



# The Hilltopper

Lake Ridge Bible Church

A Family of Friends

"Equipping locally to impact globally"

January 2012

## the shepherd's watch



### Leadership Selection Process Begins

**T**he members of Lake Ridge Bible Church have just received their annual leadership selection materials. The materials contain a list of men who meet the minimum qualifications to serve in leadership, which is having been a member for at least three years. You will be asked to nominate two men to serve as elders and five men to serve as deacons. Your nominations are very important.

We are committed here at Lake Ridge to congregational involvement in the leadership selection process. We ask that you prayerfully select men that generally meet the qualifications for elders and deacons listed by the Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:6-9. We are asking you to submit your nominations by Sunday, February 12th. Our by-laws require that a minimum of 40% of our membership must have submitted nominations for the process to proceed. After we have received at least 40% of the nominations a meeting of the Nominating Committee will be called.



Godly Leaders

The Nominating Committee has nine members: the Senior Pastor, who serves as committee chairman, an Assistant Pastor, two current Governing Board members, and five members-at-large. The members-at-large must include two women and cannot include Governing Board members. The members-at-large are named by the congregation by ballot at the annual meeting.



The Nominating Committee checks the qualifications of those who have been nominated to serve as elders or deacons and then sends the slate of candidates on to the board of elders for final approval.

The board of elders then approves the slate of candidates and the senior pastor contacts the nominees to see if they are willing to serve. The final slate of candidates for the two open elder positions and five open deacon positions are presented to the members at the annual meeting for their affirmation. A nominee must be affirmed by at least 70%.



Leadership selection is very important. Please prayerfully consider your nominations. We will trust the Lord to lead us and guide us according to His will.

*Roger M. Raymer*  
Roger Raymer, Senior Pastor



### Coming Events

- January 4**—Men's Ministry begins study entitled *Standing Firm*
- January 11**—Connections Bible Study to resume
- January 15**—Youth Parents Meeting
- January 17 & 19**—Precepts Bible Studies resume
- January 20-21**—Men's Retreat—Sabine Creek Ranch
- January 25**—Senior Saints Luncheon

### Sunday Sermon Schedule

- January 1**—*Thinking About Tomorrow*—James 4:13-17—*Pastor Van Minter*
- January 8**—*A Pair of Queens*—Esther 1 & 2—*Pastor Roger Raymer*
- January 15**—*Satan's Familiar Plot*—Esther 3—*Pastor Roger Raymer*
- January 22**—*If I Perish, I Perish*—Esther 4—*Pastor Ben Lowery*
- January 29**—*Trusting in God's Timing*—Esther 5—*Pastor Roger Raymer*



**The Hilltopper** is a monthly publication for members and attenders of Lake Ridge Bible Church, 1020 Northwest Drive, Mesquite, Texas 75150. 972-613-2222.

- Roger Raymer** Senior Pastor
- Van Minter** Associate Pastor
- Ben Lowery** Youth Pastor
- Jonathan Shotts** Youth Assistant
- Martha Turner** Editor

—see you on our webpage—  
[www.lakeridgebiblechurch.org](http://www.lakeridgebiblechurch.org)

## Living with Purpose

Men's Ministry News  
By Mark Eggert

Our annual men's retreat is just around the corner...both on the calendar and location. On Friday and Saturday, January 20 & 21, we'll join with men from other area churches and enjoy food, fellowship and great worship at Sabine Creek Ranch. Former United States Air Force Captain and Dallas Cowboy, Chad Hennings, will be the featured speaker. Since retiring from football, Chad has been involved in men's ministry and is a much sought-after speaker. Sabine Creek is just outside of Rockwall and about twenty

minutes from Lake Ridge. You can sign up online at [sabinecreek.com](http://sabinecreek.com) and let them know you are with Lake Ridge Bible Church.

The Men's Ministry enjoyed a night of caroling just before Christmas. Marget Stokes accompanied on the accordion. In an article just below, she will describe the evening of Cookies and Carols.

Troy Willis will be leading our Wednesday discussions for a while. He's teaching a series entitled, **Standing Firm**, as he draws from the book of Jude. Make plans now to come and join us. The Men's Ministry meets every Wednesday night at 7:00 p.m. in Room B105 of the Administration Building.



