

Vol. 9, Issue 4, April 2020

connect



THE EVIDENCE OF EASTER

Is the story of Easter too good to be true?

SEEING THE GOOD IN THE UNWANTED CUP

Trusting God in the difficult times of life

APRIL

Dear Church Family,

Our staff is praying for you and we miss being able to see each of you in person while following the “social distancing” guidelines. We love each of you and we’re asking God to protect you from the virus. Each new day brings new information about the status of Covid-19 and our prayer is that soon we will turn the corner to begin emerging from this crisis.

For the present time we are not gathering as the church at our main campus and I will be speaking to you by livestream at 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings. You can connect to the livestream Sunday morning on Facebook live, on our LMBC app, at LMBC.org, and LMBC.tv. Please plan to join me and encourage others to connect with us, as well.

Please be reminded that all Life Groups are not meeting during this time. Instead, some of our Life Group leaders are hosting online lessons in order to keep us connected during the duration of the quarantine. We also have online lessons and activities from our LKC children’s program and Refuel teen ministry. Other opportunities will be available online in the coming days. You can find updates on any new ventures on our LMBC app, our LMBC website and social media.

Let me close by reminding you that as a ministry we are dependent on the generosity of God’s people to continue ministering to people during this crisis and beyond. All of the things

I’ve mentioned, thus far, and others that will be happening soon require financial resources to accomplish. So many of you are faithful givers and I pray that you will continue even though we have to gather virtually for a short while.

Your tithes, offerings and missions giving are *vitally important* and we are providing several ways for you to give:

- By mailing a check to
5385 W. Pea Ridge Rd.,
Huntington, WV 25705
- Online at lmbc.org/give
- Through our LMBC app
- Or by texting LMBCgive to
1-888-364-GIVE (4883)

Some of these online methods of giving require a transaction fee and they will ask you whether you want to pay the fee or have it deducted from your giving to the church. If you have any trouble setting up your online giving, please call the church office and we will assist you. However you choose to give, we thank you for your faithfulness to Christ’s church as we love and care for people now and in the future.

I look forward to seeing you online Sunday morning at 9 a.m. Or, at least, I’ll imagine that I’m seeing you. I love our church, which is YOU!

Trusting God,
David Lemming





Lessons on Sundays & Wednesdays

You can find them on our LKC Facebook page, lmbc.org, and our LMBC app.

REFUEL

Join us Live
Monday-Friday
@ 11:30am
and
Wednesday
@ 7pm
at
youtube.com/c/refuelstudents

20/20

BIBLE READING

Follow this month's daily Bible reading plan below to refocus in 2020.

- 1st** 1 Samuel 25:2-27:12
- 2nd** 1 Samuel 28-31
- 3rd** 2 Samuel 1-3
- 4th** 2 Samuel 4-7
- 5th** 2 Samuel 8-12:25
- 6th** 2 Samuel 12:26-15:12
- 7th** 2 Samuel 15:13-18:18
- 8th** 2 Samuel 18:19-20:26
- 9th** 2 Samuel 21-23
- 10th** 2 Samuel 24-1 Kings 2:12
- 11th** 1 Kings 2:13-4:34
- 12th** Matthew 27:11-28:20
- 13th** 1 Kings 5-7
- 14th** 1 Kings 8-9:14
- 15th** 1 Kings 9:15-11:43
- 16th** 1 Kings 12-14:20
- 17th** 1 Kings 14:21-16:34
- 18th** 1 Kings 17-19:18
- 19th** 1 Kings 19:19-21:29
- 20th** 1 Kings 22-2 Kings 2:18
- 21st** 2 Kings 2:19-5:27
- 22nd** 2 Kings 6-8
- 23rd** 2 Kings 9-11
- 24th** 2 Kings 12-14
- 25th** 2 Kings 15-17
- 26th** 2 Kings 18-20
- 27th** 2 Kings 21-24:7
- 28th** 2 Kings 24:8-1 Chr. 1
- 29th** 1 Chronicles 2-3
- 30th** 1 Chronicles 4-6:30

Though all in-person events are postponed ...

we are staying active with our online community which can be accessed on Facebook, lmbc.org, lmbc.tv, and on our LMBC app.

