



# Lakewood

BAPTIST CHURCH

July 11, 2010



**Annual Conference**

**ministry  
report**

For  
2009-2010

Dr. Thomas R. Smiley, Senior Pastor  
Gainesville, GA 30501  
[www.lakewoodlife.org](http://www.lakewoodlife.org)

**THE VISION:** *Lakewood Baptist Church is to be a regional church that raises up fully devoted followers of Christ who are trained and equipped to love and reach lost people personally....locally....globally.*

**CORE MINISTRY VALUES:**

*Developing Believers \* Authentic Community \* Life Stewardship  
Genuine Worship \* Personally Sharing Christ*

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THE YEAR WAS 2009-2010!

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# What a Year of Ministry

Dr. Tom Smiley, Senior Pastor

Precious Church Family,

This has been a challenging and inspiring year of ministry. We have seen our Lord bless our work and ministry as together we have labored for the Lord.

Our staff has been working diligently to create opportunities and environments that lead folks to a deeper walk of faith.

The 2009-2010 ministry year marks the end of the first year of our four year strategic plan. You can review the report in the appendix and see the progress we have made in the first year. As you can see in this report, 2010-2011 will offer us some exciting baptism, discipleship, and mission experience goals. I can pledge to you on behalf of our staff that we will work diligently as we seek to honor God and further develop this ministry.

You can read in this booklet some of the specific ways that God has used and blessed our work. We are blessed with a fine staff. Each of them loves the Lord and His church and possesses a compassion for lost people both regionally and globally.

During this year I have been especially blessed by the wise counsel and advice I have received from our Deacon Leadership Team, our Stewardship Team, and our Personnel Team.

I have been blessed to work with Reg Gindharry, Deacon Ministry Leader; Mark Brown, Stewardship Team Leader; and Debbie Ames, Personnel Team Leader. Each of these have supported and encouraged me as I have led this ministry.

The current economic times have been challenging for us, and I have made some hard decisions that I believe serve the Lord and the best interest of this ministry. I appreciate the confidence of our leadership and the support of the membership of Lakewood.

Don Ormsbee has worked hard leading our program staff. He is a valuable asset to this work and has taken a lot of responsibilities off me, enabling me to devote more time to preaching God's word each Sunday.

Each of our worship venues is making good progress. Crosspoint continues to gain momentum, Real Life is growing and developing as a contemporary worship experience, and our newest venue, Unplugged, is showing some great signs of renewal and outreach.

Neither time nor space affords me the opportunity to speak about each of our various ministries and their impact on this region and the globe. However, I can say that these are good days at Lakewood.

Please take a moment to read through this book of reports and celebrate with me what God is doing among us.

Thank you,

Dr. Tom Smiley

# From Our Executive Pastor

Don Ormsbee, Executive Pastor

What a joy and privilege it is to serve alongside a wonderful, godly-directed pastor and an equally loving, caring and godly group of dedicated staff. I can honestly say that I believe in the 15 years that I have served at Lakewood that this staff is in the very best form from top to bottom. We truly do function as a family and team to see the mission statement of Lakewood fulfilled in striving to be a regional church that raises up fully devoted followers of Christ who are trained and equipped to love and reach lost people personally, locally, and globally.

This year we began the first year in our four year strategic plan of *Die to Self, Live for Him in Giving Serving and Worship*. Even with significant changes to our programs, we are well on our way to meeting the goals that have been set for the next four years. The complete report can be seen on page 28, but here are some highlights that lead me to believe that we are a healthy church moving in the right direction:

	Goal	Actual	% of Goal Reached
Worship Attendance	1,500	1,474	98 %
Weekly Bible Study	1,210	1,176	97 %
Code Keepers	160	166	104 %
Middle School Fuel	100	98	98 %
High School Oasis	110	130	118%

Another highlight of 2009-2010 that contributed to these numbers included the hiring of Bill Risinger as our Crosspoint Minister of Worship and Minister to Senior Adults. Our people have certainly responded to Bill's leadership as we have seen the choir double in size this past year, and our senior adults have responded well as he has taken over the reins of leadership.

In January, Lakewood moved from two Real Life worship services to one hour of Real Life at 11:00am and one hour of Crosspoint at 9:30am. Our Children's Ministry geared up to provide two fully-graded hours of Sunday Cool and our adults were creative in the structuring of their classes in order to adjust to the new worship service schedule.

Lakewood also developed a third worship venue called Unplugged. AJ Parker, our Real Life Venue Coordinator, stepped up in a big way. Not only did he strive to make the Real Life experience the best it could be, but AJ went above and beyond his responsibilities and made Real Life Unplugged a success and reality. There were a tremendous number of technical hurdles that had to be completed before this service could happen, and AJ gave great leadership and direction to this project.

This year also marked the first complete year of a full-time staff, as Greg Lewallen our Student Pastor has led our student ministry of full-time ministers in Middle School, High School, and College Ministry. Our ministry ministers to over 400 students on a weekly basis. Our *Disciple Now* weekend was the largest on record as our Lakewood staff took the leadership position in joining with several other area churches for a very exciting and life-changing weekend. Our college ministry is touching lives of college students both in and out of Gainesville and out-of-state, which includes ministering to the campuses of Brenau, NGCSU, Gainesville State University, Truett-McConnell, Georgia Tech, and the University of Georgia. We have college Thirst Groups established on almost all of these campuses.

Within our Children's Ministry there has been significant reorganization of staff and responsibilities with Jodi Greenlee leaving to go to the mission field. Although Jodi has been missed our Children and Preschool staff continues to thrive under Elizabeth Ormsbee's leadership. This year in Sunday Cool, the staff exceeded their Wednesday night Code Keeper goals and they came very close to reaching their other

goals. We had a record number of children, counselors, and adults at Kids Camp and had close to 1000 registered in VBS, which either set a record in attendance or very nearly did.

Our adult ministries continue to be strong, and we continue to see lives change through small groups in everything from our Sunday morning small groups to Celebrate Recovery to women's and men's Bible study groups. This past fall, Scott Smith, our Minister of Adult Discipleship, lead us in asking the question: "What if I had only one month to live?" Through sermons from Dr. Smiley and worship services centered on this question, our people were challenged. In community small groups and worship services, people's lives were changed.

In an effort to be a regional church, Lakewood hosted the Associational Key Leadership Summit and will host this event again this year. Hundreds of key church leaders from our association and from around the state came for training and inspiration from nationally renowned speakers as well as our own staff who lead and shared in this conference setting. This was an important event as we prepared to begin a new year of ministry.

Although, we have not seen the explosive growth in our worship and small group attendance as we have in the past, I was very pleased this year at the spiritual growth that can be seen across all age groups. Much of that growth I see measured in the number of people showing interest in missions both personally, locally, and globally. Robert Puckett has worked very hard at coordinating and providing mission opportunities for our church fellowship. In addition, he has helped and challenged our fellowship through our annual Missions Day, which has been a great success. Our people have not only shown interest but are actually going to serve in both short and long-term situations.

In addition to the ministry that is taking place in the community, I hope you will take the time to notice fresh paint and carpet in the building. Jeff Farr, our Facilities Supervisor, and his staff are doing an excellent job taking care of our facilities and grounds. I hope you will take the time to show Jeff and his staff your appreciation. Not only are our buildings and grounds some of the best in the area, but Jeff has saved us considerable amounts of money and is always looking at more cost-effective ways to operate our facility.

It is with great appreciation and sadness that we say good-bye to Mrs. Betty Teate, who has faithfully served on our facilities team for the last 15 years. Mrs. Betty has chosen to retire this month and will be greatly missed by our staff. Our prayers are with her as she makes this life transition.

Again, it is a joy and a privilege to serve here at Lakewood; I cannot wait to see what God is going to accomplish. The very best has yet to be seen at Lakewood. It is my prayer that we will stay focused on Him and remain obedient to His call.

Have Faith, Stay Focused, Stay the Course!

# From Our Controller/Administrator

Gloria Prestridge, Chief Controller/Administrator

It has been my joy and privilege to be part of the Lakewood Baptist Church team. I joined the staff in June 1995, and it has been a wonderful experience. To see God's work at Lakewood has been amazing.

Presently, in addition to all the fiduciary responsibilities of this ministry with a budget of four million dollars, I supervise our office staff.

Lakewood is blessed with a wonderful support staff. When you enter the office and are greeted by Nancy White, our receptionist, you are immediately made welcome. The rest of the support staff includes: Doris Seabolt, our Financial Secretary; Linda Clore, Secretary for our Adult Discipleship; Susan Land, Secretary for our Real Life Venue; Robin Walters and Jennifer Carmichael, Secretarial support for our Student Outreach; Terri Smiley, Children's Outreach Secretary; and Heather Risinger, Secretary for Missions/Cross Point Venue. Without each of these ladies, we would be lost! Amanda Stowers now works as Dr. Smiley's secretary and has stepped right in to her new responsibilities very capably. Thank you to all of you!

