



THE LOMAX CHURCH OF CHRIST MESSENGER

A place to belong. A place to be loved. A place to serve God and others.

January 3, 2021

www.lomaxchurch.com

Volume 66, Number 1

Despair and Diligence

2021 is upon us. Are you so glad to have 2020 in our rear-view mirror? Only God knew what 2020 would hold for us and for the whole world. Among the worst things that have happened in 2020 is that church attendance has continued to shrink in this country. Unfortunately, $\frac{1}{3}$ of church attenders have stopped attending services in person or online. Furthermore, the most recent Barna poll revealed that only 25% of Americans could be described as “a practicing Christian.”

I am thankful for 1 Kings 19:18 when God reminded Elijah that “I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all that have not bowed to Baal and every mouth that has not kissed him.” As Paul said, “In the same way then, there has also come to be at the present time a remnant according to God’s gracious choice” (Rom 11:5). Even though many have tried to cast God aside, God has not rejected his people.

For those who choose to be faithful, be diligent. “Do not be conceited, but fear; for if God did not spare the natural branches, He will not spare you, either. See then the kindness and severity of God; to those who fell, severity, but to you, God’s kindness, if you continue in his kindness; for otherwise you too will be cut off” (Rom 9:21-21). The world doesn’t offer “a better deal” or a better life. Stay with God. “Seek the Lord while he yet may be found” (Is 55:6).

Finally, keep sharing the Word. As soon as Elijah had received the reassuring message of God’s remnant, “he found Elisha...and Elijah came over to him and threw his cloak on him” (1 Kings 19:19). In Elisha God provided a helper, a disciple, and a future. Go find your “Elisha.” Go find the one God has provided to be your student and your successor. Go and make disciples. The future is as bright as God’s promises. Trust him. Serve him.

D. L. DeBord

Welcome to Lomax!

A special welcome to our guests!

We are glad to have you visiting with us today! You are welcome here. We know you have a choice of where to worship, and you chose to be with us today — thank you.

At Lomax we want to be the church we read about in the Bible. Our goal is to glorify God with our worship and with our lives and to point people to Jesus Christ.

If you need anything during the service, ushers in the lobby can direct you to restrooms, the nursery, or a telephone. Please do us the favor of filling out a blue card located on the back of the pew in front of you. If you have any questions or if we can help

For the convenience of our members, due to the recent virus outbreak, you can mail in your weekly contribution. The address is:

Lomax Church of Christ
P. O. Box 33



In Our Thoughts & Prayers

Sick: **Lovada Burklow** is now at home and continues to take her therapy. **Bob Burklow** is home recovering from the double pneumonia. **Alice Ammons** will have knee replacement on January 11th. **Mike O'Brien** will begin chemotherapy treatments on January 5th. Please keep Mike and his family in your prayers. **Lennox Riley**, daughter of Lee & Rachel Riley had surgery on December 29th. **Ian Carroll**, the son of Wesley & Amy Carroll had successful shoulder surgery and will have physical therapy in 1 month. **Ruby Hinson**, the mother of Tracie Lomax is at home following surgery. **Ronnie Tiller**, the brother of Lynn Tiller had a stint put in for a blockage and is now home and doing well. **Steve Waller** of Macon, Georgia is in ICU with the Covid Virus. Steve was supported by Lomax during his mission work in Indonesia. He is a close personal friend of Gary Hinson and the Hinson family as he preached the funeral of Tiny Hinson.

Please keep all those of our number as well as friends and family that have had to endure the Covid-19 virus.

Please keep all the **patients, nurses and administration** at our nursing home during the pandemic in your prayers.

Sympathy: to the family and friends of **Dylan Brugmann**, the grandson of Jim & Sharon Grinder. A celebration of life will be held Saturday, January 2nd from 12:00—6:00 at NACO.

Sympathy: to the family and friends of **Ann Anderson**, the sister of Faye Chandler. Her funeral was held Wednesday, December 30th.

Continue to remember: **June Bates**—Life Care of Centerville, **Nell Bunch**, **Lovada Burklow**, **Jean Curry**, **Barbara Eglinton**, **Rochelle Ely**, **Dustin Flowers**, **Jana Grimes**, **Janice Johnston**, **Jane Lawson**, **Freida Lewis**, **Jennie Martin**, **Mike O'Brien**, **Richard Whitehead** and **Charles Williams**

Shut-ins: **Sharon Edwards**, **Michael Gray** and **Jimmy Griner**

In Lewis County Nursing & Rehab Center: **Michelle Huff**, **Tommy Shaw**, and **Betty Stafford**.

Remember our military: **Dustin Brugmann** (grandson of Jim & Sharon Grinder), **Kerry Conkle** (grandson of Ralph & Sue Conkle), **Jacob Fite** (nephew of Tommy & Sandra Clayton), **Cameron Hardison** (nephew of Don & Barbara Meredith), **Ethan Hardison** (nephew of Don & Barbara Meredith and **Brent Willis** (grandson of Harold & Janice Sublett).



Food For Friends:

January 7th

Team 7 (Cynthia & Betsy)

If anyone can help deliver meals, be at the CSC at 10:30 am



**Food
for Families**

Our monthly Food for Families distribution is **Thursday, January 21st**

If you have not brought your grocery items in, please do so by Wed. morning if possible.



