

The Lamplighter

First Baptist Church of LaPlata
October 2024 . Volume 17 . Issue 10

Change is in the Air

Change is in the air. We gladly leave the dog days of summer and ease into the autumn season with its fall colors and cooler temperatures. It is a favorite time of year for many, especially our hunters who have been eagerly getting food plots and hunting blinds ready. It is time to gather wood for the stove and rake the leaves in the yard. However, with the changing of the season comes some not so pleasant activities. In some areas like our own, it is time to pay personal property tax. For many businesses it is the end of the fiscal year which means inventory and looking at the bottom line. As November approaches, it is election time in our country.

Election cycles can cause much anxiety for some people, especially Christian voters. Not only are we concerned about economic issues, national security, and foreign affairs, but most importantly the moral direction of our nation. So, what can one do to alleviate the apprehension of leadership change?

First, we must realize that God is always in control. "Blessed be the name of God forever and ever, for wisdom and might are His. And He changes the times and the seasons; He removes kings and raises up kings; He gives wisdom to the wise and knowledge to those who have understanding." (Daniel 2:20-21) Secondly, we have direct access to the One who controls it all. "Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God." (Philippians 4:6) Let us continue to pray for our country, her leadership, and that God's will be done.

Launius, J. (2024). Change is in the Air.
<https://www.maudchurch.org/short-bulletin-articles>

Contact Us

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pastorgary@fbclaplata.org secretary@fbclaplata.org

Guess Who?

See if you can identify the following members. Some are easier than others!
Answers can be found on page 5.



1. _____



2. _____



3. _____



4. _____



5. _____



6. _____



7. _____



8. _____



9. _____



10. _____



11. _____



12. _____



13. _____



14. _____

Children's Worship:

Oct 6 Stephanie Walton, Jonathan Miller
 Oct 13 Jennifer Cooke, Chloe Cooke
 Oct 20 Amanda Nicklis, Ashley Miller
 Oct 27 Kim Kret, Katie Lusk, Abby Pankhurst

October Tellers:

Shannon Pankhurst
 Jeni Irwin

Sunday Morning Nursery (Infant & toddler):

Oct 6 Norma Stump, Donna Fleming
 Jill Hancock
 Oct 13 Norma Stump, Fran Wright, Abby Pankhurst
 Katie Lusk, Kristen Gibson, Erin Hancock
 Oct 20 Norma Stump, Fran Wright, Carlesh Nchinda
 Ruth Dillon
 Oct 27 Norma Stump, Cecelia Stauffer
 Amanda Nicklis, Gracelynn Nicklis

Greeter Schedule:

	8:30 AM	11:00 AM
Oct 6	Glenn Miller	Scott Nupson
Oct 13	Marion Simpson	Dave Bode
Oct 20	Gary Boston	Ken Doyle
Oct 27	Kevin Guiffre	Patrick Hancock

Sunday Morning Security Team:

Oct 6	TBD
Oct 13	TBD
Oct 20	TBD
Oct 27	TBD



CHOSEN PEOPLE MINISTRIES

During our Sunday Evening Service on 10/6, we will enjoy a presentation of Jewish "Fall Feasts" given by Chosen People Ministries. A love offering will be taken.



College & Career Grill n Game Night will be October 26th 6pm at the Nupson home. Bring your own pumpkin to carve and we'll enjoy a fire pit, food & fellowship!



Join us for a silent protest against abortion on October 6th at Sacred Heart Church in La Plata. 1:45-3:30pm See Welcome Center for more info.

The **Caring Meals Ministry** is looking for volunteers to help provide meals to our church families when the needs arise. Contact: Elaine Anderson 240-349-2551

If you have any **newsletter ideas**, please submit them to the office by calling or emailing Amanda:
301-934-9040 secretary@fbclaplata.org

Is there something that used to be included that you would like to see again?
Advice column? Recipes?
Parenting, cleaning, cooking tips?
More interactive games?
Volunteer highlights?
Committee highlights?
Ministry highlights?

Please let me know!