You can watch live services Sundays at 9 am and 6 pm and Wednesdays at 7 pm. Some regular group meetings will take place on Zoom throughout the week. (contact your group leader for details)

Our Egg Hunts are going online!

April 3 @ noon
through
April 5 @ noon

Watch our LKC page for our exciting, new plans for our hunts this year.

There will be prizes for everyone who participates and a GRAND prize drawing that will take place live on Facebook!



12th Easter Sunday

easter

The grave couldn't stop the Savior and our current circumstances will not stop us from celebrating this year. Watch for news about our services and how we plan to worship this Easter.



THE EVIDENCE OF EASTER

The day we celebrate Easter varies from year to year. To be clear, the Bible doesn't specify the exact date of either Jesus' crucifixion or resurrection, nor is it an essential salvation truth that we must ascertain. However, scholars studying evidence from astronomy and history have narrowed the possible dates down to just four...with 33 A.D. being the most likely year. If this date is correct, it has been 1,987 years since Jesus rose from the grave.

During the week of Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection people were arriving in Jerusalem to celebrate the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread. On Thursday evening of that week Jesus washed the disciples' feet, shared the Last Supper with them in the Upper Room, spoke with them about His impending death, dismissed Judas to complete his betrayal, prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane and was arrested, all by midnight Thursday to very early Friday morning. Through the pre-dawn hours of Friday, Jesus was unjustly tried by the religious leaders and political leaders so that by 9 a.m. on Friday, He was already condemned to die and ready to be crucified on Calvary.

From 9 a.m. till noon Jesus spoke three times from the cross and at noon the skies became eerily dark for three hours.. During that time Jesus spoke briefly four more times from the cross and indicated that He had accomplished His Father's will in coming, which was to pay the sin debt of all mankind.

After Jesus had given up His Spirit to His Father, His body had to be buried before the Sabbath Day began at sunset. Joseph of Arimathea, with the assistance of Nicodemus, took His body, wrapped it in a burial cloth and laid it in a nearby garden tomb. The opening to the tomb was sealed with a large stone and Roman guards were placed outside to prevent any nefarious plot by His disciples to steal His body (cf. Matthew 27:62-66).

During the following hours of Friday, Saturday and early Sunday all of His disciples were despondent and dejected. They did not yet believe that Jesus would rise from the dead and you can imagine the depth of painful

emotions and fears they were experiencing as they wondered what would happen to them now that Jesus was gone.

It seems likely that Peter and John were still in Jerusalem, possibly at John's house during the Sabbath between Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection. The other disciples probably traveled to Bethany until the Sabbath ended, excluding Thomas who may have gone to some more distant place to stay.

On Sunday, April 5, 33 A.D., Mary Magdalene with Mary, the wife of Cleopas, set out very early that morning (Matthew 28:1; Luke 24:1) to Jerusalem, accompanied by Cleopas. They first visited John's house where Cleopas remained while the women went on to the tomb. They were joined by Salome, Joanna and Susanna as they made their way to the garden where Jesus had been laid, to finish the preparations of His burial. As they walked toward the garden tomb they discussed among themselves how they were going to remove the stone (Mark 16:3) in order to gain access to Jesus' body.

It is with their arrival at the garden tomb that we first learn that this is not going to be just another Sunday at the beginning of a new week. In fact, the events of this day would change the course of history and eternity forever.

As the women entered the garden where Jesus' tomb was located, they "looked up" and immediately recognized that the enormous stone had already been removed (Mark 16:4). Mary Magdalene turned around and began running back to the city in panic and fear to tell Peter and John that someone had taken the body of Jesus (John 20:2). The other women continued on to the tomb and upon entering, saw two angels, one of which spoke to them and commissioned them to return to the disciples with a specific message (Matthew 28:7; Mark 16:7).

When Mary Magdalene arrived back in Jerusalem where Peter and John were staying, she told them that the body of Jesus had been taken and the women ("we") did not

know where they had laid Him (John 20:2). Peter and John began a foot race to the tomb to see for themselves what had happened (John 20:4), followed by Mary Magdalene. John got there first, but didn't go into the tomb. Peter, however, ran right inside when he arrived (John 20:6), which led John to enter, also. Upon seeing the empty tomb and the grave clothes of Jesus, they both returned to Jerusalem (John 20:3-10; Luke 24:12). Peter was still somewhat confused by all that he had seen and what had happened.

