

LIVE OOK
C H U R C H
May 2020

WHAT GOD USES TO IMPROVE OUR CONNECTION

GOD'S WORK
IN MY LIFE

FEATURES

FEATURES

FEATURES

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK
Dr. Mark Crosby

GOD'S MONEY AND YOU
Jim Otken

PEACE! BE STILL!
Chris Lacara

NOT CANCELLED, JUST DIFFERENT
Carl Doescher

FOCALPOINT912
Cameron McKenzie

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S MINISTRY
Sam LoBello

SENIOR ADULTS
Landra Reed

GLOVES
Sam LoBello

SPECIAL MINISTRIES
Sam LoBello

BIRTHDAYS

ONLINE SCHEDULE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

LOUMC STAFF

2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12 - 13
14
15
16 - 17

OFFICE HOURS

Our office will be closed to the public until the Stay at Home order is lifted.

The office phone will be answered from 8:00am - 12:00pm, Monday - Friday.

FOOD PANTRY

Closed

THRIFT SHOP

Closed

LIVE OAK
COUNSELING CENTER

One on One Help
For You and Your Family

Who Do I Call?
Adults
Adolescents

**SUSPENDED DUE TO
COVID-19**

Located At
34890 LA Hwy 16,
Denham Springs, LA 70706



Dr. Mark Crosby
LPC-S, IMFT



Denise Flack
LPC



Erica Matthews
MS, PLPC

*"Where there is no guidance, the people fall, but there is wisdom
in a multitude of counselors." Proverbs 11:14*



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK BY DR. MARK CROSBY

FROM THE
PASTOR'S DESK

The month of April 2020 will be one we will never forget as most of us saw our way of life, business, and social interactions change dramatically. The Corona pandemic has altered how we live life and interact with others. Some in our community have lost their jobs, others have seen their businesses lose profit, while others are facing uncertainty unlike we have experienced since the Great Flood of 2016.

I know for me it was extremely surreal to walk into the church sanctuary on Easter Sunday to an empty church building. Most of us who were there, (band, tech team and security) struggled with the reality of such a moment. However, we were there to declare the reality and hope of the Risen Savior and so we proclaimed God's grace through song and sermon. It was amazing and uplifting to hear some of the responses from our church community and throughout the nation as to how God spoke into their lives Easter Sunday morning.

It was our hope that we would reach as many as possible through the Internet and hopefully bring the message of the resurrection to as many as possible. Thus, we are believing God is going to use this "event in history" to open up possibilities and cause all of us to rethink what is truly important and meaningful in life.

Though many are asking what does all of this mean, and is this some sort of "judgement" upon the world, (and it might be) others are asking how is God going to use this event in my life? Many are confessing that this pandemic has caused them to think more about their relationship with God (and for some "the lack thereof")

and how God is using this pandemic to draw them closer to Him and their church family.

So the question for many is "how is God using this, in my life?" What will be your story months or years from now as we one day reflect on the Spring of 2020 and the Great Pandemic of 2020. What will you have learned, changed, embraced, or restructured in your life (if anything). What moment will you look back on and recognize how God used that in your life.

In the month of May (2020) we will begin a new series entitled "God's work in my life" how God uses certain elements of life to change us, shape us and improve us (if we believe). How we respond to what God is doing in our world and in us, is what matures us and helps us to see that our God works in our life, in each area of our life, as we trust in Him with a faith that He has developed in us, as He guides us through the storm.

We do not know what will happen in May, ("shelter in" or "back to work" etc.) but what we do know is that God will take this moment and use it in our life to increase our faith in Him, our dependency on Him, and our worship of Him.

So join us in May as we look at "God's work in my life."

I hope to "see you" Sunday.

Mark

GOD'S MONEY AND YOU BY JIM OTKEN



May is upon us. Hopefully we will be able to resume our worship and ministry in person as we approach summer time.

