



# The Update

A publication of Lawrence Free Methodist Church

## Coming this Fall...

It's hard to believe that summer is almost over! VBS is over, summer camps have ended, summer missions trips are completed and vacations are coming to a close. School is just around the corner and the pace of life is getting ready to change. As we bid farewell to this summer, we look forward to what the fall has to offer at LFMC. We've got some great things in store for everyone in our church – children, teens and adults alike!

As you plan your schedule for the fall, we encourage you to take advantage of the opportunities to deepen your friendships with others in our church and to grow closer to God.

**Children's Ministries** is offering several new programs this year, in addition to Kids' Cove on Sunday mornings and CLC on Wednesday evenings. You can read about everything going on in Children's Ministries on pages 4-7.

**Youth Ministries** has several exciting things in store for our junior high, high school, and college students. Watch for more information in the bulletin!

Our Fall Kick-off is September 24. Not only will we have a huge party on the church lawn that afternoon, but we will also be launching our fall series, 40 Days of Community, which will be coupled with small groups for college students and adults. You can read more about *40 Days of Community* on page 3 and find out more about upcoming events in **Adult Ministries** on pages 2-3.

There's no doubt about it. Jesus looked at life through a different lens than we do. He made some pretty radical statements about what's important and what's not important. In this seven-part series, we'll explore several of these statements that are guaranteed to turn life upside down...

### New Sermon Series

- Aug 6: The Secret To Greatness
- Aug 13: You Are Invited...
- Aug 20: The Value of Marriage



- Aug 27: When Anger Wins
- Sept. 3: Forgive... But... Don't Forget
- Sept. 10: What Does God Want From Me?
- Sept. 17: How To Think About Money

## August 2006

### The Update

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### Church highlights

- New sermon series *Upside Down* starts Aug. 6.
- See what is coming this fall in adult ministries for men and women.
- Learn about the opportunities this fall for children of all ages.
- The church office will be closed Aug. 10-11 while staff attend a conference.

# Church News and Adult Ministries

## Letters to the Church...

### Pray for our Children

We must always be in prayer for our children. August means it is again time to gear up for the start of school. A new start is always exciting, but it may also be frightening. Any change can be difficult, such as changes in teachers, classmates, subject matter, and especially changes in schools.

Parents, we encourage you to take every opportunity to be involved in your children's education by knowing their teacher, assignments, friends, classmates, expectations, schedule, time limitations, and extra activities in and out of school. We all make time for the things that we think are important, and our children are our most important possessions.

The more that we know, the better we are able to pray for God's protection and help. We must not depend on our schools, publics or private, to teach our children the values they need to be able to face the problems of today's society. It is up to us as parents, friends, and church body to teach these God-given values.

Pray for guidance from God for our children and for us as the body of Christ.

— Free Methodist Prayer Team

### Contact The Update:

*The Update* is a monthly publication of Lawrence Free Methodist Church.

If you have **Letters to the Church**, please e-mail them to [update@lfmchurch.org](mailto:update@lfmchurch.org) or drop them into *The Update* box in the church office. The deadline for the next month's newsletter is the second Sunday of the previous month.



The current issue of *The Update* is available on our website at [www.lfmchurch.org](http://www.lfmchurch.org) by clicking on "News and Calendar." Printed *Update* newsletters are also available for pick-up in the foyer. As a cost-saving measure, we have discontinued mailing the Update unless you request it.

### Office Closed August 10th and 11th

The church staff will be at a Leadership Conference on Thursday and Friday, August 10-11, so the church office will be closed all day Thursday. On Friday the office will be open from 8:00 a.m. to noon and will be closed for the rest of the afternoon. If you have an emergency and need to get in touch with a pastor, please call the church pager at 691-0157.

### Worship Arts Retreat September 22-23

A Worship Arts retreat is planned for Friday evening, September 22 and all day Saturday the 23 at the church. All who have an interest in serving or are currently serving in any aspect of the worship arts ministry are invited to participate.

The retreat is not an overnight sleepover event, but we will meet Friday evening for dinner and activities and resume with a full day of instruction, planning, and other activities on Saturday.

There will be an online registration form soon, and more details will be released as the dates approach. Watch for details! For more information, please contact Doug Heacock at [dheacock@lfmchurch.org](mailto:dheacock@lfmchurch.org).

### Marriage Encounter Weekend September 8-10

Now is the time to sign up for the Marriage Encounter Weekend on September 8-10, 2006 in Leavenworth. Marriage Encounter helps to deepen and enrich the joy you have shared together whether you have been married for only a short time or many years. The projected cost of the weekend is \$200 per couple, which includes a room for two nights, five meals, and the weekend service and supply expenses. Further details are available in a brochure and registration at the Adult Ministry Station in the church foyer. If you have questions, call Pastor Rick at 842-2343.

