

# THE RIPPLE

Connecting YOU to Jesus and each other!  
Loving Reaching Caring Changing



## LAKE RIDGE CHRISTIAN CHURCH

122 E. Steidl Rd, P.O. Box 578  
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(217)-465-5614

e-mail: [office@lakeridgechurch.org](mailto:office@lakeridgechurch.org)  
[www.lakeridgechurch.org](http://www.lakeridgechurch.org)

The members are ministers

Nate Alexander, Senior Minister

Spenser Carrell, Worship Minister

Sarah Moehlman, Children's Minister

Chris Pantle, Office Secretary

Sunday Worship Gatherings: 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Wuzzles & S.P.L.A.T. Zone 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Youth: Encounter 4pm and Engage 6pm Sundays

Church office hours: Mon-Thurs. - 8am-5pm; Fri. - 8am-noon. Closed Friday afternoons

Vol. 41 No. 5

December 13, 2017

Christmas services December 24 at  
10am - No Sunday School  
No Children's Church  
Childcare available for 1 yr. - preschool



From Nate, Spenser,  
Sarah, Chris and  
families

**THE CHURCH OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED December 25 & 26 and January 1**

## **Nate's News**

Lately I have been going through a period of learning, which means life has been throwing a lot of curveballs and in these times it seems we do more learning than living and always feel like we are pushed back on our heels than moving forward. We would rather be proactive than reactive, but what I keep coming back to is that learning is also part of life and we can either embrace it or it can get to us. The question we have to keep answering, "are we teachable," and what can we learn in these times of curveballs. At times, it sure would be easier to avoid all these things, but then I know I would be coasting through life, but what it comes down to is whether I am going to trust in God or try and push through on my own. What is life teaching you and where have you placed your trust?

Our Christmas Open House is this Sunday, December 17th from 6 to 8 PM, which will be at 15060 E 600th Rd. This is a time of fellowship and we would love for you to come eat some snacks.

Angel Tree gifts are due back this Sunday, December 17th, please bring them to the office area and place them by the angel tree. Thanks again for helping with this opportunity and being a blessing to a child who may not be able to see their mom and dad this Christmas.

## **LIBRARY**

The Library cart that was full of books down at the Auditorium will be removed. This has not been utilized as much anymore, so all the books are now back on the shelves in the Library. There is a better selection to choose from, so check it out for some reading material this winter. Just in case we have one of those "snowy days."

## **Sympathy**

Our Sympathy to the family of Lydia McIntosh who entered her Heavenly home on Monday Dec. 11. May God comfort the family at this time.

## **Spenser's Spot**

Thank you to everyone who was involved in Christmas at Lake Ridge over this past weekend. We had a great turnout and many people were able to hear the great message about Christ being the truest love we can ever find in life. We look forward to next year and already we have had a few people asking about how they can get involved! If you'd like to be involved next year, there will be a small sign-up sheet on the bulletin board over the next couple of weeks just to give me an idea of who I'll have to work with.

As the year comes to an end, I've had a certain passage on my heart a lot lately. *"Love must be sincere. Hate what is evil; cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another in love. Honor one another above yourselves. Never be lacking in zeal, but keep your spiritual fervor, serving the Lord. Be joyful in hope, patient in affliction, faithful in prayer. Share with the Lord's people who are in need. Practice hospitality. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse. Rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another."* — Romans 12:9-16. We have a portion of this passage outside the Family Life Center under our Prayer Wall. As we look to 2018, let us make it a year of love. There's a hymn that we are singing this Sunday in our 8:00 service that the chorus simply says, "They'll know we are Christians by our love." This is a good reminder for all of us that non-Christians should see us differently. We should show God's love through each and every one of us. Let us lay down the past and look to the future with love.

## Sarah's Synopsis

I want to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who helped or participated in the Children's Christmas Program on December 3<sup>rd</sup>! The children's and Bell Choir did a marvelous job! And we were so blessed to have all three choirs (Adult, Children and Bells) join together for the closing song! At the 10:30 service we had so many people some had to stand in the back because every seat was full!!! I am ecstatic that our children are so well supported by this church as well as their friends and family!