When Peter and John left the tomb, Mary Magdalene remained and encountered the angels who asked her why she was crying (John 20:13). It's in the following moments after her encounter with the angels that the very first post-resurrection appearance of Jesus occurs (Mark 16:9). As Mary turned to leave, Jesus spoke to her and asked, "Woman, why are you crying? Who are you looking for?" She didn't immediately recognize that it was Jesus speaking to her...until He called her by name (John 20:16). She fell at His feet and clung to Him as He commissioned her to go to His disciples and tell them she has seen Him alive.

The four other women who had gone to the tomb with Mary Magdalene that morning had returned to Jerusalem, but not until after Peter and John had left on their foot race to the garden tomb. Consequently, they waited for Peter and John because the message they were told to communicate specifically included Peter's name separately (Mark 16:7; Matthew 28:7). These women had initially been too frightened to say anything, but they quickly processed what they heard and delivered the message to Peter & John when they returned. After doing so, they left for Bethany (where the remaining disciples may have gathered) to tell the other disciples that Jesus was alive (Matthew 28:7; Mark 16:7). As they were on their way, the second post-resurrection appearance of Jesus occurred. It is to these women that Jesus appeared as they made their way along the road to Bethany (Matthew 28:8). He reiterated the message they had been told by the angels to share with the disciples and instructed them to tell His

“ *...it is impossible for this many people to have made up the story of His resurrection... if Jesus had not risen from the dead.*

disciples that they were to meet Him in Galilee at a specific place (Matthew 28:10).

Though all the disciples ultimately heard the report of the five women who had seen Jesus (excluding Thomas who apparently wasn't with Peter/John in Jerusalem or with the other eight disciples in Bethany), they still didn't believe that He was alive (Mark 16:11).

Later that morning Jesus appeared a third time and on this occasion it was to Peter, perhaps while he was visiting the tomb again after being told by Mary Magdalene that she had seen Jesus alive (Luke 24:34; 1 Corinthians 15:5).

There were also two men that set out from Jerusalem to go to Emmaus sometime after hearing from the four women about seeing/hearing the angels: Cleopas (his wife Mary was one of the women reporting that they had seen the empty tomb and angels) and another unnamed disciple. While they were walking toward their destination and discussing everything they had heard, Jesus appeared to them, though they were supernaturally prevented from recognizing Him (Luke 24:13-32). Since these men left Jerusalem before Mary Magdalene reported seeing Jesus alive and because they had not yet heard the report of the other women who were met by the living Christ on their way to Bethany, these two men only knew the message the angels had delivered to the women...evidenced by their discussion as they journeyed with their yet unrecognized guest (Luke 24:13-32). When they arrived in Emmaus with their travelling companion, they broke bread together and the men immediately realized that the One who had been journeying with them was none other than the resurrected Christ. This was the fourth appearance of Jesus after His resurrection.

By the evening of that Sunday, ten of the disciples had gathered in Jerusalem where

they heard the report from Cleopas and the unnamed disciple that they had seen Jesus alive (Luke 24:34; Mark 16:13) at Emmaus. There was palpable excitement in the room as they discussed the possibility that Jesus could really be alive, though it was tempered by a measured skepticism. They had now heard from four different sources (Mary Magdalene, the other women, Peter and finally, from the two disciples returning from Emmaus), testifying to the resurrection of Christ.

In those moments while the disciples were discussing all they had been told, as well as listening to the eyewitness testimony of the two coming from Emmaus, Jesus appeared in the room with them (Luke 24:35-49; John 20:19-23). This was His fifth appearance after His resurrection. He showed them His hands and feet to prove He was not a ghost, explained the scripture about how He was to be crucified and rise again, then ate a meal with them and instructed them to be witnesses of what they had seen and to wait for the coming Holy Spirit.

