

**A Warm Welcome Awaits You
At These Assemblies**

Sunday Bible Study 9:00AM
Sunday Morning Assembly 10:00 AM

Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 PM

**Bible Classes for All Ages
Attended Nursery**

Opportunities to Serve: September 4, 2011

| | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Worship Leader | Rick Castleman |
| Lord's Supper: | Vernon Lowe |
| Servers | Tom Gilroy A.J. McElfresh |
| Rom Kellis IV | Gary Cottrell Mark Cox |
| Larry Baker | Davey Guill Mason Bridges |
| Elder Blessing: | Steve Izard |
| Sound: | Chester Warren |
| Greeters For September : | Bob & Margaret Kelley |
| Nursery (Infants- 2yrs): | Valerie Baker Hannah Baker |
| Nursery(2-3 yrs): | Anna Cockrum Heather Gonda |

| | | |
|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Shepherds | | |
| Jack Close | | 520-7821 |
| Phil Harrison | | 356-0084 |
| Steve Izard | | 356-5751 |
| Allan Whitacre | | 356-1026 |
| Ministry Leaders | | |
| Rob Brannan | Men's Ministry | 622-1372 |
| Mike & Kris Bridges | Hispanic Outreach | 657-7467 |
| Wayne Burress | Guest Relations | 520-4937 |
| Dennis Carter | Missions | 957-4625 |
| Sharon Carter | Fellowship | 957-4625 |
| Lance Daniel | Family Care | 996-4777 |
| Karyn Giles | Ladies Ministry | 520-4581 |
| A.J. McElfresh | Building Systems | 657-3695 |
| Ernie Oliver | Guest Relations | 957-5365 |
| John Turner | Grounds | 356-8153 |
| Corey Wisniewski | Finance | 951-8981 |
| Evangelists | | |
| Allen Close | Cell Phone (803) 622-2870 | 356-5934 |
| | E-mail: allenclose@Cnoevil.com | |
| Rick Castleman | Cell Phone (803) 727-3584 | |
| | E-mail: rick@lexingtonchurch.net | |
| Youth | | |
| Dawn Wisniewski | Cell Phone: (803) 348-0084 | 951-8981 |
| | E-mail: dawn@lexingtonchurch.net | |
| College & Young Adults | | |
| Keke Brooks | Cell Phone: (803) 447-5353 | |
| | E-mail: keke@lexingtonchurch.net | |
| Counselor | | |
| Karen Close | Cell Phone (803) 261-9889 | 520-7821 |
| | E-mail: KClose@sc.rr.com | |
| Secretary | | |
| Mary Turner | Cell Phone (803) 622-8895 | 356-8153 |
| | E-mail: Mturner356@sc.rr.com | |
| Church Office | | Missionaries / Guyana SA |
| Hours: 8:30-12:30 (M-F) | | Basil & Margaret Seeram |
| Phone: (803) 359-2002 | | Free & Easy/Leonora, |
| Fax: (803) 359-5734 | | Ronald Thompson |
| E-mail: office@lexingtonchurch.net | | Lima Sands, |
| Web: www.Lexingtonchurch.net | | rntom15@yahoo.com |
| | | Scheme Lot 26,Guyana SA |

| Weekly Statistics for August 28, 2011 | |
|--|--------------------|
| AM Bible Class | 89 |
| AM Bible Class Avg. | 108 |
| AM Assembly | 192 |
| AM Assembly Avg. | 213 |
| Contribution | \$14,846.96 |
| YTD Average Weekly Contribution | \$8,901.13 |
| Weekly Budget | \$9,815.38 |



LEXINGTON
Church of Christ

Caring people...growing to be like Christ

August 31, 2011 Vol. 34 No. 35

Failure

Every now and then I preach a sermon that has a lasting impact on me. I know that is a funny thing to say but it is true. It doesn't have much to do with whether I deliver it well or not it is the message that I am dealing with that has the impact. Last Sunday was one of those days. The sermon was titled "Abram and Sarai give God a hand." It dealt with Genesis chapter sixteen.

At first I intended to deal with the failure of Abram and Sarai to trust God but something just didn't feel right about doing that. As God led me beyond the obvious to something beyond that I landed on the truth that God is able to use our failures to challenge us and call us higher. The hard part is to not let our failure define us. Somehow Abram was able to keep trying to trust God and in the most difficult test, chapter twenty-two, Abraham succeeded and he is remembered as a success. This is despite the failure of chapter sixteen and another failure in chapter twenty.

