

## Lakelands Leader

Volume 47 - Issue 4

**July/August 2025** 



# Associational Men's Rally

MONDAY, JULY 28 7PM ABNEY MEMORIAL BAPTIST CHURCH 210 BYPASS 225, GREENWOOD

MENU: SHRIMP, CHICKEN, FISH + SIDES

Meal bosted by the following churches:

Meal hosted by the following churches: Abney Memorial, First Mt Moriah, & Ninety Six First

### **Speaker: PERRY TUTTLE - COLLEGE AND NFL WIDE RECEIVER**

Perry Tuttle was a standout Clemson football wide receiver in the early 1980s. He went on to play in the NFL for the Buffalo Bills, the Tampa Bay Buccaneers and the Atlanta Falcons. After that, he played in the Canadian Football League for the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

He always wanted to play for the NFL and thought that signing a contract with an NFL team would make him happy, but it didn't. He found himself empty, until he found his life in Christ. Now, he is known for his inspirational speaking, sports marketing, and sports ministry.





Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord Psalm 33:12

## JULY / AUGUST

#### **CONNECTIONS** Fellowship for Pastors

We meet monthly for breakfast and discussion.

The next two are July 22 and August 26 at 7:30 at Besto's.

Open to any pastors. Come join us!





#### LBA Prayer Intercessors Meeting

Tuesday, August 26 at 10:30 Lakelands Baptist Association

Sandra Massey, Frances Kidd, Janet Vandiver, Virginia Someillan, Bettie Rogers Ward, and Brenda Smith

1975 HWY 72 W, GREENWOOD, SC 29649



## LBA Budget Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 28 at 7:00pm Lakelands Baptist Association

Matthew Thigpen, Rev. Chris Sullivan, Rev. Earle Readett, Mark Hamm, Shane Sprouse, & Rev. David Clegg

#### **BUILDING FUND UPDATE**

Amount needed for loan payoff: \$435,850.76

Building Fund Saving: \$68,507.00

Remaining balance: \$367,343.76

We are grateful for your continued support!

Please remember to pray for the following churches without pastors

Beulah, Bold Spring, Turkey Creek, Walnut Grove, and Woodfields

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

- Annual Church Profiles (ACP's) will be available to complete online at <u>sbcworkspace.com</u> in late August or early September
- Pastor2Pastor (P2P) will resume on Tuesday,
   September 2 at 11:00 at LBA
- Joint Lakelands Laurens Associations Men's Rally will be on Monday, September 8 at 6:45 at Disciple's Trail at Lake Greenwood
- LBA Executive Board meeting will be on Monday, September 15 at 7:00 at LBA
- LBA Annual Meeting will be on Sunday, October 19 at 6:30 at Jordan Memorial Baptist Church

#### **POSITION OPENINGS**

For full job descriptions of open positions in our churches please visit our website atwww.lakelandsbaptist.org

Please let us know if we need to remove any filled positions from our website



#### Priscilla Shirer | September 20th | Womens Event

Location: North Side Baptist Church

(409 Northside Dr W. Greenwood)

Time: 9am - 4pm (doors open at 8am)

Join us as we experience the truth of Scripture, the power of prayer, and gain tools to study Scripture on our own.

Two services: English (meet in the Worship Center)

Spanish (meet in the Chapel)

This is a FREE event with registration required. Register at northsidebc.org Next Steps button (bottom right corner) from July 27th - September 1st.

Lunch will NOT be provided. Pack a lunch or visit a local restaurant.

Contact Julie Ridgeway with any questions: 864-229-6010 ext 261 or julie@northsidebc.org

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## "Just Pass'n Time!"

I haven't been in quite some time, but Kim has been a couple of times since I have been and everyone of my children have been multiple times since I have been...my secretary is there now! Where is there? Why to the beach of course. I really enjoy the beach, but I love the mountains more. I do enjoy sitting out on the hot sand on a beach for a few days of vacation from time to time while the sun blisters my balding head, but I love the cool breeze of the fall or the rustle of a stream or the warmth of fire on a crisp evening in the mountains more. Oh, I've had the opportunity to go to the beach this summer, but it seems that it hasn't been my highest priority lately...finishing my house has been what keeps me occupied incessantly. And until I get Kim in her new house, there will be no beach, no mountain, no vacation for this old boy. First things first!

Now I don't say that to garner your sympathy, nope, cause I am loving working on my house. With Randy Day overseeing the construction, I don't have to worry about the next thing...I just have to do the next thing when the next thing comes. No sir...just sit'n around pass'n time, letting the summer breeze blow through what little hair I have left, while sitting on the beach somewhere is just not in the cards for me right now. In fact, just thinking about sitting and relaxing on the beach, listening to the waves gently crashing on the shore, makes me want to start humming, "Sit'n in the morning sun, I'll be sit'n when the evening comes, watching the ships roll in, then I'll watch 'em roll away again, I'm just sit'n on the dock of the bay...wast'n time." Yep, that's the old Otis Redding classic beach song that everyone in my generation had forever burned in our brains when we were younger. But, you gotta admit, caught even you young folks humming or whistling along...am I right? Course I am...just a great summertime song! It's all about just pass'n time!

But isn't that what summer is all about anyway...just pass'n time...tak'n a break at the lake, the beach, camping, road trip, or even a staycation. We all love to slow down from time to time and just enjoy slack'n for a day or a week...reviving our bodies and well, just pass'n time.