My thanks goes out to the Stewardship Team and their great advice during the year. I appreciate all they do, including getting here early in the morning for our meeting and their helpful comments and leadership.

If I can be of assistance to you during the year, please let me know.

Program Reports  
And  
Updates  
2009-2010

# Missions/Outreach

Robert Puckett

## Missions/Outreach Mission Statement

The mission of the evangelism/mission ministry is to help equip individuals to know Him and to make Him known personally, locally, and globally.

“...but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.” Acts 1:8

## Missions/Outreach Strategy Statement

Create environments to equip individuals to carry out the mission statement personally, locally, and globally. Create opportunities for doing the work of the ministry personally, locally, and globally.

“And He gave some as apostles, and some as prophets, and some as evangelists, and some as pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of service, to the building up of the body of Christ;”  
Ephesians 4:11,12

## Yearly Highlights

### Iglesia Apostolica Misionero Church

Lakewood formed a partnership with Apostolica Church in August of 2008. They meet weekly on Fridays and Sundays at Lakewood. They have been instrumental in sharing Jesus with the Hispanic community and continue to grow congregations in Kennesaw and Valdosta, Georgia. We are grateful they are at Lakewood and grateful that God has allowed us to share our resources.

### Mission Day

Each year we try to have a weekend specifically focused on celebrating Missions at Lakewood. This occurs through a local day of service to our community and a Mission Fair to host and encourage agencies that are part of our community and our Missions budget. On Saturday, we had Help Teams visit *My Sisters Place*, *Camp Hawkins*, *Our Neighbor*, and *Set Free* in Dahlonaga. On Sunday, we hosted 20 different groups from our community, state, and within our church. It was a great weekend that allowed Lakewooders a glimpse of how we are attempting to make a difference locally and globally.

### Samaritan's Purse-Operation Christmas Child

Wow, what a great opportunity we had this last November! Lakewood was extended an invitation to become a host site and regional collection center for *Samaritan's Purse* in North Georgia. We pursued the possibilities and made the commitment to give it a shot. What a tremendous blessing we experienced as over 150 from our church served for the eight days of service and collected over 14,000 shoeboxes that will be sent throughout the world. We hope to take on this endeavor again this coming November, so please come be a part of this amazing ministry!

### Missions at Lakewood

I am amazed at what God is doing locally and globally through Missions at Lakewood. We have been very fortunate to partner personally and financially with several agencies and groups. Have we fully arrived yet? Absolutely not, but we will continue to pray and seek God as He has faithfully led us throughout the years.

We cannot do everything, but we are excited at how He has given us direction thus far and will continue to guide us in Missions. We serve a God who is passionate about Missions and getting His people ENGAGED in Missions. Please do not miss out on this great avenue for service!

Here are some of the highlights from 2009-2010! Lakewood is so faithful to help the community and the world during the Christmas season. This includes *Secret Santa Outreach*, *Operation Christmas Child*, and *Net India's: Christmas in a Backpack*. Summer is always an exciting time and includes several local and global opportunities as well, such as the Guatemala Mission trip, *Camp Hawkins* through the Georgia Baptist Children's Home, and Apartment Outreach at Linwood, Northpoint, Park Place and Springview Apartments. We have three local missionaries who give good effort towards meeting their neighbors, setting up special outreaches, and assisting apartment office staff as needed in various apartments in Gainesville. This allows for creating opportunities to share the Gospel and develop believers.

This year's Guatemala Outreach was amazing. The last three years we have sent a group of wonderful ladies who minister to the families of the local pre-school (Rayitos de Sol) that Lakewood supports. They also worked with several other churches in the area. This work hinges on our partnership with the Guatemala Baptist Convention. We were able to send a team of men this June, as well, who helped build several housing units for families that live in the landfill close to the school.

God continues to raise up and send people out to share the message of Christ through long term missions that move beyond short term mission trips. I cannot list them all because of the quantity, and some we cannot list due to their strategic location. Please check out [www.lakewoodlife.org/missions](http://www.lakewoodlife.org/missions) to see further information. Below you will see a listing of this year's Lakewood Mission endeavors that occurred locally and globally. Let us all engage in Missions in some form or fashion this upcoming year through praying, giving, and going.

**Specific Mission Trips and Dates:**

2009-2010 Mission Sending

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Ministry</u>	<u>Involvement</u>
1. Operation Christmas Child	November	Church-wide	150+
2. Secret Santa	December	Church-wide	60+
3. Guatemala Explore Trip	February	Adult	2
4. Guatemala Youth Trip	April	High School	30
5. Mission Day of Service	April	Church-wide	35
6. Haiti Medical Trip	May	Adult	3
7. iChurch Children's Outreach	August-May	Kid's Cove	25+
8. Guatemala Summer Trip	June	Adult	24
9. Baton Rouge, LA World Changers	June	College	10
10. Camp Hawkins	July	Adult	20
11. Romania	July	High School/ College	13
12. Summer L.I.N.K. (Linwood Apts.)	July	Church-wide	50+/-

## **Recreation**

“The Recreation ministry at Lakewood exists to help people ENGAGE in personal evangelism in the Gainesville community through avenues of recreation and family activities.”

### *Winter Basketball*

Two Lakewood teams competed in the 2010 Gainesville Parks and Recreation Winter Basketball League. Both teams played well and enjoyed a successful season.

### *Spring & Summer Softball*

Lakewood teams competed in the 2010 Gainesville Parks and Recreation Spring Softball Leagues. Our men's team placed 2nd in their league and our Co-ed team won their league tournament. Two Lakewood teams are competing in the Gainesville Parks and Recreation Summer Men's League. Both teams are playing well and improving each week.

## **Men's Ministry and Leadership**

This last year several of our men have experienced community and were equipped through several specific group environments. This included *Men's Fraternity One: Biblical Definition of Manhood*, *Men's Fraternity Two: A Man at Work and Home*, *Raising a Modern-Day Knight Study*, Off Campus Outreach Groups and Discipleship/Coaching environments. We are excited about these starts and how God is raising up leaders to engage other men in mentoring and coaching opportunities in this community.

## **On Campus Participation**

We had the great opportunity this year to have 156 families visit Lakewood, which represents 375 individuals. We all have this awesome avenue to get to know others and be available to help and serve our community with the message of Christ and fellowship in our church.

## **First Impressions/Celebrate Recovery**

### **Phyllis Wiley**

This ministry continues to reach out to our own membership and to the community as well. We believe that every Christ follower is called to serve and help others. Each of us has been gifted by God “to do certain things well” – things that bless people, change lives and build up the church. Simply put, Christianity is not a spectator sport. We are invited, urged, and commanded to be participants in the work that God is doing in and through His church. What things do you do well? What things are you interested in? How can you use your gifts and talents to help others? Where can you ‘plug in’ to what God is doing in and through Lakewood to make an impact in the church and community? We can help you find out!

## **First Impression Ministry**

The First Impression Ministry exists to make everyone who enters our church doors feel valued and welcome. You will find a parking lot greeter to welcome you, to bring you from your car to the door of the church in a golf cart, and to assist you with small children as you drive in. There will be a door greeter who will welcome you and open the doors with a smile to help you feel at home. At the Information Centers, there will be someone knowledgeable to answer any questions you may have or take you to your class or the Worship Center. The ushers will assist in seating you.

Lakewood is about community. Even as we grow, we are committed to sharing “The Christ Experience” with every person. By our words, actions and gestures, we want to consistently demonstrate, “You belong here!” All of this is what the First Impressions Team is about at Lakewood.

### **Shuttle Team**

We currently have 25 volunteers on the Shuttle Team. They serve an average of one Sunday a month from 8:30am until about 12:30pm or until the parking lot is clear. These volunteers are in radio contact with each other and the police officers on Sunday morning for safety purposes. They strategically place orange cones for parking lot safety. The Shuttle Team serves in rain or shine to make the parking lot a nice place to visit.

### **Greeting Team**

We currently have a team of 37 greeters serving under the leadership of Ben Clark. Greeters serve at each of our three worship services. People are greeted at each door and taken to different campus locations, such as a Small Group Bible Study or a Worship Service. A few minutes are spent getting to know the person so that when they return, they recognize a familiar face.

### **Information Center**

This team of 19 volunteers serves under the leadership and direction of Jennifer Martin. They have the big responsibility of knowing everything going on at Lakewood. They direct guests and members to anything and everything going on at Lakewood. They each serve as a liaison between a first time visitor and the staff. They are able to relay information regarding activities to visitors and members. First time visitors are welcomed with a guest bag of Lakewood information that will be relevant to them, as well as a coffee mug filled with goodies from the Missions Team.

