

The Lakeview Lamp

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” – Psalm 119:105

Dec 7

2008

The History of Lakeview

Troy Nicholson

A recent article in *The Hendersonville Star News* (11-14-08) focused on a new book that deals with the history of Hendersonville from 1900-1957. The teacher of the high school students developing the book said, “If we don’t record these memories, we won’t have them anymore.” That statement applies to other forms of history as well, including the history of a church.

The Lakeview church got its start 40 years ago on December 1, 1968. Of the first 23 people in attendance, only one of them is still a part of the church today. Without a record of those first 40 years, how will we know anything about them? The only prior record of the church’s history of my knowledge was a college class report by Lisa Plank. That report served as the basis for a history recently compiled.

One of the students working on the history of Hendersonville said, “I learned a lot about Hendersonville that I didn’t know.” My guess is that many of you will be able to say the same after reading the brief history of Lakeview. Have you ever wondered why the church is called Lakeview when there is not even a lake in view? You will soon know the answer!

The introductory PowerPoint message today will present some pictures from Lakeview’s past. At the end of worship (so you are not tempted to read it during worship), each family will receive a booklet containing a brief history of the church. The lesson will focus on the present and future of Lakeview. While the last 40 years need to be remembered, even more important we need to work toward the future. What happens during the next 40 years of Lakeview depends largely on what we decide to do today.

Whether your time as part of Lakeview is measured in decades or months, you play a major role in what its future holds in store. Luke wrote that “*the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied*” (Acts 9:31). May we work toward the same being true of Lakeview.

God's Love and Our "Self-Esteem"

Greg Gwin

Imagine this: A man has a son. The son is worldly and wicked. He becomes involved in all sorts of terrible, immoral, and ultimately criminal behavior. Inevitably he is arrested for his evil deeds. Now he is in jail, and he faces a series of trials and prosecutions that will almost certainly lead to a long prison sentence.

The father loves his son, and he immediately begins to do whatever he can to help this desperate situation. He pays an extremely high bail bond so that his son can be at liberty until his trial date. He contacts the best defense attorney possible and, although he demands a huge wage, he hires him to do the work. There are other expenses involved in trying to right the wrongs his son has committed.

All of this, of course, is very expensive. The father is forced to mortgage his home. He spends all the money that he had been saving towards his own retirement. He borrows money against everything he owns. He has given all to help the son whom he loves.

Now, how does the son feel about all of this? Do you suppose that this makes him feel good? Do you think he is happy that it has been necessary for his father to sacrifice so much to save him from his own miserable deeds? Does it make him feel important? Does he boast to others about how much his father loves him? No! If he is any kind of man at all, he is embarrassed that his evil choices have led to this despicable situation. He grieves that he has cost his father so much. He feels truly sorry that, because of him, his father has been forced to sacrifice everything.

Here's our point: Some folks are teaching that we ought to feel good about ourselves, love ourselves, and think highly of ourselves because God sent His Son to die for our sins. We are special, they tell us, because God has provided this great sign of His love. On the basis of this we are urged to have an elevated self-esteem. We should love ourselves, they say, because God has loved us.

How can this be so? We are terrible, wretched sinners. How awful it is that our evil deeds have required the death of God's sinless Son. How is this supposed to make us feel good? We should rejoice in God's love, but we should feel terrible that our sins required the shedding of Jesus' blood.

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News and Notes

Members:

- * Linda Bansemer has had a stomach virus.
- * Mary Burnett is still not doing well.
- * Metty Fain remains in Highland Manor Nursing Home; Room B2; 215 Highland Circle Dr; Portland, TN 37148.
- * Margie Frizzell continues to have problems with her eyes.
- * Estelle Hayes has a bad cold.
- * Nancy Reed goes back to the doctor Tuesday for another shot for her walking pneumonia.

Friends and Family:

- * **Virginia Bryant's sister-in-law** died this past week in Kentucky. The funeral was yesterday.

Absent: Virginia Bryant (Murray, KY).

New Reports: Gary Hunt (NY), Chad Lynn (WV), Bob Nichols (Japan).

No, the “self-esteem crowd” has it all wrong. This is not something to feel good about. Instead, we should be deeply grieved and humbled. God loved us even “*while we were yet sinners*” (**Romans 5:8**). Be thankful to Him! He paid the ultimate price and “*redeemed us . . . with the precious blood of Christ*” (**1 Peter 1:18,19**). Praise Him! The fact that God sent His Son to die for us says everything good about *Him*, not us. And, as a result of all this, we should “*love Him, because He first loved us*” (**1 John 4:19**). Notice that we should love *Him*, not love ourselves. We show this love by humbly obeying His will (**1 John 5:3**).



“Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forever. From the rising of the sun to its setting the name of the LORD is to be praised.” – Psalm 113:2-3