

LAKEVIEW CHURCH
1821 SHERIDAN ROAD
ZION, ILLINOIS 60099

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

WORSHIPING GOD AND SERVING
TOGETHER AS A LOCAL BODY OF
BELIEVERS, WE SEEK TO KNOW CHRIST
AND TO MAKE HIM KNOWN, SO THAT HE
WILL BE GLORIFIED IN US AND WE WILL BE
PERFECTED IN HIM.

Les Martin

Teaching Pastor

Jim Ulrich

Associate Pastor

Craig Anthony

Director of Music Ministry

LAKEVIEW CHURCH

ANNUAL REPORT 2007

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STAFF REPORTS

SENIOR PASTOR

If there was one word that might summarize 2007, I would pick **preparation**. That may not sound all that exciting. It depends for what we are preparing or being prepared. But for us, as we face 2008, this is a very good thing. To make a successful journey, we need to get ready. There are plans to be made and packing to do and funds to secure, and so forth. All of that takes place before we head out the door. Preparations have been underway during 2007 so that we can begin what I think will prove to be an incredible journey together.

I, and my family, have been part of the landscape here for the past twenty years. We have received more than we will ever be able to give back. We have been blessed. For the most part this has been a stable church made up of serious followers of Jesus, but there seems to have been something missing and I have for a long time been mystified as to what that was. I have had various ideas and tried to tweak things here and there, but none of those things seemed to make much difference. And then along came Jim and Lisa Ulrich. As I have gotten to know them better and watched them serve the Lord and us, I think I have gained some insight into that missing element.

I believe our worship is on target. I think we have come to understand that when we gather for worship on Sunday morning, it is all about God and not really about us. He is our focus. That has been a huge and significant transition. However, what has been missing is how we ought to respond to this great and awesome God and Savior! The truth has been there all along, but most of us need a little help in figuring out how to apply those truths so that we become more like Jesus! **Preparations** have been made and continue to be considered to make the truth of the Scripture more applicable to all of us. Sermons are reviewed and evaluated by others before they are preached, and critiqued after they are preached, to keep the practical application component front and center. Truth unapplied results in intelligent disobedience!

In the past I think I have been far too satisfied when people would just show up for church. If 200 show up, I am happy. If 250 show up I am ecstatic. If 150 show up I am depressed. Frankly, that's foolish. The number of bodies in a building is not the issue. The goal is maturity in Christ. It is not enough to show up. We need to be passionately worshiping with understanding, serving one another with joy, and making Christ known consistently and naturally. That is not new, but what is new is the preparation involved in providing models and mentors to accomplish this. For example, talking about "know, grow, sow" was the **preparation** to do "know, grow, sow." And a few are doing that. For those who are, we need to team them with those who want to respond but need the encouragement. In other words, "**Come with me as we follow Jesus.**" God has been preparing us this past year to accomplish His purposes together!

Early on in ministry I heard Howard Hendricks speak on leadership. He defined leadership as a **person** involved in a **process** of developing **people** to accomplish a **purpose** by means of supernatural **power**. Part of the preparation of 2007 (and going into 2008) has to do with the "supernatural power" of this equation. We acknowledge the importance of prayer and the need for prayer and even the belief that nothing of significance happens for God's glory apart from prayer – but we really don't pray very much! To **prepare** us, we have suggested the reading together of Andrew Murray's book, *The Ministry of Intercessory Prayer*. Now reading a book on prayer is not the same thing as praying, and does not guarantee that we will pray, but it opens the door of

consideration and sets the stage for us to pray as a community of believers. Once again we who are leaders in this church are saying, “**We need to pray together as a church. Come pray with us!**” I am counting on your participation and I can hardly wait to see what God may do!

We are a community of believers. That is the way God designed us. But for too long many of us have functioned within the group with our own agenda. We are each doing our thing but with little interaction with the rest of the body. Over this past year, I have watched with delight as Jim and Lisa have reached out to various individuals and groups, bringing them together to work together for the glory of God. Attempts are being made to bring everyone on board together. I had been satisfied to stand in the shadows and say, “Great job. Keep it up.” They have not allowed me to do that. Instead it has been “**Come with us as we build each other up!**” Even for veteran disciples of Jesus, that is not necessarily comfortable, but in time it is incredibly satisfying and invigorating. And when we catch it, we will start saying to others, “**Come grow with us!**”

Preparations have been underway to help us to do all the things we need to be doing, but to do them together! The preparations will continue because there are always new people who need to be brought on board, and new paths we all need to take, but now, in 2008, we have **begun** the journey together – and though some of us are just getting started, there already is great joy in the journey! So, **come with us** as we walk together in our journey with Jesus! Part of the journey will be reaching out. Part of the journey will be building up – and that is not new. That has been before us all along. But we have been prepared to do it together! So, let’s do it - together!

To God be the Glory!

Pastor Les Martin

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Where did the year go? As I looked back on what I wrote last year, it seemed as if I typed it out only a few short months ago. But what a difference a year makes. For instance, Lisa made the observation that during the 2006 Christmas Cantata, as we looked over the faces of those who were in the choir and in the audience, we barely knew anybody. At our first Cantata, as we stood in the narthex and greeted people, the best we could do was to put on a “pastor’s smile” and politely nod as we shook hands. During this year’s Cantata, things were vastly different. As we entered the sanctuary and found a place to sit, there was barely a person whom we did not know. We took great comfort, pleasure and joy seeing people in the choir and in the audience who we could now call our friends and family. As we looked about we saw our church; we were part of the Lakeview community.

