

connect

JULY 2026
VOL. 15, ISS. 7

HOW LOVELY IS YOUR DWELLING
PLACE, O LORD OF HOSTS!

MY SOUL LONGS, YES, FAINTS
FOR THE COURTS OF THE LORD;

MY HEART AND FLESH SING
FOR JOY TO THE *LIVING GOD*.





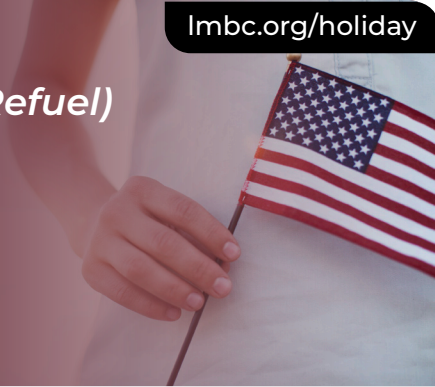
JULY '26

Can't be here in-person? Join us live **Sundays at 9 & 10:45 am** on Facebook, Imbc.tv, or our LMBC app.

WED
01

NO GROUPS
(including LKC & Refuel)

Imbc.org/holiday



SUN
05

NO SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY
through the month of July

Imbc.org/holiday

The study will resume in August.



FRI
10

PRIMETIME CELEBRATES USA's 250th

6 pm | Renaissance Room

Hotdogs, hamburgers, and all the fixings will be provided. You bring salad, vegetables or dessert. Try to wear red, white, and blue!

Please register by Monday, July 5 to 304-617-7231.

SUN
12

COMMUNION SUNDAY

9 & 10:45 am | Auditorium

Imbc.org/communion



2

COMING IN AUGUST ...

SUN
09

COMMUNITY DINNER

6 pm | Barboursville Park Shelter #8

Bring a dish to share!

Imbc.org/dinner



SAT
15

WOMEN'S EVENT

11 am-2 pm | Renaissance Room

SAVE THE DATE:

Ladies mark your calendar for this special event!

Kristi Hawthorne will be speaking to us about walking in God's wisdom and resting in His peace. Spread the word and invite a friend.

Registration is open at Imbc.org/women.

Imbc.org/women



SUN
16

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY RESUMES

6 pm | WC Auditorium



3

Lewis Kids Connection

Visit lmbc.org/lkc
or join our [Facebook group](#)

Sundays @ 9 & 10:45 am
(Worship Center lower level)

Wednesdays @ 7 pm
(Family Life Center)

NO LKC
July 1, 8, 15, & 22

Summer



Sundays @ 10:45 am
(Student Ministry Building - S100)
following the 9 am service

Discipleship series on
Wednesdays @ 7 pm
(Student Ministry Building - S100)

JULY 1

4th of July Party
@ the McCabes

JULY 8

Missionary Trey Bailey talks
discipleship

JULY 15

Special guest: Leah Adkins

JULY 22

Pastor Tim Yates talks
discipleship

JULY 24 (Friday)

Hike & Bonfire

JULY 29

Bridge @ the Brammers

@refuelstudents



REFUEL

S T U D E N T S

Wednesdays @ 6:45 pm
(Student Ministry Building)

1 No Refuel (4th of July)

8 Parking Lot Party & DR Exit meeting

Sending off of DR missions team

15 Refuel @ the Park

Come have pizza at Barboursville Park with us

22 Tacos, Tats, & Timeless Truths

Learn from the wisest LMBC members

29 SWORD Bible Night

Get fed physically AND spiritually as we learn how to study our Bibles



Life Groups

It's Summer Break for most Life Groups. Please
check with your group leader for any changes to
your schedule. If you are new and looking for a
group, please contact:

Tim Yates (t.yates@lmbc.org) or
April McClay (a.mcclay@lmbc.org)
for more information.



THE GIFT OF THE GOSPEL
**OPERATION
CHRISTMAS
CHILD**



Shop online and have the items delivered directly to the church by using this QR code to go directly to the LMBC Operation Christmas Child Wish list.



Happy Christmas in July!

This month, the Operation Christmas Child (OCC) bins will be set out to jumpstart collections for the year. We are super-excited to see what God has in store for OCC this year!

2025 was another amazing year for OCC! It was, again, a record-breaking year, with a collection of 12.2 MILLION shoeboxes worldwide!

Lewis Memorial Baptist Church collected 3,650 shoeboxes churchwide. Praise the Lord for blessing this ministry so abundantly!

For those who have been a part of this ministry in any way, you already know what an impact this can make, as each shoebox is a gospel opportunity for children to learn about the most

precious gift, which is the gift of salvation through Jesus Christ.

There will be multiple opportunities to participate in the upcoming months. Check the Connect magazine each month for details about collections, drop-off dates, and more. You can also join the LMBC Operation Christmas Child Facebook Group, or get added to the email list, by sending a message to occ@lmbc.org, where you can stay up-to-date on all current OCC events, including work parties and packing parties.

