



SEEDS NEWSLETTER

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MEET THE FAMILY

Joe and Abbie Rincon



Joe was born in Kansas, where he received Christ as his Savior at the age of 7. His family of two sisters and four brothers was led by parents who set an example for their children of active involvement in the life of their church. Abbie (Sarah Kirchner's younger sister) was raised in North Carolina as part of a similar family – three girls and two boys – who, like their parents, were devoted to church life. Abbie was five years old when she invited Jesus into her life.

Joe and Abbie met while working at Southland Christian Camp in Louisiana but did not begin to establish a relationship until they met again while attending Maranatha Baptist University. They were married in June this year, moving to Georgetown a few weeks later to serve in our church. Joe is an accomplished pianist (who also plays the trombone and violin) while Abbie, like her sister, is adept on the piano and violin. She has worked as a third-grade teacher and intends to continue working as a music teacher. Joe has worked in construction and home remodeling (his Dad is an electrician), and plans to work part-time for a moving company while serving part-time at our church, assisting with the music ministry and, with Abbie, leading the teen group.

Scott and Pam Lindner

They met as children through the Poplar Bluff Catholic church in Missouri where Scott lived and Pam would visit her grandparents. They eventually attended high school together when Pam moved there from her hometown in Texas. Scott was two years ahead of Pam and was classmates with her brother, Mike Fluech (our missionary to South Africa.)



Scott enlisted with the Marine Corps in 1994, but he and Pam stayed in touch as friends. The following year, when Pam was 17, she had the Gospel explained to her and for the first time understood and accepted salvation as a free gift—although the experience estranged her from most of her staunch Catholic family. Then her brother was saved a year later after someone shared the Gospel with him. When Scott asked Pam to marry him later that year, she said yes, but only if he would first speak to her brother. Mike called Scott at his barracks, where he heard the Gospel in a phone booth. Pam claims that he has a “Superman testimony” because he went into a phone booth as one man, and came out a different one!

The couple were married in 1997 and traveled the world together with their children. Scott retired from the Marines in 2016, after 22 years of service, and the family moved to Kentucky, then joined our church several weeks later. Scott now works as an HVAC mechanic at the VA hospital in Lexington, and is the unofficial HVAC mechanic for the church. Pam is our Church Administrator and Missions Secretary. She homeschooled their children before taking her present job. Now that they are empty nesters the couple fill their free time with involvement in church activities. Scott runs the sound booth and fixes things and Pam sings and plays the piano. Their first grandchild is due early next year.

Jason Clemons

He hails from Connersville, Indiana, where he was raised in a Christian home with two loving parents and an older sister, receiving Christ as his Savior at the age of 8, in a children’s service at Connersville Baptist Temple.

In 1993 Jason moved to attend the University of Kentucky and has lived in Lexington ever since. Now a plumbing designer, he works at GRW Engineers in Lexington. But his real job is to be a “Girl Dad” to three daughters, Audrey, McKenna & Olivia.

Jason and his girls (McKenna, left, and Olivia, right—Audrey is married to Alec Neff, who works part-time on our church staff) found Bluegrass Baptist Church when they needed it most in June of 2020. They are thankful for God’s perfect timing and amazing grace and greatly appreciate the church family He has established here.



PERSPECTIVE

HOW TO THINK ABOUT CURRENT EVENTS

Think the world is going crazy? Think America dodged a bullet at the last election (but what about the next one)? Think it’s harder to recognize your neighbors as fellow Americans who share your values and your hopes for the future? The “good old days” seem so far away! But consider the very first New Testament Church in Jerusalem when 3,000 Jewish people joined on the first day and the church soon grew to about 20,000 souls. Then Jerusalem and its Temple were destroyed, and believers were scattered to the four corners of the known world where more persecution awaited them. They did not have many “good old days”, but Christianity survived and thrived and changed the world! It is still changing the world, and we are doing our part, and all the signs seem to indicate that Jesus returns in our day. That’s a great perspective for living victoriously each day!

WHAT'S HAPPENING!

Ground Breaking

A big crowd turned out after an evening service at the end of June, to break ground on our new property. Many were armed with shovels and some dug diligently, including Joe Garcia who proudly hefted this monster divot!



Visit Your Library!



Six boys and one girl (all children of Juston and Jenny Hamm—Jenny is the church librarian) got together to let you know a lot of new books have been added to the excellent reading material in the library. If you look closely at the picture you will see topics like missionaries, apologetics, personal and family devotions, managing family finances, spiritual inspiration, and homeschooling. There are also sections on Bible studies, Christian classics, children’s stories, discipleship, church leadership, theology and preaching. In other words, there’s something for everybody! Go get some (and remember to bring them back). :)

A Happy Band of Soul-winners...

Showing off their tracts and cell phones loaded with area maps, gathered at church on a Tuesday night before heading out to do some neighborhood evangelism. If you have not tried it before, plan to do so soon and find out why sharing your faith with others is such a joy!



Little'uns Fun!

The Foundations Lifestage met at church for a fun Saturday of food, fellowship and making patterns for concrete stepping stones that preserved impressions of little hands and feet.



