Thankful in all things
1 Thessalonians 5:18
**Sunday Services now at 9 & 10:45 AM**

We have returned to a normal service schedule of 9 am and 10:45 am, with an extension service including live elements in the SMB at 9 am. Safety guidelines will still be followed in all services. If you are willing to participate in the extension service, please register at lmbc.org (by scanning above) or call the church office at 304-736-7676.

**8th 6 pm**

**SUNDAY EVENINGS**

Our SECOND SUNDAY evening service starts at 6 pm, via live-streaming at lmbc.tv.

**1st 9 & 10:45 am**

While we are excited about gathering again as a church family, we are also being very cautious about making this a safe and enjoyable environment for everyone.

If you have experienced any COVID-19-related symptoms in the last two weeks, if you have compromising health issues, or if you’re not quite ready to venture out, please join us for worship from the comfort of your home. Keep in mind that we love you and we want to protect you!

For the safety and well-being of those joining us on campus, please consider the high risk and elderly among us in all that you do. Please remember that masks are required for everyone in attendance, per Governor Justice.

**Continue to join us live ...**

Sundays at 9 and 10:45 am on Facebook, lmbc.tv, or our LMBC app.

**Daily Devotions ...**

are posted by our pastoral staff on Facebook, lmbc.org, and on our LMBC app. Be sure to take advantage of this daily wisdom from God’s Word.

**Need to be Baptized?**

We are beginning to take reservations for baptisms. If you are interested in our safety procedures and availability call the church office at 304-736-7676.

**1st John 3-4**
**2nd John 5-6:21**
**3rd John 6:22-7:36**
**4th John 7:37-8:59**
**5th John 9-10**
**6th John 11-12:36**
**7th John 12:37-15:17**
**8th John 15:18-17:26**
**9th John 18-19**
**10th John 20-Acts 1**
**11th Acts 2-3**
**12th Acts 4-6:7**
**13th Acts 6:8-8:25**
**14th Acts 8:26-10:48**
**15th Acts 11:13-43**
**16th Acts 13:44-16:15**
**17th Acts 16:16-18:23**
**18th Acts 18:24-20:38**
**19th Acts 21:23-32**
**21st Acts 27-28**
**22nd OFF**
**23rd Romans 1:3-20**
**24th Romans 3:21-7:13**
**25th Romans 7:14-9:33**
**26th Romans 10-13**
**27th Romans 14-16**
**28th 1 Corinthians 1-4**
**29th 1 Corinthians 5-8**
**30th 1 Corinthians 9-11**

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

**BIBLE READING**

**Daily Devotions ...**

are posted by our pastoral staff on Facebook, lmbc.org, and on our LMBC app. Be sure to take advantage of this daily wisdom from God’s Word.

**Need to be Baptized?**

We are beginning to take reservations for baptisms. If you are interested in our safety procedures and availability call the church office at 304-736-7676.
If our eyes look a little tired when we wave to you during your exit of the church building on Sundays, the culprit for our fatigue is likely the fact that, as a staff, it is more challenging and taxing than ever to prepare for, facilitate, and debrief from our worship gatherings. Our facility's staff works around the clock to clean before services, in between services, after services, and through the week. Our support staff works to master new technology, administrate ways to move forward in reopening various church ministries, and communicating the weekly changes to members through social media, email, videos, and printed materials. Our pastors call and visit members and prepare additional messages and devotionals to reach those who, due to extenuating circumstances brought about by the pandemic, still cannot gather with us in person.

Is it worth the extra effort to have worship gatherings on Sundays? If I know the hearts of our staff, I think we would all answer with a big, resounding, “YES!” After reopening on May 31, the richness of singing together, praying together, and taking in God's Word together has been a salient reminder that church is not a building, but, rather, the people who gather in the building. We believe that church, properly defined as a called-out gathering of believers, is not only worth the extra effort but is essential during these tumultuous times.