### **Usher Team**

Our Usher Team of 41 volunteers serves with our greeters at the doors of the Worship Center, Chapel and Lodge. They assist with bulletins, seating, and the offering. They are in constant contact via radios with each other as well as key safety personnel. They serve under the team leadership of Bill Short with head ushers for each service. Our head ushers are Mike Sewell, Mike Merck, Chris Stevens, Andy Miller, Eddie May, David Baston, and Bobby Miller.

### **Pastor's Reception Area**

Dana Miller serves as the hostess of the Reception Area. She is assisted by other key volunteers. They welcome guests and answer questions while people wait to have a moment or so with Dr. Smiley. The hostess also directs those in need of prayer to a team of Deacons who serve as Prayer Counselors in the Reception Area.

**All of these groups are part of our First Impressions Team and all serve on a volunteer basis.**

### **Library**

Our library is staffed by 7 volunteers under the leadership of Steven Ellis. There were 897 books, DVD's and resource materials checked out this year. We have received hundreds of donated books. Continue to look for new and exciting changes as we continue to grow.

### **Medical Ministry**

Mandy Reece has created a ministry team that currently consists of 26 volunteers who either serve as the medical on call personnel or serve at the medical desk. These volunteers serve every Sunday from 9:00am until 12:15pm. They are equipped with pagers, radios, fully equipped medical supply bags, and an AED (if needed) should a medical emergency arise.

### **Safety Ministry**

Chris Jones serves as the liaison between Lakewood and the Gainesville Police Department to ensure that Lakewood is a safe environment on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings as well as during special events. It is very reassuring to have a uniformed police presence on our campus. It provides an extra measure of security for all at Lakewood.

### **Prayer Shawl Ministry**

Becky Vickery continues to lead this ministry of 12 ladies who bless many of our Lakewood family as well as our community. We have given out prayer shawls to those who have experienced a death in the family, to those undergoing cancer treatments, to caretakers, and to the court systems for those in need. We have given them to mission teams as they prepare for missions work and to inmates upon their release. This team knits countless hours and prays over many stitches before they complete a shawl. Each shawl is prayed over by the group before it leaves Lakewood with prayers for the person who will receive it.

### **Van Pick Up Ministry**

Every Sunday morning one of our team of 4 volunteers makes the 'run' to pick up some who would not be able to worship with us without the transportation that this ministry provides. We are grateful for this small team of volunteers who give of their time on Sunday mornings.

### **Celebrate Recovery**

Monthly fellowship meetings, held the first Tuesday of each month, are a special time of fellowship and food. We start by eating dinner together and sharing in dessert and coffee. Those in our large group meetings are led in a time of worship by regular volunteers such as Jeremy Daniels, Eric Elliott, Mark Dowdy, Bill Hamilton, or a visiting worship leader. We follow worship with a time of teaching or testimony and then end with small group meetings. Every Tuesday evening we have gender specific groups that meet at 6:30PM. The ministry continues to grow as people learn the value of getting real and healing from life's hurts. We have open share groups as well as step study groups. On May 8 our Celebrate Recovery Group hosted a Health and Wellness Day with 136 local court participants and over 50 volunteers that facilitated groups and classes. Thanks to Lakewood and our dedicated leadership of 15, we are able to share the message of grace and salvation to those who are hurting and in need.

### **Celebrate Recovery Inside**

Every Monday afternoon at 5:00pm, a group of 8 ladies leave Lakewood for Lee Arrendale State Women's Prison to share with the inmates there about God's grace and forgiveness as they work through the 12 step program of Celebrate Recovery. We are graduating our second class of two groups on June 21. We will start new groups again on July 14. Each of these volunteers has committed to serve one year in this ministry, and we are adding five new volunteers in July. We have seen and walked with 8 ladies this past year as they have been released. We meet them at the gate upon release and assist them with housing, clothing, meeting, and transportation needs. We remain in contact with ladies that were released in our first year. All are doing well and continue on the road to recovery as they keep God first in their life. With volunteers from Celebrate Recovery and several small groups, we hosted a fundraising dinner for the prison ministry to assist with expenses. Luiz Souza was our chef; he prepared and served a delicious meal with help from many volunteers and his extended family. There are so many people making a difference in the lives of others and making this ministry possible.

# Pastoral Ministries

Dr. Jerry Gill, Minister of Pastoral Care

“And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.” Phil. 4:7

As Lakewood continues to grow as a result of our mission to love and reach lost people personally, locally, and globally, we strive never to lose sight of the individual. We seek to insure that no one “falls through the cracks” or goes unnoticed when they suffer a hospitalization or bereavement. You can be a big part of seeing that this is accomplished. Please let us know when you know of someone who is hospitalized, scheduled for surgery, or is bereaved. When we have the information, the staff and the various groups within the fellowship can respond.

While the past year has brought so many events and occasions of joy and blessing to Lakewood, there have been many in our membership who have experienced hospitalizations, bereavement or confinement to home. Lakewood attempts to provide a ministry to those experiencing such events.

## **The Homebound Team**

The Homebound Team continues to do an outstanding job of caring for those members who are confined to their homes. They maintain the connection between Lakewood and those members who are no longer able to attend. They do so in a spirit of concern and service. Thank you Homebound Team! In December, prior to Christmas, the Lord’s Supper was delivered to the homebound by the ministerial staff and members of the Homebound Team. Those who received the Lord’s Supper were extremely grateful for this ministry’s effort. Those who participated in this ministry reported feeling they received the greater blessing for having done so.

## **GriefShare**

Plans are in the making for a new session of GriefShare to begin this fall. This is a program comprised of 13 weekly sessions that encourage and support those who have suffered the loss of a loved one. Tentative plans are for Max and Joanne Smith to lead the group. More details will be provided when the date to begin is finalized.

## **Hospital Visits**

During the past twelve months, Dr. Gill drove a little over 2,900 miles representing Lakewood in 636 visits to thirteen hospitals, nine nursing or personal care homes, several funeral homes and a number of private homes. Most of these people were called, visited and ministered to by deacon ministry teams, small group Bible study members, 3-D groups, members of ministry teams with which they are connected, Golden Nuggets, Women’s Ministry members, and friends with whom they worship. This underscores the value of being in a small group. It really matters when we minister.

## **Counseling**

In an effort to minister to the whole person, Lakewood provides counseling for those who are part of our membership. During the past year, 127 counseling sessions were conducted for those members facing a variety of struggles, concerns, or needs. Of course, this also includes the happy experience of premarital counseling for those planning a wedding.

## **Bereavement Team**

The loss of a loved one is something everyone has or will face at some point. Though each of us will face such a loss, it is never an experience without pain. Our Bereavement Ministry, under the leadership of Wendi Simpson, makes available a meal on the day of the funeral for the family of a Lakewood member who dies. This allows the family to spend some time together, usually after the funeral, before they return

to their homes. The Bereavement Team provided nine such meals this year as we had fourteen members pass away during the year.

As you can see, Lakewood endeavors to be a caring community. Through our small groups, ministry teams, deacons, Golden Nuggets and staff, we seek to maintain a ministry of encouragement. This is a ministry in which each and every member can participate.

# **Crosspoint Worship/Senior Adult Ministry**

Bill Risinger, Crosspoint Minister of Worship and Minister to Senior Adults

## **Crosspoint Worship Report:**

### *Sing The Song!*

#### **Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord...**

Independence Day Celebration

A Weary World Rejoices (4 Powerful Christmas Sunday Celebrations)

Palm Sunday & Easter Sunday Celebrations

June 12 Gospel Sing

#### **Let the Earth Hear His Voice...**

Pianist – Bill Schmid

Crosspoint Worship Band – 5 members

Crosspoint Bell Choir, Darrell Wiley-director – 16 members

Christmas Instrumental Ensemble – 15 participants

Crosspoint Instrumental soloists – 4 participants

#### **Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, let the People Rejoice...**

Worship Team Vocalists – 15 members

Crosspoint Adult Choir – 82 members

Christmas Dickens Carolers – 8 participants

Christmas Drama Actors – 3 participants

#### **O Come to the Father through Jesus the Son**

Christmas Stage Sets (Bryon Parker, Designer and Builder)

Lighting, Video, PowerPoint and Sound – TJ and Sharon Johns

Crosspoint Chapel Flowers and Decorations – 16 participants (Chris Davidson, Designer)

Crosspoint Quartet

Crosspoint Women's Trio

Crosspoint Message in Song Soloists – 18 participants

Crosspoint Congregation – the Big Choir!

