

The LCF Connection

July 2014



Baptisms at Little Darby Creek



On Sunday, June 22, five of our friends at LCF demonstrated their commitment to becoming disciples of Jesus Christ by being baptized. Our church family gathered on the banks of Little Darby Creek on a beautiful, sunny afternoon to witness this symbolic step and show our support for our brothers and sisters. We are so thankful to be on this faith journey with you all and we love you!



Janelle Schlabaugh:

“One of my favorite verses is Romans 6:4: ‘By being baptized, we were buried with Christ and to his death. Christ is raised from the dead by the Father’s glory and like Christ we can also live a new life.’ To me, that means we don’t let sin be our master, but allow Christ be our master.”

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!” 2 Corinthians 5:17



Jenn Frederick:

“I grew up in a Christian home and I went to a camp every summer since I can remember. That’s where I became a Christian because it had a huge impact in my life. I’ve decided this is a good time in my life to recommit and to be baptized.”

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London Christian Fellowship seeks to develop authentic and passionate followers of Jesus Christ.

Drew Hoffman:

“I’ve been a believer all my life since I can remember. I want to be baptized so that I can be a leader for my friends and family and to show them Christ Jesus. He is my Savior and I want them to believe too. I want everyone I know to be saved. Let’s all lead each other to Christ Jesus.”



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Reflections on God's Faithfulness

by Amie Smith



This has been a challenging year for me. Life has a funny way of throwing one hurdle after another at you. Sometimes you stumble and fall short. Yet, through those same trials I have found that you can also experience God's faithful guidance.

My husband, Nathaniel, was deployed to Afghanistan in May 2013, only three months after we were married. I soon became depressed and experienced insomnia. Through this trial I had to learn to trust God and open my heart to new possibilities. At the time I was dealing with bouts of loneliness, and I felt that I didn't have anyone to confide in. I was searching for answers. Little did I know, though, that God was guiding me. As a result of his presence, I decided to make positive changes in my life.

I began to craft again and involved myself in church activities. When I needed guidance I turned to God in devotion and prayer. During my constant conversation with God, I began to find answers through verses in my devotions. I would post these meaningful verses on my bulletin board in my office and my chalkboard above the kitchen sink. These verses helped to keep me on the right path and always reminded me of God's love and his promises. Romans 8:35, 38-39 helped me when I felt alone.

As I pushed myself to open up to others and let my guard down, I was rewarded with so many new opportunities.

"Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall trouble or hardship or persecution or famine or nakedness or danger or sword? For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither anger or demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord."

Romans 8:35, 38-39

When I first attended LCF, I was searching for answers. I had left my job and was questioning my direction in life. I was still struggling with continual periods of doubt. It was not until Kris Freed invited me to small group that I felt connected to the church. I knew in my heart that God was opening the door and so I decided to seize any opportunity that came my way. After church one Sunday I felt a desire to express to Doris that I was interested in assisting in any needs in the church. Shortly after our conversation I joined the Art of Marriage conference team. By putting my gifts from God to good use, I realized how much I needed a church family. In Proverbs, I was reminded to trust God and he will guide me to the right path.

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding, in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight." Proverbs 3:5-6

With my husband due to come home in a month I finally felt ready to let God use me and his presence gave me more confidence. Little did I know that another hurdle would come my way soon.

While playing basketball after church, I tore my ACL. A relatively common injury for others, turned into complications from a blood clot and weeks of pain. Now I faced a long, unanticipated recovery. In my discouragement God provided me with yet another message of hope. This time I found the encouragement I needed in Philippians. With each new day I became stronger and this source of strength only came from the Lord my God.

"I can do all this through him who gives me strength." Philippians 4:13

What I can sum up from my year of unending trials is that God is faithful and he is full of grace. I challenge each one of you to step up and encourage others in the church when they are struggling. I received the most help and blessings from those who brought me meals, sent me encouraging letters, and prayed for me. Let God use you as an instrument of love today and prepare to be amazed at his faithfulness!

Getting to Know...

Jeremy and Mandy Hisey and Family

Interviewed by Candice Mast

Where did you both grow up?

Jeremy grew up in the small town of Hebron, Ohio, about 30 miles east of Columbus near Buckeye Lake. Mandy grew up in London. Jeremy moved here to London to be with Mandy.