We are praying for all those affected by COVID-19 and for everyone's continued safety. And while we have much to be in prayer for, we also have so many people to be thankful for - from the front-line staff in our medical facilities to those working in the grocery stores, and everyone in between.

Sometimes, the simplest expression of gratitude and love can be summed up best in the two words "Thank you." And that is what I really want to say from our little corner of the world in Watson. Thank you. I also want to thank those who have remained faithful in their financial support of Live Oak. No matter which method you donated - online, via mail, or dropping off an envelope by the church office - thank you.

Be encouraged, trust God in all areas of your life, and ask Him for guidance in your support of Live Oak.

PEACE! BE STILL! BY CHRIS LACARA

All throughout life there are storms, whether an actual storm, or in our life. I think about the major storms that come to us in the form of a weather pattern that we in Louisiana know as a hurricane. They are so powerful and magnificent but are also damaging. All the meteorologists or storm chasers are on tv with the backgrounds being rough water and waves. All the waves come in and some are more powerful than others. Some of these waves could move homes off of their foundations.

Looking back on when we first heard that there would be government-mandated shutdowns, people went into panic mode. I saw this as the second wave of panic, since people bought up all the toilet paper and hand sanitizer in the first wave. The second wave meant people were going to the grocery store to buy up enough food for their family for an unforeseeable amount of time. Bread, milk, meats, rice, and canned beans were all starting to fly off the shelves and stores around the world could not keep up with stocking as companies that made these products were trying to keep up with the demand. Once all these products were basically gone, the third wave hit and suddenly, everyone was learning how to make their own bread and beans from scratch. It became almost impossible to find flour, yeast, dry beans, and many other products that people would just ignore normally. I had told my wife, Amanda, that as long as I had coffee and beans I would be good to go. Then, the fourth wave came and that was the most frightening one of all. The wave wasn't about

buying more food or toilet paper. The wave was waiting. People were waiting to see what would happen next and if they would have a job the next day. My heart would break, as I would see people panicking and others losing their jobs.

The reason I brought up waves was because it reminds me of Mark 4:35-41. Jesus and the Disciples are in a boat and a windstorm arose and waves crashed against the boat. The Disciples

were afraid and Jesus, well, Jesus was sleeping. The Disciples woke him up in fear and Jesus said, "Peace! Be Still!" The wind ceased and Jesus asked his Disciples, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" We as followers of Christ are called to know that bad times will happen in our lives and it may seem like our earthly world is like waves crashing down on us, but we are reminded to have faith in these times and know just as the Disciples said, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?" We know him as Christ our Savior. Jesus clearly was not troubled in the storm and we should also



be like Christ and know that he is bigger than all of what we can see or comprehend. SO, as we prepare for the fifth wave of the current pandemic, rest on the boat in knowing no matter what the world can throw at us unexpectedly, our foundation is in God and he is still in control and will be with us through anytime we may fear or suffer.

NOT CANCELLED, JUST DIFFERENT

BY CARL DOESCHER



Let's just say the month of April was an interesting one. 78Jump is not a ministry that is known to cancel Wednesday nights. We are not cancelling Wednesday nights, but rather doing ministry a different way. **April was a month of different.** From seeing students at least twice a week in person, to only seeing students virtually and moving conversation strictly screen to screen has been unlike anything I have experienced in ministry before. Although it may be weird or different, the gospel can still go forth and it has in the month of April! One of the many things this change has brought on is the freedom and time to ask the difficult questions, we've pushed away while we were busy.

Here are a couple of questions many students have asked:

1. I was told that in the Bible, it says that the world is going to end because of COVID-19, is this true?
2. Why is it a sin if you love someone that is the same gender because if God loves everyone then why doesn't he like it when they love someone?
3. I am a believer, but how do I get closer to God?
4. How many verses or chapters should I read a day of God's Word?

These are 7th and 8th graders asking serious questions looking for truthful answers. We serve an amazing God who provides the answers to these hard questions. As believers, we are to answer these questions, and consider it a blessing to do so. April has been an incredible month!