#### **And Give Him the Glory Great Things He Has Done.**

Thank You, Lord, for the church--for believers with whom I can share life and faith in common. We are committed to seeing Your kingdom come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

#### **Psalm 40:3**

## **Senior Adult Ministry Report**

What a wonderful year of ministry with our Senior Adults. We want to thank our wonderful leaders who have faithfully served our Golden Nuggets here at Lakewood. Officers for this year have been:

Dale Rochester, President and Program Coordinator

Ray & Lynda Lawrence, Vice Presidents

Paul & Becky Patten, Vice Presidents

Charlyn Doty, Table Decorations

Betty Oglesby, Secretary

Sybil Eades, Sunshine Chairman  
Lewis Lynch, Treasurer  
Martha Pittman, Scrapbook Chairman  
Bill Risinger, Minister to Senior Adults  
Don Ormsbee, Senior Adult Ministry Advisor

Our year began in August with a wonderful week of Vacation Bible School. We spent the week in the outback of Australia and studied through the life of the Apostle Peter. Other events included enjoying lunch together twice and going out together to a movie. Our new Minister to Senior Adults, Bill Risinger and his wife Patti, presented our monthly luncheon program. They shared about their journey to Lakewood and sang several duets.

At our September and October luncheons, Challenged Child and Mark Dowdy presented their programs. We also enjoyed a wonderful trip to tour the Fox Theater and lunch at Mary Macs Tea Room. At the end of October, our Golden Nuggets served faithfully in the set up of and during the Pumpkin Fest, as well as supplying all of the cupcakes for the Cupcake Walk. Several of our Golden Nuggets also attended the Lifeway Senior Adult Conference in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee. The Dixie Stampede Christmas show and our drive through Cades Cove were highlights of our trip.

In November, at our annual Dinner at the Barn, we enjoyed great food and fellowship and were entertained by some great country, bluegrass and southern gospel music. Several of our Golden Nuggets also attended the Senior Adult Conference at The Cove in Asheville, South Carolina.

At our annual Christmas Luncheon, we had a delightful time, a wonderful meal, and of course, we had a visit from good Ole Saint Nick. Our Crosspoint Christmas Carolers also presented a beautiful program of Christmas Carols.

In January, we learned so much from Dick Mecum about the US Marshalls. We are grateful God has blessed our area and our church with this great public servant. In February, Don Landrum shared with us concerning his ministry to our Armed Forces troops. Operation Bandanas brings great comfort to our soldiers who serve faithfully to defend our country. In March, the Golden Nuggets participated in our first Quarterly HymnSing, in which the theme was *The Cross*. Betty Long accompanied us from the piano and also sang "Written in Red" as a solo.

In April, Lee Darragh spoke to our Golden Nuggets concerning his work as our District Attorney. He also shared with us about his ministry call from the Lord. Several of our Golden Nuggets attended the Lifeway Senior Adult Conference in Branson, Missouri. We heard from Henry Blackaby and the gospel quartet, Legacy Five. A highlight for all of us was the production of "Noah the Musical" that we attended.

In May, Christopher Hart from Hospice of Northeast GA spoke at our Luncheon. We learned so much about this wonderful ministry. Several of our Golden Nuggets also attended the Jubal Chorus concert in Johns Creek, Georgia. What powerful musicians make up this fine ensemble.

Of course, in June, the Golden Nuggets had great attendance and fellowship as we ate out at O'Charley's. We are looking forward to a great HymnSing again in July. We will sing as we celebrate our freedom as citizens of the USA and also anticipate being visited by wonderful musical guests.

Right now we are making plans for the coming year of ministry. If you are 55+, we invite you to come and join us as we seek to love and serve Christ, love others, pray for one another, listen to one another, and enjoy great fun and fellowship!

# Real Life Worship

AJ Parker, Director of Creative Arts for Real Life Worship

The year 2009 was a year of change for Real Life, and a lot of behind the scenes work took place to prepare us for 2010. This past year we have seen God work through our music and technology teams to provide our congregation with incredible worship gatherings each and every Sunday!

In October 2009, we themed our services around the church-wide campaign, *One Month to Live*. We received very positive feedback from those who enjoyed the themes concerning how we were able to appropriately incorporate mainstream music into the service without having a negative effect on the worship environment.

Christmas in Real Life was probably the biggest success of the year with four very unique Sundays of Christmas worship. We opened the Christmas season with an acoustic service. The next week we followed up with a service that included our Kids Cove choir! Week three was exclusively a cappella featuring 20 Real Life Choir members singing familiar Christmas carols in perfect harmony. We closed out the Christmas season returning to our "Real Life" style and rocked out with some loud and modern music. Throughout the Christmas series, we incorporated high quality videos we produced in-house and then combined them on a DVD that went on sale in the Lakewood Commons Bookstore.

March 7th marked the day of our first Real Life Unplugged worship service! Unplugged kicked off with big numbers of attendance, just under 200, and featured acoustic contemporary worship in a more informal setting. The sermon from the Real Life service was broadcast from the Worship Center over to the Unplugged service, providing Unplugged attendees with a live worship experience and a video-delivered message!

Easter in Real Life was without a doubt our biggest yet! With a major stage redesign and a variety of worship leaders that day, attendees let us know for weeks how much they enjoyed the special Easter services. Missions Sunday was just a few weeks later and was probably the best Missions Sunday we've ever had in Real Life as well. Powerful videos of our own church members at work in our community and testimonies from those who had gone on Lakewood mission trips were inspiring and complemented the Lakewood vision and core values perfectly.

This year we added Jeremy Daniels to our regular rotation of worship leaders in Real Life and also welcomed two new band members, Thomas Branch, and Jon Poole. Lindsey Smith joined the vocalist team, and we added four new crew members to the Production Team. We are very excited about what God is doing in and through the Real Life Worship Service and the people He has raised up to be a part of it!

# Children's Ministry

Elizabeth Ormsbee, Minister of Children

## **Life in Kids Cove**

Our main objective in Kids Cove continues to be a strategic effort to help parents lay a spiritual foundation in the lives of our children through our on-going ministries and special events. Sunday morning activities are our venue to help kids experience God's love by teaching age-appropriate Bible content and truths combined with practical application. Wednesday evenings are used to equip kids as we encourage them to memorize scripture, work through basic Bible skills levels and provide opportunity to learn about and engage in service and missions.

## **Kids Cove Staff**

A very committed and faithful staff works diligently to implement our specific program strategies in both preschool and grade school environments. This year in our grade school area we re-structured staff responsibilities to more effectively operate our return to two hours of grade school Sunday "Cool." We also added a part-time position to coordinate the administrative needs generated by Code Keepers, our Wednesday evening grade school program. These staff changes and additions required no additional funds as we re-distributed money budgeted for the position that was vacated in July by Jodi Greenlee, our full-time children's ministry associate. The restructure has been very successful.

## **Kids Camp**

In June we completed our eighth year of Kids Camp for children in third, fourth and fifth grades. This marked a milestone for our camp staff and volunteers as we have now twice completed each of the four camp themes. Each theme is a specific unpacking of a key Bible passage and is significant in the implementation of our overall strategy to lay a spiritual foundation.

## **Vacation Bible School**

June is a busy month in Kids Cove as it is also the time for Vacation Bible School. This year's theme was "Saddle Ridge Ranch: Rounding up Questions, Driving Home Answers." The Kids Cove staff is so grateful for the way the entire ministry staff and adult volunteers join in to make this an effective environment for our kids! Our attendance was a record this year. We enrolled 957, which included 582 children and 375 adult/youth volunteers.

## **Kids Cove Weekday**

Our weekday preschool is a key program that allows members of our community to experience ministry at Lakewood. The weekday staff uses a biblically-based curriculum that enables preschoolers to learn and play through structured activities and centers that encourage physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual development.

## **JOY Ministry**

Our ministry to special needs children and their families continues to provide competent and loving care for our children during our weekly Sunday and Wednesday programs. The staff and volunteers again made provisions for three special needs kids to attend Kids Camp and be able to participate fully in all activities. Respite are now being offered once a month, which is a significant increase for our staff and volunteers from every other month.

# Student Ministry

Greg Lewallen, Minister of Students

The past year has been an extremely blessed year for the Student Ministry. We have seen many students come to faith in Christ and others deepen an existing relationship with Him through the opportunities God has brought about this year. I feel confident that our staff is truly impacting the next generation for the cause of Christ. The Student Ministry is very healthy and poised for tremendous growth and influence in the coming years.

We were able to rearrange responsibilities on our staff to see our Girls Ministry program become full-time, with administrative duties fulfilled by a part-time office assistant. This has been an incredible opportunity to see more girls involved in personal discipleship. We welcomed back Robin Walters as our new Student Ministry Assistant. She is excelling in this position, and we are blessed to have her serve with us!