We have already been working on pencil packs for the upcoming shoebox season and are still in need of more school supplies.

Many stores start back-to-school sales in July, so now is the time to shop! We are in need of the following:

- **Notebooks**
- **Crayons**
- **Pencils**
- **Colored Pencils**
- **Markers**
- **Pens**
- **Pencil Sharpeners**
- **Erasers**
- **Glue Sticks**

If you run across any deals on any other shoebox items (small toys, coloring books, etc.), feel free to bring those as well.

NOTE: We will need LOTS of small stuffed animals and coloring books, as we put those in every single box.

DIFFERENCE MAKERS

SERVE GOD | SERVE OTHERS



Do you shop at Kroger? If so this 'Difference Makers' project is an easy one for you. Simply sign up for a Kroger Reward card and select LMBC as the organization that you want to support. Present your card or your customer number each time you shop and a percentage of your purchases will be sent to us and used to help cover the shipping cost of the thousands of shoeboxes in November. Last year's shipping cost covered by the church was \$34,210.

If you already have a Reward Card, simply use your computer or phone to update or verify your preferred organization.



Thank you
to all of the
parents, children,

and anyone else who contributed to the VBS offering this year. It was the largest VBS offering to date, totaling \$6,837.99. The total offering is being given to missionaries, Anthony and Rachelle Goddard, who are serving in Brazil.

RECOGNIZING OUR COUNTRY'S

250th Anniversary

LAND OF
THE FREE

Celebrate our Freedom

HOME OF
THE BRAVE

You were called
TO FREEDOM,
ONLY DO NOT USE YOUR FREEDOM
AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR THE FLESH,
BUT THROUGH LOVE
serve one another.

GALATIANS 5:13



Our outreach
to downtown
Huntington
**Connect on
Facebook or at
ebenezer@lmbc.org**

JULY 7
**Bible Studies
for Men & Women**
6-7:30 pm

JULY 14
**First Responders
Meals**
11 am - 2 pm
& 7 - 9 pm

JULY-AUG
No ECC Kids Club



Mike & Pam
SMITH

UPDATES FROM JUNE

Recently at Ebenezer, we preached through the familiar story of Joshua, as he led the Israelites to victory over the city of Jericho. We talked about how, to a military leader, the battle plan that God had designed for them (Joshua 6:2-5) most likely didn't make much sense. Marching around the city walls in silence, day after day, would have seemed like an unlikely path to victory. However, lessons learned during the process, such as patience in waiting on God's timing, trust in God's wisdom, and dependence on God's power alone, proved valuable to His people. Often, when the tasks we've been given are bigger than us, or the walls we face seem insurmountable in our own strength, it is then that we are able to see the reality that God is always at work, perfecting His plan for His glory. This is a lesson we are continually learning as we serve the community around us. The strength needed comes only from the Lord (Phil. 4:13), and the path that we are called to follow is by His design (Jer. 29:11). When we rely on His strength and we are willing to follow

His plan, instead of our own, He is the One who receives glory.

The summer season is busy with activity, as it is in many ministries. The flurry of activity provides numerous opportunities to watch as God works within the hearts and lives of those that He has called us to reach with the truth of the Gospel. Our men's and women's Bible studies continue to meet monthly through the summer, and our men's Bible study at Recovery Point meets weekly as well. At our June community meal, we had the blessing of serving 190 dinners on-site and to-go. These dinners are proving to be an effective way to meet people in the neighborhood and invite them to our Sunday services. At the end of the month, we will have the privilege of baptizing one of our children from the children's church ministry. We are thankful for those who faithfully teach our children what it means to have a personal relationship with Jesus.

Backpack VBS is another important summer ministry. The teens from ReFuel at LMBC do a great job of hosting the VBS at ECC. We are so grateful for their willingness to be the "hands and feet of Jesus" to the children of the ECC neighborhood. Our prayer as a ministry team is that God would allow us to continue following Him into the homes of many in our community who need to know Him and that by His strength, we would be faithful to the task He has given to us, for His glory.

Mike and Pam ~

Please pray for our
missions trip to Jamaica
from July 15-22.

- Pray for our team members, for safety and for physical and spiritual strength.
- Pray for hearts to be soft to the Gospel as we share Jesus.
- Pray for the church we are working with. They are finally growing and Satan is attacking.

*Then he said to his disciples,
"The harvest is plentiful,
but the laborers are few;
therefore pray earnestly to
the Lord of the harvest to
send out laborers into his
harvest."*

Matthew 9:37-38



Chris
KATULKA
in the USA

On Jan 30, 2026, I received a diagnosis that changed the course of my year: rectal cancer. I want to first apologize for the long silence - this news became the consuming focus of our family's life, and getting a newsletter out simply wasn't possible.

