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Monthly Newsletter of Lifeway Baptist Church

January 2020

White Coat Syndrome

By Frank Keeler

In case you aren't familiar with it, White Coat Syndrome is described as a phenomenon in which people exhibit a blood pressure level above the normal range in a clinical setting although they do not exhibit it in other settings. It is believed that the phenomenon is due to anxiety experienced during a doctor visit. So for some people merely seeing that white lab coat can create increased hypertension. I believe I experience white coat syndrome to an extent as well. My blood pressure always seems to be a little higher at the doctor's office than when I take it at home, but my question is shouldn't there also be some type of syndrome where we are changed because we are in the presence of God?

According to the Bible, being in God's presence is a truly awesome and sometimes absolutely terrifying thing. In Isaiah 6:1-5, Isaiah tells of his experience in God's presence: "In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him were seraphs, each with six wings: With two wings they covered their faces, with two they covered their feet, and with two they were flying. And they were calling to one another: 'Holy, holy, holy is the LORD Almighty; the whole earth is full of his glory.' At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook and the temple was filled with smoke. 'Woe to me!' I cried. 'I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty.' It sounds like God's presence created much more than a slight increase in BP, in his own words- Isaiah was ruined.

Exodus 34 shows that, "When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face. But whenever he entered the LORD's presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and

told the Israelites what he had been commanded, they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with the LORD." The presence of God had a very real physical impact on Moses.



"According to the Bible, being in God's presence is a truly awesome and sometimes absolutely terrifying thing."

While we may not encounter God's presence in the same way as Isaiah and Moses, Hebrews 10:19-22 tells us, "Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the Most Holy Place by the blood of Jesus, a new and living way opened for us through the curtain, that is, his body, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near to God with a sincere heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled to cleanse us from a guilty conscience and having our bodies washed with pure water." We do have full access to God and we can enter with confidence.

I believe it is so important to consider how God's presence should affect our life. If it doesn't we are living like an atheist. If merely the sight of a white coat can increase our blood pressure, how much more should the actual presence of God in our lives touch, disturb and move us?

*God Bless,
Pastor Frank*



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: ARE YOU SHARING THE MESSAGE OF LOVE?

By Shira Campbell

1 JOHN 3:11 FOR THIS IS THE MESSAGE WHICH YOU HAVE HEARD FROM THE BEGINNING, THAT WE SHOULD LOVE ONE ANOTHER.

It's not easy to put aside your opinions, emotions or ideology when dealing with others in this world.

It's very easy to get caught up in what's happening in today's society, especially with social media. We all want our voices heard. But, what is it that we are trying to convey, and the words in which we are using?

We must, as Christians, love those who go against everything that Christ stands for. We are called by our Father to love, just as he loves us, we are to pray repeatedly for the hearts of men to be soft, their eyes to be opened, and their ears to hear the truth. We must remember that our fight is with what is happening spiritually, and God has given us the power, through his blood, to fight the spiritual world, not standing on our feet, but through fighting on our knees.

As we come to a new year, let us all think about what we post and ask ourselves:

is this uplifting others? Does it bring hope to others? Will this bring a smile to others? The rhetoric of hate will still be out there, but if we stop sharing and commenting, and choose to share uplifting narratives, maybe we can change someone's life whose looking to change.

Hate should stop at our door, and love should be stepping in. The fight is ours, but on our knees through prayer.

I may sound simplistic and naive, but I stand firm in my faith that all things are possible through God!

"We must, as Christians, love those who go against everything that Christ stands for."

MEDIA MINUTE

Submitted by Pastor Frank

BLIND EYES OPENED



Six years in the making, *Blind Eyes Opened* is a feature-length documentary that explores and exposes sex trafficking by talking to law enforcement officials, experts and lawmakers – as well as those who have been victims of it. The film is

billed as a "first-of-a-kind Christian documentary." "Once you've learned how to recognize human trafficking, you begin to see it everywhere – it's in every single community," said executive producer Geoffrey Rogers. *Blind Eyes Opened* will be in theaters for one night only: Jan. 23.

Source: Phantom Events

FROM THE BOOKSHELF

By Dagna D. Stencel

I took a small book from the library shelf, *"Not a Tame Lion The Spiritual Legacy of C.S. Lewis"* by Terry W. Glaspey General Editor George Grant

This is an inspiring book about a great author and how he came to embrace Christianity.

The post titled *C.S. Lewis His Life* was most interesting. The post about meeting Joy Davidman and falling in love and losing her to cancer is a true love story. The confirmed bachelor being struck down by love. He wrote some of his best work during this period of his life.

The post titled *C.S. Lewis His Thought* get inside his way of thinking, subject by subject. For instance Humor. Humor helps us to realize that from God's point of view the self-important human being is a pretty funny creature! One of the powerful truths about humor is that it assumes an ideal against which we judge ourselves. If there was no ideal or expectation to fall short of, there would be nothing to laugh about. But we can laugh, and sometimes our laughter should be mixed with tears, for we still struggle to be what God would have us to be.

In the post titled *C.S. Lewis His Legacy* Lewis shaped the thoughts, and thereby the action of countless people in his own time and afterward, mostly through the quiet influence of his books.

This book has put some of the writings of C.S. Lewis on my long list of books I must read.