Each ministry report is included below in detail. I want to highlight a few of the successes that stick out in my mind from the past year. First, the innovative programming in our College Ministry that Ray Green began called Thirst Groups. With six of these Bible studies meeting on various campuses, we have truly become a regional ministry! It was a joy to watch college students leading college students each week in true discipleship. This shift has allowed our ministry to influence more college students than ever before with the truths of God's Word.

Another huge success was our *Disciple Now* weekend. There is a palpable momentum that has formed by teaming up with other area churches to target the youth of Hall County with the Gospel message. We have now outgrown the facility at Riverside Military Academy and look forward to bringing the event home next spring and adding several more churches to the list. We anticipate registering over 800 students next March for the next DNOW!

Overall, I feel extremely blessed to serve as the Minister to Students at Lakewood Baptist Church. We have such amazing leaders involved in what we do, and I believe our best days lie ahead! To God be the glory!

## Middle School Ministry

Matt Babcock

### Fuel: Experience

This past year, our Wednesday night program, Fuel, continued to be the highlight of the week for many middle school students from around Hall County. We kicked off the school year with a high-energy special event called Midnight Fuel, where over 130 students gathered at the Lodge for a late night of games, food, and fun. The excitement remained high as we continued to meet on a weekly basis for musical worship under the leadership of Jeremy Daniels, games, and a message from one of our student ministry staff, all in a relevant and engaging environment at the Lodge. Through various teaching series, which focused on topics ranging from the Blood of Jesus to Biblical encounters with Him, students encountered the Gospel in many new and refreshing ways. Perhaps most memorable is the fact that we had the opportunity to baptize 3 middle school students in a special Fuel baptism service. These students are all now plugged into the ministry here at Lakewood and continue to grow daily in their faith. We are also excited to announce that since then, four other students followed their decisions of faith with baptisms in our Real Life services. Several more baptisms are currently being scheduled.

### Fuel Cells: Equip

In a world where truth is so often portrayed as being relative, we believe it to be of utmost importance that

our students become and remain firmly rooted in their knowledge of the Word of God. Helping students reach that point in their spiritual journey is the primary focus of our Sunday morning small group Bible study, also known as Fuel Cells. This past year our students have received a crash course in the theology of the Trinity, God's character, and His work in and through the lives of Old Testament characters such as Moses, Joshua, Samson, and Gideon. Every week, students are challenged to dig into Scripture and find out what it means for each of them individually. We also understand the importance of building relationships with students. As the saying goes, "people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care." As such, we continue to be blessed with loving and spiritually mature adult leaders who so faithfully teach God's Word on a weekly basis in addition to discipling students outside of Sunday mornings.

### **Disciple Now: Experience/Equip**

In short, *Disciple Now 2010* was a huge success across the board for the student ministry at Lakewood. This year we were blessed to add Chestnut Mountain and Air Line Baptist Churches into the mix. Close to 100 middle school students from Lakewood alone attended the weekend and 490 attended from all the churches combined. Our theme this year was "Awaken" and our focus was on encouraging students to awaken to their own need for Christ and subsequently to the needs of those they come in contact with every day. The Matt Papa Band led worship and Sam Bhatt served as our speaker. During the weekend, students had opportunities to respond to the prompting of the Holy Spirit in their lives and to become actively involved by giving to a relief fund for the earthquake victims in Haiti. As a result of this event, several students made decisions to accept Christ, be baptized, and commit to a deeper walk with Jesus. Many others were challenged to awaken and begin impacting the people around them who are desperately in need of a savior. We are so grateful for the multitude of volunteers who sacrificed their time and resources to make *Disciple Now 2010* such a successful event.

### **Missions: Engage**

Our ultimate goal as a middle school ministry is to equip students with the spiritual and physical resources to engage their world with the life changing Gospel of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we make it a priority to provide opportunities for students to serve in their local community and beyond. This past summer, over 20 of our students served with Summer Link, a ministry aimed at the children and parents of Linwood Apartments. Students who attended helped lead music, games, crafts and ultimately built relationships with the children in the community. Many of our students have also remained involved with the ministry at *Good News at Noon*, right here in Gainesville. They have served meals, sorted clothes, and helped with several maintenance projects around the shelter. Other middle school students have answered the call to short-term overseas missions in Guatemala. We are so excited about the opportunities to engage we have had due to the faithful prayers and financial support of the Lakewood family. We also look forward to several upcoming trips to Atlanta and beyond later this year.

### **High School Ministry**

Cliff Craig

It is such a privilege to be a part of this special church! Lauren and I feel like this has been our home church for our whole lives, and we are so thankful for everything and everyone. It is truly a blessing that God called us to be a part of Lakewood Baptist Church. Below, you will find information about the happenings in High School Ministry during the 2009-2010 year.

### **Experience – The Gathering**

The Gathering is a time for high school students from around the North Georgia area to experience a great band, relevant teaching, and an amazing time with friends every week. Even before the 7:00pm meeting time, there are tons of things to do! Students can enjoy some great food at our local snack shop, "Pam's Place," challenge their friends to a game of pool, ping-pong or on an Xbox 360, or just take some time to

relax! This is our weekly “open door” meeting and we encourage our students to invite their friends.

Our average attendance this year for The Gathering was 130, which is a large increase from the 90+ that we had in 2008-2009. Several first time decisions and recommitments were made on Wednesday nights this year. We also had the privilege of baptizing a few high school students during our Wednesday night services.

### **Equip – Small Groups**

Our Ignite Groups on Sunday mornings at 9:30am have been a great way to get the week started off right. We begin in our lower auditorium in The Lodge with a short movie that goes along with that day's lesson. Then, our garage doors lift, revealing small breakout rooms that hold gender and grade specific groups. Each of the groups have adult leaders that have been equipped and trained to plan a great time of fellowship and Bible study for students. This is our weekly way of helping our students to dig deeper into God's Word.

We had around 20 volunteer small group leaders this year assigned to different classes; many of which have been serving as small group leaders in high school ministry for many years.

### **Engage – Missions & Evangelism**

Our high school students are involved in so many trips and events that are focused on sharing the Gospel with others. Many students are involved weekly in our church with Sunday Cool, the nursery, and JOY ministry. Several students also help with iChurch, our ministry to the Linwood apartments. In December, several high school and middle school students participated in our annual Christmas Outreach Banquet where they delivered fruit baskets and sang Christmas carols to shut-ins. The students also love to help out with Kids Camp and Vacation Bible School every year in the summer. Around one hundred students serve at these two events each summer.

Our two main mission trips to Guatemala and Romania have been life-changing events for the students and adults that participated in them. On both trips our students have shared the Gospel and loved on the broken and desperate. The team that went to Romania led summer camps for orphans to get them away from their normal routines and to share Jesus with them. Our Guatemala team was able to minister to the children at the school our church supports annually. The joy in the children's faces was indescribable as our high school students led them in songs, Bible stories, and crafts. All of the students that participated in the Romania and Guatemala trips left changed for the better.

### **Ministry with Teen Girls**

Allie Pohlimer

It has been a humble and honoring experience to watch the Girls ministry at Lakewood start from the very beginning. This year has been full of victories, trials, and moments where you stand back amazed at what the Lord has done. Each year we plan separate events for middle school and high school girls in the fall and in the spring.

In the fall, we had a “Pajama Party” for the middle school girls. Around 70 girls attended. This was an incredible opportunity to get to know the new 6<sup>th</sup> graders as well as solidify relationships with the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> grade girls. We all wore our pajamas, decorated pillow cases, played a game and watched a movie. We also had a special time of Bible study in small groups with the girls. In the spring we had a “Party with a Purpose” for the middle school girls with around 20 girls attending. Three high school girls that I have been meeting with helped me facilitate this event. This was an awesome opportunity to see them in action! The purpose of the night was to challenge the girls to raise money for Haiti and have fun at the same time. We had a missionary who had just been to Haiti come and share and also “skyped” someone who had just

gotten home from Haiti as well. It was beautiful to see the girls' eyes open up to the needs across the world and have fun at the same time. Not only did we talk about Haiti, but we also had a cookie-decorating contest and made bracelets to remember to pray for Haiti.

A special outing was designed for the high school girls in the fall. Though only 12 girls came, we went to a corn maze and then talked over dinner. I made some great connections with girls that I had not spent much time with, which turned out to be a huge blessing. In the spring we had a sleepover in the Lodge with 20 girls showing up, some of whom I did not know very well. So again, it was awesome making new relationships with the girls. We tie dyed t-shirts, played games, watched a movie, had a Bible study on gossip, and spent quality time together.

This year was the second annual Imprinted Girls Conference. We achieved our goal of 100 girls and had 50 volunteers. Each year for Imprinted, the Lord blows me away with **His** purpose for the evening. The purpose of Imprinted was embedded in our theme "It's a Love Thing." We wanted the girls to walk away knowing the Lord loves them madly and that they are truly beautiful. We had a surprise concert, an illusionist, made a craft, had a fancy dinner, had small break out classes, corporate worship, a speaker and small groups after each session. I spoke with many girls who for the first time realized they are truly beautiful. One of those girls sobbed as she finally realized that she is special and understood her identity in Christ.