### Men's Retreat September 15-16

We will kick off the retreat with a steak dinner from Longhorn Steakhouse. The special speaker is Bruce Hanlon from Cross Road Community Church in Boston, Mass. More information and registrations will be made available August 13.

# Adult Ministries

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## 40 Days of Community Coming this Fall

Two years ago our church took a 40-day journey together, learning about what it means to live a purpose-driven life. We discovered that God wants all His children to live lives of purpose, transformed by the power of God's grace. He wants us to be baptized as believers in Christ, welcomed into church fellowship, connected to a small group to learn how to be better disciples of Christ, taught how to approach God in sincere and authentic worship, and equipped for ministry and service to others. When we, as a church, are doing those things, we are living lives of purpose and helping others do the same.

Last fall we spent 50 days exploring what it means to have faith in Christ and, as a church family, were challenged to begin to trust God more and step out in faith to do great things for Him.

This fall we will go on another journey together – a journey that promotes community. Community doesn't happen automatically. And joining a church doesn't guarantee fellowship! You can attend church services your entire life and still feel lonely and discon-

nected. The Bible says, "You must learn to be considerate of one another, cultivating a life in common" (I Corinthians 1:10 MSG) Notice that fellowship is something we must learn how to do. It must be intentionally cultivated. The focus of this 40-day journey is on fulfilling God's five purposes of life together that we learned about in 40 Days of Purpose. We'll do this two ways: first, by deepening the community of love within our church family, and second, by reaching out in love to the community around our church family. Both are essential for a healthy, balanced, purpose-driven life.

Forty Days of Community will start September 24 and go through November 5. It is our hope and prayer that all college students and adults choose to get involved in a small group and choose to embrace what God has for them. Information about small groups will be available late August or early September. If you would like to host a small group in your home, please contact Pastor Rick at [rostrander@lfcchurch.org](mailto:rostrander@lfcchurch.org) or 842-2343.

## Upcoming Bible Studies for Women...

### **Living Your Life as a Beautiful Offering** **Tuesday evenings**

Author Angela Thomas encourages women to rekindle their hearts by returning their lives to God. Drawing on insights from the Sermon on the Mount, Angela outlines how Jesus gives us His compassionate instruction for everyday living and seeks to show women how their lives, though imperfect with blemishes and scars, can reflect back to God a true gratefulness for His love through daily surrender.

The introduction will be August 29th, and the study will meet 7-8:30 p.m. from Sept. 12th-Oct. 17th.

### **Breaking Free by Beth Moore** **Thursday evenings**

This is a video-based study of selected passages from the Book of Isaiah with personal study in prepa-

ration for weekly group discussions. This 11-week study draws several parallels between the captive Israelites and today's Christians, focusing on making freedom in Christ a daily reality.

There will be an introduction night August 24th, and the study will meet Thursday evenings from Sept. 7th – Nov. 9th.

### **Where in the World is Ecclesiastes?** **August 16th, 7-8:30 p.m.**

Women, if this question is difficult for you to answer, this is the class for you! Come join us for a one-time class where we will talk about how to find books of the Bible, look up passages, and discover the differences in various translations.

Equip yourself for Bible study! Join Jan Dyer in Rooms 24-25 on August 16th from 7 to 8:30 p.m.

# Children's Ministries



## Learning about Love in August

**Love** – Choosing to give someone your time and attention, no matter what.



Our theme for VBS was “Love,” and we will be covering that theme again in Kids’ Cove in August. Given that the greatest commandment is to love God and the second greatest is to love others, we are happy to provide children with another opportunity to consider how they can love God and love others. Each week we’ll present a different Bible story and teach kids one key point about love.

Our key points are:

**August 6:** The more you love God, the more you love others.

**August 13:** How we love each other is more important than how we do anything else.

**August 20:** Love is always quick to forgive.

**August 27:** Don’t just say you love; show you love.

A note to parents:

Each week your child will be given two pieces of pa-



### **11:15 Kids’ Cove and Preschool Classes Starting Sept. 24**

September 24 is going to be an exciting day in the life of our church. Not only is it our Fall Kick-off and the beginning of 40 Days of Community, but it’s also the day we start offering Kids’ Cove and preschool classes during our 11:15 service. Last fall both our preschool classes and Kids’ Cove small groups were busting at the seams. By offering another option for preschoolers and grade school children, we’ll be able to accommodate nearly 150 more children on Sunday mornings!

As you think about which service you want to attend, we encourage you to choose one of the times, either 9:45 or 11:15, and make that your regular worship time.