The one word that captures what I have just described is *community*. It should come as no surprise for those of you who know Lisa and me that we are committed to the whole idea of *community*. This past year, we began various ministries with the purpose of laying a foundation for the building of a strong faith community: a community that is built on the Word of God, and the investment in the lives of others. I believe this is the picture Peter paints when he wrote “...*keep fervent in your love for one another, be hospitable to one another without complaint;*” and in Hebrews, it says, “...*not forsaking our own assembling together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another.*” These passages, along with many others, speak directly to our charge to come together for the building up and edifying of the body by supporting and encouraging one another. All of these charges are founded upon our common faith in Christ, and are the outward demonstration of our love for Christ. This is the basis of Jesus’ words, “*By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.*”

So in 2007, we began three ministries which provided a place for people within the church to come together to learn and share their faith in community while building-up and encouraging one another. The first began on February 9th, when Lisa and I hosted a dinner at our house to kick-off *The Journey*. Lisa and I have been abundantly blessed to become part of the lives of these young men and women and to see them grow and mature in their faith, as they learn from each other what it means to live out their faith as 20-somethings.

Then on May 19th Lisa held a kick-off for *The Women’s Challenge*. Shortly after that, the women began meeting twice a month on Saturday mornings. I know, through my own observation and in my talks with Lisa, that this time of study and sharing have been a blessing to her and many of the women who have made this a regular part of their lives.

On August 8th, Lisa and I along with three of our young married couples formed a small group which meets weekly. While we are still in the “getting to know each other” stage, we are all seeking the same goal, and that is to grow in the knowledge of Christ and the living out of our faith, in order to strengthen our marriages and our families, which will ultimately result in a stronger church.

In addition to these three ministries, we also desired to get to know as many of our new church family as possible. While it was impossible to have everyone over to our house during 2007, we did have quite a few of you over for coffee and dessert, for lunches, and for dinners. These times of sharing meals and getting to know one another has been such an encouragement to us, so much so, that we will continue to open our house to you in 2008.

I shared all of this with you with the sole purpose of letting you know how much Lisa and I are committed to building a strong community here at Lakeview. Since we began ministering together, we have held that opening our home and our lives to others has been the most effective and straightforward way to grow in our faith and in teaching, discipling and mentoring others. And we have been blessed to see the fruit of this work. Many of you have shared with us that you also sense a positive change in our community here at Lakeview. From simply seeing people remain in church

after services on Sunday, to seeing women remaining at our house well into the afternoon talking and sharing after a Women's Challenge meeting, to our young adults hanging out till 1:00 am (We kick them out at 1:00 am!). It is evident that there is a desire to come together. Praise God! I would encourage everyone to consider ways, in 2008, of expanding your circle of friends to include those within our church, both the "new" and the "not-so-new".

Last year I stated that I was looking forward to 2007 as a time of new beginnings, a time of change and transition. Looking back over 2007, I am grateful to God for the wonderful work He has done at Lakeview and for the support and encouragement that I have received from all of you. I believe God will continue to work through us and bless our work, if we continue to focus on living out the essentials of our faith: The Study and Living out of God's Word, Prayer, Community, Evangelism and Discipleship.

While much of the foundation has been laid in 2007, I see two areas of focus which are essential for 2008. In addition to our continual focus on *Know, Grow and Sow*, and on *Prayer*, there is a great need for a vibrant Men's Ministry and a need to establish more small groups.

I believe that a Men's Ministry is key to the spiritual health of Lakeview, for "*as the men go, so goes the family. And as the family goes, so goes the church.*" With that begin said, men, you can see that we have a huge responsibility and obligation to be men of God. This year Pastor Martin and I will be working to establish a Men's Ministry with the central purpose of deepening our faith, strengthening our walk and establishing our roles as the spiritual leaders in both our homes and in our church. Pastor and I will need your help and commitment so see this ministry grow.

Over the past year, Pastor and I have grown closer as a team by spending time getting to know each other. He has been a very supportive Sr. Pastor, giving me much latitude to develop my pastoral skills and allowing me to establish and develop my ministries; and he is always ready to provide guidance and help when needed. I am also looking forward to 2008 because Pastor and Karen and Lisa and I have committed to meet once a month to study, share and just simply to grow together as couples, as friends, and as a ministry team. Please pray for us.

Before I end, I would write a few lines of "**Thank You's**" to everyone who has devoted much of their weeks to the various ministries here at Lakeview. And while I cannot mention everyone's name, I do want to say thanks to my *CIA* team. All of you have been such a blessing. I rarely ever have to worry about Sunday nights, as the teachers, worship leaders and the dedicated sponsors are here weekly to ensure the kid's have an enjoyable and worshipful time.

I also want to thank our Sunday morning teachers, both Sunday school and Children's Church time, from Nursery to Senior High, and our Adult Sunday School teachers. Again, your dedication to your ministries does not go unnoticed and is greatly appreciated by me and by those you serve. I also want to say a special thank you to our Children's Sunday school teachers. You worked through some very difficult situations this year and where many people would have given up, you persevered with patience and dedication. God bless you for your commitment to His work in this ministry.

Now, at the risk of getting in trouble, I feel it necessary to mention two names. First, thank you to Chris Thompson and her team for all the work they have done to make our Wednesday night Adventure Club a true beacon to the community. Again, there were many special challenges that were presented this year in Adventure Club and Chris stepped up and handled those situations in a manner which reflected positively on our church. I would also like to give a special thank you to Blythe Anthony for the work you and your team did during VBS. This was a very busy summer for me and when you stepped up to head VBS, I felt a mighty weight being lifted from my shoulders. Thank you.

And finally, I want to thank my wife Lisa. For those who have been around Lisa and me, you know she is a driving force in our ministry direction. As someone once said, grass doesn't have much time to grow under her feet and for that I am grateful. Her tireless devotion to serve God keeps a fire lit under me that would not exist without her. Keep your fire burning in 2008.

