



# THE LOMAX CHURCH OF CHRIST M E S S E N G E R

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

December 4, 2022

www.lomaxchurch.com

Volume 67, Number 49

## Edenezer, Joy, and the Christian



A story familiar around this time of the year and one of my favorites is "The Christmas Carol" by Charles Dickens. The main character, Ebenezer Scrooge seems to be incapable of joy. Scrooge is rich, but he lives alone in squalor. He doesn't seem to find pleasure in anything and is indifferent to human suffering. On Christmas Eve, Scrooge is visited by a series of ghosts who take him on a journey of insight into his own character. They show him the chains and weights his sins have created in his life. The ghost of Christmas future is the most shocking vision of the three. In a gloomy graveyard, the spirit points his bony finger to lead Scrooge toward a headstone. Scrooge is commanded to wipe the snow off and read the name carved on it. The name is his own. Weeping and shaking, Scrooge pleads with this spirit: "Are these the shadows of things that will be... or are they the shadows of things that may be only? Why would you show me this if I was past all hope? Tell me that I may sponge out the writing on this stone." Can the past be removed? Humanly speaking, it's impossible. This is the human predicament. We are chained to our pasts, to things done and undone that cannot be changed. "If something is crooked, you can't make it straight. If something is missing, you can't say it is there." Ecclesiastes 1:15, NCV. The misdeeds of the past are like chains. Our sin is carved in stone- or so it seems. Scrooge awakens from his vision and discovers he is not dead. He still has time, the end may change. Without Jesus, what kind of hope is offered? "Many see only a hopeless end, but the Christian rejoices in an endless hope." At the end we see that Ebenezer Scrooge had joy. Nobody knew how to celebrate Christmas like Ebenezer Scrooge. Dickens titled this tale, "A Christmas Carol." A carol is a song of joy. May we see ourselves as Scrooge saw himself and then see what God has done for us in Christ and then respond to the gospel. Then and only then there will be great joy, forgiveness, hope, and true purpose.

Jon Hackett

## *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 you, please let us know while you are here or call 796-5381.

Saturday December 10th  
4:00—6:00 pm

*Community  
Christmas Dinner  
Toy and Coat  
Giveaway*

No cost for the meal. Bring your family, coat giveaway and picture with Santa with their toys.



**Sick:** Rocco Pierce is now home following successful cancer surgery. Betty Hinson fell this past week and will have a MRI December 12th. Peggy Flowers suffered a stroke but is now at home. Boyce Sims, the father of Beth Howard is now home following a stay in Maury Regional hospital with pneumonia. Jerry Yates is now at home following a lung biopsy. We have many who are sick at home as well dealing with flu symptoms. Please keep all our sick in your prayers.

*Sympathy to the friends and family of Margie Amacher, the mother of Greg Amacher. Graveside services were held Wednesday, November 30th.*

*Sympathy to the friends and family of Fada Clay. Funeral was held Thursday, December 1st.*

**Continue to remember:** June Bates—Life Care of Centerville, Nell Bunch, Lovada Burklow, Jean Curry, Lois Denton, Christy Dickey, Dustin Flowers, Malcom George, Ophelia Green, LaFon Griner, Bill Judkins, Gene Kilpatrick, Claire Mayberry, Terry McDonald, Doug Miller, Howard Miller, Joe Morton, Al Pogue, Sandra Pogue, Johnnie Faye Skelton, Barbara Tatum—Life Care of Centerville, Mike Tatum, Nadine Turnbow, Leona White, and Jerry Yates.

**Shut-ins:** Michael Gray and Jimmy Griner

**In Lewis County Nursing & Rehab Center:** Michelle Huff, Amy Ray 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), Brindan Jancuska (son of Dave & Tammie Tranovich), Jon Lower (friend of the Robersons) and Austin Pierce (grandson of Rocco & Debbie Pierce).



## Food For Friends: December 7th

### Team 4 (Betsy & Bonnie)

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, December 15th**

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

## Day School Donations

If you can help by supplying some of these items it will be greatly appreciated:

### Lysol Spray

Please put these items in the box in the church office in the foyer.



**December 3**—Kids Christmas Party

**December 4**—Adult Christmas Party

**December 10**—Community Christmas Dinner

**December 12**—Ladies Night Out

**December 16**—6th-12th Grade Christmas

**December 19**—Primetimers Brunch @ Boo & Rose Spears.

**December 19**—Christmas Caroling

## 2023

**January 1**—New Years Day

**January 29**—5th Sun. Cont.—Youth Fund



## ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 4th after the evening worship services at the home of Rick & Cindy Morrow  
Please bring finger foods and a gift to exchange.

## 6th—12th Grade Christmas Party—Dec, 16th

YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY  
BUS WILL PICK UP FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL (STUDENTS NEED PERMISSION FORM AT SCHOOL TO LEAVE WITH BRICE AND EMILY)

10-3:30 PARTY  
GOING TO MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL GAME AFTER PARTY



\* Sunday, December 18th  
Time & Place - TBA

for those in Secret Sisters or those who want to participate.