What do you do for a living?

Jeremy is the general manager of Arby's located in Pilot Travel Center at 42/70. Mandy is an assistant manager at the BMV in London.

Tell us about the members of your household!

Jeremy: I am thirty-something. I am probably shy until I get to know you and then good luck keeping me quiet. I enjoy sports although lately I have found more important ways to spend my time.

Mandy: Well I'm much younger than Jeremy at the wonderful age of 28. I actually talk a lot and am quite quirky. I always have my nose in a book, and I really enjoy music a lot.

Ashlen (right) is thirteen years old and heading into the 8th grade next year. She is very outgoing and a great big sister! She enjoys riding her scooter while recording crazy videos of herself.

Alyssa (center) is eleven years old and entering 6th grade. She is quiet and smart. She likes to read and enjoys being outside.

Jayce (left) is four years old. He doesn't know a stranger and rarely lacks energy. He likes to color and loves music.

What are some of the things you like doing together as a family for fun?

We like to play board games, watch movies, go to the zoo and COSI. We are looking forward to going to the Wilds this year.

What is something each of you have never done but would like to do some day?

Jeremy: I would like to watch the Browns play in the Super Bowl but I'm not holding my breath.

Mandy: I would like to swim with dolphins - I've wanted to do it since I was little.

What is something God is teaching you right now?

Jeremy: God is teaching me about humility. I am learning that self-pride is the root to most of my sins, so I strive each day to become more humble than the previous day.

Mandy: Every day I am reminded of how much I can rely on his strength and love to get me through anything. I believe that God is teaching me how to lean on him for guidance and to share that with others by example.

Jayce says, "I stand up strong on the word of God."

Ashlen and Alyssa both accepted Jesus as their personal Savior while at Bethel Camp this past month!

Anything else you'd like to share with your friends at LCF?

We are so grateful for our LCF family. We have enjoyed the time so far getting to know people and look forward to strengthening those bonds and continuing to get to know more of you. LCF has completely changed our lives for the better. We are so thankful to God for the opportunity to join all of you here. We appreciate everyone's kindness and love so much.



Editor's note: Jeremy and Mandy were baptized on June 22 (see page 4). You can listen to the testimony they shared at LCF by visiting <http://lcfweb.org/bible-teachings/sermons/>.

Baptism...continued from page 1



Mandy Hisey:

“Baptism for me, means that I am ready to show my devotion to the Lord; ready to really give my life over to him. I haven’t really done that in the past and he’s still done wonderful things for me, no matter what I’ve done. I’m ready for a new beginning and a new life.”



Jeremy Hisey:

“When we first started reading I Peter in small group and we talked about rejoicing in our trials and tribulations and when we suffer, that’s when I really started to want to learn more and know more about what it meant to be a Christian. I’ve always believed, but I never really knew what that meant. I was baptized 16 years ago, but I didn’t really know what I was doing. Now I understand what I’m doing.”



Dime-A-Dog Night

by Danny Ndungu

Isn’t it amazing how food brings people together? Really, think about it. For example, people get really pumped about potlucks at church or use food as an excuse to hang out. Well, on the 16th of June, nine of us (Abraham, Bob, Phil, Derek, Sammy, Jeremy, Jayce, Steve and I) went out to a Columbus Clippers game probably with at least one of the following goals in mind: eat as many hotdogs as possible since they

were only 10 cents apiece, and watch the Clippers crush the Buffalo Bisons—which they did.

It seems appropriate to confess early on that I was probably looking forward to the hotdogs and camaraderie a little more than the game (in my defense, I wasn’t the only one). In fact, Derek Elfrink relentlessly told Steve (on the way to the game) that he wanted to be signed up for the (non-existent) hotdog eating contest. We had a great time watching Derek and Jayce run around in their own little world, talking about the game. Through this I also learned more about baseball, such as the fact that players scored “runs” not “points”. It was also a pretty neat way to get to know the guys a little better outside of church in a completely different environment.



So, guys of LCF, join us next time we go to a game, go fishing, get together for a game night, etc. Who knows? The hotdogs might be free at the next get together! ☺



Photo credits for Dime-A-Dog night: Courtesy of Danny Ndungu

The LCF Connection

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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 connection@lcfweb.org. Editors: Doris Swartz, Trish Eaton, Candice Mast and Amie Smith. 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.