



## This Issue

The Final Score	P. 1
This Month in the Life	P. 2
From the Bookshelf	P. 2
The Church Around the World	P. 3
Sanctuary Sidebar	P. 3
Prayer and Praise	P. 4
The Culture Corner	P. 4

Monthly Newsletter of Lifeway Baptist Church

February 2020

# The Final Score

By Frank Keeler

I'm writing this within a few days of Super Bowl 54 (Or Super Bowl LIV as it is also known). I've read that each year Americans bet 90 million dollars on various aspects of the game. In fact, if you are a betting person, you can bet on almost anything; who wins the coin toss, who gets the first first-down, who gets the first interception and many other things including, of course, who wins the game. Incidentally this year a 30 second commercial costs upwards of \$5 million. That means if you took all of the money bet on the game this year you could buy around 18 commercials. What a deal!



The key to betting successfully is to predict what is going to happen in the future. If you knew the final score of the Super Bowl before it began you would know how to bet. If you had all of the information from the game before it was played you could

bet very successfully. As followers of Jesus Christ we don't know everything that is going to happen in the future but we do know the one who does and He has shared some very significant things with us that can shape our lives in such a way that we are not betting on our future we can act with certainty.

1 Peter 1:3-4 says, "Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of

Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade—kept in heaven for you." No matter what happens for the rest of your life, if you have a relationship with Jesus, God guarantees your future. You will never be able to lose your salvation.

***"No matter what happens for the rest of your life, if you have a relationship with Jesus, God guarantees your future. You will never be able to lose your salvation."***

An inheritance is what you're given because you belong to a family.

We know from the Scriptures that we are accountable for our lives- the Bible says that it is appointed each one once to die and then the judgment. If we are wise we will live our lives in such a way as to be prepared for that appointment with God. We should live each day with the end in mind.

It would be really fun to know every play of the big game before the kickoff but it is even better to know our Creator and spend each day preparing for our meeting with Him. I hope we are all ready!

*God Bless,  
Pastor Frank*

**IT IS APPOINTED  
FOR MAN TO DIE ONCE  
AND AFTER THIS THE JUDGMENT**

**Hebrews 9:27**



LIFEWAY BAPTIST CHURCH

*O grasp the strong life line for Jesus can save.*

from "Throw Out the Life Line" words & music by  
Edwin S. Ufford, 1888 & George S. Stebbins, 1890

# This Month in the Life

## DEVOTIONAL: THE WAY OF LOVE

By Shira Campbell

1 CORINTHIANS 13:1-8 IF I SPEAK WITH HUMAN ELOQUENCE AND ANGELIC ECSTASY BUT DON'T LOVE, I'M NOTHING BUT THE CREAKING OF A RUSTY GATE. IF I SPEAK GOD'S WORD WITH POWER, REVEALING ALL HIS MYSTERIES AND MAKING EVERYTHING PLAIN AS DAY, AND IF I HAVE FAITH THAT SAYS TO A MOUNTAIN, "JUMP," AND IT JUMPS, BUT I DON'T LOVE, I'M NOTHING. IF I GIVE EVERYTHING I OWN TO THE POOR AND EVEN GO TO THE STAKE TO BE BURNED AS A MARTYR, BUT I DON'T LOVE, I'VE GOTTEN NOWHERE. SO, NO MATTER WHAT I SAY, WHAT I BELIEVE, AND WHAT I DO, I'M BANKRUPT WITHOUT LOVE.

Love never gives up.  
Love cares more for others than for self.  
Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.  
Love doesn't strut,  
Doesn't have a swelled head,  
Doesn't force itself on others,  
Isn't always "me first,"  
Doesn't glory in the handle,  
Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,  
Doesn't revel when others grovel,  
Takes pleasure in the lowering of truth,  
Puts up with anything,  
Trusts God always,  
Always looks for the best,  
Never looks back,  
But keeps going to the end.

I was relaxing in bed the other night, struggling to fall asleep. Usually when this happens, I start counting all that God has given me, and praise Him for all His glory. As I was praying, God impressed on me the month of February and how we see it as the

month of love, with some of us getting carried away in looking for the perfect gift there, or the best restaurant money can buy, and others being sent. For me, there is no better gift you can give than the gift of you to others, and not just for a month, or one day of the month, but every day of the year. It's the gift of your love, your wisdom, your testimony and your life that is more priceless than any materialistic gift this world offers.

The best example of love, God! You see, God doesn't love just one month of the year, but all year, every day. He also doesn't love just those of us who have chosen to follow Him, but loves even those who curse him, hate him and all he stands for. He also doesn't give us glory gifts, or romantic dinners to show us he loves us. He walks among us, holding us when we hurt, giving us refuge when we cannot function because the pain is too huge. He's drying the tears that we shed, and though we may be in one of the worst winters of life, He sparkles through the thick ice showing us, we do not walk alone. He performs miracles though we have done nothing to deserve them.

You cannot follow God and enjoy a walking relationship with him and not have love in your heart for all. It will not work, for He is Love.