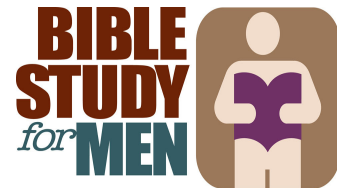
### Upcoming Men's Ministry Events

#### Wednesdays

† **Standing Firm**  
Troy Willis

#### January Events

† January 20-21— Men's Conference  
at Sabine Creek Ranch —Chad Hennings

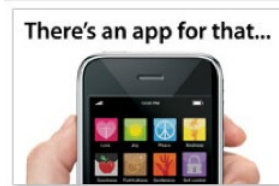


## The Vantage Point

By Pastor Van Minter

Church Family,

I just wanted to remind you that we are getting close to our spring kick-off for the App Store. We will be doing sign-ups every Sunday in January, and App Store will reopen Wednesday, February 1st. We are offering the same Apps as were offered in the Fall with the addition of one new App called "Loving Your Prodigal." You will find a description of these Apps in your bulletin on Sunday. If you did not get a chance to participate in any of the Apps from the Fall, then I want to encourage you to be a part of one in the Spring. I believe these are of great benefit to you, our church family, so I greatly encourage you to take full advantage of this opportunity. These apps will run for twelve weeks on Wednesday nights. So, please stop by the family room to sign up for the App that most suits your needs or desires at this time. Below you will find a list of the Apps that are being offered this spring. Again, I suggest you take time to read over the more detailed descriptions of them in the bulletin insert, and fully consider the range of options before signing up. Each of these Apps has something uniquely edifying to offer.



- ◆ Crown Financial Ministries
- ◆ Truth Project
- ◆ Downpour
- ◆ Zumba—Women's Exercise
- ◆ Ministry in the Arts (Lake Ridge Art Club)
- ◆ Loving Your Prodigal
- ◆ Lake Ridge Adult Choir
- ◆ Men's Fellowship
- ◆ College and Career Ministry
- ◆ Lake Ridge Youth Ministry

In Christ,  
Van Minter  
Associate Pastor

## Christmas Kindness

In spite of sickness and many schedule conflicts, a small, but faithful group of Men's Ministry representatives put some smiles on some dear faces with visits, hugs and carols! The group consisted of Pastor Roger, Steve Weldon, Fred Blundell, Michael Snoddy, Vernon and Cathy Sharp, Troy Willis and Marget Stokes, who accompanied on her accordion, (which she gratefully says the guys carried for her between stops!)

They began the evening at the Christian Care Center and sang for Bill and Ginny Utage first, then Gordon and Anita Bystrom, followed by Anna Piepenburg. At the Bystroms' apartment, their next door neighbors opened their door and joined in the singing, then gave them some homemade chocolate candy. Next, was a visit to Ann and Lucy Baughman's home; they gave them delicious sugar cookies! Our last stop was to sing for Hall and Ursula Harris. Mark and Rebecca were home, so they got them to come outside and sing, too.. Back at the church, the little group enjoyed cookies and hot drinks remembering how their hearts were warmed by the smiles of those who heard their songs!



## Prospective Members

If you are interested in becoming a member of Lake Ridge Bible Church, please join us at a Prospective Members class on Sunday, February 5 from 5:00-6:30 p.m. In this class, you will learn about the history of LRBC, the Constitution, doctrine and everything you need to know about the membership process. Please call the church office at 972-613-2222 if you would like to take part in this class. Childcare will be provided.

# YOUTH NEWS

By Pastor Ben Lowery

## Parents and Students.

Spring is on the horizon! I personally cannot wait for the spring calendar to kick into full effect. There are several events on the calendar worth taking note about. Several events are the same as they have been these past several years. Other events are new and/or resurrected. For instance, we will be doing an "Iron Chef LRBC" event with the youth this spring, which is a brand new event that you won't want to miss. Also, the HMN's and The Amazing Race are both back this spring! So pay attention to the calendars online and don't miss out on the new (and improved) events for the spring.



We will be having a youth parent meeting on January 15<sup>th</sup> immediately following the second



service in the auditorium. We'll be discussing the Mission Trip change as well as several spring events that you'll want to have information concerning. So, please plan to attend that meeting. It shouldn't go too long. (There will also be important information given at the meeting about Fuge Camp deadlines as well.)

## YOUTH PARENTS MEETING

The student ministry is excited to have Jonathan Shotts back with us on a semi-regular basis. His chemo treatments are becoming more manageable, and he plans to participate as he is able to do so. We praise God for the good news coming from the doctors regarding his prognosis. Keep him in your prayers. There's more to come in the way of treatments and recovery for him, and all of your prayers are deeply appreciated.



*In Christ,  
Pastor Ben*

# Men's Retreat



Attention men of Lake Ridge! Men likely wear many hats-- husband, father, breadwinner, protector.... Men are also designed by God to be a spiritual leader in their family, church and workplace! Men have a responsibility to grow in spiritual maturity. On January 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> there is a great opportunity to do just that. The Sabine Creek Men's Conference with special guest Chad Hennings is an overnight experience that will impact your life. Chad will join us on Saturday, but there is a Friday night event planned that will be like nothing you've seen before!

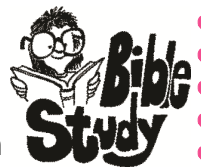
You can sign up with convenient online registration at [www.sabinecreek.com](http://www.sabinecreek.com) or by contacting John Billimek at [jbillimek91@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jbillimek91@sbcglobal.net) or 214.435.0635. Be sure to enter the discount code "men2012" for \$10 off of the \$85 price!