This year has been full of ups and downs, leaving many wondering and looking to see what God is doing and where He is doing it. If you’re looking to see God at work in 2020, look no further than His church; His fingerprints are all over it! 1 Corinthians identifies the church as “The Body of Christ” and explains how God works through His church, reading, “You are the body of Christ, and individually members of it” (1 Corinthians 12:27 ESV).

Consider these “essential” truths from 1 Corinthians about the Body of Christ...

1. Everyone has a place in the Body of Christ.

“But, as it is, God has arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose.” – 1 Corinthians 12:18

Just like pieces of a puzzle or parts of a body, no one member of the church is the same. While we believers share unity in the gospel and teachings of the Bible, each of us brings unique personalities, talents, backgrounds, and giftings. God takes our differences and arranges them, as only He can, into a beautiful mosaic of His grace. In the body of Christ, diversity among members is not just accepted, it’s necessary and should be celebrated! Whether you realize it or not, God has carved out a special place for you here at Lewis Memorial Baptist Church, and no one can fill that spot better than you. We need your personality quirks, your talents, your ideas, and your faithfulness to advance the gospel of Jesus together.

2. Unity is fiercely protected in the Body of Christ.

“But God has composed the body, giving greater honor to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another.” – 1 Corinthians 12:24-25

In hindsight, we may very well evaluate the year 2020 as, culturally-speaking, the year of division. With such issues as responding to the Coronavirus, the election, and calls for social reforms taking center stage in the news and on social media, our country is, in many ways, more divided than we’ve ever been. In 1 Corinthians 12:25, believers are instructed to honor one another, “That there may be no division in the body.” If we do not exercise vigilant care, these cultural issues can creep into the church, causing disunity and diverting our focus from the mission of proclaiming the gospel. While diversity is a necessary component of a healthy church, the division is a disease within the body of Christ. As we move through November, we have the opportunity to demonstrate unity by rallying around the gospel, even when we don’t see eye-to-eye on the hot button issue du jour.


“If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together. You are the body of Christ, and individually members of it.” – 1 Corinthians 12:26-27
Peanut butter and jelly, marshmallows and campfires, and macaroni and cheese all have one thing in common, they’re better together. As believers, we’re better together, too! This year has been challenging in the area of our togetherness as, for a period of time, we were required to quarantine, and now are asked to socially distance. Thankfully, we again have the opportunity to gather together with appropriate safety measures in place. If the pandemic has taught us anything, it is that there is no substitute for experiencing the physical presence of others. This lesson is no more applicable than in the setting of a local church. 1 Corinthians instructs believers to suffer together and rejoice together. From day to day, week to week, and month to month, we all have experienced our fair share of suffering and rejoicing. We desperately need to assemble every week to suffer together and rejoice together. If you are not under the weather and do not have any preexisting health issues that prevent you from going shopping and dining out during this time, will you consider rejoining us for a Sunday gathering? We want to suffer and rejoice with you!

4. Love is a lifestyle in the Body of Christ.

“If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. If I give away all I have, and if I deliver my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.” – 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

After explaining the inner workings of the body of Christ in 1 Corinthians 12, the Apostle Paul reminds Christians of the secret ingredient that transforms simple worship gatherings into something supernatural and eternal: love. Gathering as a church body is essential and unity is a necessity, but love “Binds us all together in perfect harmony” (Colossians 3:14 NLT). It is not just enough that we gather. Our gatherings have to be defined by love: A mutual love for one another and a love for the Lord. We can follow the most stringent safety guidelines, have the best facilities, and sing the latest and greatest songs together while still missing the mark in being a God-honoring church. If we want to make an eternal impact for Jesus on each other and our world, we must love like Jesus. The Apostle Paul defined love this way: “Love is patient and kind” (1 Corinthians 13:4). We are living in a time during which both of these attributes seem to be in short supply. If there has ever been a time when Christlike love among Christians is countercultural, it is today. Let us love one another for the long haul, making allowances for our shortcomings. Let us love generously, lavishing it on those of us who do not deserve it. Let us be sensitive toward the needs of others. Let us be quiet, steady givers of love in a world full of noisy “gongs!”

