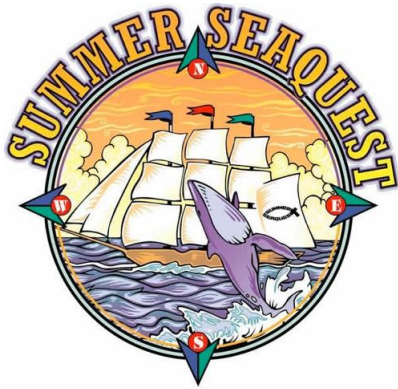


LRPC NEWSCLIP



AUGUST 2011

VBS Wrap-up Issue

SUMMER SEAQUEST Vacation Bible School, 2011

Mention the story of Jonah, and almost everyone will instantly think of a whale or a large fish. However, to understand the story of Jonah, we need know that the story was written at a time when Israel had returned from Babylon to Jerusalem and had begun rebuilding. They saw the decree of Cyrus of Persia, to let the Jews return and help them rebuild, as an enormous sign of God's favor. For many, Jewish belief shifted from God's favor of their release from captivity, to God's EXCLUSIVE favor and blessing of the Jews. From the idea of God's exclusive blessing, this particular group of Jews developed not only a very strong sense of ethnic superiority but also a kind of nationalistic pride. Jonah is among this group, full of superiority and pride; and it will be his downfall.

As the children came into church, there was large mouth of a whale around the main doors of the sanctuary. The windows were decorated with sea scenes as well in all the classrooms. As the children entered the "whale's mouth," they were invited to go with Jonah and experience his journey.

At VBS, the children learned that Jonah was disobedient to God's call. They heard the story of how the boat Jonah was on encountered a violent storm, and that the sailors ended up throwing Jonah overboard. A large fish swallows Jonah and eventually spits him up on the shore. With this, God is saying to

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Keeping Christ Pre-eminent

In All Things

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Jonah, "**Now that I have your attention, you are going to Nineveh.**" They learned the people of Nineveh were not Jews. They were seen as the military and political enemies of Israel. The way many Jews looked at it, God's love and forgiveness was reserved exclusively for the Jews. The idea that God's love and mercy could be extended to the Assyrians of Nineveh (who wanted to kill Jews) was not possible.

Reluctantly, Jonah goes to Nineveh to deliver God's message. "Forty days more and Nineveh shall be overthrown," He declares. God will destroy Nineveh for the sins of the people. Here's the twist: the Bible proclaims that the people of Nineveh "believed God," and "a fast was proclaimed." In return, God does not destroy the city.

For Jonah, this was not good news. He believed God favored only the Jews with blessings. God would never be willing to cancel punishment for non-Jews, because they could never repent enough to earn that favor. Jonah continues to resist God to the end all the while trying to hang on to his no longer relevant, nationalistic pride, and ethnic superiority.

The children learned that God's **mercy** and **forgiveness** extends to **everyone**. God invites us to repent and experience a new life. Today the question is whether we will accept the invitation out of trust and repentance, or whether we will cling to the past in fear.

Every aspect of VBS Summer Seaquest was to use this run-away prophet, Jonah, to draw the students into a deeper relationship with Jehovah. The Seaquest theme appealed to children of all ages. This was done by laying out a path to God's pursuing love and saving grace. The children spent a five-day voyage following Jonah's roundabout way to Nineveh. They saw Jonah's course to repentance and obedience, as he first runs from God, but eventually faces and accepts God's challenge.

Bible School opened with singing led by the puppets. This was followed by a PowerPoint presentation of the Gospel Hand. (The five points of the Gospel Hand are Heaven, Sin, God, Christ and Faith.) Each day featured a special costumed character. Following the lessons and memory verses used by our teachers:

1. "Am I Jehovah or Am I Jeering?" (Jonah 1:1-6). Memory verse was Isaiah 45:21-22.

2. "Am I headed for Tarshish or My Nineveh?" (Jonah 1:17-2:10). Memory verse was Psalm 48:14.
 3. "Have I been turned around by God?" (Jonah 3). Memory verse was Acts 3:19.
 4. "Do I have a Jehovah or a Jonah Attitude?" (Jonah 4). Memory verse was Ephesians 2:8.
 5. "Lord Send Me a Fish and a Resurrection!" (Matthew 12:38-41; Luke 11:29-32). Memory verse was John 20:31.

There was a recreation time for each age group plus refreshments. During the course of the morning, some of the children went to the church house for crafts. The younger children did their crafts in their classrooms.