By God's kindness, the cancer was caught early, and our medical team has been exceptional. In late March, I began chemotherapy treatments aimed at shrinking the tumor so that surgeons can remove it.

Every doctor we have spoken with is genuinely optimistic, and we are grateful for the care we have received. I share this not to alarm you, but because you are my people, and you deserve to know.

What I want you to know more than anything, though, is what God has been doing in me. When I first heard the word "cancer," anxiety took up residence in my heart and soul. But over these past three months, His peace has slowly, steadily washed over me - not because the circumstances change, but because He is the great Physician and I know He can heal this without effort. Yet I am beginning to understand that He is doing something far greater than physical healing. He is doing the deeper work of bringing me to the end of myself and into a fuller dependence on Him. That is a gift I did not ask for and did not expect, but I would not trade it.

And then there is the gift of people. Karen has been my rock - constantly and faithfully pointing me back to the Lord's arms when I've drifted toward fear. My kids,

Olive, Cohen, Preston, and Levi, check in on me in ways that make me hold them all a little tighter. And you - friends from my neighborhood, from seminary, from ministry, from around the world - have covered me in prayer. I have learned something profound through this: even when I don't have the words to bring before the Lord myself, there is a blanket of prayer being offered on my behalf. That thought alone humbles me to tears. Thank you for not letting me walk through this alone.

"Well done, good and faithful servant ..."

Missionary, Elvin (Al) Bonikowsky (the father of Missionary Andy Bonikowsky) passed away on May 7, 2026. Al served as a faithful Baptist missionary for 42 years.

MISSIONARIES WE SUPPORT IN **CARIBBEAN**

Jenn Morla
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (D.R.)

Jake & Elizabeth Delich
PUERTO RICO

Benji & Kerri Dryden
HAITI

Matt & Dallita Goins
HONDURAS

Gary & Alli Hale
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (D.R.)

Doug & Paula Hodges
D.R. & HONDURAS

Wade & Kacey Rainey
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (D.R.)

Jason & Sarah Sykes
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC (D.R.)

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN JOINING LMBC?

*Looking for a church home?
Would you prayerfully
consider whether God
may be leading you to our
family of believers?*

Just follow the steps below:

1. FAITH & BAPTISM

Trust in Christ and follow Him in believer's baptism.

2. FILL US IN

Complete a "Fill Us In" card on the back of any pew and return it to a pastor or Fill Us In online:

lmbc.org/register

3. MEMBER UP

Ask a pastor about the next membership class. Our pastors have a book you will need for the next session on **Sept. 9**. Attend and make it official!

QUESTIONS?

Visit **lmbc.org/memberup** or call our office at **304-736-7676**



TAKE A LOOK AT THE LATEST FAMILY NEWS

BEREAVEMENTS

- **Richard Bartram**, Anita Bartram's husband
- **Maxine Becker**, Gail Woodall's mother
- **Judy Browning**, Benny Browning's wife
- **Don Smith**, Trina Smith's husband

NEW MEMBERS

- **Ruby Criss** (*baptism*)
- **Joel Carlson** (*baptism*)
- **Bentley Endlich** (*baptism*)
- **Sadie Howerton** (*baptism*)
- **Ella Jones** (*baptism*)
- **Larry & Sharon Methax**
- **Vivian Porter** (*baptism*)
- **Kaidin Powers** (*baptism*)
- **Reece Sims** (*baptism*)
- **Kadin Smith** (*baptism*)
- **Baylee Wilson** (*baptism*)

STAFF BIRTHDAYS

- **Mary Lemming** (4th)
- **Rebekah Shaffer** (26th)

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN CONNECT MORE

LIFE GROUPS

Find Life Group listings at **lmbc.org/groups** or in any lobby area.

PRAYER

To submit prayer requests and/or sign up for the Prayer Chain to join in praying for the needs and burdens of the church, visit **lmbc.org/prayer** or call the main office at 304-736-7676.

WAYS TO GIVE



Drop in a black box on the walls of the Main Auditorium



Online at **lmbc.org/give** or the LMBC App



Mail to:
1358 W. Pea Ridge Rd.
Hunt., WV 25705

USE YOUR PHONE TO STAY IN TOUCH



We can text you alerts and/or weekly news & updates. You can opt-in at lmbc.org (bottom of the page) or text one of the following to 304-648-4730:

- **ALERT** for important updates (*such as weather-related cancellations*)
- **NEWS** for our weekly news & events

DOWNLOAD THE APP

The LMBC app features tools and information to keep you connected.

Watch our live stream, discover news & events, submit prayer requests, give, & more!

You can download the app on all major devices.

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is a publication of



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1358 W. Pea Ridge Rd.
Huntington, WV 25705
304-736-7676
lmbc.org

SUNDAY WORSHIP

9 & 10:45 am (watch live at lmbc.tv)

SUNDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY

6 pm

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

7 pm