



## 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 14, 2025

www.lomaxchurch.com

Volume 70, Number 50



### POWER FOR TODAY

**Jon Hackett**  
Pulpit Minister

### Christmas at the Crossroads – “Stay or Go?”

One of the most surprising parts of the Christmas story is who God chose to receive the first birth announcement of Jesus. Not kings. Not priests. Not influential leaders. Instead, heaven opened over a lonely hillside and delivered the message to shepherds, men considered unimportant, uneducated, and spiritually unclean. In that moment, God reminded the world that His grace is not reserved for the impressive, but offered freely to the ordinary.

Luke tells us that the shepherds were simply “keeping watch over their flock by night.” Nothing remarkable. Nothing spiritual. Just another work shift. Yet that’s exactly where God met them. And truth be told, that’s often where God meets us too, not in the extraordinary moments, but in the routine “fields” of everyday life.

After the angels departed, the shepherds faced a crossroads. They could have stayed in the field. They had plenty of excuses: They were tired... busy... uncertain... and probably felt unworthy of such a holy invitation. But instead of staying where they were, they said, “*Let us go to Bethlehem.*” And that decision changed everything.

Their obedience led them to Jesus. Their encounter with Him filled them with joy. Their experience overflowed into worship and bold witness as they “made known the saying that had been told them.” The message for us is simple: God invites each of us to leave the comfort of our familiar fields and take steps toward Him. Maybe your “field” is routine, fear, excuses, or feeling unworthy. But like the shepherds, you don’t have to stay where you are.

This Christmas, choose to move toward Jesus. Take the next step of faith. Don’t let anything keep you in the field when God is inviting you to Bethlehem.

**Will you stay... or will you go?**

Jon Hackett

### Welcome to Lomax

#### 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, or the nursery.

Please fill out a blue attendance card located on the back of the pew in front of you or scan the QR Code to the right. If you have any questions or if we can help you, please let us know while you are here or call our church Office at (931) 796-5381.

(Scan QR Code with your  
phones camera and follow the  
link)





**Sick:** *Andy Meredith*, the son of Don & Barbara Meredith has been had successful cancer surgery. Anyone wanted to send cards to Andy Meredith the address is 1339 Waterton Court—Grayson, Georgia 30017. **Debbie Rasbury** will have major surgery soon with a long recovery time. **Gayle Yates**, the mother of Sherrie Anderson is now at home doing better. **Bill Tranovich**, the father of Dave Tranovich will be placed on hospice. **Jeanna Yates**, sister-in-law of Sherrie Anderson is in Vanderbilt Hospital following a liver transplant

**Sympathy:** To the family and friends of **Charlie Dugger**. Funeral was held Sunday, December 7th at McDonalds. Burial in Downey Cemetery.

**Continue to remember:** Lavada Burklow, Andrew Darden, Dustin Flowers, Peggy Flowers, Wilma Harris, Braden Hinson, Awny Jadon, Ann McDonald, Howard Miller, Lillie Mitchell, Jeremy Pierce, Debbie Rasbury, Dennis Reyneolds, David Riley, Marcia Runtions, Riley Stutts, and Bill Tranovich.

**Shut-in:** Jimmy Griner.

**In Lewis County Nursing & Rehab Center:**  
Michael Gray, Michelle Huff, Eliese Skelton, and Betty Stafford.

**Remember our military :** **Dustin Brugmann** (grandson of Sharon Grinder), **Ian Clement** (grandson of Hershel & Sherrie Anderson), **Kerry Conkle** (grandson of Ralph & Sue Conkle), **Brindan Jancuska** (son of Dave & Tammie Tranovich), **Jon Lower** (husband of Paige Roberson) and **Austin Pierce** (grandson of Rocco & Debbie Pierce,



Please keep in mind that our Christmas Eve. Service will be moved to Tues. Dec. 23rd. Our New Years Eve service will be held on December 30th. Also, Food for Friends will not meet on December 25th or January 1st. Resume on January 8th. Primetimers will not meet on December 24th or December 31st.



**Food For Friends:**  
**December 18th**  
**Team 5 ( Kay & Kathy )**

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



**Food for Families**

Our monthly Food for Families distribution is

**Tuesdy. December 16th**

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



**UPcoming EVENTS**

- December 17**—Primetimer Christmas Breakfast Meal @ CSC beginning @ 4:00
- December 18**—Secret Sisters Party
- December 26-27**—Cleaning in the CSC
- January 8**—Leadership Breakfast at the CSC @ 6:00 pm
- January 15—17**—Men's Retreat
- January 27-28**—Day school trip to Library

**BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION:**

What Bible heroine did King Ahasuerus promise half of the kingdom?  
(answer next week)

**KNOW YOUR BIBLE**





## *Boo's Belyeu*



December 17<sup>th</sup> don't forget the  
Primetimer Breakfast meal at 4PM in  
CSC. New schedule for 2026 to be  
handed out.