It would be eight days (including resurrection Sunday) before Jesus would appear the sixth time (John 20:24-29). The disciples were gathered again in a room behind a locked door when He suddenly appeared in their midst. This time Thomas, who was not there when Jesus first appeared to the disciples the previous Sunday night, was with them, but he still remained skeptical that Jesus had risen. With this appearance, Jesus gave him the opportunity to touch the nail prints in His hands and the wound in His side. Thomas believed because He had seen Jesus for himself, which prompted Jesus to make a wonderful pronouncement for those who wouldn't see Him in the flesh in this world.

“Then Jesus told him, ‘You believe because you have seen me. Blessed are those who believe without seeing me.’” (John 20:29)
During the forty days following Passover

and leading up to Jesus' ascension, He appeared a total of ten times. Sometimes it was to individuals. On other occasions it was to groups. Once we are told that He appeared to more than 500 at one time (1 Corinthians 15:6). These eyewitnesses gave incontrovertible evidence that Jesus arose from the dead.

In addition to the six appearances of Jesus just mentioned, He was also seen...

1. In Galilee by the seven at the Lake of Tiberias (John. 21:1-23)
2. In Galilee on a mountain with the apostles, as well as 500+ others (1 Corinthians 15:6)
3. In Jerusalem and Bethany by James (1 Corinthians 15:7)
4. At Olivet and His ascension (Acts 1:3-12)

Added to these appearances are the ones that occurred after He had ascended...

5. To Paul near Damascus (Acts 9:3-6; 1 Corinthians 15:8)
6. To Stephen outside of Jerusalem (Acts 7:55)
7. To Paul in the temple (Acts 22:17-21; 23:11)
8. To John on Patmos (Revelation 1:10-19)

Added to these fourteen eyewitness accounts of the resurrected Jesus is all of the other evidence that proves He was alive. Most people would concur that this evidence correlates perfectly with the resurrection appearances.

Consider the additional evidence...

- The tomb was empty.
- The apostles immediately had a new-found courage to tell others about Christ.
- Skeptics of Jesus were changed by His resurrection (James, the half-brother of Jesus, Saul of Tarsus on the road to Damascus, not to mention 3000 plus Jews on the Day of Pentecost).
- Women were the first witnesses of His resurrection, which no first-century writer would have used had it not been true.
- There were an overwhelming number of eyewitnesses that saw Him.
- There was no body and no bones of Jesus that have ever been produced.
- The Roman authorities conspired together to cover up the missing body of Jesus.

- The empty grave clothes were left undisturbed and in place in the tomb
- The willingness of the Apostles to die as martyrs for the testimony of Christ's resurrection.
- The consistent message of the early church in proclaiming Christ's death, burial and RESURRECTION in the face of such severe persecution (Acts 2:22-36; 3:13-18; 4:10-12, 33; 5:29-32; 10:37-43; 13:27-37; 17:23, 30-32; 23:6; 24:14-16; 25:19; 26:22-23; Romans 1:3-4; 6:9; 1 Corinthians 15:1-58; 2 Corinthians 4:10-14; Galatians 2:20; Ephesians 1:19-23; Philippians 2:5-11; Colossians 2:12; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 4:14; 1 Timothy 3:16; 2 Timothy 2:8-11; Hebrews 13:20; 1 Peter 1:21; etc.).

What we realize as we read and consider all of this evidence is that it is impossible for this many people to have made up the story of His resurrection, or to have maintained the story with this type of accuracy...if Jesus had not risen from the dead.

If you want to hear more about the hope of Easter, please contact us at 304-736-7676, lmbc.org, or send an email to lmbc@lmbc.org.



by David Lemming

Dr. David Lemming has been the Senior Pastor of Lewis Memorial Baptist Church in Huntington, West Virginia, since December 1982. He was saved as a teenager and early on became actively involved in various phases of Christian ministry. He has a heart for people and actively seeks new ways of extending Christ's love to those in Huntington and around the world. He and his wife, Mary, have two grown children and three grandchildren.