Women on Mission
will meet Oct. 3rd
and Jan Saal will
give the mission
presentation.

Registration for AWANA is open!
fbclaplata.org/awana/



New & On the Shelf By Karen Law

Books:

The New Foxe's Book of Martyrs, John Foxe

The Revised and Expanded Answers Book, Ken Ham

DVD's:

Answers... with Ken Ham, Volumes 1, & 2

7 C's of History, Answers in Genesis

The New Answers, Volumes 1, 2, & 3, Answers in Genesis

Audio CDs:

Twelve Ordinary Men, John MacArthur

Ida Scudder, Christian Heroes: Then and Now

Eric Liddell, Christian Heroes: Then and Now

Milton Hershey, Heroes of History



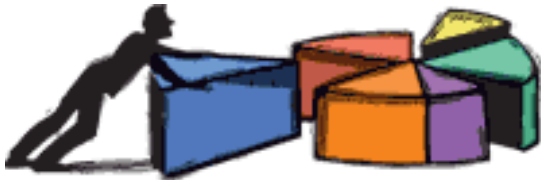
The Family of Neal Wilsey would like to thank:

- * The Caring Meals Ministry for preparing a wonderful meal for our family
- * Pastor Gary, Ken and Janet Doyle for the beautiful service and music. Over the years Neal loved hearing Janet play and we were so blessed that she could play for his service.
- * The men and women that took care of the repast, and Debbie Wedding for all she did.
- * Thank you to all for being there for our family.
- * Thank you to the Church for your prayers and coming to the viewing and service.
- * Neal served our church well for almost 32 years and before our marriage he served along with his family at FB of St Charles as a Charter Member, Deacon, Choir Leader, Sunday School Teacher and other areas.
- * Although Neal had some medical issues we were surprised to hear he had double pneumonia that his body just couldn't fight.

~~The Wilsey Family



Attention all committee,
organization or
group leaders:



Submit Your Budget Requests

... to Dave Bode by 10/13!
thebodes@verizon.net

Answers to "Guess Who?" On pg. 2

1. Tom & Elaine Anderson, Carolyn, Jennifer (Cooke)
2. Buddy & Susan Sanders
3. Bob & Terry Mathews, Josh
4. Carol Gill
5. Bob & Janet Jones, Jill (Hancock), Robby
6. Layson & Pat Hancock, Alison (Bode), Patrick, Michael, Mark
7. Sally Sexton
8. Ken & Janet Doyle
9. Cookie Wilsey
10. Melvin & Janet King
11. Jeni Irwin
12. Carolyn Shaffer
13. John Oskawicz
14. Kevin & Amy Jewell



October Fun Facts



- birthstone is opal
- birth flowers are cosmos & marigold
- got its name from the Latin word octo which means eight. This was based on the early Roman calendar.
- 10th month & has 31 days
- Interesting holidays to note: International Coffee Day (1st), World Octopus Day (8th), National Mushroom Day (15th)
- owl is the bird of the month
- the term "sweater weather" refers to the lowering temperatures this time of year

October

UPCOMING | EVENTS

6

Chosen People Ministry
Presentation

5, 12, 19

UPWARD
Games

19

Cookie Exchange

26

Bible Museum
& Prayer Walk

31

Trunk or Treat

During Wednesday evening services, Pastor Gary is teaching a new series on religions/Christian sects. Among others, we will discuss Hinduism, Buddhism, Islam, Mormonism, Jehovah's Witnesses and Roman Catholicism. We will also learn what the Christian response to these faiths should be.



GOOD NEWS. GREAT JOY.

Operation Christmas Child

A Dream of Crayons: How an Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Changed a Life

I was born in the Philippines, a world away from my life now in Alaska. My family of seven lived in a tiny house where the bamboo floor served as both bed and table. Without a stove or running water, we used wood for cooking, ate bread in the morning before school, and often went to bed with empty stomachs. Every first day of school, my mom would buy school supplies. **One pencil had to last the whole year and would be shared between me and my siblings.** *My parents' combined wages were about \$5 a day.*

One day, my mom's boss encouraged her to go to church, and soon she became a follower of Christ. My mom started taking my younger sister and me with her to learn more about God's word. **We decided to follow Jesus, too.** My favorite memory verse was Psalm 37:4, "Delight yourself in the Lord and He will give you the desires of your heart." I remember praying in my heart for my own full box of crayons, but my parents could not afford something like that for me.