Now, the month of May is going to be a month of unknown. Are we going to be able to meet again? Are people going to be able to return to work? Are the students going back to school this semester? How is all this going to work? We can get caught up in the wondering questions of how, but one thing is concrete. The gospel. For the month of May, 78Jump's mission is to continue sharing the great news of Jesus Christ because of this lives are changed forever!

Carl Doescher
Junior High Minister
carl@loumc.org

FOCALPOINT912 BY CAMERON MCKENZIE



As of right now, they are still planning on hosting our camp, and are looking forward to us attending. This year's camp is scheduled for July 6th-10th and will be loads of fun. Every year our students return with a better understanding of their relationship with Christ, and relationships with fellow believers through the country. It's a great time for us to get away from the routine of everyday life, and focus on growing closer as a community of believers.

If your student is interested in attending camp this year, paperwork can be found on our Student Ministry facebook page, as well as in the church office. This year, we will be leaving early on Monday morning, July 6th and returning the evening of the 10th. We have chartered a bus from Dixieland Tours and are excited to see what is in store for our group this year. Don't hesitate to contact me with any questions you or your student may have!

It's been another month for the history books in Live Oak's high school ministry. Our ministry was almost entirely ran online, and it has been an experience for sure! Throughout this month our students have learned via our ministry's podcast, zoom calls with small group leaders, and one on one calls with myself and other leaders. Although we can't meet in person, this has given us lots of time to focus on our small group relationships. In the coming days, we will be finding out what May looks like for our ministries. While I am hoping we can meet together again soon, if that doesn't happen, ministry will continue, and Christ's work for the kingdom will not cease.

Now one question on everybody's mind, with summer fast approaching, is whether or not we will be having summer camps as usual this year. The answer is a tentative yes. Every summer our high school ministry attends Crossroads Summer Camp in Anderson, South Carolina.



Cameron McKenzie
High School Minister
cameron@loumc.org
(225)305-2197

MEN'S AND WOMEN'S MINISTRY BY SAM LOBELLO



While at the RightNow Media Conference in Dallas last year Bryan Loritts preached a sermon on a topic I have not heard preached on in the 43 years I have been a Christian...Patience. He entitled his sermon...*The Priceless Pearl of Patience*. It was a great message! He used the oyster as an illustration of the length of time a oyster has to go through trying to get rid of a grain of sand, that on this occasion, he cannot get rid of. He told of the difficulties the oyster goes through to rid itself of this annoyance. But he endures. And over time comes forth a priceless pearl.

His takeaway was that God wants to shape within the life and character of His people *The Priceless Pearl of Patience*.

Obviously COVID-19 has presented us with difficult times. Recent weeks have been abnormal, annoying and painful for many. We find ourselves out of structure not knowing when we can resume our normal way of life...our regular schedule.

It has grieved me to have to postpone events in recent weeks scheduled for our Men's Ministry and our Women's Ministry. It is my hope and desire to reschedule these events and studies as we patiently wait on our Lord for the right timing.

A comment Bryan made, while sharing about *The Priceless Pearl of Patience*, has stuck with me, "*The only thing worse than waiting on the Lord is wishing we had.*"

God is always at work seeking to develop character in His people. God bless you. Stay safe. Hope to see you soon!

SENIOR ADULTS BY LANDRA REED

Life seems surreal these days. Almost like we are walking in a dream. But I must say, we have an amazing church! There are so many prayer groups going, worship opportunities, and support groups through Facebook, text, and phone calls. We may not be together right now in person, but we certainly are together in spirit. I love our church family! I'm not a big Facebook person and some of you may not be either, but I highly suggest maybe creating an account simply to keep in touch with your church at this time.

Unfortunately for our Mother's Day outing we had to cancel. I'm not sure if we're going to reschedule with the English Tea House or do something for our mothers at the church. Everything's kind of up in the air right now. I miss seeing all your sweet faces and look forward to seeing you all again soon. If you need anything at all, groceries, prescriptions to be picked up, or just need to talk or take a ride I am here for you. Your entire church family is here for you. Love you all!

