

Lodi Avenue Lighthouse

iLodi Avenue Baptist Church
2301 West Lodi Avenue
Lodi, CA 95242
(209) 368-2576
LABC@HOTMAIL.COM
www.lodiavenuebaptist.net

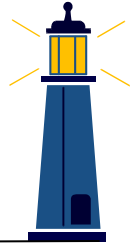
Dated Material

A Monthly Publication of Lodi Avenue Baptist Church

Lodi Avenue Lighthouse



"In the same way let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16



July 2010

Volume 13 issue 7

Independence



Campers Back
Page 2

Mission News
Page 3

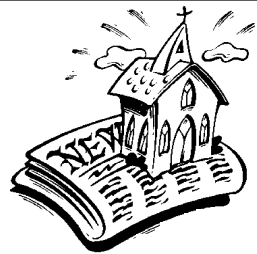
Pastor's Page
Page 4 & 5

Calendar
pages 6, 7

Missions cont.
Page 8

Camp Wrap Up
Page 8

**Up-coming events
& LABC News**
Pages 9-11



Lodi Avenue Lighthouse

Published monthly by

Lodi Avenue Baptist Church

2301 W. Lodi Avenue

Lodi, CA 95242

Tel. 209.368.2576

Fax 209.339.4017

www.Lodiavenuebaptist.net

Email: labc2301@hotmail.com

Pastor: Mike Abdollahzadeh

Youth Minister: John Buren

Minister of Music: Jim Flood

Church Secretary: Margie Magaña

Church Treasurer:

Myrna Pitchford

Church Pianist: Richard Bristow

Church Custodian:

Cleaning Concepts

Gardener: Richard Bowles

Newsletter Editor: Margie Magaña

Deadline for copy: The 25th of the month prior to publication. Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.

Sunday Schedule

9 AM Worship

10:15 - 10:30 AM Fellowship Time

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Sunday School

Wednesday Schedule

6:30 PM Study and Prayer

Team Kid

Thursday

6:30 PM The Crash

Camping



Camping

Our Youth and children have just returned from camping at Jenness Park. Our youth camped from June 20th - 23rd and our children from the 23rd - 27th. They had a great time! Our prayers are important. Remember when you went to camp?? You made many of your life changing decisions and friendships at Christian camps. Let's pray that the decisions they made while at camp will continue on into their homes and school experiences.

LABC NEWS

Dear Lodi Avenue Baptist Church Family,



We want to thank you for the plant and all you did for the family during the funeral and memorial service for Hugh. We know he was truly loved and he would have appreciated all the help we had from the church family.

As always Pastor Mike you were there for us with your sweet spirit and loving kindness. We want to say a special thank you to Carla Hittle for organizing all the food preparation and thank you to the ladies who helped her prepare and clean up afterwards. Kurt Opendike, Jim Flood and Rick Bristow were all there to help things run smoothly at the memorial service and we thank you so very much. We would also like to thank those who shared their memories of Hugh including Hazel Cottrell, Helen McCoskey, Louise Hickingbottom, Carla Hittle and Fred Hogan. Lastly we want to thank Margie Magaña for getting the sanctuary back to VBS order for family night.

Our love, prayers and many thanks,

The family of J Hugh Watkins

June Baptisms:

Ed Thomas & Marla Schmoll



LABC Telephone Directory

Is available in the Church Foyer. Please inform the office of any errors or updates that need to made.



PLANNING FOR THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF LABC IS UNDER-

WAY. IF YOU HAVE ANY PICTURES OR MOMENTOS TO SHARE; PLEASE DROP THEM OFF IN THE CHURCH OFFICE.

VACATION SURVEY

The office is taking a survey for the next newsletter... Let us know what you are doing this summer... whether you vacation at home or abroad we would like to know. If you have guests that are visiting, where did they travel from.

Drop a note in the offering basket or just call the office.

Highlights of upcoming events . .



4th of July at Lodi Lake An American Celebration

LAKE ALPINE HIKING TRIP

The youth group is planning a hiking trip at Lake Alpine on Saturday, July 24th. Meet at LABC to depart at 8am for the day trip and return in the evening. Those interested can call John Buren at 570-1253 for more info and details.



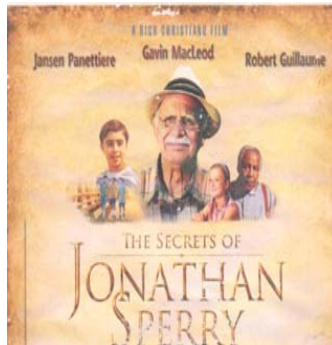
MOVIE NIGHT

July 25th is Movie Night at LABC.
Showing 6:00 pm in the Sanctuary:
"The Secrets Of Jonathan Sperry"

You can view clips of this
move @ www.sperrymovie.com
You will be able to see all the
comments and great reviews
written about it.

See the movie at LABC before it
hits the theaters in September!