ENCOUNTERS: **LIVING AS A CHRISTIAN IN A POST-CHRISTIAN WORLD**

*Here we share anecdotes from or about church members, telling their experiences (inspirational, amusing, or sad) as Christians living in a world that is indifferent or hostile to the Gospel. This month we have a love story from **Mike McCorquodale**, who fell in love with Lisa and then fell in love with Jesus after answering an altar call on television!*

Mike grew up in Oregon and had minimal interaction with Christianity, except for a grandmother whose godly example and constant prayers for him laid a spiritual foundation that would eventually bear fruit.

When the time came, the young man met Lisa, the Oregon girl of his dreams.

She was the product of a faithful Christian family who received Jesus as her Savior at Vacation Bible School when she was 6 years old, and Mike understood that their relationship could not grow unless he faced the question of his relationship with God.

Being a practical man, and inquisitive, and greatly motivated by the fact that Lisa's devotion to Christ required an equal commitment by him, he began to read the Bible and watch TV evangelists to build his knowledge of what it was all about. Charles Stanley became one of Mike's favorite preachers, leading to the day several weeks later when Pastor Stanley ended a sermon with an altar call, encouraging his congregation and those watching on television to indicate their desire for salvation by raising hands.

"I raised my hand, and prayed the sinner's prayer," Mike recalls, "and could not wait to tell Lisa what I had done!"

They were married within a year. That was 38 years ago, and they were soon joined by three children—a son and two daughters—before a job promotion with the Forest Service moved them from Oregon to Owingsville, Kentucky, in 2010. Now the children are grown and living in various parts of the country, while Mike and Lisa still live in Owingsville (an hour's drive from Georgetown), and still attend Bluegrass Baptist Church!

BIBLE QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

*In this section we answer questions about Bible doctrines or texts or Church life or Christian life in general. If you have a question that you think may prompt an answer helpful to yourself and to the church family in general, please let us know. This month **Pastor Zach Kirchner** answers a question about **Leviticus: What value does this Old Testament book have for New Testament believers?***

I won't pretend to be pious or intelligent — Leviticus can be tough. To the casual reader, Leviticus may seem unnecessary compared to the New Testament, so modern readers often avoid it, probably for three main reasons. (On the other hand, if we don't read it we miss out on something special!)

First, the book is clearly and specifically addressed to the children of Israel. It was Israel — not the NT believer — who was forbidden from eating shellfish and wearing clothes that have both wool and linen in them (Lev 11:9, 19:19).

Second, Leviticus has large sections that cover things that have nothing to do with the NT believer's life: bringing sacrifices, the sanctification of the priest, and leprosy, have little to do with us. Third, some of the content in Leviticus is just gory or disgusting. Early chapters cover details of how to slaughter an animal for sacrifice, and some later chapters detailing cleanness are just plain gross (e.g., chapters 11–15, 18–20). So again, what value does Leviticus provide to the New Testament believer?

At the foundational level, Leviticus provides great value to the NT believer because **God gave it to us!** Leviticus is a part of Scripture, and it therefore possesses infinite value. From a negative perspective, devaluing or ignoring Leviticus makes man the arbiter of which books are “valuable” and which can be relegated to the proverbial junk drawer. Hopefully, we believe that “*All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable*” (2 Timothy 3:16).

Leviticus also provides value to the NT believer because **it teaches us marvelous lessons about God.** God's holiness and purity permeate the content of Leviticus. Of the 400 occurrences of the word “holy” in the OT, nearly one-quarter of them are found in the book of Leviticus alone! A key theme of Leviticus is that although sin has created filth, disease, and death, God is a God of order, purity, and life, and he demands holiness of his people (11:44).

Leviticus also highlights God's care for his people. As we've already observed, Leviticus supplies significant detail about real-life issues for people of that time (dealing with leprosy, clean and unclean foods, etc.). An uncaring deity would not provide such detail to keep a group of people alive and well, but God does provide those details because he cares for his people! He is unwilling to leave them to their own destructive devices. Leviticus also shows God's care by prescribing the exact methods for bringing a sacrifice to God, which allows people into his presence.

Leviticus provides value to the NT believer by pointing us to Christ. The first seven chapters of the book offer details on sacrifices, chapter 16 explains the Day of Atonement, and chapter 17 covers the importance of the blood for atonement. These chapters can be difficult to stomach, but they are crucial because they ultimately point us toward the once-for-all, bloody crucifixion of the Innocent Lamb of God! Hebrews would later affirm that "*without shedding of blood is no remission*" and that Christ, *[offered up sacrifice] once, when he offered up himself*" (Hebrews 9:22, 7:27).

Leviticus 8–10 and 21–22 deal with priests, demonstrating unmistakably that even the OT intercessor between God and man was wicked and needful of atonement. These chapters point the reader of Leviticus to our need for a perfect and eternal high priest. New Testament Christians have received that Perfect High Priest in the person of Jesus Christ, but we would be unaware of the many-splendored offices of Christ if it were not for Leviticus!

Yes, the book can be challenging, but it provides a key framework on which the New Testament builds, and it makes Christ's sacrifice and his eternal and perfect intercession infinitely more beautiful. Go read Leviticus!