So with help from our God and all of us working together, I am looking forward to another exciting year here at Lakeview Church.

To God Be the Glory, Your Co-worker in Christ,

Pastor Jim Ulrich

MUSIC MINISTRIES DIRECTOR

I begin by sharing a selection of scripture that has been a source of inspiration and encouragement to me in my role in this Music Ministry.

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills—where does my help come from?
My help comes from the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth.
He will not let your foot slip—he who watches over you will not slumber;
Indeed, he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
The LORD watches over you—the LORD is your shade at your right hand;
The sun will not harm you by day, nor the moon by night.
The LORD will keep you from all harm—he will watch over your life;
The LORD will watch over your coming and going both now and forevermore.

The Worship Choir began its season in September, and since then has been participating in the Sunday morning service on a weekly basis. Our Worship Choir is currently made up of approximately 30 dedicated adults of all ages. With such a wide-ranging group, I am encouraged each week by their sincere love for the Lord, and their growing desire and commitment to see our church exalt our God through music. Although the time to practice is late and minimal, the Lord has given our choir abilities and gifts that have benefited both our congregation and our own group within.

I always anticipate the planning of Easter and Christmas Services with some excitement and a bit of anxiety. However, even if the planning is a bit hectic, what an honor and anticipation there is to prepare for His coming, and to celebrate His death and resurrection! Music has become such a vital part and associated with both occasions, that I am always left wondering “What will we do this year?” Given the fact that we are considered a small music department by the “mega-church” standard, I was left very proud of our ministry to bring to our church presentations of such magnitude.

Our past Easter service came together nicely, as the choir shared one of our new favorites, “The Power of the Cross”. Once again our Music Ministry grew during the Christmas Season as we add new voices to the choir and instruments to the orchestra. The Christmas Program, “Here With Us” was a reminder both by the music shared and the message given that our God, came as a baby in the manger, but yet it still Here With Us. My hope is that those who were a part of this evening, both in the sharing and hearing were touched and encouraged by the message given.

A very special thank you to the instrumentalists, vocalists, and technical staff that I work with each week – It is a joy to serve with a group who humbly and skillfully serve to glorify God. The magnitude of your weekly commitment, your behind-the-scenes dependability, and your dedication of time and talents are appreciated. Thank you for giving me the chance to weekly serve the Lord with people who deeply love and follow Him.

I am very grateful to be serving our congregation with Pastor Martin each week. I am encouraged and challenged by his teaching each Sunday. I immensely appreciate his knowledge of the Word, and his steadfast desire to encourage, guide, and to model a heart of Christ to me. Les, your guidance and your friendship have been a constant blessing in my life and the life of my family. Also, thanks for helping me with my floor!

I am truly not alone in serving in this ministry. My wife and daughters play a vital and special role in every thing I do here at Lakeview. God has indeed blessed the three of you with encouragement, patience, and lots of understanding. I do not say that lightly. I pray that what I do at church and at

home will guide and lead each of you closer to God. I am wonderfully blessed to have you girls in my life.

Having Jim and Lisa Ulrich around this year has brought new life and direction to many areas. His desire to see community built among our church is evident in the example he is to his friends, family, and his own neighborhood. One new event Jim introduced to our congregation this fall was the first Fall Ministry Fair. A time for each ministry area to identify and promote itself to the congregation. During the preparation of this project, I was able to take sometime to refocus and gain a clearer objective for the heart of the Music Ministry. It made me reevaluate “Why I do what I do.”

The Music Ministry of Lakeview Church exists to use musicians who will humbly and skillfully serve God’s purposes for and through the church.

We are a community of diverse musicians seeking to serve our congregations in the following ways.

- Worship Choir
- Orchestra
- Praise Team
- Special Music & Services

We seek to use and develop each person’s strengths, whether they are classically trained or self-taught, play by written note or by ear.

Our values include:

- Constant devotion to God’s glory and the Gospel
- Active involvement and accountability
- Servanthood
- Humility
- Gratefulness
- Expressiveness
- Faithfulness
- Ongoing pursuit of spiritual and musical growth

We acknowledge that we can do nothing to make people worship God; we can only remind them our reason to worship Him, and then provide them the opportunity to do so.

Music is a gift from God designed to develop and deepen our relationship with Him. Music is at the heart of what I give to the Lord as my offering. I am thankful for His call on my life to serve Him in this way. I pray that the music that this church produces will bless you as you listen. Mostly, I pray that it will do much more than that – I pray that it will equip you to worship with all your lives the one true living God.

To God be the Glory!

Craig Anthony

MINISTRY REPORTS

MISSIONS REPORT

The committee continued the “Missionaries of the Month” update in which we focused on one church supported missionary family and highlighted their ministry/work and their country. The purpose is so the church family can be better acquainted with each missionary family and to pray and support them more effectively. In addition to the church supported missionaries, we also chose Lakeview Vacation Bible School and Adventure Club to focus in July and September, respectively, as we consider those “local” mission outreach programs.

Other ways that we began to inform and involve the church family with missions was beginning to add content to the church web site. This will be an area that we will expand on in the coming year. We also participated in the Ministry Fair and received positive feedback from many that participated.

During the course of the year, we learned that Tulio and Carol Duran (Spain) were no longer serving as missionaries to Spain, but had moved back to the U.S. (Wisconsin). After some discussion with Tulio and since their focus and ministry had changed we made the decision to discontinue our financial support to the Duran’s. It was recommended and later agreed that the financial support that we had been giving to the Duran’s would be re-allocated to the Mbandi’s for the remainder of the year.