Serving an Awesome God!!!

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

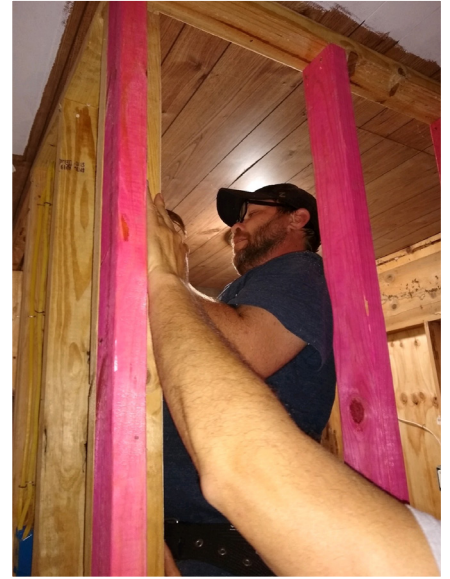
Isaiah 40:28-31

GLOVES BY SAM LOBELLO



We extend our gratitude to the men and women who make up our Gloves Ministry Team. You have responded to many community requests for help which has ministered to people struggling in desperate situations.

For your effort and countless hours of labor, often in the elements, we extend to you our deep appreciation. You impact God's Kingdom in a meaningful way by investing your God given skills to help others to the glory of God!

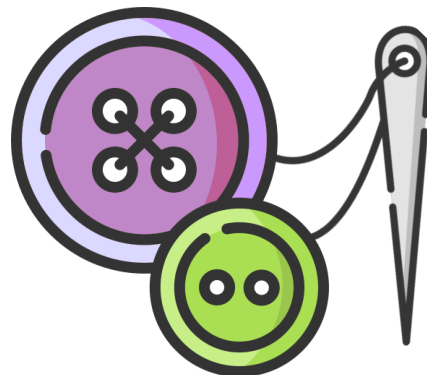


QUILTING MINISTRY BY SAM LOBELLO



Our Quilting Ministry has put an emphasis on helping health professionals with masks needed during the COVID-19 pandemic. To date they have made 1200 masks!

We are grateful these ladies who selflessly gave of their time and creative skills to help those serving on the front lines.



SPECIAL MINISTRIES BY SAM LOBELLO

Special Ministries



"But those who wait on the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Isaiah 40:31

30 years ago, I was having a conversation with my pastor. My temperament was very immediate result oriented. Things weren't happening fast enough for me and I was voicing my frustration! He said to me, "Sam, waiting is not a bad thing for the Christian." Then, He quoted the Bible verse above (Isaiah 40:31). He said, "You see, we are always better off when we wait on the Lord and join Him doing things in His time, instead of running ahead of Him trying to force our own timing."

Certainly, this applies to our situation today as we navigate the unfamiliar circumstances surrounding COVID-19. It is frustrating to close our Thrift Store and Food Pantry. We are accustomed to ministering consistently to our community, even during the flood of 2016. But today, we wait on our Lord, looking forward to joining Him soon in these ministries with renewed strength!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE BORN IN MAY

May 1st

Jan Plana
Mark Robinson
Amy Hunter
Haley Drake
Maddie Bunch

May 2nd

John Sharp
Greg Cowart
Matt Desrosiers
Ashley Vallot
Bonnie Pendas
Michael Mann
Caleb Stafford

May 3rd

Beverly Lucas
Bob Molcany
Sam LoBello
Rickie Leblanc
Jolie Spring
Cade Chenier
Kinslee Bozeman

