

# The Update

A publication of Lawrence Free Methodist Church



## November: a time to celebrate!

### November 12th

On November 12th, we'll be celebrating how God has been working in our church this fall through **small groups** and other ministries. We have experienced in practical ways how we are **better together**. Come hear stories of changed **lives**, see children and adults working together to meet the needs of others, rejoice with those who are making a **public profession** of their faith through **water baptism** and **celebrate** God's gift of **salvation** to us through **holy communion**.

Two are better than one,  
because they have a good return for their work:

If one falls down,  
his friend can help him up.  
But pity the man who falls  
and has no one to help him up!

Though one may be overpowered,  
two can defend themselves.

A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

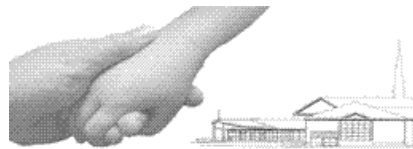
— *Ecclesiastes 4:9-10, 12*

### November 19th

We have a lot to be thankful for. On November 19th, we'll celebrate **God's blessing** on our church, the progress on our new children/youth facility, and look forward to how this facility will help us **reach the next generation** for Christ.

#### Reaching the Next Generation

It's hard to believe but we are fast approaching the one-year anniversary of our Stewardship Capital Campaign to construct the new children/youth wing of our church. One year ago our church family responded to God's clear leading to take this step in faith. *See Next Generation, Page 3*



REACHING THE NEXT  
GENERATION  
...carrying the vision forward

November 2006

The Update

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#### Church

##### Highlights

- See a note from the Prayer Ministry Team.
- Learn what Kids' Cove and Waumba Land are learning this month.
- Find out how you can help a small group with food pantry donations.
- Sign up now for the candlelight Christmas Dinner and Concert.

# Church News and Adult Ministries

## Letters to the Church...

Dear Friends at LFMC,  
Thank you for your kind thoughts and prayers during such a difficult time.

Sincerely,  
Megan and Jessica Bird



### Free Christmas Trees



Are you part of the Lawrence Free Methodist family? Would you like an Eastern Cedar Christmas Tree at no cost? These trees are fragrant and will last about three to four weeks after being cut with proper watering. Dan Fisher will deliver a tree to your home if you are currently unable to drive or physically unable to cut your own tree. This would be a great family outing. Contact Daniel Fisher at 785-331-7087 to schedule a time.

The staff has set December 9<sup>th</sup> as Christmas Tree Cutting Day at Dan Fisher's property for those who would like to cut a tree. We will leave from the church at 9:30 a.m. Bring a saw to cut your tree. Contact the office at 842-2343 if you plan to go.

### 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.

You are cordially invited to



### The 2006 Candlelight Christmas Dinner & Concert

Friday, December 1st

&

Sunday, December 3rd  
6:30 p.m.

Tickets will be \$8.50 and available in the church office or on Sundays in the Foyer

### Encouragement Ministries

Our Encouragement Ministries Team provides encouragement and meals to families going through special needs such as a new baby, surgery or illness.

If you know someone in our church who would benefit from this ministry please call the church office at 842-2343. Also, if you would like to volunteer your time and talent to this important ministry please call Lin Topping in the church office at 842-2343.

### Adoption Potluck and Play Day Saturday, Nov. 18th, 11 a.m.– 1 p.m.

Come and enjoy a few hours of food and fellowship with adoptive families. You may bring a food dish or two to share or bring your own meal such as fast food for just your family. This will be an opportunity for those touched by adoption to fellowship or play.

Those interested in learning more about adoption are also welcome to attend, fellowship and ask questions. For more information call or email Cherri Walrod at: 785-542-1154 or [pcwalrod@sunflower.com](mailto:pcwalrod@sunflower.com).

# Church News and Adult Ministries

## Reaching the Next Generation: an Update

*Continued from Page 1*

We have been clearly blessed by the Lord. He has lead many new families to our church, and our children and youth ministries have exploded. Providing adequate facilities for these growing ministries has been a major challenge. Holding true to our mission of making more and better disciples, and like the generations that preceded us, our church family stepped out in faith to reach the next generation with the gospel of Jesus Christ. We adopted the campaign statement of "Reaching the Next Generation....carrying the vision forward."