Also, during the year Steve and Katie Galloway returned to the U.S from Haiti. The safety of their family was at a constant risk and while it was a most difficult decision for the Galloway’s to make, we supported them and were grateful that they did not come to any harm during their brief service in Haiti.

There were two Special Offerings taken during the year directed towards missions. At Easter the offering received was \$3,800. The offering was divided amongst the Mbandi’s, Erdel’s and Kuehl’s and an additional \$800 to Paul Mbandi to be used for travel to the U.S. in August. We were extremely grateful for the response from the church family for this Special Offering, but we received a blessing in return when we received a “thank you” from our missionaries and read how God had used our gift for his purpose. The second Special Offering was at Thanksgiving and the selected recipients were Nathan and Amy Moser. Again, God is good and our offering helped meet some needs that the Moser’s were having.

In August, Paul Mbandi returned to the Zion area for several weeks. Paul shared with the adult’s during the regular ABF classes the work going on in Kenya and at Scott Theological College. A few weeks later Another one of our supported missionary family¹ visited Lakeview and also shared with the adults their mission work. It’s always encouraging to have our missionaries visit and as a result we are more mindful to support them financially and prayerfully.

During the 4th quarter of 2007 we introduced a mission’s project, “Operation Christmas Child”, which was a collection of filled shoeboxes for distribution to children around the world (sponsored by Samaritan’s Purse). Young and old alike participated and the response was very positive. A total

¹ Because of where this family servers and for their safety, their names are being withheld.

of 57 filled shoeboxes were collected, and as we prayed for the children that would be receiving these boxes, we prayed that God would work in the hearts and lives of 57 boys and girls.

Absent from this report is mention of the annual Missions Festival and Acorn Bank breaking program. It was decided early in 2007 that both the Missions Festival and Acorn Bank breaking program would be held in January 2008.

Submitted, on behalf of Jan Chase, Julie Gates, Pastor Martin, Shelley Martin, Peter Saenim and Ralph Trantham.

At His Service

Cindy Graeff

SUPPORTED MISSIONARIES

Lakeview Church currently supports the following missionaries:

In Brazil, Steve & Jan Peterson serving with Word of Life

In Ecuador, David & Lolly Erdel serving with World Partners

In Kenya, Paul & Rodah Mbandi, teaching at Scott Theological College serving with Missions Afield.

In South Africa, Tim and Luann Kuehl serving with ZEMA

In Spain, Nathan and Amy Moser serving with World Partners

Lakeview supports other missionaries through World Partners, but due where they serve, their names are not listed for safety and security reasons.

Lakeview Church also currently supports the following local ministries:

Child Evangelism Fellowship

CareNet Pregnancy Center

LIBRARY

Lakeview Church's Christian Library Ministry provides a variety of resources for every age group of our congregation. Its mission is to serve the spiritual needs of our people by providing up-to-date Christian resources in the form of books, CD's and DVD's to strengthen our faith and understanding of God. The library has a wide variety of Christian resources to assist both young and old in their continued development of their faith.

Library resources include a Christian Reference Section, Christian Educational resources, devotionals, biographies, and books related to Christian Living. There are several individual and series novels of inspirational/romance and historical fiction. The library also has a selection of Christian children's books for all ages and reading levels. The library offers audio and video tapes of each week's Sunday service.

Over the past year, this ministry has been looking for a person to head this significant and well-used ministry. Heather Isley has taken up this ministry and is looking forward to a new year. A few plans include, updating the movies section from VHS to DVD's; updating the book on audio-tape to books on CD and also to improve the children's selection of books.

CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY REPORTS

ADVENTURE CLUB

This time of year is such a great tool for me as an individual, as a servant of Christ, and as a leader. It is a time to see where I/we have been and where God has yet to bring me/us. If I were to characterize Adventure Club 2007 in one word, it would be *growth*. Webster's dictionary defines growth as: to come to be, to increase, to cultivate, and to mature.

To come to be:

2007 marked the beginning of a new ministry within Adventure Club because one person, Gloria Jackson, purposed to affect the neighborhood she lived in; as a result, Gloria's kids. What began with three (3) neighborhood kids coming to Adventure Club with Miss Gloria increased to twenty-six (26) kids by the end of year. It wasn't long into Gloria's mission adventure that we began to realize she would need help from the church van and God's people. The kids not only wanted to come to Adventure Club, but they wanted to come to Sunday School as well. In the fall, we were able to send two drivers, Gloria and Dustin Lucy, to pick up the kids each Wednesday evening. Lisa Ulrich was able to coordinate drivers for Sunday mornings. When this group of kids first attended Adventure Club, a couple of teachers noticed that boys and girls were hungry week after week when they arrived. With hungry tummies, the kids were unable to learn. These two teachers went beyond the normal leader duties and began bringing dinner for the small group of boys and girls each week. As the group grew and finished with approximately 12 kids in April, we knew we needed to adapt our ministry. So when club restarted in September, the Brown Bag Bible Study joined the ministry by preparing a weekly meal for the children who rode the van each week, and some leaders came early to serve the meal. Through this simple act of feeding the "hungry" – both physically and spiritually, God has opened the door for more Christian Leaders to build relationships with Gloria's kids.

To increase:

September 2007 deserves a stone marker in order to remember what God has done to increase the Adventure Club ministry at Lakeview Church through the body of Christ. The increase has come as result of the Junior High and High School students being able to assist in the ministry. God has given His people the opportunity to invest in the lives of others – of course clubbers, but also the future leaders and teachers of the Christian faith. We, as a body of Christ, are able to mentor, to teach, to encourage, to learn from, to fellowship with, and to pray for one another. Furthermore, the Junior High and High School students are beginning to see what happens when they invest their lives in others for the sake of Christ.