Children's Ministry will be having a Pajama Christmas Party on December 21<sup>st</sup> from 10:00am-1:00pm at the church! This event is for K-5<sup>th</sup> Grade students. There will be a hot cocoa bar, cookie decorating, a photo booth, pizza and movie! Please contact me, Sarah, if your child (and any friends) plan to attend!

**PRAYER CONCERNS** Please pray daily for those listed. We ask that you copy these requests onto your own private list for two weeks. Remember: "The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective." James 5:17 – Our military, the homeless, missionaries, our church, Abigail Alexander & family, Rayleigh Ike, Nate, Spenser & Chrissy, Sarah, Chris and families, Mary G., Mary B., Naomi, Maggie F., Tyler & family, Betty Graham, Ron George, Richie Wilson, Tammi & Gary Underfanger, Mark & Priscilla Clark, Chris Ike, Christmas for Kids, those effected by the fires in California, those still recovering from all disasters, for the United States, the Korean situation, the family of Lydia McIntosh, 55 unspoken

## **CHRISTMAS CARDS**

Once again we will be offering the Christmas card exchange here at LRCC. You can bring your cards to our church members only anytime and while you're here, check the smaller box that has the initial of your last name. If there are several cards with your name on them, they will be rubber banded together. Our elves appreciate your help as well. If you would alphabetize them first then rubber band them together and drop them in the large box, their sorting will go so much quicker. Thanks to Susan Essinger for putting the table together with all the great decorations. Don't forget to check the table each time you're here. The cards need to be in no later than Dec 24th in

order for them to get sorted and put in the boxes so everyone can pick them up. The table will be up until December 31.

**Hey everyone! Alicia Cater here...**LRCC's new youth minister! Nate asked me to write a little bit about myself...so here goes. I grew up kind of all over the place, from Illinois to Connecticut back to Illinois again. I graduated from Lincoln Christian University with a bachelor's degree in Children and Family studies, but I've only ever felt the call to ministry. After falling in love with ministry right here at Lake Ridge (!!!), I left Illinois in 2013 for Rhode Island to work with a church plant. There, I fell deeper in love with Jesus and all that He was doing in His Kingdom. I am so excited to be back in Paris to continue to help grow God's Kingdom and to have the privilege of getting to know the middle school and high school students of LRCC. I just can't wait to see what God will do in and through them!! See you all soon!

## **I BRAKE FOR CHRISTMAS**

The bumper sticker caught my eye. Made me think! Even aroused some guilt. I was on the freeway as his car was pulling off. My day had been full and it was far from over. Stuffed in my pocket was a list; most of the times not yet purchased. A little panic rushed over the back roads of my mind as I divided up all the things yet to be bought in those few days left before Christmas. The guy didn't seem in much of a hurry, which irritated me a bit, yet it told me his sign was for real. I began to study the words in my head. They stated making sense. I BRAKE FOR CHRISTMAS.

Easing up on the accelerator and releasing my frown, I began to calm down my inner motor with questions like: Why the hurry? What's the rush? Could this explain the reason you've been unable to enjoy the spirit of the season? Psalm 46:10 drifted into my mind like the sound of a distant bell on a clear morning.

"Be still and know that I am God..."

Charles R Swindoll in *Come Before Winter*

If you do not wish to continue to receive the Ripple or the monthly sermon post cards or have an address change or even a phone number change, please contact the office at 217-465-5614 or email us at [office@lakeridgechurch.org](mailto:office@lakeridgechurch.org) before the next Ripple goes out. Please let us know as soon as possible so that the church is not charged \$.49 by the postal service to get your new address. Thank you.

**Dec. 17 at Noon – Elder’s Mtg.  
6-8pm – Christmas Open  
House at Nate & Jennifer  
Alexander’s**  
**Dec. 21 at 10am-1pm –  
Children’s Christmas Party**  
**Dec. 24 at 10am – Christmas  
Eve Service. No Sunday  
school**  
**Dec. 25 & 26 – The church office  
will be closed.**  
**Dec. 27 at 9am – Ripple  
Deadline**  
**Jan. 1, 2018 – The church office  
will be closed**



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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

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