See Kara Farr for details.

## PrimeTimers

### Christmas BRUNCH

Monday, December 19th at 10:00

At the home of Boo & Rose Spears

Please sign up in the foyer or see Boo or Rose for details



Join Us for Caroling  
Christmas Caroling  
December 19th @ 5:00 pm  
See Kara Farr for details.

## BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION:

Who said, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world?"  
(answer next week)

### KNOW YOUR BIBLE



# Boo's Belyeu

What great opportunities are ahead for us for the entire month. The **Adult Christmas party** is tonight. There is guaranteed to be laughter, food, and dirty Christmas can't wait for the fun. Have you ever thought about how many times Jesus sat down to have a meal with others? Many good lessons came forth from these informal gatherings Luke 7:36-50 the parable of the 2 debtors, Luke 10:38-42 he told Martha what was really important, Luke 14:1-24 parable of ambitious guest and the great supper. On and on we could go of the miracles performed at feast (feeding 5,000; water to wine) and rebukes of those not living correctly (Luke 11:37-54 the Pharisees) and sympathy for the sinner (Luke 7:36-50 a woman washes his feet with her tears). 2<sup>nd</sup> Peter 2:13 and Jude 12 indicate a gathering of the congregation for fellowship. While we love to be together for worship, we likewise enjoy the fellowship for meals. Have a great week.



## It's Just How You Look at It



When I look at a cluster of dandelions, I see a bunch of weeds that are going to take over my yard. Children see flowers for the elderly neighbor lady or little white balloons that float in the wind as you blow on them.

When I feel wind on my face, I brace myself against it. I think of the cold winter to come. Children close their eyes, spread their arms and fly with it, until they fall to the ground laughing.

When I pray, I'm serious, I use formal words. I ask for healing, assistance, or forgiveness. Children in Sunday School say, "Hi God! Thanks for my toys and my friends and good things to eat."

When I see a mud puddle, I step around it. I see muddy shoes and floors that need to be mopped. Children sit in it. They see mud-houses to build, rivers to cross and worms to play with.

When I look at a homeless fellow and he smiles at me, I see a smelly, dirty person who probably wants money and I look away. Children see someone smiling at them and they smile back.

I wonder if we are given kids to teach...or to learn from.

No wonder God loves the little children, and Jesus says "unless you're like this little child..." (Luke 18:17).

*Larry Fitzgerald  
Woodlawn church of Christ  
Abilene, TX*

# LOMAX STUDENT MINISTRY



**DEC 16TH**

**YOUTH GROUP CHRISTMAS PARTY  
BUS WILL PICK UP FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL (STUDENTS NEED PERMISSION FORM AT SCHOOL TO LEAVE WITH BRICE AND EMILY)**

**10-3:30 PARTY  
GOING TO MIDDLE SCHOOL BASKETBALL GAME AFTER PARTY**

**DEC 19TH**

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING**

**IF YOU ARE GOING TO CYC AND DID NOT RECIEVE THE PAPERWORK YOU NEED TO SEE BRICE AND SAUL**



**December 21**—No Primetimers Class

**December 25**—No Bible Study or Sunday Evening Worship.

**December 28**—No Primetimers Class

**BY THE NUMBERS**  
For the week of 11/27

A.M. Bible Class	119
A.M. Worship Service	199
P.M. Worship Service	86
Wednesday PM	133
Contribution:	\$8,056.01
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 — 6:00 pm



*Ladies'  
Night  
Out*

**All ladies of the congregation are invited to Ladies Night Out at the home of Verlin George on Monday, December 12th @ 5:00 p.m. Please bring your Bible and a favorite dish.**

**Lomax  
Church of Christ**

931-796-5381

Email:  
info@lomaxchurch.com

**MINISTERS:**

Jon Hackett—251-295-1475  
Jeff Spears—931-306-1362  
Saul Calderon—817-905-5324  
Brice Van Hook—636-639-0153

**Lomax Christian Day  
School  
796-7373**

**Last week's Know Your  
Bible Answer:**

**Paul  
I Corinthians 15:3**



**Please continue to check out the Visitation Notebook in the foyer for updated information.**

**ELDERS:**

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

**DEACONS**

**Matthew Farr**  
(Special Events, CSC Scheduling)  
**Colby Hamm**  
(Young Families Ministry)  
**Chris Hunter**  
(Visitation)  
**Greg Mullinicks**  
(Audio/Visual, Bulletin)  
**Jeff Spears**  
(Education)  
**Marty Spears**  
(Finance)

**BE SAFE**  
From COVID-19



The Tennessee Children's Home Change for the Children Campaign is underway and need our help again this year. Please pick up a change boxes in the foyer. We will collect the boxes at the end of December.

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