May 4th

Andrew Mohr
Nikki Lavergne
Jace Blouin
Cooper Causey
Morgan Sibley

Asher Rich

May 5th

John O'neal
Cissy Brown
Ann Fann
Kristy Roy
Dylan Bermes
Griffn Holland

Evie Smith

May 6th

Scott McCumsey
Emily Cotton

May 7th

Carolyn Garcia
Annette Wallace
Paula Pendas
Billy Allen
Gail Gainey
Kristen Martin
Marty Schiltz
Samantha Rush
Zachary Rayburn
Devan Martin

May 8th

Rhonda Greaud
Ila Clark
Sammie Lacara
Benjy Rayburn
Michelle Otken
Lauren Elise Pendas

Cameron Walls

Hannah Ratcliff

Tyler Landry

Paiton Mitchell

Presley Nolan

May 9th

Chantel Griffith

May 10th

Stormee Drake
Michelle Penton
Maximus Stoltz

May 11th

Peggy Ott
Brittany Chedraui

Kaden Babin

May 12th

Brian Ensminger
Brodi Landry

May 13th

Betty Curtis
Bruce Kistrup
Jamyne Nelson

May 14th

Diane Desoto
Betty LoBello
Donna Milano
Ryan Hodges
Kristy Arbour
Jason Seipp

Breanna Ransome

Molly Fann

May 15th

Trevor Darnell
Kristen Raborn
Ali Hinrichs
Rhett Crnko

May 16th

Judy Wentworth
Alicia Robertson
Jonathan Carroll
Shane Stewart
Annie Dauzet
Jamie Elenbaas

May 17th

Ted McCulley
Janet Rose
Erin Ziegler
Dara Lambert
Jana Mistic
Breanna David

Brelynn David
 Carley Lister
 May 18th
 Mays Morris
 Wayne Mitchell
 Justin Smith
 Logan Rhodes
 Jessica Landess
 Nicholas Bejeaux
 Shelby Truax
 Belle Melton
 May 19th
 Louis Martin
 Jeanie Achord
 Greg Perkins
 May 20th
 Debbie Williams
 Lori Santos
 Shane Farrow
 Lori Johnson
 Samantha Curtis
 Samuel Justice
 Seth Doiga
 May 21st
 Craig David
 Deanna Dickinson
 Meghan Dantzler
 Jordan Devall
 Alex Fann
 Bryce Corley
 May 22nd
 Jill Tate
 Jimmy Evans
 Kirk Smart
 Summer Johnson
 Kristen Smith

Victoria Arbour
 Blayne Shepherd
 Ian Thibodeaux
 Olivia Conway
 Grace Cotten
 May 23rd
 Marjorie Starks
 Curtis Breazeale
 Alura Charbonnet
 Rickey Kinney
 Katie Brown Bailey
 May 24th
 Terry Mixon
 Angela Jolie
 Brody Mitchell
 May 25th
 Sharon Willard
 Melanie Parker
 Caden Griffith
 Katie Devenney
 May 26th
 Patty Penn
 Pat Griffin
 Wayne Smith
 Jim Cutrer
 Jessica Huovinen
 Shaun Tycer
 Brendon Lea
 Cole Perkins
 Chloe Landry
 Sophia Miller
 Rylee Vickry
 May 27th
 Brandi Cedotal
 Grant Landry
 Jacob Dale

Evaley Blouin
 May 28th
 Donnie Arbour
 Larkin Price
 May 29th
 Cheryl Vidrine
 Robin Attaway
 Troy Bozeman
 Brennan Dawson
 May 30th
 Judy Wascom
 Dana Rushing
 Laurie Kennedy
 Abigail Ard
 May 31st
 Bob Morrison
 Janice Rodriguez
 Ben Ory
 Michael Abadie
 Fred Gerstein
 Jacqueline Calandro
 Kristi Morehead
 Natalie Tholborn
 Troy Truax

ONLINE SCHEDULE



Like and follow us @WeAreLiveOakChurch on Facebook for weekly updates!

COUNSELING CORNER

Join Live Oak Worship for a time of praise and fellowship at 9:00AM for Worship Wednesdays.

