

## Balloons Belong in Church

In lieu of an article, I would like to share with you an excerpt from a poem written by Ann Weems I ran across earlier this week. The poem is lengthy. The beginning of it describes a four-year-old child that brought with her a balloon to church one Sunday. When her Sunday school teacher saw the balloon, she mockingly said to the girl, "We don't bring balloons to church." The poem ends this way:

*Where did we get the idea that balloons don't belong in the church? Where did we  
get the idea that God loves gray and sh-h-h and drab and anything will do?  
I think it's blasphemy not to appreciate the joy in God's world. I think it's blasphemy  
not to bring our joy into His church.  
For God so loved the world, that he hung there, loving the unlovable.  
What beautiful gift cannot be offered unto the Lord? Whether it's a balloon or a  
song or some joy that sits within you waiting to have the lid taken off?  
The Scriptures say there's a time to laugh and a time to weep. It's not hard to see  
the reasons for crying in a world where hatred is so manifest.  
So celebrate!  
Bring your balloons and your butterflies, your bouquets of flowers...  
Bring the torches and hold them high! Dance your dances, pint your feelings, sing  
your songs, whistle, laugh.  
Life is a celebration, an affirmation of God's love.  
Life is distributing more balloons.  
For God so loved the world...  
Surely that's a cause for Joy.  
Surely we celebrate it!  
Good news! That he should love us that much.  
Where did we ever get the idea that balloons don't belong in the church?*

Josh

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# Leachville Church of Christ




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**Elders: Larry Brooks, Rudi Cagle, and Ken Beach**  
**Deacons: Jerry Bolar, Joel Ingram, and Matthew Sills**  
**Ministers: Raymond Lasley and Josh Vires**  
(870) 565-5097      (832) 904-2917

## Sunday, November 5, 2017

<p><b>Prayer List Updates</b></p> <p>Bill Key - back home</p> <p>John and Holly McKnight family - John's grandmother Sue Stallings passed away yesterday</p> <p><b>Birthdays</b></p> <p>Reeba Jones                      November 7 Robin Penix                      November 10 Jacob Towell                      November 10 Nancy Sills                      November 11</p> 	<p><b>Upcoming Events</b></p> <p>Tuesdays      ladies' Bible study 10 am            in activity building;                       children welcome</p> <p>Wednesdays    After School Special; 3:15 pm           sign-up sheet for                       refreshments on back                       information table</p> <p>December 9      ladies' brunch and 10 am              ornament exchange at                       Pam Beach's home;                       bring a wrapped                       ornament</p> <p><b>Memory Verse</b></p> <p>He has made us competent to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter, but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit produces life. - 2 Corinthians 3:6</p>	<p><b>Correspondence Course Ministry</b></p> <p>week of October 23-28: 8 lessons graded</p> <hr/> <p><b>November Haiti Needs</b></p> <p>hard candy toothbrushes toothpaste</p> <hr/> <p><b>Last Week's Attendance</b></p> <p>Sunday morning: 60 Sunday evening: 40 Wednesday evening: 34 After School Special: 56 kids, 12 adults</p>
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## Weekly Service Assignments

<p><b>Sunday Morning</b></p> <p>Bible class: 9:45 am worship: 10:45 am</p>		<p><b>Sunday Evening</b>                      6:00 pm</p>	
<p>First Prayer                      Josh Vires Announcements                      Ken Beach Second Prayer                      Larry Brooks Scripture Reading                      Josh Vires</p>	<p>1. Donnie Langston      3. Jerry Bolar 2. Matthew Sills              4. Matt Greer</p>	<p>First Prayer                      Josh Vires Closing Prayer                      Larry Towell Lord's Supper                      Matthew Sills                                                     Ken Beach</p>	<p>Wednesday Evening                      7:00 pm</p>
<p>Closing Prayer                      Joel Ingram</p>		<p>First Prayer                      Rudi Cagle Closing Prayer                      Ken Beach</p>	