Throughout the year I meet with four different groups of girls on a bi-weekly basis, and I meet with one girl once a month to hold her accountable. Some groups went through If You Want to Walk on Water You Gotta Get Out of the Boat by John Ortberg, while other groups went through the Word, and I held them accountable in their faith walk. I am presently discipling a girl whom I led to Christ a few weeks ago. It has been great following up with her and watching her grow and fall in love with Him. In fact, this week I met with her, and we searched for mission trip opportunities.

This summer, we are starting a bi-weekly get-together for the middle school girls. We'll be studying different women in the Bible. For the high school girls, we will have a Bible study offered twice a week. We'll be using the book Living Free by Beth Moore. This is designed to be an intense Bible study for girls who are committed and desire to go deeper in the walk with the Lord.

## **College Ministry**

Ray Green

My wife and I are so blessed to have already served here at Lakewood for almost two years. It has been a wonderful two years, and we look forward to what God has in store for this ministry as we continue to serve college students in the Gainesville region. Our vision is to be a regional college ministry that raises up fully devoted followers of Christ who are trained and equipped to love and reach lost people personally, locally, and globally.

### **EXPERIENCE**

Throughout this year we created multiple environments for college-age people to experience God and the beautiful truth of the gospel. One environment is our once-a-month celebration called Fusion. This environment is high energy, immensely creative, and a whole lot of fun. This was our first year for Fusion, and we were very thankful to see, on average, 72 students experience this environment. We also had events throughout the year. We did an event on the campus of NGCSU at the beginning of fall semester where we fed over 250 students dinner. We were able to share the gospel with them and also give them information about our NGCSU Thirst Group. We also had a \$2 lunch right after services on the Lakewood campus throughout the fall and spring semesters that served as a connection point to the College Ministry. Here we were able to meet and connect with many different people. Our fall retreat, called EPIC, was also an

experience environment for us. We took 40 students to a camp in South Carolina for a weekend of retreat, spiritual growth, and community. Hearts were turned back to Him, and others accepted Christ for the first time.

## **EQUIP**

Thirst Groups are a strategic and integral method of equipping our students throughout the region. The heartbeat of College Ministry is our Thirst Groups. Thirst Groups are spread throughout the Gainesville region and exist to connect people to the passion of living and loving like Jesus. These Thirst Groups have multiple environments that take place weekly, which include discussion experiences, serving opportunities, discipleship opportunities and social events. Students are given the opportunity to not only participate within these groups but also to lead one of these groups themselves.

We have studied books of the Bible and topical issues within our Thirst Groups. These include Ephesians, God's Will, the 12 disciples, and the call to evangelism. In our emphasis on the call to evangelism, we challenged our community of people to have an intentional conversation about Jesus with one person each day for 60 days. It was an amazing time of ministry during this campaign. We saw people accept Christ as their Savior and others challenged to live a life that is more intentionally lived.

An emphasis of one-on-one discipleship was also part of our ministry, and we had 19 people involved in a one-on-one discipleship relationship. We also started an internship program with Truett-McConnell College. Two interns worked within the ministry to receive class credit this past year. I view this internship program as a way to have a part in training and impacting next generation leadership.

## **ENGAGE**

We had over 30 of our college students engaged in ministry this past year. My philosophy is that we must minister locally and then globally. To minister locally it is good to look for areas within the community of Lakewood and Gainesville. Some of our people served at Lakewood, ministering in various ways around the campus. We had several students volunteer in the JOY ministry at Lakewood on Sunday mornings. There were multiple trips to *Good News at Noon* throughout the year where we served the homeless of Gainesville.

We also had college-age people serving in various projects. One such project was the J&J Canned Food Drive. Through the J&J Canned Food Drive, we collected over \$2,276.25 worth of canned foods and donated all to various shelters in the area.

We took two mission trips this past year: one to Romania and the other to Baton Rouge, LA. Both were successful on so many different levels. On both trips we saw our students lead others to accept Christ as their Savior.

In summary, I am so thankful for the Lord's faithfulness toward our ministry this past year. We saw college age people experience God and the wonderful plan He has for them. They were equipped to live and love like Jesus. As a result, we saw God use them to build His kingdom. I look forward to continuing the work of building God's kingdom in the Gainesville region for His glory.

# Adult Discipleship

Scott Smith, Minister of Adult Discipleship

## **Transition in Women's Ministry**

In August, Nikki Babcock stepped down as Minister to Women. For years Nikki provided excellent leadership to a variety of women's ministries at Lakewood. Upon her departure, the ministry was scaled back to focus solely on Women's Bible studies. Dawn Smith was brought on board to provide oversight for the recruiting, training, and sustaining of women's leaders and the provision of life-need studies.

## **Key Leadership Summit**

In August approximately 400 church staff and lay leaders gathered at Lakewood for a one night leadership summit. The first event of this kind at Lakewood proved to be a great success. Breakouts from worship leadership to coaching, Sunday School to small groups, and crisis ministry to evangelism were offered. This August, Lakewood will once again play host to the summit with the Chattahoochee Baptist Association.

## **One Month to Live**

Through the summer of 2009, the staff planned the fall church-wide emphasis *One Month to Live*. This emphasis focused on connecting ALL adult attendees of Lakewood into a six-week neighborhood community group. It challenged individuals to think strategically of how their lives would change if they knew they only had one month to live. Over 50 groups were formed for this emphasis.

## **DivorceCare and DC4K**

Lakewood continues to be a leader in Divorce Recovery in Gainesville. Through *DivorceCare and DC4K (Divorce Care for Kids)*, Stacey Reece, along with Tricia White and their co-leaders, are providing support and encouragement for adults, as well as children experiencing the pain of separation or divorce. Featuring nationally recognized experts on separation and divorce, these classes discuss grief, the needs of children during divorce, depression, forgiveness, and many other topics. One participant noted about the group, "*They were Jesus with skin on.*" Another responded to the question, "What have you liked least about Divorce Care?" with the answer... "*The ending of the meetings.*"

## **Bookstore and Coffee House**

Tim and Lisa Elliott continue to provide exceptional oversight to the Bookstore and Coffee House. These two environments provide much needed additional relational space for adults. Lakewood continues its partnership with Amazing Grace Christian Store to provide the church's Bookstore. In the store, attendees can purchase copies of Dr. Smiley's latest sermon series, curriculums for Sunday morning and Community groups, church-wide campaigns, CD's of music used in *Real Life* and *Unplugged*, recommended readings, and much more.

## **Volunteer Appreciation Banquet**

In January, the staff of Lakewood coordinated a banquet to honor all the volunteers of Lakewood. Judging by the attendance, the night was an overwhelming success. Comedian Kenn Kington headlined the evening, mixing comedy and encouragement for the volunteers.

## **ECHO Singles Ministry**

In February, Lakewood partnered with ECHO Ministries to provide intentional fellowship, discipleship, and ministry opportunities for area singles. Once a month, singles gather for either unplugged times of worship or intentional, relational discipleship.

### **Sunday Morning Bible Studies**

Sunday morning Bible studies continue to provide the initial setting for adults of Lakewood to “connect and grow” in authentic community. Recently, Lynne Cox began a new Sunday group for Single Moms that connected 9 women to group life for support and encouragement. On July 11, Don and Ruth Ann Landrum begin a new group for couples ages 50+.

### **3-D Groups**

We are now almost nine years into our strategic ministry for intentional discipleship and creation of authentic community called 3-D Groups. We currently have approximately 120 individuals involved in weekly in-home dinner, discipleship and dialogue. This ministry is truly creating authentic community and changing lives. We believe 3-D and the community group process will be our primary means in taking discipleship off-campus, as well as evangelism and missions into our community and neighborhood. This will aid us in fulfilling the vision to *be a regional church that raises up fully devoted followers of Christ who are trained and equipped to love and reach lost people personally, locally and globally.*

### **Men’s Discipleship**

Scott, along with Robert Puckett and Dan Gunyon, continue to offer the series *Men’s Fraternity* for the men of Lakewood. This is a 3 year series that teaches the meaning of authentic manhood along with how to lead at home and at work. This spring, 12 men gathered for the initial offering of *Raising a Modern-Day Knight* – a study designed to help dads in their strategic fathering of their sons. In addition, multiple men have been involved in small group (3 to 4 men) discipleship throughout the year. These environments meet most every week for life-to-life connections. In these sessions, men are challenged to reproduce themselves in others in the spirit of 2 Timothy 2:2.