SEEING THE GOOD

IN THE UNWANTED CUP



by Mary Ellen Black

Mary Ellen is a member of the LMBC office staff and the copy and content editor for Connect Magazine. She is the leader of both the Joy and Insideout Life Groups, and she seeks to encourage, equip, and empower women to have a full and vibrant relationship with God and a passion for His Word. She is the mother of two grown daughters and the writer and creator of the blog "Me from the Insideout" (mefromthensideout.com).



... not my will but Yours be done ...

So many times in the past year I have prayed – “let this ‘cup’ (trouble) pass from me (or from my brother, my mom, my family, my friends and in recent weeks - our country)” – and I do not believe that the prayer was wrong – for even Christ prayed that very prayer in the garden before His death. However, Christ didn’t end His prayer there, He finished it with “not My will but Yours”.

Through the years, and again in recent days, I have learned to pray that way as well – “not my will but Yours be done”. It isn’t easy, it’s actually almost daunting to include it, knowing that His will is not often what we would choose for ourselves. To pray this way takes trust; but I have found it not only takes trust but builds it as well. Through a child’s cancer and another born with crippled feet – and many other ‘troubles’ of my own or those of friends and family – I have learned that whether it ends on a mountain top or in “the valley of the shadow of death”, my God can be trusted.

I have learned that trust doesn’t come from knowing the definition of the word (to place confidence in someone or something), it comes from knowing the character and the work of that person or thing. For a believer it comes from knowing the nature, the character and the work of God - which is good and loving and perfect.

I recently worked through a study on Spiritual Growth by Tony Evans and a particular set of Scriptures he used still stands out in my mind as great reminders of why I trust God and am convinced that in these troubles of health crisis and death and sorrows and fears He is working.

Through the “testing” of my FAITH He is working to GROW my “endurance” so that

“I will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.”

For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow. So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing.

James 1:3-4

Through these “trials and sorrows” that are a part of life on earth Jesus wants me to find my PEACE in Him – knowing that He has “overcome the world”.

I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world.

John 16:33

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, is the truth Paul points out in 2 Corinthians 12:9 – that God uses these earthly struggles I have begged Him to take away to STRENGTHEN me with the POWER of Christ Jesus and make known to me His all sufficient GRACE.

Three different times I begged the Lord to take it away. Each time he said, “My grace is all you need. My power works best in weakness.” So now I am glad to boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ can work through me. 2 Corinthians 12:8-9

As the sorrows and troubles of this world continue, I will, no doubt, still pray for God to heal those who are sick or, in mercy, remove a “cup” from me or others – but – I do so believing He is working all things together for my good and His glory, and thus - trusting His Will over my own - I will pray, not my will but Yours be done.

Since we can't meet in-person for a while, we are using our online tools to continue teaching your kids valuable lessons from the Bible. Please be sure to follow our LKC page on Facebook where we'll be posting regularly with lessons and activities.

The kids will be focusing on the life of Christ, both His humanity and His Deity. We will walk the children alongside Jesus, pausing to teach the power and wonder of His Resurrection.

On Wednesdays we move into the book of Joshua, one of the greatest leaders of all times. The kids will learn of his conquest into the Holy Land and his dependence on God in trials.



LESSONS ON SUNDAYS & WEDNESDAYS

You can find lessons on lmbc.org and on our LMBC app each Sunday and Wednesday while we are stuck at home. We invite you to send us videos of what your kids are learning each week so we can continue to be encouraged by their growth!

JOIN OTHERS WHO ARE STRIVING TO BE DIFFERENCE MAKERS

God called us to be salt and light to the world. This page is dedicated to efforts that help illuminate the darkness by shining the light of Christ. Will you be a difference maker?

A SPECIAL NOTE OF THANKS

... to all who helped us collect and stuff eggs for our 2020 Egg Hunts. While the hunts won't be done the traditional way, we have an innovative way to celebrate Easter with our LKC kids. Our prayer is that this, too will be an outreach to those who may not know Christ as their Savior. Read more on page 3.



Our LifeBridge Food and Clothing pantry have also been affected by the shut-downs associated with the coronavirus. Please pray for those in the community who are dependent on help from organizations like ours that are currently unable to meet their needs.