The closing assembly featured singing, led by the puppets, and the acrostic of Jonah's name, with explanations: J=Jehovah, O=own, N=new, A=adopted and H=heaven. When time permitted, there was a PowerPoint summary of the day's lesson. Many prizes were given for inviting others, memory work, and participation.

The last day of VBS was different. We met for closing assembly at 11:00 to noon. Again, singing was led by the puppets. This was followed by the presentation of VBS certificates, by the teachers. All the children received a large paper bag containing prizes for attendance, inviting others, participation, and memorizing their memory verses. A special gift was given to each child -- a CD of all the VBS songs learned during the week. The hope is that the children will want to play **THEIR CD** over and over, thus further implanting the Gospel message in their hearts and mind. Children and adults were then treated to freshly popped popcorn and a time of fellowship.

We were privileged to have a large number of children from outside our church. Prayerfully this outreach will bring additional children and adults into LRPC. We have planted the seed; pray that God will bring the increase.

We would like to thank those who were responsible for having a Vacation Bible School in so short a time. Our staff was great. They swung into action and pulled it all together. They get a triple **A** rating! On behalf of the congregation, we thank you for your labor and love for the Lord.

Dr. Jones

WHAT A WEEK WE HAD IN VBS!

Costumed Storytellers....



Bible Lessons.....



Songs and Puppets....



Class time.....



Crafts and Snacks....



Time for organized play



Time for adults to study, too...



Time to share with families....



THE VIEW FROM THE TECH BOOTH



What I saw from my vantage point was lots of enthusiasm and love of God!

The puppets acting out the songs, the leaders and special guests giving their messages, and the children participating were a joy to see. I was glad to be able to provide the necessary projection of words to songs and pictures on the walls.

I feel that the projection capabilities we have are an asset to an activity like Vacation Bible School.

Barbara M. Reed

THE VIEW FROM CHRISTIAN ED

In Vacation Bible School this year, attendees enjoyed the musical leadership of four engaging puppets. The children learned new and lively songs, such as "Indigestible Jonah" and "God is Big", with very animated puppets. Our puppeteers learned quickly and entertained with constant surprises- hats, goggles, etc. Thanks to puppeteers, Andy Woo, Alex Woo, and Meghan Fisher. We are very appreciative of their creativity and spontaneity. Thanks also to Mrs. Suzanne Woo, who found our music, the words, and acknowledged permission to use this music. We hope and pray that our puppetry blessed our VBS children and adults during VBS week.

Marilyn Fisher

MISSION POSSIBLE

August 2011

Carl and Jody Campbell

Wycliffe Bible Translators in Papua New Guinea

CAMPBELL PRAYER UPDATE July 2011

Greetings from Waxhaw, NC where we've been living in a rented apartment at the Wycliffe JAARS center. We first arrived here in November 2010. As you may remember we returned from PNG unexpectedly because of some concerns we had about the anxiety Robert was experiencing. We wanted to update you on the latest news from here.

Even though we don't have a definite date for our return to Papua New Guinea, we have thought we may get back there by January 2012. However, we feel it our first priority to help Robert resolve the anxiety issues he is still experiencing before we return to PNG. God is guiding us and we have felt the prayers of so many. In the meantime

Work

Carl continues to work on the Yade language revising previously translated materials. Most recently he has been entering the translated portions of Matthew into the computer that had been sent to us from our co-translators in PNG. He has been pleased, for the most part, with the quality of the translation. He will send back his revision notes to our colleagues there in PNG, who work in a neighboring language group about a 10 hour hike from our language area and who will soon be returning to there soon. They will in turn send them to our village translation team with someone coming through our area so they can make necessary changes and send back their work to us. They will also send us additional translated scripture portions which the Yade translation team has been working on.

Both Carl and Jody have been also helping part-time here at the Wycliffe JAARS center. JAARS provides technical support services-such as aviation, information technology, media and facility maintenance - to advance Bible translation and literacy programs worldwide. Carl has been helping in the grounds maintenance department and Jody in the housekeeping department.

Unique Opportunity

Jody plans to attend a conference in September in Ashville, NC presented by the International Orality Network. We are considering using oral ways of teaching Bible truths among the Yade people. This is very effective among people who are still very much an "oral" society and do not have a long history of reading and writing. By attending this conference, she hopes to gain valuable insights into how principles of discipleship and growth in one's Christian life can be used among the Yade people in future years. This may involve making recordings of Yade Bible portions which can be played on small, solar rechargeable digital devices. More details will be sent as the conference time gets closer.