Tune in with Dr. Mark Crosby every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 9:00AM.

WORSHIP

WEDNESDAYS

Theological hoursdays

Be fed through our Lunchtime Devotionals with David Orges every Tuesday and Theological Thursday at 12 noon.

May 2020 | Calendar of Events

A TIME AND A PLACE FOR EVERYONE

For more information about groups and events visit www.loumc.org or call (225) 664-4801

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Due to COVID-19 all regularly scheduled events during the week have been postponed until further notice.

Like and follow our Facebook page @WeAreLiveOakChurch to view our online schedule during this time.
Stay safe!

ONLINE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

10:00 AM Livestream Blended Service

MONDAY

9:00 AM Counseling Corner - Dr. Mark Crosby

TUESDAY

12:00 PM Lunchtime Devotional - David Orges

WEDNESDAY

9:00 AM Worship Wednesday - Live Oak Worship

THURSDAY

12:00 PM Lunchtime Devotional - David Orges

FRIDAY

9:00 AM Counseling Corner - Dr. Mark Crosby

ADULT EVENTS

MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST

7:30 AM on the second Saturday of every month.
Men's Prayer Breakfast will be postponed until further notice.

NEW MEMBER'S CLASS

9:00 AM in Room #16
4 Week class that restarts the first Sunday of every month.
New Member's Class has been postponed until further notice.
For more information email Sam LoBello at sam@loumc.org

GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at 7:00p in the Conference Room.
All classes have been postponed until further notice.
For more information email Rev. Stephen Hebert at stephen@loumc.org

MEN'S MINISTRY

Gridiron Men's Conference will be held June 19th - 20th in Huntsville, AL at the Propst Arena.
We will be departing June 19th at 8:00a and returning June 20th at 8:00p.
Cost for event is \$175. A deposit of \$50 is due April 5th.
Total balance is due May 3rd.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

All Women's Ministry events have been postponed until further notice.

SENIOR ADULTS

All Senior Adult trips and events have been postponed until further notice.

FAMILY EVENTS

STAY TUNED

More event information will be available in the coming months.

Like and follow our Facebook page @WeAreLiveOakChurch for weekly updates.

MEET TEAM

Coming together from a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences, our skilled team of pastors and ministry professionals are the backbone of Live Oak. Their ideas and leadership help shape the direction and mission of our organization as we continue to grow.



Dr. Mark Crosby
Senior Pastor



Rev. David Orges
Executive Pastor



Rev. Dickie Davis
Associate Pastor



Rev. Tommy
Bergeron
Director of
Pastoral Care



Rev. Stephen Hebert
Minister of
Pastoral Care



Rev. Sam Lobello
Director of Adult
Ministries



Cameron McKenzie
High School
Minister



Carl Doescher
Junior High
Minister



Ila Clark
Mother's Day Out
Director



Austyn Chopin
Nursery Director



Trish Graves
Children's
Ministry Director



Faith Storck
Children's
Ministry Assistant



Jim Otken
Treasurer



Monica Martin
Church
Administrator



Rev. Trent Barnett
Director of
Worship Ministries



Rev. David Easley
Assistant Music
Director



Seth Doiga
Music Director



Danny Wilson
Audio Engineer



Chris Lacara
Maintenance
Director



Dale Strickland
Maintenance
Assistant



Linda Holdman
Administrative
Assistant



Kim Pamplin
Office
Professional



Christy Henson
Office
Professional



FOLLOW
US ON

SOCIAL MEDIA



Twitter

@LiveOakKids
@Axis5610



Facebook

WeAreLiveOakChurch
loustudentministry
LOworship
loumcaxis56
loumckids



Instagram

LiveOakChurch.LA
liveoakworship
78_jump
liveoakchurch_axis56
liveoakkidswatson

LIVE OOK
C H U R C H

34890 La Hwy 16 • Denham Springs, LA 70706 • (225) 664 - 4801

May 2020 Edition