(A RICH CHRISTIAN FILM)



MISSIONS

SAMARITAN'S PURSE - OUTREACH IN MONGOLIA

Oji Tsogt, coordinator of the Children's Heart Project office in Mongolia, recently took a trip with Gany and Emma, two other staff members involved in children's ministry, to visit nomadic herders and their families and give out shoe box gifts from OCC. Oji blogged and submitted photos (below) about the journey.

This was a very successful and fruitful 10-day trip. We traveled over 1,000 kilometers and visited in four places. I could feel how God worked through this trip. CHP and Kid's Club combined and reached out to herders and their kids.

I felt the joy of the ministry, that God used me, and I am sure Gany and Emma did too. When I met with the kids and parents staying in Chinda and Oko's ger (a CHP family) we were so much blessed and filled with the joy of the Lord.

The best part was the camel ride carrying shoe box gifts. There was lots of rain and mud, so we had to ride the camels to bring the gifts.

The last day we had Mongolian BBQ and worship, Gospel sharing, and testimonies.

This is my fourth visit to this place. I really love the people and now there are many who have become Christians. Chinba and Oko were saying that the people need someone who can teach God's Word. We are praying that a nomads' church can start here. I would love to go there and disciple them.



Continued on
page 8

PASTOR'S PAGE

“Inspired By Friends To Keep On Keepin’ On!”

Have you ever noticed how often the Apostle Paul gave props (or recognized) the many Christian brethren who had influenced his life? Just check out some of his inspiring letters (13 are recorded in the N. T.)! Paul was very conscientious about listing the names of people who helped assist him or shared in his labor for the Lord. The salutation or benediction to his letters contain the variety of names. He was quick to express his gratitude and appreciation to those who touched his life and made an impact! These so-called ministry partners and friends were such a

big source of strength to him. Paul would be the

He was quick to express his gratitude

first to admit, “I could not have done the Lord’s work without these precious people!” What I find most interesting is that Paul met many of these people on his missionary journeys - where he established new churches. He became the first pastor/discipler that many of them had!

I particularly like the opening to Paul’s letter to the church in Colosse: “We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, because we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love you have for all the saints—

the faith and love that spring from the hope that is stored up for you in heaven and that you have already heard about in the word of truth.” (Col. 1:3-5) In his final greeting to that same church, Paul listed the following names: Tychicus, Onesimus, Aristarchus, Mark, Justus, Epaphras, Luke, Demas, Nympha, & Archippus.” Wow, that’s quite a “Who’s Who List!” Each of his letters contained names such as these.

As I thought about the Apostle Paul and the many friends he endeared himself to, I was reminded of the number of people the Lord has placed in my life - who have been such a great blessing to me. These church family members and dear brethren are con-

The theme at the youth camp this year was buried treasure, based off of Matthew 13 (“The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field. When a man found it, he hid it again, and then in his joy went and sold all he had and bought that field.”). This allowed for a pirate theme, so we all got to dress up like buccaneers and drag out all of our R’s (it was really fun talking to “Arrrrmando”). The driving point of the camp was that following God should cost you something, and we should avoid serving God at the most minimal level of service. I honestly think that most of the students “got it,” meaning I believe they really understood the message. It was a great week! (Oh, and I didn’t even mention the food fight!)

The theme at children’s camp had a space and astronaut emphasis, with the tag

line “He has you in His hands” usually being displayed next to a picture of two giant hands holding planet Earth. There were a lot of kids at children’s camp. Even with 250 grade-schoolers at camp, things never really got out of hand. One of my favorite things about the week was getting to sit down with 16 boys twice a day, and leading them in a Bible study time. The kids never dreaded it, but were always very much into it. The questions they asked were so simple and honest that it reminded me that the Gospel itself is really open and available for anyone who wants it. They wanted to know about God and the Bible in a way that I haven’t seen much among a lot of grown-ups; it was exciting and challenging to me personally! Camp is always kind of an overload of emotions, experiences, and

information. But the good thing about that is that it means everything that was received at camp cannot stay there. The kids will come home, unpack their suitcases and do their laundry; they’ll rest their muscles and begin to “recover” from camp. But that influx of emotion, experience and information will stay with them for years to come, and they will slowly unpack the information and store it in their hearts. I send a big “thank you” to everyone who helped make it possible for our kids to go to camp.

John Buren



Vacation Bible School News

A big Thank you goes to John Buren, Melissa Pitchford, Pastor Mike, and all the volunteers who made VBS a success this year. We also thank everyone who made donations and helped with all the fundraisers

We had a total enrollment of 82; including 44 faculty workers, 12 pre-schoolers and 26 children from grades 1-6. The average attendance over the 5 day week was 61. 15 kids out of the total enrollment are Sunday School

prospects.

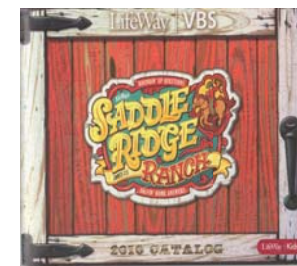
Praise the Lord that 2 boys were saved during this week! This would not be possible without everyone’s efforts and God leading the way!

