

LYFE.line



The God-led kind of stuff. It's true lyfe.

November 2011

Broadcast *faith* → → your

What is the main purpose of being a Christian?

If the world listened to you for one minute, what would you say?

In what areas of your life do you find it easiest to compromise your standards?

If you were completely living for God, would you have any insecurities?

What's inside?

LYFE in the Lewinsville congregation 2

LYFE through the youth ministry program 3

LYFE in music and in fellowship with each other 4

LYFE into the evangelism we do in our community 5

Info for parents, confirmation and CE happenings 6

Reflections of a leader: by Doug Miller (Director) 7

Youth & College student birthdays 8



The book of James isn't a book to play around with. Written by a brother of Jesus, it conveys the no-nonsense tone of a sibling who wishes he had paid closer attention when his older brother spoke. "Do not merely listen to the word and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says" (1:22)

DC Dare2Share weekend experience sign-ups

On January 20-21, 2012, we will be taking a group of students to the Dare2Share weekend experience called *GameDay*, held in Woodbridge, VA, a two day conference on how our students can be involved in God's game-changing ministry and not sitting on the sidelines. Sign ups will be available throughout the rest of November and will come to a completion on December 1, 2011. For more information regarding Dare2Share or their weekend experience, go to www.dare2share.org/gameday. To sign up, contact Doug either through email, dmiller@lewinsville.org, through facebook, by putting a notice in his church mailbox or by calling the church at 703-356-7200 ext. 34.

www.lewinsville.org/youth

Choir Retreat—9am-4pm Nov. 5, 2011



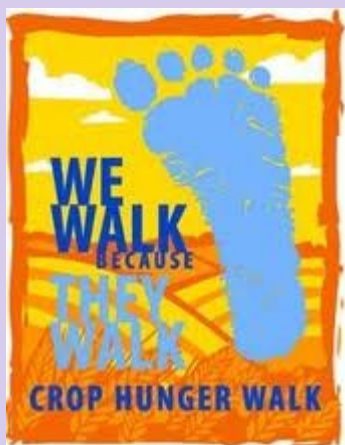
On Saturday November 5, 2011, the youth choir will come together for a retreat! The retreat is from 9am until 4pm with a breakfast meal/snacks and lunch provided to keep you all energized and singing beautifully!

Students will be working with Mark Stover from Edina, MN. Mark is a young, dynamic director and promises to be fun to work with. Westminster choir is encouraged to be at the retreat as much as they possibly can. The music you will be singing on November 6, which is All Saints Sunday, you will rehearse during the retreat (and will be singing alone on All Saints Sunday).

Jazz Concert; say, what?! You've heard nothing like this..

Bill Carter and the Presbybop Quartet are the best known musicians playing "sacred jazz" in the United States. Formed in 1993 by pianist Bill Carter, a Presbyterian minister, this consort of New York-based professionals have toured the country extensively in presenting concerts and jazz worship services. The Presbybop Quarter will be in concert here on Friday, November 11, at 8pm with a reception following.

Check out the website www.presbybop.com to learn more and listen to some great music.



Vienna CROP Walk & DC Help the Homeless Walk 2011

The Vienna CROP Hunger Walk is Held on Sunday November 13, 2011 at 2pm at Vienna Presbyterian Church in Vienna, VA. Those participating will sit together during the 11am service then head to Vienna for lunch following the conclusion of the service. We'll walk the 3 miles around Vienna then return to LPC by 4pm. All are welcome!

The DC Help The Homeless Walk is held in the morning at 9am on the National Mall on Saturday November 19, 2011. We'll be meeting at the West Falls Church Metro Station at 7am, depart shortly after and return by 11am to WFCMS when the walk concludes.





Do you have faith like James? OR, are you just like everyone else?

When some Christian believers gather in churches, everything that can go wrong sooner or later does. Outsiders, observing this, conclude that there is nothing to the religion business. Insiders see it differently. Just as a hospital collects the sick under one roof and labels them as such, the church collects sinners. Many of the people outside the hospital are every bit as sick as the ones inside, but their

illnesses are either undiagnosed or disguised. It's similar with sinners outside the church. So, Christian churches are not model communities of good behavior. They are places where human behavior is brought out in the open, faced, and dealt with.

