

Noteworthy

Prayer Requests: Jo Anderson, Karen Berry (*broken finger*), Joe Brown (*cancer*), Marian Church, Mildred Church (*recovering from recent stroke*), Linda James (*shut in*), Keith & Rebecca Marschall, Ahrea & Neil Miller, Butch Morgan (*ongoing medical*), Paul Lloyd, Dottie Reynolds, Caleb Sheffield, Suzette Stevens, Arlena Turner (*medical issues*).

Family and friends: Laurence Cutts, Ned Hicks (*ongoing medical*), Chuck Goodall (*Charles and Vernita's son's*), Brian James (*cancer*), Rowena Lawson's mother (*Congestive heart failure*), Wayne Ryland (*medical*), Ardis Tucker, and Bob Waldron (*has hydrocephalus; will have procedure to install a shunt on August 21st*).

Out of Town: Jim Abram, Yvonne Jordan, Kirk Marschall, Paula Sullivan (*will be back August 13th*).

Group Meeting: Group 2 will meet tonight after the evening worship service.

Kids' Review: Class will be tonight in classroom number 5, shortly after the evening worship service.

Annual Singing: The Lakeland Hills Blvd. Church of Christ's 32nd annual singing will be held at the end of next week. It will be at the building on Friday August 25th, and will begin at 7:30pm. All are encouraged to mark your calendar, and be sure to invite your family & friends, also.

Assignments for Worship Service

Wednesday Night: 8/16/17

Song Leader: Clay Sadler
 Opening Prayer: Trent Stevens
 Invitation: Nick Ross
 Announcements: Larry Wisdom
 Closing Prayer: Leon Miller
 Recordings: Trent Stevens
 Usher: Mike Sadler

Sunday Evening: 8/20/17

Song Leader: Joe Brown
 Opening Prayer: Leon Miller
 Lord's Table: Colby Sadler
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: Jerry Williams
 Recordings: Clay Sadler
 Usher: Gus Johnson

Sunday Morning: 8/20/17

Lord's Table: Colby Sadler (B)
 Jordan Lawson (C)
 Serving: Keith Marschall
 Trent Stevens
 Song Leader: Nick Ross

Opening Prayer: Charles Goodall
 Announcements: Mike Sadler
 Closing Prayer: Jim Elliot
 Recordings: Clay Sadler
 Usher: Gus Johnson



**Lakeland Hills
 Leader**

LAKELAND HILLS CHURCH OF CHRIST

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ELDERS

Larry Hicks (863) 899-7405
 Leon Miller (863) 640-6378
 Larry Wisdom (863) 583-4311

SERVICES

Sunday
 Bible Study 9:00 A.M.
 Morning Services 9:50 A.M.
 Evening Services 6:00 P.M.
 Wednesday
 Bible Study 7:30 P.M.

DEACONS:

Robert Marschall
 Michael Sadler
 Moses Stevens
 David Williams

EVANGELIST:

Ian Rice (863) 213-9795

“Searching to Rescue”

Have you ever found yourself having dealt with a loved one too harshly? There are certainly times for which a stern approach is needed, but have you ever had to apologize for being *unnecessarily* harsh? Perhaps we all have, at some point in our lives.

Maybe it'll help for us then, to think about how we view our role in correcting others. For example, do we see ourselves as the drill sergeant, the policeman, or the judge-jury-executioner? I feel like I take on those roles as a parent sometimes, and am certain there are cases in which those pictures (the 1st two anyway) are helpful. That said, consider the role of a "combat medic".

Within the United States military, the combat medic goes into the battlefield, dodges bullets, avoids land mines, and does whatever necessary to stay alive -- all while making efforts to rescue the critically wounded. The medic does not receive as much fanfare as the infantryman or pilot, yet his role is vital in saving lives!

When you picture a medic, don't you see an individual who wears protection on the battlefield? He has his helmet, his body armor, and modern medics even wield weapons of warfare. Moreover, he must be highly trained & very watchful; as the stakes are extremely high! After all, he could lose his own life while striving to save another! Most importantly, though: although the medic may be called upon to fire his weapon, his *primary* mission is to search and rescue... Not to seek and destroy!

Making application, Christians must be prepared to "go on the offensive" in spiritual battle, even if that means "going to war" against our loved ones (Josh. 22:10-34; Matt. 10:37; Gal. 4:16). However, our enemies should only consist of those who are truly God's enemies (Jas. 4:4).

Could it be that in some cases, the one who needs correcting, is unnecessarily viewed as the enemy (2 Thess. 3:15)? My hope is that in correcting loved ones, our *first* inclination will not be to seek and destroy... Rather, let it be to search and rescue.

Proverbs 24:11

Deliver those who are drawn toward death, and hold back those stumbling to the slaughter.

Ezekiel 34:12

As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day.

Luke 15:3-7

So He spoke this parable to them, saying: ⁴ "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he loses one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness, and go after the one which is lost until he finds it? ⁵ And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. ⁶ And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep which was lost!' ⁷ I say to you that likewise there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine just persons who need no repentance.

Galatians 6:1-10

Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. ² Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. ³ For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself. ⁴ But let each one examine his own work, and then he will have rejoicing in himself alone, and not in another. ⁵ For each one shall bear his own load.

⁶ Let him who is taught the word share in all good things with him who teaches. ⁷ Do not be deceived, God is not mocked; for whatever a man sows, that he will also reap. ⁸ For he who sows to his flesh will of the flesh reap corruption, but he who sows to the Spirit will of the Spirit reap everlasting life. ⁹ And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. ¹⁰ Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith.

**Bible quotations from the NKJV*

- Ian Rice

"Keep Watch Over the Door of My Lips"

Our words have powerful potential for good and for evil — to help or to harm. Knowing this, we need to exercise great caution concerning the things we say.

Have you ever been hurt — seriously wounded — by the words of another? Has a brother or sister spoken something that seemed to cut like a knife? And then, when you responded, they replied: "Well, that's not what I meant." Or, "you took that in a way that was not intended."

Okay, we accept that explanation if sincerely offered, but we would warn to be ever more careful with your words. Even when not intended, words carelessly chosen can do much damage. And, who knows how often we might have said things that unknowingly hurt another and they suffered silently, never mentioning how painful our words were to them. Be careful!

Know that your words can cut like a sharp sword (Psalm 57:4). Make sure that what you say will build up and not tear down. ("Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear." Ephesians 4:29). By taking great precautions with our words, we will keep ourselves out of trouble. ("Whoever keeps his mouth and his tongue keeps himself out of trouble." Proverbs 21:23).

Let us pray as the psalmist did, "Set a guard, O Lord, over my mouth; keep watch over the door of my lips" (Psalm 141:3). Think!

- Greg Gwin