During the week, the children donated a total of \$231.00 in Mission Offerings that will go to the Cooperative Program.

Friday night was family night and the children held a Worship Rally/Dinner for their parents. What a won-

derful ending to a great week!

Our Lord has truly blessed VBS this year. We can hardly wait to see what He has in store for us next year!



MISSIONS CONTINUED

SERVING IN NASHVILLE

In a country where we're conditioned to believe that there's no such thing as a free lunch, a something-for-nothing offer can seem too good to be true.

That's why Mildred had a hard time believing it when a Samaritan's Purse team offered to clean her flood-damaged house at no cost.

"At first Ms. Mildred did not know whether or not to trust us, but she liked the 'no cost, no red tape' offer enough to give us a try," said Tom Mowbray, program manager for our crews working

in the Nashville area.

Mildred's house needed a lot of work, so the team called for reinforcements.

"We began to see the Lord's hand at work as another team was available and was less than five minutes away," Tom said. "Then the chaplains came by and shortly thereafter Ms. Mildred rededi-



cated her life to Christ."

Samaritan's Purse staff and volunteers are continuing to clean out mud-soaked houses in Nashville, where heavy rains caused extreme flash flooding in early May. They have helped over 200 families—and through their servant attitudes helped lead many to a new relationship with Jesus.

A WEEK OF CAMP by: JOHN BUREN



This past week my days have consisted of throwing balls at kids, refereeing sports games, listening to kids attempting to tell jokes but falling way short of humor or messing up the punch line completely, and having lots of sand in my shoes. Yes, this must mean that I spent the past week at sum-

mer camp. I had the pleasure of staying for both youth camp (grades 7-12) and children's camp (grades 3-6). It's always interesting for me to observe the students, and to see them deep in thought, making choices internally that will affect them for the days to come.

Cont. on page 9

stantly encouraging and inspiring me to keep my chin up; to not give up; and to always move forward in service for our Lord. I have to admit, the grind of ministry does sometimes get the best of me. I find myself feeling worn out or becoming overwhelmed by the various tasks and demands of life,

I can always count on you sweet people to pray for me...

more times than I can count. Even discouragement has been known to set in a time or two. Okay, I admit, many dozens of times!

Where would I be today without a loving family and so many dear Brothers & Sisters in the Lord? It is so good to know that I can always count on you sweet people to pray for me, to hold me up, and to be a daily source of strength. Now if I were to list all of you by name, I am sure it might take

several volumes— trust me! Even the friends I made on my three trips to Brazil continue to be a blessing to me today (thanks to the help of the internet). One of those dear brothers, Mauricio Crispim, is coming to visit my family and our church in a few days. He is a firefighter in Campos, Brazil and is a dynamite Christian. After spending a week with us in beautiful, loveable Lodi; he will be attending a special conference in Texas! I can't wait to see him in person & show him around! Those of you who get the opportunity to meet Bro. Mauricio (a Brazilian Samson) will quickly be drawn to his love, joy, and enthusiasm for Jesus! In just a short period of time, he has come to be a very special person in my life. I am truly grateful to the Lord for Mauricio's friendship! On my

last trip to Brazil in October, Mauricio hosted me in his home. What a treat! During the week, he served as my tour guide and chauffeur, translator, and

Friends like that are really hard to find

we shared many inspirational times together. Gosh, it will be so good to have him here for a brief visit! Friends like that are really hard to find! I can't thank the Lord enough for the many friends He has blessed my life with. Chances are pretty good - - that if you are reading this article, you make up that special circle of friendship in my life today! Just know that I love and appreciate you a whole bunch!

God bless you throughout the Summer!

Pastor Mike



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

				1	2	3
				6:30 The Crash		
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Independence Day			6:30 Prayer & Bible Study Team Kid	6:30 The Crash		
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
			6:30 Prayer & Bible Study Team Kid	6:30 The Crash	10 AM Vienna & Crescent Ct Ministry	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
5 PM Nominating Committee Mtg.			6:30 Prayer & Bible Study Team Kid	6:30 The Crash		
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
Movie Night 6pm			6:30 Prayer & Bible Study Team Kid	6:30 The Crash		

- BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH**
- 01 Louise Hickingbottom
LaVone Nies
 - 03 Diana Hoffman
 - 04 Irene Cantu
Karlyn Lewis
 - 05 Thad Harroun
 - 11 Jason Habeck
 - 14 Norma Burton Miller
 - 15 Ionie Lugg
Kasey Oppendike
Maria Castellon
 - 17 Inta Wood
 - 22 Marilyn Renzi
 - 23 Millie Meeks
Edith Dempsey
 - 24 Tina Mosqueda
 - 28 Sarah Wood
 - 30 Wesley Shockley
 - 31 Amanda Cottrell
Monica Villa

Anniversaries this Month

Happy Anniversary to:
Justus & Cimone Foran
6/27