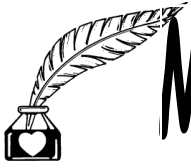
A LOOK AHEAD

Feb. 7-11—FHU Lectureship will be Virtual—Finding Meaning in a Meaningless World
fhu.edu/lectureship

BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION:

Who said, "My kingdom is not of this world"?
(answer next week)

KNOW YOUR BIBLE



Meditations with Malcom

A special welcome to all our visitors. We are glad you have come our way. Remember that Lomax is truly a growing church for a coming Lord. And remember that The Son always shines at Lomax And we count everyone because everyone counts.Thanks to Donnie for his excellent lesson this past Sunday and thanks to our elders for the very special leadership.... "Study to shew ourselves approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth"—2 Tim. 2:15""And thanks again for our excellent attendance this past Sunday.

ON THE LIGHTER SIDE; Keeping husbands in hot water does not make them tender...Proper laughter to a man or woman is like oil to a machine....A fool with money to burn soon meets his own match.....He may have a right to criticize if he has a heart to help.....No man can borrow enough to get out of debt....IF YOU willfully missed your last Sunday on earth, how can you expect your first Sunday in Heaven....

THOUGHTS TO START A DAY; "This is the day that the Lord hath made and let us rejoice and be glad in it....."The Lord is on my side and I will not fear what man shall do to me....."Precious in the sight of the Lord are the death of His saints....Gossip can be deadly....Avoid it.....

Boo's Belyeu

There is some excitement for many people especially younger folks as a snow is forecast. The weather channel forecaster was telling about his daughter in Atlanta seeing snow. It rarely snows in Atlanta. She was running around the yard screaming ecstatic. The bible speaks of snow in a wonderful way. We could say it is worth screaming and being ecstatic about it. In part of Isaiah 1:18 "says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;" Psalms 57:7 gives us these words as King David remembered his sin, after being confronted by the prophet Nathan, "Cleanse me with hyssop, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow." In the New Testament we see our sins being forgiven, washed we could say, and yes making us white as snow. Acts 2:38 "And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 22:16 And now what are you waiting for? Get up, be baptized and wash away your sins away, calling on his name." 1st John 1:7 "But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin." The next time it snows think of how white/clean Christ has made us by the shedding of his blood.

What Will You Do With The New?

Toward the end of the year, we begin to focus on the "new." We enjoy giving and receiving "new" presents, and we look forward to the hope of a "new" year. A blank calendar page represents fresh opportunity, but what will we do with it?

Hezekiah was known as a man who received renewed opportunity from the Lord. A godly king, Hezekiah destroyed the idols in Judah (2 Kings 18:4) and trusted God (2 Kings 18:5-6). When Assyria came knocking on the door threatening to destroy Jerusalem, Hezekiah prayed (2 Kings 19:15-19), and God spared Judah. When Hezekiah fell ill, and God told him that he would not survive, Hezekiah again went to the Lord in earnest prayer, and God extended his life by 15 years (2 Kings 20:1-6).

Two challenges in Hezekiah's day were overcome by going to God in prayer. The nation now had renewed hope, and Hezekiah especially should have been filled with new enthusiasm for the future after God spared his life.

However, when a third challenge presents itself, Hezekiah seems to display resignation and selfishness. Isaiah reveals to him that Babylon would soon come and take away the wealth of Judah, as well as Hezekiah's own descendants (2 Kings 20:16-18). Instead of meeting this challenge with more prayer, Hezekiah says, "The word of the Lord which you have spoken is good!" and "Will there not be peace and truth at least in my days?" (2 Kings 20:19). Hezekiah was given new opportunities, but he was content to live with his personal blessings, and gave no prayer for the future generations.

As Christians, we have been cleansed by the blood of Christ, and walk in newness of life. We've had our lives extended eternally! But what about the lost around us? What about future generations? Will we be content with our own salvation, and give no thought, prayer, or action for the salvation of others?

What will we do with the new?

*Matt Clifton
Judsonia church of Christ
Judsonia, AR*

BY THE NUMBERS
For the week of 12/27

A.M. Bible Class	N/A
A.M. Worship Service	145
P.M. Worship Service	N/A
Wednesday PM	59
Contribution:	N/A
Weekly Budget	\$6,000.00

Schedule of Services

Sunday Bible Study — 9:00 am
Worship Services — 10:00 am
Sunday Evening — 6:00 pm
Wednesday Primetimers - 10:00 am
Wednesday Bible Study — 7:00 pm

A LOOK AHEAD

The Elders met and made the decision to start back with our normal Sunday Bible Study and Worship as well as our Wednesday Bible Class on January 10, 2021.

Lomax
Church of Christ
931-796-5381

Email:
info@lomaxchurch.com

MINISTERS:

Donnie DeBord – 628-9276
Malcom George - 796-0045
Robert Pierce—306-3109
Jeff Spears—306-1362

**Lomax Christian Day
School**
796-7373

Last week's Know Your
Bible Answer:
King Ahab to Elijah
I Kings 18:17

Please check in the Christian
Service Center for Dishes that have
been left from various meals.



ELDERS:

Jeff Dye — 306-8463
John Eglinton—446-5646
Rick Morrow —615-430-6663
Mike Parker—628-2961
(Please leave a message)
Dan Spears — 796-3056

DEACONS

Lynn Ammons
(Worship Assign., Grounds)
Wesley Carroll
(Transportation, Day School)
Matthew Farr
(Special Events)
Colby Hamm
(Young Families Ministry)
Chris Hunter
(Visitation)
Greg Mullinicks
(Audio/Visual, Bulletin)
Chuck Oppermann
(Missions)
Jeff Spears
(Education)
Marty Spears
(Finance)



Tennessee Children's Home coin
cans will delay pick-up until we
come back to services. As you have
opportunity, you can start bringing
the coin cans back.

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