When I was around 12 years old, our pastor invited us to a special event at the church. My little sister and I sat together as the Sunday school teacher started handing out bright red and green boxes to each of the kids. (Little did I know that these were Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes.) Everyone was excited, especially me! When I opened my shoebox, I was amazed when I saw all of the items inside: a washcloth, a stuffed bunny, more than three pencils and — a full box of crayons!

My heart leaped with joy.

Holding my own crayons in my hand, I wondered: *Is this really for me?* I didn't know who packed the shoebox, or how they knew I had asked the Lord for crayons. **But I knew that God had seen the desire of my heart, and He used the people who packed this specific shoebox to answer my prayer.** At that moment, I prayed that God would bless them, and I wished that I could encourage them to keep packing shoeboxes like this. (Story continued on back)

NOVEMBER 2024 BOX COLLECTION SCHEDULE

Monday 11/18	5 to 8 PM
Tuesday 11/19	3 to 6 PM
Wednesday 11/20	9 to 11:30 AM
	5 to 7 PM
Thursday 11/21	5 to 8 PM
Friday 11/22	3 to 7 PM
Saturday 11/23	10 AM to 2 PM
Sunday 11/24	12:30 to 4 PM
Monday 11/25	9 AM to 1 PM

Here at FBCLP!

Sunday
Oct. 20th
kicks off our
collection
season!

Creative ideas for packing a box

1. Choose a Theme: select a favorite color, animal or Bible verse & coordinate the items around it.
2. Personalize the inside lid with artwork or maybe a checkerboard, racetrack, etc. (that the children can use with their new toys).
3. Make your "wow" item special: try to include an instrument (like a xylophone, maracas or a ukulele).
4. Don't forget things like watercolor sets, marbles, plastic mirrors, feminine hygiene products, underwear, a clothesline, rain jacket, etc!
5. Build a shoebox entirely online! <https://sampur.se/4awjK6j>



On Saturday Nov 23 at 3 PM we will have a Shoebox Dedication where we will pray over the boxes as they start their journey around the world. Afterwards we will have a packing party! We are in need of items for our packing party! In general, we always need washcloths, toothbrushes, stuffed animals, toys, and school supplies, but you can use the Amazon link to purchase other items! You can also help contribute to the shipping costs for boxes.

https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/5K4S2KKYJBM6?ref_=wl_share

In my early twenties, after Typhoon Yolanda hit the Philippines and devastated the lives of 14 million people including my family, I was given the opportunity to bring light to the children in my own community by becoming a teacher for The Greatest Journey discipleship program. This child-friendly program is filled with relatable lessons and powerful Bible stories and is offered to Operation Christmas Child shoebox recipients who want to learn more about Jesus and how to follow Him. My favorite lesson to teach was always the Creation story. Everyone's eyes lit up at the colorful illustrations displaying God's wonder. One little girl loved the illustrations on the memory verse cards which came with the student booklets, and she specifically asked me if she could keep the small card. I told her, "Of course, you can keep it!" Because I knew she would take the memory verse home where she would show it to her mom, and have the opportunity to naturally share Jesus with her own family. This was why God led me to teach The Greatest Journey — for these moments of eternal impact. This ministry equipped me to tell the children in my community that Jesus really loves them just like He loves me, and assure them even after the typhoon that they are not alone because God is with them all the time. Prayer is the key to connecting with Jesus, I would tell my students, and whatever their hearts' deepest desire, God will gladly fulfill in His perfect timing. I saw in their eyes that they were willing to listen and wanted to learn more about Jesus. Nothing could bless me more than knowing that those kids surrendered their lives to Jesus.

By Analyn Elliot with Samaritan's Purse