To cultivate:

This has been a year of making changes and adaptations so that all kids have an opportunity to learn the truths of God. The most concrete change we made this year was to create sections for the Kindergarten – 2nd grade clubbers that were easier for them to memorize and complete. This simple change allowed for some of the younger clubbers to earn such awards as Clubber of the Month. We also came to realize that not all of the kids who attend club know how to show respect to the church, the leaders, others and self. After dealing

with some discipline issues, Pastor Jim and I came to the conclusion that we needed to offer a training opportunity for our volunteers in the area of discipline. On December 19, Karen Martin facilitated a workshop for the workers. This time was very beneficial in equipping the saints with the tools they need to continue to serve in this outreach ministry.

To mature:

Scripture challenges us to be transformed into the likeness of God. I have watched leaders struggle this year with difficult children and upset parents. There are moments when some have expressed a feeling of frustration, inadequacy, defeat, and futility. BUT...through it all, God has revealed Himself to us. He is faithful! He has a plan! He has called us – Lakeview Church to reach out to this specific group of children and their families. We, as God’s children, have seen Him through these little ones. And through these little ones, we mature in our faith. The stories can only remind us of God’s hand...

“You don’t realize how much my son(s) look forward to Adventure Club each week. These are the only men in their life.”

“There were some kids waiting for Ms. Gloria to take them on the van and when they saw me they ran up to me and gave me a hug.”

“She’s not only saying sections, but she’s also helping other girls in the group.”

“I don’t want to go home, I want to stay here with you.”

“Please.”

“Thank you.”

“Your Welcome.”

To Lakeview Church, to those who pray, to those who serve:

“We always thank God for all of you ,mentioning you in our prayers. We continually remember before our God and Father your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.”

~ 1 Thessalonians 1:2-3

The theme for 2006-2007 is “Learning from those who went before us”. H.E.R.O.E.S. HIS * EVERLASTING * RIGHTEOUS * OBEDIENT * EXCELLENT * SERVANTS. The following individuals were actively involved with this ministry from January-May

Chris Thompson, Director
Pastor Martin, Co-director/Teacher

Volunteers: Dave Martin, Kathy Christiansen, John Clark, Jeff Stanley, Laurie Clark, Dawn Korpi, Judy Larson, Monica Clark, Erika Willkomm, Julie Scott, Dana Martin, Rita Lucy, Regina Ingram, Judy Davis, Gloria Jackson, Geneva Stanphill, Sue Stanley, Wanda Smith, Lisa Isaac, Virginia Inman, Diana Palınca, Jean Bowie, Dan Lucy, John Ingram, Dan Martin, Chris Hall, John Swartz, Woody Ingram, Leslie Stanley, Shelley Martin, Tim Hanson, Pete Saenim, Jeanetta Lambert, Blythe Anthony, Crystal Hall, Shirley Upchurch, Marti Korpi, and Charlotte Matson.

The average attendance on Wednesday evenings was 68, with a high of 79, and a low of 60.

Special events that occurred were Every One Every Word, the annual Grand Prix – “Time Machine Cars”, the Pancake Breakfast, the Secret Pal Party – “F.R.O.G. – Fully Rely On God” with Abbott Scientist, David Ulrich, as our guest speaker, Closing Ceremony, 6th grade ‘Movin’ on up Night’, 6th grade miniature golf and ice cream outing, and a Mystery Dinner outing for those who joined one of the achievement clubs.

The theme for 2007-2008 is “*Exploring the Universe of God’s Promises*”. The following individuals were actively involved with this ministry from September – December:

Chris Thompson, Director
Pastor Martin, Co-director/Teacher

Volunteers: Dave Martin, Kathy Christianson, Dan Stanley, Dan Lucy, DeAnn Kight, Shirley Upchurch, Chris Hall, Laurie Clark, Mary Clark, Leslie Stanley, Shelley Martin, Tim Hanson, Crystal Hall, Janis Chase, Judy Larson, Erika Willkomm, Julie Scott, Rita Lucy, Regina Ingram, Gloria Jackson, Judy Davis, Geneva Stanphill, Wanda Smith, Lisa Isaac, Blythe Anthony, Monica Clark, Jean Bowie, Diana Palınca, Dan Lucy, Bob DePuy, Gene Chase, Woody Ingram, John Clark, Sylvester Marınca, Dustin Lucy, Elisa Trantham, Charlotte Matson, Jackie Hamlet and Chelsea Thompson.

High School Volunteers: Wesley Burgmeier, Kenneth Pickett, Deondria Robinson, Corin Lucy, and Cameron Stewart.

Junior High Volunteers: Jakob Willkomm, Lesly Ingram, Alexis Kight, Daniela Ingram, Madison Thompson, and Caity Lucy.

The average attendance on Wednesday evenings was 69, with a high of 83, and a low of 60.

Special events that occurred were Every One Every Word, Bring a Friend Contest, Taffy Apple Family Night, Craft Night, and Jesus Birthday Party Family Night.

Submitted by,

Chris Thompson, Director

2007 SUMMER CAMP REPORT

For the second summer in a row, Lakeview offered the opportunity to our youth, 3rd – 12th Grade, to attend Silver Birch Ranch in White Lake, Wisconsin.

- Junior Camp (3rd – 5th Grade)
 - 6 girls
 - 4 boys
 - 2 counselors (Tim Hanson and Pete Saenim)

 - Junior High Camp (6th-8th Grade)
 - 4 girls
 - 1 boy

 - Senior High Camp (9th-12th Grade)
 - 5 girls
- ▶ In order to offset the camp fees, we held two fundraisers which raised a total of \$600 for those who participated.
- ▶ We also received several hundred dollars of scholarship money from various people. Thank you for your support and generosity toward our campers.