Please don't forget to sign the checkout log. Happy reading!

The Church Around the World

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

FOCUS ON IRAN: CHRISTIAN CONVERT HOPES IN THE LORD

Khalda, a young Iraqi Christian who was forced to leave his family and his country, is now growing in faith as he hopes in the Lord. When his father urged him to get married and drop out of school, Khalda insisted on finishing school and also became a follower of Jesus Christ. "I started knowing the Lord and going to church," he said. But after learning that Khalda had left Islam and placed his faith in Christ, his family began to beat him. Khalda said discrimination against Christians is common in the city where he lived. Other believers then helped him escape from Iraq, and he now lives in another country. "Now, I'm going in faith," he said.



Iraqi Christian converts from Islam can feel quite lonely.

"Although I might suffer, I feel happy because I know that the Lord has defeated this world!" Pray that Khalda will continue to grow in faith and be used by the Lord to reach others. Also pray for other Christians who convert from Islam who are facing persecution.

For more information on the Persecuted church visit: www.persecution.com

SANCTUARY SIDEBAR



**HUGE THANK YOU FOR ALL THE
VOLUNTEERS AND PRAYER
PARTNERS WHO MADE OUR LIVE
NATIVITY A SUCCESS!**



A reception will follow the service in the Fellowship Hall. We are asking for people to bring food to share for the reception. So we can be prepared, it will be helpful to let Cheryl-Ann or Pastor Frank know if you are able to contribute food.



**WEDNESDAY,
JANUARY 29**

Email submissions to
newsletter@lifewaychurchvista.com



Please see Pastor Frank on
how to register

WHEN: January 18, 2020, 10:00am -12:00pm, followed by FREE lunch
WHERE: Shadow Mountain Community Church, 2100 Greenfield Dr., El Cajon, CA 92019
WHO: Everyone who is a part of a church in San Diego county is invited! The more the merrier, so invite your friends, pastors, kids - everyone!

COST: It's FREE! Come join us to worship, learn what God is doing, and feast together!

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

- Please continue to pray for the Kline families as they prepare for Yae's memorial service.
- Eldon and Kim Mudge. Eldon received results from his latest blood test. His PSA number has tripled in the last 2 months.
- Majeski's mom, Ginger, has pneumonia. Please pray that the medication will do its job and not require a breathing machine.
- Shirley Boyer's youngest son, Sco Alan Boyer, passed away from complications of diabetes. Please be in prayer for the family.
- John Welch's passing. Please pray for Nelda and the family.

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

Verse of the Month:

[*Bless the LORD, O My Soul*] [*Of David.*] Bless the LORD, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless his holy name! Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits.
— Psalm 103:1-2 ESV

The Culture Corner

Submitted by Frank Keeler

The Kentucky Supreme Court dismissed a lawsuit against a Christian business that refused on religious grounds to make T-shirts for a gay pride event. In *Lexington-Fayette Urban County Human Rights Commission v. Hands on Originals*, the state's highest court ruled unanimously last Thursday that the LGBT group suing the business did not have "statutory standing" to sue the company. The court noted that the local anti-discrimination ordinance only allowed for an individual complaint of discrimination to be filed, whereas the Gay and Lesbian Services Organization led the complaint as a group.

Source: The Christian Post



Our Joyful Noise

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Yae Kline Memorial Service: Saturday, January 4, 3:00 pm**

Please join as we celebrate Yae's life. A reception will follow the service in the Fellowship Hall. We are asking for people to bring food to share for the reception. So we can be prepared, it will be helpful to let Cheryl-Ann or Pastor Frank know if you are able to contribute food.

- **San Diego Southern Baptist Association Annual Meeting & Celebration: Saturday, January 18, 10:00 am—12:00 pm, Shadow Mountain Community Church, El Cajon**

This year's theme is "Pathways to Discipleship", and we'll be exploring how the San Diego Southern Baptist Association is passionate about churches paving a pathway for discipling individuals from preschool through adulthood! This event is free for everyone. Come worship, learn what God is doing, and feast together.

10:00am-12:00pm Annual Meeting

Worship, Prayers, Videos, Panel Discussion, Testimonies, Door Prizes*, and more!

12:00pm FREE Mexican Fiesta Lunch

Door prizes*, Mariachi music, great food, and more!

**Prizes will only be given to individuals who register ahead of time - must be present to win.*

- **Leadership Meeting: Sunday, January 19, After the Service**

If you are part of the ministry leadership team at Lifeway, please plan on staying after the service for this important meeting.

- **Quarterly Business Meeting: Sunday, January 26, After the Service**

If you call Lifeway your home church, please plan to attend. Every member is important to our church. We will be discussing and voting on important issues that need to be addressed to carry out our church's purpose and to receive updates regarding God's work in and through our church family.

ONGOING/RECURRING GROUP MEETINGS & MINISTRIES

- **Manna for Men: Every Wednesday, 6:30 pm**

The men meet in the Men's Sunday School classroom. The meeting will reconvene on January 8.

- **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. The meeting will reconvene on January 8.

- **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: Last Saturday, 9:00 am—11:00 am**

This is an opportunity to maintain and make repairs around the church. There is a lot to do and many hands make light work. Please speak to Dan Kline if you have any questions.