### **YOUTH UPDATES**

#### **5TH GRADE AND UNDER PARTY**

December 14th  
4:00pm-5:30pm

Games and snacks before  
evening services. Bring a  
under five dollar gift for gift  
exchange.

#### **6TH-12TH GRADE DEVO AND PARTY**

December 19th  
10:00 am- 3:00 pm

Leaving from school to lunch and  
then back to the church for games  
and a white elephant gift exchange.  
Bring money for lunch and a gift  
under ten dollars for an exchange.

### **CYC**

February 20-22  
Sign up in Foyer

\$90 per person  
Deposit (half of payment) due by  
December 31st.  
Other half due by January 31<sup>st</sup>

Scholarships are available to help  
pay for trips. See Brice.

*Sign-up in the lobby for  
youth group  
sweatshirts/hoodies  
(cost \$30)*

## **Beautiful Wrapping, Empty Boxes**

This time of year, it is common to  
see empty boxes sitting out as deco-  
rations in stores and at events.  
These boxes are beautifully  
wrapped with colorful paper, rib-  
bons and bows. However, there is  
nothing inside.

Often, Children can't tell that there  
is no gift inside the packing, so they  
ask: "Is one of those gifts for me?"  
Of course, the answer is "no," The  
boxes are just for show.

Some Christians are like those  
packages. Outside, they look like  
devoted people but inside they are  
empty of the spirit and love that  
once inspired them. This is not  
what God wants for our lives.

God wants us to be sincere in our  
devotion to him.

Behold, thou desirest truth in the  
inward parts: and in the hid-  
den *part* thou shalt make me to  
know wisdom. (Psalms 51:6 KJV).

In all things shewing thyself a  
pattern of  
good works: in doctrine *shewing*  
uncorruptness, gravity, sincerity,  
(Titus 2:7 KJV).

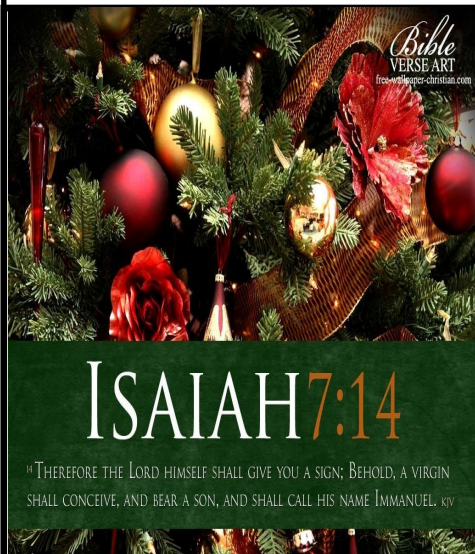
*Larry Fitzgerald  
Woodlawn church of Christ  
Abilene, TX*

**BY THE NUMBERS**  
**For the week of 12/02**

A.M. Bible Class	139
A.M. Worship Service	221
P.M. Worship Service	84
Wednesday PM	139
Contribution:	\$10,946.30
Weekly Budget	\$9,000
December Lord Supper	Larry & Sandy Tatum

**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



**Lomax**  
**Church of Christ**  
931-796-5381  
Email: info@lomaxchurch.com

**MINISTERS:**

Jon Hackett—251-295-1475  
Jeff Spears—931-306-1362  
Brice Van Hook—636-639-0153

**Lomax Christian**  
**Day School**  
**796-7373**

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

**Esther**  
**Esther 5:6**

**REMINDER**

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**

Lynn Ammons  
(Worship Assignments)  
Wesley Carroll  
(Transportation)  
Matthew Farr  
(Special Events, CSC Scheduling)  
Colby Hamm  
(Young Families Ministry, Audio Visual)  
James Howard  
(Security)  
Greg Mullinicks  
(Missions, Bulletin)  
Lee Riley  
(Men's Ministry, Education)  
Jeff Spears  
(Visitation)  
Marty Spears  
(Finance)  
Dan Toft  
(Maintenance)  
Brice Van Hook  
(Social Media, Directory)  
Jake White  
(Lads to Leaders)

**"MEN OF VALOR"**  
**Lomax Men's retreat**  
With Joshua Pappas  
January 15-17, 2026

**All Men Are Invited to Join Us!**  
Make your plans to join us for two awesome days of growing in our faith, fellowship, and bond as iron sharpens iron.

**The Cost: \$100 per person**  
**Cost includes:**  
Excellent Accommodations  
Meals  
Powerful Worship & Fellowship  
Activities: Fishing, Games, ATV TRAILS, AND MORE

Five Star Retreat  
8020 Oak Springs Rd.  
Hunnells, TN 37137  
www.lomaxchurch.com

**REGISTER**  
**SCAN QR CODE**

The Lomax Messenger  
Published weekly by the  
Lomax Church of Christ  
320 Darbytown Road  
Hohenwald, TN 38462