I would also like to thank the following people who devoted an entire day to transport our campers to and from camp: Rob Kight, Pete Saenim, Gerry Bell, John Korpi, Carol Valentincic (2 trips), Dan and Rita Lucy, and Doug Offermann.

Submitted by,

Pastor Jim

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL (VBS)

***Run, run, run the race! Keep, keep, keep the pace!
Run the race. Keep the pace.
Keep your eyes on Jesus!***

This summer from July 16th – 20th, Lakeview held it's annual outreach VBS (Vacation Bible School). The week's theme that was used was "Game Day Central: Where Heroes Are Made". The primary focus was to get kids in the game and help them learn how to become heroes both on and off the field by focusing on Jesus and following God's plan for their lives.

The kids that attended throughout the week were taught various daily themes from how to obey when it's not easy, believing in Jesus and following God's plan, to telling others about Jesus.

What an exciting week we had at Lakeview! Over 90 kids were in attendance, representing over 70 different families. As VBS opened it's doors this summer, a new ministry began. "Gloria's Kids" were introduced to Lakeview and have since become a part of our church's overall ministry opportunities. This year we closed out the week of VBS at our annual Church Picnic and Pool Party. By opening it up to the families and kids that were a part of VBS, many new people were there. It was a nice closing for a week of VBS, but also an opportunity for those in the congregation to see what excitement and energy the week held. Over 150 people were a part of that evening.

It is overwhelming to think of the impact that a few days of Bible School can possibly have on a community. Overall, I feel that the time that the leaders and workers involved experienced a great time of community by joining together to present the Gospel message to children who may have not yet heard the good news.

VBS is an event that could not take place without the many hours of preparation by numerous helpers. The Lakeview congregation is always willing to aide with the various roles of teaching, decorating, music, games, crafts, administration, nursery coverage, snacks... the list goes on. It is great week because of the great people who gave up time to be a part of this important outreach.

"Run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the source and perfecter of our faith." Hebrews 12:1-2

Submitted by,

Blythe Anthony

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Events: Lakeview sponsored an all church Ministry Fair which was held on Sunday, September 9th. The purpose was to present the many ministries at Lakeview Church and encourage more involvement/participation among Lakeview Church attendees. It was held in the lower level of the church and Fair refreshments were served. The attendance was good however there were few who signed up to work within our Sunday School ministry. We still need to recruit new teachers and helpers.

Teacher Training: Held December 19th, lower level. Karen Martin was our special speaker and gave us insight and training how to handle discipline problems.

Sunday School: The classes are staffed with the following teachers:

Debbie Scoggin	Nursery
Roma Kerley	Pre-School Age
Dianne Jenkins, Gene Chase and Dan Scoggins	Kindergarten/1st
Teri Franklin and Elisa Trantham	2nd/3rd/4th
Shelley Martin and Wanda Smith	5th/6th
Jr. High School	Dave Martin, Craig and Blythe Anthony
High School	Bob and Chris Thompson, Christin Kuretich

The Fall quarter started with the inclusion of Gloria's kids from her neighborhood. Some initially had attended Adventure Club the previous year, and then also attended Vacation Bible School in the summer. A meeting had been held prior to the Fall quarter with all the elementary teachers about the influx of Gloria's kids attending, and all were in agreement. Little did we know that their attendance would change the face of Sunday School.

We had discipline problems as well as many of them not knowing the basic Bible stories. That meant incorporating basic Bible lessons into our regular lessons. The 4th graders had been incorporated into the 5th/6th grade class starting the Fall quarter, but a decision was made to switch them back to the lower grade since there were so many in the 5th/6th grade class. The next obstacle was teaching them discipline and respect for the teachers and students that were already there. There were a few bumps along the way, but with determination and resolve not to give up (with God's help and grace), we have finally achieved sanity again! :-). Thankfully, with Pastor Jim's guidance and help, we have fine tuned our classes back to what they should be (again)...and we are thrilled!

We have seen improvement and growth in Gloria's kids as well as camaraderie among the students. New discipline rules have been instituted as well as a Discipline training session held last Fall to give us training and insight. Pastor Jim has had the patience of Job in dealing with all the many issues/problems and his support has been worth his weight in gold!

The attendance dropped during the Christmas vacation but we look forward to a bright New Year with the majority of kids returning.

We are blessed with teachers who are willing to teach and are determined to make it work. Not only are they caring, but are committed in seeing growth in their students and doing it for the glory of God.

Our Jr. and Sr. High programs have been staffed by dedicated volunteers. Dave Martin has been faithful in the years to teach our Jr. High students and Craig and Blythe Anthony have been there to joyfully and faithfully fill in when the needs arise. Our Sr. High students have been blessed to have Christin Kuretich as their teacher and leader for many years. Towards the end of 2007, Christin had requested time off from her teaching responsibilities to support her husband David. Thank you Christin and our prayers are for you. Bob and Chris Thompson saw the need for new Sr. High teachers and quickly filled the spot. The love and concern Bob and Chris has for these students is obvious, and shows in their dedication, commitment and the energy they have been putting forth in this ministry.

Please continue to pray and uphold this ministry. We are still looking for a few (o.k., I really mean a lot of) good committed people to act as teachers/helpers and substitutes. We hold this position highly....and are thankful to be able to use our gifts for God's glory. Please consider and think about using and sharing your gifts too! You will be in good company!

God Bless You!

Wanda E. Smith
Sunday School Teacher Representative

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

*"Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is His reward."
Psalm 127:3*

As I reminisced about 2007, many memories of joy and sadness came to mind. This past year, the nursery and preschool areas were filled with many wonderful children. The preschoolers were told important Bible stories by our faithful teachers and helpers. The children also participated in crafts, Bible memory, and received multiple visits from their favorite mouse, "Whiskers."