**Sundays @ 9 am (only)**
Kids meet in the Gym (Drop off at the FLC)
Social distanced, sanitized, safe!
Miss Leah (Adkins) has resumed teaching the 3rd - 6th graders. They’ll begin in the gym with the other children for worship at 9 am (our only children’s hour) before being dismissed to their class. All of our safety protocols will be practiced.

**Nov. 4 @ 7 - 8 pm**
Wednesday LKC Kids returns to the Gym (FLC)
Visit lmbc.org/lkc for more info or ask to join our Facebook group.

**FALL CALENDAR**

**NOVEMBER**
18 - “NOT-SO-TRADITIONAL” THANKSGIVING DINNER

**SERVICE PROJECTS**
(DATES TBA)
CODING WORKSHOP
TEEN CLOTHING PANTRY
SENIOR CITIZEN PARADE

**Refuel Students**
Imbc.org/refuel

**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.
When we wrote at the end of July/beginning of August, we weren’t really sure when we would be allowed to leave since we needed to find a teammate first. Well, despite all of our efforts, God was not bringing anyone along that filled the role we needed. Within a couple of weeks however, God did bring up a different opportunity for serving Him. The Hope Radio team asked us to rejoin them as director of outreach/ministry. This seemed to fit really well with our ministry goals of church planting and outreach as a main focus for our family. Through the Bible is still on our hearts and we are hoping God brings along someone to join the radio team who can head that up. Adam’s dad, Evan will be taking over the programming part of radio and will also help with Through the Bible when the translation starts hopefully within this next year. So all that to say, we are back in Togo!

After affirming that God really did want us back in that capacity we got busy making preparations to return. Purchasing tickets, packing up, selling cars, saying goodbyes, and of course, the dreaded Covid tests. The end of August was a little bit of a blur but God worked out all the details and we were able to find very reasonable tickets. Not only that, but people gave towards our traveling expenses and all of the funds we needed were completely covered!

Because of COVID, we can’t meet in big groups still which affects all of the village ministries and church groups in town but we are still able to meet one on one and in small groups. It has been fun being back at the radio and pouring into the employees there. Faith has started back up with cleaning teeth on Wednesdays and teaching art at the MK school. Adam’s ministry to the missionary team keeps him busy as well. On any given day he could be helping someone with a vehicle, finding parts for a generator, getting rental contracts signed, buying supplies from the capital, and organizing taxi deliveries. He does get a little brain break while he’s teaching P.E. to the MK’s and organizing sports on the weekends. He especially loved it this month as we focused on the sport near and dear to his heart, baseball.

Last night was a milestone for us ministry wise here. We have been praying for a long time for the director of the radio who is a Muslim to accept Jesus as his Savior. We thought we were making ground before we left but he is still not willing to accept or maybe just not willing to admit his need for Jesus. A couple of weeks ago however, we decided to make it just a little harder on him to deny Christ. We invited him and his wife to have dinner and marriage counseling with us every Monday. Last night was the first one and they seemed to really get into it and enjoyed sharing with us about the culture here and learning about the 5 love languages. We know it will be an uphill battle for their souls but please keep them before the throne every time you pray. If we all bathe this couple in prayer, it’s going to be hard for them to reject Christ for long. If you think about it, pray while they are at our house, which would be between 2 pm and 5 pm Eastern Time on Mondays.

Thank you for loving us and supporting us as you have done so faithfully.
Love—that’s the word that jumped out to me on the note written in big, red print by Brittany, age 13. I didn’t know how to read English at the time in the Dominican Republic, but I recognized the word love: “God loves you! Love, Brittany.”

Two photos accompanied the note—one of Brittany with her parents, simply identified as mom and dad, and one of Brittany with her younger brothers, Austin and Brandon. That’s all that I know about the family who packed my shoebox gift—besides that they packed the gift filled with the love of God. There was no last name; no email or address. I long to meet this family who packed my shoebox with God’s love so I can tell them how much that still means to me.

