



LaCrosse Baptist Church Newsletter April - June 2021

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From the Pastor's heart:

Its wonderful when events of yesterday are so fresh that we can't help but give thanks for the many ways we have experienced God at work in these past 3 months. What a beautiful and I might add spectacular Easter Sunday we had. A few of us gathered at a very nice barn setting near Brooker for the sunrise service. There were several local churches there. It was a bit cool that morning but as the service began we could sense the mighty presence of the Holy Spirit as people arrived, hymns were sang and God's word was proclaimed. Before we went inside for breakfast we experienced a truly spectacular sunrise. We then went to LaCrosse to again experience the Risen Savior in worship. God has ways of reminding us that the brightness, glow and power of the Savior will lift us up.

As we transitioned to May our attention turned to the anticipated visit of missionary Ron Huffmeier from Brazil and to the community lunch we were planning for May 2nd. Bro Ron's visit was greatly anticipated because he and his family had



Photo by Pastor Joey Hay



been members of LaCrosse years before. Its always great to experience how God has developed one of His called ones to the mission field, how his family is doing and some particulars about the mission work down there. We were all blessed by his sharing during the Sunday School hour then preaching during the morning worship.. The lunch that followed was a great time to fellowship with Bro Ron and to meet and greet those who came for the community lunch. It was a good day of mission work in LaCrosse and we look forward to many more community gatherings..

I always look forward to the first Thursday in May as the National Day of Prayer because it presents the opportunity to join with other churches, pastors, community leaders and others to pray for a variety of items such as our military, schools, first responders, the levels of government, the virus and the churches. It was a great experiece by all. Due to some inclement weather we had to move into our church sanctuary. We had 8 churches represented. God truly blessed the hymns sung and the many prayers offered that day. I pray for more opportunities for churches and community to come together.

The second weekend in June was truly a blessed, God honored and spirit moving time. I continue to be inspired by our outreach efforts. On the 12th we had another time to personally go into the community to meet, greet and sometimes pray and witness for many residents. It was a beautiful day as our outreach team went to residents close to the church and those further out. Praise God



for His equipping us, providing people and places to visit and the overall engagement of His Spirit in the visits. As a follow up we continue praying that God would do a great work in the hearts of those we visited and they would know that they always have a place to worship and grow as His disciples. If you know of individuals that need contacted please let me know. The next day we were honored to recognize, and celebrate the accomplishments of our two high school graduates: Kelsey Stroud and Gerrell Richardson Jr. Following the service we all shared in a fellowship lunch with them and their families. We wish them God's blessings, provisions and care.

Pastor Howard Adams

National Day of Prayer

On May 6th we were going to celebrate the National Day of Prayer at the flag pole in front of the La Crosse City Hall ... except for the rain! It was windy and rainy but we didn't cancel, instead we met in the church Sanctuary and put our umbrellas aside. We had good attendance despite the weather and with people from other churches it was truly a community event. We



had Pastor Paul Samson of Brooker Baptist Church, Missionary M. Fulcher from New Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church, Brother Horace McClellan, Deacons Joseph Thomas and R.B. Banks from Church of God and Christ. We also had Steven Williams, President of the local Gideons International camp and Pastor Greg Waltermeier from First Baptist High Springs. I'm sorry if I forgot any body's name, but I was there to take photos in the rain and didn't have anything to write on. I apologize if I missed anyone.

Pastor Howard opened with a prayer and Keith Pace lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag. Pastor Samson led us in prayer for our Government; local, State and all U.S. Levels. He prayed that elected officials remember God as they lead the nation. That they will keep God's Words in their heart as society tries to make it through the Covid pandemic, which has causes so much disruption, not only America, but the rest of the world as well. He prayed for a healing



of the violence that has erupted in our country and a healing of the differences in political ideologies that have been separating us.

We had prayers for our Service men and women in the various branches of the military asking God to watch over them and keep them safe as they carry out the missions of our country and we asked God to bring them home safely.

There were prayers for our families and keeping children safe, for the removal the bad influences in our society that are critical to growing healthy, well adjusted and stable adults.

We prayed that the local churches will step forward in helping to make a difference in our communities here in North Florida by ministering to the community. We prayed for the Word of God to touch the hearts of our church leaders in helping to strengthen our community against Satan's temptations.

We also prayed for elected officials in our community asking the Lord to open their hearts and minds to what is truly important for the community.

We also prayed specifically for our First Responders and Police officers. We prayed.



for our communities to come together, to help each other heal the divide in our country. The Service providers are so necessary in our community but there are problems

that need to be addressed to make things safer and more responsive to the citizens. We prayed for the help that only God can provide in healing the communities not only in Alachua county but all over the United States. Pastor Howard thanked everyone for coming and asked for continued prayers for Government, Schools, the local Churches and Service Providers. It was a very good prayer session.

Pre-Fourth of July Lunch

After church on June 27th we had lunch on the grounds right after our Sunday Service and monthly business meeting, which seemed to go faster this time due to lunch waiting. This was advertised as being open to the community but that didn't work out. But I tell you what did work out, a great time spent with our church family. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic this past year, we went without social time for way too long. It was just so nice to be with our church family, eating, chatting and spending time together. It was wonderful and so grateful to the Lord for us to finally be socializing again.



WHAT'S COMING UP

Church Council - Meets the 2nd Sunday of each month at 4:30 pm.

Business Meeting - Third Sunday following the Morning Worship Services

Sunday Evening Ice Cream Social - July 11th - 5:30 pm for the service with the social right after.

Food Share Distribution - July 24th, Saturday at 7:00 am to get started, food hand out starting at 9am, probably done about 12:00 noon. We really need everyone to help out.

Family Fun Day - Saturday, August 21st. Come for a day of games, a Bounce house, food, fellowship and fun, fun, fun! It will be at the La Crosse Park, next to the fire station from 4-6pm