But the one thing I have realized over the past few years of my life is that time's a'pass'n whether we are just pass'n time or not. Whether we are work'n hard or hardly work'n, Old Man Time doesn't care, he's a pass'n either way. And when you are young, Old Man Time will fool you, think'n you gots all the time in the world, only to sneak up on you one day and say, "Fooled you...time's been a'pass'n and your days are numbered." And then you face reality and admit...yep, Old Man Time got me...where did the years go? One phrase I have been seemingly hearing a lot lately is this, "Days are long, but the years are short!" Live long enough and you'll understand the full meaning of that time-worn phrase.

Recently, as in last week, I passed a milestone...had a birthday...yep, I did! Some folks use their number of birthdays

to age themselves, which is legit for sure. But, there are other ways as well. Like every time I look in a mirror and see more forehead and less hair...and what hair I gots is gray or white...I age myself. Or when I go to get out of bed in the morning and my joints pop and crack and I remember that I used to say, "Good morning Lord," but now I say, "Good Lord, it's morning!"...I age myself. Or when my daughter Em just gives me my twelfth grand, with Lacy due to give me my thirteenth in a few weeks, and with Addie Lee just announcing number fourteen will be arriving in February of next year... I age myself. Or when I think about the number of anniversaries Kim and I have celebrated...forty next month... I age myself. Yep y'all...time's a'pass'n!

But maybe what I oughta be doing is aging myself based on my life experiences and the joys...and sometimes sorrows, that often come with them. Like forty-four years in ministry, serving as a bi-vocational pastor, two full time pastorates, BCM Director at USC Aiken campus, serving on the Executive Board for SCBC, Vice-president of the convention, six years as parliamentarian, twenty-five years as an associational guy, yada yada yada. But y'all, none of that would amount to a hill of beans if it weren't for the people I've met and ministered to, and with, over those many years of shared experiences, or the mission trips to Brazil, Rwanda, Honduras and watching God work. Or joining so many faithful disciples from churches in Maine, West Virginia, Kentucky, Kansas, Nebraska, Gatlinburg, etc.

Yep, it's the people and the shared experiences that bring meaning to the pass'n of time. It's being a part of what God is doing that matters most as time steadily passes. It's about family and friends and making memories. Time's a'pass'n for sure, but it's gotta be about more than sucking in air and expelling it, cause even a person sleeping does that.

No sir, the pass'n of time should be measured not by the years lived or the years that remain, but by the friends made, the experiences shared, the hugs and tears along life's way. Surely our days are numbered, as the Lord has declared, but when you think about all of life's joys, all the grace that our God gives, the mercies that are new every morning, His presence with us every day, then the pass'n of time can be nothing but glorious, as we eagerly await a time when there will be no more pass'n of time, just an eternity, where time will stand still forever! Yessiree, time's a'pass'n, but when our days on this earth run out, then and only then, will we fully realize that God saved the best for last. Amen!

Diriel

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#### **How to Become a Christian**

Jesus Christ was with God the Father before the world was created. He became human and lived among humanity as Jesus of Nazareth. He came to show us what God the Father is like. He lived a sinless life, showing us how to live, and He died on a cross to pay for our sins. God raised Him from the dead. Jesus is the source of eternal life. Jesus wants to be the doorway of new life for you. In the Bible, He was called "Lamb of God" (John 1:29). In the Old Testament, sacrifices were made for the sins of the people. Jesus became the sacrificial Lamb offered for our sin. Jesus said, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" (John 14:6). He is waiting for you now.

Admit to God that you are a sinner. Repent, turning away from your sin. By faith, receive Jesus Christ as God's Son and accept Jesus' gift of forgiveness by dying on the cross.

Confess your faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord.

You may pray a silent prayer similar to this as you call on God to save you. "Dear God, I know that You love me. I confess my sin and need of salvation. I turn away from my sin and place my faith in Jesus as my Savior and Lord. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen." After you have received Jesus Christ into your life, tell a pastor or another Christian about your decision. Show others your faith in Christ by asking for a baptism by immersion in your local church as a public expression of your faith.

The Holy Bible, Book of Romans 10:9-13

Lakelands Baptist Leader

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Lakelands Baptist Association Periodical Paid At David W. Little, Associational Missionary Greenwood, SC 29649-9998

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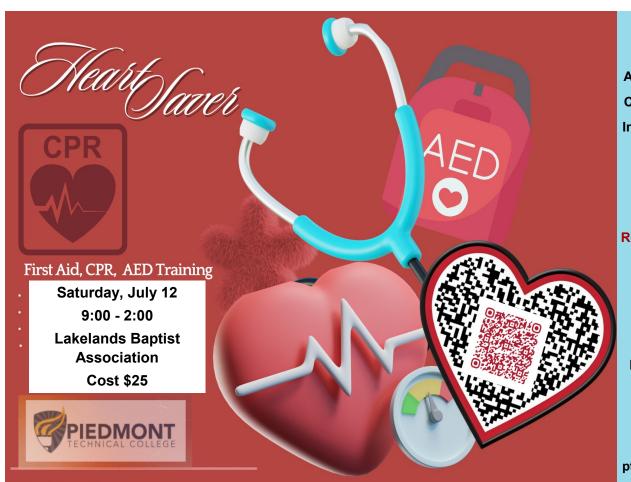
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#### **LEARN**

First Aid Basics
Adult CPR / AED Use

Child CPR / AED Use

Infant CPR / AED Use

Opioid-associated life-threatening emergencies

Registration with PTC is required by July 9

Scan QR code to register

Limited to 20 spots

More Information

864-941-8400

ptc.edu/continuing-ed/