



**DISCOVER**

*Lakeside*

**LIVE FOR GOD // LOVE OTHERS // REACH THE WORLD**

## Welcome to Discovering Lakeside

We're glad you've chosen to find out more about Lakeside Community Church! This class is the basic introduction to our church family. Since we have members from many different church backgrounds, this class was designed to clearly explain what it means to be a believer in Christ, and what it means to be a member of Lakeside.

### The Basis for this Class:

**John 14:17** – I will not leave you as orphans.

### The Goal of this Class:

is that you would \_\_\_\_\_ as part of  
the \_\_\_\_\_ family

### Class Outline:

Session One: LIVE FOR GOD

Session Two: LOVE OTHERS

Session Three: REACH THE WORLD

## LIVE FOR GOD

Living for God begins with \_\_\_\_\_

### Ask yourself these questions:

**What is my purpose in life?**

**Why am I here?**

1. God made you to \_\_\_\_\_ you.

**John 3:16** – For God so loved the world . . .

**Jeremiah 31:3** – I have loved you with an everlasting love; I have drawn you with loving-kindness.

**Romans 5:8** – But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

2. God created you to have a \_\_\_\_\_ with Him.

**Genesis 1:27-28** – So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, “Be fruitful and increase in number. . .”

**Genesis 3:8** – Then the man and his wife [Adam & Eve] heard the sound of the Lord God as he was walking in the garden in the cool of the day, . . .

## What's the Problem?

Man has a natural desire to \_\_\_\_\_  
and ignore God's principles for living.

The Bible calls this attitude \_\_\_\_\_.

**Isaiah 53:6** – We all, like sheep, have gone astray, each of us has turned to his way; . . .

**Romans 3:23** – For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

**1 John 1:8** – If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

Sin \_\_\_\_\_ us from God. It causes us to fear God and try to live our lives outside of His will.

**1 Corinthians 6:9** – Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God?

**Isaiah 59:2** – But your iniquities [sins] have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear.

## What's the Solution?

**John 14:6** – Jesus answered, "*I am the Way* the Truth and the Life. No one comes to the Father, except *through Me.*"

**Romans 6:23** – For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

God \_\_\_\_\_ a way for us to have a relationship with Him.

\_\_\_\_\_ took care of our sin problem.

If any other way would have worked, Jesus Christ would not have had to come and die.

God has done His part to bring us back into a relationship with Him. Now He waits for each of us to individually respond to His offer of salvation.

### What does God want me to do?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ that you are separated from God by sin, and ask Him to forgive you.

**1 John 1:9** – If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

2. \_\_\_\_\_ that Jesus died to pay for your sins, and that He rose again proving He was who He said He was.

**Romans 10:9** – That if you confess with your mouth, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

**Acts 4:12** – Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.

3. \_\_\_\_\_ God's free gift of salvation. Don't try to earn it.

**Ephesians 2:8-9** – For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast.

4. \_\_\_\_\_ your life to Christ making Him the Lord (Boss) of your life.

**Matthew 12:49-50** – Pointing to his disciples, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers. For whoever does the will of my Father in heaven is my brother and sister and mother."

**1 John 2:3** – We know that we have come to know him if we obey his commands.

**Romans 10:9** – That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

You can do this by simply praying to God this prayer of commitment.

**Heavenly Father, I know that I have fallen short of your expectations, and have sinned. I have ignored your principles for living and gone my own way. I realize my need for your forgiveness and to have you in my life. I ask you to forgive me of my sins. Thank you that Jesus died on the cross to provide me forgiveness. I ask Christ to come into my life and save me. I commit my life to following you forever. Make me a new creature. Help me to grow more in my understanding of my newfound faith. Thank you for coming into my life and saving me. Amen.**

**Romans 10:13** – For everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

## As a result of living for God, God is going to place some things in your life.

**Colossians 2:6-12** <sup>6</sup>So then, just as you received Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to live in him, <sup>7</sup>rooted and built up in him, strengthened in the faith as you were taught, and overflowing with thankfulness.