The nursery area was also a busy place; with usually about six to seven little balls of energy running around. Babies were held and read to while the toddlers played with trucks, puzzles, and other toys that have been donated by our generous church family in past years. The children were well-taken care of by our devoted workers.

This past year, Lakeview also lost someone who was a huge blessing to our congregation. In August, Cindy DePuy went home to be with the Lord. She dutifully served in this position for over 10 years. Even during her hospital visits, she still had her clipboard next to her bed and made reminder calls in between scans and doctor visits. Cindy was a tireless leader who will be greatly missed.

As I close this report, I want to encourage any who would like to be involved in this ministry. It is only one Sunday a month and the only requirement is to love children! If you are interested, please contact Pastor Jim Ulrich or myself.

In Christ,

Deborah DePuy

STUDENT MINISTRIES

As I sit to write this report, I am reminded of the differences in each youth group. To me each one has a different personality, different needs, and different responses. The one consistent factor is that each teen needed to be confronted with their need for a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

The way we do that may change, as it did this year. We re-formatted the winter retreat, to Winter Break Away, and enjoyed spending time at the Sun-Burst ski resort near West Bend Wisconsin. It may be the best time was in the hotel pool, with the young people attempting to drown their sponsors! We made another change this summer and moved our night to Sunday. This allows for a longer time with the young people. More time for worship, more time for study, more time to just be together. More Time!

Our House2House summer program was enjoyed by the young people and our church family hosts. Sitting around bon fires, singing along with Dan and his guitar, and listening to our hosts share their thoughts, and testimonies. As the year of 2007 wound down, the youth group continues meeting on Sunday nights, with a core group that faithfully come each week, to sing, study, and ask questions!

In closing many thanks are due, to the group of adults that give of their time and talents to the young people; to the parents of our young people, for allowing us to spend time with them.

Submitted by,

Tom Rich

MINISTRIES FOR THE CHURCH FAMILY

In 2007 there were several special events that were meant to provide opportunities for those in our church family to get together for fun, community and relationship. We honored our graduates and their families in our annual Graduate Recognition Dinner; we hosted a summer cookout and a fall hayride. And as Tom Rich commented in his report, House-2-House was a time when our students got to spend time and were introduced to several of our church families.

Along with these events many opened their home to host dinners and parties and other get-togethers demonstrating our love to each other. Pastor Jim and Lisa have tried to get as many people over to their home for dinners and luncheons as possible. They will continue to open their home in 2008 with the ultimate and sometimes crazy goal, of having invited everyone from Lakeview over to their house.

As it was in 2007, our challenge will be the same in 2008, and that is, to expand our individual reach in 2008. Consider how to get to know those in our church family with whom you do not have a close relationship. We all have our close friends and confidants, however, our body will only grow stronger when our personal network of relationships widen. So during this upcoming year, challenge yourself by seeking out someone from our congregation whom you don't really know, and get to know them by opening your home, sharing a cup of coffee or a meal, or just simply sharing in a conversation. Let us all make an effort to deepen our ties to one another.

ADULT MINISTRY REPORTS

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The **WInGS** ministry (Women in God's Service) supported various functions to encourage fellowship and spiritual growth among the Lakeview ladies during 2007. The events sponsored by **WInGS** included the following:

February 9	Care packages sent to college students
February 23	Spa Night
April 28	Moody Conference in St. Charles, Illinois
May 11	Fiesta Night
May 13	Mother's Day gifts distributed
June 17	Father's Day gifts distributed
August 5-26	Diaper and Baby Wipe Drive for Carenet Family Resource Center
September 29	Workshop: The Boardroom of the Mind
December 2	Christmas Taster

Throughout the year **WInGS** also provided meals for families with new babies.

A Women's Breakfast Club, coordinated by Rhenda Pilarski, met each month at El Lago restaurant.

Beginning in June, Lisa Ulrich hosted the Women's Challenge at her home. Kathy Christianson co-
led the twice-monthly discussion of the book, "Humility & Absolute Surrender" by Andrew Murray.

ADULT BIBLE FELLOWSHIPS

We currently offer three different Adult Bible Fellowships on Sunday mornings at 9:30. During 2007, John Barr had stepped down after faithfully serving as one of Lakeview ABF teachers. Dave Block stepped up and in September, began offering a class on that covered several foundational topic of the Christian faith.

Our ABF offerings are designed to provide individuals an opportunity to grow in their knowledge and love of God by studying His Word, and sharing and growing with their fellow brothers and sisters in Christ. It is also an opportunity for attendees to prepare their hearts, minds, and spirits prior to entering into corporate worship on Sunday morning. I want to thank John Barr, Dave Block, and Pastor Martin for the time they dedicate to their study and for their solid and faithful teaching.

YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY (“THE JOURNEY”)

In last year annual report, Pastor Jim wrote, “We will begin a new ministry for our young adults, ages post-high to upper twenties. The purpose of this ministry will be to provide an environment where young adults can strengthen their personal faith, develop godly relationships, and to discern a God honoring direction for their lives.”

Well, on February 9th, 2007, Pastor Jim and his wife, Lisa, kicked-off “The Journey” with a dinner and a “get to know you time”. From that date on, the “The Journey” has meet every Friday evening (with some exceptions) from 7:30pm till ??? “The Journey” is open to all young adults ages post-high school to upper-twenties with the simple purpose of equipping young adults to take hold (personally) of their Christian walk. This equipping includes both the study and application of God’s Word. While it is imperative that the truths of scripture and foundational theology is taught, it is just as important to teach them how to apply God’s truth in their daily living.

