

Lomax Messenger



Published By
The Lomax Church of Christ
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Sunday, December 14, 2008

Welcome to Lomax!

Today is a special day and we're glad you're here with us. It's an extra special day for me because on this day 12 years ago, Heather stood beside me and vowed that we would stay together in good times and bad, sickness and health, for richer or poorer as long we both shall live. We've had our share of bad times, sickness and the poorer side of the equation, but we have been blessed with many good times, good health, and a measure of wealth that meets all our needs and many of our wants. God has been good to us and I am so thankful every day for the wonderful wife He has given me.

We had a wonderful time last Sunday night at the congregational Christmas party. Thanks to *Rick and Cindy Morrow* for hosting it and thanks to all of you who made it so much fun! There were several "interesting" gifts and many funny stories to tell!

Matthew Farr shared the news with us last week that we have gotten everything confirmed for a mission trip next summer to Menifee County, KY. We will leave Saturday, May 23 and return on Friday, May 29. The trip is open to anyone in the congregation, so if you would like to go, please see Matthew for more information.

Don't forget our Community Christmas Meal this Saturday! There are still several ways you can help. We have 48 turkey breasts here this morning that need to be cooked by Friday. There are also sign up sheets in the lobby for everything that needs to be done for this event. We plan to feed over 700 people this year so we need your help! Find your place and do your part! -*David*

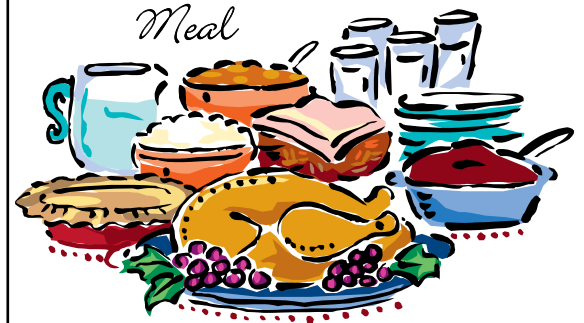
A special welcome to our guests!

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.

Community Christmas



This Saturday, December 20, from 4-6 pm we plan to feed at least 700 people who would not otherwise have had a Christmas meal or who would have been alone for the holidays.

- We need people to cook, serve, drive and clean up. Sign the sheets in the lobby for all areas where you can help.
- We have 48 turkey breasts that need cooked (you do not have to buy them). Sign up for as many as you can and pick them up **today**.
- There are also sign up sheets in the lobby for desserts.



COOKIE TINS

Please bring tins of Christmas cookies to the building and put them in the foyer. We will be delivering them next Sunday, December 21, at 1 pm.

Reminder —
Elders, Deacons, and
Preachers meet today at 4 pm.

In Our Thoughts & Prayers



Sick:

Aren Ragsdale was in a car accident Wednesday. He is home now and doing well.

Jimmy Willis is home from the Vanderbilt Trauma center and is recovering from a fall. He is also fighting an infection.

Dianna Owens had a pacemaker put in last week following her heart surgery. She is recovering at home.

Carmack Skelton did not get good news from his cancer tests. He is pursuing treatment options at Vanderbilt.

Ray Brown, father of *Trina Weeks* and *Lisa Tatum*, had knee replacement surgery last week.

Linda Grimes, niece of *Faye Kilpatrick*, is undergoing cancer treatments in South Carolina.

Continue to remember: *Brooke Duncan* (waiting on test results), *Cherry Guzy* (Epstein-Barr) and *Leon Kinzie*, (father of *Lawrence Kinzie*, cancer treatments).

Sympathy: We extend our sympathy to the family of *Carolyn Miller* who passed away on Thursday. Her funeral was Saturday.

Shut-ins: *Bessie Edwards*, *Sharon Edwards*, *Carma Edwards*, and *Jessie Mayberry*.

In Lewis County Manor: *Marguerite Bullion*, *Jennie Burdette*, *Osteen Hinson*, *Michelle Huff*, and *Zina Mae Turner*.

Remember our military: *Matthew Swinea*, *Andrew Rogers*, *Tim Baur* (civilian contractor in Iraq), *Justin Conkle* and *Kerry Conkle* (grandsons of *Ralph and Sue Conkle*), *Tommy Iverson* (son of *Tom Iverson*), *Dustin Bruggmann* (grandson of *Jim & Sharon Grinder*), *Bo Williams* (son-in-law of *Dale Overbey*), and *Matt Pfaff* (nephew of *Erik Pfaff*).

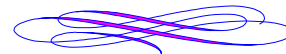


Nursing Home Decorations

This Wednesday, December 17, all K-12 grade young people will meet to make Christmas decorations for the residents of Lewis County Manor and our shut-ins. We will meet at 5:30 to make the decorations and deliver them next Sunday with the cookie tins.



If you would like to take part in the Secret Sister program next year, please see Kara Farr.



If you would like to contribute to a money tree for *Brianne* and *Austin*, you may give a contribution to *Rose Spears* or *Lori Hill* **today**.



A Look Ahead Put these dates on your calendar!