**"...God doesn't  
love just one  
month of the year,  
but all year,  
every day. "**

## FROM THE BOOKSHELF

By Dagna D. Stencel

I took a small book from the library shelf, "The Unanointed" by Laurene Chinn.

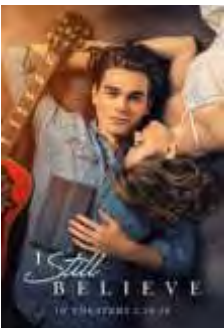
This is a delightful novel about Joab a great military leader. He was a kinsman of David who led the armies of Israel. He sacrificed his beloved Reba and his son for David because David was the Lord's anointed. Out of this devotion comes this inspiring novel. Laurene Chinn has taken some literary license with the book. Joab leaves his home in Bethlehem because he killed a man and was afraid of the avenger. When it turns out that the avenger is none other than him he is part of David's camp and not able to return home just yet. He has to take part in turning Israel from a scattering of warring tribes to a unified nation ruled from David's Jerusalem.

"Towering even above the skill with which Laurene Chinn has blended careful scholarship with drama is the magnificence of her central theme and the stature with which she has invested those who devoted their lives to the Lord by serving His anointed."

Please don't forget to sign the check-out log. Happy reading!

## MEDIA MINUTE

Submitted by Pastor Frank



### I STILL BELIEVE

Release Date: March 20, 2020

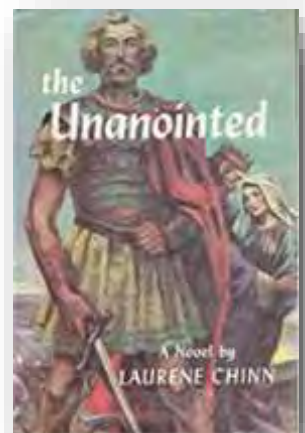
The plot of the movie was inspired by the award-winning Christian singer Jeremy Camp's real life story. It tells about love, loss and faith.

"I Still Believe" depicts Jeremy Camp's first marriage to his wife

Melissa Lynn Henning-Camp. Melissa dies of ovarian cancer shortly after they were married.

The film is produced by the Erwin Brothers who also produced "I Can Only Imagine".

Source: The Christian Post





# The Church Around the World

Source by The Voice of the Martyrs Canada and submitted by Pastor Frank Keeler

## FOCUS ON NIGERIA

A leader of the Christian Association of Nigeria (CAN) and pastor of a Brethren church, Lawan Andimi, was executed by Boko Haram terrorists on January 20th. Pastor Lawan was kidnapped during a raid in the town of Michika on January 3<sup>rd</sup>. Shortly after, a video was released in which the pastor speaks of his faith in God's sovereignty despite the situation. He told his family: "God is still alive.... Don't cry, don't worry, thank God for everything." News of his death also came via video, sent to the same journalist, showing the beheadings of Pastor Lawan and an unnamed soldier.

In response to the news, Floyd Brobbel, CEO for The Voice of the Martyrs, Canada, echoed the testimony of Pastor Lawan by declaring: "His life was not wasted. What the enemy has meant for evil will be used for the Lord's glory. So while today we mourn, tomorrow we rejoice."

Three days of prayer and fasting were declared by The Voice of the Martyrs Canada in response to the killing. A spokesperson stated they had done everything possible to secure the pastor's safe release. Without the support of the military, they had no further options. The organization is urging the government to take all necessary steps to safeguard the lives of Nigerian Christians.

*Please remember the family and friends of Pastor Lawan in the wake of this devastating news. Join with Christians throughout Nigeria who are mourning the loss of so many innocent lives and praying for peace and safety. Even in the midst of this tragic loss, we can thank God for the powerful testimony of grace that was demonstrated through the life and words of Pastor Lawan. May the Lord use it to touch the hearts of people around the world, including the perpetrators of the crimes.*

## SANCTUARY SIDEBAR

### RUMMAGE SALE



**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 8:00 AM—12:00 PM**

It's that time again! If you are looking for something, we will probably have it at our rummage sale! Come and find that perfect buy that you've been looking for. Volunteers needed the week of February 2 to set up and sort items and the day of the sale beginning at 6:00 am. Accepting donations, too, starting now!

### EVENTS

Mark Your Calendar

- **February 2** – 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration Planning Meeting
- **February 9** – Washing Judah's Feet (Palm Sunday Drama) Planning Meeting
- **February 23** – Budget Approval Meeting



**WEDNESDAY,  
FEBRUARY 26**

Email submissions to  
[newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com](mailto:newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com)



**Check out these opportunities to make a difference at Lifeway and/or our neighborhood!**

- ⇒ Scripture Reading (If you have a testimony or Scripture to share with the congregation on Sunday Morning)
- ⇒ Special Music for an Easter week service:
  - \* Palm Sunday
  - \* Good Friday
- ⇒ Work Projects (if you can't make it to the work days but want to help we can assign a project for you)
- ⇒ First Friday – Maryland School (Program to minister to Maryland students and families on the first Friday of each month)
- ⇒ Neighborhood Outreach (Sundays after our Worship Services, contact families in our neighborhood and introduce them to Lifeway)
- ⇒ Visitation (Be part of a team that visits members of our Lifeway family who can't attend services in person)
- ⇒ Generation Z Outreach (Be part of a team that will seek to find ways for our church to reach more college age people)