**They are available for urgent needs by contacting the church office at 304-736-7676*



MAKING THE MOST OF OUR SITUATION BY ... REACHING OUT (SAFELY)

With the recent stay-at-home order (except for essential needs), we may find ourselves looking for other things to fill our time. This is the perfect time to be a difference-maker to someone! We all will need points of connection since we were not made for isolation. Send a card or make a call to someone on your heart. Maybe they're in your group or perhaps they sit in front of you every Sunday; call them or send them a note to let them know you are thinking of them. Don't know their number or address? Call the church office and we will be happy to help you out.



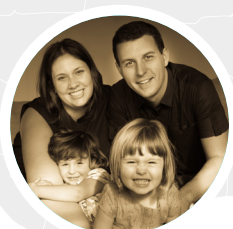
AFRICA



**Justin & Rachel
Hoy**
Senegal



**Jim & Connie
Jeremias**
Kenya



**JJ & Melissa
Alderman**
Togo



**Adam & Faith
Drake**
Togo



**Darin & Kathy
Ishler**
Kenya



**Diana
Ferrell**
Uganda



**Tom & Melissa
Kendall**
Togo



**John & Kidst
Getaneh**
Zambia



**Tom & Marilyn
Wilson**
South Africa



**Pascal & Becky
Grenade**
Mauritius



Here is the latest from missionaries...

TOM & MELISSA KENDALL

Like all of you, none of us could have imagined even a month ago what the world would look like today. We are following the news both in the media and in the medical community and we are all in this together. We as a family wanted to give you a brief update on our current situation so you can pray for us more intelligently.

At this point in time, we are personally well and safe, although COVID-19 is now in Togo as well. Although we haven't seen a case here at HBB yet, we undoubtedly will. And it has already affected us secondarily, just like it has you. All of our short-term medical missionaries have had to cancel their planned trips. The last two short-termers who are still here are trying to get on the next flight out. Once they leave, I will be one of only 3 full-time doctors for the entire hospital, and there is no one planning (or able) to come help for the foreseeable future. This severely strains our capacity to meet the staffing needs of our hospital ministry.

All of our construction teams working on housing and the hospital projects have had to cancel their planned trips. This has stopped all progress on our construction projects for the foreseeable future.

Togo has put in place regional travel restrictions as of yesterday effectively isolating the major cities. We cannot travel to the capital or even to the nearest city without a "laissez passer" or government authorization to travel. I cannot even begin to imagine the difficulty some people face when they cannot take their money crops to market to sell. I saw this start yesterday as fully-loaded taxis couldn't travel and had to turn around and return home. The financial devastation in this subsistence economy will not be long in coming.

Pray that the team on the ground here will have wisdom, discernment, health and stamina as we make decisions for the hospital ministry and adapt to the significant stresses upon all of us. Life will be different for sure. For the moment, the kids' club ministry has been postponed because of social distancing requirements. Churches are not able to gather. Pray that the true church will grow in grace and purity during this time.

The hospital however, even though we are short-staffed, will remain open to do the best we can to meet the needs that we will face--without ventilators. So your prayers for wisdom and discernment are essential.

Your support and prayers are vital to this ministry and we thank you for them. We know we are not facing this alone. You are going through similar situations as well, and our sovereign God has not ceased to be the God omnipresent. May we know His peace and power, so that the world may glorify Him when they see His people all over the world responding with grace, love and peace!

Be an encouragement! Here's how you can contact this missionary family:

Tom & Melissa Kendall
L'Hopital Baptiste Biblique
B.P. 24
Adeta Togo
Togo
tkendall@abwe.cc



HOW TO JOIN OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Are you looking for a church home?
Would you prayerfully consider whether God
may be leading you to our family of believers?
If you are ready, follow these simple steps:

TAKE A LOOK AT THE LATEST FAMILY NEWS

Births

- *Lochlan Michael Ball to Chad & Jennifer Ball*

Bereavements

- *Clyde Boone, Gail Woodall's father*
- *Dot Grove, Robin Adkins' mother*
- *Katie Johnson, Ruth, J.D., and Charles Johnson's mother, and Irv Johnson's grandmother*
- *Julie Riffe, Gary Riffe's wife*
- *Mel (Coach) Vaughn, Jean Vaughn's husband*

Baptisms

- *Jake Christian (New Member)*

1st Baptism



Trust in Christ
and follow Him in
believer's baptism.

