



December 15, 2024

*The shepherds desire to be supportive and accessible to you! We encourage you to speak to any one of us, or write a note about your concerns, or things we might help with.*

# Lakeview Church of Christ

## SUNDAY WAS MADE FOR MAN, NOT MAN FOR SUNDAY



<sup>12</sup> At that time Jesus went through the grainfields on the Sabbath. His disciples were hungry, and they began to pluck heads of grain and to eat. <sup>2</sup> But when the Pharisees saw it, they said to him, “Look, your disciples are doing what is not lawful to do on the Sabbath.” <sup>3</sup> He said to them, “Have you not read what David did when he was hungry, and those who were with him: <sup>4</sup> how he entered the house of God and ate the bread of the Presence, which it was not lawful for him to eat nor for those who were with him, but only for the priests? <sup>5</sup> Or have you not read in the Law how on the Sabbath the priests in the temple profane the Sabbath and are guiltless? <sup>6</sup> I tell you, something greater than the temple is here. <sup>7</sup> And if you had known what this means, ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,’ you would not have condemned the guiltless. <sup>8</sup> For the Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath.”

<sup>9</sup> He went on from there and entered their synagogue. <sup>10</sup> And a man was there with a withered hand. And they asked him, “Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?”—so that they might accuse him. <sup>11</sup> He said to them, “Which one of you who has a sheep, if it falls into a pit on the Sabbath, will not take hold of it and lift it out? <sup>12</sup> Of how much more value is a man than a sheep! So it is lawful to do good on the Sabbath.” <sup>13</sup> Then he said to the man, “Stretch out your hand.” And the man stretched it out, and it was restored, healthy like the other. <sup>14</sup> But the Pharisees went out and conspired against him, how to destroy him. Matthew 12:1-14

### LIFE GROUP MEETINGS:

Jim Karkosky or Rex Farnsworth  
Gary Calkins or Ray West  
Darrell Davis or Don Mellor  
Phil Leupold  
Ray Glasman or C Baidoo-Essien  
Rich Ewing or Wendell Tillman  
Kenny Coleman or Matt King  
Don Russell or Keith Purser

*contact a host/facilitator for meeting time*

### MEETING AT:

1709 112th Street S. \* Tacoma, WA  
Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 A.M.  
Sunday Worship Assembly: 10:00 A.M.  
( & live stream on You Tube)  
Wednesday Bible Class: - 7:00 P.M.  
Wednesday Bible Class on ZOOM - 7:00 P.M.

*AIM - Adventures In Missions  
Delano Bay Christian Camp  
Mountain States Children's Home  
Jos, Nigeria—Tom Ekpot  
Paris Mission - Roland Mohsen*



### CONTACT US

Mail: PO Box 44347  
Tacoma, WA 98448  
Email: [office@lakeviewcofc.org](mailto:office@lakeviewcofc.org)  
Phone: 253-537-5181 Website:  
[www.lakeviewchurchofchrist.church](http://www.lakeviewchurchofchrist.church)

### OUR SHEPHERDS:

**Kenny Coleman** Darrell Davis  
Jim Karkosky  
Phil Leupold Ray West

Preaching Minister: Brent McFarland

Fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.  
Isaiah 41:10

**PRAYER REQUESTS**

- Don Mellor’s brother Dennis, as he continues to be hospitalized with a brain bleed.
- Randy Williamson’s parents; he has concerns about their health.
- Virginia and Juan Najera have both been ill recently.
- Jack Voyles’ neighbor, Bill Walters passed away. Please remember his wife, Karen Walters.
- Ralph Coleman has been hospitalized, Kenny flew Maryland to be with him. While there, Kenny has contracted flu and bronchitis.
- For Noah Kyser, as he prepares to leave Washington and continue on in the next phase of his life.
- Please remember those with continued concerns:

*Ruth Behrent, Bob Bruns, Errin Calkins, Ralph Coleman, Debbie Cornwall, Linda Ewing, Cheri Grice, Bob & Lily Hanson, Joan Haughawout, Sharon Henton, Phil Leupold, Marilyn Likens, Mike & Terry Martin, David Newman, Brett Nowlin, Thomas Pruett Carol Robison, Sunday Sawyer, Doug Smith, Cheryl Tillman, Jack & Jane Voyles, Ida Wilson, Ray West*



Dear Brothers and Sisters,  
Christmas comes but once a year; for us it is the season of giving. Every year to commemorate Nnenna’s parents, our family feeds the widows and orphans in Nnenna’s home village of Arochukwu, Nigeria. We try to bring hope to the underprivileged and those in need by feeding them for the holidays season, helping families who are experiencing severe food shortages. Last year with the help of the Lakeview congregation we were able to feed 200 people. If God places it on your heart please join us in giving this blessing again this year. Donations can be given to any of the elders. If you have any questions please reach out to Ryan or Nnenna Hill.

**A BUSY DAY ~**

Today (December 15) we bid farewell to Noah and thank him for all he has done while serving with us.

