

The LCF Connection

June 2017

I Had No Idea! Lessons from Fatherhood

Dan Frederick

As I anticipated becoming a new dad, I had no idea what to expect. Well, at eight months old, Rebekah has taught me a lot! She has taught me that:

- Sleep is optional.
- Bodily fluids aren't all that gross.
- Communicating without words is tough.
- Never put on your good clothes until you're about to walk out the door.
- My parents must've put in a lot of work to help me grow.
- You can push aside your wants for the sake of the kiddo, and it's ok.
- You can love more deeply than you thought.
- You start finding that you want to protect your family, and you wonder how far you'd go to do that.
- You learn how to plan for much longer into the future.
- You learn how strong your character really is.



- You learn to lean more on God, and that God always provides.

Even though raising Rebekah has been challenging, especially the transition from being focused on doing what I want versus doing what she needs, I feel that investing in her life has definitely been worthwhile. We get to teach her, and she gets to teach us.



Bob Zachrich

I recall the very first moment I saw each one of my girls. Helpless, crying, covered in goo, and not really happy to be outside of the completely safe environment that they had been in the previous nine months. There was certainly a sense of excitement of being a dad, but also a sense of great responsibility and fear as I was not sure that I was ready to do this. Both girls seemed to be communicating, as they say, at the end of the count when playing hide and seek, "ready or not, here I come," and now it was my and Bettyjo's responsibility to take these two girls and raise them to be adults, to then be released into the human jungle, the way you might release a rescued turtle back to the sea. As if taking them to adulthood was somehow the end of the trail, and then

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Financial Tips

by Keith Scheffel

There's a great book by Stephen Covey called *The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People*. If you haven't read it, you should. One of the principles Covey suggests is to begin with the end in mind. Can you imagine a builder winging it to build a house without blueprints? The same principle applies in financial management. Zig Ziglar used to say, "If you aim at nothing, you'll hit it every time."



A lot of people cringe when they hear the word "budget." Words often associated with it are: confining, burdensome and painful. But I'd propose a budget is anything but that. A budget, in its simplest form, is a financial plan that allows you to begin with the end in mind.

While there may be some people with seemingly unlimited financial resources, I doubt that describes anyone reading this. Most of us have to decide how to allocate limited financial resources. A budget allows you to prioritize what you value most and allocate your resources according to those values.

And since I know Levi Miller will be reading this, I'd be in trouble if I didn't mention that the first thing in every believer's budget should be a tithe set aside for giving to the church/ministry (the truth is I'd write that even if Levi wasn't reading this, as I believe tithing is a Biblical principle that honors God).

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Learning to Trust God

by Jeremy Hisey

“Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act.”
Psalm 37:5 (ESV)

I lay in bed reading God’s Word and looked for some type of encouragement in the darkest days of my life, when these words jumped off the page at me. So many verses have spoken to me and given me hope over the past year. When I volunteered to write about a verse that really speaks into my life, there is no way I could pick one that has meant more to me the last 11 months than Psalm 37:5.

As I read this verse, I tried to really digest what it means to me. “Commit your way to the Lord.” In the situation in which I found myself, how could I commit my way to the Lord? I was really struggling with loving my wife while separated, so I tried to make that a big focus. Showing her love by having patience and grace with her have been something I am working on daily. I am thankful that God does not expect me to be perfect, because I am a work in progress.

The second part of this verse, “Trust in Him,” is so important for me to focus on. I find that when I don’t really trust God, I do things based on my own knowledge and feelings. The results are usually not good. However, when I trust God, I have noticed that I have a greater peace of mind, and I am usually much better at showing love to my wife.

Both part one and part two would be easier if they came after part three, which says, “God will act;” but I believe committing myself to His ways and trusting Him are what will lead to the result of my personal growth and seeing God act. That is only possible with His help. Most of the time I can’t see what God is doing, but I am convinced that He is always working on our behalf. Whether that is our own spiritual growth or some miracle that He is working out behind the scenes, I am confident in the promise of this scripture.

Elders' Notes

by Donna Sauder

We all met at the home of Rob and Doris on May 2, 2017. As usual, we began with prayer together for our LCF congregation and for wisdom and direction.

We are excited about a new opportunity to be involved in a church planting initiative in Columbus. Andrew Sauder shared with us about a group of young people who have been meeting together to pray about their vision to reach out to the lost around them. They want to plant a church with a focus on reaching their lost neighbors and community. They are inviting our help through licensing, oversight, and general support. We gave our unanimous blessing to this new church plant and want to help them in any way we are able.

We continued to discuss what a sabbatical would look like for Rob and Doris. Although they are fully committed at LCF, we realize that in order for them to continue to be effective, they need to take time to stop, rest, enjoy, and contemplate their life and ministry together. We, as elders, would like to see this happen as soon as possible.

We discussed how to create a safe place in our church for all people who are struggling and hurting. We want to extend God's grace to everyone. We talked about how to do that effectively during our prayer/sharing time.

In continued efforts to provide a safe place for the children of LCF, we looked over samples of “permission for background checks” to add to our screening process for those working with our children and youth. We will work with the council to make sure this is implemented as soon as possible.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 13th if you have any concerns that you would like us to consider.