Over the past year we have been studying 1st Peter and while Pastor Jim has spent much time in the teaching of theology and doctrine, much of the application and life learning has come about in the coming together and the sharing of the Journey members. Proverbs states: “*As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another*”, and we have seen this first hand, coming to life in the lives of those who come to the Journey. Two of the great blessings of seeing this group grow in the past year is the new friendships that have emerged and the spiritual growth and maturity that has taken place in our regular attendees. It is clear that their true desire is to “take hold” of their Christian walk, in order to serve God in His church and in their daily lives.

We look forward to another year of growth and spiritual maturity of our young adults. We ask for your prayers and support for this ministry as God works through is Spirit in the lives of these young adults as they seek to grow in their faith and service to God in Christ.

MEN’S MINISTRY

Our men ministry in 2007 continued with its two core events. Our monthly men’s breakfast continues to be a time of encouragement and relationship building as we met and share a meal at a local Zion restaurant. Our Men’s Theological Forum completed its eight year of reading and discussing various books on the church and community, apologetics, prayer, holy living, missions, evangelism, and various other topics. While these two monthly events play an essential role for the men who attend these events, Pastor Martin and Pastor Jim will be meeting in January to pray, discuss, and plan out a more robust and well rounded Men’s Ministry to begin here at Lakeview.

TREASURER'S REPORTS

FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1 - December 31, 2007

Balance on hand 12/31/06

Investments	77,377.39	
Savings	2,784.94	
Checking	49,025.34	
Misc Adj 2005	<u>1,861.80</u>	
		\$131,049.47

Income January - December, 2007

Contributions	371,733.76	
Miscellaneous Income	16,861.41	
Iglesia El Buen Pastor Rent	2,040.00	
Memorial Fund	5,964.59	
Investment Income	<u>2,200.00</u>	
		<u>\$398,799.76</u>

TOTAL \$529,849.23

Expenses January - December, 2007 \$366,340.00

BALANCE ON HAND 12/31/2007

Investments	88,635.20	
Savings	2,879.21	
Checking	<u>71,994.82</u>	

TOTAL **\$163,509.23**

2008 APPROVED BUDGET

Expense Type	2007 Budget	2008 Budget
Base Salary	163,518	177,991
Business Expense	3,000	3,000
Workman's Comp	2,011	2,148
Pension	4,776	3,192
Benefits	15,582	8,130
Employer Share Social Security/Medicare	13,199	13,622
SALARIES	202,085	208,083
Children	8,200	7,825
Student Ministries	9,900	8,075
MTI	900	600
Curriculum	6,000	5,600
Music	5,500	4,900
Library	1,250	700
Men's Ministries	500	600
Women's Ministries	1,000	1,450
Adult Discipleship	-	300
MINISTRIES	33,250	30,050
Undesignated	540	3,000
Peterson	2,100	2,100
Erdell	7,360	7,560
McDeavitt	3,000	3,000
Duran	3,600	-
Loshbough	200	200
Kuehl	2,400	2,400
Missions Exp	200	200
Child Evangelism	600	600
Missions Conf	200	200
Missions Misc	200	200
Care Net Pregnancy	900	1,200
Paul Mbamdi	8,400	12,000
Nathan Moser	8,400	8,400
MISSIONS	38,100	41,060
Denominational Expense	18,949	18,388
Maintenance/Janitorial	8,000	8,000
Office/Church supplies/equip	20,000	22,000
Utilities	30,000	30,000
Building Insurance	4,412	5,000
Conference/Staff Training/Seminars	1,500	2,000
Flowers/Cards	700	1,000
Kitchen Expense	2,500	2,500
Vehicle Exp/Insurance	3,500	3,000
Special Events/Speakers/Decorations	1,000	750
Misc Expense	2,000	2,000
CHURCH EXPENSE	92,561	94,638
GRAND TOTAL	365,996	373,831

ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

DESCRIPTION	ORIG. COST	SQ. FEET BUILDING	SQ. FEET LAND	LIABILITIES	ASSETS
LAND OWNERSHIP - 5 parcels - Sheridan Rd & 19th St.	\$33,000.		40,705	None	244,230
(A) Lot numbers 6-7-8-9 & 10 - 151' x 271.37	3,300.		4,071	None	24,426
(B) Vacated Alley - 20' x 135' & 10' x 135.69	9,500.		16,283	None	97,698
(C) Lot #12 - 120' x 135.69	8,800.		12,550	None	75,300
(D) Lot #11 - Block 27 98.17 x 135.05			14,994	None	89,694
(E) Lot #5 104 x 135.69					20,000
(F) 10021 W Winthrop Ct					
<u>YOUTH CHAPEL BUILDING</u>					
(A) Original building	28,000.	9,832		None	\$583,000
(B) Building addition and improvements	130,000.			None	
<u>GARAGE</u>	10,000.	720		None	\$20,000
<u>PERSONAL NOTE</u> – Pastoral Home –				None	\$11,800
<u>SANCTUARY BUILDING</u>	355,000.	18,920			\$1,500,000
<u>FURNITURE & EQUIPMENT</u> - Youth Building				None	106,000
New Sanctuary				None	275,000
<u>VEHICLES</u> - 1 Van				None	4,000
<u>CASH / INVESTMENTS 12/31/2007</u>					163,509
GRAND TOTAL AS OF 12/31/2007				None	\$3,214,657

All Asset Values are estimated with the exception of "**Cash / Investments 12/31/2007**",

GENERAL STATISTICS FOR 2007

MEMBERSHIP

Membership Total (Active & Inactive)	150
Membership Active	116

CHURCH STATISTICS

Baptisms	2
Baby Dedications	3
Funerals	6
Weddings	3

AVERAGE TOTALS

Sunday School Average Attendance	100
Worship Service Average Attendance	210

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