Join us again at 5:00 Sunday evening for singing and a devotional. Stay for the meal to follow.

**GOD IS SO GOOD!** We are happy to announce the Food Pantry will reopen in January. After a temporary shutdown, the space has been remodeled and made secure. A big thank you to our volunteers who made this happen.

Now, we need to restock the shelves. Your donations of non-perishable food (nothing with expired use by dates) will be thankfully accepted. What do we need? Everything, but here are a few suggestions: breakfast cereals, granola bars, muffin mixes, crackers, pasta, pasta sauce, soups, canned fruits & veggies, peanut butter, and jelly. Thank you for all of your support to make this outreach happen!

**5th Sunday Singing at Olympia Church of Christ**  
December 29 at 5:00 PM

Sheep have excellent hearing and become very attuned to their shepherd’s voice and inflections. They are so attuned that they will only respond to their shepherd’s commands, even if someone else tries to call them in the same way. This is something to reflect on this Christmas season as we celebrate the birth of The Good Shepherd.



**CHRISTMAS BASKETS**

Contact Tony Pierce or Brett Nowlin with questions - Lakeview teens will be gathering supplies and putting together Christmas Dinner Baskets. All donations must be received by Wed., December 18 (12 of each)

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Turkey                | French Fried Onions     |
| Premade Pumpkin Pie   | Canned Cranberry Sauce  |
| Canned Sweet Potatoes | Dinner Rolls            |
| Boxed Stuffing Mix    | Instant Mashed Potatoes |
| Canned Green Beans    | Bottled Gravy           |
| Cream Mushroom Soup   |                         |

Men’s Service Calendar - For December, contact Wendell Tillman

	<b>December 15</b>	<b>December 22</b>	<b>December 29</b>
Communion	Leonard Otte	Christopher Baidoo Essien	Don Mellor
Reading	Kevin Brazile	Ron Hollister	Dave Brazile
Closing Prayer	Eric Roley	Brett Nowlin	Wendell Tillman

December Tray Passers:  
Jose Garcia, Bob Riley, David Newman, Rich Ewing, Kurt Turner, Kevin English, Jeff Bynum, Jose Garcia Jr.  
Announcements: David Cornwall

DECEMBER 8, 2024 Attendance: 220, Contribution: \$14,153



REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 2024 (Tom Ekpot Jr.)

Dear Beloved brethren,

I greet you all in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. I hope you all had a peaceful Thanksgiving celebration. We have reasons to thank God even for the things we not know understand clearly why God is acting that way, because His ways are always better than ours. I appreciate God Almighty for His faithfulness in securing us and providing for us daily. I am particularly grateful to Him for seeing me through my two months travels through the States. I was thinking I will be able to get to Ellabell and Washington State during this visit, but things did not work out well. However, I still appreciate God for His mercies. The School of Biblical Studies is planning to become a Christian University in Nigeria. I came around at the invitation of the overseeing elders to talk to supporting congregations. I did not come to the States with Sandra because the United States Embassy denied her traveling VISA. They probably believed if two of us travelled at the same time, we will not return to Nigeria. They do not realize the enormous task I have to do here in Nigeria. Well, since I returned to Nigeria a month ago, I have been trying to catch up both with the work at the school, the congregations, and keeping up with meetings our evangelism prospects. Being a Christian is the best decision one can make, for me is greatest achievement I will say I have made in life.

As soon as I returned to Nigeria, I went to visit the congregation at Foron Mission. The congregation is doing fine, and growing in faith and number. The picture here was taken on the first Sunday in November, when I worshipped with them. Most of those small children are now teenagers and the teenage children have grown and some have left the village to big cities to make living.



At Rayfield congregation, the Lord has been mindful of us. Being a city congregation, it witnesses the coming and moving out of people. Since the establishment of the congregation in March 2023, many people have been brought to Christ. Some of them have moved to other places, few are still with us. Recently we had Marvelous and Vincent baptized for the remission of their sins. All of them started worshipping immediately after their conversion. Marvelous is still keeping up with his faith in Christ, learning each day. Marvelous is the one in the picture below. He came from Lagos to visit his father who is our first convert since the establishment of the congregation at Rayfield last year. Well, God has been kind to us, his father is so committed to his faith and is already taking responsibilities in the church. He helps us each Sunday to pick and drop one elderly woman who started worshipping with us. The woman has visual impairment, and needs assistance to the meeting place. Her children are not concerned about her and do not want her to be worshipping with us. The church takes care of the old woman, and have this brother drop her and pick her every Sunday. The woman is not yet a Christian, but we are studying with her. We believe she will come to the knowledge of the truth soon.

Marvelous, the young convert is learning fast from his father's commitment. This is where I see the power of positive influence. The young man is dedicated to know more about God and is willing to be involved in everything in the church.



