

First Baptist Church of Lowell Newsletter

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From the Heart Rob McLelland

You're No Accident!!

In Rick Warren's book, The Purpose Driven Life, he makes a profound statement. He says, "You are not an accident. Your birth was no mistake or mishap, and your life is no fluke of nature. Your parents may not have planned you, but God did. He was not at all surprised by your birth. In fact, He expected it."

In Jeremiah 1:5, Jeremiah learns this fact firsthand when he hears God say: "*Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born, I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.*"

Now, most of us are not prophets, but the first part of this verse applies to all of us. God says, "*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you.*" He goes on to say, "*Before you were born, I consecrated you.*" He has set us apart. He has made us special. You are not an accident!

The voice of God comes to announce our extraordinary worth. This worth is inseparably linked to the fact that we were made by God and for God. Our worth to God started before we were born. We have immeasurable worth because we were born in the mind of God even before we entered our mother's womb. We were valuable to God before the world began, and because we were already on His mind and in His imagination. This fact is something that can never change or ever be taken away from

us. It is something we can never lose.

David wrote, "*I praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well.*" Psalm 139:14

God prescribed every single detail of my creation. He deliberately chose my race, my gender, the color of my hair and the lack of it), the color of my skin, and the color of my eyes. Guess what? He has done the same for you. You see, I am not an accident and neither are you.

Can you imagine what Jeremiah must have felt when he heard God say, "*Before I formed you in the womb, I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.*"

Here at this moment, Jeremiah hears the voice of God, the Creator of the Universe, He who put the stars in place, He who formed the world and all that we know, from the telescopic to the microscopic, and God speaks to Jeremiah and says, "Jeremiah—you are special. You have been on my mind a long, long, long time."

How would you feel? I think that the Psalmist says it best in Psalm 8:4, "*What is man that You are mindful of him, and the*

son of man that You care for him?"

Never forget the fact that you and I and every one of us are God's most prized possessions. So, if God places that kind of importance on our lives, why in the world do we choose to think so little of ourselves? You are not an accident, so stop acting like one. Live your life with a purpose and the only purpose that should matter to each of us is the glorification of our Father in Heaven, who knew us long before we were ever created.

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June Devotion: Friends

Many years ago, Earlene Scruggs gave me a book called With Friends by Susan Squelati Florence. If you were lucky enough to have known Earlene, you would know that she lived this book.

In it, it says, "With friends we can share what we see, what we feel, what we love...With friends we have a place to go to be accepted and understood...Together we can laugh, together we can cry, our thoughts are heard, our feelings

are held in the heart of a friend...With friends our lives are more full, more rich, more open...beautiful and blessed."

As I reread this book this week, a song came to mind. "What a friend we have in Jesus. All our sins and griefs to bear. What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer...Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share? Jesus knows our every weakness. Take it to the Lord in prayer."

Friends. Both on earth and in heaven. How great is that? We are blessed daily. Let's bless our friends in return. Listen, love, and share with all of our friends.

Jesus said, "This is my commandment, That you love one another, as I have loved you. Greater love has no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends, if you do whatever I command you."

June Recipe: Aztec Veggies & Rice

2 Tbsp. Margarine
1 tsp. chili powder
1/2 cup uncooked instant rice
1 can whole kernel corn
(drained)
1/2 cup water
1/3 cup salsa



Melt margarine in nonstick skillet. Stir in rice and chili powder, stirring frequently for 1 minute. Stir in remaining ingredients. Bring to a boil over high heat. Reduce heat to medium and cook covered until rice is tender and liquid is absorbed, about 5 minutes.

Current Events



**VBS Meeting for all
teachers/workers
June 12 - 6:00 p.m.**
Fellowship Hall

Vacation Bible School

June 19 - 23
6:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Program: June 26
6:00 p.m.

VBS Visitation

June 18

1:00 p.m.

Let's reach the children of
Lowell.

Children's Activities

Terrific Tuesday

June 14

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Fun City
Springdale

Cost: \$5.00

Preschool - 6th grade
Preschoolers must be accompanied by parent. Lunch provided.



Want a VBS t-shirt?
Go to our local Lifeway
store in Promenade Shopping Center.

Camp Meeting

June 30

6:30 p.m.

Fellowship Hall

All parents of children going to camp need to attend.

June Calendar

June 5 - 4:45 pm Deacons' Mtg.

June 12 - 2:00 p.m. - Baby Shower for Rob & Sam McLelland in youth bldg
3:00 p.m. - Stewards' meeting
4:00 p.m. - Adult Choir Practice
6:00 p.m. - VBS Mtg.

June 14 - 10:00 a.m. - Terrific Tuesday - Fun City

June 16 - 11:30 a.m. - Lowell Rec. Assoc. Senior Lunch

June 19 - Father's Day

June 19 - 23 - VBS

June 26 - 6:00 p.m. - VBS Program & Carnival

June 30 - 6:30 p.m. - Children's Camp Meeting in fellowship hall

Take Notice:

Check out our website
www.fbc-lowell.com

We are making a real effort to update the website with relevant information.

Also available:
FBC Face book



Fireworks

June 28 - July 4

North Harps Parking
Lot - Springdale
(Across from A.Q.)

Buy fireworks and send our youth to camp.



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*"Hospital for the
broken."*

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Schedule of Services

Sunday:

Orchestra Practice 8:45 a.m.
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship 10:30 a.m.
Children's Church 10:30 a.m.

Wednesday:

Wednesday Meal 5:15 p.m.
AWANA Clubs 6:15 p.m.
Youth Revolution 6:30 p.m.
Adult Bible Study 7:00 p.m.

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