The letter of James shows one of the church's early pastors skillfully going about his work of confronting, diagnosing and dealing with areas of misbelief and misbehavior that had turned up in congregations committed to his care. Deep and living wisdom is on display here in this book, wisdom both rare and essential. Wisdom is not primarily knowing the truth, although it certainly includes that; it is rather skill in living. For, what good is a truth if we don't know how to live it? What good is an intention if we can't sustain it?

According to the traditions of the church, James carried the nickname "Old Camel Knees" because of the

thick calluses built up on his knees from many years of determined prayer. The prayer that is foundational to wisdom. Prayer is always foundational to wisdom.

During fellowship this month, we'll be walking through the book of James and putting our own faith and actions to the test. Do we have the faith like James or are we just like everyone outside the walls thinking it's the same on both sides? Not only will this book encourage us in our faith, it will also grab us like a villain that never lets us go. James isn't shy with his words and more with his heart. Don't let this book fool you; it's cleverly written, perfectly spoken, and painfully heard. Yet, knowing that God uses discipline on our behalf like it says in Hebrews 12 (*Endure hardship as discipline for God is treating you as sons. No discipline is pleasant at the time, but painful. Yet later on it produces peace for those who are trained by it.* v. 7,11), we can accept James' words as encouragement to fight on. ✚✚✚

upcoming events

- **November 6:** Westmin. 8:30/11; BBar at 9:30, Heaven & Hell mod. 10am
 - Ringers, Choir, Fellowship, and Taize 4:30, 5:15, 6 & 7pm
- **November 13:** Vienna CROP Walk 2pm at Vienna Pres. (No LYFE tonight).
 - Alleluia Ringers and Westminster choir rehearsals 4:30 and 5:15pm
- **November 18/19:** Youth Handbell Festival in Virginia Beach (both days)
 - DC Help the Homeless Walk (19th)
- **November 20:** Service of Music in morning; Ringers/Choir/Fellowship 4:30/5:15/6pm
- **November 27:** Choir 8:30 service; Ringers/Choir/Fellowship 4:30/5:15/6pm

A must see movie!



A temperamental musician is forced to learn a few things about family and responsibility in this comedy-drama. Ethan Brand (Alessandro Nivola) is a veteran indie rock musician whose career is stuck in neutral, and his troubles with alcohol and bursts of anger aren't helping one bit. Before taking the stage one evening, Ethan gets an unexpected visitor -- his former girlfriend Mary Ann (Elisabeth Shue), who has brought along with her a 13-year-old girl, Janie (Abigail Breslin), who she claims is Ethan's daughter. Ethan is dubious about Mary Ann's claims, but Mary Ann takes off for a stay in rehab and leaves Janie with Ethan, forcing him to take the girl on the road with him. Ethan's manager Sloan (Peter Stormare) and his band are no happier than he is to have a young teen girl staying with them on the tour bus, and Ethan's initial relationship with the girl is chilly. But Ethan discovers the girl seems to have inherited some of his musical talent and has a real gift as a singer and songwriter. After an onstage tantrum causes Ethan to lose both his band and his record deal, he tries to salvage his concert tour by turning it into a father and daughter act, with Janie joining him on stage.

www.moviefone.com

YOUTH WALK devo

Youth Walk magazine believes that God has invited us to press in and know Him, to discover who He is through the bible, and to awaken us into real life. This adventure of faith, according to Youth Walk magazine, is pioneered by Jesus Christ and powered by the Holy Spirit, is dangerous yet wonderful. It's day-to-day yet eternal, ordinary yet Holy.



www.ywspace.org

The latest issue, titled *Invasion*, calls us to step into enemy territory, and reclaim our ground. For a time, God had allowed the world to live captive under the powers of darkness. But then, Jesus stepped out of Heaven and into earth.

For a copy of the Youth Walk magazine, check the table next to Doug's office, find them in the Youth Center or go online and read their devotional yourself. Stay tuned for next month's issue.