<sup>8</sup>See to it that no one takes you captive through hollow and deceptive philosophy, which depends on human tradition and the basic principles of this world rather than on Christ.

<sup>9</sup>For in Christ all the fullness of the Deity lives in bodily form, <sup>10</sup>and you have been given fullness in Christ, who is the head over every power and authority. <sup>11</sup>In him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, <sup>12</sup>having been buried with him in baptism and raised with him through your faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead.

God will place in you a desire for \_\_\_\_\_  
(Vs. 6-7)

God will place in you a desire for \_\_\_\_\_  
(Vs. 7-8)

God will place in you a desire for \_\_\_\_\_  
(Vs. 9-10)

God will place in you a desire for \_\_\_\_\_  
(Vs. 11)

God will place in you a desire for \_\_\_\_\_  
(Vs. 12)

God will place in you a desire to \_\_\_\_\_  
(Vs. 12)

## The Importance of Being Baptized

Baptism is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the Christian faith.

### Why should I be Baptized?

1. To follow the example set by \_\_\_\_\_.

**Mark 1:9** – At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan.

2. Because Christ \_\_\_\_\_ it.

**Matthew 28:19-20** – [Jesus said] Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always to the very end of the age.

3. It demonstrates that I really am a \_\_\_\_\_.

**1 John 3:24** – Those who obey his commands live in him, and he in them. And this is how we know that he lives in us: We know it by the Spirit he gave us.

At Lakeside we practice \_\_\_\_\_ baptism. Baptism does not save you, only your faith in Christ does that. Baptism does not make you a believer, it shows you already believe.



## What is the Meaning of Baptism?

1. It illustrates Christ's \_\_\_\_\_,  
\_\_\_\_\_ and resurrection.

**1 Corinthians 15:3-4** – . . . that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, . . .

2. It illustrates my \_\_\_\_\_ as a Christian.

**2 Corinthians 5:17** – Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!

## Why should I be Baptized by Immersion?

1. Because \_\_\_\_\_ was baptized that way.

**Matthew 3:16** – As soon as Jesus was baptized, he went up out of the water.

2. Every baptism in the \_\_\_\_\_ was by immersion.

**Acts 8:38** – (example) . . . Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him.

3. The word "Baptize" means to \_\_\_\_\_ water.

The Greek word "baptizo" means to immerse or to dip under water.

4. It best symbolizes a burial and resurrection.

## Who should be Baptized?

Every person who has \_\_\_\_\_ in Christ.

**Acts 2:41** – Those who accepted his message were baptized, . . .

What about children?

What if I was baptized as an infant?

**At Lakeside, it is a membership requirement that every member must have been baptized the way Jesus demonstrated.**

## When should I be Baptized?

As soon as you have \_\_\_\_\_.

**Acts 16:32-33** – Then they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all the others in his house. At that hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then immediately he and all his family were baptized.

Can my family be baptized together?

Will I have to say anything?

## LOVE OTHERS

**Matthew 22:36-40** <sup>36</sup>Teacher, which is the greatest commandment in the Law?" <sup>37</sup>Jesus replied: " 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' <sup>38</sup>This is the first and greatest commandment. <sup>39</sup>And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' <sup>40</sup>All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

**John 13:34-35** <sup>34</sup>"A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. <sup>35</sup>By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another."

**We are commanded to** \_\_\_\_\_

Our \_\_\_\_\_

Our \_\_\_\_\_

Our \_\_\_\_\_

Our \_\_\_\_\_

Our love grows by being \_\_\_\_\_

**Every Lakesider Needs** \_\_\_\_\_

**Small Group Participation is** \_\_\_\_\_

## REACH THE WORLD

Reaching the world is \_\_\_\_\_

**Matthew 28:18-20** <sup>18</sup>Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup>Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

God will give you \_\_\_\_\_

God will give you \_\_\_\_\_

**1Corinthians 12:4-7** <sup>4</sup>There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. <sup>5</sup>There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. <sup>6</sup>There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. <sup>7</sup>Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.