Emily and Robert

The school year has finished for both Emily at Metrolina Christian Academy (MCA) and Robert who was doing his school at Northstar Academy (an on-line Christian School). We are still waiting to hear if there is an open space for Robert at MCA. We are reviewing other options for Robert since we do not feel that on-line school is a good match for Robert's learning style.

This summer Emily has been working at an amusement park called Carowinds, selling "dippin' dots" ice cream. She says she enjoys earning money! She is learning valuable life lessons such as dealing with irate customers with patience and grace.

Family

We will be attending a Memorial Service in August in Florida for Jody's dad, Joseph Del Vecchio, who died in April. Jody's family look forward to being reunited again as we remember our Dad.

Please pray about some gastro-intestinal health problems Jody is experiencing. She will be having an endoscopy and seeing a surgeon about possible gallbladder surgery.

TRUSTEES TOOLBOX

The Trustees again inspected the pastors' offices and other rooms on the top floor of the church house at the beginning of the meeting. Sue Freeman has completed the painting of the pastors' offices and will continue painting the rest of the rooms on that floor. Many items in the Church House which were no longer useful or serviceable to anyone have been discarded. A trash removal company was hired to carry away old sofas, desks, etc. Some new furniture and window treatments will be purchased to replace the items in the pastors' offices that were discarded.

All nine emergency lights in the church building will be replaced for a modest sum. The current lights are old and not in working order. All of the fire extinguishers in the church and the house have recently been inspected and recharged.

We have begun to discuss revisions to the Trustee's manual.

For the glory of the Lord,

Nancy Stagge

FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE IS STARTING UP AGAIN

It has been a few years since we had a Fellowship Committee. We would like to begin again this Fall. The purpose of this group is to assist with some activities, while overseeing others. Most of the time we help with the set up and clean up of the facilities. We may also provide a portion of the food, or even all of it, plus make sure that the necessary paper goods are in stock.

Some of the functions that we help with or over see are:

Men's Class Dinner	Lenten Dinners
WIC Christmas Tea	Easter Sunday
Funeral Meals	Other Receptions
Congregational Pot-lucks	
Presbytery Meetings held at LRPC	

Would **YOU** be interested in being on the committee? Our past coordinators, Charlotte Stastny and Patty De Rosa, have organized our duties so well, that it should be, as the young folks say, a "no brainer." Please contact Jo Ann Beck if you'd like to help on this vital committee-cell:443-722-7827 or email:jo_beck52@yahoo.com

Report from the Pastor Search Committee Survey Results

A total of 58 people responded over the two Sundays, July 3 and July 10, when the survey was distributed to the congregation. Responders were asked to identify the **one most important quality** of a future pastor in the following categories. The results were as follows:

Our Pastor should:

Beliefs:

- Not be a recent convert 2
- Be saved by grace alone 16
- Be saved by faith alone 4
- Espouse reformed theology 12
- Be a man of prayer 17

Leadership:

- Work well with Session 6
- Be a motivator 5
- Have leadership experience outside the Church 1
- Have a good reputation with outsiders 0
- Have strong spiritual convictions 17
- Inspire others to catch a vision 7
- Delegate tasks effectively 1
- Be interested in all church activities 5
- Lead by example 9
- Have a good track record in leadership and be able to explain it 1

Preaching/Teaching

- Deliver focused and organized sermons 13
- Embrace the role of Teaching Elder 15
- Deliver the Word forcefully and effectively 23

Character Traits

- Value people over programs 11
- Relate to a culturally diverse congregation 1
- Participate in community outreach 5
- Have a genuine interest in the interests of others 5
- Be friendly 0

Continued on page 9

Pastor Search Survey results, continued...

Character Traits, continued

- | | |
|--|----|
| ▪ Be compassionate and understanding | 10 |
| ▪ Be mature | 5 |
| ▪ Be temperate, self-controlled; have an even keel,
a calming personality | 11 |
| ▪ Be diligent in pastoral home visitations | 0 |
| ▪ Be timely, punctual | 0 |
| ▪ Not smoke | 0 |
| ▪ Not drink alcohol socially | 0 |

Outreach

- | | |
|---|----|
| ▪ Be a maker of disciples for Christ | 13 |
| ▪ Show a passion for the lost, desiring their reclamation | 21 |
| ▪ Be strong in outreach/evangelism | 16 |

Family Traits

- | | |
|--|----|
| ▪ Have a successful Biblical marriage
(one husband, one wife) | 29 |
| ▪ Conduct family devotions | 0 |
| ▪ Manage his family well | 16 |
| ▪ See that his children obey him with proper respect | 1 |

The Pastor Search Committee will keep in mind the results of this survey as they continue to review resumes and Ministerial Data Forms and as they proceed to phone interviews with candidates who appear a good fit for LRPC. Please continue to keep the Pastor Search Committee in your prayers that God might make it plain to them the man He wants for LRPC.