## Church Staff

**Frank Keeler**  
*Pastor*

**Becky Kline**  
*Church Clerk*

**David Kline**  
*Deacon*

**Danny Zenner**  
*Music Coordinator,  
Youth Ministry*

**Barbara Jarvis**  
*Financial Secretary*

**Christine Kline**  
*Treasurer*

**Cheryl-Ann Calica**  
*Kitchen Manager,  
Correspondence,  
VBS Director,  
Operation Christmas  
Child Coordinator*

**Donna Keeler**  
*Women's Ministry,  
Special Events*

**Dagna Stencel**  
*Librarian,  
Media Worship*

**Cathy Oquendo**  
*Nursery Coordinator*

**Lina Cardenas**  
*Newsletter Editor,  
Digital Marketing &  
Webmaster*

**Are you willing to serve?  
We need a sound technician to help with worship practice and/or during our church service.**

Please direct any suggestions, corrections and/or articles for consideration to:  
newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com

## Prayer and Praise

This section is to honor prayer requests and share praise reports. Please know that as your church family we are glad to join our faith with yours for God's will to be

- Woody and Sandy Woodru's son-in-law, Ed Primer who has been in poor health with heart issues for quite some time. Sandy reports that he is in the hospital giving up. He is tired of hurting. Pray for Shannon. Pray for Ed and his wife Shannon.
- Lu Toledo's son, Kris. He has been diagnosed with stage 4 stomach cancer which has spread and is inoperable.
- Sheryl Bright was diagnosed with high blood pressure and is on bed rest.

**"For the eyes of the LORD are on the righteous and His ears are open to their prayers..."**

## Verse of the Month:

Hear, O Israel: The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength.

*Deuteronomy 6:4-5 NIV*

## The Culture Corner

Submitted by Frank Keeler

CALIFORNIA BILL COULD REQUIRE PLANNED PARENTHOOD PHONE NUMBER TO BE ADDED TO STUDENT IDS

A California Demo

lawmaker is denying that his bill requiring all student ID cards to include the phone number to a reproductive health care clinic, such as Planned Parenthood, would only serve to promote abortion providers.

Last month, Assembly member Jesse Gabriel of San Fernando Valley introduced Assembly Bill 624, the "Pupil and Student Health" bill, that would require all middle schools, high schools and colleges — both public, private and Christian schools — to carry student IDs with numbers to the National Sexual Assault Hotline, the National Domestic Violence Hotline, and Planned Parenthood or another sexual health and abortion provider.

AB 624 has garnered criticism from many pro-life advocates who say that, among other things, the bill

would force students to promote Planned Parenthood.

"By slapping Planned Parenthood's hotline on the back of every 12- to 24-year-old's ID, California essentially would be forcing every student to join an abortion sales team," said Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council in Washington, D.C. "Gabriel's bill doesn't just force young people to violate their beliefs — it promotes an

industry that jeopardizes these girls' health," he added.

In a statement released Thursday, Gabriel disputed accusations that his bill is an effort to promote and advertise for abortion providers. He said the claims were "offensive, misleading, and flat out wrong."

Gabriel was endorsed by Planned Parenthood Los Angeles and received a \$4,400 donation to his campaign last June.

Source: The Christian Post



# Our Joyful Noise

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### • Important Meetings :

- 50th Anniversary Planning: Sunday, February 2
- Washing Judah's Feet (Palm Sunday Drama) Planning Meeting: Sunday, February 9
- Budget Approval Meeting: Sunday, February 23

### • Rummage Sale: Saturday, February 8, 8:00 am—Noon

It's that time again! If you are looking for something, we will probably have it at our rummage sale! Come and find that perfect buy that you've been looking for. Volunteers needed the week of February 2 to set up and sort items and the day of the sale beginning at 6:00 am. Accepting donations, too, starting now!

## ONGOING/RECURRING GROUP MEETINGS & MINISTRIES

### • Manna for Men: Every Wednesday, 6:30 pm

The men meet in the Men's Sunday School classroom.

### • Ladies' Bible Study: Every Wednesday, 6:30 pm

The ladies are studying Proverbs. Please note that the studies are being presented via Facebook Live. If you have any questions, please see Lynne Conde.

### • All Church Prayer Group: Every Wednesday, 10:00 am—11:00 am

If you would like to join these prayer partners in lining up concerns and praises to the Lord, we welcome your participation at church on Wednesdays.

### • Church Work Day: Every Saturday in February, 9:00 am—11:00 am

We have a few work projects to do so we're setting time aside every Saturday this month to get them done, such as:

- Remove Christmas
- Clean up and Organize
- Weeds, Weeds, Weeds
- & much more