2nd Contact



Complete an
information card
during a service or
contact us so we can
ask you a few simple
questions.

3rd Meet **postponed*



Meet the pastors for
Starting Point
in L112 (WC)
on Sunday, April 19
from 5 - 7 pm
and find out what
is expected of a
member of LMBC.



Life Groups are vital to a believer's spiritual growth. For a current list of Life Groups, download our LMBC app or visit lmbc.org. Printed copies are available in the lobbies. For help getting connected, contact Tim Yates at 304-736-7676 *209 or t.yates@lmbc.org

OUR PASTORS

*¹⁷ Obey your spiritual leaders, and do what they say. Their work is to watch over your souls, and they are accountable to God. Give them reason to do this with joy and not with sorrow. That would certainly not be for your benefit. **Hebrews 13:17 NIV***

David Lemming *Senior Pastor*

Dr. David Lemming has been the Senior Pastor of Lewis Memorial Baptist Church in Huntington, West Virginia, since December 1982. He was saved as a teenager and early on became actively involved in various phases of Christian ministry. He has a heart for people and actively seeks new ways of extending Christ's love to those in Huntington and around the world. He and his wife, Mary, have two grown children and three grandchildren.

Tim Yates *Life Group & Outreach Pastor*

Tim Yates is an assistant pastor who oversees the Life Groups at Lewis Memorial. Tim and his wife Myra grew up locally and graduated from Barboursville High School. Both Tim and Myra are multiplying small group leaders and thoroughly enjoy their role as trainers and equippers for the glory of God. They have a passion for making disciples and mentoring small group apprentices.

Nathan McClay *Worship Pastor*

Nathan McClay is an assistant pastor and oversees the music and worship ministry of LMBC. He has been serving God at Lewis since 1991. Nathan and his wife, Audrey, have four children and two grandchildren.

Jeremy Shaffer *Executive Pastor*

Jeremy Shaffer is an assistant pastor who oversees the technical and administrative areas of the ministry. He regularly works alongside his wife Rebekah in the Children's Ministry, teaches in the LMBC Bible Institute, and teaches together with his wife, tackling marriage and family topics as well as general Bible studies for adults. He has been serving the Lord at Lewis since 2004. He and Rebekah have two children, Grace and Luke.

Matt McClay *Student Pastor*

Matt McClay oversees the student ministry at Lewis. He was raised locally in Huntington and married his wife April in March of 2011. In May of 2012, Matt and April welcomed their daughter, Addison, into the world. Matt has a heart for student ministry, the outdoors, and redeeming technology for God's glory.

Phil Newberry *Membership Pastor*

Phil and Ann Newberry have been faithfully serving the Lord at Lewis Memorial Baptist Church since 1972. They prepared for service at Tennessee Temple University. Over the years, their service has focused on reaching the young people of the area. Phil and Ann have served as the youth leaders for junior high and high school students, directed the children's church ministries and led the college department. Phil has also been active in the music ministry and is an ordained deacon.

Bill Blankenship *Hospital Visitation Pastor*

Bill Blankenship oversees the hospital and nursing home visitation program at Lewis Memorial. Bill and his wife, Debbie, have a loving and caring heart for the sick, shut-ins, widows and widowers. Bill and Debbie married in 1974 and have two grown children and are proud grandparents of Grace, Olivia, Jaxon, and Christian.

Connect is the monthly news and informational publication from



Making disciples who live and love like Jesus

**5385 W. Pea Ridge Rd.
Huntington, WV 25705
304-736-7676**

Imbc.org

**Emergency pager:
304-691-0633**

***TEMPORARY
SUNDAY WORSHIP
(via Live Stream)
9 am & 6 pm**

***WEDNESDAY BIBLE
STUDY
(via Live Stream)
7 pm**

**for as long as the stay-at-home order persists*

CONNECT STAFF:
Senior Editor,
David Lemming
Executive Editor,
Angie O'Dell
Content Editor,
Mary Ellen Black
Graphic Designer,
Matt Waller

*Read previous editions of
Connect at Imbc.org.*