### **Bibleology**

For four weeks this past spring, Dr. Adam Harwood, Professor of Christian Studies at Truett-McConnell College, taught adult Bible study leaders almost everything he knew about proper bible interpretation. Fifty three leaders took advantage of this great training opportunity. Over the course of a month, leaders learned the basics in hermeneutics (biblical interpretation) from one of Lakewood’s brightest minds (and Dr. Smiley’s favorite new neighbor!).

### **Small Group Coaching**

The Lord continues to open doors for Scott to consult with churches, associations, and conventions on the development of off-campus small groups. He has met with Dahlonga Baptist for a series of sessions to help them start a small groups ministry. In July he coached Sunday School directors from across the country on the potential development of a small groups process in their churches. This fall he will do the same in Macon, GA, Michigan, New Jersey, and Pennsylvania.

### **Georgia Large Church Ministers of Education Association**

Each year over 30 Ministers of Education from churches throughout the state that run over 1000 in Sunday School gather for a one-day round table discussion. On March 4, Scott attended the GLCMEA meeting at Burnt Hickory Baptist in Marietta. This is a time of sharing ministry ideas, visioning for future ministry and learning from one another’s successes and failures.

### **Pre-Marital/Marital Counseling**

As an outgrowth of his passion for Marriage and Family ministry, Scott continues to provide pre-marital and marital counseling on a weekly basis to Lakewood and area-wide couples. So far this ministry year, Scott aided by Dawn at times, has seen 23 couples varying from 1 to 6 sessions each in weekly counseling.

### **Unplugged**

With the departure of Tyler and Catie Smiley for seminary, Dawn and Scott along with Bill Risinger, now provide leadership and oversight of the Unplugged worship venue in the Lodge on Sundays. This service

will be designed to provide distinctive elements of public reading of scripture, the Lord's Supper, personal testimonies, intercessory prayer and much more. Dawn, Scott and Bill will focus their energy on raising up and mentoring the next generation of worship leaders of Lakewood.

## **Connection Ministry**

### **Dawn Smith**

#### **Discover & Explore Classes**

Connection Ministry hosted 6 Sunday afternoon *Discover Lakewood* classes with an average attendance of 15 participants per class. Dr. Smiley led each class in discovering our vision, core values, and importance of membership.

*Explore Group Life and Serving at Lakewood* classes were held the Wednesday evening following each *Discover* class. The average attendance for these classes was 5 participants per class. Those who participated were quickly plugged into a group or sent out on a First Serve opportunity in a Lakewood ministry of their choice.

#### **Ladies Bible Studies**

A full slate of classes was offered in fall and winter semesters. Fall semester included 6 classes with 60 women participating. Winter semester included 5 on-campus and 2 off-campus classes with 80 women participating. Summer semester is in session now, including one class with 40 women participating.

Ladies Bible Study leaders meet quarterly for training and support. We added two new leaders to our team this year, Linda Jo Powell and Laura Harwood.

Die to Self, Live for Him in  
Giving, Serving and Worship

Year One of a  
Four-Year Strategic Plan

**Die to Self, Live for Him in Giving, Serving and Worship 2009-2013**  
**(Year 1 of a 4-year plan)**  
**A strategic plan of developing believers, authentic community, life**  
**stewardship, genuine worship, and personally sharing Christ.**

Specifically Speaking /Annual Goal	Year 1 Goal/Actual	Year 2 Goal/Actual	Year 3 Goal/Actual	Year 4 Goal/Actual	YTD Total	Family of Faith 4 Year Goals 2009-2013
Actual Baptisms	100 / 55	100 /	100 /	100 /	55	400
Other Additions	100 / 88	100 /	100 /	100 /	88	400
Worship Attendance	1500 /1462	1600 /	1750 /	1900 /	1462	1875
Weekly Bible Study Attendance	1210 /1148	1270 /	1350 /	1450 /	1148	1550
General	13 / 13	13 /	13 /	13 /	13	10
Preschool	170 / 157	175 /	180 /	185 /	157	210
Children	187 / 181	190 /	195 /	200 /	181	240
Middle School	85 / 73	90 /	95 /	100 /	73	130
High School	85 / 71	90 /	95 /	100 /	71	130
College/Career	70 / 57	75 /	80 /	90 /	57	130
Singles	20 / 16	20 /	25 /	25 /	16	20
Adults	600 / 534	625 /	692 /	762 /	379	700
Discover	80 / 76	90 /	100 /	110 /	76	400
3-D Groups	160 / 139	200 /	200 /	200 /	139	240
Missionary Sending	450 / 422	475 /	500 /	525 /	266	2400
VBS	580 / 582*	590 /	620 /	650 /	957	957**
1st Time Visitors (Individual/Families)	375 / 156 (Year one total)	74 / 33	94 / 47	25 / 13	375 /156	--

\* Children Only

\*\* Children's Goal – Total VBS Attendance: 957

# New Church Year Matters

# Lay Ministry Team Recommendation\*

## **BUILDING & GROUNDS MINISTRY**

**Staff Liaison: Jeff Farr**

Allen Eades (11)  
Denny Allen (12)  
Jimmy Lee (13)  
David McKinley (13)  
Tim Elliott-MTL (13)

## **ENDOWMENT MINISTRY**

**Staff Liaison: Gloria Prestridge**

Reg Girdharry, MTL  
Dale Rochester, Secretary  
Steve Ellis (11)  
Martha Simmons (11)  
Jack Carey (12)  
Guy Long (13)

## **CONSTITUTIONAL REVIEW**

**Staff Liaison: Tom Smiley**

The Deacon Leadership Council may appoint team members as the need arises.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL MINISTRY**

**Staff Liaison: Jerry Gill**

Deacon Ministry Team Leader  
Assistant Deacon Ministry Team Leader  
Bill Holcomb (11)  
Molly Legg (12)  
Senior Pastor, Dr. Tom Smiley, Ex-Officio  
Executive Pastor, Don Ormsbee, Ex-Officio  
Minister of Pastoral Care, Dr. Jerry Gill, Ex-Officio-MTL

## **PERSONNEL MINISTRY**

**Staff Liaison: Tom Smiley**

Debbie Ames-MTL (11)  
Tommy Turner (11)  
Tom Johnston (12)  
Danny Osborne (12)  
Chuck Carter (13)  
Joe Wood (13)

## **STEWARDSHIP MINISTRY**

**Staff Liaison: Tom Smiley**

Rusty Hopkins (11)  
Mark Brown-MTL (11)  
Frank Simpson (12)  
Dale Rochester (12)  
Steve Murray (13)  
TBA (13)  
Dennis Jackson, Missions Ex-Officio

### **MTL - Ministry Team Leader**

\* This is not an exhaustive list of our ministry teams. These are, however, the ministry teams that our Organizational Team is responsible to recommend to our fellowship.

- Upon church approval, the organizational team is authorized to fill in **TBA** slots with members of Lakewood Baptist in good standing and appoint MTL. No further action is required.

# Financial Matters

## From Our Pastor

Thank you for your financial support of this ministry. No doubt this has been a challenging season in finances for many within our ministry.

We must remain diligent in continuing to pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ as they experience some really difficult moments due to the economic issues beyond our control.

During this past fiscal year, the Stewardship Team and each member of our staff have sought to make sound financial use of our resources. We are blessed to have Gloria Prestridge and a talented Stewardship Team giving sound review of our financial resources.

You can see that this year's total undesignated receipts are approximately 3% behind that of last year. During this past fiscal year, I have made some decisions regarding our expenses that have been difficult in light of the decrease in undesignated receipts.

Working with our Executive Pastor and various leadership teams, we have seen two full-time positions discontinued. In addition, some associate positions have been defunded, and we cut other areas of our budget. My commitment to this fellowship is that we will not spend more than we receive. I believe the decisions we've made have been in the best interest of our ministry.

The 2010-2011 ministry budget has no 12 month increase. The four million dollar budget recommendation is exactly the same total of our present year's budget and will continue to fund our programs, missions and staff. Our staff is giving careful oversight to each of their ministry budgets and our Stewardship Team is carefully reviewing our finances each month.

This year's budget is attainable as we each honor God with His Tithe and Additional Offerings in His name. Terri and I pledge to be beyond tithe givers to this ministry.

Dr. Tom

## From Our Stewardship Ministry Team Leader

God is amazing! He continues to faithfully provide for this ministry in spite of the difficult economic times. I have always believed that God blesses Lakewood because Dr. Smiley and our great staff are faithfully and intentionally following His will for this ministry. Serving on the Stewardship Team, I have seen first-hand that not only are they focusing our resources on God's work, but with the leadership of Dr. Smiley, Don Ormsbee as Executive Pastor and Gloria Prestridge as Controller/Administrator, they do so in a very conservative and financially responsible way.