While it really doesn’t matter for the adults since both services are the same, it makes a huge difference for your children. Our children’s programs are based on relationships. All children are in small groups for a significant portion of their time in Kids’ Cove and our preschool classes. We believe that these small groups de-

### **Memory Verse:**

“ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’ ”

— Matthew 22:37-39

per in Kids’ Cove: a GodTime Card and a Refrigerator Card. The GodTime card has four short devotionals for you and your child to read through together. There are things to discuss and suggestions for things to pray for. The Refrigerator Cards help you review with your child throughout the week (during dishes, cooking, snack time or any other time you are in the kitchen with your child) what they are learning in Kids’ Cove. We provide these two tools so that you and your child can begin to have comfortable conversations about God. We strongly encourage you to take advantage of these tools.

velop relationships that are very important to spiritual growth. If these relationships are maintained, children will feel more comfortable coming to church and will make deeper friendships with the children at church. If families vary when they come to church, the children won’t be able to connect deeply with small group leaders or other children, which will make it more difficult for them to feel comfortable.

More information about this change is forthcoming. In the meantime, we encourage families to be thinking about which service they would like to attend.

### **Kindergarteners Moving to Kids’ Cove Aug. 20**

On August 20 all new kindergarteners will be moving to Kids’ Cove. We encourage families to arrive at 9:30 that day to register their child for Kids’ Cove, to meet their child’s small group leader and help their child get settled in.

# Children's Ministries

**Wonderful Wednesdays**  
**One Great Evening, Two Great Programs!**  
**Coming August 30 to LFMC for children in grades K-6**

<p>Kingdom Kids Choir          6:00 – 6:55 p.m.          Fall 2006</p>	<p>Christian Life Club: Scouting With a Twist,          7:00 – 8:00 p.m.          August 30 – April 25</p>
<p>Kingdom Kids is an opportunity for children to use their talents of music and drama to work together as a team to prepare a full musical program at Christmas. This will be a great time to sing fun music, learn a script and put it together with actions and drama for an upbeat musical performance at Christmas.</p> <p>Rehearsals: Wednesdays, 6:00 – 6:55 p.m.          Dress Rehearsals: Wed., Dec., 13 6-8 p.m. &amp; Sat., Dec. 16 time TBD          Christmas Program: Sun., Dec. 17, 6 p.m.          Cost: \$5 per family for practice CD, collected in October. Scholarships available upon request.</p> <p>You can register online at <a href="http://www.lfmchurch.org/kids">www.lfmchurch.org/kids</a> or fill out a registration form at church.</p> <p>For more information, contact Vicki Case at <a href="mailto:kk@lfmchurch.org">kk@lfmchurch.org</a> or 690-7203.</p>	<p>Christian Life Club (CLC) is a Christian scouting club based on Luke 2:52, "Jesus grew in wisdom and stature and in favor with God and men." CLC follows this example and gives children the opportunity to experience wholesome spiritual, physical, mental, social and emotional growth through squadron activities, music, recreation and crafts.</p> <p>Club members earn badges that are presented in an Honor Council ceremony twice a year.</p> <p>Registration fee: \$10          Optional CLC t-shirt: \$8          Fees are collecting in September.          Scholarships are available upon request.</p> <p>Registration forms are available at church.</p> <p>For more information, contact Robin Jacobsen at <a href="mailto:clc@lfmchurch.org">clc@lfmchurch.org</a> or 841-6088.</p>

## Knights' League

### *Hear Ye! Hear Ye!*

All young men of the Kingdom who will be in third, fourth, fifth or sixth grade this year:

The King of Kings is looking for a few courageous warriors to fill positions in the King's Court! Your courage is needed to fight dragons, protect the King and your kingdom, and possibly rescue some damsels in distress (just kidding!). You will need courage to learn of God's truth and what it means to be a man of God in a world that doesn't know Him. You will need courage to participate in possible activities such as rock wall climbing, fishing, building castles, joust-

ing competitions, etc. Dads (or another adult) are invited to join you in this study because it is intended as a parent/child or relative/child activity.

Knights League is based on the book *Squire and the Scroll - A tale of the Rewards of a Pure Heart* by Jennie Bishop. It encourages integrity, purity and godliness in everyday life. There is a tuition fee of \$30 in addition to an optional workbook. There will be a few additional charges for some of the special activities. Monthly meetings are on the 3rd Saturday of the month, 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., through next May.

For more information, contact Robin Jacobsen at 841-6088 or [robin@printing-solutions.net](mailto:robin@printing-solutions.net).

# Children's Ministries



## Upward Basketball... Starting in January

An exciting new basketball league will be starting in our church in January for 1<sup>st</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> graders! This league is different from any other league in our city. If your child has never played basketball before, that's not a problem. If they've played a lot of basketball, they'll fit right in. There will be teams for both boys and girls.