We expect you to:

Invite \_\_\_\_\_

Join an \_\_\_\_\_

Participate in \_\_\_\_\_

**WHAT IS EXPECTED OF ME AS A MEMBER?**

At Lakeside we never ask our members to do more than the Bible clearly teaches. We only expect our members to do what the Bible expects every Christian to do.

**We expect our members to do four things**

\_\_\_\_\_ on Sunday Mornings

Join a \_\_\_\_\_

Be Part of an \_\_\_\_\_

Invite \_\_\_\_\_

**LIVE FOR GOD**

**LOVE OTHERS**

**REACH THE WORLD**



## OUR STATEMENT OF FAITH

### WHAT WE BELIEVE:

#### 1. ABOUT GOD

God is the Creator and Ruler of the universe. He has eternally existed in three personalities: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are co-equal and are one God.

Genesis 1:1, 26, 27; 3:22; Psalm 90:2; Matthew 28:19; I Peter 1:2; II Corinthians 13:14

#### 2. ABOUT JESUS CHRIST

Jesus Christ is the Son of God. He is co-equal with the Father. Jesus lived a sinless human life and offered Himself as the perfect sacrifice for the sins of all people by dying on a cross. He arose from the dead after three days to demonstrate His power over sin and death. He ascended to Heaven's glory and will return again someday to earth to reign as King of Kings, and Lord of Lords.

Matthew 1:22, 23; Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1-5; 14:10-30; Hebrews 4:14, 15; I Corinthians 15:3, 4; Romans 1:3, 4; Acts 1:9-11; I Timothy 6:14, 15; Titus 2:13

#### 3. ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son of God. He is present in the world to make men aware of their need for Jesus Christ. He also lives in every Christian from the moment of salvation. He provides the Christian with power for living, understanding of spiritual truth, and guidance in doing what is right. He gives every believer spiritual gifts when they are saved. As Christians we seek to live under His control daily.

II Corinthians 3:17; John 16:7-13; 14:16, 17; Acts 1:8; I Corinthians 2:12, 3:16; Ephesians 1:13; Galatians 5:25; Ephesians 5:18

#### **4. ABOUT THE BIBLE**

The Bible is God's Word to us. It was written by human authors, under the supernatural guidance of the Holy Spirit. It is the supreme source of truth for Christian beliefs and living. Because it is inspired by God, it is the truth without any mixture of error.

II Timothy 3:16; II Peter 1:20, 21; II Timothy 1:13; Psalm 119:105, 160, 12:6; Proverbs 30:5

#### **5. ABOUT HUMAN BEINGS**

People are made in the spiritual image of God, to be like Him in character. People are the supreme object of God's creation. Although every person has tremendous potential for good, all of us are marred by an attitude of disobedience toward God called "sin". This attitude separates people from God and causes many problems in life.

Genesis 1:27; Psalm 8:3-6; Isaiah 53:6a; Romans 3:23; Isaiah 59:1, 2

#### **6. ABOUT SALVATION**

Salvation is God's free gift to us but we must accept it. We can never make up for our sin by self-improvement or good works. Only by trusting in Jesus Christ as God's offer of forgiveness can anyone be saved from sin's penalty. When we turn from our self-ruled life and turn to Jesus in faith we are saved. Eternal life begins the moment one receives Jesus Christ into his life by faith.

Romans 6:23; Ephesians 2:8, 9; John 14:6, 1:12; Titus 3:5 Galatians 3:26; Romans 5:1



## **7. ABOUT ETERNAL SECURITY**

Because God gives us eternal life through Jesus Christ, the true believer is secure in that salvation for eternity. If you have been genuinely saved, you cannot "lose" it. Salvation is maintained by the grace and power of God, not by the self-effort of the Christian. It is the grace and keeping power of God that gives us this security.

John 10:29, 29; II Timothy 1:12; Hebrews 7:25; 10:10, 14; I Peter 1:3-5

## **8. ABOUT ETERNITY**

People were created to exist forever. We will either exist eternally separated from God by sin, or eternally with God through forgiveness and salvation. To be eternally separated from God is Hell. To be eternally in union with Him is eternal life. Heaven and Hell are real places of eternal existence.