My two sisters and I didn’t usually receive Christmas presents. Our parents made sure we had food and clothes—working hard at multiple jobs for that purpose—but we didn’t have a lot of extras. It was a special treat if we had a few pesos left over to go out for hotdogs after church once in a while.

My dad, a pastor, started our church with nine members meeting in a backyard. Each January 6, the church hosted an “El Día del Niño” (Children’s Day) celebration. The puppet show, cake, and soda were typically our special gifts at Christmastime.

But when I was about 9 years old, the Children’s Day celebration included a surprise—Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes. While handing them out, the church members told us that someone made our shoebox gift especially for us. That stuck with me, especially after seeing the family in the photos.

My shoebox included socks, soap, and a toothbrush—things that, now as an adult, I also love to put in the shoeboxes I pack. All children can use these things. I also received a stuffed animal, a coloring book, a notebook, and crayons—items I also pack in shoeboxes to make each child feel special. My shoebox packing always starts with a note and a photo—I put those in the shoeboxes first.

My dad used to tell my sisters and me, “Everything belongs to God; nothing belongs to us.” Sometimes I wondered why I didn’t get things that other kids had if my family was working in the Name of God, but we believed in His faithfulness.

Leading up to when I received my shoebox, I asked God for a special gift at Christmastime, something just for me. I knew that my shoebox gift was God’s answer to my prayer. To me, it was proof that God is faithful.

Growing up in church, I assumed I was a Christian. But my dad told me that a Christian is someone who makes a decision to follow Jesus Christ. My salvation occurred a couple of years after I received my shoebox, but the gift really started me thinking that since God is faithful to me, I needed to be faithful to Him.

My faith was tested when I was 18. Our parents had just dropped off me and my middle sister at college in the Dominican and were then involved in a traffic accident. Our older sister and both of our parents were killed in the crash.

Losing so much so fast has caused me to not take anything for granted. Everything can change in the blink of an eye. There are times I still feel lonely without them and ask God why they had to leave, but I’ve never doubted the love of God. Though I don’t always understand His plan, I’ve learned to trust in it.

That faith goes back to my shoebox. I needed that message of God’s love that Brittany sent to me—little did I know how much I would need it, but He did. I believe that God always will put the right box in the right hand.

God worked in the heart of a 13-year-old girl to send that message to me. I often wonder where Brittany, now in her 30s, is today and what she is doing. But God knows, and I know He is faithful.

Anabel now lives near her sister in Washington state, where her aunt and uncle started a Hispanic church. She and her husband are part of the church’s worship team. Last year, the church’s youth were the first ones in the congregation to pack shoeboxes. They packed 150 gifts—all with notes about the love and faithfulness of God.
GIFTS THAT SPREAD THE GOSPEL THROUGH ...  
OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

While we cannot host packing parties at the church there are still ways you can help collect for, pack, and send boxes.

**Option 1: D.I.Y.**

Collect items, Pack the shoebox* at your home, and Deliver** to the church during collection week.

* Boxes available at the church after Sunday services.
** Include shipping cost via check for $9 to Samaritan’s Purse.

**Option 2: Build a Shoebox online.**

Make it your own by choosing from a list of gifts, you can even add a personal letter and photo. We’ll pack your shoebox and send it for you, for a suggested donation of just $25. Simply scan the code to visit the site (samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/buildonline/):

**Prayer** is a powerful resource for strength and success in reaching others with the Gospel message. Please pray for:

• Victory in the salvation of the children (and their families) who receive the boxes.
• Strength for our OCC Team who work countless hours to organize, manage, prepare, and oversee all that goes into this ministry.

**Shipping** is $9 per box and we ship approximately 1500 just from our church. While the cost of each box packed by families is to be covered by that family our OCC Team also packs hundreds of boxes on behalf of the church and the church covers the shipping cost.

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?

WE WANT TO SAY ... THANK YOU!

• To all those who serve in the LifeBridge Ministry. We appreciate all that you do to organize the food and clothing pantry and to serve those in need. You are a blessing and a light as you share the love of Jesus.