Coldplay are still dabbling in the kind of cool-weird artiness they truly went for on *Viva La Vida*. But where that album sometimes seemed like a self-conscious attempt to diversify their sound, Coldplay have integrated their own down-the-middle core: Check out the cascading choral vocals that augment Martin's soaring refrain on "Paradise." Prominent elements prop up the sonic cathedrals: Jonny Buckland's guitar, which is riffier and more muscular than ever, and Euro-house synths that wouldn't sound out of place at a nightclub in Ibiza. At any rate, as end-times lullabies go, it's a pretty sweet mix.

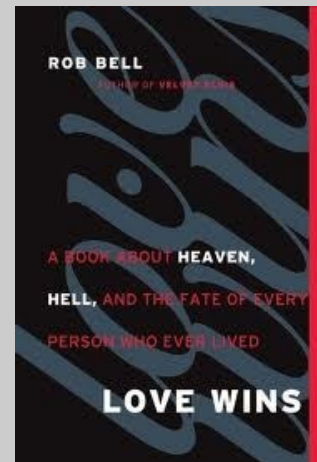
www.cnn.com

What do you believe?

Rob Bell has always been an excellent communicator to those damaged by expressions of Christianity. *Love Wins* is a book for people who have been hurt by Christians and who have formed opinions about Jesus based on those hurts, rather than on a Savior who loves them

unconditionally and pursues them relentlessly. It's a book about trying to correct the wrong stories Christians and non-Christians have heard about hell, judgment and God that have made them unable to love Him. In the moving first few chapters, Bell wonders how someone who has been

hurt, horrifically abused or exploited by people claiming to be Christians can ever have a right view of Jesus. Read it for yourself and formulate your own beliefs, with your first source the Bible, and see for yourself what God says about Heaven, Hell and Love.



Dare2Share: GAMEDAY.

Get off the bench
and into the game!

Mobilizing teenagers to relationally and relentlessly reach their generation for Christ is the mission for Dare2Share, a well-known Evangelical Christian Organization that hosts events nationally for youth and youth leaders. For them, it's all about the Kingdom of God and empowering today's youth by helping them share their faith and who God is with their friends.

At Dare2Share, they believe that to truly make teens disciples of Christ, we must raise the bar spiritually, calling



them to make a difference by taking Jesus Christ seriously. The driving concept for Dare2Share is a calling, much like the one Jesus gave his disciples.

The fundamental premise that drives Dare2Share ministries toward the mobilization of teens is the belief that they need a purpose worth living, dying and staying in church for. We will be taking a group of 15 to Woodbridge, VA on

January 20-21 for the conference. The conference begins Friday night and continues Saturday morning. We will be staying overnight in the church (as a lock in) and getting up Saturday morning for the rest of the conference. Details of when we'll return on Saturday at the conclusion of the conference will follow in the couple weeks before the conference.

The cost for Dare2Share is \$50 which covers all expenses for the conference. If you would like more information, please email Doug Miller at the church:

dmiller@lewinsville.org

If you would like to sign up, go to www.lewinsville.org/youth-parents and return the waiver and parent form with a check made to LPC for \$50 by December 1, 2011.

In case you missed the Bleacher Talk outlines...

From October 9-30, we talked about the impact of tough questions; not ones that can be answered yes or no. We're talking about the ones that make us think. What does it mean to be Christian? What is the difference between having hope and unrealistic expectations? Are there limits to the Christian life? All of these questions will, in some way, shape us and mold us. Like in Luke, Jesus is the potter and we are the clay. In case you missed the last few Bleacher Talk discussion outlines, here are the two final weeks of our previous study.

From week 6: Questions that Leave a Mark week 3—**Accountability Questions**

*In your opinion, what is the difference between reading the Bible and studying it?
If someone asked you how to become a Christian, what would you say?*

From week 7: Questions that Leave a Mark week 4—**Our Questions**

*If you were completely living for God, why would you have any insecurities?
Do you ever feel that God is punishing you when bad things happen to you? Does God do that?*

**The purpose of this talk is to relate your kids in partnering with us to grow in our relationships... find more on the parent page of the youth website at www.lewinsville.org/youth-parents.

Breakfast Bar: November 6, 9:30am Youth Center

The Breakfast Bar for the youth (grades 7-12) is coming up this month on November 6. Breakfast Bar begins at 9:30am in the Youth Center!