John 3:16; John 14:17; Romans 6:23; Romans 8:17-18; Revelation 20:15; I Corinthians 2:7-9

## OUR LIFESTYLE STATEMENT

### What we practice

Beliefs are not worth much unless they are translated into actions. Based on what the Bible teaches, we feel very strongly about the following seven practices:

#### **Bible as our sole authority.**

**2 Timothy 3:15** – All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work.

Since God's Word is the only completely reliable and truthful authority, we accept the Bible as our manual for living. Our first question when faced with a decision is "What does the Bible say?" We practice daily Bible reading, Bible study, and Bible memorization. The Bible is the basis for all we believe.

#### **Autonomy of each local church.**

**Colossians 1:18** – And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have supremacy.

Christ is the recognized head of our church, not any person, group, or religious organization. While recognizing the value of associating and cooperating with other groups of Christians, we believe every local church should be self-governing and independent from any denominational control. In relating to our "daughter churches" that we sponsor, we encourage each congregation to determine its own strategy, structure, and style.

**Priesthood of every believer.**

**1 Peter 2:9** – But you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light.

The Bible teaches that every Christian is called to "full-time" Christian service, regardless of his or her vocation. We practice the truth that every believer is a minister by encouraging every member to find a place of service and ministry. Every believer has direct access to God through prayer and Bible reading.

**Tithing.**

**Leviticus 26:30** – A tithe of everything from the land [what you produce], whether grain from the soil or fruit from the trees, belongs to the Lord; it is holy to the Lord.

At Lakeside we practice tithing for the support of Christ's Body, the church, as God commands. We recognize that giving 10% of our income is the Biblical standard of giving.

**Immersion.**

**Romans 6:4** – We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

We practice baptism by immersion under water - the way Jesus was baptized, and the way the Bible commands.

**Spirit-led living.**

**John 15:5** – (Jesus said) "I am the Vine, you are the branches. If you abide in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit; but apart from me you can do nothing."

We believe the only way possible to live the Christian life is by God's power within us. So we seek to practice a daily dependence on God's Spirit to enable us to do what is right.

Philippians 2:13; Ephesians 5:18

**Telling others about Christ.**

**1 Peter 3:15** – But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect.

It is the responsibility of every Christian to share the Good News with those God brings us into contact with. We practice personal sharing about Christ and inviting friends to church.

## OUR AFFILIATION

### **The Blue Water Baptist Association**

23 churches that fellowship together and work together to reach Macomb County.

### **The Michigan Baptist Convention**

300 churches that fellowship together with the goal of evangelizing our state.

### **The Southern Baptist Convention**

49,000 churches that cooperate together in a worldwide effort of missions.

We now wholeheartedly support these 3 groups in helping start many other new churches.

## **What is the Southern Baptist Convention?**

**It is the *largest* association of Christian churches in America.**

One out of every 10 churches in America is affiliated with the SBC (49,000 churches and 16 million members - more than most other denominations combined).

**It is the *most diverse* association of churches.**

SBC churches include every race, nationality, and ethnic groups. Each Sunday, services are held in over 80 languages in the U.S. One out of every three black churches in the U.S. is a Southern Baptist church.

**It is one of the *fastest growing* groups.**

The SBC baptizes over 1,000 new Christians a day in the U.S. and begins nearly 5 new churches a day!

**Why not just be an independent church?**

We are an independent church! Every SBC church is completely independent. There is no denominational control or hierarchy, as there is in most other denominations. Each church is self-governed and determines its own affairs. For example:

Every SBC church chooses its own pastor.

Every SBC church owns its own buildings and assets.

Every SBC church determines its own programs.

**What are the advantages of affiliating with the SBC?**

1. It allows us to identify with other Christians around the world who are known for their commitment to the Bible. Unlike other groups, the SBC has no man-made "creed". The Bible is our only authority.

2. It allows our church to participate in the largest missionary organization in the world. Through the SBC "Cooperative Program" we help support over 7,500 missionaries in 104 countries around the world.

**What do "Baptists" believe?**

See pages 23 and 24.