December 17 — Make Christmas decorations for the Nursing Home

December 20 — Community Christmas Meal 4:00—6:00pm

December 21 — Cookie Tin distribution

December 23 — Tuesday night devotional (No Wed PM service)

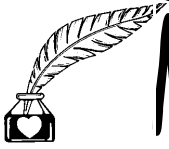
December 30 — Tuesday night devotional (No Wed PM service)

January 4 — Friends and Family Day

BIBLE RESEARCH QUESTION:

What Old Testament book is the second most quoted in the New Testament with 414 references? (answer next week)

KNOW YOUR BIBLE



Meditations with Malcom

A **SPECIAL WELCOME** to all our visitors! We are glad that you came our way. Remember our services tonight at 6:00 and on Wed. at 10 AM and 7 PM...We remind the elders and wives of our annual meal at our house this Monday night at 6:00...The Primetimers are reminded of our birthday pizza following class this Wed. morning...and the help of all is needed in the area wide Christmas meal at Lomax this Saturday the 20th. Thanks in advance to area congregations for excellent support...The following was sent to me including how to respond to a Christmas gift that you don't like:



A Gift That Never Needs To Be Exchanged...

You may receive some unusual gifts and you won't know how to come up with the proper response. One told about receiving an orange tie with purple stripes. Another a battery operated radish peeler. Regardless, a polite response is always necessary so what can we say? One person responded to food he didn't like by saying *"The food you sent didn't last long at our house."* Another responded to gifts

by saying *"This is the year that I give any extra gifts I receive to charity."* And the number one response was the following: *"I don't really deserve this."*

Mac Layton in the Preacher's Periodical has a special series on **Giving** and emphasizes the Marvelous Macedonians (2 Cor. 8) as an example to all. They gave out of deep poverty and even gave generously but their motive is found in verse five... *"And not only as we had hoped, but they first gave themselves to the Lord, and then to us by the will of God."*

We all like to receive gifts and enjoy receiving such at this season and through the year. Our Lord also reminds us that even though we should know how to receive, the greatest blessing is the joy of giving (Acts 20:35). Also, we are not to neglect to pass on by word and example the greatest gifts that will never need to be exchanged. This comes automatic if we first give ourselves wholeheartedly to the Lord.

On The Lighter Side: A minister congratulated a lady on her golden wedding anniversary for living so long with the same man. "But he is not the same man he was when I first got hold of him," she replied. The minister questioned the husband to see if he and his wife had words. Yes, he said that he even had words but didn't get a chance to use them

Sentence Sermons A day of worry is more exhausting than a week of work....Ten rules for getting rid of the blues: Go out and do something for someone else—and repeat it nine times....Age is a matter of mind over matter. If you don't mind it doesn't matter.

BY THE NUMBERS
For the week of 12/7

A.M. Bible Class	
A.M. Worship Service	224
P.M. Worship Service	123
Wednesday PM	158
Contribution:	\$4,358.66
Weekly Budget	\$5,700.00

**Last week's Know
Your Bible answer:
The book of Isaiah**

Schedule of Services

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

**Lomax
Church of Christ**
931-796-5381

David Salisbury - Minister

Malcom George - Minister

ELDERS:

Richard Amacher

Steve Edwards

Dave Guzy

Bill Lawson

Rick Morrow

Dan Spears

Yogie Spears

DEACONS:

Greg Amacher — *Maintenance*
J.W. Churchwell—*Transportation,*
Facilities

Ralph Conkle — *Maintenance*
Jeff Dye — *Worship Assignments,*
Missions

Matthew Farr — *Missions*

Trent Hill — *Youth*

Pop Hinson — *Missions, Visitation*

Jeff Spears — *Education, Youth*

Larry Tatum — *Maintenance*

Walt Thompson — *Benevolence*

Lynn Tiller — *Facilities Usage*

The Last Word

...Christ in you, the hope of glory. Colossians 3:27

Old Navy and American Eagle aren't saying "Merry Christmas" this year because they don't want to offend people who don't celebrate Christmas. Several groups of conservatives and evangelical Christians have demanded a boycott of these stores. "Keep Christ in Christmas" is one of the rallying cries of the boycotters.

I'm all for Christmas. I even understand that many folks choose to celebrate the birth of Jesus during this time and I'm all for anything that makes people celebrate Jesus and read their Bible more. But here's what I don't understand: How can some Christians get so fired up about whether or not a store wishes them "Merry Christmas" versus the more generic "Happy Holidays" and not care that their neighbors don't know Jesus Christ? Again, I'm all for Christmas, and even for pressuring retailers to acknowledge the holiday, but that can't be the sum total of my acts of faith. If all I've done in the name of Jesus is refuse to shop at Old Navy, then something is missing in my Christian life. I don't expect there to be an Old Navy store in heaven. Christ didn't die for American Eagle. And even though they acknowledge and celebrate Christmas at Target and Bass Pro Shop, it won't be enough to get one of their stores put in just past the pearly gates. Here's my point:

Shouldn't I be more concerned about Christ in you and me than Christmas in Old Navy? Shouldn't I worry more about whether you worshiped in church Sunday, than whether you shopped in American Eagle?

Paul didn't say that having Christ in retail was the hope of glory. It is Christ in you that makes the difference. And while I am upset about stores that are opposed to Christmas, shouldn't I be more upset about the people who have yet to become a Christian? What if we could bring the same fire and energy to evangelism that we do to boycotts? How many lives could we change? A lot more than if we got Old Navy to say "Merry Christmas," that's for sure. So, in the words of the carol, I "wish you a Merry Christmas," but let me also ask you (in the words of the hymn), "Do you know my Jesus?"

-David

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