The very popular Breakfast Bar appears on the first Sunday of every month (except for the month of January (Jan 8) and April (Apr 15) and there will not be a Breakfast Bar for the month of February).

The Breakfast Bar is a time for the youth from the different classes to gather for fellowship once a month. Items are provided by a different set of parents each month of the students who attend Sunday School. Please be sure, parents, that if you are providing breakfast to have everything set up by 9:30am with food for 10-20 kids. Menu suggestions are listed below to the right of the dinner schedule.



Dinner Schedule for Youth Fellowship

Youth fellowship dinners are provided by a different set of parents each Sunday evening. Parents, please have your dinner on the bar by 6pm. Dinner is whatever the parents feel like providing. Please plan to provide food for 15-25 students.

November 6—Gunter

November 13—No Fellowship

November 20—Krieg

November 27—Neldon



Suggested Breakfast Bar Menu

Egg and Bacon Casserole
Fruit Salad
Waffles/Pancakes
Bagels/Croissants w/ cream cheese
Toast w/ butter/jelly
Scrambled eggs w/bacon/ham
Cereals-variety
Danish rolls

Drinks

Hot cider
Juice of choice (orange, apple)
Milk
Hot Cocoa

[Reflections] of a leader



Why is life full of so many ups and downs?

By Douglas Miller

One of the things God promises in the Bible is that our lives will never be easy. This is something to really think about. God, who made us from a tiny cell to who we are today, tells us that this life we live won't be easy as 1, 2, 3. In Matthew, chapter 16, God tells us that if we try to save our lives or if we try to be careful in everything we do, we will lose our life. Then God says that if we just live our life to the fullest and trust in Him that we will be saved (v 24). Of course, I am paraphrasing but, think about that. If we want to save our lives we will lose them and if we lose our lives for Christ we will be saved. What does that say to you?

Let's go back to that promise, though. God's promise of this life that is

full of ups and downs. It's like a road with bends in it. Sometimes you find yourself walking down what seems like a never ending road and other times, it seems every time you look there is another twist; another turn.

Why is life so full of so many ups and downs? Well, for one, if this life was awesome all of the time, it wouldn't be so awesome, would it? I mean, sure you could play video games all day, eat 50 Krispy Kream donuts and not gain an ounce (that would be the day!) or travel all of the time because you have all the money in the world and no expense to worry about.

That would be the life. But it's not the life God makes available to us. The life we live involves taxes, traffic, divorce, school, mortgage payments, car repair, sporting events, credit card bills and more. One day we're doing something we love and enjoy and the next everything stinks. Why? It's because God asks us to put everything we've got into trusting Him. He asks us to serve, learn, struggle, feel the greatness of his love, laugh freely and so much more.

Yeah, this life is tough. It's was never meant to be easy. It was meant to be extremely difficult at times because God wants us to reach out to Him. We are free to

struggle and know that when we need help we can turn to God and He will strengthen us. This is not our fight.

What is it in your life that you need help letting go of? Maybe you're busy in one meeting, out the next. Maybe you have this essay to write, and then a midterm that you haven't prepared for that is coming up next week. Maybe your sports team is winless and you're tired of losing or maybe your academics aren't where they should be.

Maybe you haven't had the time to sit down with your family for a meal and have gained 10 pounds because of eating those big macs on the run and French fries. Perhaps you feel the weight of the world on your shoulders. Friends, this is not your weight to bare.

Life is full of ups and downs so you can experience God in new ways and at more intimate levels. Ups and downs force us to let go of our selfish desires which lead to our demolition. Allow your ups and downs to bring you back to God. Use them as your key that opens the door back into His life.

He wants us to experience the ups and the downs because in the ups God is glorified and in the downs God's love truly shines. Give your downs up to God. Pray for each other. Show God's love today. ✠✠✠



DOUGLAS MILLER is the Youth Director at LPC. Connect with him on Facebook.com/dsm.123.atfirsthand



This month, we have a few birthdays within our Youth and College Ministry programs.

On November 1, Rebecca Shaw turns 22.

Nicholas DeAtley celebrates his sweet 16 on November 24.

1724 Chain Bridge Road
McLean, Virginia 22101
(703) 356-7200