MARVELOUS SMART

his family members suddenly are after him. That if he must be a Christian, he must return to their family church. The young man does not want to worship with denomination, but his family members are pressuring him to revert to their family church. While we keep him in prayers, we have made him to realize that he is accountable to God for his choices. Keep praying for Vincent. In some families, when one decides to leave their belief system, they deprive him of his right to their family inheritance. We know all these are threats to confuse him from following God.

Vincent is another young convert. The young man was not a member of any religious group for a long time. We reached out to him with the Gospel, he decided to give himself to God. After some weeks of becoming a Christian,



At the School of Biblical Studies, we have ended final exams, many of the students have traveled back to their home congregations, and those on internship have also gone to their places of assignment. We pray the holiday will be peaceful for them and for our staff. Come Saturday 7, December, we will be going to different states to have intensive classes for two weeks with our extension students. These are preachers, leaders, and Bible teachers in local congregations who do not have time to come and

(continued from previous page)

spend time at the School of Biblical Studies in Jos. We therefore carry the training to meet them at their home locations. Keep us in prayers please.

Permit me use this opportunity to appreciate you all for your kindness towards us. Praying for and supporting us. May God keep blessing you all. Last year, we organized the first widows/orphans' day, where we passed out some kilos of rice, yam, and cooking seasoning. We are hopeful to do that this year. We are constrained with money. But we will still reach out to the few our resources can reach. We have 3 widows and 4 orphans with us. Last year, widows from other congregations came too, in addition to victims of armed conflict in Jos. May God be praised in all of these.

I wish you all Merry Christmas in advance.  
Grace and Peace,  
Tom Ekpot (Jr)

### LAKEVIEW CALENDAR

- MARTIAL ARTS, MONDAY & THURSDAY @ 5:30 PM
- LADIES' THURSDAY BIBLE CLASS @ 10:00 AM
- ASL CLASS - THURSDAYS @ 7:00 PM, ROOM 4
- MEN'S GROUP, THURSDAYS @ 7:00 PM, ROOM 2
- YOUNG ADULTS - SATURDAYS @ 5:30 PM, ROOM 2
- LADIES' PRAYER GROUP - 2<sup>ND</sup> SATURDAY @ 10:00 AM

### TEEN CALENDAR

- Weekly Devo / Get Together, Fridays @ 6:30 pm

**CCDNW**  
**Presents**  
**PARENTS' DAY**

1-11-2025

**Amy Schlup**, Director of Student Financial Services at Oklahoma Christian University presents:  
"Financial Aid 101: Navigating the World of Financial Aid"

**Marc Compton**, Market Executive, Private Bank, Bank of America, presents:  
"Because it Matters"-what every parent should know after financial aid and scholarships.

Go to [ccdnw.org](http://ccdnw.org) for more details

Christian College Day NW

This event is not a recruiting event for students, it is for parents of middle school kids and up, and kids who are paying for college themselves. There will be two seminars which will be not directed at a specific school but provided for the good of all who come. More information is on the website, [ccdnw.org](http://ccdnw.org).

There is so much information to be had that it takes several years to get your feet under you, so this will be a place to get information and ask questions.

This day is open to all people, so if you know of anyone who could benefit from this type of afternoon, please let them know about it. It's free as a service to our PNW parents. Please register at, [ccdnw.org](http://ccdnw.org), to let the speakers know how many to expect.

### A PUZZLE - THIRTY BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

Here is a fun puzzle for you. There are thirty books of the Bible in this paragraph. Can you find them? This is a most remarkable puzzle. It was found by a gentleman in an airplane seat pocket, on a flight from Los Angeles to Honolulu, keeping him occupied for hours. He enjoyed it so much, he passed it on to some friends. One friend from Illinois worked on this while fishing from his john boat. Another friend studied it while playing his banjo. Elaine Taylor, a columnist friend, was so intrigued by it she mentioned it in her weekly newspaper column. Another friend judges the job of solving this puzzle so involving, she brews a cup of tea to help her nerves. There will be some names that are really easy to spot. That's a fact. Some people, however, will soon find themselves in a jam, especially since the book names are not necessarily capitalized. Truthfully, from answers we get, we are forced to admit it usually takes a minister or scholar to see some of them at the worst. Research has shown that something in our genes is responsible for the difficulty we have in seeing the books in this paragraph. During a recent fund raising event, which featured this puzzle, the Alpha Delta Phi lemonade booth set a new sales record. The local paper, The Chronicle, surveyed over 200 patrons who reported that this puzzle was one of the most difficult they had ever seen. As Daniel Humana humbly puts it "the books are all right here in plain view hidden from sight." Those able to find all of them will hear great lamentations from those who have to be shown. One revelation that may help is that books like Timothy and Samuel may occur without their numbers. Also, keep in mind, that punctuation and spaces in the middle are normal. A chipper attitude will help you compete really well against those who claim to know the answers. Remember, there is no need for a mad exodus. There really are 30 books of the Bible lurking somewhere in this paragraph waiting to be found.