Why is Upward Basketball so special? In Upward Basketball, we are committed to recognizing that every child is a winner by promoting character and self-esteem. We are a competitive league, yet we strive to provide a positive place for your child to grow and learn in the game of basketball and the game of life.

All children on Upward teams...

- play at least half of each game
- sit out for no more than 6 minutes at a time
- have several opportunities to be in the starting lineup
- play against people with similar ability
- have equal playing time
- have equal opportunity for improvement no matter their skill level
- receive an award after each practice and game
- receive End-Of-The-Year Awards
- will get to learn about how important they are to God and how to have a relationship with Him.

Registration forms for Upward will be available in the fall, but make plans now to have your kids and their friends participate in Upward. Our prayer is that God uses this program to as a major outreach opportunity to help us connect with new children and families in our community. The best way for that to happen is to have the children in our church sign up and get their friends who don't already go to church to sign up with them.

Many people, in addition to coaches, are needed to help make Upward a success. For example, we're looking for prayer warriors, data entry folks, referees, people to get the FLC ready for games and then set up for Kids' Cove afterwards, and people to share a short devotional during half-time at games. If you are interested



**Helping Children Heal from the Hurt of Divorce**

If you know a child hurting because of divorce, bring him or her to Divorce Care for Kids, a special place for kids ages 5-12 to find help and healing. At our weekly DC4K group, kids make friends with other kids who understand what it feels like when parents get divorced.

Our Divorce Care for Kids group combines games, crafts, activities, music and DVD dramas to create a fun atmosphere where children feel comfortable and accepted. At DC4K, kids find joy and hope built on God's love!

**Fall 2006 Session**

**Mondays 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.**

**September 11 – December 4, 2006**

**Leaders:** Mandy Grosdidier,  
Milisa Henderson, Janeen James

**Fall registration fee:** \$12,  
scholarships available

•**Registration** is available online at  
[www.lfmchurch.org](http://www.lfmchurch.org) or at the church office.

# Children's Ministries



## What's New In Our Early Childhood Ministry?

Over the next month or two, our early childhood wing is going to get a “**face lift**.” It will be transformed into **Waumba Land**, meaning “Land of the Creator.” Waumba Land will be an environment where our youngest children **experience the love of God** firsthand. In August, we will be launching our new preschool curriculum, My First Look, which will help children learn these three things: God made me, God loves me, and Jesus wants to be my friend forever. It's exciting to see preschoolers get a good foundation upon which their concepts of God and faith can be built.

As part of our new preschool program, we want to create a **comfortable place** where children have a consistent leader and experience a caring God. Children will learn to sing praises to Jesus, will hear interesting Bible stories, and will get to talk about what they are learning with their small group leaders and friends. They will also get to participate in crafts and activities that will reinforce what they are learning.

**A note to parents of preschoolers:** Each week your child will be given a Small Talk take-home paper. This paper includes a key question for you to discuss with your child, the bottom line (key point) of what was discussed in Waumba Land and a summary of the Bible story along with some tips for things to talk about with your child. We strongly encourage you to set aside time each week to use the Small Talk paper so you can have comfortable conversations about God with your preschooler.

**Getting Involved in Our Preschool Ministry:** If you love little kids and would like to make a significant difference in their lives, consider joining our preschool ministry team. We are looking for small group leaders for 3-year-olds, a music director who could serve every other Sunday and people to help in a variety of capacities when we start offering our preschool program during our 11:15 service. If you are interested, please e-mail Sarah LaDuke at [nursery@lfmchurch.org](mailto:nursery@lfmchurch.org).

## VBS Missions Project

This year our VBS missions project was for Philipino children who live in a little village called Maamot. Most families in Maamot cannot afford to send their children to high school because the nearest high school is 17 kilometers away and it costs approximately \$15 a month to pay to ride on a jeepney that will take them to school. We set a goal of raising enough money for 5 children to go to school for this next school year (\$750). When all the money was collected the VBS kids and their parents had given enough for 8 children to go to school (\$1200) for the whole year. Below are pictures of two of the eight children who will get to go to school next year because of the generosity of VBS children and their parents! Thanks to all who participated!



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Erwin

**Lawrence Free Methodist Church  
Sunday Morning Services and Programs**

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship  
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- 9:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
Pre-school classes  
Kids' Cove for children  
grades K-6  
Fuel 78 - grades 7 & 8  
Small groups for high school  
and adults  
.....
- 11:15 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
.....

Nursery is available 8:15 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

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**Church Office Information**

Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
Phone: 785-842-2343  
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Web: [www.lfmchurch.org](http://www.lfmchurch.org)



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# The Update

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Return Service Requested

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