One year ago, our church family pledged over \$1.2M through sacrificial giving toward the children/youth wing project over a three-year stewardship commitment. This was a tremendous response and confirmation of God at work in our midst. The initial phases of the project were to include the shell construction of a three-story addition including a basement to the west wing of the building, finishing the children's floor of the new structure, and remodeling the children's wing in our current building. Monies pledged in excess of \$1.2M were to go towards expansion

of our existing foyer, constructing a connecting passageway from the foyer to the new wing and finishing the youth lower level. Ground was broken in September and construction is well underway!

Over \$410,000 has already been given through September toward the committed amount of over \$1.2M! We are right on pace towards fulfilling our commitments and God is really blessing this endeavor. To mark our first anniversary of this three-year campaign, we are setting aside November 19th as a church-wide First Year Fruits Sunday. We can think of no better way to begin the Thanksgiving Week than to celebrate God's blessings as He has enabled us to "Reach the Next Generation." Our worship services on November 19th will be devoted to revisiting and recommitting all of us to this vision. We will all have an opportunity to confirm our original financial commitments, modify those commitments, or make an additional pledge. Those who are new to the LFMC family in the last year will also have an opportunity to make a pledge towards this work. Please prayerfully consider how God would have you continue to be involved in this work.



### Help fill a cart as an offering for Jesus

*Jesus said "I was hungry and you gave me something to eat."*

-- Matthew 25:35

The Country TLC small group is sponsoring an **ongoing weekly** food donation drive to help fill the food pantries in Lawrence. Please bring nonperishable food items or toiletry items to church on Sunday and place in marked grocery carts in the entry way - front entrance of the church. Items will be taken to the food pantries each Monday. Thanks for caring and sharing!

### Suggested donations:

soups  
ketchup/mustard  
spaghetti sauce  
flour  
sugar  
hot chocolate mix  
canned vegetables/fruits  
canned beans

tuna/canned meat  
dry beans  
pancake mix  
syrup  
box Velveeta cheese  
Hamburger helper, etc.  
powdered milk  
peanut butter

cereal  
mashed potatoes  
macaroni/cheese  
pasta  
rice  
paper towels  
dish soap  
laundry soap

bath soap  
shampoo  
disposable baby diapers  
sanitary napkins  
deodorant  
toilet paper

# Church News and Adult Ministries

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## Thoughts on Praise from the Prayer Ministry Team

From the early days of being a believer in Jesus Christ, we have heard that God welcomes our prayers and takes pleasure in our talking with Him. He always hears and answers (sometimes with a “not yet” or even a “no”) but always according to His overall best care of us.

Another dimension of relating to God is with praise. During our study of 40 Days of Purpose, we learned God made us for His pleasure! Praise is a way in which we can honor and love God and it is closely linked with worship and thanksgiving. It's a wonderful way to allow ourselves to focus on our Heavenly Father, before we begin prayers of petition for ourselves and intercession for others. Many of the Psalms express the wonder and adoration for God and can be read as a praise offering.

“Praise is a time of yielding to God as our Lord and Maker. In praise, we admire God for who He is and what He does. Praise can be quiet and meditative. But it can also include celebrating and exalting in the Lord's majesty and splendor, His sovereignty, His limitless power and His bountiful love - which we do not in the least deserve. In praise we extol our wonderful God: we exalt and magnify Him” (from *31 Days of Praise* by Ruth Warren).

Are you able to praise God when your heart is downcast and your burden is heavy? The psalmists were honest about their feelings, facing them and pouring out their hearts to God, BUT they often praised God first, shared their struggles and ended with an affirmation of sincere, God-honoring praise. It seemed to allow them to see their problem from a new perspective when compared to the mighty unlimited God, or to choose to praise God in spite of their circumstances, acknowledging Him as their Source of strength and hope.

Are you able to live this ideal of a life filled with praise? Yes, God has given us supernatural help, the Holy Spirit, to dwell in us and empower us. This does not mean we automatically praise, but as we nurture our souls on God's Word and walk in His ways, depending on the Holy Spirit, praise will become more spontaneous as we grow in the knowledge of how worthy the Lord is to receive honor and glory and praise.

If praise is not yet an offering to God from you, we earnestly urge you to begin this exciting way of relating. Today's contemporary music often offers simple praise songs direct from the Scripture or a favorite hymn can be a delightful way to offer praise. It doesn't matter if our words are stumbling or eloquent; God looks on the heart. He's searching for people who simply want to honor Him.