## Ladies' Bible Studis Gear Up for Spring

### Heart to Heart News

The Heart to Heart Ladies Bible Studies will be resuming their studies in January after a break for the Christmas holidays. The Precepts Bible Study Group led by Jackie Hildebrand on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m., and again at 9:30 a.m. on Thursday morning, will finish their study in the book of Romans by digging into chapters 12-16. On **Tuesday, January 17 and Thursday, January 19th**, they will pick up their books and review what they have learned so far in their study. Even if you haven't studied chapters 1-11 with them, please feel free to come for the review and join them for these last four chapters. There will not be a sign-up, so please just come join them on January 17th or 19th. Anyone who would like to join the group at this point is welcome, and Jackie will provide material on these last four lessons before the second book is ordered in February. If you have any questions, contact Jackie Hildebrand at the church office Monday-Wednesday (972-613-2222) or at her home (972-270-0948).



The Connections Bible Study will resume its study on **Wednesday, January 11th at 9:30 a.m.** Information has not yet been released on the topic of study. Stay tuned!



## Kids Beach Club to Begin at Kimball Elementary

What IMPACT are you making in your COMMUNITY? Would YOU like to join the growing wave of volunteers who are making.... Jesus Cool at School? Through much prayer, we have been approved by MISD to meet in a local school, Kimball Elementary. We are being sponsored by Lake Ridge to introduce **Kids Beach Club** to share Jesus with our public school children. This is an exciting opportunity and we would like to invite you to "Experience the Wave!" as a much needed volunteer to help in many different areas, even snacks. If you are interested or know of anyone else who would like to help in making this wonderful impact in the lives of kids who need to hear about Jesus, there is a training meeting on: **Saturday, January 14, 8:30 am—12:30 pm at First Baptist Euless-Campus West Location. Register/RSVP online today! Free t-shirt for everyone who attends training. More information can be found on their website, [www.kidsbeachclub.org](http://www.kidsbeachclub.org) if you can't make the training.** Our local contact is **Michalla Revland**—contact her at [mrevland@hotmail.com](mailto:mrevland@hotmail.com). if you have any questions. Come, join the fun!!!



Lake Ridge Bible Church  
1020 Northwest Drive  
Mesquite, Texas 75150

January 2012



**MEN'S RETREAT  
JANUARY 20-21**

## News and Views...from the hilltop

### All in the family

We extend our deepest sympathy to our Lake Ridge families who have experienced the loss of a loved one in the past month. Our prayers go to:

- † Calvin and Martha McKibben and their family on the homegoing of Calvin's mother, Dorothy (Dot) McKibben on December 8.



### Offering Envelopes Ready for Pick-up

Members and regular attenders of Lake

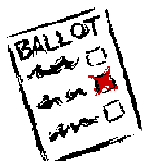
Ridge Bible Church may now pick up their offering envelopes for 2012.

They are located on a table near the Library and are arranged in alphabetical order for easy access. If you do not see your envelopes, or if you would like to have an offering number and envelopes assigned to you, please call Nancy Allen in the church office at 972-613-2222. **Important Note:** To ensure the deductibility of your church contributions, do not file your 2011 income tax return until you have received from the church a written acknowledgment of your contributions. Some of your contributions may not be tax deductible if you file your tax return before receiving this important information.



### Official Ballots Due February 12

In December, members of Lake Ridge Bible Church received an information letter and ballots to be submitted by **February 12**. These ballots are for the purpose of nominating men for new deacons and elders whose terms will begin in the 2012-2013 fiscal year. You may turn your ballots in at the information desk in the E building or the church office. Additional ballots are also available. A quorum of 40% of current membership must submit nominations for the Nominating Committee to proceed.



## Thanks for the Ministry

The Lake Ridge Bible Church Care Ministry recently received the following notes of thanks and appreciation:

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the beautiful poinsettia!

My eye surgery went perfectly. Thanks for all the prayers and concern. God Bless you all!

Love,  
Ella Elam

Dear Friends at Lake Ridge Bible Church,

Thank you so much for your kind expression of sympathy. We rejoice that my mother is now with God, but we also feel a great loss.

Your kindness helps to ease the pain. Each time we see the flowers, it is a reminder of your care.

Calvin and Martha McKibben

I would like to thank the Lake Ridge family for everything so many of you did for us. There were:

Visits in the hospital, flowers, plants which adorn our sunroom now, a beautiful orchid from the Women's Bible Study that brightened my room during the long weeks of rehab, books, books on CD, a hand-crafted, beautiful quilt, an afghan, a prayer shawl done by a women's church group in Pennsylvania (praying for me while they made the shawl), an anonymously sent gift card for gas, and the countless wonderful meals we received over many weeks. And

so many cards, even now. One friend came several times and cut my hair and nails. Another friend set my hair and, yet another, spent about a whole week with me, taking me to appointments and keeping me company while Hall was teaching a class.

But most of all, I want to give thanks to God, our Father, for bringing me so far in these last 11 months. I still have a long way to go, but I know He will be with me all the way.

Please continue to pray for continued recovery, especially my eyes, since the ophthalmologist was not able to see anything that might be responsible for the worsening of my eyesight. So, I am truly in the Lord's hands and dependent on Him.

Ursula and Hall Harris