IN MARCH we introduced you to our newest ministry “Released”, an extension of LifeBridge Food and Clothing Pantry. The ministry’s purpose is to help men who are being released from jail, often with nothing more than the clothes on their back. The men are placed in a 60-day recovery program and expected to find a job at the end of the program. Upon their release, “Released” will provide them with a backpack containing clothes and hygiene items, and a Bible. When they receive the backpack they also receive the plan of salvation from one of our members.

WE NEED YOUR HELP! We have been providing 4 packs per week at approximately $70 per pack, or $1120 per month. You can help spread the Gospel by:

• Providing the following items:
  • Underwear (lg, xlg)
  • T-shirts (lg, xlg, 2x)
  • Tube socks (9-12)
  • Coats (lg, xlg, 2x)
  • (please place your items in a bag marked “Released” and drop them in a LifeBridge bin)

• Monetary donations (note it for “LifeBridge/Released”)
• Sponsoring a filled backpack ($70-80)
Praying for those we will serve, up to four every week. Ask specifically that they would believe the message of Jesus presented with each backpack.

KEEP SOMEONE WARM WITH OUR ... COAT DRIVE

• The cold winter months are almost here and WE NEED YOUR HELP! LifeBridge, our food and clothing pantry, is collecting new or gently used COATS to distribute to those who are in need. If you would like to donate a coat, you can leave it in one of the bins behind the LifeBridge house beside the SMB.

JOIN OTHERS WHO ARE STRIVING TO BE DIFFERENCE MAKERS

WE WANT TO SAY ... THANK YOU!
• To all those who serve in the LifeBridge Ministry. We appreciate all that you do to organize the food and clothing pantry and to serve those in need. You are a blessing and a light as you share the love of Jesus.

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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 NEW STARTING POINT
How to join our community of faith

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:

1st Baptism
Trust in Christ and follow Him in believer’s baptism.

2nd Register (pick 1)
In Service: scan the QR code on the pew in front of you and let us know you would like to join.
Online: lmbc.org/register
Call: 304-736-7676

3rd Discover
Check out the information in the visitor packet you received when you registered with us or visit lmbc.org/what-we-believe to learn about our core beliefs and more.

4th Experience
Meet with our Pastors to begin your membership experience.

To read more on the importance of being a part of a church body, see Matt McClay’s article “The Essential Church” on pgs. 4-6.

OUR PASTORS

”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 NLT

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 1995. 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  Hosptial Visitaton 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.

NEW MEMBERS
- Ethan & Ella Copley (by Baptism)
- Case Gaskins (by Baptism)

BIRTHS
- Ezekiel Jaxon McMullen to James & Kate McMullen
- Jaxon Cruz O’Dell to Ethan & Bentley O’Dell

BEREAVEMENTS
- Renee (Long) Carroll, John & Crystal Long’s daughter
- Paul Johnson
- Ted Poe, Marilyn Nottingham’s father
- Ronald Runnels, Denise Runnels’ husband
- Sally Stewart, Karen Shew’s sister
- Gary Wagner

PASTORAL STAFF BIRTHDAYS
- Matt McClay (5th)
- Pastor Lemming (10th)

CURB-SIDE SERVICE
The following items are available online or for curb-side pick-up:
- Our Daily Bread Magazine (also available online at ourdailybread.org/read/)
- Word For You Today Devotional Book (also available on mobile)
- Printed copies of Connect Magazine

To receive your items, visit the appropriate link, or call the church office at 304-736-7676.

FAMILY NEWS

TAKE A LOOK AT THE LATEST Printed copies of Connect Magazine of Connect at lmbc.org/what-we-believe (also available online at Our Daily Bread Magazine)

STUDY

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY
7 pm

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 lmbc.org/connect-magazine.

SUNDAY WORSHIP
9 & 10:45 am (watch live at lmbc.tv)
6 pm (live stream , 2nd Sunday of the month)

5385 W. Pea Ridge Rd., Huntington, WV 25705
304-736-7676
lmbc.org
Emergency pager: 304-691-0633

Making disciples who love and live like Jesus
Thankful in all things

1 Thessalonians 5:18