Five Lies That Ruin Relationships

(Wrong Beliefs Produce Wrong Behavior)

**A five session Bible Study for couples
on the last Saturday evenings of August – October @ LRPC**

This study examines the five most common lies that ruin relationships with those we love. You'll learn the source of quarreling, how our words wound, how not to make decisions, and why better things don't always make things better. This study is for those serious about deep, meaningful relationships.

The five lies are:

- **“Sensual Pleasure will satisfy My Inner Longings for Happiness.”** *(covered in June mtg.)*
 - Why We Fight With Those We Love | Defusing Conflict... Restoring Relationships
- **“If Other People would Shape Up, My Life would Work Out.”** *(covered in July mtg.)*
 - Why We Wound Others with Our Words | How to Stop Playing God
- **“Upwardly Mobile Work Opportunities are automatically the Will of God.”** *(focus for August 27th mtg.)*
 - How Our Jobs Can Destroy Our Relationships | How to Pursue God-Given Dreams
- **“My Significance and Value are measured by the Quality and Quantity of Things I Possess.”**
 - Why Better Things Don't Always Make Things Better | Using Wealth Wisely
- **“The Grass is Greener on the Other Side of the Fence.”**
 - Why A Change in Scenery Rarely Improves the View | How Patience and Perseverance Transform Relationships

We will work through the book of James, chapters four, five, and six using:

- **A DVD video study – Led by Chip Ingram who:**
 - is Senior Pastor of Venture Christian Church in Los Gatos, CA.
 - is President of Living on the Edge <http://www.livingontheedge.org/home/index.php>
 - was formerly the President of the Walk Thru the Bible
- **An associated work book study guide - facilitated by Keith & Marlene Wawrzyniak who:**
 - will be married forty-four years this November.
 - have participated in and led several Marriage Builders Bible Study and Fellowship groups since 1996.
 - believe that *many books can inform, but only the Bible can transform.*
 - believe that God instituted marriage and family as the basic building block of human culture.
 - believe that God has established marriage as a sacred covenant between a man and a woman for life.

This Bible Study

- **has three goals...**
 - search the scriptures together to see what the Bible has to say to us about marriage
 - work together towards the application of God's Biblical principles within our own relationship
 - fellowship with other couples, and learn from one another's experiences
- **...and we have three membership rules:**
 - share nothing with the group about our relationship, which might embarrass our mate
 - keep confidences of information which may be shared inside the group
 - feel free to participate or pass on any discussion topic or group activity
- **Is approved by the Association of Christian Schools International** <http://www.acsi.org/>
- **Is previewed on the Walk Thru the Bible Website** <http://www.walkthru.org/wtbsites/fivelies/>

EVENTS for the CHURCH FAMILY

"Bear one another's burdens..."

Galatians 6:2

AUGUST, 2011 ACTC FOOD DRIVE

The Deacons will be sponsoring a food drive for the Assistance Center of Towson Churches in August. This organization provides a much needed service to the poor and needy of **our** communities. As part of our commitment to the Center, we participate in 2 food drives per year, in addition to the Thanksgiving Basket food collection in the fall. The Center serves 500-600 individuals a month—**you** can be part of this ministry.

Won't you prayerfully consider how you can help? The following items are in low supply. There will be a collection box in the narthex on **August 7, August 14, and August 21**. If you prefer, you may give a monetary donation—checks payable to ACTC.

Cereal	Spaghetti sauce
Canned tomatoes	Pasta Meals
Pork and beans	
Saltines (boxes with individual packages)	
Canned meat (beef stew, chili, spam)	

PLEASE, No perishables, home canned foods, or institutional size cans

ACTC and the people it serves truly appreciate your generosity. They are grateful for our continuing support.

**THE LAST DATE TO DONATE IS AUGUST 21,
2011.**

ACTC website: actconline.info

CHURCH FAMILY PICNIC

Saturday,

August 13, 2011

1 - 8 p.m.