Maybe my point is made when we consider how we think about Sarah. When I think of her I remember the failure in regards to Hagar and about her laughing when the Lord told them that they would have a child and how she lied about it when asked. I don't know how she figured in with Abraham's test of sacrificing Isaac. I tend to leave her with the label of her failures. I don't really think of her as a great woman of faith. I think I should expect that she too learned from her failures and grew stronger by the struggles she had as she also learned to trust God. That is just how life with God works. We wrestle and get knocked down but we get up and try again and in this process we are becoming stronger and more trusting sometimes without even knowing.

I don't think I really have to tell you how to apply this. It applies to your marriage if you are married. You are not always loving and sometimes you fail to love your spouse

To Our Friends: «AddressBlock»

Lexington Church of Christ
101 Ball Park Road
Lexington, SC 29072

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but even in the presence of failure you should trust that God is leading you forward and he is training you to love. If you have children you are trying to do in their lives what God is doing. You try to help them use failure and struggle to become mature in the Lord. At Church we need to show patience with each other and trust that God is at work and he is bringing change - Change that glorifies him.

So while God is working on us lets stop making final pronouncements on each other and ourselves and let God teach us to love.

Have a great week!
Allen L. Close

Lexington Coming Events

Bridal Shower

For Lauren Tingen and Chris Pike will be held at the church on Sunday September 18 from 2-4 pm. They are registered at Bed Bath and Beyond and Target.

Wednesday Night Events

Sept. 7 Service night at the church building 6:00 pm we will be trimming bushes, weedeating, general clean up of the grounds.

Sept. 14 Singing & visitation at Southlake 6:30 pm
Letter writing at the building 6:30 pm

Sept. 21 Volunteering at LICS 6:30 pm
Letter writing at the building 6:30 pm

Sept. 28 TBA

Change Cans for Southeastern Children's Home will need to be returned by September 25th.

Youth News

Anyone wanting to proclaim the glory of Christ to the ends of the earth must consider not only how to declare the gospel verbally but also how to demonstrate the gospel visibly in the world.

Radical by David Platt

Last weekend during my son's baseball tournament the team went out for dinner as we usually do after a long day of games. While we were waiting for a table, a man who was on his way out of the restaurant began talking to the boys about their tournament. He seemed to be very much amused by all their stories and play-by-plays. To our surprise, he offered to pay for the boys' dinner and explained to the boys the reason he wanted to do that for them. He said, "when you are blessed God desires for you to bless others." What a great impression this man left on these boys. I have a feeling they will never forget what this man did for them.

I happen to know that several of our teens are demonstrating their faith in similar ways. I have heard about a couple of our teens leaving their own lunch table at the high school to join a boy who was sitting all by himself. I know that one of our teens is coaching soccer and leading devotionals with young boys in the community. A few of our high school girls are taking our younger girls out for frozen yogurt, bringing dinner to some people, and visiting others in the hospital. And yet another is considering how to respond to the needs of a girl in her class that is dealing with an unfortunate situation at home. I am obviously very proud of the way our teens are demonstrating their faith in this world. I hope you all are blessed by these stories and inspired to think of ways that you too can demonstrate the gospel visibly in the world.

Upcoming Events:

9/4 New Quarter/Spiritual Disciplines class begins 9am

9/6 HS Girls Group 7:30pm

9/7 Service Night 6pm @ church

BIRTHDAYS: Sept. 4 Erma Izard Sept. 7 Micah Castleman Sept. 7 Luke Close
Sept. 7 Hannah Akers Sept. 7 Billy Mize

ANNIVERSARY: Sept. 4 Eddie & Alma Ulmer Sept. 4 David & Karyn Giles
Sept. 7 Phil & Miriam Harrison Sept. 10 Zach & Debbie Ross



Prayer Requests

Norm & Lynn Gaines Julia Furr Andrew Brown John Chandler Makonde Team

Jack Close is home from the hospital and still needs our prayers.

Jean Cottrell as she continues the chemo, that she will be able to tolerate it.

Marjorie O'Neal, Phyllis Bruff's mother. Please remember the family in your prayers.

Leanne Badeaux, remember her in prayer.

Connor Watkins for peace and comfort with God.

Heather Gonda asked for prayers for her family.

Sister Margaret in Guyana is not doing very well, please remember her in your prayers.

Chris Shedd, Ryan's brother is in jail in Georgia.