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## **REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS** **SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH!**

**Parenting Conference**  
**Friday, Nov. 10th, 7-9:30 p.m.**  
**Saturday, Nov. 11th, 9-11:30a.m.**

Here's a unique opportunity to be challenged and encouraged on a variety of topics related to parenting presented by master teachers such as Josh McDowell, James Dobson, Scott Turansky, Joanne Miller, and others. Mark the dates on your calendar and watch for details in the October bulletin inserts and at the adult ministries table in the foyer.

Parents of all ages and anyone who works with youth are welcome. If you have questions, contact Tom and Susan Hoisington by calling 843-7660.

***Please pick up a brochure at the Adult Ministries table in the foyer.***

## **Upward Sports Ministry**

We appreciate the interest that everyone has shown in getting an Upward Sports program started at Lawrence Free Methodist. After much prayer, the decision has been made to hold off on starting this program until we have more people who are able to take on key leadership roles for the program.

We will be praying about God's direction for this ministry this year to see if He opens doors for Upward in our church in January 2008. If you are interested in being a part of the Upward leadership team for 2008, please contact Carolyn Heacock at [cheacock@lfnchurch.org](mailto:cheacock@lfnchurch.org).

# Children's Ministries



## Making a difference in November

What a great month we've had in Kids' Cove in October, learning about how we are better together. The stories we discussed and lessons we learned dovetailed nicely with our Sunday morning sermons and our *40 Days of Community* small groups. We encourage parents to continue to talk to your children about how to cooperate with others because by *working together we can do more than we can do alone*.

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, we will be finishing our shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child. Through our shoebox project and clothing drive, children got to experience firsthand what it means to cooperate with others to make a difference in someone else's life.

In November, we are shifting our focus a bit to discuss on *individuality – discovering who you are meant to be so you can make a difference*. We'll explore how God has wired each of us in a unique way to help other people.

As always, we encourage parents to take advantage of the GodTime and Refrigerator cards each week. These are excellent tools for initiating comfortable conversations with your children about God.

**Virtue:** Individuality—discovering who you are meant to be so you can make a difference.

### *Memory Verse:*

“How you made me is amazing and wonderful.”

— *Psalms 139:14, NIV*

### **November 12**

**Bible Story:** The One and Only (One body, many parts) • *1 Corinthians 12:14-21, 25-27*

**Bottom Line:** When you discover your part, you can make a difference.

### **November 19**

**Bible Story:** Epaphroditus, a fellow worker • *Philippians 2:25-30*

**Bottom Line:** When you care about others, you can make a difference.

### **November 26**

**Bible Story:** The story of Dorcas • *Acts 9:36-42*

**Bottom Line:** When you use what you have to help others, you make a difference.

### **What's happening in Waumba Land?**

**November Basic Truth:** God made me.

**Key Question:** Who made the things you like?

**Bottom Line:** God made good things.

**Memory Verse:** “God saw all that he had made, and it was very good.” *Genesis 1:31, NIV*

**Bible Story Focus Week 1:** Day 6: Animals  
God Made Animals • *Genesis 1:24-25*

**Bible Story Focus Week 2:** God made people so we can know Him.

Adam and Eve • *Genesis 2:7, 20-23; 3:8*

**Bible Story Focus Week 3:** God made everything we could ever need.  
The Garden • *Genesis 2:8-15*

**Bible Story Focus Week 4:** Day 7: God rested and all is good.  
God Rested • *Genesis 2:1-3*

"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."  
*Genesis 1:31*



### **Children Singing in Worship**

#### **November 19**

On Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>, we're going to be celebrating the progress that has been made on our new children/youth wing and refocus on our mission to reach the next generation for Christ. Our Kingdom Kids Choir will be performing during our 8:30 service.

During our 9:45 service, Kids' Cove children will be singing at the end of the service. We'd love to have all 2<sup>nd</sup> service Kids' Cove children who can stay for a few minutes to sing again at the beginning of 3<sup>rd</sup> service.

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

- 8:30 a.m. Traditional Worship  
.....
- 9:45 a.m. Contemporary Worship  
Preschool 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  
Preschool classes  
Kids' Cove for children  
grades K-6

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

**Church Office Information**

Office Hours: Mon.—Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Phone: 785-842-2343

Fax: 785-842-2351

E-mail: [info@lfnchurch.org](mailto:info@lfnchurch.org)

Web: [www.lfnchurch.org](http://www.lfnchurch.org)



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# The Update

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