** - Tobie Turlington and Kay Davis (*Tobie Turlington Lockup/Trash Duty*)

**September** - Beal Stroud and Barbara Underwood (*Beal Stroud Lockup/Trash Duty*)

Editor - Don Loftus  
386-462-1227  
[donloftus@yahoo.com](mailto:donloftus@yahoo.com)