Did you know that every ministry has delivered favorable spending to budget this fiscal year at an overall average of 8%? Did you know this is despite a reduction in their budgets from last year's budget on average of 3%? I think you'd agree that they have done so without a reduction in the scope, breadth and depth of their ministries.

How did they do it? I believe in large part it has come at great personal sacrifices made by each of them and their families to do more with their time and energies with less financial provisions. To a man (and woman), they are committed to this ministry and are deserving of our love, respect, support and appreciation. I'd encourage you to write a note, send an email, take them to lunch or somehow show those who impact you how

much you appreciate all that they have done this past year. Your encouragement is a way for you to represent God's affirmation of the work they do.

Thanks to your faithful giving and the staff's responsible use of your gifts, we have been able to continue to reduce our indebtedness on the land and buildings. During this fiscal year, we made principal payments of over \$500,000, reducing our debt to approximately \$1.6 million.

On behalf of the Stewardship Team, let me say thank you for your continued financial support of this ministry. I believe I also speak for each of them when I say that serving on this team has made me even more confident that my family's tithes are being faithfully and responsibly used for the benefit of God's kingdom.

Serving and Giving With You,

Mark Brown  
Stewardship Team Ministry Leader

**Previous Church Year Budgets**

2004/2005	\$3,053,973.00
2005/2006	\$3,507,785.00
2006/2007	\$3,900,681.00
2007/2008	\$3,867,751.00
2008/2009	\$4,050,924.00
2009/2010	\$4,000,000.00
New Year Recommendation: 2010/2011	\$4,000,000.00

**2010/2011 Proposed Budget**

	<b>2010/2011 Proposed Budget</b>	
I. Missions Mission giving is 11.5% of undesignated receipts	\$614,736.00	
II. Children's Outreach	\$364,031.00	
III. Student Outreach	\$419,566.00	
IV. Adult Discipleship	\$316,438.00	
V. Worship Ministry	\$370,632.00	
VI. Buildings, Grounds, Facilities	\$566,957.00	
VII. Technology Matters	\$134,860.00	
VIII. Pastoral Care	\$104,230.00	
VIII. Executive Staff	\$525,287.00	
IX. Administrative	\$343,263.00	
<b>Total Program Expenses</b>		<b>\$3,760,000.00</b>
X. Debt Retirement 4 percent of budget	\$160,000.00	
XI. Capital Improvement Reserve 1.5 percent of budget	\$60,000.00	
XII. Technology Capital Reserve .50 percent of budget	\$20,000.00	
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>\$4,000,000.00</b>

**Each program expense includes personnel expenses of salary, benefits and program expenditures.**

# Building Debt Report

It is hard to believe that 12 years ago we began the building process on this campus. A few years prior to that building process, diligent attention was given towards locating and purchasing the original acreage (and 12 additional acres after that).

It seems like just yesterday when Martha Simmons and Rusty Hopkins first presented our financial plan for new construction. I remember so well the faith we demonstrated when we first proposed a five million dollar project and then an additional project of over nine million dollars. My, we have seen God's hand at work in *Committed to Vision, Fulfilling the Vision, and For This Reason. . . . We B.U.I.L.D.*

We had anticipated that we would be servicing a debt of over three million dollars at this point in time. Instead, we have paid on principle this fiscal year over \$500,000, and our present land and facility indebtedness is \$1,614,300. I cannot wait for the day (soon and very soon, I believe) when we will be debt free as a fellowship. What a testimony of God's greatness and resource that will be!

We are so blessed that many in this congregation continue to give beyond the Lord's tithe toward reducing our indebtedness. Many folks also use the building fund as a recommendation for gifts in honor and memoriam for those people who have impacted lives.

I was honored to accept a call to serve the Lakewood Ministry in 1990. At that time, the church was located at its former location. We had a building indebtedness then of approximately \$700,000. Today we are enjoying new facilities and state-of-the-art ministry space all on a campus that is absolutely gorgeous. I am confident that many of us will see our debt soon fall below that 1990 mark and eventually down to \$0.

Let's continue to trust God and learn the lesson, "Where God guides, HE always provides!"

Dr. Tom

# Appendix

# Deacon Ministry 2011-2013

## 2011 Panel

Mike Allen  
Harry Allison  
Ben Bahnsen  
Jeff Branyon  
Ken Brown  
Jeff Chandler  
Steve Cronin  
Lee Darragh  
Zack Dillard  
Greg Frankum  
Robert Kearney  
Don Landrum  
Charles Lewis  
Jim Lee  
Jimmy Lee  
Bobby Miller  
Jonathan Nix  
Kris Nordholz  
Stacey Reece  
Don Waldrip  
Joe Weber  
Ron Whiting

## 2012 Panel

Jeff Barrett  
David Baston  
Neal Booth  
Robin Callahan  
Marty Cape  
Jim Draffin  
Curtiss Ford  
Rodney Free  
Randy Goss  
Jerry Ingram  
Joey Leverett  
Danny Osborne  
Mark Owen  
JJ Wiley  
Jim Wilhoite  
Joel Williams

## 2013 Panel

Warren Almand ^  
Mike Beard ^  
Tim Bollinger \*  
Tommy Bowers \*  
Daniel Caldwell ^  
Chuck Carter \*  
Geoff Chaffin ^  
Gary Copeland \*  
Tim Elliott \*  
Gary Gaddy ^  
Dan Gunyon ^  
Matt Hamby ^  
Jimmy Henson \*  
Bill Holcomb \*  
Dennis Hollifield \*  
Tilmon Kinney \*  
Shane Lazenby ^  
Jimmy Martin \*  
David McKinley \*  
Lowell McNeal \*  
Dick Mecum \*  
Wes Owenby ^

\* Returning Lakewood Baptist Church Deacon

+ New Deacon already ordained

^ New Deacon to be ordained

## Deacon Ministry Recommendations

### \*Deacon Ministry Leadership:

Ministry Team Leader: TBA  
Assistant Ministry Team Leader: TBA  
+ Secretary: TBA

### Panel Representatives:

#### 2011

Zack Dillard  
Jonathan Nix  
Stacey Reece

#### 2012

TBA \_\_\_\_\_  
Jerry Ingram  
Mark Owen

#### 2013

TBA \_\_\_\_\_  
TBA \_\_\_\_\_  
TBA \_\_\_\_\_

### Former Ministry Team Leaders on Deacon Leadership Council:

Reg Girdharry, Mark Brown, Phil Hudgins

+ Ex officio

\* The Deacon Ministry selects its leadership at the first meeting in August, 2010.

**LAKWOOD BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**FINANCIAL REPORT**

For the period: May 1, 2010 - July 31, 2010 \*

**Operating Budget**

	QTD ACTUAL	QTD BUDGET	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
<b>Receipts:</b> Tithes and Offerings	<b>884,946.71</b>	<b>902,363.96</b>	<b>3,980,779.81</b>	<b>4,000,000.00</b>	<b>4,000,000.00</b>
<b>Expenses:</b>					
Children's Outreach	98,337.03	97,810.24	320,604.28	375,135.00	375,135.00
Student's Outreach	95,457.81	99,668.08	344,205.98	369,151.00	369,151.00
Adult Discipleship	62,341.30	64,256.47	251,407.11	292,836.00	292,836.00
Worship Ministry	89,986.69	91,113.58	333,759.14	359,141.00	359,141.00
Buildings, Grounds, Facilities	107,771.49	137,066.44	483,527.19	557,176.00	557,176.00
Technology	25,831.40	34,656.87	141,423.70	162,607.00	162,607.00
Pastoral Care	887.37	505.60	6,038.69	4,753.00	4,753.00
Executive Staff	117,560.41	131,906.92	441,563.07	516,610.00	516,610.00
Administrative	63,272.39	77,661.05	255,682.74	316,006.00	316,006.00
<b>Total Operating Budget</b>	<b>661,445.89</b>	<b>734,645.25</b>	<b>2,578,211.90</b>	<b>2,953,415.00</b>	<b>2,953,415.00</b>
Missions					
Gifts	97,162.27	99,260.03	407,621.58	440,000.00	440,000.00
Programs	25,914.83	33,789.81	116,023.02	130,503.00	130,503.00
Debt Retirement	35,773.39	36,545.73	150,078.84	162,000.00	162,000.00
Facilities Reserve	7,826.51	7,895.68	13,051.66	35,000.00	35,000.00
Technology Reserve	4,472.29	4,511.82	7,458.09	20,000.00	20,000.00
Contingency (Program/Personnel)	67,687.76	50,294.07	118,409.99	259,082.00	259,082.00
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>900,282.94</b>	<b>966,942.39</b>	<b>3,390,855.08</b>	<b>4,000,000.00</b>	<b>4,000,000.00</b>
<b>Capital Expenses: Non Budget</b>			42,573.29		

\* Please note the information for July, 2010 is estimated.

# Notes