Council Update

by David Perkins

Summer is in the air. Graduation season is here. Vacation Bible School at LCF is happening soon. This time of year is full of all kinds of fun activities and happenings. Everybody at LCF is busy with something. Here are a few things being discussed at the LCF Council meetings:

- The Council reviewed a 90-Day Sabbatical Policy Proposal for the lead pastor. The Council has adopted resolution to approve the lead pastor sabbatical for vote by congregation.
- The need for background checks for Youth and VBS volunteers was brought up by the Elders Team. Presently, LCF has a Children’s Ministry Screening Form that is accomplished by manually using references per The Child Protection Policy and Procedures for LCF. The Council will look into the option of outsourcing background checks. Jim Jones will be reviewing using companies such as Lifeway Corp for pricing and turnaround time.



- LCF security surveillance cameras were discussed. Cameras have been donated and other material is needed for installation as well as labor. The Council will review funding for these items with our treasurer.

There are a lot of things in the works currently, but that’s all for now. Keep an eye out for your next Council Update.

Pictured from left: LCF's Council: Dave Stewart, Jim Jones (Chair), David Perkins, and Jesse Diller (the elder representative for May). Not pictured: Tasha Slaubaugh (Treasurer)

Congratulations LCF Graduates!

LCF has 5 seniors who are graduating from high school. We asked each of them to give a brief update about where they are graduating from and what their future plans are. We encourage you to pray for them as they celebrate this milestone and go through this time of transition in their lives.



Class of 2017



Natalie and
Stephanie
Cocanour

Natalie (left): I'm graduating from West Jefferson High School. I will be attending Columbus State and then plan to transfer to Ohio State to study Sonography.

Stephanie (right): I am also graduating from West Jefferson High School. I plan to attend Wright State University to major in Nursing.



Layne Headings

I am happy to say that I am graduating from Jonathan Alder High School! This fall I will be attending Columbus State Community College to take all of my general education classes. I then intend to transfer to The Ohio State University to major in Occupational Therapy.



Gabrielle
Stewart

I'm graduating from West Jefferson High School, and I plan on attending Indiana Wesleyan University in the fall. I'm majoring in Nursing with the intention on becoming a midwife.



Shepherd
Ndungu

I am graduating from Fairbanks High School and plan on going to Columbus State to pursue a path in Digital Design and Graphics. I continually hope and pray that this path may lead to more opportunities in finding out what to do even after college.

"I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go; I will counsel you and watch over you." Psalm 32:8

New Youth Leaders

by Rob Swartz

Yay! for new youth leaders!!! ☺ As you can tell, I am excited about our new youth group leadership team of Ray and Grace Raber and David and Brenda Perkins. We introduced them to the church during the service on May 14th. David and Brenda have already been doing a great job in helping to lead over the past year, and we are all excited to have Ray and Grace joining them. I've had the privilege of working with all four of them for the last couple months, and I am thrilled with their passion and enthusiasm for youth ministry. I am going to miss the regular interaction with the youth, having been involved the past year, but I know they are in good hands with this new team. Please continue to pray for them and thank them for their leadership. Also, please pray for our youth. We have a great bunch of young people! ☺



Child Dedication

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6

On Mother's Day, May 14th, three precious children were dedicated to God by their parents, who committed themselves to do their best to teach and train them about God and his ways. Pictured from left are: Youngmi and Dakyun Oh with Hyunseo, Dan and Jenn Frederick with Rebekah, and Andrea and Aaron Biscup with Matthaias, along with Pastor Rob.



Fatherhood Lessons...continued

they just go out into the world and never look back because you have transferred all the wisdom and knowledge and experience that they will need when they turn 21.

Turns out, that was not what happened. It doesn't for anyone. One of the best examples of how to relate to adult children is the book of 2 Timothy. The overall theme of the book is instructional, but treats Timothy with a level of respect that adults would have for one another. While the book certainly has a powerful message for the Christian, notice how Paul communicates what is apparently his final instructions to Timothy. He greets Timothy as his "beloved son." He then reassures Timothy by recalling his spiritual heritage. Paul then recounts the gospel along with the traps of the world and then Timothy's training, reassuring him that he is ready to lead and be the man of God that he was intended to be. This is the example I try to follow, acknowledging that sometimes I do it better than others, when dealing with my adult children and their husbands.

Congratulations to the newly married

Mr. & Mrs. Shane Moser!

Shane Moser and Rachel Troyer were married in Panco, KY, on Saturday, May 27th. They will make their new home together in Lexington.



Financial Tips...continued

The reality is that none of us really own anything but are simply stewards of the resources God has entrusted to us. And I propose that using a budget will help us all be better stewards of God's resources.

I don't claim to be a budget expert but would be willing to point anyone to some resources or provide a basic budget structure to anyone interested. Just connect with me at church or send me an e-mail if you'd find that helpful.

Upcoming Activities

- June 18 Father's Day / Baptism
- June 14-17 Youth Group to City Challenge
- July 5-7 Xenos Summer Institute
- July 27-30 CMC Conference in Kidron, OH

The LCF Connection

A monthly newsletter designed to enhance communication at London Christian Fellowship

What did you think? If any of the stories in this Connection sparked an idea or opinion you'd like to share, email us at secretary@lcfweb.org. Editors: Theresa Hennis, Amie Smith, and Doris Swartz
If you prefer that we do not use photos of you in the Connection, you may opt-out by emailing us at connection@lcfweb.org.