BEACHMONT CHRISTIAN CAMP

6433 Mt. Vista Road, Kingsville

Speaker - Rev. Ralph Kidwell
Pastor of Visitation at Loch Raven PCA

We will have a modified Pot Luck Dinner. Bring your own meat, beverage & a salad or a dessert to share. Coffee and charcoal will be provided. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. and vespers at 6:30 p.m.

A free will offering will be taken to help defray expenses.

The pool will be open from 1 - 5 as well as after the Vesper service. You can swim, hike the trail, play basketball, volleyball, horseshoes or sit and relax.

This is a good time to just sit and visit, so come on out! Everyone is invited - members, friends, & relatives.

(This will be a joint picnic with Aisquith PCA)

LRPC FAMILY NEWS

Royce-Burton Wedding



Congratulations to members Jack and Eileen Royce on the marriage of their daughter, Rebecca, to Nathan Burton on July 9, 2011. Rebecca and Nathan will reside in Fort Wayne, Indiana while they finish their studies at Grace College.

*To the Deacons and beloved church family
at Loch Raven Presbyterian Church,*

*Thank you so very much for your
outpouring of love and support at the loss of
Steve's Dad.*

*We are blessed by the many cards and
spoken words of sympathy, the flowers and
touched by those who took the time to be
there at the service.*

God bless you for showing us His love,

Sincerely,

Steve and Kathy Kreyling

Church Directory Change

Please remove Bill and Jo Ann Beck's home phone number (410-931-0771) in your copy of the Church Directory and add Bill's cell phone, 443-939-8632

LOST FOUND BRACELET!

The missing gold bracelet mentioned in last month's newsletter has been found. Betty Gierhart wishes to thank everyone who prayed that her bracelet would be found – and it was!

CHUCK MASTERS

After a lengthy illness, Chuck Masters went to be with his Lord and Savior on July 26. There will be a memorial service for Chuck on Saturday, August 20 at 10:30 a.m.

CHECK OUR WEBSITE!

Efforts have been made to update our church website and to keep it current. A **BIG** thank you goes out to our webmaster, Jason Palmisano, for all the work he's been doing. If you haven't seen the website in a while, check it out at www.lochravenpca.org. There is also a grass-roots effort to revive the LRPC's Facebook group page at <https://www.facebook.com/group.php?qid=65901351513>.

AUGUST 2011 at LRPC

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 7:00 PM Pastor Search Committee	2	3 7:00 PM Congregation Prayer Mtg.	4	5 7:00 PM Knitting Group	6
7	8 7:00 PM Session Mtg.	9 7:00 PM Pastor Search Committee 6:15 PM TOPS	10 7:00 PM Congregation Prayer Mtg.	11	12	13 1:00 -8:00 PM CHURCH PICNIC AT BEACHMONT
14	15 7:00 PM Pastor Search Committee	16 6:15 PM TOPS	17 7:00 PM Congregation Prayer Mtg.	18	19 7:00 PM Knitting Group	20 10:30 AM Chuck Masters Memorial
21	22 Newsletter Deadline 7:00 PM Pastor Search Committee	23 6:15 PM TOPS	24 7:00 PM Congregation Prayer Mtg.	25	26	27 7:00-9:30 PM MARRIAGE BUILDERS
28 Communion Sunday	29 7:00 PM Pastor Search Committee	30 6:15 PM TOPS				

Dr. William Jones
Interim Pastor

Rev. Ralph Kidwell
Pastor of Visitation

Mrs. Suzanne Woo
Music Director

Ms. Pei-Hsin Kao
Accompanist

Mr. Austin Kenly
Church Treasurer

LOCH RAVEN PCA

Email: lochravenpca@comcast.net

Website: www.lochravenpca.org

Office Phone: 410-661-5777

Fax: 410-661-0065

Church Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday – 9:00 to 3:00

The Office is closed on Wednesday and Friday.

Mrs. Lee Goon, Ms. Kathy Fagan
Church Secretaries

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:30 a.m. – Sunday School

11:00 a.m. – Worship Service

PRAYER MEETING

Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m.

Mark Your Calendar: Church Picnic - August 13

Loch Raven Presbyterian Church exists to glorify God and make known His eternal and unchanging purpose, fulfilled through a living relationship with Jesus Christ.

LOCH RAVEN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, PCA

9318 OLD HARFORD ROAD
BALTIMORE, MD 21234